



Supporting great vision

A review of the UBS Global
Visionaries program 2016-2022





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About UBS

Changing the world needs leadership. As one of the world's largest wealth managers, at UBS, we want to lead the way to a better future – for ourselves and generations to come.

We believe people's desire to make the world a better place will keep growing. People will increasingly seek to do good by choosing sustainable investments and philanthropic solutions. We are here to help you have more impact with your wealth. Together, we'll explore your purpose and help you make a difference through giving, investing, connecting and leading the change you want to see.

Publication details

This report was independently researched and prepared by Wasafiri Consulting and published in March 2024 in collaboration with UBS AG and the UBS Global Visionaries team.

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With special thanks to our esteemed UBS Global Visionaries for their collaboration and invaluable time, which has greatly enriched the content of this report.



The report in short

Reimagining the power of investing. Connecting people for a better world. That's our purpose and it's what's behind the UBS Global Visionaries program.

Our vision at UBS is to convene the global ecosystem for investing – where thought leadership is impactful, people and ideas are connected, and opportunities are brought to life. We're building an impact economy where investors, businesses, social enterprises, NGOs, philanthropists, communities, academic institutions and governments worldwide partner together for a better world.

We believe social entrepreneurs working to tackle the most pressing social and environmental issues have incredible potential to deliver change and create a better world. That's why we launched the UBS Global Visionaries program with two goals: to create opportunities for clients to connect with leading social entrepreneurs and to help the best social entrepreneurs scale their solutions.

Global Visionaries are chosen because their work illustrates the power of investing in the impact economy. We're particularly interested in changemakers with solutions to improve health, education, inequality and climate (SDGs 3, 4, 10 and 13).

Since creating the program in 2016, and at the time of the evaluation, we've supported 68 Global Visionaries across four key pillars:

- Network access to UBS clients, employees and experts through events, roundtables and direct introductions
- Raising awareness through our website, social media, publications and speaking engagements

- Capacity building through coaching and training from internal and external experts
- Advice from our experts on issues such as how to structure deals or raise funds

We recently conducted an independent third-party review of the program, in collaboration with Wasafiri Consulting, to make sure we're on track. Here's what the review found after getting feedback from over two-thirds of the Global Visionaries who participated in the program between 2016 and 2022:

- 89% said the program had a positive influence on expanding networks
- 68% formed a partnership with like-minded peers, investors or others as a result of the program
- 64% agreed the program had increased awareness of critical global issues and their solutions
- 51% agreed the program helped them build skills valuable to delivering their mission
- 49% felt that the program positively influenced fundraising with over USD 150 million raised, with the most substantial contribution to fundraising efforts for impact-first social enterprises

How did this come about? Through:

- 263+ direct introductions to clients or prospects by UBS employees
- 359 curated events involving at least one Global Visionary as speaker: 238 targeted to UBS clients and 121 targeted to UBS employees
- 193 external media publications, including FT, Bloomberg and New York Times articles; website features; Monocle podcasts and UBS thought leadership papers.

- 3.3 million social media impressions
- 116 employee mentors
- 500 pro bono hours

As the program evolves, we look to achieve even greater impact by leveraging current strengths. We plan to further streamline the engagement of Global Visionaries, promote peer-to-peer learning and continue curating events that raise awareness. Our employees play a pivotal role, with mentor relationships responsible for several valuable introductions. And our clients are critical to helping these Global Visionaries get the exposure and support they need.

What the review showed us is that by bringing together UBS employees, UBS clients and UBS Global Visionaries, we can contribute to the world of investing and social entrepreneurship. Global Visionaries are inspiring our employees and clients – as well as others – to engage. Whether that leads to support for their solutions, inspiration to pursue their own innovative solution or just greater awareness, the program is helping to catalyze the kind of impact economy we need where well-being of people and planet is part of all investment decisions.



Learn more about the UBS Global Visionaries program.



You can also discover more about the impact economy in the UBS Sustainability and Impact Institute's white paper, **The Rise of the Impact Economy: Evolving to the next level.**



We are helping startups and social enterprises scale their impact by leveraging broad financial and non-financial support. At the same time, we create unique engagement opportunities for our clients. This review helps us amplify the impact by seeing what's working and how we can further evolve the program.

Tom Hall, Global Head of UBS Social Impact & Philanthropy, UBS

This review of the UBS Global Visionaries program has confirmed how important the expansion of networks is to social entrepreneurs, from gaining more financial support to acquiring new board members, to building capacity.

Grégorie Muhr, Head of Collective Impact & Insights, UBS

We give clients the opportunity to connect with UBS Global Visionaries so they can expand their impact by supporting promising social enterprises.

Brian Hull, Executive Vice Chairman, UBS Americas

We have so many outstanding talents at UBS who are among the best in their field – far beyond banking and finance – and who are eager to share their knowledge and make a difference. This supports Global Visionaries gain the capabilities needed to generate an even greater impact. At the same time, such volunteering is a unique opportunity for our employees to broaden their horizons and develop their skills – with tremendous cultural impact on the company.

Curdin Duschletta, Head of Social Impact and Philanthropy Switzerland, UBS

The program has been really great, a good balance of activities and a really great team!

Pierre Paslier & Rodrigo Garcia, Co-founders and Co-CEOs, Notpla

This is a great program and I really appreciate the attention and responsiveness of our advisors. We expect that by the end of our UBS Global Visionaries experience, we will have achieved many, if not all, of our goals.

Chris Bessenecker – Founder of AfriScout and Senior Director, Innovation at Global Communities



01

Stimulating the
social impact
ecosystem



Who are UBS Global Visionaries?

UBS Global Visionaries are impactful entrepreneurs tackling some of the world's most challenging social and environmental issues with pioneering solutions. They are innovative ideators who test and develop new solutions to move the needle on critical global issues. We believe that supporting them is crucial to stimulate the social impact ecosystem and reimagine the power of investment for an impact economy.

We feel very privileged to work with the UBS Global Visionaries. Each one of them has a compelling and inspiring vision for solving some of the world's most intractable problems. The passion that they bring motivates us to see how we can do more to make their visions a reality.

Felix Mundwiler, Lead UBS Global Visionaries

Our focus is on scaling the positive impact of entrepreneurs, thought leaders and innovative ideators working on crucial education, health, child protection and climate issues. We aim to support Global Visionaries at three stages to drive growth across the impact ecosystem: impact-first social enterprises, growth champions and early champions.

Impact-first social enterprises

Partners of the UBS Optimus Foundation or of UBS Community Impact, in health, education and environment

Business model: Not-for-profit with a partial revenue model

Geography: HQ can be located anywhere in the world

Emily Bancroft, VillageReach

Emily is the CEO of VillageReach, an innovative organization focused on healthcare delivery. Emily has led a process to undertake a co-developed, people-centered, healthcare solution. The focus is on using tech-enabled health systems to make health products and services available in low-resource environments, with an emphasis on strengthening the last mile of healthcare delivery. VillageReach has already increased access to quality healthcare for over 58 million people across sub-Saharan Africa. VillageReach has been a partner of the UBS Optimus Foundation since 2019.

Growth champions

Later-stage startups post-series B/pre-series C, with a clear track record of positive social or environmental impact, ready to scale or already scaling

Business model: For profit

Geography: HQ can be located anywhere in the world

Yishan Wong, Terraformation

Yishan is bringing Silicon Valley expertise to help restore the planet's forests. Yishan is leading Terraformation to build and deploy tools to tackle the largest bottlenecks to mass-scale reforestation. Started in 2017 with the goal of establishing the world's largest decentralized native seed banking network, Terraformation's technology includes off-grid seed banks that process and store millions of seeds, tracking and monitoring platforms for transparency, and solar-powered desalination – a clear demonstration of the scalability of Terraformation's approach.

Early champions*

Early-stage Swiss-based startups, up to Series A and already generating revenue, with a clear focus on impact with potential to profitably scale

Business model: For profit

Geography: HQ must be located in Switzerland

Samantha Anderson, DePoly

Samantha's vision is to eliminate the unneeded incineration of plastic and to move away production from oil as its basis. As CEO at DePoly, Samantha has successfully implemented a chemical recycling process turning plastic back into its raw components. Not only is this process functioning at room temperature and at standard pressure, but the resulting raw ingredients are of virgin grade quality. DePoly already has a capacity of handling 50 tons per year and is working on increasing its scale to 500 tons of annual capacity.

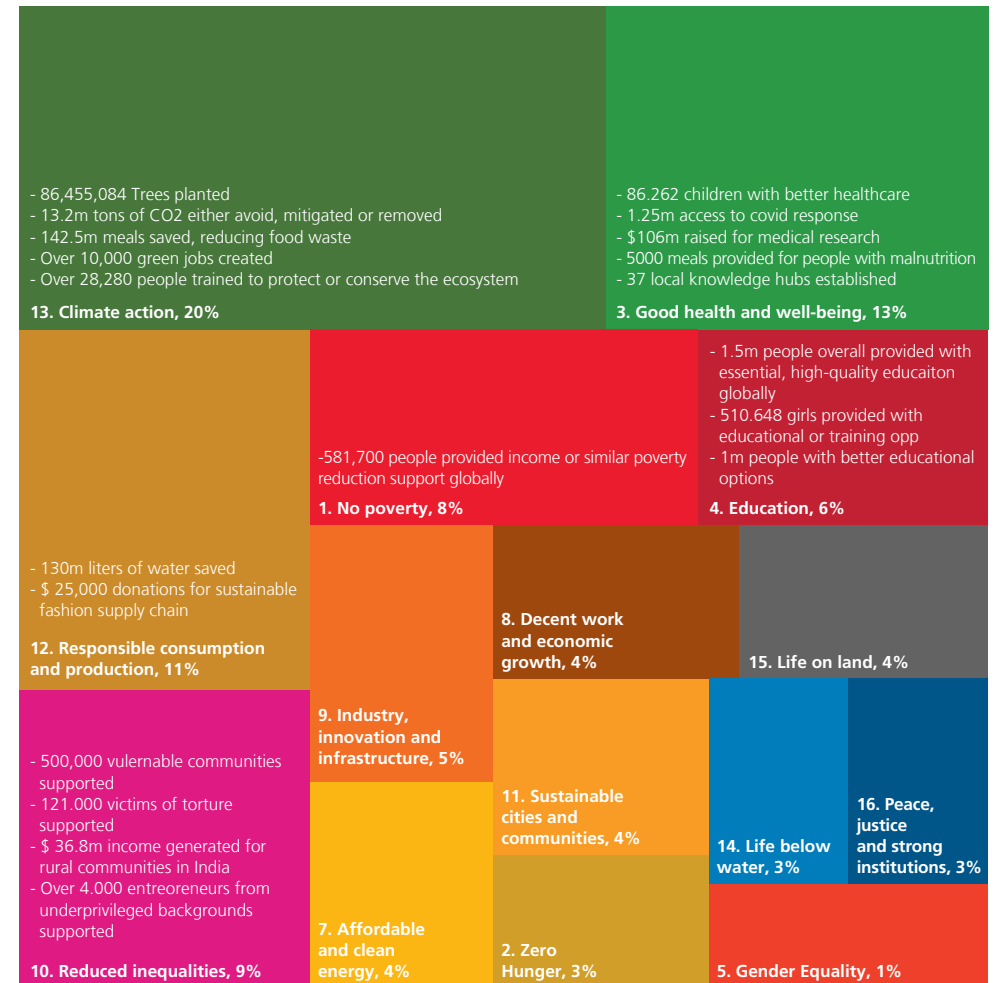
* The early champions category was introduced in 2022/23. Prior to that, a limited number of early-stage companies globally were accepted outside of any of the above categories. For further comments on the categorization see page 28.



Targeted social and environmental impact

Social entrepreneurs have the power to deliver change and create a better world. At UBS, we want to showcase their incredible work to emphasize the power of investing in the impact economy. As part of this, our mission is to become the bank that supports impact entrepreneurs to scale to address global issues and, for most of these organizations, deliver market-rate financial returns. The following infographic features the social and environmental impact targeted by the social entrepreneurs recognized by the UBS Global Visionaries program¹.

Global Visionary focus across SDGs: 3.648 million beneficiaries globally with USD 142.870 million raised for social and environmental impact



¹ Data is either self-reported via survey or collected from publicly available impact reports, websites, interviews or other online sources. The data is, where available, taken from the start of their engagement on the program to date. However, it should be noted that the data is not consistently available for all UBS Global Visionaries for all years. The total is slightly below 100% owed to the fact that their allocation to the SDGs is not always clearly defined.



02

Assessing the
program's
effectiveness



Why review now?

To support the impact ecosystem, we aim to create better connected organizations, improve public awareness of the issues and solutions, help build organizational capacity and improve financial resources. Currently, we support UBS Global Visionaries across four pillars of support:

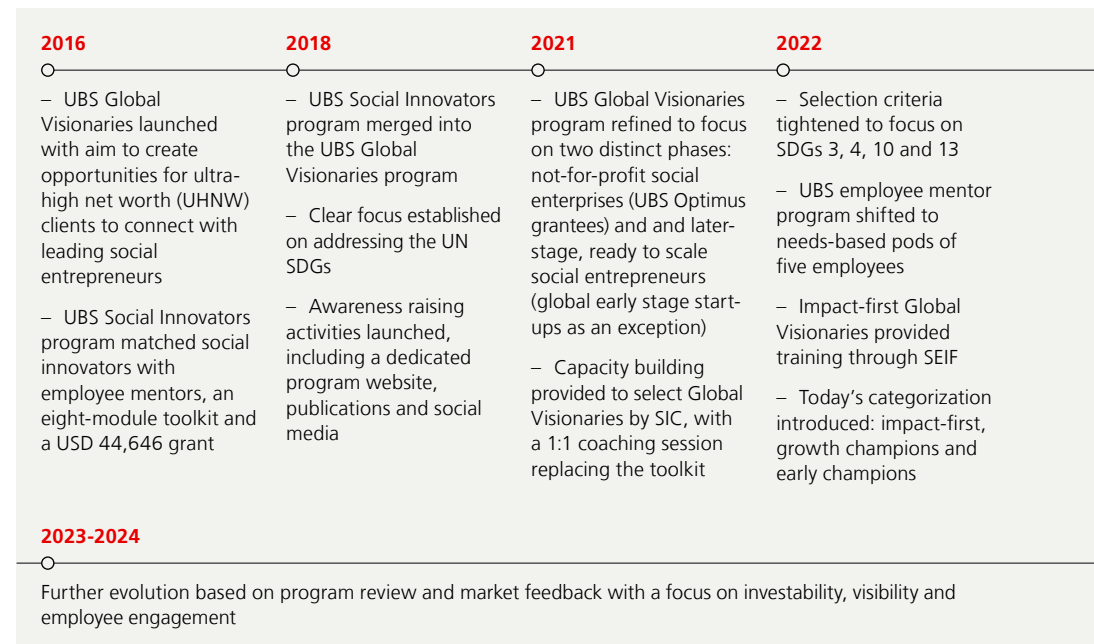
1. Where relevant, we create connections between changemakers, UBS clients, employees and experts to accelerate positive impact. We connect our employees and clients to Global Visionaries through events, roundtables, bilateral meetings and direct introductions.
2. We work to raise awareness of social and environmental issues and the Global Visionaries' pioneering solutions. We amplify Global Visionaries' stories and organizations through our dedicated website, social media, publications and speaking engagements.
3. We build capacity, equipping Global Visionaries to make change happen. We offer Global Visionaries pro bono advice with our global network of employees acting as advisors on specific challenges and sponsoring thematic workshops. We also have training partnerships with impact accelerator SEIF and the Social Innovation Circle (SIC).
4. We may be able to arrange financial advice, such as how to structure deals or connect with the UBS Investment Bank. We do not guarantee that Global Visionaries will receive funding during the program.

The program has been through a process of evolution since its inception. With each iteration of the program, we've worked to maximize our contribution with the resources available. Our program evolution has focused on improving the effectiveness of three broad areas:

1. We streamlined how the program is managed within UBS, combining similar programs as with the UBS Social Innovators and strengthening oversight while efficiently deploying internal resources.
2. We clarified how – and who – we identify, screen and onboard as a Global Visionary. To do this successfully, we worked collaboratively with the UBS Optimus Foundation and Chief Investment Office, building upon their already-thorough selection and due diligence processes to identify and fast-track the selection of participants.
3. We recognize that we can have more impact if we focus delivery against fewer social and environmental impact themes. From 2022, we only select Global Visionaries

working on SDGs 3, 4, 10 and 13. As we advance, we are looking to support entrepreneurs addressing critical education, health and climate issues. This focus enhances our ability to create positive change while also maximizing synergies internally and across our program cohorts.

After six years of implementation, we commissioned this third-party program review so we can see what's working and what could be improved to scale impact.





UBS contribution across four pillars

In the program’s current iteration, we have a clear theory of change (see chapter 4) to support UBS Global Visionaries and their organizations to deliver greater positive social and environmental impact. The theory of change is built around our four pillars of support: creating connections, raising awareness, building capacity and improving access to financial resources. As such, our review assessed the program across these four areas.

What are some key findings?

89%

felt that the program had contributed to expanding their networks

68%

agreed that the program increased awareness of the issues they are tackling

51%

agreed that the program helped them build skills valuable to delivering their mission

49%

felt that the program positively influenced their fundraising efforts

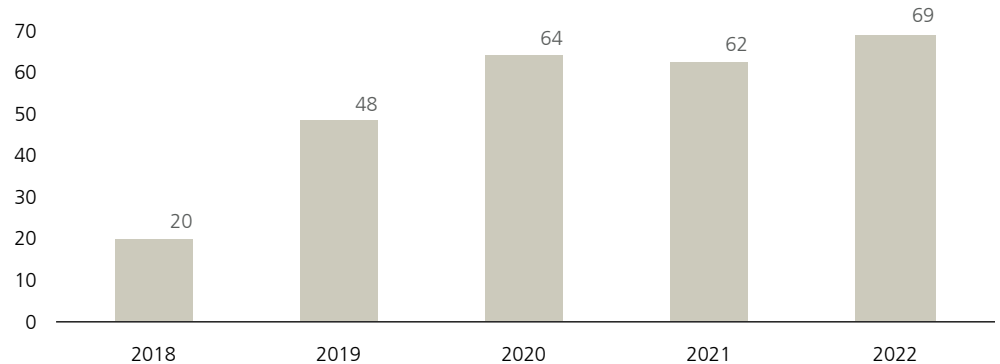
What about program impact on the SDGs?

We assessed the cumulative effect of the program toward the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Currently just over a quarter (27%) of Global Visionaries recognize this benefit from the program. We aim to significantly increase from this baseline over the next years. For those recognizing this benefit, a recurring theme is the close and productive relationship with UBS employees acting as mentors, sponsors or technical experts. Of those who agreed that the program contributed to the SDGs, half cited UBS employee mentors as pivotal.

Creating connections

We believe connecting entrepreneurs, businesses and investors is core to creating a resilient and thriving impact ecosystem. Entrepreneurs with effective networks are more resilient to shocks, generate better ideas by exchanging knowledge and have access to greater resources – financial or otherwise. We aim to increase UBS Global Visionaries' access to partners, clients and like-minded peers to enable action for positive social and environmental change.

Direct bilateral client and prospect introductions²



From 2018, there have been at least 263 direct introductions to clients or prospects made by UBS employees (that we know of). In addition, we hosted over 238 curated client events. These events are designed to bring together specific clients and Global Visionaries via a dinner, roundtable or visit to stimulate discussions, share ideas and inspire action. Through these introductions and events, we provide Global Visionaries with the opportunity to expand their networks and create meaningful connections.

² Data is partially available for 2018 and not available prior to 2018. Numbers shown on graph also include a minority portion of prospects and clients engaged with team members of the UBS Global Visionaries' organizations and not directly with the Global Visionaries.

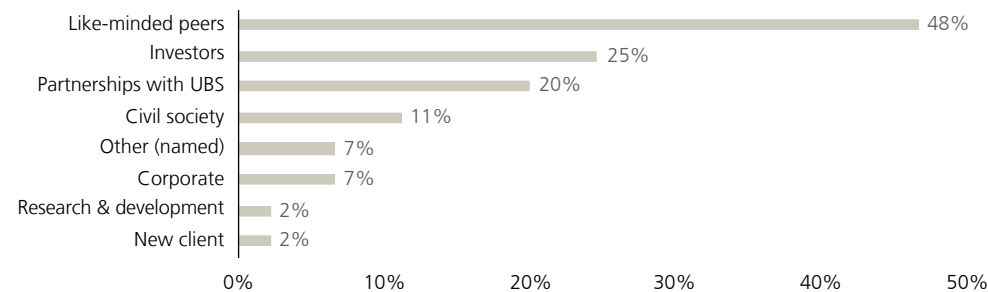
What did we learn?

We asked the Global Visionaries several questions to understand our contribution to their connections.

- First, we asked if the program had contributed to expanding their networks.
- Second, we recognize that an extensive network is essential to many organizations. However, we wanted to understand if these new connections led to more meaningful partnerships that contributed to the entrepreneurs achieving their missions.

We found that 89% of Global Visionaries felt that the program had contributed to expanding their networks (slightly, moderately, very or extremely). The Global Visionaries cited the opportunity to present and participate in events with ultra-high net worth and high net worth individuals, as well as exposure to UBS employees, as crucial contributors to their ability to make new connections and advance these connections into more meaningful partnerships.

When expanding on whether the Global Visionaries had formed more meaningful partnerships, we focused on several common partnership types: like-minded peers, investors, the UBS Group, civil society organizations, or research and development organizations. Interestingly, despite the program not including specific activities or events to form partnerships, we found that 68% of Global Visionaries formed a formal or informal partnership through the program.

Types of partnerships formed

Launching new high-impact ventures. Connections made through the program gave some Global Visionaries the knowledge, ideas and inspiration to launch new high-impact ventures. Facilitating connections between a range of stakeholders – UBS employees, industry leaders, investors and other changemakers – allows exchange of knowledge and resources to create change. Two Global Visionaries reported forming new ventures focusing on positive social or environmental impact.

- Mark Pollock, Founder of the Mark Pollock Trust and Co-Founder of Run in the Dark, attributes the program to stimulating conversations that ultimately led him to found Collaborative Cures, a USD 100 million non-profit science, technology, entrepreneur and investor network collaborating to cure paralysis.
- Nicole Rycroft, CEO and Founder of Canopy, utilized introductions to investors to launch a private equity fund aimed at protecting half of ancient forests globally.





Nicole Rycroft

Founder and Executive Director, Canopy

Nicole founded Canopy to protect the world's forests, species and climate and help advance Indigenous communities' rights by working with companies worldwide to transform unsustainable supply chains, focusing on diverting paper, packaging and viscose production away from ancient woodlands. To transform the system, Nicole has generated significant buy-in from over 900 brands – like Walmart, Zara, LVMH and H&M – for sustainable fiber alternatives while also identifying over 30 sustainable fiber innovators.

In 2018, Nicole became a Global Visionary to better understand the financial landscape relating to funding fiber innovators. While Nicole is a skilled environmental campaigner and adept at leading a small NGO, connecting her to expertise across UBS provided her with a crash course in financial literacy and investor engagement. And the UBS team was able to introduce Nicole to a range of institutional and family investors.

The introductions and coaching support helped Nicole sculpt and refine her thinking on which investment vehicles could spur a supply chain transformation. With her idea ready for pitching, the UBS team introduced her to a contact specializing in sustainable infrastructure, private equity and venture capital. This led to the creation of an up to USD 750 million private equity impact fund designed to scale commercial production. By shifting the paper and textile pulp industries away from the world's high carbon, high biodiversity-value forests, the fund can save between 20-40mt CO₂ per year and potentially be one of the world's most transformative climate solutions.

Forming new business partnerships. By connecting the right people, we can scale some of the world's most impactful companies. The UBS mentors assigned to the Global Visionaries have demonstrated that with the right idea, we can marry purpose with profit.

- Choba Choba, a Swiss chocolate brand providing a fair deal for cocoa farmers, gained partnership to supply chocolate across UBS offices and drive awareness among UBS employees. Many employees subsequently became shareholders.
- The UBS Global Visionaries program helped connect the Co-Founders of Good Catch to a major food distributor, potentially accessing thousands of new customers.



Chris Kerr

CEO and Co-Founder, Good Catch

“When UBS gets involved, it has the opportunity to get the world to listen.”

Chris spent the last two decades focused on impact investing, particularly in the plant-based foods sector, helping to launch many industry-changers, including Beyond Meat, Daiya, Alpha Foods, Wicked Foods, BlueNalu and NUMU. Chad Sarno, Co-Founder and Chief Culinary Officer of Good Catch, is a long-time pioneer of plant-based foods.

Good Catch aims to change the narrative of alternative seafood. The mission is to stimulate an industry around alternative proteins to transition toward a climate friendly, nutritious and ethical food system. This starts with raising awareness of the impact of the current seafood industry and showcasing alternative proteins as one of the best solutions.

Chris and Chad became Global Visionaries in 2021. At the time, UBS was writing a guidance paper for philanthropists and changemakers that focused on oceans: Sea beyond the Blue. Good Catch had a significant feature in the report that was widely disseminated across UBS social media platforms. For Chris, inclusion in the report provided an unrivalled validation of their approach to the market. The market validation, combined with personalized introductions from their mentor, connected Chris and Chad to the UBS HQ commissary and its manager, Restaurant Associates, a US division of the global foodservice behemoth Compass Group. The successful introduction propelled Good Catch into acceptance in the Compass Foodbuy program, now allowing Good Catch products to enter corporate commissaries across the United States.



Accessing executive-level talent. Businesses, particularly smaller organizations with less financial and human capacity, can face hurdles in identifying and recruiting top talent. We connect leaders from across UBS to support Global Visionaries and some of these relationships develop into longer-term engagements.

- Bjorn Low, Executive Director and Co-Founder of Edible Garden City, worked closely with his UBS mentor to develop a social impact plan. The mentor later joined Edible Garden City as a board advisor and has helped deploy the plan. The partnership enabled the continuation of the valuable support Bjorn received during the program. Edible Garden City is an urban food production solution organization that creates vertical food walls and other agri-tech solutions to localize food production.
- Casey Whymark, Head of IB Global Markets, Switzerland, introduced a prospective client to one of the Global Visionaries. The prospective client later became a board advisor to the organization.
- Zhihan Lee, CEO and Founder of Bagosphere, was able to fast-track the shortlisting of C-Suite candidates through connections he made during UBS events.

Shifting towards small, more personalized events increases meaningful partnerships.

In the first four program years (representing 70% of survey participants), we emphasized showcasing Global Visionaries at large events to maximize their exposure to various audiences. While this broadly increased the number of client interactions, it reduced the opportunity to engage more deeply in shared interests. Since 2020, we have started to address this by reorienting the program to focus on more personalized, tailored events that aim to bring together audiences with shared interests and knowledge. While the data varies significantly, overall, we saw a drop in the percentage of Global Visionaries that formed no partnerships from an average of about 35% across the first four years to around 23% since 2020.³

Key takeaways

Although we had clear successes, we have reflected on what could be improved. Most partnerships were with like-minded peers (almost half). However, only two Global Visionaries reported like-minded peer partnerships with other Global Visionaries. Global Visionaries are leaders in their field, experienced in bringing new ideas to market, and excellent problem solvers. But social entrepreneurship is challenging and often isolating. We see significant value in sharing experiences, learnings and getting support when something fails. The facilitation of cross-entrepreneur exchanges would stimulate peer support, building entrepreneur capability and resilience.

³ Survey results for 2020 and 2021 represent 50% and 44% respectively of the total cohort for those years and are thus not representative. The current response provides an 80% confidence level with 30% margin of error for both years. 2022 data is also affected by the non-inclusion of Global Visionaries who had only recently joined the program.



Raising awareness

To drive social change, we need to raise awareness of critical social and environmental issues and the winning solutions. Effective awareness raising can mobilize the power of public opinion, influence political will and direct much-needed investment to organizations that can deliver a positive impact. Through the UBS Global Visionaries program, we aim to utilize our global platform and outreach to amplify UBS Global Visionaries' voices. As inspirational thought leaders and innovators, they have the power to influence attitudes, behaviors and beliefs to achieve positive change.

Through the program, we have successfully achieved over 552 awareness-raising activities. We have featured all Global Visionaries on our dedicated website and promoted 66 articles through paid media partnerships with reputed news channels. Our social media has supported all of the above – the content's performance has been one of the most successful across the UBS Group.

552

awareness-raising activities

3.3_m

impressions across our social media platform, including Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

193

external media publications, including FT, Bloomberg and New York Times articles; website features; Monocle podcasts and UBS thought leadership papers.

359

internal and external events, including events such as Art Basel, Greater China Conference and internal events for employees.

What did we learn?

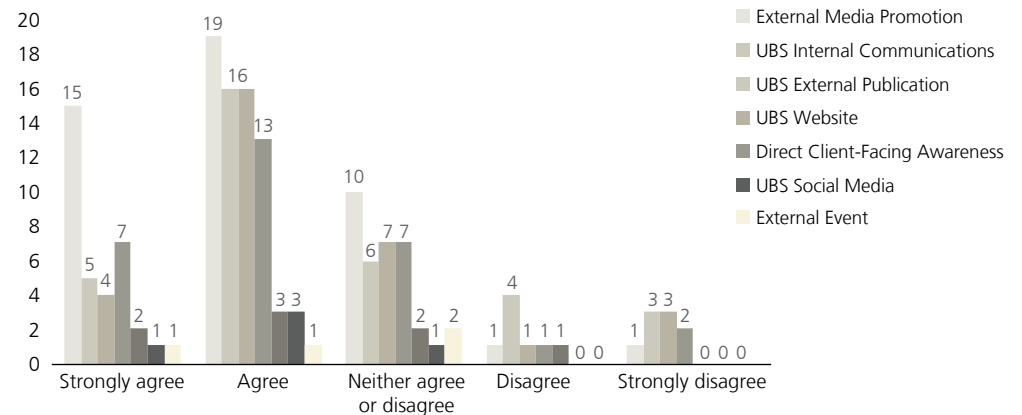
We asked Global Visionaries whether the program contributed to increasing awareness of social and environmental issues and their innovative solutions. We found that as a result of our awareness-raising activities, on average, the majority of Global Visionaries either agreed or strongly agreed that the program increased awareness of the issues they are tackling (68%) and their solutions (59%).

The type of organization that felt they benefited the most from awareness-creating activities were growth champions, with 78% reporting a positive correlation. This is unexpected as these organizations are typically better resourced to fund marketing campaigns. They are also usually more widely known than impact-first social enterprises, social innovators or early

champion organizations. After further examination, the leading drivers of the perspectives of growth champions were speaking opportunities with UBS clients (43%) or awareness among UBS employees (29%). Growth champions prized the opportunity to engage closely across the UBS Group's network.

Diversity in media exposure drives awareness. A deeper dive into the types of activities across the whole cohort revealed that the diversity of awareness-raising activities, paid partnerships for external media promotion and external-facing media were the most effective at shifting the perception of awareness raising from negative to neutral and positive. Matthew Tilleard is the Co-Founder and Managing Partner of the CrossBoundary Group, an innovative investment firm that unlocks private capital for sustainable development. Matthew felt that the program strongly raised awareness of the issues around sustainable access to energy and CrossBoundary's solutions by deploying a diverse range of media outreach activities. While on the program, Matthew attended the Art Basel Hong Kong event, had articles published by CNBC and New York Times, and was featured in the UBS Group's Private Wealth Management internal newsletters.

Perception of the program's contribution to awareness by type of activity



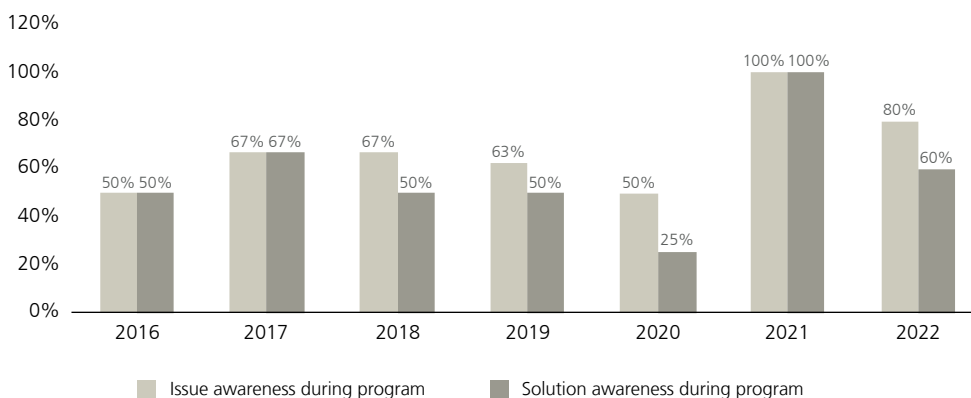
Key takeaways

Global Visionaries were 9% more likely to report the program had a positive impact on issue awareness compared to awareness of their solutions. Some Global Visionaries reported that stakeholders they interacted with through awareness-raising events were new to their thematic area. As a result, their low baseline knowledge required spending more time explaining the issue.

We've worked to improve the types of engagements Global Visionaries have with clients and other stakeholders and have seen a corresponding increase over time (except during 2019 and 2020) in the average percentage of Global Visionaries who agree that the awareness of their solution increased.⁴ We've also seen a similar trajectory around increased awareness of the issues. We're delighted that the results trend positively. But we recognize that further work is needed to ensure solutions to some of the world's most challenging issues are showcased more effectively. We have far-reaching access to influential audiences across the world who have the power to make change happen. Curating events that bring changemakers together would generate productive discussions and enable action. We're continuously looking for ways in which to leverage our platform to promote and scale the impact economy through visionary entrepreneurs.

We successfully utilized our global platform and outreach to amplify our Global Visionaries' voices. On average, close to two-thirds (64%) of Global Visionaries either agreed or strongly agreed that we increased awareness of critical global issues and their solutions. We facilitated or hosted communication-focused events, such as media roundtables, partnerships with podcast producers, or feature articles in leading media outlets as well as publishing our thought leadership papers. This gave some Global Visionaries access to high-level and broad-reaching global audiences.

The responding Global Visionaries reported two overarching trends. First, the increase in awareness was particularly notable among UBS employees and clients. Second, the weight of being recognized by UBS, given the UBS Group's reputation, is central to the program effectively raising awareness. The UBS Global Visionaries program identification and onboarding of Christoph Gebald and Jan Wurzbacher, Co-Founders of Climeworks, a Swiss-based carbon dioxide air capture company, signified the UBS Group's recognition of their innovative direct carbon capture solution. This recognition has accelerated technology adoption and is helping to mitigate the climate crisis.

Percentage who agree/strongly agree that the program increased awareness

⁴ Survey results for 2020 and 2021 represent 50% and 44% respectively of the total cohort for those years and are thus not representative of those years. 2022 results saw a drop, partially as some Global Visionaries had to answer this survey shortly after their onboarding and therefore didn't yet benefit much from awareness-raising activities.



credit: The R Collective



Christina Dean

CEO and Founder, The R Collective

“What I liked about it was that I made a lot of good friends, who also bring business support and professional relationships. These are long-term relationships for the future.”

As a sustainable fashion advocate, Christina founded The R Collective to rescue luxury brands' excess materials, collaborating with award-winning sustainable designers to create responsible products for a circular fashion model. Christina became a Global Visionary in 2019, with a clear focus on building her network with potential investors and increasing advocacy for sustainable fashion.

Christina saw the opportunity during the program to lay down strong advocacy foundations and invested considerable time toward maximizing what the program could offer. Three years on, she is still actively engaged as an alumna. Working closely with her UBS sponsor, Christina sharpened her pitch and focused energy on generating close relationships with key contacts. Her sponsor also introduced her to female-forward networks, which led to more supporters and sources of advice.

Christina notes that saying yes to the events offered to her by the UBS team meant she was able to effectively connect to ultra-high net worth individuals. This allowed her to provide more formal information and insight into sustainable fashion. Christina was able to further combine this direct advocacy with both the program's media roundtables and UBS's media partnerships, with reputable outlets like the Wall Street Journal, significantly amplifying her message for change.

Building capacity

Our approach to capacity building has always been to provide UBS Global Visionaries with needs-based 360-degree support. We offer them access to UBS research insights through the UBS NEO platform, providing market insights directly from UBS analysts to help Global Visionaries identify trends, potential partners and make better informed decisions. But since we know every social entrepreneur's needs are different, we aim for tailored support.

Through each program iteration, we've partnered with exceptional skill-building and impact-focused organizations to enhance our capacity-building value add. First, we worked with Ashoka, the largest network of social entrepreneurs worldwide. More recently, we transitioned to the Social Innovation Circle (SIC) and SEIF as our capacity-building partners, offering dedicated workshops on hybrid finance, problem-solving through systems thinking, and impact measurement and management.

In parallel to our external partnerships, our employees have been at the heart of capacity building. In the earlier program iterations, we paired Global Visionaries with at least one UBS employee as mentor. Since 2022 we have shifted to an agile support pod model. Agile pods include a senior UBS employee who serves as the Global Visionary's sponsor. This sponsor, in coordination with the pod lead, can then help make relevant introductions across the bank depending on what specialist support is needed. From the beginning of the program, we've supported 68 Global Visionaries with at least 116 employee mentors or senior sponsors and agile pod members. These employees have committed over 500 pro-bono hours. We've also supported over 33 Global Visionaries with dedicated workshops or external capacity building services.

What did we learn?

We asked Global Visionaries if the program helped them become better equipped to deliver positive impact and inquired about skills developed during the program. We found that, on average, 51% of Global Visionaries either agreed or strongly agreed that the program helped them build skills valuable to delivering their mission. The top skills developed were marketing and communication (48%), strategy (38%) and pitching (29%).⁵ In addition, 44% of those who reported neither agree nor disagree still indicated they developed specific skills in line with the top skills developed above.

⁵ Percentages are of those who agreed or strongly agreed that the program had a positive influence on their ability to deliver their organizational goals. Three survey respondents were excluded because they clearly expressed no need for capacity building from the outset of their participation



Those who were part of the UBS Global Visionaries program in 2017 but not part of the UBS Social Innovators program didn't receive any formal capacity building, as this was not part of the program at that time.⁶ Despite this, 56% of these Global Visionaries either agreed or strongly agreed that the program better equipped them to deliver positive impact.

UBS employee sponsors propel success. Commentary from Global Visionaries across all cohort years highlighted that our senior sponsors (and before that, mentors) were crucial to building their capacity, more so than external mentorships and formal skill building services. UBS employees play a crucial role in supporting the development of Global Visionaries, both in terms of building capacity and, importantly, acting as a gateway into the wider UBS organization. The evidence points to sponsors successfully connecting Global Visionaries to others within the organization who have the expertise or connections to guide their delivery, create new business, and meet investors.⁷



Christoph Inauen

Co-Founder and Co-CEO, Choba Choba

Choba Choba is a Swiss-based chocolate brand working to provide a fair deal for farmers. While working as Head of Sustainability & Cocoa Purchasing in the industry, Christoph took an interest in direct sourcing strategies for cocoa. He realized that just three companies control 75% of the global chocolate business and actual cocoa farmers often have little or no say in business. Most live in poverty, never seeing the profit that their product generates. Choba Choba is the first Swiss chocolate brand co-owned and co-managed by the cocoa farmers, meaning they are no longer mere raw material suppliers. Instead, they have a direct stake in the company and its success.

Christoph joined as a Social Innovator in 2017, when the UBS Social Innovators and Global Visionaries programs were still separate. When the programs merged in 2018, Christoph became a Global Visionary. He was assigned to a UBS mentoring team that helped develop a carefully considered corporate strategy, a solid business plan and smart tools for financial planning. Part of this mentor team included Anton Simonet, Head of Wealth Management Switzerland. The team worked as exceptional sponsors of Choba Choba, securing Christoph presentation opportunities throughout the business and directly connecting him with senior UBS leaders. As a result, he secured UBS as a major customer of Choba Choba, providing chocolate in several UBS offices worldwide. The presentations secured by the team gave Christoph the opportunity to engage employees from across the organization – many who later became shareholders in the business.

If you give the entrepreneurs the right resources, they will make change happen.

We connected Global Visionaries to a range of internal and external mentors. Through Ashoka, and then SIC, we worked closely with Mark Cheng, the European Director of Ashoka and then Co-Founder and Managing Partner of SIC. Like other mentors, coaches and UBS employees, Mark played an influential role in guiding many Global Visionaries. We understand the nature of entrepreneurs: if you provide them with the right resources, insights and tools, they can make change happen. Through our partnership with SIC, Mark worked closely with our Global Visionary Mark Pollock, adventure athlete, Founder of the Mark Pollock Trust, Co-Founder of Run in the Dark, and a motivational speaker. The guidance and advice Mark Pollock received enabled him to launch his new high-impact venture, Collaborative Cures.

⁶ A total of nine Global Visionaries who participated in the survey were onboarded in either 2016 or 2017 and not part of the UBS Social Innovators program either before, during or after their participation in the UBS Global Visionaries program.

⁷ Analysis conducted from coding of qualitative responses to the survey.



Mark Pollock

Founder, Collaborative Cures

In 2018, Mark was reimagining his organization’s purpose and what would really make a difference to the lives of those living with paralysis. After a period focused on fundraising, he realized that the limiting factor was not the resources in the sector but the limited movement between lab-based research into startups and viable entities delivering therapies to paralyzed people outside the research environment.

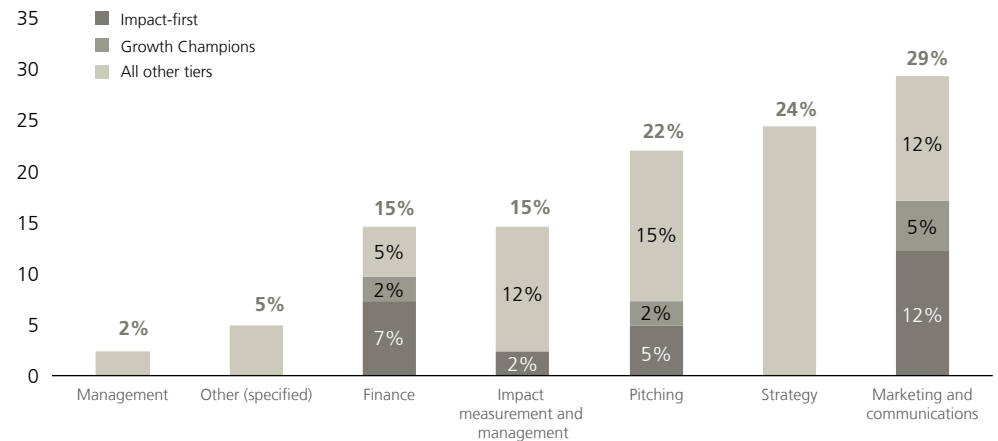
The UBS Global Visionaries program appealed to Mark because of the UBS Group’s industry expertise and networks across philanthropic, institutional and impact investing pathways. Underlying this desire to learn more about the financial markets was a core question: What impact did he want his organization to achieve, and how could he effectively communicate this impact to others, including potential investors?

The UBS Global Visionaries team coordinated a package of tailored support through the UBS Branding team and our collaboration with Ashoka. Mark took the opportunity to look at the fundamentals of his organization. With advice from his support team, he reviewed different options for his organizational structure that would ensure greater viability for the enterprise and delivery of results. Subsequently, he worked closely with the team to refine, align and improve the delivery of his pitch. With a sharper message, Mark and the UBS team scouted media openings to increase visibility and secured a podcast with the multiple Formula One world champion, Lewis Hamilton. The podcast was a huge success and helped launch Mark’s refined venture. Following this, Mark spoke at a UBS ultra-high net worth event. This event connected Mark with the Head of TED and led to Mark speaking on the main stage at TED.

Mark attributes these connections as being both influential in raising the profile of the cause he is addressing and instrumental to the change of his approach. So far, Mark and his team have been involved in catalyzing collaborations that are now valued at over USD 100 million. These include co-creating international neuromodulation and robotics research studies, building an innovative exoskeleton rehabilitation program and facilitating multi-stakeholder relationships towards the commercialization of academic research. Through Collaborative Cures, Mark is focused on creating systemic impact, reducing 50-year scientific translation timelines to 10 years and catalyzing collaborations worth over USD 1.25 billion.

Organizations at different stages need different types of support. The capacity-building support available in the program has changed over the years as we focus on trying to provide a more tailored solution for Global Visionaries. The results clearly show that different types of Global Visionaries benefit from some support more than others. Each entrepreneur tier benefitted significantly from the capacity building element of the program. Overall, the impact-first social entrepreneurs benefitted the most, with 79% reporting some skills developed, followed by social innovators and growth champions at 75% and 67%, respectively.⁸ Impact-first social entrepreneurs primarily gained skills in marketing and communications, as well as finance training. Social innovators benefited from strategy, pitching and impact measurement and management, while growth champions benefited from skills in marketing and communication.

Skills developed on the program by entrepreneur tier



⁸ Entrepreneurs that were not classified were also not included, although they made up the majority of the respondents. This is due to the high diversity of business size, model, strategy, technical focus and capacity across organizations in this group. See further comments on the classifications on page 28.



Key takeaways

In line with the results highlighted above, we found that the needs of Global Visionaries varied significantly. While some benefitted substantially from the process, many didn't have time to commit to additional training options. Focusing on delivering a tailored program experience, whereby each Global Visionary has a package of support designed to reflect unique needs, would significantly improve the program's contribution to future Global Visionaries.

The agile pods, which were not assessed as part of this evaluation since they were introduced in 2023, are moving in the right direction. In addition, senior UBS leaders working as sponsors can drive change across the UBS Group and the investment landscape. Our sponsors are uniquely positioned. They have access to other senior leaders across the Group, are well-placed to make curated introductions to clients or other employees and have a strong understanding of the resources available to support Global Visionaries on their journey.

Improving access to finance

We recognize and believe in the private sector's crucial role in tackling some of the world's most pressing problems. Investors are also focused on something deeper: a search for meaning, a sense of purpose and a desire to contribute more to the world around them. We created the UBS Global Visionaries program to bridge this gap, accelerate entrepreneurs to create positive change and reimagine the power of investing for a better world. For most entrepreneurs, financial advice and fundraising support was not included within the program scope. Nonetheless, increasing awareness and expanding global networks may improve access to finance. Therefore, we included questions in our survey to understand our contribution to fundraising efforts during the program.

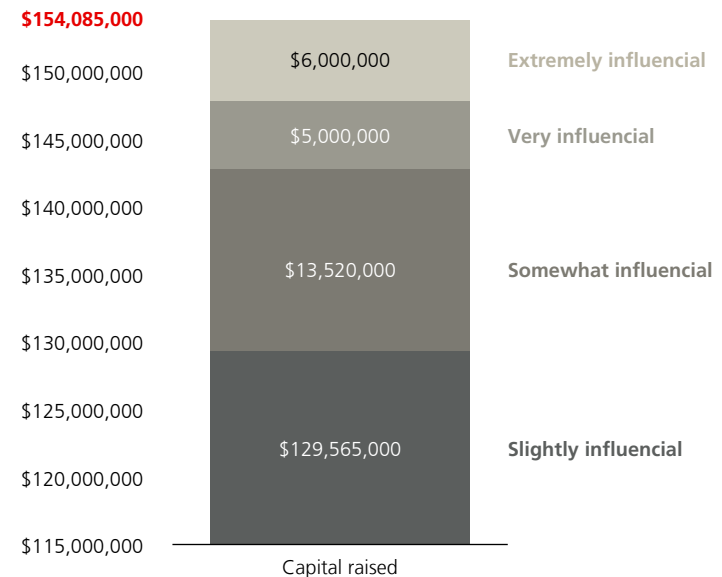
What did we learn?

We found that about half of the Global Visionaries felt that the program was either slightly, somewhat, very or extremely influential on their fundraising efforts during their program participation. This contributed to more than USD 150 million of capital raised.⁹ The majority (84%) of capital raised was only slightly influenced by the program.

The survey also showed that the program had a more substantial contribution to fundraising efforts for impact-first social enterprises. They represented 67% of those who found the

program very or extremely influential. The Social Innovator participants all responded that their fundraising benefitted in some way from being part of the program, with it being either slightly, somewhat or very influential.¹⁰ The Global Visionaries attributed access to the UBS networks – specifically UBS clients, prospects and senior leaders within UBS – as central to the program's positive contribution to their fundraising efforts.

Funds raised by UBS Global Visionaries who have experienced positive impacts from the program



⁹ As reported by the Global Visionaries through the survey or supplemented via data from the pitchbook. May not include all funds raised.

¹⁰ The survey aimed to understand the UBS Global Visionaries program's contribution to entrepreneurs. As part of the UBS Social Innovators program, awardees received a USD 44,646 grant. Therefore, UBS Social Innovators' responses should reflect additional fundraising efforts but the distinction between grant money and additional fundraising is vague.

Key takeaways

The Global Visionaries commented that the program team, sponsors and mentors positively influenced the program's contribution to their fundraising. Clearly, our employees play a pivotal role in the program's success. What is more, we recognize that through the program, we have one of the greatest opportunities to connect with clients about purpose while accelerating investment to create impact. Creating more and better connections between the program team, mentors, sponsors and other UBS employees will significantly improve the program's contribution to the Global Visionaries and the positive social and environmental impact they achieve.



Lucy Buck

Founder, Child's i Foundation

"The two years of being a Global Visionary with the support and backing of the UBS Global Visionaries team, the Philanthropy Advisory team and the UBS Optimus Foundation helped transform our organization and helped us continue to build financial security and sustainability."

Lucy underwent a personal journey from being the voice of a reality TV show, to quitting her TV career to raise thousands to improve conditions for orphans, to founding the Child's i Foundation to create systemic change. The Foundation aims to see every child grow up in a safe and loving family and provide the blueprint for sustainable alternatives to orphanages

Lucy had a strong personal story but needed critical help delivering an investor-orientated presentation. The program team identified pro bono services of a presentation expert who spent a day with Lucy honing her story into a pitch. Two weeks later, Lucy presented to a range of investors and was awarded USD 181,770. Following her initial pitch, Lucy presented at several UBS internal and external events. In March 2018, she gave a "Big Why" talk to UBS staff and clients in Zurich, attended by over 70 UBS client advisors and live streamed to Geneva. After the event, Nina Hoas, ex-Team Head Philanthropy Advisory, reached out to offer her expertise in helping to scale the Child's i Foundation. Nina worked with Lucy over the following year to help set up a collaborative of philanthropists supporting her cause.





2023 qualitative review



The year 2023 was not in scope of the program review. However, 2023 saw strong continuation of the program, in line with the UBS purpose and vision.

In March, we onboarded eight new Global Visionaries, taking the active cohort to 30. All Global Visionaries answering our survey in 2023 expressed their satisfaction with the program. Global Visionaries Alumni were also experiencing considerable progress and successes. Alumni Pierre Paslier and Rodrigo Garcia, Notpla's Co-Founders, won the £1m Earthshot Prize in 2022. Alumna Nicole Rycroft, Founder and Executive Director of Canopy, won a USD 60 million prize from the 2023 TED's Audacious Project. Nicole said: "This award was made possible because of the support that the UBS Global Visionaries program gave us over the past five years – as a strategic partner providing connections and championing our work."

All active Global Visionaries and Alumni combined are currently valued at over USD 10 billion. In 2023, seven prospects joined UBS as clients across several divisions after engaging with the UBS Global Visionaries program. And USD 135 million was raised with direct attribution to the program. UBS Global Visionaries were positioned in media and research publications as well as in many internal and external flagship events, like the World Economic Forum in Davos or the 2023 UBS Philanthropy and Social Impact Forums in Switzerland and the United States. This led to over 1,819 touchpoints between clients and prospects, thus contributing to strong pipelines and building impactful relationships within the UBS global network of stakeholders.

Capacity building is a key aspect of the UBS Global Visionaries program, not only helping the participants to work through some of their major thought processes and challenges, but also providing high-level professional development opportunities and awareness for employees. In 2023, over 70 senior UBS employees supported Global Visionaries as coaches or agile pod members and 1,200 voted for the winner of a USD 55,000 grant at the first Pitch for Purpose event.



Influencing the UBS wider ecosystem

Understanding the effect on our ecosystem is essential in our aim to connect people for a better world. We facilitate bidirectional impact between UBS Global Visionaries and investors by establishing and stewarding connections. But we also know that, through our employees' involvement, these exchanges influence the wider UBS Group.

UBS Global Visionaries Ambassadors exist to build a strong understanding of the program, in conjunction with their knowledge of the interests of clients and others in their networks. And they seek to promote the program across their teams. As such, the Ambassadors are central to forming the right connections between investors and Global Visionaries, either indirectly through sharing information or directly in the form of introductions.

Through their work, Ambassadors positively influence the wider ecosystem by:

- increasing the potential for collaboration between social entrepreneurs and investors, as well as social entrepreneurs and wealth managers
- increasing collective intelligence around social entrepreneurship and the solutions to SDG challenges
- shifting the incentives motivating parties from purely financial to include social impact and personal contribution

Potential collaboration

We believe in the power of investing as a tool to amplify innovative solutions and create a positive impact. We also recognize that we, and other financial institutions, have a role to play in connecting changemakers with investors and stewarding collaborations to deliver change. There are several pathways within impact investing, like philanthropy, blended finance and social finance. Increasing these connections can increase the level of experimentation, development and use of each.

Our client advisors note that clients see the untapped potential of impact investing – and the UBS Global Visionaries program can capitalize on this appetite. Investors are eager to learn more about how they can align profit with purpose, and Global Visionaries can lead the way. Every interaction is an opportunity to exchange ideas and values, refining how investing and creating a positive impact can come together.

Creating collective intelligence

A key part of the UBS Global Visionaries program's strength is its ability to create a positive feedback loop between investors, UBS employees and Global Visionaries. Each group influences one another by sharing ideas, exchanging experiences and building collective intelligence. One of the UBS Global Visionaries Ambassadors recognized that her engagement with the program was influenced by one of her first clients, who sought to understand more about sustainable fashion.

Many of the Global Visionaries' ventures are investable propositions. To date, for the most part UBS does not directly recommend these organizations as investments to prospective or current clients. Nevertheless, the organization's engagement in the sector can influence the discourse.

The sharing of knowledge and experience across groups is noted by many participants. For example, one of the Ambassadors recognized that the program has increased his access to information regarding solutions to SDGs and enabled him to easily identify and share potential future investments. In turn, it provided a framework to promote these investment areas.

Shifting the incentives

The program's ability to inspire is a core component of its success. UBS Global Visionaries Ambassadors feel a sense of contribution to social impact when connecting with Global Visionaries. Ambassadors have reported that the program and their involvement with Global Visionaries has led to professional and personal changes.

One Ambassador noted that in response to previous client experiences in an active advisory role she now highlights sustainability considerations in prospective client conversations as a matter of course. Another recognized that every time he is introduced to a new Global Visionary, he learns new ways to change his life in support of greater sustainability.



Geoffroy Chatelard

Head of Wealth Management Marketing, Monaco, UBS

“Investing has a huge potential to create impact – a true game changer.”

Geoffroy has been a UBS Global Visionaries Ambassador since 2019 and has seen how powerful the opportunities are for Global Visionaries. Ambassadors contribute to making UBS’s global network available to Global Visionaries as a valuable asset for making connections, while helping clients to fully embrace purpose through their actions.

Geoffroy’s engagement with the UBS Global Visionaries program also helps integrate sustainability into his work while continuously learning about cutting-edge climate solutions. Every time he engages with a new Global Visionary, he learns new ways to accelerate sustainable change and – crucially – passes this learning to his clients. The program has inspired him about what can be achieved and has contributed to changing his view on the role investment can play in delivering and scaling innovative solutions while making a profit.





03

Applying the program's learnings

Social entrepreneurs challenge the status quo and envision solutions to our greatest issues. Supporting them and investing in their ideas and know-how can deliver significant impact and secure crucial progress on the SDGs.



The UBS Global Visionaries program and the resulting engagement between UBS employees and social entrepreneurs demonstrate what can be achieved when the right connections are made, and experience and insight are exchanged. Through this program review the team has identified areas where, as the program evolves, it can leverage strengths and achieve greater impact through specific ventures and systemic change. We also feel that these learnings can be applied to improve other entrepreneur support programs.



Streamline and expand

Streamlining Global Visionary engagement and expanding across their top teams (if established) could maximize benefits while minimizing time obligations. It's a significant investment in time for a social entrepreneur to participate in a program. Streamlining touchpoints and including the top teams from the Global Visionaries' organizations could increase the number of actors benefiting and the level of engagement possible.



Increase UBS employee engagement

UBS employees play a pivotal role in the success of the UBS Global Visionaries program. The mentor relationships have led to some of the program's greatest success stories. The more engaged the employee, mentor, sponsor or Ambassador, the greater the specificity and value added. The most effective employees can see a direct line between supporting Global Visionaries, UBS's purpose and their own role. Increasing this understanding across employees and continuing to expand opportunities to engage with Global Visionaries could pay dividends.



Create more opportunities for peer exchange

Social entrepreneurship can be challenging – and sometimes isolating. The social entrepreneur community knows that there is significant value in sharing experiences and learnings (when targeted for efficiency). Creating opportunities for and facilitating these sorts of exchanges can increase resiliency and capability – particularly for newer social entrepreneurs. Ensuring a diversity of perspectives across the group will add even more value.



Clarify the value add

As with any service, clarity in the overall offer to social entrepreneurs is key to the success of engagement and delivery. And it ought to be based on distinctive strengths and capabilities. For UBS, the core value addition is the ability to make connections, curated to maximize synergies and interests for meaningful relationships.



Understand the end game

A shared understanding of the ideal exchange for both parties will maximize the value created and improve the long-term relationship. The strongest corporate impact is not made through gift-based programs but through the organization's evolution of its business model to enable social impact and commercial sustainability to work together.



Tailor support

Social entrepreneurs can be disparate in their needs and capabilities. The most effective support is flexible to meet them where they are. Global Visionaries have experienced the greatest impact from the program when the UBS team has tailored the experience rather than using a standardized program of events. Focusing on curating a package of support designed to reflect their needs would significantly improve the program's impact.



Aim for systems change

There is a bidirectional impact between Global Visionaries and investors, which also influences UBS through its employees' involvement. Through the connections made by the program, collective intelligence is increased, incentives are shifted and the potential for collaboration grows. Increased intentionality around this, including with regards to the diversity of the UBS Global Visionaries cohort, can increase systems change, creating the potential for even greater impact.

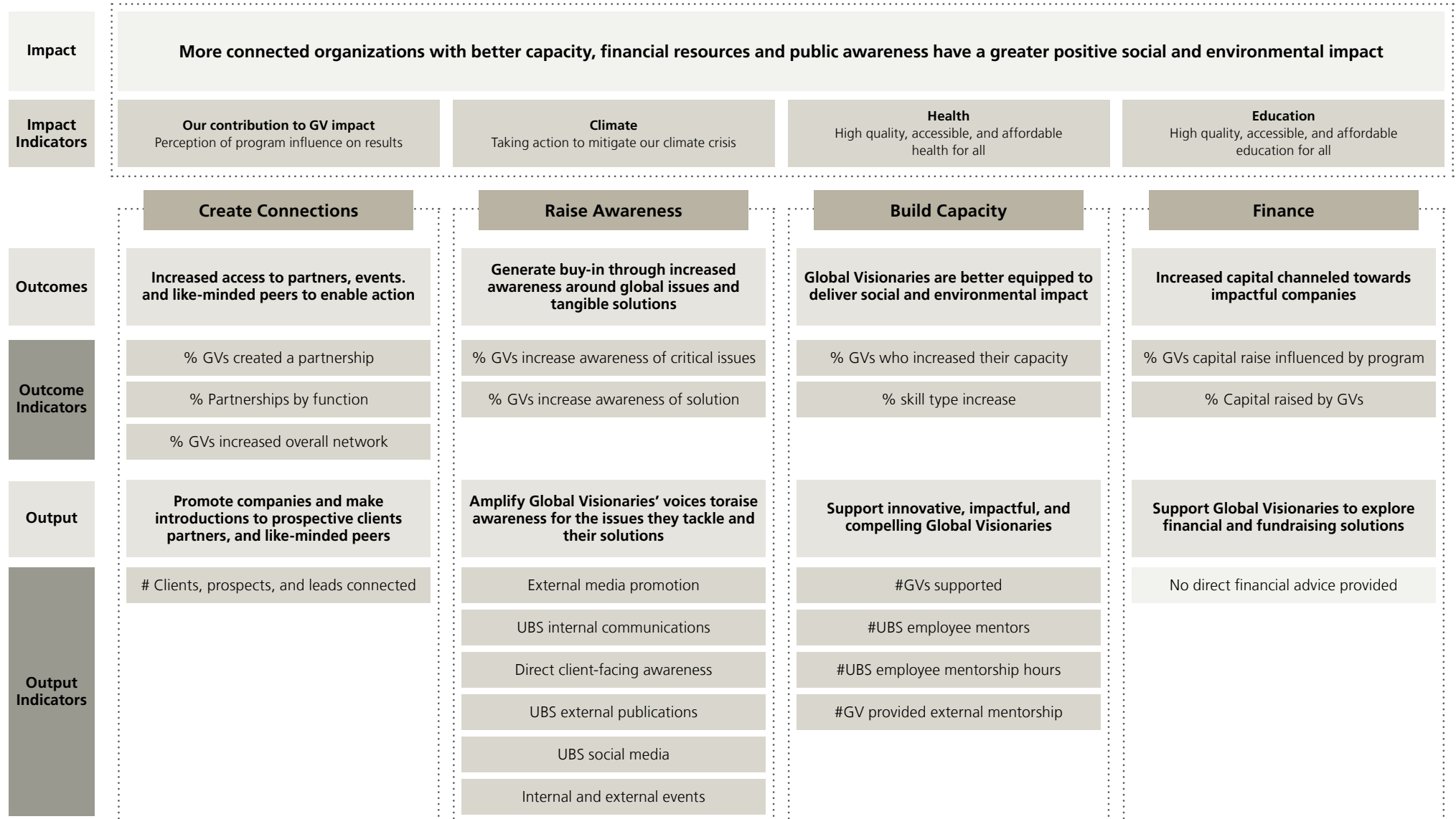


04

Theory of
change



The UBS Global Visionaries program theory of change





The theory of change creates a framework to structure our activities and guide monitoring and evaluation of the program. The initial stage of the impact evaluation reviewed and revised the theory of change: first, to develop our key evaluation questions and, second, to identify relevant indicators across the outputs, outcomes and impact to measure our progress. To respond to the theory of change, our key evaluation questions were:

- What was the impact of the entrepreneurs in relation to the SDGs?
- How has the program contributed to the entrepreneurs?
- Were there any additional impacts on the program's wider stakeholders, such as UBS clients, that would benefit the program's future development?

Based on these questions, the next stage was to identify the indicators against each of the outputs, outcomes and impact objectives. At the impact level, results are measured against the contribution to the SDGs and the UBS Group's core impact areas: education, health and climate. At the outcome level, we wanted to understand if Global Visionaries felt they had benefited from the four pillars of UBS's value-add. For the outputs, we collated data on the results of our activities across these pillars: creating capacity, raising awareness, capacity building and financial advice. With the indicators outlined, we developed the following methodology.

Methodology

The review used a mixed methods research design focusing on an explanatory-sequential approach with optional outcome harvesting based on data collection. The approach had three data collection phases:

1. Desk-based secondary data documentation review.
2. Remote online survey to all Global Visionaries who agreed to participate – primarily quantitative but included optional qualitative fields to support responses.
3. One-to-one semi-structured interviews with both Global Visionaries and UBS employees to gain insights into the survey responses and assist in the triangulation of findings.

Data collection results

The remote online survey was an essential evidence-gathering tool with responses received from 71% of the Global Visionaries who agreed to participate in the evaluation. This provided a highly representative sample. There was good representation for all years except for 2021, where less than half responded to the survey. For 2020 and 2021, the response provides an

80% confidence level, with a 30% margin of error. There were also eleven interviews with Global Visionaries and three with UBS employees.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Response rate	100%	83%	67%	89%	50%	44%	71%

Respondents by entrepreneur tiers

The Global Visionaries program was merged with the UBS Social Innovators program in 2018, which for the purpose of this categorization is listed as a separate tier in the table below. The categorization of Global Visionaries into social enterprises (typically not-for-profit UBS Optimus Foundation grantees) and later-stage, ready-to-scale entrepreneurs was introduced in 2021, while today's classification into the three tiers, and especially the addition of the Swiss-based early champions category, occurred after the survey was already completed. So, while there was an effort to backdate the categorizations, this was not possible for many respondents. As such, these are listed as a collective category.

Entrepreneur Tiers	Number of survey respondents	% of total respondents
Impact-first	9	21%
Growth champions	8	18%
Social Innovators (until 2018)	8	18%
Early-stage innovators and other classifications	19	43%
Total	44	100%

Following the data collection, data was cleaned and qualitative data coded to facilitate content analysis. The content was subsequently assessed for emerging patterns, trends over time and statistical differences. The program's evolution affected the consistency of documentation between cohorts which led to identification of several sub-groups that had consistent and comparable documentation from their program engagement, like Global Visionary plans (onboarding document setting expectations), mentorship records, events attended and connections made tracking data. The data availability only affected the output-level data. We collated the data and synthesized the results for agreement, convergence, divergence or discrepancy patterns.



05

UBS Global
Visionaries
biographies

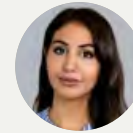


Suzy Amis Cameron

A noted environmental leader, business pioneer, mom of five and grandma, Suzy Amis Cameron is committed to caring for our wild, living Earth. In her role as CEO and Founder of Inside Out LLC, she leads a global team of changemakers working at the intersection of food, fashion, media and education to find new and better ways to bring game changing solutions to market. Her ethos is built around a 'new way' of finding collective, designing solutions that balance life with 'humans being', with the intention, always, of driving imagination and thoughtful impact. She is the author of *The OMD Plan: Swap One Meal a Day to Save your Health and Save the Planet* (Simon & Schuster) and the founder of the OMD Movement, an advocacy group dedicated to transforming eating habits and expanding access to climate-friendly food for all. In 2006, she founded MUSE Global School, with her sister, Rebecca Amis. MUSE is the first school (ECE-12th grade) in the United States to be 100% solar powered, zero waste, and with a 100% organic, plant-based lunch program. Based on MUSE's values and curriculum, MUSE Global was launched in 2018 to franchise the school worldwide. As a solution to COVID-19, Suzy founded MUSE Virtual, a holistic, K-12 online learning platform providing interactive, innovative education to students across the world. Suzy serves on the boards of three impactful organizations. She is a board member at LIVEKINDLY, which is dedicated to fostering positive change in the world by promoting humanity and sustainability. Additionally, Suzy serves on the Mission Board for IMAGINE, where she collaborates with CEOs striving to transform their companies into sustainable business beacons. She also contributes her expertise to Carnegie Learning, an organization committed to preparing students for long-term success. Additionally, she is co-founder of the plant-based ventures, Verdient Foods, Cameron Family Farms, Food Forest Organics and Plant Power Task Force. In 2009, she launched Red Carpet Green Dress, a global sustainable fashion campaign showcasing environmentally responsible fashions in partnership with The Oscars. Beyond the red carpet, RCGD has also created its own fabrics and textiles. Suzy is an Executive Producer of *The Game Changers*, a documentary on world-class plant-based athletes, *MILKED*, a documentary that exposes the whitewash of New Zealand's multi-billion-dollar dairy industry, *JUNK*, which was filmed across six countries to tell the stories of people and places negatively impacted by the fashion industry along with other film projects currently being produced. Formerly, as an actor, she was featured in more than 25 films, including *The Usual Suspects* and *Titanic*.

[Sustainable diets | SDG focus: 12, 13 | USA¹¹](#)

¹¹ Biographies without a Global Visionary tier mentioned couldn't be clearly categorized (also see page 28 for more details).



Hila Azadzoy

Hila Azadzoy is the Co-Founder of Kiron Open Higher Education. With an M.Sc. in Politics, Economics and Philosophy from the University of Hamburg, Hila is a dedicated social entrepreneur. Previously a Brain Trust member at XPRIZE, her interests in education, technology and global health led her to start Kiron. Kiron is an award-winning social startup that aims to remove the barriers to higher education for refugees worldwide through digital learning opportunities. Kiron offers free online learning opportunities to refugees and underserved communities, with custom-made online study programs from renowned educational providers and Open Educational Resources. Kiron has offices in Germany, Lebanon and Jordan, and provides a combination of online and in-person education, with skills training, University study tracks and language courses. To date, Kiron has served more than 70,000 students through academic, professional and personal growth, with 145 partners worldwide. In Lebanon, the blended program has seen 588 students graduate with a certificate, with women making up 51% of students. Hila is a recipient of the Digital Female Leader Award, an MIT Solver and is currently Managing Director at Ada Health, leading Ada's Global Health Initiatives.

[Higher education for refugees | SDG focus: 4 | Global](#)





Emily Bancroft

Emily Bancroft is the CEO of VillageReach. Emily has dedicated most of her career to developing successful health system interventions both domestically in the United States and in sub-Saharan Africa, working with the International Training and Education Center on Health and Physicians for Human Rights before joining VillageReach. VillageReach advocates for quality health care that reaches all communities, working with partners across sub-Saharan Africa to solve health care delivery challenges right down to the smallest and hardest-to-reach communities. They co-develop people-centered solutions that transform health care delivery by building tech-enabled pathways to primary healthcare, making products available to people and driving sustained impact. They strengthen health systems with health hotlines, interactive voice response and AI-enabled chatbots giving communities immediate access to care. Drones help to save time where it is more geographically challenging for cars, motorcycles or boats to reach people, with the potential to create cost-efficiencies. Due to VillageReach's work, 58 million people have increased access to quality health care in sub-Saharan Africa and 250,000 health facilities received deliveries of health products. Emily is currently also Clinical Instructor in the Department of Health Services at the University of Washington.

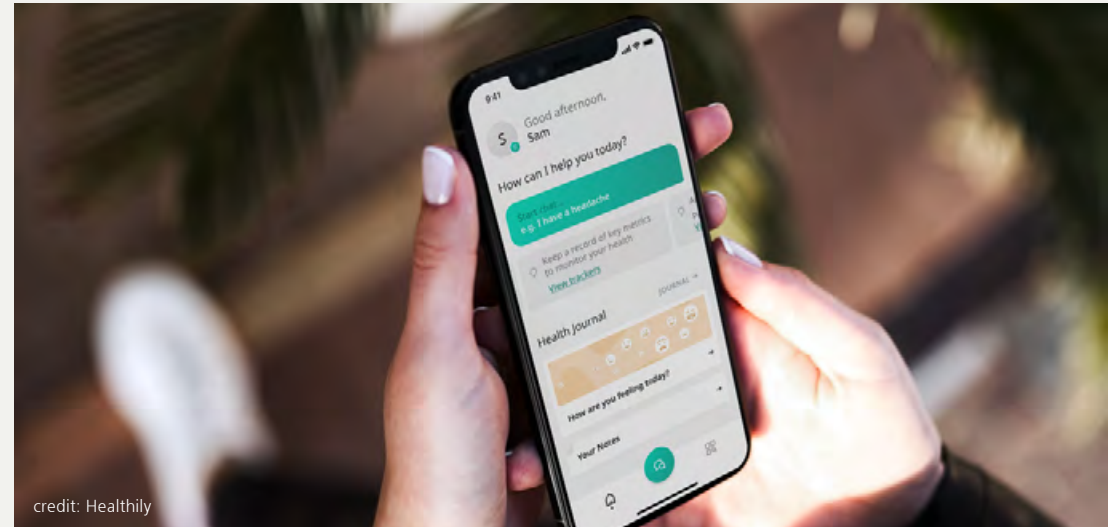
Higher education for refugees | SDG focus: 4 | Impact-first category | Global



Andrew Bastawrous

Andrew Bastawrous is the Co-Founder and CEO of Peek Vision. From being a medical student to becoming an eye surgeon and professor in Global Eye Health at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Andrew has been committed to the challenges and needs of international ophthalmology. Living in Kenya for two years, Andrew led a major eye disease study and began the development and testing of Peek Vision. Peek Vision's software for community and school eye health programs provides communities with data capture and analysis, optimized eye health screening and referral pathways so that no one is left behind. Peek is being used across programs in 12 countries and is reaching around a quarter million people each month, many receiving sight-restoring treatment as a result. Andrew was voted one of the world's 30 most influential people in public health and is a WEF Young Global Leader.

Eye health for everyone | SDG focus: 3, 4 | Impact-first category | Africa



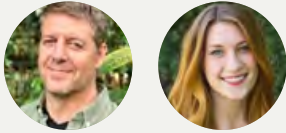
credit: Healthily



Matteo Berlucchi

Matteo Berlucchi is the Co-founder and CEO of Healthily. Matteo is a digital entrepreneur who previously founded the world's first 'social eBook' platform, pioneered live mobile streaming with Livestation and partnered with Microsoft to redefine push notifications. Healthily, formerly known as Your.MD, is the first medically approved self-care app in the world. Healthily brings medical knowledge out of the clinic and into everyday life, using a combination of advanced AI and user-friendly design. The Healthily™ Smart Symptom Checker (SSC) allows users to start a conversation around any health problem, get answers to questions – and gather the information they need for self-care. The API gives developers access to Healthily's groundbreaking AI and chatbot features, including health background questions and consultation reports. The app calculates the most likely conditions given the user's symptoms, the likelihood of the symptoms within the conditions and the incidence of the different conditions. The SSC is currently 'aware' of nearly 700 conditions and more than 1,350 symptoms and uses its library of more than 2500 medically reviewed articles to provide users with health information. Healthily is used in over 20 countries and has a 4.7 app rating. Matteo is also an Entrepreneur in Residence at ETH Zurich and a regular speaker at international conferences.

Finding health through self-care | SDG focus: 3 | Growth Champion category | Global



Chris Bessenecker and Jennifer Waugaman

Chris Bessenecker and Jennifer Waugaman are Co-Founders of AfriScout. AfriScout is a mobile subscription service that leverages satellite imagery and crowdsourced indigenous knowledge to help pastoralists make more informed and precise grazing decisions. Chris, Co-Founder and Global Managing Director, started as a Peace Corps volunteer supporting rural communities in constructing latrines and water systems and providing health education in Honduras. He has since worked with Project Concern International, USAID and UNICEF. His experience working with vulnerable communities across sub-Saharan Africa inspired the creation of AfriScout in collaboration with Jennifer Waugaman. Jennifer, the Co-Founder and Managing Director of AfriScout, brought her social innovation and digital technology expertise to pivot AfriScout from a paper-based solution to the AfriScout app. Jennifer is also the Technical Advisor for Strategic Initiatives at Global Communities, an organization that works at the intersection of humanitarian assistance, sustainable development and financial inclusion.

[Indigenous practices mobile technology](#) | [SDG focus: 13, 1, 2](#) | [Impact-first category](#) | [Africa](#)



Clare Brook

Clare Brook is the CEO of Blue Marine Foundation. With a BA in History from Oxford University, Clare was a pioneer of environmental investing, previously managing sustainable investment funds at Jupiter, Henderson and Aviva and co-founding WHEB Asset Management. She made the leap from environmental investing to the NGO world in 2014 when she joined Blue Marine. Blue Marine is an ocean conservation charity dedicated to protecting and restoring life in the ocean – vital, given that the ocean is the world’s largest carbon sink, thanks to the life within it. The charity operates out of London, but works in project locations all over the world. Blue Marine’s key strategies involve securing marine protected areas, supporting low-impact fishing that benefits marine life and small-scale fishers, restoring marine habitats to protect vulnerable species and sequester carbon, and connecting people with the sea through media and education. Blue Marine has contributed to the protection of over four million km² of ocean, including around Ascension Island in the middle of the Atlantic, where Blue Marine supported the establishment of a 445,000 km² no-take marine protected area.

[Ocean conservation](#) | [SDG focus: 13](#) | [Impact-first category](#) | [Europe](#)



Joanna Bichsel

Joanna Bichsel is the Founder and CEO of Kasha. Prior to starting Kasha, Joanna was Principal Technology Advisor for Global Development at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, working across East and West Africa and South Asia on technology strategies and solutions addressing last mile supply chains for health products and services, increasing access to financial services for low-income populations, health services delivery and agriculture. Kasha is a digital retail and last mile distribution service for health and household goods in East Africa, serving the low-income mass-market population and optimized for women’s health. Kasha aims to increase access to critical products like menstrual care, contraceptives and HIV self-tests, proven to decrease maternal and neonatal death rates, keep girls in school and improve livelihoods for the entire household. Kasha also employs women in low-income communities as Kasha Agents who deliver orders to the last mile. Kasha has raised over USD 16 million in equity funding from investors such as the Bamboo Capital, Beyond Capital and VestedWorld. Joanna started out her career as an engineer at Microsoft Corporation and has served as a board director for two subsidiaries of Equity Bank Group, the largest bank in East Africa.

[E-Commerce for women’s health](#) | [SDG focus: 3](#) | [East Africa](#)



Lucy Buck

Lucy Buck is the founder and former CEO of Child’s i Foundation. Lucy started out as a TV producer, working on popular series within the UK, but after volunteering at an orphanage in Uganda and witnessing first-hand how children could so easily get caught up in the system and forgotten, she decided to set up Child’s i Foundation. Child’s i Foundation works in Uganda to replace orphanages with community services including national adoption and social work training to help safely transition children to families and communities, as well as repurposing the orphanages into services to help keep children in families. By working in both rural and urban settings, Child’s i provides a holistic blueprint to ensure that no child goes to an orphanage. Since 2018, no child has entered an orphanage in the District of Tororo and Child’s i has helped reintegrate 70 children from orphanages into safe families; provided 973 families with active family support, including housing, education and medical support; and assessed and trained 79 foster carers. Lucy has since founded and serves as CEO of The Good Company People, helping tackle loneliness and offer services for dementia to over-65s in the UK.

[Families not orphanages](#) | [SDG focus: 1](#) | [Impact-first category](#) | [Africa](#)



Joe Wolf and Rapelang Rabana

Joe is the Co-Founder and Co-CEO of Imagine Worldwide. Formerly in leadership roles at Goldman Sachs and RS Investments, Joe turned to venture philanthropy and is passionately committed to eliminating global educational inequity through scalable solutions. Prior to co-founding Imagine Worldwide, Joe co-founded The Learning Accelerator, a nonprofit dedicated to transforming K-12 education in America. With Imagine Worldwide, Joe is now focusing on bringing scalable learning solutions to the most marginalized children globally. His board work has included OpenUp Resources, the Christensen Institute, Summer Search, New Classrooms, and the New Schools Venture Fund.

Rapelang Rabana is the Co-CEO of Imagine Worldwide and is deeply committed to education and skills development in Africa. Prior to Imagine, she founded Rekindle Learning, a company that provides smart learning applications for businesses and educational institutions. Rapelang has served as a member of the World Economic Forum Global Future Council on Entrepreneurship, as a trustee of the Standard Chartered Bank Botswana Education Trust, and as a board member for African Leadership University. She was selected as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum 2017.

Educating marginalized children | SDG focus: 4 | Impact-first category | Global



Daniel Cordaro

Daniel Cordaro is the Founder and CEO of The Contentment Foundation. Previously, Daniel was the Director of Wellbeing at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, where he taught a course on Human Emotion. He and his research team inaugurated a new branch of psychological research focusing on contentment. Together, they created an educational transformation program that would later become the Four Pillars of Wellbeing and the inspiration behind the Contentment Foundation. The Contentment Foundation offers child and teacher-centered wellbeing curricula to schools internationally, helping track, measure and improve physical, psychological and emotional wellbeing using science-based measurement tools. In collaboration with UC Berkeley and Yale University, and with the support of more than 30 extraordinary experts across the globe, the foundation has developed a powerful program called the Four Pillars of Wellbeing. This program offers scientifically evidenced practices rooted in ancient philosophy for cultivating sustainable wellbeing. They also offer wellbeing programs to businesses, with 100% of the profit providing preventative mental health care to children, educators, and families in need. Daniel earned his PhD in Psychology and M.S. in Organic Chemistry from UC Berkeley, and is an Ashoka Fellow.

Providing wellbeing in schools | SDG focus: 3 | Global



credit: Imagine Worldwide



Christina Dean

Christina Dean is the Founder and CEO of The R Collective. Christina started as a dentist, switched to a career in journalism and then discovered her passion for sustainable fashion. She founded the NGO Redress to reduce waste in the fashion industry before creating The R Collective.

The R Collective rescues luxury brands' excess materials and collaborates with award-winning sustainable designers to create upcycled clothing and catalyze the circular fashion model. Fabrics unsuitable for reuse find a second life through a fiber recovery system. New and improved technology allows them to shred fabrics to fibers, which are then re-spun into new yarns and fabrics. A typical R Collective upcycled jacket has a 60% reduced carbon footprint compared with a jacket created with virgin materials, equivalent to diverting 14,882 plastic bottles from landfills. The company has generated USD 25,000 for Redress with 25% of the profits donated to the charity, supporting its work in educating the industry and consumers about circular fashion, and reducing waste in the fashion industry. Christina is an award-winning journalist and was named in UK Vogue as of the UK's Top 30 Inspirational Women.

[Generating circular fashion | SDG focus: 12 | Global](#)



Kate Dooley

Kate Dooley is the CEO of Education Partnerships Group. Kate started her career at the Australian Treasury and worked on a range of policy matters, including aid, development and education policy. She joined EPG from the Tony Blair Institute as Regional Director for West Africa. EPG is a non-profit consultancy that supports governments in low- and middle-income countries to shape and strengthen their education systems. EPG's approach involves generating and using research to ensure policy is informed by evidence, supporting the design and effective policy implementation, and advising on piloting and scaling new policy reforms. They work to ensure long-term affordability over the policy's lifetime and build in regular monitoring and review mechanisms to see what's working and what needs to be adapted. For instance, EPG is supporting the Western Cape Education Department in South Africa in piloting a new school model in the public education system. They aim to ensure that lower-income communities have access to the same quality of teaching and learning as those from more affluent backgrounds. In addition to heading these projects, Kate has also worked at Save the Children UK, leading the organization's global government relations.

[Helping governments strengthen education | SDG focus: 4 | Impact-first category | Africa](#)



Ginger Dosier

Ginger Dosier is the Co-Founder and former CEO of Biomason. With a Master of Architecture from the Cranbrook Academy of Art, she has devoted research into materiality with an environmental focus, seeking a scientific understanding of the properties of material in relation to architectural performance. Biomason was founded as a solution to the carbon-intensity of the cement industry. Biomason uses natural microorganisms to grow structural Biocement in ambient temperatures, taking inspiration from the way coral grows and harnessing biotechnology to reinvent traditional cement and offer a more planet-friendly alternative. Biomason's first commercially available Biocement® product, Biolith, consists of approximately 85% natural aggregate and 15% Biocement material. The resulting precast product is in use in projects throughout the US and Europe. Because this process does not involve firing the brick in a kiln as in conventional brickmaking, Biomason estimates that its method could reduce carbon emissions by 800 million tons each year. Biomason secured a USD 65 million funding round and announced a partnership with Danish concrete manufacturer IBF to produce Biocement® products in Europe. Ginger is also the winner of the 2010 Metropolis Next Generation Design Competition.

[Revolutionizing cement with biotechnology | SDG focus: 12 | Growth Champion category | Global](#)



credit: Biomason



Graeme Duncan

Graeme Duncan is the CEO of Right to Succeed. Graeme was the first graduate hired by Teach First in 2003, teaching for two years in a secondary school serving a highly disadvantaged community, and then worked his way up in the non-profit sector before becoming Director of Development at Greenhouse, a charity that uses sport to engage and develop young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. Graeme then founded Right to Succeed, a collective impact charity that takes a place-based approach to transforming children and young people's outcomes. The charity works in partnership with local communities in the bottom 10% of the indices of multiple deprivation to take an evidence-driven approach to identifying and overcoming the challenges facing young people. Right to Succeed's programs focus on key issues including closing literacy gaps; reducing the risk of school exclusion; ensuring the most vulnerable young people achieve sustained post-16 destinations in education, employment or training (EET); and promoting more localized approaches to the delivery of children and family services. The charity can now strongly evidence the impact being made in all its communities, and the Education Endowment Foundation (the government endowed "What Works Centre" for education) has described Right to Succeed's work in Blackpool as "a world leading example of evidence-informed implementation in schools."

Helping disadvantaged children succeed | SDG focus: 4, 8, 10 | Social Innovators category | Europe



Jagdeep Gambhir

Jagdeep Gambhir is the Co-Founder and CEO of Karma Healthcare. Prior to Karma Healthcare, Jagdeep worked with Innovators in Health, where he launched a tuberculosis treatment program in rural Bihar. During this project, Jagdeep realized that India's primary healthcare system required a transformation, inspiring him to start Karma. Karma Healthcare is a social enterprise aiming to improve access to quality, affordable healthcare in rural India. Karma offers the services of specialists, nurse-assisted online medical consultations with qualified doctors, diagnostic services and referral guidance. Karma has a well-linked and effective medicine delivery system and an app for remote consultations. Karma has partnered with 12 social impact investors and public health organizations, set up 16 clinics and completed over 50,000 online consultations in two states. Jagdeep has received the ISB Torchbearer Award from the Indian School of Business and has worked as Senior Program Manager at the Population Foundation of India.

Bridging the primary healthcare gap | SDG focus: 3 | Social Innovators category | Asia



Christoph Gebald and Jan Wurzbacher

Christoph Gebald and Jan Wurzbacher are Co-Founders and Co-Directors of Climeworks. The two founders met during university at ETH Zurich and quickly became friends. They shared interests in engineering and alpine sports and when visiting the Swiss Alps, they experienced the effects of climate change firsthand. They worked on developing a technology called direct air capture (DAC), a way to capture carbon dioxide directly from the air. As a result, Climeworks was founded. Climeworks' direct air capture and storage removes CO₂ from the air permanently, requires minimal land and water to operate and safely stores the CO₂, turning it into things like stone. Individuals and companies looking to combat their carbon emissions can purchase a monthly subscription stating the exact amount of CO₂ they would like to remove from the atmosphere each month. Tens of thousands of individuals have signed up to Climeworks's removal service and its Orca plant is able to capture 4,000 tons of CO₂ per year. UBS has signed a 10-year agreement with Climeworks to support the scale-up of DAC technology.

Removing CO₂ from the air | SDG focus: 7, 12, 13 | Growth Champion category | Global



Angela Gichaga

Angela Gichaga is the CEO of Financing Alliance for Health (FAH). Angela completed an undergraduate degree in Medicine, a master's in health economics and policy and has served as a frontline clinician, health administrator and as a District Medical Officer of Health for MOH Kenya. Keen to improve the quality of lives through gender advocacy, leadership training and health mentorship, she joined FAH. FAH is an Africa-based, African-led partnership that works with governments, donors and the private sector to address systemic financing challenges to scaling primary and community health programs across sub-Saharan Africa. Through the Africa Frontline First (AFF) initiative, FAH aims to scale and strengthen integrated and sustainable community health services across 10 sub-Saharan African countries by 2030. To date, FAH has mobilized over USD 360 million in funding for community health through direct support to governments and collaborative efforts with various ecosystem partners. FAH currently supports 15 governments at national and subnational levels. Angela received the Australian Leadership Awards for Africa and the President Obama's Mandela Washington Fellowship as well as being named one of Fortune's World's Greatest Leaders.

Investing in community health systems | SDG focus: 3 | Impact-first category | Africa



Sam Gregory

Sam Gregory, Executive Director at WITNESS, has spent twenty years working with communities and activists using video to defend human rights and advocating for the technology systems they need. An award-winning human rights advocate and technologist, he leads a global team of activists and WITNESS's new five-year "Fortify the Truth" strategic vision. Recognized as an expert on smartphone witnessing, new forms of mis/disinformation such as deepfakes, as well as innovations in preserving authenticity (the origins and provenance of media) and evidence, he has helped shape these growing areas of global innovation in trust and media integrity. He has spoken at Davos, TEDx, WIRED and the White House. Sam was previously a Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Resident on the future of video-based advocacy, a Young Global Leader of the WEF, a Knight News Challenge winner and a Future for Good Fellow at the Institute for the Future.

[Media power for human rights](#) | [SDG focus: 16](#) | [Global](#)



Cyrill Gutsch

Cyrill is an award-winning designer and brand/product developer. In 1998 he created a method called Cross Intelligence, which brings a culture of collaboration to major organizations. In 2012 he decided to focus on a new client vital to us all: the oceans. He founded Parley for the Oceans as a collaboration network for creators, thinkers and leaders to raise awareness for the beauty and fragility of the oceans and to develop and implement strategies that can end their destruction. Parley and their partners won the Grand Prix for Product Design at Cannes Lions, two D&AD Pencils and an ADCN Grand Prix in 2014. Gutsch was named 2017 Environmentalist of the Year by the Surf Industry Manufacturers Association for his tireless work for the oceans. In 2018, Parley was named Environmental Organisation of the Year at EARTHx and Cyrill was honored with a Special Recognition Award for Innovation by the British Fashion Council. In 2019, Gutsch was inducted into the UBS Global Visionary community – a select group of leading entrepreneurs and individuals working towards one or more of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals.

[Networking for sea conservation](#) | [SDG focus: 14](#) | [Global](#)



Sebastian Groh

Sebastian Groh is Co-Founder and CEO of SOLshare, a cleantech startup based out of Dhaka, Bangladesh, that built the world's first peer-to-peer solar energy exchange platform. Sebastian is a 2013 Stanford Ignite Fellow and holds a PhD from Aalborg University and the Postgraduate School Microenergy Systems at the TU Berlin, where he wrote his doctoral thesis on the role of energy in development processes, energy poverty and technical innovations – with a special focus on Bangladesh. He published a book and multiple journal articles on the topic of decentralized electrification in the Global South. He is an Associate Professor at BRAC University in Dhaka, where he teaches the social entrepreneurship practicum via the Open Society University Network. On behalf of SOLshare, he has received numerous awards, including as WEF 2018 Technology Pioneer, finalist at the 2021 Earthshot Prize and winner of the 2022 Zayed Sustainability Prize. Sebastian became an Ashoka Fellow in 2018, a UBS Global Visionary in 2019, and a Member of the Board and Vice President at the Bangladesh-German Chamber of Commerce & Industry (BGCCI) in 2021.

[Solar energy](#) | [SDG focus: 1, 7, 13](#) | [Global](#)



Helen Hai

Helen Hai is Executive VP of Binance. Helen is a respected global leader and a United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Goodwill Ambassador. Helen was awarded the 2015 African Business Icon Award and Officer of the National Order of Lion of Senegal in 2016. Helen was previously UC Berkeley Wu Fellow, UBS Global Visionary and Aspen Institute Fellow. She was also on Bloomberg's 2018 Ones to Watch list. In 2019, she received the INSEAD Alumni Force for Good Award and was selected as one of the Cointelegraph Top 100, as one of the 100 most important and influential people in the cryptocurrency and blockchain world. She holds a BA in actuarial science, an MSc in actuarial management from CASS Business School in London, and an EMBA from INSEAD and Tsinghua University, as well as executive education at Harvard University and UC Berkeley.

[Commercial industrialization in Africa](#) | [SDG focus: 8, 9](#) | [Africa](#)



David Hertz

David Hertz is the Co-Founder of Gastromotiva. Through his early experiences as a sous chef, then head of kitchen staff, David was inspired to use food to help vulnerable communities. Gastromotiva is a non-profit organization working in Brazil, Mexico and El Salvador to empower the socially vulnerable, such as youth from low-income families and immigrants. Gastromotiva provides free training to disadvantaged people, helping them find jobs or start their own businesses. Its restaurant-school, Refettorio Gastromotiva, in Rio de Janeiro cooks free daily meals for homeless people and serves over 100,000 meals a month in more than 33 cities in Brazil throughout solidarity kitchens. David is the visionary and also the co-creator of the Social Gastronomy Movement, a global initiative that connects people, projects, companies, universities, governments and more around the transformative power of food. So far, over 100,000 people have benefited from nutrition education, over 300,000 tons of food has been saved and over 1.5 million meals have been served at solidarity kitchens. David has won several social enterprises awards and is a WEF Young Global Leader.

Social transformation through food | SDG focus: 2 | Global



Christoph Inauen

Christoph Inauen is the Co-Founder and CEO of Choba Choba. His interest in the sector began with his role as Head of Sustainability & Cocoa Purchasing at a major chocolate company, where he took interest in direct sourcing strategies for cocoa. Three companies control 75% of the USD 100 billion global chocolate business, while the majority of the 6 million cocoa farmers earn less than USD 2 per day. Seeking to address this power imbalance, Christoph and Co-Founder Eric Garnier created Choba Choba. Choba Choba is the first Swiss chocolate brand co-owned and co-managed by cocoa farmers, meaning they are no longer mere raw material suppliers, instead, they have a direct stake in the company and its success. Choba Choba is actively engaged in the implementation of diversified agroforestry systems. This climate-resilient approach preserves biodiversity, increases soil fertility and offers the 36 families co-managing the company greater food security. 5% of sales are allocated to its Revolution Fund and transferred to the communities in direct pay-outs and in the form of shares. In 2016, Choba Choba became the first UBS Social Innovator, receiving USD 40,000 and participation in a one-year mentoring program with UBS experts.

Farmer-owned chocolate | SDG focus: 8, 10, 12 | Social Innovators category | South America



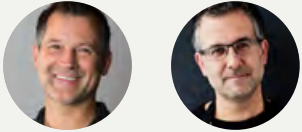
Neema Kaseje

Neema Kaseje is the founding director of Surgical Systems Research Group (SSRG). Neema is a pediatric surgeon and health specialist who previously served in Haiti as the only pediatric surgeon in the public sector and has scaled up pediatric surgical care delivery in the region through the training of junior doctors. With her passion for providing healthcare to underserved communities, Neema founded SSRG, a health, research and technology non-profit organization based in Kenya. SSRG's mission is to rapidly expand access to health services by leveraging youth, technology and community health workers (CHWs) to increase the number of women and children accessing health services. SSRG has a multi-pronged solution of teaching parents and communities to recognize when children would benefit from surgery, alongside specialist training, equipment and infrastructure for medics. Neema is a WEF young global leader and Top Young Woman Leader and has recently launched leadership training bootcamps for young girls aspiring to be leaders in health, technology and science.

Providing access to healthcare | SDG focus: 3 | Impact-first category | Kenya



credit: SSRG



Chris Kerr and Chad Sarno

Chris Kerr and Chad Sarno are Co-Founders of Good Catch. Chris, the Executive Chair of the company, has helped launch many industry-changing companies in the plant-based sector – including Beyond Meat, Daiya and Wicked Foods – and has spent the last two decades focused on impact investing in plant-based foods. Chad, the Chief Culinary Officer of Good Catch, is a long-time pioneer of plant-based foods, having co-founded the Wicked Kitchen brand and launched successful plant-based restaurants in cities worldwide. Good Catch, launched by Gathered Foods, is a chef-driven plant-based seafood brand. Seafood is the only industry today that is still commercialized by hunting. Good Catch aims to create plant-based seafood products that offset the impacts of overfishing, bycatch and fishing industry debris that pollutes the oceans. Good Catch's plant-based protein products are made from a legume blend which is rich in protein and free from dairy, GMOs, mercury and toxins. And Good Catch's frozen products are packaged in plastic made from 40% post-consumer recycled plastic and 100% recycled paper.

Sustainability through plant-based seafood | SDG focus: 2, 12, 14 | Growth Champion category | Global



credit: BlueDot



Kamran Khan

Kamran Khan is the Founder and CEO of BlueDot. After completing his training in infectious diseases, preventive medicine and public health at Cornell, Columbia and Harvard Universities, he returned home to Toronto just before SARS disrupted the city during the 2003 outbreak. Deeply motivated by this event, Kamran dedicated his career to developing solutions that help the world better prepare for and respond to infectious disease threats. Kamran founded BlueDot, an epidemic intelligence company that uses big data, machine learning and modern digital technologies to help governments and global enterprises get ahead of outbreaks. BlueDot's intelligence platform empowers public and private sector organizations to rapidly identify, understand and effectively respond to global infectious disease threats. The platform integrates artificial and human intelligence to identify signals of emerging biological threats and empower organizations with data-driven insights and expert content. BlueDot alerted the world to COVID-19 nearly a week before the World Health Organization released its first report of a novel coronavirus outbreak in Wuhan. BlueDot's groundbreaking work supporting the global response to COVID-19 was featured on CBS's 60 Minutes.

Global biothreat intelligence | SDG focus: 3 | Global



Zhihan Lee

Zhihan Lee is the Co-Founder and Group CEO of BagoSphere. BagoSphere partners with leading companies in the Philippines, such as Sitel, Boldr and TaskUS, to provide training in human skills like interpersonal skills, self-awareness, teamwork, digital skills and an accelerated pathway to full-time employment. The company has a community of over 30,000 members and has over 7,000 alumni from underserved, low-income communities in the Philippines, with an over 80% job placement rate 90 days after graduation. Zhihan worked at a medical-tech startup in Stockholm and later went to rural India to work with a social enterprise that provides IT outsourcing services in rural areas. BagoSphere has since won awards from MIT-Solve, Ashoka, Globe Telecom and the National University of Singapore for its work.

Job bootcamps for dropouts | SDG focus: 4, 8, 10 | Social Innovator Category | Philippines



Dana Leong

Dana Leong is the founder of TEKTONIK. Dana is a two-time Grammy award-winning musician, composer and producer, and considered by many as the world's top electric cellist. Dana formed TEKTONIK after his family was affected by the 2011 natural disaster in Japan. He started the initiative using music and art to remediate the negative impact on people and geographies affected by disaster. With a focus on the healing power of music and art, TEKTONIK mixes new electronic beats and visuals with ancient traditional art for an uplifting sensory experience. TEKTONIK unites artists from nations affected by trauma and natural disasters – together they create uplifting music to raise awareness and funds for global harmony. The TEKTONIK initiative has taken a key role in making organizations aware of the potential of healing through music and wellness techniques. For instance, in collaboration with three meditation masters, TEKTONIK created a healing music collection that has streamed in recovery rooms in over 20 hospitals in China since the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March 2020. TEKTONIK's content and programs have been seen by over 100 million viewers and featured by organizations such as Google, Save the Children and others.

[Healing through music](#) | [SDG focus: 3](#) | [Global](#)



Alejandro Litovsky

Alejandro Litovsky is the Founder and CEO of Earth Security, which he started in 2011 to redesign how environmental data and foresight on planetary trends could be used in investment decisions. Alejandro began his career 25 years ago as part of Greenpeace's delegation in the early years of the UN Climate Convention (COP2) and has since worked with institutions such as UBS, HSBC, Mitsubishi Corporation, the UN and the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation, among others, to drive sustainability foresight and innovation, often working at the intersection of business, finance and diplomacy. Earth Security works with leading organizations, blending data intelligence and access to expert stakeholders, to catalyze innovative ventures to have a positive impact on our planet's ecosystems, resources and communities. In 2021, he convened over 300 financial leaders from public and private institutions to discuss Earth Security's Blended Finance Playbook for Nature-based Solutions. At COP26, Earth Security was named one of 10 winners of The Global Environment Facility's Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation to develop solutions for the private sector to invest in nature-based climate resilience in least-developed countries. Alejandro has received multiple awards including the BMW Foundation Global Leaders Award and the London School of Economics' Hobhouse Memorial Prize for highest academic achievement.

[Global leaders for sustainable future](#) | [SDG focus: 13](#) | [Impact-first Category](#) | [Global](#)



Sonia Lo

A farmer, a chef, an angel investor and a mother of two who speaks seven languages and holds a third-degree black belt in Tae-Kwon Do, Sonia Lo is not your traditional CEO. Sonia was CEO of Crop One Holdings, a vertical farming company that owns FreshBox Farms in Millis, MA, and a joint venture with Emirates Flight Catering in Dubai. This joint venture has built one of the world's largest vertical farms, with an anticipated output of three tons per day. She has also served as CEO of Sensei AG and is now CEO of Unfold Bio, a leading seed and digital solutions company developing next generation genetics for CEA, backed by Bayer and Temasek. Sonia serves on three purpose-driven food and agriculture corporate boards that focus on building better food systems: 104-year-old family-owned Griffith Foods International, Urban-Gro and Hart Dairy. Sonia was appointed one of the Global 100 Technology Pioneers at the World Economic Forum two years in a row and named one of Management Today's leading 35 businesswomen in the UK under the age of 35.

[Vertical sustainable food](#) | [SDG focus: 2, 11, 12](#) | [Global](#)



credit: Earth Security

**Bjorn Low**

Bjorn Low is the Founder of Edible Garden City. With a background in farming and a diploma in agriculture from the Biodynamic Agriculture College, Bjorn created Edible Garden City with a vision to change the food production landscape in cities around the world. Based in Singapore, Edible Garden City is a social enterprise that aims to integrate farming into the urban landscape by designing and building pop-up farms and edible gardens in schools, restaurants, hotels, residences and more. Additionally, Edible Garden City conducts farming workshops for companies and runs curriculums in schools to give students a vocational education in farming. This model provides communities with the tools and knowledge to produce their own food while composting garden waste, thus tackling urban waste management, food security and sustainability. So far, the company has completed over 260 food gardens in Singapore and hopes to grow 30% of Singapore's nutritional needs by 2030. The company has won multiple awards including the President's Award for the Environment.

[Urban sustainable farming](#) | [SDG focus: 11](#) | [Social Innovators category](#) | [Asia](#)

**Deepak Madnani**

Deepak Madnani is the Founder and CEO of Paperclip Startup Campus. Proud to call himself a Resilience Specialist, Deepak was inspired to create Paperclip Entrepreneur Campus by his own experience of failures and successes, which can often feel traumatic for early entrepreneurs. Seeking advice from Michael Dell in 1997, he never received a response and realized there was nowhere for budding entrepreneurs to learn and share experiences. He started Paperclip with the goal of educating entrepreneurs, teaching them to fail forward, to take the learning and improve. Paperclip was Hong Kong's first dedicated startup campus designed to help entrepreneurs succeed with mentoring, networking and incubation, offering community workspace events, mentoring clinics and startup programs. Deepak mentored over 2,500 entrepreneurs with Paperclip. Deepak has since launched GrowthEDGE coaching to help successful entrepreneurs expand their impact and further unlock healthy growth. He also runs successful businesses in furniture and education products manufacturing and product design. Deepak is a WEF Young Global Leader living in Dubai, UAE.

[Supporting startup entrepreneurs](#) | [SDG focus: 8](#) | [Asia](#)

**Mette Lykke**

Mette Lykke is the CEO of Too Good To Go, the world's largest B2C marketplace for surplus food. Before joining Too Good To Go, Mette co-founded fitness community app Endomondo in 2007. The app was sold to Under Armour in 2015. She joined Too Good To Go as CEO in 2017, returning to purpose-led tech, guiding the organization through the balancing act of sustainable growth and scalable impact. Globally, more than one-third of all food is wasted, accounting for up to 10% of greenhouse gas emissions. With a mission of reducing food waste worldwide, the Too Good To Go app connects retailers like supermarkets, bakeries, restaurants and manufacturers with consumers to save the food that would otherwise go to waste. It provides a simple way for food businesses to redirect their surplus and for consumers to buy food at affordable prices. Present in 17 countries, more than 70 million people and over 130 thousand businesses use the app to save surplus food from going to waste. Mette is a WEF Young Global Leader and has won multiple awards, including Female Business Owners' Inspirational Award and Founder of the Year by Nordic Startup Awards.

[Saving surplus food](#) | [SDG focus: 12](#) | [Global](#)

**Oliver Marchand**

Oliver Marchand is the Co-Founder and CEO of Carbon Delta. With a PhD in Computer Science and Meteorology from ETH Zurich, Oliver was previously Head of IT at Fisch Asset Management before founding Carbon Delta. Carbon Delta is a financial technology firm based in Zurich that evaluates the climate resilience of organizations and their assets. The firm has developed a quantitative model to help organizations understand the risks they face over the next 15 years. Carbon Delta offers data subscriptions, carbon footprinting services, compliance reporting and custom software development. The goal is to alert investors to the climate risk profile of publicly traded companies, allowing them to protect assets, optimize performance and reach sustainability goals. With support funded by EIT Climate-KIC, Carbon Delta and the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research are using detailed crop yield data and weather modelling to quantify the risks to parts of the supply chain of a major cocoa producer. This data is being integrated into the Potsdam Institute's agricultural climate models, after which Carbon Delta will both identify risks and propose ways to mitigate them, from sustainable farming methods to more efficient processing equipment. Oliver is currently also Managing Director and Global Head of ESG Research and Models at MSCI, a worldwide provider of support tools and services for investment needs.

[Investing in climate resilience](#) | [SDG focus: 13](#) | [Social Innovators category](#) | [Global](#)



Daniela Marino

Daniela Marino is the Co-Founder and CEO of Cutiss. During her PhD in Sciences from ETH Zurich, she focused her research on vascular biology and skin engineering. Before starting Cutiss, she was the co-leader and business developer for the project denovoSkin™. She co-founded Cutiss, where denovoSkin™ was developed towards commercialization. Worldwide, millions of people suffer from skin defects requiring surgical interventions to restore skin function. Current standard of care to treat large, deep skin defects is often not available in sufficient quantities, and it frequently leaves these patients with permanent, painful, disfiguring and debilitating scars. denovoSkin™ is a personalized human skin graft that can now be bio-engineered in large quantities. It promises to grow with the patient, limit scarring and drastically reduce the number of follow up corrective surgeries required, particularly in children. It is currently in clinical trials and could also be of great benefit for patients with burns, traumas, that undergo reconstructive or plastic procedures. Cutiss won the Top 100 Swiss Start-up Award and has raised about CHF 50 million from private investors, family offices and public bodies.

Personalized skin technology | SDG focus: 3 | Growth Champion category | Global



Patrick Meier

Patrick Meier is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of WeRobotics. Prior to WeRobotics, Patrick spent over a decade working with multiple UN agencies, Red Cross, World Bank and more, spearheading the design and deployment of humanitarian tech in dozens of countries globally. For years, the application of technology to humanitarian challenges has been entrenched in foreign-led, top-down and techno-centric approaches. Local experts do not benefit from knowledge exchange and, most importantly, the opportunity to lead in the efforts affecting their own communities. WeRobotics is an international organization focused on systems change and emerging technology, inverting traditional value systems by promoting local experts and co-creating an inclusive and sustainable network of local leaders. Through its Flying Labs Network, WeRobotics supports a growing network of independent and locally led knowledge hubs across Africa, Asia, Latin America and beyond to build on existing expertise in drones, data, robotics and AI. Patrick has been awarded fellowships at National Geographic, MIT, Stanford, and Harvard University. He has delivered talks for Mobile World Congress, Web Summit, National Geographic and TEDx.

Shifting the power of humanitarian technology | SDG focus: 8, 9, 10 | Global



credit: WeRobotics



Osnat Michaeli

Osnat Michaeli is the Co-Founder and Chief Brand Strategy Officer of Infarm. Osnat and her partnering co-founders always had a strong love for farming and great food. So, they began to explore ways to bring the natural vitality of the local farm into the city, thus creating Infarm. Infarm was founded on a visionary mission: to make cities self-sufficient in their food production while improving the food's safety, quality and environmental footprint. Infarm grows fresh produce closer to consumers than ever before by building a global network of modular, vertical farms explicitly designed for urban spaces. Food production and transportation account for over a quarter of global greenhouse gas emissions. Food is also more likely to perish due to long journeys. Infarm's modular approach reduces food miles and food waste, using 95% less water and 75% less fertilizer than soil-based agriculture. Infarm has partnered with many global leading retailers, including COOP, M&S, EDEKA and Whole Foods, and has successfully tested production of wheat in an indoor farm using no soil, no chemical pesticides and much less water than open field farming.

Actioning urban farming | SDG focus: 11 | Growth Champion category | North America



James Moody

James Moody is the Co-Founder and CEO of Sendle. James has previously served on advisory Boards for companies such as Westpac Bank and General Electric. He was a member of the executive team at Australia’s national research agency, CSIRO, and is a recognized expert on innovation, sustainability and the circular economy. James started Sendle with the aim of helping small businesses thrive by making delivery simple, reliable and affordable. Sendle is Australia’s first 100% carbon neutral free shipping service and is specifically designed for small businesses. To offset carbon, with South Pole, Sendle invests in projects that conserve and replant forests and other vital ecosystems. Sendle parcels are 100% biodegradable and compostable, and every parcel sent helps support impactful environmental projects across the globe. Sendle has offset the equivalent of the carbon sequestered by 73.5 million tree seedlings in a year and has facilitated USD 2.7 billion dollars of small business eCommerce. James has been a member of the WEF Global Councils for over 10 years and is co-author of *The Sixth Wave: How to Succeed in a Resource-Limited World*.

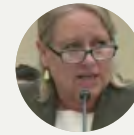
Carbon-neutral delivery service | SDG focus: 12, 13 | Global



Christine Moseley

Christine Moseley is the Founder and CEO of Full Harvest. Full Harvest created the first B2B marketplace for surplus and imperfect produce, aiming to create a “full harvest” by seeing 100% of the food we produce consumed. Food waste has been identified as one of the major contributing factors to climate change, with 40% of all food produced globally being wasted. Christine initially worked for companies such as AP Moller and P&G. After seeing the massive amounts of waste produced by contract farms, she set up Full Harvest. Full Harvest aims to break the waste chain by connecting agricultural producers with the largest food suppliers via its state-of-the-art online marketplace. Since founding Full Harvest, Christine has become a board member of the California Chamber of Commerce, where she can drive change across the agri-business sector, promoting circular and waste-minimizing practices.

Tackling farm food waste | SDG focus: 13 | Growth Champion Category | North America



Suzan Murray

Suzan Murray is a board-certified zoo veterinarian and serves as Program Director of Smithsonian’s Global Health Program. She leads an interdisciplinary team engaged in worldwide efforts to address human and wildlife health issues, and combat emerging infectious diseases of global significance. Suzan’s team engages in international efforts to build veterinary capacity to conserve endangered species and prevent pandemics through training, partnership development and health surveillance programs that include local communities. Recognizing that health surveillance in under-served populations not only helps to achieve social justice but also contributes valuable global health security data that impacts the global economy, Suzan and her partners build and leverage the critical partnerships necessary to not only protect human health, but also that of endangered species. Suzan serves as the Smithsonian Liaison to the Health Security Threats subcommittee of the National Security and Technology Council and has twice testified before Congress on these issues.

Preserving biodiversity | SDG focus: 3, 15 | USA





Victor Ochen

Victor Ochen is the Founder and Executive Director for African Youth Initiative Network (AYINET). Born in northern Uganda, he spent 21 years as a refugee in the camps, where he survived on one meal-a-day for over seven years. He grew up amidst violent conflict that displaced over 3 million people, where over 60,000 children were abducted and forcefully recruited as child-soldiers, including his own brother. His organization has provided reconstructive medical interventions to over 21,000 war victims of rape, mutilation and gun shots. Ochen formed a Peace Club and bravely led the anti-child soldiers' recruitment campaign amidst the war in northern Uganda. He grew up to become one of the most important figures in Africa, a key reference when it comes to the struggle for human rights and justice – a product of resilience, a personification of struggle. He is a lead example of tolerance and nonviolence activism working to address the root cause of conflict in Africa. Forbes named Ochen in 2015 as one of the 10 most powerful men in Africa, while Archbishop Desmond Tutu attested, "My heart swells with joy to see Ochen as one of the new hopes for Africa." He was the first Ugandan and the youngest African ever nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Peace, rehabilitation & hope | SDG Focus: 16 | Africa



Suzana Padua

Suzana Padua is a Brazilian environmental educator with a doctoral degree from the University of Brasilia and a master's from the University of Florida. She is the president of Instituto de Pesquisas Ecológicas (Institute for Ecological Research). She has published widely in many countries and has contributed to several governmental and non-governmental projects related to environmental education and sustainability. Suzana is an Ashoka fellow, an AVINA leader, a Russell E. Train Scholar and a Bacardi Scholar. She has received several awards, including the 2017 Benchmarking Person, the 2017 UBS Visionaris Award, the 2017 Wildlife Conservation Award of the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens, and the 2009 Schwab Foundation and Folha de São Paulo Social Entrepreneur. Together with her husband, Claudio Padua, they were featured as Heroes of the Planet by Time in 2002.

Conservation and environmental protection | SDG focus: 12, 13, 15 | South America



Pierre Paslier and Rodrigo Garcia

Pierre Paslier and Rodrigo García González studied Innovation Design Engineering for their MSc in 2014, during which time they co-founded sustainable packaging startup Notpla. Notpla (short for not plastic) aims to eliminate single-use plastic with a biodegradable material made from seaweed and plants. Notpla's edible Ooho packaging has already been used for water and sauce sachets at the London Marathon and Glastonbury Festival, and its takeaway boxes are used by Just Eat across Europe and multiple UEFA matches. Seaweed is an abundant and fast-growing material that biodegrades naturally and actively sequesters carbon dioxide. The startup has prevented more than 2.5 million single-use plastics from being used. Notpla was awarded Prince William's £1,000,000 Earthshot Prize, World Technology and Greentech awards, and been recognized as a pioneering innovator by National Geographic.

Non-plastic packaging | SDG focus: 12, 13, 14 | UK



credit: AYINET



credit: Notpla



Mark Pollock

Unbroken by blindness in 1998, Mark Pollock became an adventure athlete competing in ultra-endurance races across deserts, mountains and the polar ice caps, including being the first blind person to race to the South Pole. In 2010, a fall from a second-story window nearly killed him. Mark broke his back and the damage to his spinal cord left him paralyzed. Now he is on a new expedition, this time exploring the intersection where humans and technology collide, to cure paralysis in our lifetime. Mark and his team have contributed to projects valued at over USD 100 million and as chairman of Collaborative Cures he is focused on bringing scientists, technologists, charities and investors together to reduce 50-year scientific translation timelines to 10 years and catalyze collaborations worth over USD 1.25 billion. As a speaker, Mark is focused on inspiring leaders and their teams to build resilience and collaborate with others so that they achieve more than they thought possible.

[Fast-tracking a cure for paralysis | SDG focus: 3 | Global](#)



Nick Pearson and Sathy Rajasekharan

Nick Pearson and Sathy Rajasekharan are co-executive directors at Jacaranda Health. Prior to founding Jacaranda, Nick worked in Kenya for the Acumen Fund, investing in businesses tackling poverty. Sathy was previously Senior Program Manager for the Drug Access and Health Financing teams of the Clinton Health Access Initiative. Jacaranda Health is a social venture established to improve access to maternal health services and provide high-quality care to underserved mothers and their babies across Kenya. They partner with the National Ministry of Health and with 20 Kenyan county governments, deploying solutions across over 1,100 hospitals and health centers. Jacaranda's maternity hospital, Jacaranda Maternity, is rated as one of the highest quality in the region and is expanding to additional hospitals. Jacaranda's PROMPTS digital health platform for mothers and in-facility nurse mentoring reaches over 150,000 women, 1,500 frontline nurses and has resulted in an 80% increase in postpartum family planning uptake, improved midwife performance and reductions in preventable maternal complications. Nick is a Draper Richards Kaplan Fellow and an Ashoka Young Champion of Maternal Health, while Sathy holds a PhD in Neurology and Neurosurgery and has aided in the development of commercialization plans for health technologies.

[Improving maternal healthcare | SDG focus: 3 | Impact-first category | Kenya](#)



Mark Post

Mark Post is the Co-Founder and Chief Scientific Officer of Mosa Meat. Trained as a medical doctor and having worked on tissue engineering for vascular grafts, Mark Post is known for developing the world's first burger from cultured beef. Inspired by the possibilities of cultured meat, he co-founded Mosa Meat in 2016. Mosa Meat is a food technology company that aims to fundamentally reshape the global food system by replacing traditional meat with cultured meat, starting with beef. The team grows beef by collecting a small sample of cells from a cow so that no slaughter is required, and considerably less land and water are used. The scientists provide the cells with nutrients, vitamins and fresh air, aiming to replicate a natural environment. By allowing the cells to multiply naturally, they become fully matured muscle and fat – just as they would inside a cow. They can make 80,000 burgers from that one sample. Mosa Meat is supported by world-class advisors and investors, including actor, producer and activist Leonardo DiCaprio, and has received USD 96 million in funding to advance its mission. Currently, Mosa Meat is working to scale up production, cut costs and receive regulatory approval to distribute its products.

[Developing cultured meat | SDG focus: 2, 12, 13 | Growth Champion category | Global](#)



Vikas Pota

Vikas Pota is the Founder and CEO of T4 Education, a digital media platform he established as a response to the challenges posed by the pandemic to education globally. T4 is building the world's largest community of teachers and schools to help them network, collaborate, share best practices and support each other's efforts to improve learning. T4 works to amplify teachers' voices because the world in which every child receives a good education will only be built by listening to those at the heart of education. Its flagship initiative is the World's Best School Prizes - the world's most prestigious education awards. It also runs the Teacher Tech Summit, the world's largest EdTech summit, with the World Bank. T4 launched the Africa Education Medal with HP, Intel and Microsoft to inspire changemakers to transform education in Africa. Vikas serves on several non-profit boards including the Education Outcomes Fund, Artists in Residence, Global School Leaders, Queen Rania Teacher Academy, Educate Girls and Teach for All. He is an Honorary Lecturer at UCL Institute of Education, was a Visiting Practitioner at Harvard Graduate School of Education, and served as a Senior Policy Fellow at the University of Cambridge's Centre for Science & Policy. He has been recognized as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum and as one of London's 1,000 most influential persons by the Evening Standard. Vikas was named European regional honoree for the 2022 YPO Global Impact Award.

Transformation through education | SDG Focus: 4 | Global



Dave Power and Katherine Holland

Dave Power is the President and CEO of Perkins School for the Blind. Previously, Dave has held positions such as CEO, general manager and marketing executive at Sun Microsystems, RSA Security and other successful growth companies. Katherine Holland is the Executive Director of Perkins International. Before joining Perkins, Katherine served as Chief Operating Officer for Women Deliver, supporting global advocacy for gender equality at global conferences. Beginning as the first US school for the blind nearly 200 years ago, Perkins has become a diversified, international non-profit organization leading the way in serving children and young adults with multiple, complex disabilities, including blindness. Perkins offers day and residential programs on campus and direct and consultative services in public schools. Perkins International works with families, teachers, schools, hospitals, universities and governments in almost 100 countries to make education accessible to all children. Perkins also has a library that circulates over half a million accessible books, newspapers and publications in braille, large print and digital audio formats. Dave teaches Design Thinking at Harvard Extension School and received the Joanne Fussa Distinguished Teaching Award. Katherine is currently serving as a global advisor to Praava Health in Bangladesh.

Making education accessible | SDG focus: 4 | Impact-first category | Global



Arch Rao

Arch Rao is the Founder and CEO of SPAN. After receiving an MS in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University, Arch decided to focus on technologies that would have a non-linear impact on our efforts towards abating climate change. He spent over a decade working on clean energy as an energy consultant at LCG Consulting, and as a technical advisor for The Westly Group. Arch then created SPAN with the aim of enabling homes to acquire clean energy faster, cheaper and more easily, to aid in decarbonizing the world and slow the effects of climate change. SPAN have created a smart panel that controls and monitors home circuits and is connected to an app and an electric vehicle charger, making home energy intuitive, solar powered, more flexible and more resilient. SPAN has sold over 80 panels, completed 25 installations and secured its first bulk distribution order through CED Greentech. Additionally, SPAN onboarded nine new installation partners and secured incentive commitments from Hawaii Energy. Arch has led products at Tesla Energy, including the development of the Powerwall, and co-founded technology companies such as Verdigris Technologies.

Clean energy for homes | SDG focus: 7, 13 | Growth Champion category | US



credit: Perkins School for the Blind



Tom Ravenscroft

Tom Ravenscroft is the founder of Enabling Enterprise. As a new teacher in London, Tom was shocked at the gap between what he was teaching his students and what employers wanted, as well as unemployment rates being much higher for young people compared to the general population (13.7% vs. 5.1%). He designed a modern curriculum to bridge the gap between education and business skills. With his work, he is helping students gain the enterprise skills valued by employers but not traditionally taught at schools. Enabling Enterprise is currently working with more than 80,000 children at 250 schools across England; they also partner with more than 100 employers to offer projects and visits to businesses.

[Bridging education gaps | SDG Focus: 4, 8, 10 | UK](#)



Paolo Richter

Paolo Richter is the Founder of Velafrica. Paolo's vision for Velafrica began as a student when he dismantled old bicycles and used the parts to create a new one. During a development mission to Ghana, he realized that without bicycles, women and children had to walk several hours to buy food, reach the nearest water source or even attend school every day. Velafrica is a non-profit organization that collects old, worn-out bicycles, refurbishes them with social institutions and exports them to partners in Africa. Exported bicycles are sent to bicycle centers which serve as hubs for sales and repairs, vocational training and bike-related jobs. Through Velafrica's partners in Africa, access to bicycles is improved, and people can travel in an environmental and healthy way. They promote vocational training through apprenticeships and create income opportunities. More than 30 social enterprises, transport companies and institutions in the correctional system in Switzerland help to recycle the donated bicycles. Every year, Velafrica exports over 20,000 bicycles to seven countries. Paolo was honored as a Schwab Foundation Social Entrepreneur of the Year for his work on Velafrica.

[Bringing bicycles to Africa | SDG focus: 1, 8, 10 | Africa](#)



Alan Ricks

Alan Ricks is Founding Principal and Co-Executive Director of MASS (Model of Architecture Serving Society) Design Group. When volunteering to help design and construct a hospital in Rwanda, he discovered that the country had fewer than ten architects. Seeking a solution, he was inspired to set up MASS. MASS is a non-profit that uses architecture, landscape design, engineering, research and community engagement to maximize social and economic impacts. Using a "One Health" design strategy, they produce healthy and productive habitats for human, animal and ecological growth. MASS has completed over 100 buildings, used by more than 500,000 people. They have over 100 active projects, including hospitals and universities across Africa and North America. Alan is a WEF Young Global Leader and was an Expert-in-Residence at the Harvard Innovation Labs. Alan has previously been a visiting professor at Yale and is currently teaching at Harvard. MASS was named the 2022 Firm of the Year by the American Institute of Architects.

[Architecture for society | SDG Focus: 3, 9, 11 |](#)



Nicole Rycroft

Nicole Rycroft is the founder and executive director of Canopy Planet. A former physiotherapist and elite-level athlete, Nicole has spent the past 22 years inspiring and supporting senior corporate decision-makers in the publishing, print and fashion sectors to advance ambitious sustainability initiatives, transform unsustainable supply chains and advance the conservation of forests. This passion and experience inspired her to create Canopy. Canopy aims to transform unsustainable supply chains globally, conserve vital forest ecosystems and catalyze commercial production of innovative circular economy solutions by helping more than 750 companies green their purchasing practices, including H&M, Zara, Penguin Random House, Amazon, and Stella McCartney. Canopy's Pack4Good initiative implements the use of alternative fibers, like agricultural waste and recycled pulp and paper, to create packaging, thus reducing reliance on forests and lowering carbon emissions. Over 380 companies have signed on to Pack4Good, representing almost USD 200 billion of annual revenue, with more signing on every day. Nicole is well-known for greening the Harry Potter book series and her transformative work in the fashion industry. She is an Ashoka Fellow, a Canadian Environment Award Gold Medal recipient and the 2020 Climate Breakthrough Award winner.

[Greening company practices | SDG focus: 15 | Impact-first category | Global](#)



Donald Sadoway

Donald Sadoway is the Co-Founder and Chief Scientific Advisor of Ambri. He has been a professor in the department of Materials Science at MIT for over 40 years and his GroupSadoway lab has pioneered battery technology for Ambri. Donald and Co-Founder David Bradwell created the Liquid Metal™ battery, envisioning that it would be a safe, affordable electrical storage solution and started Ambri to commercialize the liquid battery technology. Ambri batteries meet the demand for large-scale, affordable energy storage by increasing the contribution from renewable resources and reducing the need to build traditional power plants. Ambri's energy storage solution is built for daily cycling, with a lifespan of over 20 years with minimal fade. Ambri systems are not only extremely reliable but also safe as Ambri systems do not produce or emit any gases and no possibility for thermal runaway. Ambri has partnered with Xcel as part of its commitment to deliver 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050 and is expanding its manufacturing capacity with a new facility in Massachusetts. Donald is author of over 170 scientific papers and was recognized as one of the 100 Most Influential People of the year by Time for his work on the Liquid Metal™ battery.

[Batteries for clean energy | SDG focus: 7, 9, 13 | Global](#)



Cameron Saul

Cameron Saul is the Co-Founder and Director of Bottletop. After spending nine months living with an indigenous community in Southeast Uganda, Cameron returned with a bag made from recycled bottle tops and a vision to use sustainable design to support local artisans and raise funds for health education programs. Cameron and his father Roger Saul, the Founder of Mulberry, created the Bottletop Foundation. He and Roger edited the design of the bag, adding a leather lining made from waste offcuts, and launched the bag as the centerpiece of the Mulberry Bottletop Campaign. The Campaign raised global awareness and funds in support of the prevention of HIV/AIDS through education, and generated local employment and raised funds for grassroots education projects across Africa. The brand sources several sustainable and upcycled materials for its pieces, including food waste, 3D-printed waste plastic, ocean plastic and Humanium Metal – an upcycled stainless steel repurposed from deconstructed illegal firearms that have been seized by local authorities in Central America. Through its #TOGETHERBAND campaign, Bottletop has generated over 9 billion impressions with over 1,000 ambassadors from around the world and has delivered over USD 2 million of impact through its beneficiary projects and impact partners.

[Upcycling for social impact | SDG focus: 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 | Africa](#)



Vicki Saunders

Vicki Saunders is an entrepreneur, award-winning mentor, advisor to the next generation of changemakers and leading advocate for entrepreneurship. She is Founder of SheEO and #radical generosity, a global initiative to radically transform how we support, finance and celebrate female entrepreneurs. Vicki has co-founded and run ventures in Europe, Toronto, Canada, and Silicon Valley, and taken a company public on the Toronto Stock Exchange. Vicki was recently named as one of 30 World-Changing Women in Conscious Business by Conscious Company and one of the 100 most influential leaders of 2015 from EBW – Empowering A Billion Women. In 2001, Vicki was selected as a WEF Global Leader for Tomorrow.

[Architecture for society | SDG Focus: 3, 9, 11 | Global](#)



Ajaita Shah

Ajaita Shah has been working with social enterprises and impact investors to drive ESG goals globally. She is committed to empowering rural women across the developing world through business models, financial inclusion, technology, data, clean energy and inspiring women to push themselves beyond their societal boundaries. Ajaita is the recipient of several prestigious awards, including Schwab Social Entrepreneur of the Year, Fortune's 40 Under 40, Forbes's 30 Under 30 Social Entrepreneur of the Year, Women Transforms India Award, Digital Women of the Year, CNBC's Women Entrepreneur of the Year and L'Oréal Women of Worth. She is a Women's Changemaker Fellow at Womanity Foundation, Dasra Leadership Fellow, Echoing Green Fellow and Cordes Fellow. Her company, Frontier Markets, is a social tech commerce solution driving access to high impact services for rural customers in India through a network of rural women entrepreneurs called Saral Jeevan Sahelis. The platform has onboarded 25,000 women entrepreneurs and a million women customers in 5,000 villages delivering 50 million solutions. Ajaita is also a general partner at two impact funds investing in India and Africa focused on tech, gender inclusion and access to services. She serves on the board of Frontier Innovations Foundation and SHINE Invest.

[Investing in female entrepreneurs | SDG focus: 10 | India](#)



Ashif Shaikh

Ashif Shaikh is the Founder and CEO of Jan Sahas. With a postgraduate degree in political science from Vikram University, Ashif is a passionate human rights activist. He created Jan Sahas with an aim to eliminate slavery and violence based on caste and gender, and ensure safe migration and worker protection for excluded social groups. Jan Sahas has developed strategies to address sexual violence and forced labor through legal and social support, land and property rights, skill development and livelihood promotion, mental health, and early childhood care and education. The Jan Sahas team has 800 members and 6,800 volunteers based in 14,000 villages across India and has been working intensively with over a million migrant communities to ensure their protection. Jan Sahas has registered over 3.5 million households and facilitated over 2.7 million social security benefits. Jan Sahas has also worked with around two million women and girls across all program areas, supporting over 20,000 survivors of sexual violence and preventing over 7,000 women and over 6,500 children from being trafficked or exploited. Ashif has received multiple awards and fellowships, including the Ashoka Fellowship, Times of India Social Impact Award, Star Impact Award and M.A. Thomas National Human Rights Award.

[Eliminating gender and caste-based violence](#) | SDG focus: 10 | [Impact-first category](#) | [India](#)



Paul Skidmore

Paul Skidmore is the founder and CEO of Rising Academies, one of the fastest-growing quality-focused education companies in Africa and a Certified B Corp®. Launched in 2014, Rising provided emergency home schooling to children in Sierra Leone kept out of school during the Ebola Crisis, opened its first school in April 2015, and now serves over 250,000 students across more than 700 schools in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ghana and Rwanda. During the COVID-19 epidemic, Rising's multi-award-winning distance learning solution "Rising On Air" reached children in 25 countries and was translated into 12 languages. Before launching Rising Academies, Paul was a founding team member at the Tony Blair Africa Governance Initiative in Rwanda and Sierra Leone, and later served as Deputy CEO. He began his career as a think-tank researcher and government strategy advisor in the UK. He has a BA and MA from Manchester University, and an MPA from Princeton University. He is a Trustee of the Global Schools Forum and was named a Rainer Arnhold Fellow in 2019.

[Schools to change lives](#) | SDG focus: 4, 5 | [Impact-first category](#) | [Africa](#)



Shara Ticku

Shara Ticku is the CEO and Co-Founder of C16 Biosciences. C16 Bio uses biotechnology to produce sustainable alternatives to palm oil. Palm oil is the world's most popular vegetable oil, but depends on tropical rainforest deforestation that emits 0.5-1.5 gigatons of CO₂ annually. C16 Bio's technology uses biology to produce an oil that looks and functions just like palm oil, but doesn't destroy the planet. Prior to founding C16, Shara worked at the United Nations, the Clinton Health Access Initiative and Goldman Sachs. She holds an MBA from Harvard Business School and a BA from the University of Texas.

[Palm oil alternatives](#) | SDG focus: 12, 13, 15 | [Growth Champion category](#) | [Global](#)



Matthew Tilleard

Matthew Tilleard is the Co-Founder and Managing Partner of CrossBoundary Energy. Prior to co-founding CrossBoundary, Matt worked to establish the Afghan Investment Climate Facility in Kabul, created a non-profit internet venture that reached over 1.25 million people and donated more than USD 1 million dollars to charity, was a policy advisor to an Australian indigenous leader and a strategy consultant at The Boston Consulting Group. Inspired by his interests in sustainable development and finance, he and Co-Founder Jake Cusack created CrossBoundary Group, an innovative investment firm that unlocks private capital for sustainable development.

CrossBoundary Energy is the first dedicated investment fund for commercial and industrial solar in Africa. It is now one of the largest distributed solar utilities in Africa with over 50MW of projects under construction or operation across Africa. CrossBoundary Energy Access is a blended finance facility backed by the Rockefeller Foundation and private investors to unlock project finance for distributed solar-storage mini-grids for rural electrification serving over 170,000 people. CrossBoundary Advisory provides investment and economic advisory services across a range of developing countries and has also developed innovative mechanisms to attract investment in fragile states affected by conflict. Matthew holds bachelor's degrees from the University of Melbourne, an MPA from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and an MBA from the Stanford Graduate School of Business, where he attended as a Fulbright Scholar. In 2015, he was named a WEF Young Global Leader.

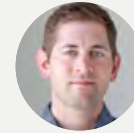
[Powering African enterprises](#) | SDG focus: 7, 9, 12 | [Africa](#)



Iseult Ward

Iseult Ward is the Co-Founder and CEO of FoodCloud. Iseult met Co-Founder Aoibheann O'Brien while studying business and economics in Trinity College Dublin. They shared a mutual interest in food and distaste for food waste, leading them to create the project that would later become FoodCloud. FoodCloud is a non-profit social enterprise that was established to reduce food waste and increase social inclusion. FoodCloud has established two national solutions for food redistribution in Ireland: a network of three food banks that redistribute large quantities of surplus food and a technology solution that connects food businesses directly to local charities. FoodCloud partners with several businesses, including Aldi, Lidl, Tesco and Waitrose, as well as working with food banks and food businesses internationally. Working with over 600 Irish charities, an average of 2,200 tonnes is rescued annually with an estimated value of over USD 7 million, leading to an avoidance of an estimated 7 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions. Iseult is a One Young World Ambassador and has received multiple awards, including the Social Entrepreneurs Ireland Impact award and Green Entrepreneur of the Year.

Redistributing surplus food | SDG focus: 2 | Europe



Dan Widmaier

Dan Widmaier is the Co-Founder and CEO of Bolt Threads. Originally trained as a scientist at UCSF with a PhD in chemistry and chemical biology, Dan's interests lie at the intersection of technology, sustainability, and design. He collaborated with a bioengineer and biophysicist to create Bolt Threads with the aim of addressing the growing demand for high-quality sustainable materials. The company's first material, Microsilks™, a fiber produced from spider silk protein through a fermentation process, was intended to sustainably replicate the silk production process. Dan also led the creation of Mylo™, a revolutionary material made from mycelium, the underground structure of mushrooms, that can replace animal and synthetic leather. Dan has been instrumental in shaping Bolt Threads's partnerships with brands such as Stella McCartney. This brand has created a Microsilks™ dress displayed at the MoMa and several pieces featured in runway shows. In 2019, Bolt Threads announced the launch of Eighteen B, a skincare brand with its b-silk™ protein as the core ingredient. Bolt Thread now has over 100 employees and secured over USD 200 million worth of investor capital. In 2022, Dan delivered a TED Talk on the future of fashion through reengineering with mushrooms.

Creating sustainable materials | SDG focus: 9, 12, 13 | Growth Champion category | Global



Arch Wongchindawest

Arch Wongchindawest is the Founder of Socialgiver, a Thai social enterprise that offers amazing deals from over 500 leading businesses – such as hotels, restaurants and experiences – as a way to raise funds for local charities. This enables travelers to enjoy the best of Thailand while 100% of the profit goes to create maximum social and environmental impact. Since founding, Socialgiver has impacted over half a million lives. Arch also founded Wildchain, a non-profit to protect our planet's most endangered animals and natural zones. Wildchain gamifies wildlife adoption by offering NFTs that mirror real-world endangered species population and enables collectors to own virtual wildlife sanctuary on their mobile phone as a way to raise awareness and funds to support real world conservation initiatives. He currently sits on the board of SE Thailand, promoting social entrepreneurship in Thailand, and One Young World, promoting youth participation in social development.

Technology for positive social impact | SDG focus: 11 | Social Innovators category | Asia



David Yeung

David Yeung is the Co-Founder and CEO of Green Monday. David started out as a consultant for PwC but had an interest in environmentalism, plant-based alternatives and Buddhist traditions. David created Green Monday with the aim of constructing a global ecosystem of future food that combats climate change, food insecurity, public health crisis, planetary devastation and animal suffering. Green Monday's platform enables corporations, restaurants, schools and the public to effectively contribute to performing social and environmental responsibilities. The company launched OmniFoods, a brand that creates plant-based meat alternatives free from cholesterol and hormones and high in iron and calcium. Green Monday also launched a plant-based concept store, Green Common, a one-stop shopping and dining solution with a mission to empower everyone to live healthily and sustainably with ease. David was named WEF Social Entrepreneur of the Year and is a graduate of Columbia University, an Ashoka Fellow, and author of multiple best-selling books on Zen wisdom and mindfulness.

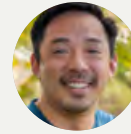
Plant-based food for sustainable future | SDG focus: 13 | Growth Champion category | Global



Marc Zornes

Marc Zornes is the Co-Founder of Winnow. Prior to Winnow, Marc was Engagement Manager at McKinsey & Company, where he co-authored a report highlighting food waste as a huge issue that was not being tackled. Winnow offers digital tools that help commercial kitchens halve their food waste, saving up to 8% of their food spend. Kitchens can waste up to 20% of food purchased, often equivalent to their total net profits. This occurs because chefs typically lack the necessary tools to accurately measure and manage waste. With Winnow Vision, an AI-enabled tool, kitchens can automatically track food waste, cut costs and save time. The system takes photos of wasted food as it's thrown away and, using the images, the machine trains itself to recognize what has been thrown in the bin. Winnow is being used in almost 65 countries, with clients including Compass Group, Iberostar, Hilton, Accor Hotels and IKEA, saving customers over USD 50 million per year in reduced food waste and saving over 50,000 tonnes of CO₂ annually. In addition to his work at Winnow, Marc is a board member at Food Tank.

Technology to reduce food waste | SDG focus: 12, 13 | Growth Champion category | Global



Yishan Wong

Yishan Wong brings Silicon Valley's expertise in scaling to the climate movement. Yishan founded Terraformation in 2020 to build and deploy tools that tackle the largest bottlenecks to mass-scale reforestation. Terraformation's Seed to Carbon Forest Accelerator supports early-stage forestry teams to launch, build and scale biodiverse reforestation projects. In addition to producing high-quality, verified carbon credits, these projects generate complementary sustainable revenue streams to support local economies. Terraformation's current partner network spans five continents and includes diverse landowners and organizations. Prior to founding Terraformation, Yishan served as the CEO of Reddit, Director of Engineering at Facebook and was part of the engineering team that led to the exponential growth of Paypal. Yishan graduated from Carnegie Mellon University. He lives on the Big Island of Hawai'i with his family and dogs.

Scaling climate solutions | SDG focus: 13 | Growth Champion category | Global



credit: Winnow

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