Transforming through Trust

How social innovators are transforming the lives of millions
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Into a Third Decade of Impact
Being the Change Together
Foreword

Transforming through Trust celebrates both the values and the achievements of three cohorts of awardees of the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship from 2019 to 2022. We recognize and champion the impact these change leaders have achieved and, in particular, how they work to tackle the systemic, deep-rooted and most critical issues of our time in the midst of a pandemic.

Over the past two decades, we have championed the work of Social Entrepreneurs. In the past three years we have witnessed how their work is more relevant than ever – by bringing quality healthcare to rural India in COVID, by empowering Black-owned businesses in Brazil to overcome the economic barriers of racial inequity, and by using artificial intelligence (AI) and big data to create inclusive and equitable education platforms from South Korea to South Africa. Social Entrepreneurs continue to demonstrate that the values of equity and justice underpinning models of innovation can help us meet the greatest challenges together.

Corporate Social Intrapreneurs use their influence within large private-sector organizations to change how things are done, how they define who the customers are. Through innovative business units or social business subsidiaries, they also prove how the core business model might be more inclusive and purposeful.

Through values-based approaches, centring on inclusivity, collaboration and sustainability has collectively had an impact on 100 million people around the world, overcoming persistent and systemic barriers. Together with the combined impact of our community presented in the report, Two Decades of Impact, a total of 722 million lives have been directly improved by the work of this community of leading social innovators.

Social innovation has changed enormously and our work to integrate social change leaders across all private, public, social and academic sectors recognizes the need for all institutions to transform and work entrepreneurially in the public interest.

Citizens, activists and our youth are increasingly crying out for strong action, requiring complex changes within governments, businesses and research institutions. We have seen this call answered by a committed group of social innovators called intrapreneurs: internal agents of change in large institutions of government and corporations that the Schwab Foundation started to recognize through three new awards in 2019.

We have been guided by a generation of Social Innovation Thought Leaders who have helped shape the field’s emergence to articulate its relevance.

Our world is in dire need of healing and rebuilding trust, while it also needs us to transform our economic, societal and planetary systems. Both the individual and collective work of social innovators in this report helps us recognize that change towards a better future is not only possible – it is already at work.

Klaus Schwab
Founder and Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum

Hilde Schwab
Co-Founder and Chairperson, Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship
Introduction

For 20 years, the Schwab Foundation set about building one of the foremost communities of accomplished social change leaders in the world. It supports their impact journeys and provides a platform to amplify their voices and influence world leaders. At the 50th Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum, we released the Schwab Foundation’s first comprehensive impact report, Two Decades of Impact, demonstrating the cumulative impact and insights from the work of social entrepreneurs over this period.

In 2019, the Schwab Foundation Social Innovator of the Year Awards expanded to four categories to recognize a new generation of social change leaders across the private, public, social and academic sectors. This change acknowledges the diversity of social innovation models, shining a light on the global momentum for social innovation, and emphasizes the need to work across sectors on complex and systemic issues.

The awards recognize:

- Social Entrepreneurs: Founders or CEOs who innovatively address a social or environmental problem, with a focus on low-income, marginalized or vulnerable populations
- Corporate Social Intrapreneurs: Business leaders within multinational or regional companies who drive the development of new products, initiatives, services or business models that address societal and environmental challenges
- Public Social Intrapreneurs: Public sector leaders who harness the power of social innovation and social entrepreneurship to create public good through policy, regulation or public initiatives
- Social Innovation Thought Leaders: Experts and champions who are shaping and contributing to the evolution of the field

Awardees are recognized for their innovative approaches that achieve both significant direct impact as well as address the deeper, systemic causes of some of the world’s most pressing social challenges.

The work presented here comprises the 77 social innovators awarded since the introduction of the new award categories, through three cohorts between 2019 and 2022. During this period the Schwab Foundation has awarded 13 Corporate Social Intrapreneurs, 10 Public Social Intrapreneurs, 16 Thought Leaders, and 38 Social Entrepreneurs.

The results of an external evaluation demonstrate how this group of social innovators are impacting directly an additional 100 million people. A large number of the awardees focus on improving the social and economic quality of life, providing appropriate and increased access to healthcare, education, energy, finance and water. Underpinned by principles of equity and justice, social innovators support people often excluded from the mainstream economic system (especially young people, women and minority groups) building the tools and capacities for people to construct an alternative path forward, engage with social and environmental issues, and maximize their potential.

They have shown that values-based approaches centring on inclusivity, collaboration, relationships of trust and long-term sustainability are more likely to be transformative in changing institutions, policies and mindsets, and disrupting traditional ways of working that hold systemic barriers in place.

Compelled by a common future and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), social innovators are increasingly working with both large institutional actors and more local grassroot organizations as they face systemic issues. They act as catalysts, mobilizing power and spurring collective action, often through partnerships, networks and alliances.

And in the midst of a global pandemic, social innovation leaders who have lived and learned experiences of the conditions of societal exclusion and environmental vulnerabilities are better placed to build trust in order to mobilize, orchestrate and sustain the transformative changes that are needed.

François Bonnici
Director, Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship

Together with the combined impact of awardees presented in the Two Decades of Impact report, a total 722 million lives have been directly, positively affected by the Schwab Foundation’s awarded social innovators.
Progress in a Pandemic

The Schwab Foundation’s Awardees since 2019 are championing social innovation across the spectrum of society, achieving high-level international and national policy changes, building high-impact technology social enterprises to grassroots networks empowering communities of change. This multilayered approach proves to be essential in making an impact, tackling the need for short-term responses in crises with the longer-term arcs of systemic change.

The advent of the COVID-19 pandemic proved to be particularly challenging for this community, who also showed extraordinary resilience and agility. The awardees have made progress in addressing both the immediate needs of groups who have been hardest hit by the pandemic as well as the long-term social and environmental challenges we face. They have done so through deep relationships and networks of collaboration and trust and have provided the tools and capabilities for people who have been economically and socially excluded to be pivotal in catalysing their own progress.

Levelling the playing field

41 million people with improved healthcare and 3.6 million with improved social and economic livelihoods through financial disbursements and capacity building

Intrinsically linked with SDG 10 focused on reducing inequalities, such approaches to drive equity are exemplified by Social Entrepreneur Prema Gopalan, Founder of Swayam Shikshan Prayog, who has changed the lives of 6 million women from poor and marginalized communities in India. Through forming support collectives and building the women’s capacity in finance, business and leadership, they have transitioned from labours to farmers and entrepreneurs, enabling them to construct a pathway of resilience and independence.

Equipping young people to build their future

20 million young people with improved access to healthcare and nutrition and 2 million young people with better access to education

Through improved education, access to healthcare, nutrition and leadership development, these social innovators are providing youth with the tools to construct an alternative path forward, maximizing their potential. Social Entrepreneurs like Enuma, led by Sooinn Lee, are using AI to deliver mobile, tailored, self-learning systems that have far greater reach and can include children who are regularly excluded from education.

Fostering inclusion through access to finance

15.3m people empowered through better access to finance

The COVID-19 crisis has amplified the systemic barriers of gender, race and geography, disproportionately affecting communities that were already economically excluded. Corporate Social Intrapreneur Hadi Wibowo, President of BTPN Syariah Bank in Indonesia, works to ensure that his products and services reach those seen as “unbankable” for having neither financial records nor legal documentation. Through branchless banking that he pioneered, BTPN provides financial services to 6.6 million low and middle-income customers, directly addressing exclusion of underprivileged families.

Who they are

- Social innovators: 77
- Countries Headquartered in: 31
  - Gender: M: 58% F: 42%
  - Average age: 49 (range from 32 to 75 y.o.)

Operating models:

- For profit: 43%
- Hybrid: 10%
- Non-profit: 47%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Lives Impacted</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improved Healthcare and Wellness</td>
<td>40,931,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improved Child Healthcare</td>
<td>18,050,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improved Financial Inclusion</td>
<td>15,356,258</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supported Migrants and Refugees</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Empowered Women</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
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<td>Improved Social &amp; Economic Livelihoods</td>
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<td>Improved Nutrition</td>
<td>2,300,748</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improved Education</td>
<td>2,250,752</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improved Capacity of Young Leaders</td>
<td>680,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improved Capacity of Social Innovators</td>
<td>319,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improved Energy Access</td>
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<td>Improved Legal Identity and Representation</td>
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<td>Improved Access to Information</td>
<td>175,608</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improved Access to Employment</td>
<td>66,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supported with addiction</td>
<td>20,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Creating the conditions to enable social impact

Over 169,000 entrepreneurs from social and economically excluded backgrounds directly supported by new funding models, entrepreneur incubators, accelerators and training programmes

Social Innovation Thought Leaders and Public Social Intrapreneurs enable the growth of social innovation by setting the foundations for individuals, businesses and institutions to work. Public Social Intrapreneur Ann Branch leads the European Commission policy on social and inclusive entrepreneurship who launched the Social Economy Action Plan for Europe in December 2021. Kim In-Sun, President of the Korea Social Enterprise Promotion Agency, is shifting the financial landscape of South Korea to support social enterprises through innovative funding models.

Strengthening social and economic development

Each award category leverages its unique elements to foster social and economic development with outstanding solutions, which places SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth among the highest ranked with awardees. Corporate Social Intrapreneur Garance Wattez Richard, Head of AXA Emerging Customers at GIE AXA insurance, is changing the definition of customers to be more inclusive, removing policy barriers and designing new products aimed at facilitating wider adoption of low to middle income customers. The impact achieved by social innovators is both increasing in scope and depth as Public and Corporate intrapreneurs spearhead progress from their institutional and business arenas.

Putting Sustainable Development Goals in action

Launched in 2015, the SDGs have effectively provided a shared language and common purpose to approach global issues. The top SDGs targeted across all award categories on the three cohorts give us an accurate picture of priorities and the diversity of ways in which the awardees tackle the most pressing social challenges.

Rapid response and collaboration in the face of the pandemic

Social Innovators have been adept at rapidly pivoting intervention delivery to deploy immediate assistance to those hit hardest by COVID-19. The international community and businesses have also recognized the need for collaboration and came together to set up coalitions such as the COVID Response Alliance for Social Entrepreneurs, the Migrants Resilience Collaborative, and Catalyst 2030 among others. These collective efforts tackle issues faced by those most in need either directly or by supporting social innovators to deepen and scale up delivery.

Ashif Shaikh, Founder of Jan Sahas, rapidly deployed a multipronged approach to support migrant workers in India to meet their immediate needs and build resilience for the long-term implications of the COVID-19 induced economic crisis. Within 100 days of the lockdown being announced, Jan formed partnerships with over 30 philanthropic and private sector donors to deliver immediate relief support through 42 NGOs in 19 states.

Syed Azim, CEO of Glocal Healthcare, pivoted its telmedicine and digital dispensary platform to provide a comprehensive COVID-19 response and by the end of June 2021 had treated some 165,191 COVID patients in India. Syed’s platform and technology are highly scalable and have since been deployed across India and sub-Saharan Africa.

Jesús Gerena, CEO of UpTogether (originally Family Independence Initiative founded by Mauricio Lim Miller), in partnership with Stand Together, an NGO, launched the #GiveTogetherNow campaign and raised over $100 million for low-income families in the United States. UpTogether’s digital platform enables funds to be disbursed directly to low-income families efficiently.
Social entrepreneurship contributes across all 17 SGDs

Putting Sustainable Development Goals in action

Launched in 2015, the SDGs have effectively provided a shared language and common purpose to approach global issues. The top SDGs targeted across all award categories on the three cohorts give us an accurate picture of priorities and the diversity of ways in which the awardees tackle the most pressing social challenges.
Towards Systemic Change

Given the complex challenges the world is facing today, from climate change and wealth inequalities to systemic racism and unequal access to health and education, the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship is guided by its overall ambition to create a social innovation movement that transforms society for a more just, sustainable and equitable world. This translates in practice into a global platform that advances the world’s leading models of sustainable social innovation.

Each awardee in the four award categories demonstrates an aptitude for affecting different system change conditions. Social Entrepreneurs seed grassroots action that leads to transformational change. Corporate Social Intrapreneurs masterfully use their influence within the private sector to integrate social impact at the core of the business activity. Public Social Intrapreneurs open pathways for change by unlocking the power of policy making. While Thought Leaders continue to reflect on and challenge the boundaries of social innovation, shifting mindsets and practice.

As we look to the future, the Schwab Foundation aims to deepen its systemic impact in three main ways: advancing systems leadership and systems work; encouraging collective action; and supporting mainstream adoption of outstanding social models.

Social Innovators are playing a systemic role

Systems work is a distinct set of activities that goes beyond delivering products and services to overcome deep-rooted issues that surface as social barriers, such as resource flows, mindsets, behaviours and power dynamics. It implies a departure from growing single organization interventions to influencing the work of multiple actors in a system.

Kennedy Odede, Founder of Shining Hope for Communities (SHOFCO), works to provide a set of holistic community services for those living in slums in Kenya. SHOFCO provides healthcare, gender-based initiatives, safehouses and education centres and has set up a platform for collective action and political engagement. Its structure enables slum dwellers to integrate horizontally across their community, building support networks, which also facilitates the establishment of a political platform to unify their voices, empowering the community to engage to challenge the political elites and begin shifting power dynamics. Through multi-layered solutions, Social Entrepreneurs target grassroots and marginalized people as levers of change.

Corporate Social Intrapreneur, Khalil Daoud, Chief Executive Officer of LibanPost, is tackling systems of human migration in Lebanon by using biometric technologies to provide identity documents and financial aid for refugees and displaced people; a crucial element enabling integration and social support. With his programmes, he has been able to help 1.5 million refugees.
A mobilized social innovation ecosystem for collective action is transforming society

Many leaders and organizations within the Schwab Foundation community either have collective approaches rooted in their model or have evolved to develop them in order to tackle the complexity of the issues they work on. In the current context, it is clear that no one organization or individual can accomplish significant social change alone and, as a whole, the community acts as a powerful collective voice to advance social impact.

This stronger ecosystem for collective action materializes in several ways. One of them is through the development of global and local networks of social innovators with initiatives such as the Health Innovation Exchange, established by Pradeep Kakkati, Director of Innovation at UNAIDS, forming formal knowledge hubs and communities of practice. Through these networks, resources are pooled, ideas shared and collective action shapes up.

New and more inclusive funding models are also emerging designed to accelerate entrepreneurship and enable collective action. Fadi Ghandour is shifting the impact entrepreneurship ecosystem in the Middle East, conducting research and raising the profile of social entrepreneurship in the region, while seeding many of the region’s successful start-up and growth companies both in the traditional and social impact sectors.

A third expression of the ecosystem for collective action is the emergence of leaders that accelerate the mobilization process. Youth groups from South Asia to South America are being established to overcome systems of oppression by developing inclusive leaders. Social Entrepreneur Adriana Barbosa, CEO of PretaHub, has identified, supported and built the capacity of 100,000 Black entrepreneurs in Brazil. In turn, these entrepreneurs are leading the transformation of their communities through business that challenges structural racism.

Outstanding models of social innovation are adopted across sectors

As the work of social innovators solutions achieve greater depth, scale and prevalence, awardees continue to demonstrate both the value of their endeavours and the value of social innovation as an effective alternative model.

We see intrapreneurs securing change not only within their companies but also beyond to influence their industry. Through Nutrivida, Corporate Social Intrapreneur Gisela Sanchez has designed an innovative model of highly nutritional low-cost products sold through a network of low-income mothers. The model has been a striking success, delivering fortified food to over 2 million children in Central America and becoming a trusted provider of the World Food Programme. Nutrivida’s innovative model is now being championed globally and major global food competitors have begun to reformulate their products to match the increased nutrition.

Technology as a tool to drive systemic change

Social innovators frequently integrate technology to improve the depth, reach and quality of their solutions. Mobile technology continues to be a global game-changer, with 70% of awardees utilizing it to deliver their interventions. Mobile technologies play a significant role in enabling interventions that affect resource flows, practices, power dynamics and mental models. However, they play a less significant role in shifting policy where technology such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning and automation is used more frequently.

However, AI accounts for 43% of technologies used to affect policy change. It is reinventing the way children learn through ed-tech solutions, how government and business make decisions and providing patients with faster, safer and better-quality healthcare. Critically, AI is transforming how communities engage with government. Phillip Atiba Goff, Co-Founder of Centre for Policing Equity, has drawn on policing data and AI to develop the Justice Navigator, an interactive tool that tracks and analyses statistics on police behaviour, which, in turn, spurs data-driven reforms in police departments in the United States. Through transparency and data analytics, Phillip is transforming the relationship between communities and police services in the US.
A Social Innovation Movement

Spotlight on Social Entrepreneurs

For over 20 years the Schwab Foundation has been recognizing founders who innovatively address social or environmental problems, with a focus on low-income, marginalized and vulnerable populations and ecosystems.

The Schwab Foundation 2019-2022 Social Entrepreneur awardees are social pioneers addressing persistent structural inequalities including gender discrimination, economic exclusion and racial bias. They work closely with the issues faced, and their scope covers a wide array of challenges from refugee family reunification and human rights to water infrastructure and financial inclusion. By empowering marginalized populations to be actors of their own change, Social Entrepreneurs enable lasting, transformational progress.

They empower socially and economically excluded people so they become architects of their own future. Through R Labs, Rene and Marlon Parker provide opportunities to a generation of unemployed, unskilled and underprivileged youth in 23 African countries, enabling self-empowerment, building of community solutions and economic independence. Lindiwe Matlali is delivering science, technology, engineering and mathematics education to students in South Africa, allowing students to gain high-quality and valuable education regardless of their socio-economic background. Lisa McLaughlin and Robin McIntosh are creating a new paradigm in addiction care in the US with Workit Health, an effective and accessible opioid addiction platform that shows exceptional retention rates, a decrease in addictive behaviours and anxiety, as well as an increase in healthy habits.

They leverage technology to leap-frog barriers to growth and make public services more inclusive. Kennedy Njoroge has created a blockchain-based smart contracting marketplace that decentralizes access to marketplaces and empowers smallholder producers to make better decisions and obtain better prices. With WaterHealth, Sanjay Bhattnagar has used the internet of things and automation systems to remotely monitor and control decentralized water systems, creating an efficient and scalable water management and distribution model. Hla Hla Win, CEO of 360education, is using virtual reality and augmented reality to deliver educational content to children previously excluded from education as well as push for educational reform.
Celso Athayde founded Central Univa das Favelas (CUFA) in 1998 in Rio do Janeiro, Brazil, to engage and empower young people, especially young people of colour, to inspire change. In 2015, Celso founded Favela Holding, a group of companies whose central objective is to change the economic matrix of the favela. It is the first social holding in the world and promotes social entrepreneurship, new business opportunities and increased employability for those living and working in favelas.

Ashraf Patel founded Pravah and ComMutiny Youth Collective (CYC), which focuses on facilitating the development of a generation of empathetic, sensitive youth change-makers in India, helping them build more inclusive identities and societies. Ashraf’s work challenges traditional concepts of youth leadership and expands youth empowerment through exploring the idea of a “fifth space”. She suggests that traditional spaces for youth engagement – friends, family, education and employment, leisure and recreation – are not governed by young people, and that decision making, rules and expectations are set by others. In the fifth space, her work seeks to create a space where young people can discover themselves through community actions. Members of the expansive coalition she has established include young people, youth organizations, youth facilitators, and representatives from public and private sectors.

“I work in the territories of Brazil with over 37 million people. Some 87% are Black people. Brazil is a country based on slavery. Happiness was reserved for the few during slavery. The effects of colonial social inequality are brutal. The victims of this inequity need to understand they have a right and are a part of the prosperity that belongs to our country. Wealth has to be shared or there will be social chaos. The people we serve through Favela Holding are living lives that were not projected for them. They are now the bosses of their own companies. This is not a legacy they inherited; it is their time to see the effects of their efforts.”

“When we started 25-30 years ago, there were no programmes with an emphasis on making connections between self and society in school curriculums. They didn’t exist. You need young people in leadership at all levels. Building youth leadership is not the work of NGOs, colleges and schools. Youth development is the work of everyone – all of us can be youth workers. If every space becomes a space to nurture youth leadership, we will succeed.”

“The idea of self-to-society or me-to-we is important language and it is what we champion. We knew that design principles could help build youth-centric and youth-empowered spaces. We’ve worked with many designers and these thousands of designs have emerged from our work, each contributing to our purpose to ‘scale with soul’.”
Alex Eaton  
Organization: Sistema.bio
HQ country: Mexico
Operations: Latin America
Sector: Energy
SDG: 2, 13, 15

Alex Eaton, CEO and Co-Founder of Sistema.bio, grew up on a small farm and is committed to optimizing natural ecosystems. His company helps farmers put waste to work using patented bio-digesters that convert animal manure into renewable energy and organic, natural fertilizer. With as few as two cows, one bio-digester produces enough clean and renewable biogas to meet all the energy needs for cooking and heating in a rural household, as well as organic fertilizer to improve crop yields for up to five hectares, providing customers with a better quality of life.

Alexandre Tourre  
Organization: Easy Solar
HQ country: Sierra Leone
Operations: Africa
Sector: Energy
SDG: 7

Alexandre Tourre is Co-Founder and CEO of Easy Solar. He has a background in financial inclusion and mobile money in Kenya and Afghanistan. Easy Solar is transforming people’s lives in West Africa by supplying reliable solar energy and other transformative durable goods, including solar lanterns, home-lighting systems, appliances and cookstoves. It makes these affordable through a range of flexible financing options, using pay-as-you-go technology, and accessible through an extensive network of agents and shops.

Chris Sheldrick  
Organization: what3words
HQ country: United Kingdom
Operations: Global
Sector: Information communications technologies
SDG: 9, 10

Chris Sheldrick, Co-Founder and CEO of what3words, has pioneered a simpler way to give precise locations by turning accurate GPS coordinates into user-friendly combinations of three words. Instead of using international addresses and postcodes, which are often too broad and not universal, what3words names every 3m square in the world with a unique three-word address. This simple solution means that everyone can easily talk about a specific location. NGOs, aid organizations, emergency services, delivery companies and governments are adopting the technology to improve business efficiencies, drive growth and save lives.

Nthabiseng Mosia  
Organization: Easy Solar
HQ country: Sierra Leone
Operations: Africa
Sector: Energy
SDG: 7

Nthabiseng Mosia is Co-Founder of Easy Solar. A South African and Ghanaian dual citizen, she has worked as a management consultant and has extensive experience spanning the energy spectrum as well as in telecoms and financial services. Easy Solar is transforming people’s lives in West Africa by supplying reliable solar energy and other transformative durable goods, including solar lanterns, home lighting systems, appliances and cookstoves. It makes these affordable through a range of flexible financing options, using pay-as-you-go technology, and accessible through an extensive network of agents and shops.

Jail Allabadi  
Organization: Alttibbi
HQ country: Jordan
Operations: MENA
Sector: Health and healthcare
SDG: 3, 9, 10

Jail Allabadi is CEO of digital health platform Alttibbi. He is an industrial engineer by training, with a master’s degree in Business Administration. Jaili was born in Lebanon to Palestinian parents. He has built Alttibbi into a digital health platform for the Arab world. Inspired by a pioneering medical reference dictionary written by his father, Jaili created Alttibbi to offer up-to-date medical information to users in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) in Arabic. The platform has a unique mix of tools to deliver health awareness, information and advice to millions through its extensive content library and telehealth service.

Joseph Thompson  
Organization: AID:Tech
HQ country: Kenya
Operations: Africa
Sector: Information communications technologies
SDG: 9, 10

Joseph Thompson is CEO and Co-Founder of AID:Tech, which uses blockchain for digital identity, aid and remittance delivery. AID:Tech has also released the first blockchain application of peer-to-peer traceable donations for clients of banks, corporations and consumers. The platform provides transparency and traceability to the distributions of resources, bringing access and inclusion to the underserved. Each AID:Tech digital ID represents a blockchain wallet address, which is unique and documents every transaction associated with it. AID:Tech was the first company in the world to deliver international aid using blockchain technology in 2015.

Kennedy Njoroge  
Organization: Cellulant
HQ country: Kenya
Operations: Africa
Sector: Financial inclusion
SDG: 9, 10

Ken Njoroge is the founding CEO of Cellulant, which delivers a connected one-stop mobile payments and digital commerce service across Africa for businesses, mobile network operators, financial institutions, and their consumers. He has led the company from an idea sketched on a serviette in 2002 to an enterprise with more than 350 employees across 13 markets. He remains unwavering in his pursuit of connecting more than 500 million consumers in Africa with digital payment services. Over the past few years, he has invested time in training and advising the next generation of entrepreneurs and contributing to the growth of the entrepreneurship ecosystem in Africa.

Lisa McLaughlin  
Organization: Workit Health
HQ country: USA
Operations: USA
Sector: Health and healthcare
SDG: 3, 9, 10

Lisa McLaughlin is Co-Founder and Co-CEO of Workit Health, a behavioural health company providing expert, evidence-based addiction care through telemedicine. She held leadership positions at leading digital health and learning companies before setting up Workit, which is working to reinvent substance abuse and addiction treatment. Using both virtual and in-person mental health support programmes, the team is tackling the nearly $35 billion addiction recovery market, with a focus on accessibility for those who need it most. Its programmes provide holistic care to patients for all three addiction stages: prevention, treatment and detox.

Social Entrepreneurs 2019
Mehrdad Baghai
Organization: High Resolves
HQ country: Australia
Operations: Global
Sector: Children and youth development
SDG: 4, 5, 8, 10

Mehrdad Baghai is Chair of the Alchemy Growth, a boutique strategy advisory firm advising large companies on growth. He is an active investor in both the technology and private equity fields. In 2017, he reduced his business interests to take over as global CEO of High Resolves, a social venture which he co-founded with his wife, Roya, in 2005 to provide peak learning experiences that help young people reflect on their shared humanity. Since its inception in 2005, High Resolves has engaged with over 500,000 young people in Australia, the United States, Canada, Mexico, Brazil and many other countries.

Mostafa Farahat
Organization: Nafham
HQ country: Egypt
Operations: MENA
Sector: Education
SDG: 4

Mostafa Farahat is Co-founder and CEO of online learning platform Nafham, which currently helps 5 million school students and young learners in six Arab countries. Established in 2012, Nafham is an award-winning educational platform and online tutoring service. It uses the power of the crowd to simplify and explain school curricula lessons in short videos in a process called “crowd-teaching”, which enables students to access multiple explanations for the same lesson in a few seconds, anytime and anywhere. It attracts 700,000 unique visitors every month and offers thousands of videos.

Phillip Atiba Goff
Organization: Center for Policing Equity
HQ country: USA
Operations: USA
Sector: Governance and civic engagement
SDG: 10, 16, 17

Phillip Atiba Goff is Co-founder and CEO of the Center for Policing Equity (CPE), which serves as a bridge between police departments and communities to reduce burdensome and disparate policing. He is a US national leader in the science of racial bias after pioneering experiments that have exposed how our minds learn to associate Blackness and crime implicitly, often with deadly consequences. This research led to the co-founding of CPE, a university research center now supported by the 501c3 Policing Equity organization. Created at UCLA, the center is now the world’s largest research and action think-tank on race and policing.

Prema Gopalan
Organization: Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP)
HQ country: India
Operations: India
Sector: Community empowerment
SDG: 1, 4, 5, 8

Prema Gopalan is Executive Director of Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP), a learning and development organization that aims to promote women’s economic and social empowerment as entrepreneurs and leaders for sustainable community development. Her belief is that excluded and resource-poor communities can both revitalized through economic growth and social progress, if the true potential of grassroots women entrepreneurs is realized. Based in Pune, SSP has built a robust ecosystem that empowers women-led entrepreneurship and leadership in emerging high-impact sectors such as clean energy, agriculture and nutrition, health and sanitation.

Roberta Faria
Organization: Editora MOL
HQ country: USA
Operations: USA
Sector: Information, communications and technology
SDG: 3, 9, 10

Roberta Faria is Co-founder and CEO of Editora MOL, a social impact publishing house that created the concept of evidence-based addiction care through telemedicine. She worked at the crossroads of technology, health and engagement platforms before setting up Workit, which is reinventing substance abuse and addiction treatment. Using both virtual and in-person health support programmes, the team is tackling the nearly $35 billion addiction recovery market, with a focus on accessibility for those who need it most. Its programmes provide holistic care to patients for all three addiction stages: prevention, treatment and detox.

Sanjay Bhatnagar
Organization: WaterHealth International
HQ country: USA
Operations: Global
Sector: Natural Resources
SDG: 6

Sanjay Bhatnagar is President and CEO of WaterHealth International (WHI), and Founder of THOT Capital Group, a private equity firm investing in energy and infrastructure. WHI’s approach of decentralized sustainable water purification makes it possible to deliver safe water services to communities once considered unreachable by constructing and operating micro-water utilities called WaterHealth Centres. It uses commercially available water purification technologies, remote monitoring and smart card systems to provide affordable, safe drinking water to nearly 450 underserved communities in India, the Philippines, Ghana and Bangladesh.

Social Entrepreneurs 2019
Win Hla Hla is Co-Founder and CEO of 360ed, a Myanmar-based start-up tackling the problem of access to quality education for those at the bottom of the pyramid. 360ed is composed of educators, tech experts, content creators and scholars who are committed to revamping the education reform process by leveraging advances in virtual reality, augmented reality, and digital financial services and access to information and project beneficiaries.

Esoko also provides services for their waste. Gamble, Adidas and customers like Procter & Gamble, Adidas and Nestlé to find environmentally friendly solutions for their waste. This platform enables communities to share knowledge, best practices and develop local solutions. Esoko’s flagship product, Todo, is an extensive digital learning platform with best practices in commercial game learning. It includes applications that engage young learners in Africa in a wide range of young learners around the world, including those with special needs, in independent and effective learning. Esoko’s approach combines universal learning principles with best practices in commercial game design and educational research to build the best-quality, digital learning products. Its flagship product, Todo Math, has been ranked #1 in the App Store in 20 countries.

### Social Entrepreneurs 2020

**Hla Hla Win**  
Organization: 360Ed  
HQ country: Myanmar  
Operations: Myanmar  
Sector: Education  
SDG: 4, 5, 10

**Daniel Asare-Kyei**  
Organization: Esoko  
HQ country: Ghana  
Operations: Africa  
Sector: Food systems  
SDG: 1, 2, 10

**Adriana Barbosa**  
Organization: PrestaHub  
HQ country: Brazil  
Operations: Latin America  
Sector: Diversity and inclusion  
SDG: 4, 8, 10, 16

**Henrique G. Brammer Junior (Guilherme Brammer Jr)**  
Organization: Boomera  
HQ country: Brazil  
Operations: Brazil  
Sector: Circular resources  
SDG: 11, 12, 13

**Jesús Gerena**  
Organization: UpTogether  
HQ country: USA  
Operations: USA  
Sector: Community empowerment  
SDG: 1, 10

**Javier Goyeneche**  
Organization: Ecoalf  
HQ country: Spain  
Operations: Europe  
Sector: Circular resources  
SDG: 12, 13, 14, 15

**Dharsono Hartono**  
Organization: PT Rimba Makmur Utama  
HQ country: Indonesia  
Operations: Indonesia  
Sector: Environment  
SDG: 2, 13, 15

**Sooinn Lee**  
Organization: Enuma Inc.  
HQ country: South Korea  
Operations: Asia and East Africa  
Sector: Education  
SDG: 4, 10

**Sooinn Lee** is Co-Founder and CEO of Enuma, a children’s educational software company changing the paradigm of basic education through digital learning. She has developed many highly acclaimed applications that engage a wide range of young learners around the world, including those with special needs, in independent and effective learning. Enuma’s approach combines universal learning principles with best practices in commercial game design and educational research to build the best-quality, digital learning products. Its flagship product, Todo Math, has been ranked #1 in the App Store in 20 countries.
Social Entrepreneurs 2020

Lindiwe Matlali
Organization: Africa Teen Geeks
HQ country: South Africa
Operations: Africa
Sector: Education
SDG: 4, 5, 8, 10

Lindiwe Matlali is Founder and CEO of Africa Teen Geeks, one of Africa’s largest computer science NGOs. Its mission is to bring science into children’s classrooms, driven by the belief that no child should be left behind by the tech revolution. The social enterprise teaches children and unemployed youth how to code, exposes them to computer science and inspires a future generation of technology entrepreneurs and innovators. The organization plugs a vital gap in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education in South Africa, with a particular focus on girls.

Shanti Raghavan
Organization: EnAble India
HQ country: India
Operations: India
Sector: Disability
SDG: 4, 8, 10

Shanti Raghavan is Founder of Enable India, which works for the economic independence and dignity of persons with a disability. She created the organization in 1999 after experiencing her brother becoming blind at the age of 15. Enable India has helped change the mindset of businesses and government agencies, has built models and frameworks for inclusion, and has built collective scales across the country and world. Today it is pioneering new models for the future of work in a post-COVID world and campaigning for “includability” — the competency that leaders need to have to work with any kind of “difference”.

Anushka Ratnayake
Organization: myAgro
HQ country: Senegal
Operations: Africa
Sector: Food systems
SDG: 1, 2, 8, 10

Anushka Ratnayake is Founder and CEO of myAgro, a non-profit social enterprise based in West Africa pioneering a mobile layaway savings model that enables farmers to invest their own funds in high-quality seeds, fertilizers, tools and training. She has worked in rural Africa since 2008, helping to increase market access for small-scale farmers. Under the myAgro model, farmers pay in advance for inputs and training by buying a myAgro card at their local village store and depositing their money into a layaway account by texting in the scratch-off code.

Azim Sabahat
Organization: Global Healthcare Systems
HQ country: India
Operations: India
Sector: Health and healthcare
SDG: 3, 10

Sabahat S. Azim is Founder and Director of Global Healthcare Systems, a social venture that seeks to bring state-of-the-art healthcare to rural populations in India by offering an integrated model of comprehensive block-level primary and secondary care hospitals, digital dispensaries and technology. He is a medical doctor, a former Indian Administrative Service officer and an entrepreneur. Under his stewardship, Global has set up and is operating 11 integrated super-specialty hospitals in the states of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and West Bengal. Global stands for global quality, delivering at a local level.

Ashif Shaikh
Organization: Jan Sahas
HQ country: India
Operations: India
Sector: Disability and migration
SDG: 3, 5, 8, 10, 16, 17

Ashif Shaikh is Co-Founder and Director of Jan Sahas, a national grassroots organization in India committed to ensuring dignity and equality for all. He is a human rights activist who has pledged his life to eliminate slavery and end violence based on caste and gender. For 20 years, Jan Sahas has worked with excluded communities for safe migration, prevention of sexual violence against women and children, eradication of forced labour practices like trafficking, manual scavenging, bonded labour and commercial sexual exploitation of children. It works across nine states in India, partnering with community-based organizations, philanthropies and governments.

Dipesh Sutariva
Organization: EnAble India
HQ country: India
Operations: India
Sector: Disability
SDG: 4, 8, 10

Dipesh Sutariva is Co-Founder and CEO of Enable India, a non-profit organization that works for the economic independence and dignity of persons with disability across India, since 1999. The group is transforming attitudes towards employment of the disabled and creating a new market in which the needs of the corporate sector are met by a growing cohort of disabled professionals who are dispelling the myths and stereotypes about hiring persons with disability. Enable India’s models and content are also used in other organizations in India, as well as some in Africa, Asia, Europe and the US.

Celso Athayde
Organization: CUFA Favela Holding
HQ country: Brazil
Operations: Brazil, Bronx, NY
SDG: 1, 10

Celso Athayde is Founder of the Central Union of Favelas (CUFA), a Brazilian non-profit organisation established 20 years ago to represent and promote the interests of people living in over five thousand favelas in Brazil, estimated at 17 million people and equivalent to approximately 8% of the population. Recognised both nationally and internationally in the fields of social assistance, sports and recreation and community development, CUFA promoted the unification of young people from favelas, mostly black youth, who sought means of expression through activities such as graffiti, DJ workshops, break, rap, audio-visual media, street basketball, and literature. Also founded by Celso Athayde, “Favela Holding” is a conglomeration of 23 companies whose goal is to develop the favelas and empowerment of their residents through fostering entrepreneurship amongst these communities and promoting business and employment opportunities for favela residents.
Jos de Blok
Organization: Stichting Buurtzorg
HQ country: Netherlands
Operations: Global
Sector: Health and healthcare
SDG: 3

Jos de Blok is an award-winning social entrepreneur and CEO and Founder of Buurtzorg (neighbourhood nursing). Founded in 2006 with one team of four nurses, Buurtzorg has transformed home-based healthcare and it has created an innovative method for nursing care at home. Jos, himself a nurse, believes in an empowered nurse-led team approach, as well as an empowered patient. He believes most patients can be encouraged to participate together with their Buurtzorg nurse in finding solutions to their home-care needs, and that many of these solutions can be found in the community.

Mikaela Jade
Organization: Indigital
HQ country: Australia
Operations: Australia
Sector: Diversity and inclusion
SDG: 1, 4, 5, 10

Mikaela Jade is a Cabrogal woman of the Dharug-speaking nation of Sydney. Her company, Indigital, founded in 2014, is Australia’s first Indigenous edu-tech company. Indigital is built on a belief that together we can use digital technologies to help preserve and proliferate 80,000 years of human knowledge while engaging people in education that leads to skills, jobs, and wealth creation to build a stronger future for all. Indigital Schools, the company’s flagship program, is an Elder-led, fully curriculum-integrated exploration of cultural expressions, heritage and knowledge through augmented and mixed reality production. It exists to preserve, access and share traditional knowledge, language and law.

Kennedy Odeede
Organization: SHOFCO
HQ country: Kenya
Operations: Africa
Sector: Community empowerment
SDG: 1, 4, 10

Kennedy Odeede grew up in Kibera, Africa’s largest slum, and started Shining Hope for Communities (SHOFCO) in 2004 with passion, 20 cents, and a soccer ball. SHOFCO proposes to eradicate extreme poverty in urban slums, demonstrating a model that can be replicated around the globe. SHOFCO believes that the key to peace and prosperity is through empowering communities to participate actively in their own transformation and harnessing their collective voice to advocate for change. In 2020, SHOFCO has reached 2.4 million individuals across 17 urban slums through COVID response at scale. Over the next five years, they aim to build a nationwide community platform that links people to dignified critical services.

Rene Parker
Organization: RLabs
HQ country: South Africa
Operations: Africa
Sector: Workforce development
SDG: 1, 8, 10

Rene Parker is a social impact entrepreneur with extensive experience in building social ventures at scale. As CEO of RLabs she led its transformation from the humble beginnings of a community project in Cape Town into an award winning global social enterprise. RLabs is a global movement that has inspired replication of the model in 23 countries and impacted more than 20 million people since its inception in 2009. Rene has a passion for empowering women in technology and business and continues to support start-ups and innovation hubs across Africa by providing mentorship and strategic direction.

Marlon Parker
Organization: RLabs
HQ country: South Africa
Operations: Africa
Sector: Workforce development
SDG: 1, 8, 10

Marlon Parker is a social entrepreneur and advocate of using technology for good. As Co-Founder of RLabs Marlon led its transformation from the humble beginnings of a community project in Cape Town into an award winning global social enterprise. RLabs is a global movement that has inspired replication of the model in 23 countries and impacted more than 20 million people since its inception in 2009. Rene has a passion for empowering women in technology and business and continues to support start-ups and innovation hubs across Africa by providing mentorship and strategic direction.

Wenfeng Wei (Jim)
Organization: DADDYLAB Technology Co., Ltd
HQ country: People’s Republic of China
Operations: People’s Republic of China
Sector: Consumer protection
SDG: 12

Wenfeng Wei (Jim) is Founder of Daddylab, a social enterprise to keep children away from toxic and harmful products. Daddylab was established in 2015 and now has over 300 staff, including 45 technical experts with a diverse range of academic backgrounds. Over 300 different categories of consumer products have been tested since its formation in 2015. It is a social platform which combines the function of a third-party testing agency, a market watchdog, a consumer rights advocacy forum, and an e-commerce platform selling products which are tested in a very transparent, scientific, verifiable, and reproducible way.

Ashraf Patel
Organization: Pravah and ComMutiny
HQ country: India
Operations: India
Sector: Children and youth development
SDG: 4, 10

Ashraf Patel has played a key role in shaping the youth work field over two decades as co-Founder of Pravah and ComMutiny - The Youth Collective. She is a passionate practitioner and advocate of inside-out youth leadership. She is committed to collaboration and is part of shaping a cross-sectoral community of leading stakeholders called the VartaLeap Coalition, working towards strengthening youth-centric development as a systemic approach based on values of justice, equality, liberty, and fraternity, enshrined in the Indian Constitution, that also further societal wellbeing and global citizenship. Ashraf is an Ashoka Fellow and was recognised as the Social Entrepreneur of the Year (SEGY 2020) and award-ed Distinguished Alumni for Public Service (2014 XLRI).
Spotlight on Corporate Social Intrapreneurs

400

They have much in common with Social Entrepreneurs and often work side by side with them to accelerate and amplify their impact. In South Africa, Nicola Galombik, through the Yellowwoods Inclusive and Sustainable Growth Catalyst division, has designed and incubated social enterprises at scale such as the Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator. The accelerator is tackling youth employment with over 400 employers, government and donor partners. Through Danone Communities, Corinne Bazina empowers innovative social businesses as minority shareholders, providing capital before breakeven, when it is hard for social entrepreneurs to obtain financing, technical and managerial expertise. They are the realization of stakeholder capitalism and the shift towards purposeful business.

Rob Acker, CEO of Salesforce.org, the social enterprise branch of Salesforce, works to make world-leading customer relationship management (CRM) tools available to and effective for the non-profit, education and philanthropy sectors. Its success has brought closer alignment and influence over the core technology business, creating a self-sustaining business model that evolved from a traditional corporate foundation to a social enterprise within the core business, customized purpose-built solutions and over 1,000 employees. They form an important part of the growing social innovation ecosystem and bring the huge power of business to make progress on inequality and inclusion. With the solutions created through the Mastercard Lab for Financial Inclusion, Salah Goss serves the unbanked and underserved bottom of the pyramid earning less than $5 a day. Salah moved on to become Senior Vice-President for Social Impact at the Center for Inclusive Growth and in June 2020, in response to mounting incidents of racial inequity and injustice across the US, she launched the In Solidarity plan to invest $500 million in Black communities over the next five years.

600,000

Since then, he has pushed Nike to be the first leading corporate brand to step into Indigenous communities with the philosophy of purpose over product. To date, through the programme, Sam has engaged 600,000 young people in 268 communities in the US and Canada. While there is a philanthropic element to the programme, Sam is clear it is the holistic nature of the engagement that is key to its success; the relationships with the communities are much more important.

By building trust with both the Indigenous communities and his Nike colleagues, Sam has built an understanding on both sides that this partnership between a Fortune 500 company and a community is meant to have a lasting and inclusive effect.

Sam McCracken, N7, Nike

In 1999, Sam McCracken wrote a plan for how Nike could both provide Native American communities with access to Nike products and also promote tribal health and address Native American health disparities through physical activity. Recognizing that Native American communities face economic and social discrimination, suffer from poor health and lack access to services, Sam created a “business within a business” serving Indigenous people directly with products designed for them by role models for young people. Communities decide themselves how they want to access the programme and contribute to its evolution.

400

Corporate Social Intrapreneurs are leaders within multinational or regional companies who drive the development of new products, initiatives, services or business models that address societal or environmental challenges.

They are key internal agents of change. They are bridge-builders between their organizations and the stakeholders they are working with, and even more so within their organizations. Anchoring themselves in their vision for social impact, they work to build trust and change mindsets across multiple groups. Amar Ali, Founder of Africa Improved Foods and President of Africa Region for Royal DSM, in collaboration with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), FMO and the Government of Rwanda, works to address malnutrition in East Africa, helping to raise the overall quality of food in a region where 36% of children under five are stunted, and demonstrates what’s possible.

600,000

Sam created a “business within a business” serving Indigenous people directly
Amar Ali
Organization: Royal DSM
HQ country: Kenya
Operations: Africa
Sector: Nutrition
SDG: 2, 17

Garance Wattez-Richard
Organization: GIE AXA Initiative: AXA Emerging Markets
HQ country: France
Operations: Global
Sector: Financial inclusion
SDG: 9, 10

Harald Nusser
Organization: Gilead Sciences Inc.
HQ country: USA
Operations: Global
Sector: Health and healthcare
SDG: 3, 17

Khalil Daoud
Organization: LibanPost
HQ country: Lebanon
Operations: Global
Sector: Humanitarian and migration
SDG: 9, 10, 11

Pranav Kothari
Organization: Educational Initiatives (EI)
HQ country: India
Operations: Asia
Sector: Education
SDG: 4, 5, 8, 10

Rob Acker
Organization: Salesforce.org
HQ country: USA
Operations: Global
Sector: Capacity-building and technical assistance
SDG: 8, 9, 10

SDG: 9, 10
Sector: Financial inclusion
HQ country: France
Operations: Global
Initiative: AXA Emerging Markets
Garance Wattez-Richard
is Founder of AXA Emerging Customers, which was established to close the insurance gap in emerging markets and protect people described as being “in the middle of the pyramid” in developing economies. These emerging customers are in a precarious intermediary position because their incomes are often too high for them to be eligible for limited social security nets but they have not quite reached the levels which would give them access to traditional private insurance. Garance has previously worked on advocating the potential for the insurance industry to advance gender empowerment.

Harald Nusser is Head of Global Patient Solutions at biopharmaceutical company Gilead Sciences, which has a mission to advance the care of patients suffering from life-threatening diseases worldwide. He previously headed Novartis Social Business, after joining Sandoz International in 2015 to lead Novartis Access, which merged with legacy access to medicines programmes of the company into the new social business unit. Harald started his career at Schering as a mathematician in global R&D before moving to Bayer, where he led the HealthCare business in sub-Saharan Africa, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, Peru, Laos, Myanmar and Cambodia.

Khalil Daoud is Chairman and Managing Director of Lebanese postal operator LibanPost. He has led the company since joining in 2002, after the failed attempt by a Canadian consortium to revive postal services long interrupted by war. Under his leadership, LibanPost has seen massive internal reforms based on infrastructure overhaul, capacity building, product line and sales channels diversification, business expansion, brand establishment, premises rehabilitation and automation investments. These have transformed the company into a modern and profitable organization in less than five years. The strategy has earned LibanPost the confidence of Lebanese people and shareholders alike.

Pranav Kothari is CEO of Educational Initiatives (EI), an EdTech company that leverages the twin levers of cutting-edge educational research and technology-based solutions to revolutionize how children engaged in the K-12 education space learn. During more than a decade at the company, he has spearheaded the deployment of EI’s adaptive learning product, Mindspark. Under his leadership, EI’s Large-Scale Education Programme products have reached over 12 million underprivileged students in the Indian states of Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.

Rob Acker is CEO of Salesforce.org, the social enterprise branch of Salesforce, which is working to make world-leading customer relationship management (CRM) available to and effective for the non-profit, education and philanthropy sectors. He has grown Salesforce.org into one of the most innovative corporate philanthropies in the world. The organization has scaled its customer base by 10 times, annual grants by four times, and has become a leading example of the power of technology-for-good. Prior to joining Salesforce, Rob worked at Oracle for four years.

Corporate Social Intrapreneurs 2019

Salah Goss
Organization: Mastercard
HQ country: Kenya
Operations: Global
Sector: Financial inclusion
SDG: 8, 9, 10

Salah Goss is Senior Vice-President of Mastercard, running international markets for financial inclusion at the base of the economic pyramid. A financial inclusion expert specializing in digital solutions, she was Head of the Mastercard Lab for Financial Inclusion in Nairobi where she oversaw technology innovation and product development focused on developing markets. She holds three process and technology patents, representing her contribution to the development of innovative digital solutions while at Mastercard.
Corinne Bazina is Vice-President of Danone Communities, which brings together men and women, as well as financial resources, to help social entrepreneurs develop sustainable businesses that address challenges such as malnutrition, access to water and overall poverty reduction.

She has led Danone Communities’ expansion to support 12 social businesses in 15 countries. It is now directly reaching 6 million people every day. Her intrapreneurial work also focuses on the internal transformation of Danone, by encouraging employees of the food company to support social initiatives.

Nicola Galombik is Executive Director of Yellowwoods Holdings, a private investment group with a portfolio of investments primarily in the financial services, restaurant and hospitality sectors. The firm is based in Johannesburg, South Africa, with a business footprint that extends across 20 markets globally. The group’s purpose is to grow businesses and catalyse inclusive markets that provide opportunities for economically marginalized populations, primarily young people and primarily in Southern Africa. The Yellowwoods Inclusive and Sustainable Growth Catalyst division works to create and optimize inclusive, sustainable impact through its investment portfolio and social enterprises.

Prashant Mehra is Chief Architect, Social Inclusion at Mindtree, a global information technology solutions company with revenues of over $700 million. He builds open-access digital platforms around livelihood, education and civic engagement, collectively called the Commons Platform. His chosen focus areas include smallholder farmer agriculture, community-owned supply chains and involving communities in problem solving. He is Co-founder of Platform Commons Foundation, which works closely with governments and community organizations towards deploying livelihood platforms and converting them into a federation of interconnected platforms.

Hadi Wibowo is President Director of BTPN Syariah, the only bank in Indonesia that serves productive underprivileged families – the so-called unbankables – who have neither financial records nor legal documentation. A passionate advocate for financial inclusion, he is recognized as an intrapreneur within the financial sector for the initiatives he has spearheaded for marginalized communities. He is known for his passion for financial inclusion, he is passionate advocate for financial inclusion, he is recognized as an intrapreneur within the financial sector for the initiatives he has spearheaded for marginalized communities. He is known for his passion.

Sam McCracken is General Manager of Nike N7 and visionary of its N7 programmes, and the N7 fund, which has awarded $8+ million in grants to 250+ communities and organizations, reaching more than 500,000 young people. Sam has also driven 25 unique product collections and brand stories for the N7 product line. He was the Bill Bowerman award winner 2004 appointed by President Barack Obama to the U.S. Department of Education’s National Advisory Council on Indian Education and more.

Gisela Sanchez is the Chief Corporate Affairs Officer at BAC, the leading bank in Central America. She is in charge of Corporate Affairs, Strategy, Marketing and Sustainability. Before joining BAC, Gisela worked for FIFCO and before as a consultant for governments, NGOs and companies in Central America. Gisela is an industrial engineer and has an MBA from the Schwab Foundation, where she received the Stephan Schmidheiny Innovation Award. She is a Fellow of the Aspen Institute (CALI), she received the Philippine Daily Inquirer’s 2022 Most Influential Women in the Schwab Foundation, she is one of the “Unusual Pioneers” of the Schwab Foundation and she has been named the 50 most influential women in Central America by Forbes Magazine.

Corinne Bazina
Organization: Danone
Initiative: Danone Communities
HQ country: France
Region: Global
Sector: Food systems
SDG: 2, 6, 8

Nicola Galombik
Organization: Yellowwoods Holding
HQ country: South Africa
Region: Africa
Sector: Children and youth development
SDG: 4, 5, 10

Prashant Mehra
Organization: Mindtree
HQ Country: India
Region: Global
Sector: Information, communications and technology
SDG: 2, 4, 8

Hadi Wibowo
Organization: PT Bank, BTPN Syariah Tbk
HQ country: Indonesia
Region: Indonesia
Sector: Financial inclusion
SDG: 2, 5, 10

Sam McCracken
Organization: Nike
Initiative: N7
HQ country: USA
Region: North America
Sector: Diversity and inclusion
SDG: 3, 10

Gisela Sanchez
Organization: BAC
Initiative: Nutrivida
HQ country: Costa Rica
Region: Latin America
Sector: Nutrition
SDG: 2, 10

Corporate Social Intrapreneurs 2020
Spotlight on Public Social Intrapreneurs

€2.5 This award category champions leaders within governments and international organizations who harness the power of social innovation to create public good through appropriate policy, regulatory tools and programmes.

- They promote policies that support and grow the social innovation ecosystem. Awardees have contributed to the shaping of six national policies and through their work in international organizations they are also having a pan-national impact. Ann Branch, at the European Commission, has recently contributed to the adoption of a Social Economy Action Plan with concrete measures and a €1 billion fund to help mobilize and support the 27 European countries in developing policies and programmes to advance the social economy.

- They enable greater citizen participation and engagement. For example, Cynthia McCaffrey, as Director of Global Innovation for UNICEF, is creating new models of partnership that leverage core business values in the public, private and academic sectors to deliver fast and lasting results for children. Led by Sanjay Pradhan, the Open Government Partnership organization secured 2,500 transparency commitments that globally increase citizen access to policy decision-making and delivery.

- They work to rebalance financial and information resource flows towards social innovators. In healthcare, Pradeep Kakkatil, Director of Innovation in UNAIDS, has enabled the mobilization of over $200 million in investments in scaling up identified innovations. As Mayor of Barcelona, Ada Colau decisively shifted the balance of support for social economy and social enterprise by allocating €16 million of the city’s budget to supporting the Social and Solidarity Economy.

- Critically for the ecosystem, they are social innovators themselves, acting as agents of change in the public sector. For example, Jonathan Wong’s efforts from within the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific have resulted in a significant increase in support for policy-makers in the region in the areas of social enterprise and social investment.

Sanjay Pradhan, Open Government Partnership

As CEO of the Open Government Partnership, Sanjay Pradhan sees this award as for the reformers that his organization supports and champions. They span the 78 countries that have signed the Open Government Declaration. The team uses an action plan approach where government departments are reviewed and reforms recommended and are then independently assessed annually. Sanjay emphasizes that co-creation between government and civil society is integral. “When government and civil society co-create the action plans become more ambitious and get more results.”

Open Government Partnership staff provide structured assistance for the co-creation processes, thinking of it as “contentious collaboration” and taking the role of neutral broker. It is essential to this work that teams are trusted. Sanjay notes that his team largely achieve this through being seen to be good brokers and bridgebuilders.

“Our reform agenda is to address crises of democracy. Using these mechanisms you can tackle other crises we have – pandemic, climate, inequality. Enabling citizens to be informed and getting their voices heard on adaptation and reform … Hope comes from courageous reformers – and results.”

Thinking of it as “contentious collaboration” and taking the role of neutral broker.
Ann Branch grew up in an Anglo-Finnish family in London and has worked for European Union institutions for 20 years. She has led work on social and inclusive entrepreneurship for the European Commission since 2015, including both policy and developing new funding instruments. She has also been a driving force in the cultural and creative sectors, the Erasmus+ Programme in the education sector, the Erasmus+ Programme in the education sector, and the Erasmus+ Programme in the education sector.

Christophe Itier, High Commissioner for Social and Solidarity Economy and Social Innovation at France’s Ministry for Ecological Transition, has played a key role in coordinating social and economic inclusion programmes in President Emmanuel Macron’s government. An expert on education, public health and social sectors, he has worked in the past with regional authorities and for seven years he managed La Sauvegarde du Nord, a medico-social association of 1,500 employees and 200 volunteers, helping more than 34,000 people a year experiencing difficulties. He has also served as President of Le Mouves (French national Movement for Social Entrepreneurs).

Geoff Mulgan is Professor of Collective Intelligence, Public Policy and Social Innovation at University College London. He was CEO of the UK innovation foundation Nestia and is Founder of the Demos think-tank. A one-time BBC reporter, he has been a pioneer of social innovation for many years, including working on strategy in the Prime Minister’s office under Tony Blair. He is also Co-Founder of Social Innovation Exchange, Action for Happiness and UpRising. His books include, Big Mind: How Collective Intelligence Can Change Our World, and Social Innovation: How Societies Find the Power to Change.

Jonathan Wong is the Chief of Technology and Innovation at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). He joined ESCAP from the UK Department for International Development (DFID), where he was the inaugural Head of Innovation. He has led the establishment of several high-profile innovation initiatives including the Global Innovation Fund, a partnership between the Omidyar Network and the governments of the US, UK, Sweden, Australia, and South Africa. He has extensive experience in social innovation and entrepreneurship, innovative financing, impact investing and technology. He also has substantial policy expertise on these agendas, having advised governments across Europe, Africa, Asia and the Pacific.

Kim In-Sun is President of the Korea Social Enterprise Promotion Agency (KoSEA). He is a government-backed body that fosters and promotes social enterprises in South Korea. She has more than 14 years’ experience in social enterprise. Among its many roles, KoSEA certifies social enterprises, and – if they meet the requirements – provides them with administrative and financial support. It also aims to establish and support social enterprise networks within each industry sector, locality and at the national level. It works closely with social entrepreneurs by providing consulting services to areas including business administration, technology, taxation and human resources.

Maryam Uwais is Special Adviser to the Vice-President on Social Investments in Nigeria. She oversees cash transfer, school feeding, job creation and microcredit programmes for those at the bottom of the financial pyramid in the country. Nigeria established the National Social Investments Programme (NSIP) in 2016 to tackle poverty and hunger in Nigeria. The suite of programmes under the NSIP focuses on ensuring a more equitable distribution of resources to vulnerable populations, including children, youth and women. Since 2016, these programmes combined have supported more than 4 million beneficiaries.
Pradeep Kakkatil
Organization: UNAIDS
HQ country: Switzerland
Operations: Global
Sector: Health and healthcare
SDG: 3, 10, 17

Pradeep Kakkatil started his career in India as a print and television journalist and filmmaker. He gave up his media career when a close friend tested positive for HIV in the early 1990s and Pradeep began to tackle the potential threat of HIV to people of his generation. He became a principal investigator for the World Health Organization Global Programme on AIDS on the sex industry in south India. At UNAIDS, Pradeep founded the global Health Innovation Exchange – a platform that helps connect innovators, governments and investors to develop and scale innovations for health. The platform has mobilised over $200 million in investments in scaling up identified innovations, including in establishing the largest production facility for safety syringes in Africa.

Sanjay Pradhan
Organization: Open Government Partnership
HQ country: USA
Operations: Global
Sector: Civic engagement and governance
SDG: 16, 17

Sanjay Pradhan serves as the CEO of the Open Government Partnership. He leads a partnership of 78 countries, 76 local governments and thousands of civil society organizations, working together to make governments more transparent, participatory, and less corrupt. Sanjay leads OGP’s policy dialogue with Heads of States, Ministers, and civil society organizations. Sanjay earlier served as the World Bank’s Vice President. He is a global spokesperson on governance and anticorruption, appearing in major world forums including TED, the UN, the European Parliament, the BBC. He has published widely and holds a Ph.D. and a Bachelor’s from Harvard University.
Spotlight on Social Innovation Thought Leaders

Social Innovation Thought Leaders are recognized experts and champions who are shaping and contributing to the evolution of social innovation. The Schwab Foundation recognizes their lifelong contribution as pioneers of the movement.

These awardees are ground-breakers in social innovation, systems thinking and building larger ecosystems that have led the way in shaping and expanding these fields. Social Innovation Thought Leaders have significantly increased the knowledge and, with that, the resources directed into supporting the evolution and impact of social innovation in all its forms. Given the multiple spheres and disciplines within which Thought Leaders work, it is important to recognize the vast and fundamental indirect impact these leaders have had on the ecosystem.

Integrating and advancing social innovation into practice, Catherine Clark, Director of the Centre for the Advancement of Social Entrepreneurship (CASE), Filipe Santos Dean, Católica Lisbon School of Business and Economics, and Tse Ka Kui, who promotes the B Corp business model, are working alongside businesses and practitioners to integrate social innovation as a pathway to achieve both profit and social impact. Catherine Clark has helped to define and build impact investing and social entrepreneurship for over 30 years. She is pioneering and a leading influence on how to use business and capital as a force for good and has embedded her work throughout impact investment institutions all over the world.

Building larger, stronger and deeper social innovation ecosystems. They have built capacity and delivered technical assistance within governments, the private sector and academia, taking the concept of social innovation into new spheres. Fadi Ghandour, through Wamda Capital, a start-up incubator in the Middle East, and Cheryl Dorsey, through Echoing Green, are making social innovation more inclusive, equitable and accessible.

Ground-breakers in social innovation and systems thinking. Over many years, awardees such as Christian Seelos, Peter Senge and Roberto Unger have provided a theoretical and philosophical foundations of social innovation and deepened the role innovators play by incorporating system thinking approaches. Christian Seelos’ decades-long research on innovative business models in the context of deep poverty brought deep insights into alternatives to poverty alleviation strategies. Management Society Peter Senge, Senior Lecturer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has devoted his career to helping people see and understand the larger systems in which we operate. He develops extended learning and change communities that work as vehicles to create both deep and long-term change and as exemplars of living and working differently.

Alberto Alemanno, The Good Lobby

Alberto Alemanno, The Good Lobby

With his dedicated team at the non-profit, civic start-up HEC Paris and The Good Lobby, Alberto Alemanno is seeking to change attitudes on lobbying and re-establish advocacy as a space for citizen engagement and activism. The Good Lobby does not lobby but acts as an enabler, continuously evolving to impact different actors in the system it seeks to change.

The organization was originally conceived as a means of creating capacity-building in the civil society sector to address the power imbalance Alberto witnessed. However, over time, informed by those the organization was working with, the approach moved to other partners, working with foundations and then corporate organizations directly to achieve more impact. Alberto explains that in partnering with foundations:

“We’re aiming for social norm change, across society as a whole. But the tool that we’re leveraging is philanthropic input – we are supporting a scale-up of the investment philanthropies do by ensuring their ROI is greater through either enabling policy shift or social norm change.”

Working with corporates presents a further evolution as the focus is on supporting companies to align their ESG direction with their political engagement. On joining the 2022 awardees cohort, Alberto realized that The Good Lobby could add value to Social Entrepreneurs, setting in motion thoughts for further development of the model to impact another set of actors within the system.
Cheryl Dorsey
Organization: Echoing Green
HQ country: USA
Operations: Global
Sector: Social innovation
SDG: 8, 17

Cheryl Dorsey, President of Echoing Green, has been at the forefront of catalysing the social entrepreneurship movement for more than two decades. She has led Echoing Green to become a key organizations funding, incubating and nurturing social entrepreneurship. By identifying and supporting leaders of social enterprises through its fellowships and other innovative initiatives, Echoing Green has helped launch and grow many high-impact ventures. Its community now consists of over 700 social entrepreneurs and has recently celebrated 30 years of operations. Echoing Green fellows have launched enterprises such as One Acre Fund, Tech for America, SKS Microfinance and more.

Christian Seelos
Organization: Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society, Stanford University
HQ country: USA
Operations: Global
Sector: Systemic change
SDG: 8, 17

Christian Seelos is Director of the Global Innovation for Impact Lab at the Stanford University Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society. His research on innovative business models in the context of deep poverty has been recognized by several awards. In the 1980s and early 1990s he was Associate Professor for Molecular Biology and Cancer Research at the University of Vienna, while in the mid-1990s he advised UNSCOM and led several missions as part of the disarmament of Iraq’s biological weapons programme. Stanford University is renowned as a powerhouse of Silicon Valley entrepreneurship and innovation.

Fadi Ghandour
Organization: Wamda Capital
HQ country: United Arab Emirates
Operations: MENA
Sector: Capacity-building and technical assistance
SDG: 8

Fadi Ghandour is Executive Chairman of Wamda Group, a platform that invests, nurtures and builds entrepreneurship ecosystems in the Middle East and North Africa. He is also Founder of leading emerging markets global logistics company Aramex. A serial entrepreneur, Fadi has been involved with founding, investing and launching tens of companies and non-profits, ranging from digital tech, hospitality, fitness and wellness to social enterprise. He is also Founder and President of Portugal Social Innovation, a cross-sectoral partnership to build capacity for social innovation in the country. Waterloo provides work-integrated learning opportunities and fosters an entrepreneurial spirit that has created more than 5,000 jobs through Velocity alone, Canada’s most productive start-up incubator by private investment. The university has a global network spanning more than 220,000 alumni in 151 countries.

Filipe Santos
Organization: Católica Lisbon School of Business & Economics
HQ country: Portugal
Operations: Europe
Sector: Social Innovation
SDG: 8, 10, 7

Filipe Santos is Dean of the Católica Lisbon School of Business & Economics, a European top 30 school. He is an expert in entrepreneurship, following a PhD at Stanford University and a professorship at INSEAD researching and teaching new venture creation and social entrepreneurship. He is also Founder and President of Portugal Social Innovation, a cross-sectoral partnership to build capacity for social innovation in the country. Waterloo provides work-integrated learning opportunities and fosters an entrepreneurial spirit that has created more than 5,000 jobs through Velocity alone, Canada’s most productive start-up incubator by private investment. The university has a global network spanning more than 220,000 alumni in 151 countries.

Frances Westley
Organization: University of Waterloo
HQ country: Canada
Operations: North America
Sector: Social Innovation
SDG: 8, 10, 17

Frances Westley is J.W. McConnell Emeritus Professor of Social Innovation at the University of Waterloo. In this capacity, she is one of the principal leads in a Canada-wide initiative on social innovation, Social Innovation Generation, a cross-sectoral partnership to build capacity for social innovation in the country. Waterloo provides work-integrated learning opportunities and fosters an entrepreneurial spirit that has created more than 5,000 jobs through Velocity alone, Canada’s most productive start-up incubator by private investment. The university has a global network spanning more than 220,000 alumni in 151 countries.

Julie Battilana
Organization: Harvard Business School
HQ country: USA
Operations: Global
Sector: Social Innovation
SDG: 5, 8, 16, 17

Julie Battilana is the Founding President of the Institute for Social Entrepreneurship in Asia (ISEA), and a regional pioneer of social entrepreneurship. Julie has spent 25 years of experience in development management and consulting, social entrepreneurship and international development cooperation. She acts as a bridging leader in promoting collaboration between the social enterprise sector and government, business, civil society and academia. ISEA provides a learning and action network to catalyse knowledge creation, capacity development and movement-building for social entrepreneurship in Asia.

Marie Lisa Dacanay
Organization: President of the Institute for Social Entrepreneurship in Asia (ISEA)
HQ country: Philippines
Operations: Asia
Sector: Social Innovation
SDG: 10, 16, 17

Marie Lisa Dacanay is the Founding President of the Institute for Social Entrepreneurship in Asia (ISEA). She focuses on hybrid organizational forms of both typical corporations and typical not-for-profits by combining aspects of both at their core. The aim is to understand how they can combine high levels of social and commercial performance.

Peter M. Senge
Organization: MIT Sloan School of Management
HQ country: USA
Operations: Global
Sector: Systemic change
SDG: 8, 17

Peter M. Senge is Senior Lecturer in Behavioral and Policy Sciences at MIT-Sloan School of Management and the founding chair of the Society of Organizational Learning. He is also founding partner of the management consulting and training firm, Innovation Associates. As a systems scientist he is well known as author of the book, The Fifth Discipline: The Art and Practice of the Learning Organization, in which he developed the idea of organizations as dynamic systems in a continual state of learning. His work centres on promoting shared understanding of complex issues and shared leadership for healthier human systems.

Social Innovation Thought Leaders 2019
Social Innovation Thought Leaders 2020

Roberto Mangabeira Unger
Organization: Harvard University
HQ country: USA
Operations: Global
Sector: Social Innovation
SDG: 16, 17

Roberto Mangabeira Unger is Roscoe Pound Professor of Law at Harvard University. A philosopher and a social and legal theorist, he was Minister of Strategic Affairs of Brazil (2007–2009). He won Harvard tenure in 1976 when he was just 29 and made his name in 1987 with a major work, Politics: A Work in Constructive Social Theory.

Catherine Clark
Organization: Center for the Advancement of Social Entrepreneurship, Duke University
HQ country: USA
Operations: Global
Sector: Social Innovation
SDG: 8, 17

Catherine Clark is Faculty Director at the Center for the Advancement of Social Entrepreneurship (CASE) at Duke University’s Fuqua School of Business and Managing Director of the CASE Impact Initiative on Impact Investing. She is an award-winning professor, with over 30 years of experience in using business for good, who has been a professional investor, philanthropist, researcher, and consultant. Her focus is on developing the mindsets, tools, markets, policies and practices to drive social and environmental impact at scale. In 2001, she taught Columbia Business School’s first course in social entrepreneurship.

Jaff Shen Dongshu
Organization: Leping Social Entrepreneur Foundation
HQ country: People’s Republic of China
Operations: People’s Republic of China
Sector: Social Innovation
SDG: 8, 17

Jaff Shen Dongshu is CEO of the Leping Social Entrepreneur Foundation (LSEF). With extensive experience in large state-owned entities, investment company management, consulting firms and non-profit organizations, he is a serial social entrepreneur who has been promoting social justice and sustainable development for more than 17 years. The LSEF jointly launched the East Asia Social Innovation Initiative with players in Japan and South Korea, aiming to create and support a social innovation movement in East Asia. It is dedicated to building a system for inclusive development to support and accelerate the mobilization of solutions for social impact.

Tse Ka Kui
Organization: Education for Good CIC Ltd
HQ country: Hong Kong SAR, China
Operations: Hong Kong SAR, China
Sector: Social Innovation
SDG: 8, 17

Tse Ka Kui is Co-Founder of Impact Partners HK, which was set up to promote the art and science of movement building. He has devoted his career to spearheading social entrepreneurship, social innovation and B Corps, and through ecosystem solutions, he is an expert on African agriculture and shifting the emphasis from government-funded social enterprises to privately-funded, entrepreneur-driven businesses for social purpose in Hong Kong. Impact Partners HK inspires and empowers individuals and organizations to build movements (not just products and services) to create scalable social impact.

Ndidi O. Nwuneli
Organization: Sahel Consulting Agriculture & Nutrition Ltd
HQ country: Nigeria
Operations: Africa
Sector: Food systems
SDG: 2, 8, 17

Ndidi O. Nwuneli is Co-Founder and Managing Director of Sahel Consulting Agriculture & Nutrition, which works across Africa shaping agricultural policy, creating catalytic ventures and implementing ecosystem solutions. She is an expert on African agriculture and the advocacy capacity of civil society and making corporate political influence more accountable and sustainable. Through an unconventional mix of research, advocacy, and coalition-building, she has founded or co-founded several other enterprises. These include AACE Foods, which sources from over 10,000 farmers and produces packaged spices, seasonings and cereals for local and international markets, and LEAP Africa, a non-profit organization committed to inspiring, empowering and equipping a new cadre of African leaders.

Social Innovation Thought Leaders 2022

Alberto Alemanno
Organization: HEC Paris;
The Good Lobby
HQ country: France
Operations: Global
Sector: Governance and civic engagement
SDG: 17

Alberto Alemanno is an award-winning academic, author, social and civic innovator. Over the last two decades, Alberto’s action-oriented research and public interest work have been centred on how law, policies and social norms may be used to equalise access to power, by strengthening the advocacy capacity of civil society and making corporate political influence more accountable and sustainable. Through an unconventional mix of research, advocacy, and coalition-building, his civic start-up, The Good Lobby, kickstarted a movement for ethical, responsible and sustainable lobbying, that has been embraced by a wide variety of communities and is now influencing the revision of the relevant OECD Guidelines.

Hahrie Han
Organization: SNF Agora Institute, Johns Hopkins University
HQ country: USA
Operations: Global
Sector: Collective action
SDG: 10, 16

Hahrie Han is the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Professor of Political Science, the Inaugural Director of the SNF Agora Institute, and the Faculty Director of the P3 Research Lab at Johns Hopkins University. Hahrie is a leading thinker on the science of social change and has published four books and numerous award-winning articles that focus on the ways that people can act together to realise their vision of a just, democratic world.

Adam Kahane
Organization: Reos Partners
HQ country: Canada
Operations: Global
Sector: Collective action
SDG: 16, 17

Adam Kahane is a Director of Reos Partners, an international social enterprise that helps people move forward together on their most important and intractable issues. Adam is a leading organizer, designer and facilitator of processes through which business, government and civil society leaders can work together to address challenges. He has worked in more than 50 countries, in every part of the world, with executives and politicians, generals and guerrillas, civil servants and trade unionists, community activists and United Nations officials, clergy and artists. Adam is the author of Solving Tough Problems, about which Nelson Mandela said: “This breakthrough book addresses the central challenge of our time: finding a way to work together to solve the problems we have created.”

Social Innovation Thought Leaders 2022

Ndidi O. Nwuneli
Organization: Sahel Consulting Agriculture & Nutrition Ltd
HQ country: Nigeria
Operations: Africa
Sector: Food systems
SDG: 2, 8, 17

Ndidi O. Nwuneli is Co-Founder and Managing Director of Sahel Consulting Agriculture & Nutrition, which works across Africa shaping agricultural policy, creating catalytic ventures and implementing ecosystem solutions. She is an expert on African agriculture and the advocacy capacity of civil society and making corporate political influence more accountable and sustainable. Through an unconventional mix of research, advocacy, and coalition-building, she has founded or co-founded several other enterprises. These include AACE Foods, which sources from over 10,000 farmers and produces packaged spices, seasonings and cereals for local and international markets, and LEAP Africa, a non-profit organization committed to inspiring, empowering and equipping a new cadre of African leaders.

Social Innovation Thought Leaders 2022

Alberto Alemanno
Organization: HEC Paris;
The Good Lobby
HQ country: France
Operations: Global
Sector: Governance and civic engagement
SDG: 17

Alberto Alemanno is an award-winning academic, author, social and civic innovator. Over the last two decades, Alberto’s action-oriented research and public interest work have been centred on how law, policies and social norms may be used to equalise access to power, by strengthening the advocacy capacity of civil society and making corporate political influence more accountable and sustainable. Through an unconventional mix of research, advocacy, and coalition-building, his civic start-up, The Good Lobby, kickstarted a movement for ethical, responsible and sustainable lobbying, that has been embraced by a wide variety of communities and is now influencing the revision of the relevant OECD Guidelines.

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Into a third decade of impact

Since the Schwab Foundation’s Two Decades of Impact report, published in 2020 and its expansion to include business, government and academic change leaders into its community, the third decade of the Schwab Foundation’s mission started amidst the COVID-19 pandemic bringing great focus on the need for social innovators. The foundation, with a handful of partners, launched the COVID Response Alliance for Social Entrepreneurs, with over 90 members representing and supporting over 100,000 social entrepreneurs.

The Schwab Foundation identified six emerging trends at the beginning of 2020 as important to guide its work, and these themes have been particularly relevant in this period.

1. Collective impact is powerful
   The 2019-2022 cohorts have collectively had an impact on 100 million people around the world. Together with the combined impact of awardees presented in the Two Decades of Impact report, a total of 722 million lives have been directly, positively affected by the Schwab Foundation’s awarded social innovators – supporting social innovators through the creation of a global movement of social entrepreneurs in Catalyst 2030 and coordinating the support actors through the COVID Response Alliance for Social Entrepreneurs.

2. Partnerships enable scale
   In the face of the pandemic social innovators utilized strategic partnerships to enable scale and reach more people, more quickly. Within 100 days of the lockdown being announced, Ashif Shaikh, Founder of Jan Sahas, formed partnerships with over 30 philanthropic and private sector donators to deliver immediate relief support through 42 NGOs across 19 states in India to 10 million migrant workers.

3. Technology as an equalizer
   Technology has morphed into more than just an equalizer. With the introduction of AI and blockchain technology, ownership and decision-making is being distributed and made more transparent. Amidst the 1 billion people who cannot prove or demonstrate legal identity, Joseph Thomson, CEO of Aid:Tech, uses blockchain to secure the user’s digital identity from interference, making it digitally accessible to millions who have mobile phones but no other form of proof. With a digital identity, excluded and vulnerable groups can open bank accounts, get loans, access social services, register their children and exercise their right to vote. Through technology, communities can address biased service delivery through open-source data and advanced data analytics, enabling transparency and building trust between consumers to suppliers and citizens to governments.

4. Funding models are lagging
   Over the past three years, while funding models are not as sophisticated as in other sectors, new and more inclusive funding models are emerging around the globe. New models, championed by and for women and those from racially excluded backgrounds, are specifically designed to accelerate entrepreneurship and enable collective action to transform society. Cheryl Dorsey, President of Echoing Green, has identified, supported and generated funding for over 800 transformational leaders from marginalized backgrounds.

5. SDGs are rallying cry for action
   SDGs continue to be a rallying cry for action. They provide a shared language and common purpose for entrepreneurs to engage with those outside the ecosystem and build partnerships that lead to action. The SDGs, and now a wider adoption and recognition of ESG metrics, further enable Corporate Social Intrapreneurs to communicate their goals and achievements to a broader set of stakeholders. This enables the adoption and mainstreaming of social innovation models within large businesses.

6. Systems are changing
   All awardees affect some combination of systems change conditions to tackle the root causes of problems faced. The Social Entrepreneur category exemplifies the transition from simple and single solution approaches towards championing pragmatic, multi-layered solutions that target the root cause of problems. Deep transformational impact is occurring where marginalized voices are being elevated, whether through political platforms for urban slum residences in Kenya, or Barcelona’s citizen engagement platform.
Being the Change Together

Three years ago, the Schwab Foundation opened its community to award pioneering social innovators in business, the public sector and academia to join with its long-standing community of social entrepreneurs. It took the trust of a strongly knit community to open up and recognize the need to go beyond what had been built for two decades. The breadth of opportunity for this broader ecosystem continues to inspire and hold great potential.

The world has also been rocked by global health, societal and economic crises, which simultaneously transformed how interconnected we are with each other and left us in no doubt of the urgent need to come together to work collectively to create a more just, equitable and sustainable world. Now, more than ever, social innovators are key to us realizing this vision by “Working Together, Restoring Trust”, through three main imperatives.

Social innovators will continue to show working alternatives to how we respond to problems of inequality and exclusion and environmental degradation.

- Awardedees can continue to use their different spheres of influence and connections to move beyond the traditional social innovate fora to disseminate new approaches and thinking across those areas of our economies and society that need change.

- As a community we need to come together to consistently put the perspectives, voices, or representative leaders at the global decision-making tables.

- To address issues of inequality and exclusion as well as the threat of climate change and environmental degradation, the systemic barriers of gender, race, geography, social exclusion and economic opportunities must be tackled.

- Social innovators supporting each other to make multi-level connections, having a meaningful seat and spheres of influence, will enable even greater impact.

Securing collective action together with business, government and society will unlock the scale of response these problems need.

- Social innovators are acting as champions and catalysts for greater institutional action by showing new ways to work and transforming business and government from within.

- It is necessary to support collective efforts, as with Catalyst 2030, the COVID Response Alliance for Social Entrepreneurs and the partnerships and platforms of social innovators, and do more to emphasize and recognize collective approaches.

The Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship will be working to support these imperatives, together with the World Economic Forum, our community of Social Innovators and a spectrum of partners to advance the adoption, mainstreaming and integration of proven social innovations into larger systems, driven by values and people who represent communities and the planet.
Acknowledgements

The Schwab Foundation recognizes the incredible group of social innovators in our community, along with their teams, for all their pioneering work around the world, their support for each other and the foundation, and their persistence and progress in the service of others and the planet.

We would like to thank the Schwab Foundation Board, who have steered the organization over the years, and our partners who support the foundation, in particular the Mostepe Foundation, the Frey Charitable Foundation, Goldman Sachs Foundation, Bertelsmann Stiftung, the GHR Foundation and Porticus.

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We are grateful to all the social innovators and their teams who contributed and who are profiled in the report.

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Ali Amar, President, Africa Region, Royal DSM, Kenya
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Baghai Mehrdad, Co-Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, High Resolves, Australia
Battilana Julie, Alan L. Greenspan Professor of Social Innovation, Harvard Kennedy School of Government, USA
Billmorla Jeroo, Founder, One Family Foundation, Netherlands
Dacanay Marie Lisa M., President, Institute for Social Entrepreneurship in Asia (ISEA), Philippines
Dajani Rana, Founder and Director, We Love Reading, Taghyeer, Jordan
Daoud Khalil, Chairman and Managing Director, LibanPost, Lebanon
Dorsey Cheryl L., President, Echoing Green, USA
Ghanour Fadi, Executive Chairman, Wanda Capital, United Arab Emirates
Goyeneche Javier, Founder and President, EcoAll, Spain
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Kahane Adam, Director, Reos Partners, Canada
Kothari Pranav, Chief Executive Officer, Educational Initiatives, India
Lee Sooilen, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Enuma, South Korea
Mattali Lindiwe, Chief Executive Officer, Africa Teen Geeks, South Africa
McCracken Sam, Founder and General Manager, N7, Nike, USA
Mclaughlin Lisa, Chief Executive Officer, World Health, USA
Mosia Nthabi, Co-Founder and Chief Marketing and Customer Experience Officer, Easy Solar, Sierra Leone
Nwuneli Ndidii O., Co-Founder and Managing Director, Sahel Consulting Agriculture & Nutrition, Nigeria
Patel Ashraf, Co-Founder, Pravah, ComMutiny – The Youth Collective and VartaLeap Coalition, India
Pradhan Sanjay, Chief Executive Officer, Open Government Partnership, USA
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Shahid Ashif, Founder and Director, Jan Sahas Social Development Society, India
Tse Ka Kui, Co-Founder, Impact Partners HK, Hong Kong SAR, China
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Schwab Foundation Board members:

Hilde Schwab, Chairperson and Co-Founder, Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship
H.M. Mathilde of Belgium, Queen of the Belgians (Honorary Board Member)
Pascale Bruderer-Wys, Member of the Executive Board, Crosssity, Switzerland
Martin Burt, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Fundación Paraguaya, Paraguay
Mirai Chaterjee, Chairperson, Self-Employed Women’s Association Cooperative Federation (SEWA), India
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Subramanian Rangan, The Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Court Endowed Chair in Societal Progress, INSEAD, France
Nicole Schwab, Co-Director, Platform to Accelerate Nature-Based Solutions, World Economic Forum
Helle Thorning-Schmidt, Prime Minister of Denmark (2011-2015)
Appendix
Impact reporting methodology

This study was undertaken by an external evaluation partner, Wasafiri, with two aims:

1. Understanding and estimating the cumulative impact of the Schwab Foundation’s community of social innovators since introducing the new award categories in 2019 as well as the new emerging insights across public, private, social and academic sectors.

2. Build on the previous Two Decades of Impact report at the beginning of 2020 and understand what key systems change conditions awardees are utilizing to drive systemic change, and reflect on progress through a pandemic.

The following data sources were used to produce this report:

Data review: All available data collected from 77 social innovators from 2019 to 2022 Schwab Awardees were reviewed. These include application forms, publicly available organization impact reports, communications, and events.

· Pulse survey: A progress survey was issued to the 2019-2022 cohorts revealing key achievements, challenges and the value of award and community experience.

· Key informant interviews: Semi-structured in-depth interviews were conducted with 14 awardees focusing on achievements, challenges encountered, systemic approaches and adaptations made during the pandemic.

All numbers presented throughout this report come from publicly available data, self-reported sources and evaluations provided by the organization, or third-party external evaluations, and have not all been verified by the Schwab Foundation or its evaluation partner, Wasafiri. The data of the report has built on the Schwab Foundation’s Two Decades of Impact report to understand what key systems change conditions awardees are utilizing to drive systemic change. The analysis of what system change conditions are addressed by each awardee has been based on the analytical framework of The Water of Systems Change. (ref 1).