Auroville

Arguably, Auroville is the most important experiment in evolutionary regenerative design on the planet. A global project, Auroville is a five times UNESCO-designated universal city in SE India, the only city to ever receive this designation. Its social mission is to be a universal town where men and women of all countries live in peace and harmony above all creeds, politics, and nationalities. As provided in its Charter, Auroville is a bridge from the past to the future. Auroville is also a place where integral system thinking balances priorities in service to economy, society, and nature and where a bottom-up, self-initiative, entrepreneurial approach prioritizes service to community and the common good over service to self.

If the 50th anniversary week, which included reaffirmation of support from UNESCO, a letter of support from Ram Nath Kovind, the President of India, and a visit and address by Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India, is any indication, Auroville is today increasingly attracting the interest of others. This is one indicator that the community is entering a stage where it can expect to see much stronger returns from the resource investments of prior stages of development. Another is that Individuals and the community stand fully empowered as stewards of their ongoing evolution and have reached the point where the community has begun the process of informing and changing society. Auroville has begun to address the synergy and interrelations that arise in the evolutionary transformations that occur in different settings with initiatives that support, facilitate, catalyze, and enhance self-organization for the creation of global sustainable learning societies.

It is not just for the honoring of its past or appreciation of the present that successive prime ministers and presidents of India, major governmental and nongovernmental organizations, and thought leaders, from the Dali Lama onward, have offered their support. It is the path Auroville is on, its direction of travel, the possibilities that lay ahead that draws attention and support from the world’s most evolutionary thinkers. Auroville is on a path of societal and environmental transformation where few others go, it is moving forward, experimenting, creating a template, a map that others will follow—one that is vitally important to the planet. While the future is still to emerge, the seeds from past efforts are here today, present in the attained, hard earned capacities of the community. Past work is not yet complete. Auroville still needs to purchase critical pieces of surrounding land, needed to maintain social, economic, and ecological balance.

In a regenerative design system, land and values are the container that hold the culture. The proven culture of Auroville is uniquely, potently capacitated for engaging important environmental and social work in the world. However, land purchase is incomplete, posing a social/economic developmental risk, and needs to be addressed to fully empower Auroville's future. Donations preserve the environment, empower culture, and ultimately support all projects.

**Budget**

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| Ask to Raise | $350,000 |
| Platform Fees 8% |  $28,000 |
| To Unity Fund | $322,000 |
| Unity Fund Fee |  $3,220 |
| Net for Land | $318,780 |

The Unity Fund is Auroville’s official channel for receiving and disbursing all internally generated income from commercial units, all donations and grants (both foreign and Indian) to the various Auroville trusts, projects and units. A 1% admin fee is charged on all donations and contributions.

Land purchases are organized by the Auroville Land Board, a working committee of residents. It is responsible for negotiating and purchasing the remaining land in the planned township area in consultation with the office of the Secretary to the Auroville Foundation, and for consolidating and protecting existing Auroville lands.

Purchase of the remaining 2,100 acres of land called for under the long standing Master Plan for the township, no longer seems feasible. Village growth, speculative demand, and land prices are advancing much faster than funds available for Auroville land purchases. Auroville now thinks defensively seeking the preservation of lands that best protect its culture. Defensive posture means acquiring the remaining city land, fill in, smoothing land ownership boundaries for better management and control, and bridging to stranded land plots. Priorities are the remaining city plots and land for organic farming and watershed protection, some of which lie outside the master plan boundary for the city. While much depends on what is available, when, and at what price, it is possible to think in terms of a requirement for 100 acres in the city and 250 acres outside at an average price of $63,756 per acre. This campaign is expected to raise funds for 5 acres out of 350. While this effort may seem like small help, it addresses immediate issues as the community maneuvers legally, politically, and financially to secure its future.

Are you one of us – global citizen, environmentalist, evolutionary learner, change agent? Come travel with us on this path to the future. Auroville humbly asks for your support, offering its gratitude for any donation, large or small.