IIP@VILLAGRO
INNOVATIONS FOUNDATION

BY MADHUMITHA
CLASS OF 2020
BANGALORE / CHENNAI, INDIA
WORK DESCRIPTION

• Worked closely with the health investment team to evaluate potential impact investment opportunities in the medical technology sector.

• Conducted initial screening for business viability and impact and performed detailed market and impact assessment

• Assisted with diligence process in general.
MOST REWARDING ASPECT: INCUBATEE MEET

• Had the opportunity to interact with Villgro’s incubatees and learn about their inspirations, their struggles, and their visions for their companies.

• Realized that these BOP-impact entrepreneurs were not just building companies that made social sense; their companies made economic sense as well: By coming up with innovative ways to completely reinvent existing devices and radically drive down costs, these companies were able to tap into the huge BOP market in India to ensure scalability and sustainability.

• Was excited to be convinced that doing well while doing good is not a fantasy, as the companies I met were proofs that it is possible.
INTERESTING NUGGETS

• Sat in on Vinayak (Yostra’s founder) explaining his innovation process to representatives of a French thinktank
• Flew to Pune to conduct due diligence on start-ups there
• Engaged in discussions about healthcare/Villgro/life/poetry/philosophy with Arun (my boss & the CTO)
• Interviewed Paul (the Founder) and Guns (the President) about their vision for Villgro
• Learnt a ton about the biotech scene/ Black Mirror/ Marvel Movies from my colleagues
POST IIP

• More informed choice of courses: realized that a strong background in tech is necessary in order to become a tech venture capitalist

• More informed choice of internships: realized that working at a start-up prior to working at an incubator/VC is highly valuable as you can viscerally understand the challenges facing the entrepreneurs you advise

• Inspired to build my own meaningful, high-impact ventures in college and beyond
CLOSING REMARKS

• One word to sum up my experience: diverse
• Diverse in terms of insights, people, places and ideas.
THANK YOU!