



ASHOKA

ASHOKA EUROPE

72 SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS SHAPING OUR FUTURE

EUROPE'S ASHOKA FELLOWS
2016 - 2017

Ashoka works to
shape a global,
entrepreneurial
CITIZEN SECTOR:
one that allows
social entrepreneurs
to thrive and
enables the world's
citizens to think
and act as
CHANGEMAKERS.



ASHOKA



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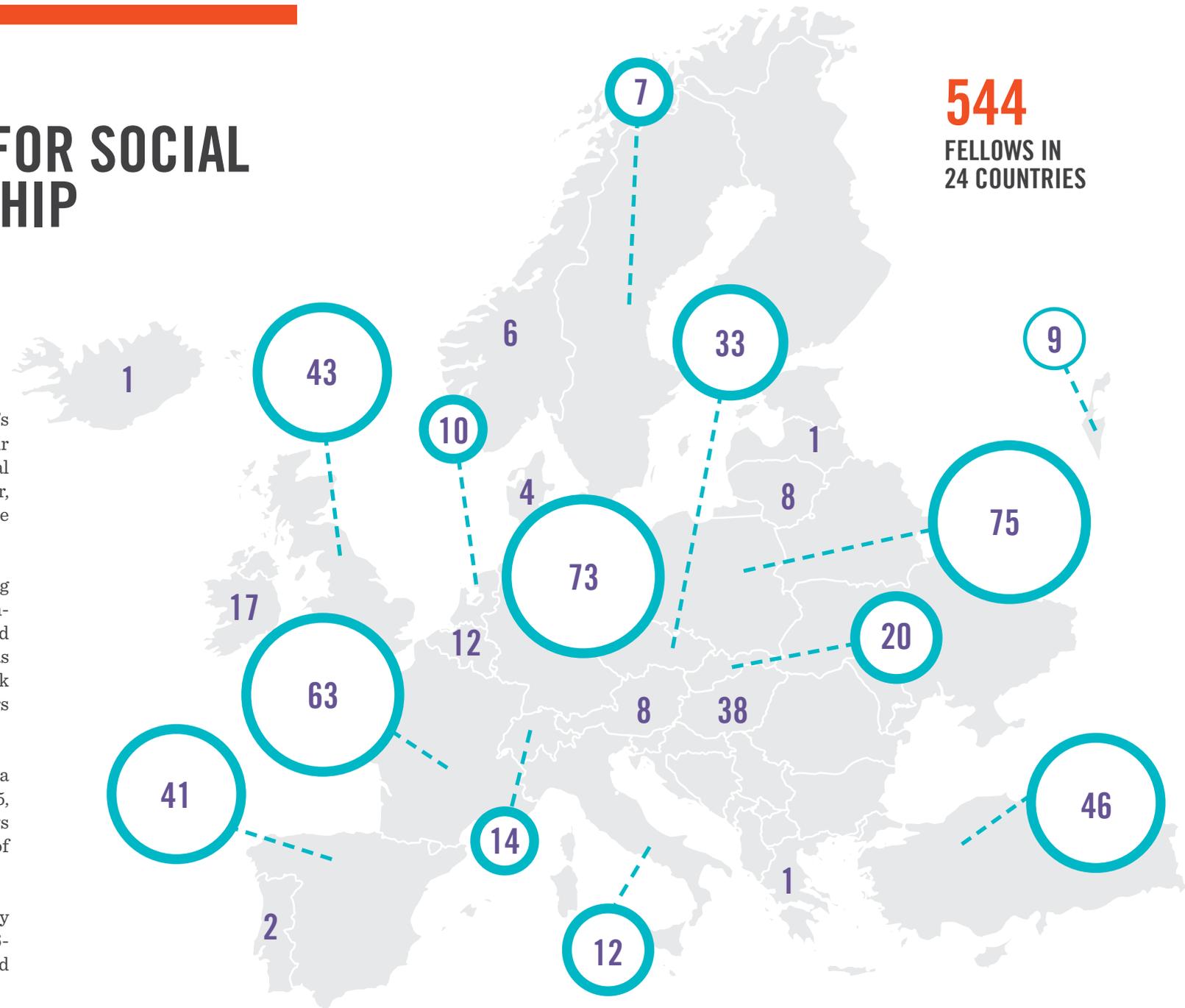
ASHOKA: A GLOBAL HOME FOR SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Ashoka, founded in 1980, is the world's leading network of social entrepreneurs. Our founder Bill Drayton coined the term "social entrepreneurship". According to NGO Advisor, Ashoka is the **5th most influential NGO** in the world.

Every year, we spot around 150 leading entrepreneurs worldwide with the best system-changing ideas to address social problems and change society for the better. We elect them as new "Ashoka Fellows" into our global network that now supports **3,500** social entrepreneurs in **85** countries.

In Europe, we elect between 30 and 50 Ashoka Fellows each year in 22 countries. Since 1995, Ashoka has been electing more than 500 Fellows in Europe - one of the most powerful sources of social innovation on the continent.

This publication showcases the most recently elected 72 Ashoka Fellows from the years 2016-2017, portrays some outstanding examples and describes topical clusters that we see.



HOW WE SELECT ASHOKA FELLOWS

Ashoka has one of the most rigorous selection processes in the NGO world. Over the past two years we received over 5000 nominations in Europe to elect over 70 Fellows. Ashoka is looking for social entrepreneurs who not only deliver direct services and provide immediate alleviation of needs. Ashoka Fellows also work to change mindsets and systems in order to address root causes of a problem with a long-term perspective. To do this, they create social businesses, charities, social movements, open platforms or political campaigns - whatever brings about the impact they seek.

Ashoka's regular survey of Ashoka Fellows world-wide show the systemic depth of their impact:



57% of Ashoka Fellows change a national policy within just 5 years of their election.



93% of Ashoka Fellows, even 10 years after their election, are still pursuing their original goals.



83% of Ashoka Fellows change a system within 10 years of their election.

WE SELECT ASHOKA FELLOWS BASED ON 5 CRITERIA:



**A SYSTEM-CHANGING
NEW IDEA**



ETHICAL FIBRE



CREATIVITY



SOCIAL IMPACT



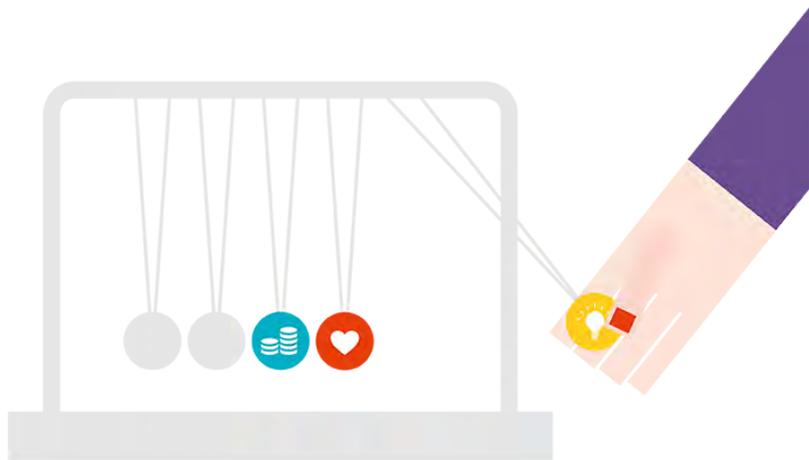
**ENTREPRENEURIAL
QUALITY**

More information about our selection criteria can be found at [Ashoka.org](https://www.ashoka.org).

HOW WE SUPPORT ASHOKA FELLOWS

Once a social entrepreneur is elected in the Ashoka Fellowship, Ashoka provides;

- lifetime professional support with a large range of business leaders and pro-bono partners, from strategy consulting to finance, from legal support to mentoring and coaching;
- and lifetime access to a global network of peers, experts and decision-makers from all sectors who support growth into new regions and accelerate the Fellows' impact on society;
- financial support for the entrepreneur through a 3-year stipend.



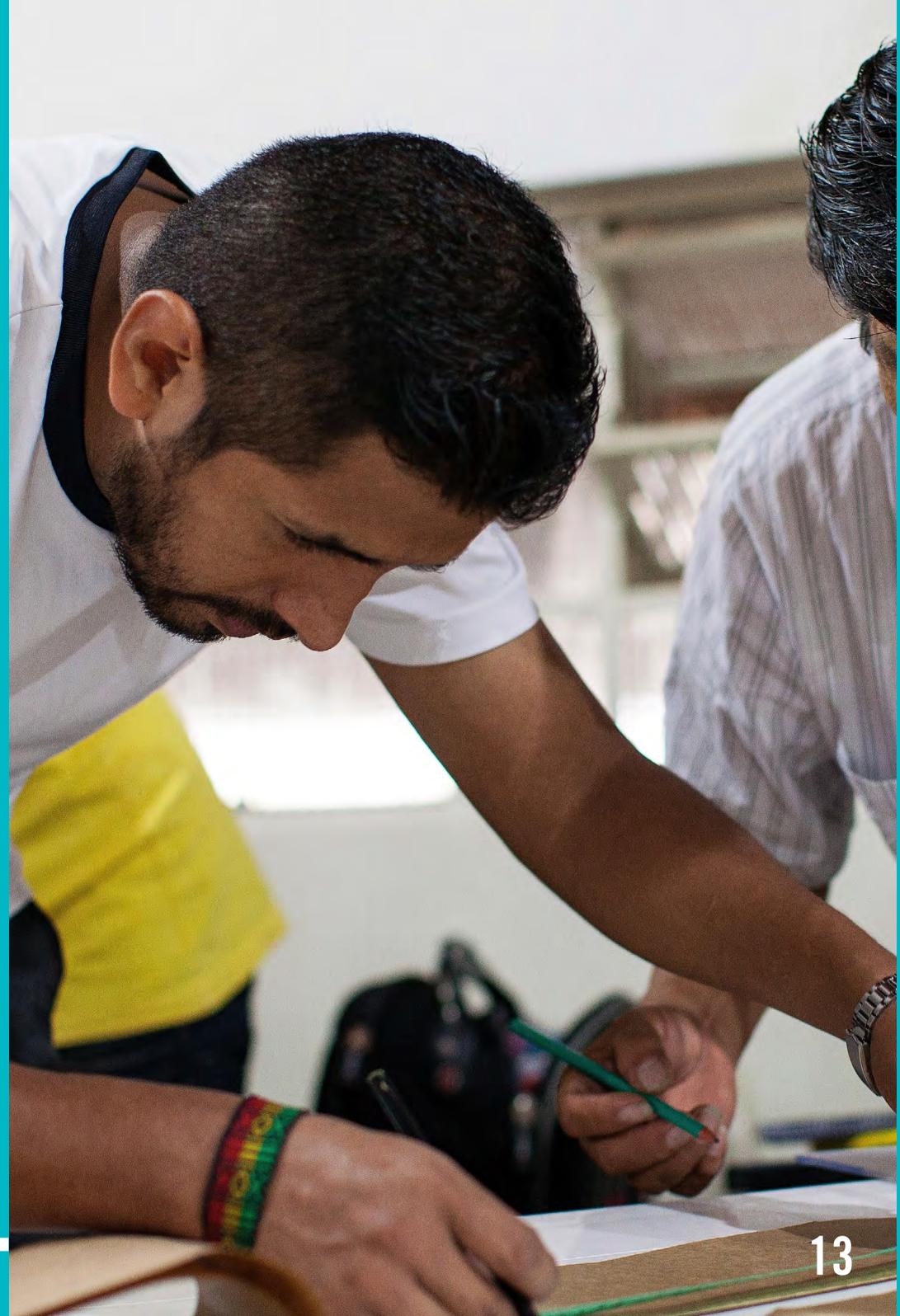
EXAMPLES OF ASHOKA PARTNERS IN EUROPE:



“
Social entrepreneurs
are not content with
just giving people
fish or teaching
people how to fish.
They will not rest
until they have
revolutionized the
fishing industry.”

”

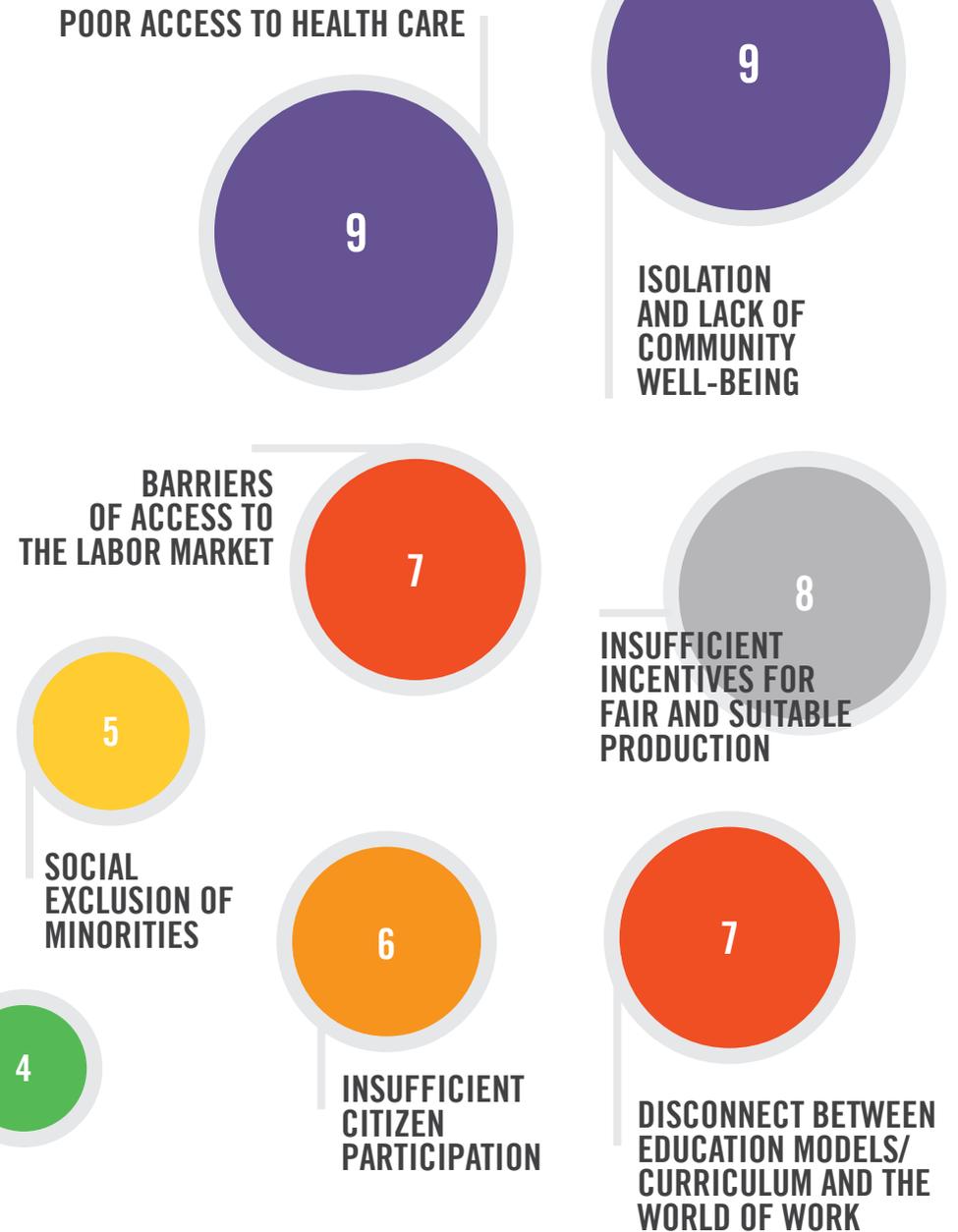
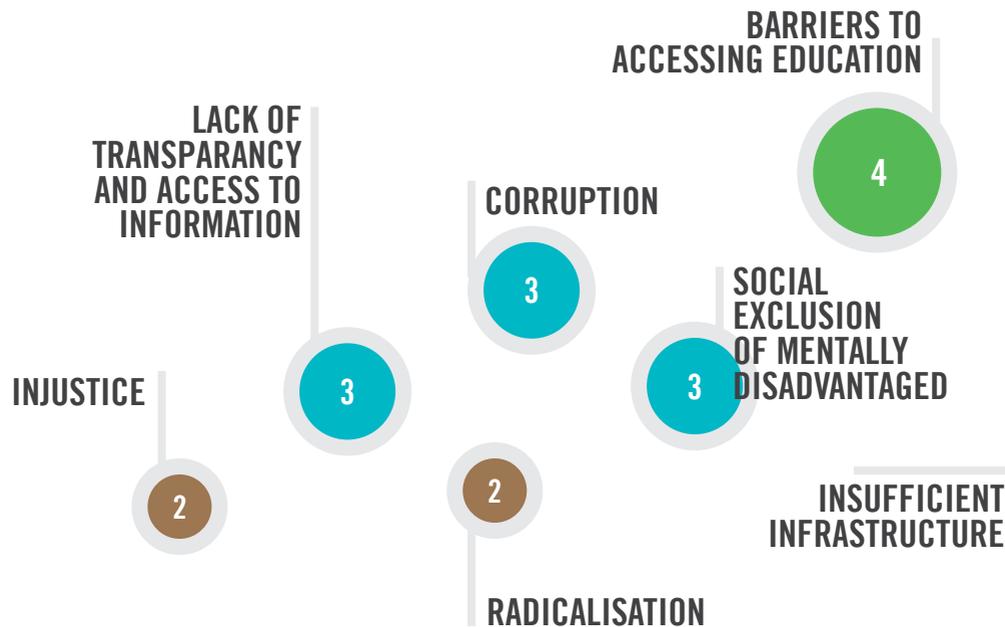
BILL DRAYTON



TOPIC CLUSTERS: EUROPE 2016 AND 2017

Ashoka elects Fellows across all subjects and has no quotas for specific topics. We elect whoever stands out in any field. This open and generalist approach allows Ashoka to see trends and patterns that are shaping society and emerging social transformations.

The European Ashoka Fellows in 2016 and 2017, for example, can be clustered in 15 different key social challenges that they tackle with their system-changing approaches:



EXAMPLES OF TRENDSETTING FELLOWS

Here are five examples of European Ashoka Fellows from 2016 and 2017. They are outstandingly disruptive and innovative. They are setting trends by being real forerunners for significantly new levels of thinking distinct to existing approaches. Their approaches can also be transferred to solve problems in a variety of social fields.



MEHMET ATAKAN FOÇA
TEYIT



Social Problem

In the wake of restrictions on free press, the Internet and social media have become predominant news sources for many citizens. A result of this increase of misinformation is the further polarization between various societal groups.

System Changing Approach

Atakan and Teyit are redefining the public's relationship with the media by enabling passive consumers of information to become active contributors/fact checkers through the creation of tools, spaces, and infrastructure for citizens to hold media institutions accountable to the verifiable truth.

Summary

Most models advocating for freedom of the press focus on verifying news. Atakan and Teyit are framing the issue as media literacy in a digital age. Rather than positioning citizens as passive consumers of verified news, Teyit enables every individual to act as active consumers. Atakan and Teyit teams are empowering citizens as active agencies of a trustworthy news-creation process via ready-made social media posts, verification handbooks, and on-line/offline trainings on fact checking.

They begin by helping people identify misinformation and to hold the related sources and media agencies accountable. Simultaneously, they equip the industry to better deal with the new media ecosystem and misinformation by increasing human capacity at journalism faculties, news agencies, and any interested parties such as civil society organizations. Finally, they act as an incubator, encouraging others to develop tools and innovations to strengthen the digital literacy of individuals and organizations.



DANIEL KERBER MORE THAN SHELTERS



Social Problem

The humanitarian aid system has failed to implement effective programs to address the housing and transition needs of refugees.

System Changing Approach

Daniel is able to move aid workers beyond the traditional focus on monetary aid, security, and shelter and fundamentally restructure the aid sector into a dynamic, globally connected problem-solving unit by involving local change agents from refugee communities and other unconventional stakeholders.

Summary

Daniel is redefining the refugee humanitarian aid system from one centered on immediate safety and temporary shelter to a humane and inclusive one that helps refugees transition from being crisis victims to citizens. The sector's motto is to keep refugees 'dry, clean, and fed,' instead of viewing them as humans capable of participating in the process of managing their own changing realities.

Daniel's work begins by establishing prototype models in specific regions. From there, he will be able to disseminate and scale these models' best practices across a formal humanitarian aid network that he established around the globe. The prototype models experiment with novel solutions to crises in shelter zones and establish new relationships and collaborations between diverse and non-traditional stakeholders. Depending on the exact practice that is being disseminated specifically contextualized channels are garnered or formally created across stakeholders and geographies. To date, they have supported more than 20 projects, improved the living conditions for around 85,000 refugees in the camp, has empowered the refugee community in the camp, and lowered the barrier between the camp and its surroundings.



VICTORIA TORTOSA VICENTE LA EXCLUSIVA



Social Problem

The lack of job opportunities and infrastructure are leading to an exodus of population from the rural environment to urban areas.

System Changing Approach

Vicky is drastically improving rural habitation and stalling rural depopulation by redesigning distribution services, providing the mainly elderly population with essential services that improve their quality of life and create opportunities for social interaction, human support and care.

Summary

Vicky is reverting the harmful trend of rural exodus through La Exclusiva, a logistics and distribution model that covers the basic needs of those living in rural areas. As people leave, public and private services disappear, making life in these small towns increasingly difficult, and reducing any possibilities for younger populations to move back.

With La Exclusiva Vicky is providing thousands of village residents with a door-to-door delivery system of products and services while also creating a support system that improves safety, social interactions and quality of life. Her team delivers the orders, making sure they enter every house, where they subtly take note of the cleanliness, the heating, the general appearance and health of their clients. For many, this is the only visit they receive all week and La Exclusiva ensures they are well attended and that any anomalies are detected. La Exclusiva is in contact with family members of each client (who usually live in the city) and reaches out to them directly if they suspect there is anything amiss. Vicky has created a hybrid model with private and public entities in which the final customer – rural residents – has access to basic services they did not have access to before, without having to pay any extra cost. La Exclusiva began in 2014 and now provides services to a total of 10,000 families in over 600 villages in Spain.



MARK SWIFT
WELLBEING ENTERPRISES



Social Problem

Research has drawn direct correlations between health inequalities and social circumstances. However, healthcare professionals are ill-equipped and dis-incentivized from looking into deeper, underlying causes of ill health.

System Changing Approach

Mark is creating a social movement for health that mobilizes and empowers communities to take control over their own health and wellbeing by broadening the understanding and definition of healthcare, allowing practitioners to refer patients to non-clinical solutions within local communities thereby treating the underlying causes of illness.

Summary

Wellbeing Enterprise (WE) works at the community level to develop referral pathways and build the capacity of communities to meet and reflect the growing demand for non-clinical options. As such, WE trains Wellbeing Officers who are placed alongside nurses and GPs to supplement the current healthcare system to de-pathologize wellbeing and develop bespoke healthcare experiences that put people in charge of their own health. WE uses the skills of the community alongside the support of Wellbeing Officers to offer care focused on solving the social issues in people's lives (for example, activities that help with building confidence, learning skills and making friends).

In order to offer holistic care at scale, this approach has integrated into 17 GP practices and two large hospitals. Over 7,000 patients have been supported, and the comprehensive data amassed has shown that Mark's initiative has achieved outcomes on par or exceeding those reached by medical intervention. To date, WE has scaled to four cities across the North-West of England, including Liverpool, and is continue to scale.



EDIT SCHLAFFER
WOMEN WITHOUT BORDERS



Social Problem

Institutional, top-down approaches not only fail to reduce radicalization, but often worsen radicalization by exposing individuals, families, and communities to discrimination and/or violence. These experiences result in communities losing their trust in institutional actors and becoming isolated even further.

System Changing Approach

Mothers are the crucial access point to counter violent extremism of youth and increase international security.

Summary

Edit develops the powerful potential of mothers in preventing radicalization within their families and in becoming ambassadors for de-radicalization in their communities. In 2008 she launched SAVE - Sisters Against Violent Extremism, the world's first female counter-terrorism platform. Headquartered at the Women without Borders offices in Vienna, Austria, the SAVE initiative brings together a broad spectrum of women determined to create a united front against violent extremism.

Understanding the strong connection between environmental factors, adolescent development and radicalization, Edit developed the MotherSchool model. MotherSchools create a transformational experience for mothers by providing a safe space where self-awareness, self-expression and self-empowerment are appreciated and encouraged. In a playful and highly interactive way, mothers learn about parenting, adolescent development and early warning signals of radicalization. This combination of personal transformation and increased capacity for action enables mothers to play a more influential and responsible role in their families, to change the communication with their children, and to become ambassadors for de-radicalization in their communities. To date Edit has successfully implemented MotherSchools in 9 different countries and has trained over 1500 mothers in de-radicalization.

EUROPE'S ASHOKA FELLOWS 2016 - 2017



ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP
COMMUNITY INTEGRATION
EDUCATION
ENVIRONMENT
HEALTH
HUMAN RIGHTS
INCLUSIVE ECONOMIES
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

DARIO RICCOBONO
ADDIOPIZZO TRAVEL
ITALY



AddioPizzo is an ethical network of more than 1,500 enterprises and 13,150 consumers that refuse to pay the mafia “protection” tax (pizzo) to combat corruption and mafia power. Dario has transformed the fight against mafia control and corruption to involve the entire local population.

ÉVA TESSZA UDVARHELYI
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC LIFE
HUNGARY



The School of Public Life is a community-based training, research and development centre that develops democratic culture by improving the citizenship skills of community groups and supporting the active public participation of disadvantaged individuals. Tessza is shifting the focus of Central European citizen sector organizations from service-delivery addressing the root causes of social problems through impact-driven systems changing interventions owned by those previously considered as target groups.

NICOLA FORSTER
FORAUS, THINK TANK
SWITZERLAND
ACTIVE IN: Europe



Foraus is a grassroots network of young political changemakers whose voices are empowered to develop fresh ideas and to lead concrete political action in Switzerland's old-fashioned and rigid political system. Nicola has transformed the traditional concept of a political "think tank" on its head by crowd-sourcing expertise.

PAUL DUAN
BAYES IMPACT
FRANCE



Bayes Impact uses the power of Big Data to develop inclusive and personalised 'digital social services' and have developed a job search platform with over 120,000 users. Paul aims to create new behaviours and mindsets that dismantle and disrupt outdated and preconceived ideas about the roles and responsibilities of government.

MEHMET ATAKAN FOÇA
TEYIT.ORG
TURKEY



Teyit is a website and online community with the tools, spaces, and infrastructure for citizens to hold media institutions to account by combatting the rising wave of misinformation in reporting. Having already engaged over 100,000 users, Atakan is redefining citizen's relationships with the media at large – moving from a passive consumer to active contributor/fact checker.

COMMUNITY INTEGRATION

JIRÍ SKUHROVEC ZINDEX CZECH REPUBLIC



Index is a reporting mechanism for governmental procurement processes that creates tools for citizens to see how and where officials spend public funds. Jiri works to mend the loss of trust in society towards public institutions by reducing inefficient and opaque public procurement.

GAEL MUSQUET HACKERS AGAINST NATURAL DISASTERS FRANCE ACTIVE IN: Worldwide



HAND is a “digital citizen security corps” that works to better anticipate and improve responses to crises with communities at risk of natural disasters. Gaël has created a new model which reacts to crises around the world more efficiently and effectively by leveraging the technical competences of citizens.

MATTHIEU DARDAILLON TICKET FOR CHANGE FRANCE



Ticket for Change was initially established as a way of engaging millennials in changemaking as a career. It has been adopted by companies to enable their employees, a total of 40,000 people in 160 countries, to accelerate their changemaker potential through a set of offline and online tools. Matthieu enables individuals to go through the personal transformative process that leads them to see changemaking as a necessary and an attractive professional path.

MIKULÁŠ KROUPA
POST BELLUM
CZECH REPUBLIC



Mikuláš is developing a set of tools to crowdsource the collective memory of over 5000 oral histories from the Second World War to the fall of the Iron Curtain to reconstruct the narrative of a nation and citizen's relationships to history. This new approach builds understanding across generations and engages citizens to think critically and make conscious political and ethical choices based on empathy and value-driven behaviour.

JONAS STAUB
BLINDSPOT
SWITZERLAND



Blindspot empowers people with and without disabilities and with a social impairment to participate actively and self-sufficient in everyday life working in partnership with institutions at a local, regional and national level, such as the Swiss Federal Office for Sports. Jonas' vision is a society where inclusion is lived implicitly in every setting.

EDIT SCHLAFFER
WOMEN WITHOUT BORDERS
AUSTRIA
ACTIVE IN: Europe, Africa, Asia



Women without Borders creates MotherSchools that empower mothers and community members to prevent radicalization within their families and give them the tools to become ambassadors for de-radicalization in their communities across 9 countries. Edit is proving that mothers are the crucial access point to counter violent extremism of youth and increase international security.

PAUL SINTON-HEWITT
PARKRUN
UK
ACTIVE IN: Europe, North America, Asia



Parkruns are free, open and volunteer-led 5k runs, taking place every Saturday of the year with over 2 million runners across 17 countries. Paul founded parkrun to both create an occasion for people to be physically active and connect them with their communities and to place communities at the centre of social change.

SANDERSON JONES

SUNDAY ASSEMBLY

UK

ACTIVE IN: Europe, North America



Sunday Assembly is a new form of congregation: a social technology that supports community integration and personal well-being and now has over 70 groups in 8 different countries. Sunday Assembly harnesses the human need for inclusive local gatherings to drive empathy and empower communities who are trying to better themselves.

LOUIS-XAVIER LECA

LA CLOCHE

FRANCE



Le Carillon is a solidarity network comprising of small business owners, neighbours and people experiencing homelessness that aims to rebuild social ties and is now active in five major French cities. Le Carillon embeds social inclusion into citizen's everyday life while giving the homeless an opportunity to take on an active role in their own social reintegration.

DAN ACHER

HAPPY CITY LAB

SWITZERLAND

ACTIVE IN: Switzerland, France



Dan Acher is using creative placemaking to combat the isolation and separation between urban residents and build a shared sense of belonging. In doing so, he encourages citizen ownership of public spaces and invites residents to take responsibility for their city, ultimately leading to a more active and empowered citizenry.

DANIEL TAROZZI

ITALIA CHE CAMBIA

ITALY

ACTIVE IN: Italy, Europe



Italia che Cambia is an online platform which enables grassroots entrepreneurs to connect and collaborate through an interactive map of over 1,800 changemakers and by hosting courses and publishing resources. This cooperative approach to communication is changing the pessimistic mindset around the possibility and opportunities for change in Italy and Europe.

EDUCATION

PAM WARHURST INCREDIBLE EDIBLE UK



Incredible Edible is a movement that uses food to stimulate community revitalization by growing edible plants with volunteer-led groups in over 80 cities across the UK and is spreading globally from Chirstchurch to Montreal. Incredible Edible groups gives citizens an avenue through which to reclaim public spaces, rethink resource use, and build stronger and more resilient communities

SAMUEL GRZYBOWSKI COEXISTER FRANCE ACTIVE IN: France, UK, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium.



Coexister is a movement of more than 2,500 “active coexistors” – young people from diverse religious beliefs, including atheists and agnostics, who learn through a continuous process of dialogue, collective action, and reflection to remove barriers of coexistence. These “active coexistors” ambassadors have raised awareness among 95,000 students in middle and high schools and have pioneered a new and inclusive way to deal with faith diversity in our society.

FLORENCE RIZZO SYNLAB FRANCE



Synlab has designed new learning experiences and continuous professional development opportunities for education administrators through an online collaborative platform for professional development that gathers a community of 20,000 teachers. Florence inspires, equips and supports teachers and education administrators to innovate and embody changemaking skills.

THEODORE ANAGNOSTOPOULOS

SCICO
GREECE

ACTIVE IN: Greece, Brazil



SciCo design and deliver innovative, fun and engaging science communication interventions targeting people of all ages and have now reached more than 140,000 beneficiaries in four countries, creating a “pop culture of science”. Theo creatively engages schools, scientists, journalists, and the general public to achieve his vision of a world where every person will be able to make informed decisions, based on facts and creative, inductive thinking.

MARINE QUENIN

ENQUETE
FRANCE



Enquête empowers education professionals to address religious intolerance and misunderstandings by developing tools and approaches to teach young people how to have new conversations about religion. In a French society very much shaped by the concept of “laïcité” (secularism), Marine is enabling conversations about how knowing and understanding different religions is a necessary part of becoming an effective citizen. She has worked with over 3,800 teachers.

RUSTAM NABIEV

SHIFO
SWEDEN

ACTIVE IN: Afghanistan, Uganda and Gambia



Shifo’s MyChild solutions are designed with and for frontline workers, enabling them to easily track individual children and entire communities’ immunization records and preventive health needs over time. It is currently used by over 600 health service delivery points across Afghanistan, Uganda, and Gambia. Shifo’s approach is to unite and create trustworthy relationships between key actors to solve the gaps that stop us from reaching all children, families, health workers, local and national decision-makers, global NGOs and foundations.

TOM RAVENSCROFT

ENABLING ENTERPRISE
UK



Enabling Enterprise is closing the gap between school and the world of work through teaching skills such as leadership, empathy, and teamwork. It has reached over 70,000 students across the UK by bringing together students, businesses, and schools. Tom is proving that enterprise skills are teachable, measurable, and that they should be a major priority in the education of all students alongside literacy and numeracy.

STÉPHANE DE FREITAS
COOPÉRATIVE INDIGO
FRANCE



Coopérative Indigo equips hundreds of young people with the confidence and skills to express their voice and experiment with their power to be full and active citizens through eloquence-based education. Stéphane's work demonstrates that excluded members of society can be included by helping them develop their own voice and self-esteem in a playful way.

EMER BEAMER
DESIGNATHON WORKS
NETHERLANDS



Using technological tools, Designathon Works has reached over 1,800 students across the Netherlands by training teachers to see and use play as an entry point to develop children's interest in social issues. Emer's method enriches the educational curriculum by showing children the wider social relevance and potential application of what they are learning.

ALFONSO MOLINA
FONDAZIONE MONDO DIGITALE
ITALY



Alfonso is working with schools and 'NEETs' (Not in Education, Employment, or Training young adults) through technology. He encourages self-confidence and teaching soft skills to enhance social change and has reached more than 120 schools. Alfonso is proving that technology and life skills should sit at the core of education and that technology can be used to attract students' attention.

ROSER BALLESTEROS
VOXPRIMA S.L.
SPAIN



VoxPrima S.L. is a transformative and scalable methodology that inspires creativity through visual thinking, storytelling and drawing that has reached over 3,000 students across 22 different schools. It has not only helped students dramatically improve their academic and personal performance but also empowers teachers to lead autonomous and creative teaching process across all subjects. Roser's approach inverts the traditional order in which writing is taught and empowers children to use their imagination to create a story where the image is the basis of the learning process of writing.

CARMEN PELLICER
FUNDACIÓN TRILEMA
SPAIN



Fundación Trilema is an organization created by teachers for teachers. The organization is pioneering a much-needed education transformation and has reached over 50,000 teachers. Carmen is proving that teachers are in the best position to lead change in classrooms and schools and are capable of leading systemic change in the education system.

BURAK ULMAN
ANOTHER SCHOOL IS POSSIBLE
TURKEY



With Another School is Possible Association, Burak is building a civic participation movement of parents, educators, students, activists, and entrepreneurs to develop a child-centred, ecologically friendly, democratic, and non-profit cooperative school model. Burak is demonstrating that a different type of school is indeed possible and is shifting the mind-sets of parents and teachers across Turkey to transform the country's one-size-fits-all disempowering education system from within.

DAVID CUARTIELLES
ARDUINO VERKSTAD
SPAIN

ACTIVE IN: Spain, Sweden, Ecuador



David has developed a creative technology curriculum to improve and mainstream tech education. He has worked with over 450 schools in the past 3 years, in Spain, Sweden and Ecuador. David has developed a teaching model that can be applied by teachers without a background in technology that fosters creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving.

JÖRG SCHÜLER
DIGITALE HELDEN GEMEINNÜTZIGE GMBH
GERMANY



In the fight against digital emergencies such as cyberbullying, Jörg has established a student peer-based mentoring programme in 85 schools in the past 2 years and has trained 21,250 students and 5,100 parents about digital emergencies. Educating students in digital empathy and the norms of digital communication has resulted in the emergence of new attitudes among those who are the most affected by it -the students themselves. The goal is to enable bully free surfing and responsible online communication.

ENVIRONMENT

JAN WULF-SCHNABEL INSTITUT FÜR INKLUSIVE BILDUNG GERMANY



The Institute for Inclusive Education trains historically marginalised students, such as those with intellectual disabilities, to become teachers and educational specialists. Once trained they go on to teach at universities that train future teachers, social workers, active civil servants and managers about marginalised experiences of students, their living conditions, and human rights. By sensitising the educational sector to people with intellectual disabilities Jan envisions a society in which the potential of people with intellectual disabilities is fully leveraged, enabling them to contribute as teachers or as problem-solvers in every societal field.

UYGAR ÖZESMI GOOD4TRUST.ORG TURKEY



Good4trust.org is a platform that brings together fair and sustainable producers with responsible consumers. It helps build a society and economy that is in harmony with nature by impacting the lives of thousands of individuals. Good4Trust.org acts as a hub for fair production in Turkey and aims to disrupt the shopping habits of citizens whose disconnection to nature has risen over the last decade.

MARÍA ALMAZÁN

LATITUDE

SPAIN

ACTIVE IN: Global



Latitude is transforming the apparel industry in Europe by working closely with key stakeholders to build a global network of manufacturers, brands, and consumers, engaging them to adopt new production and consumption processes, drastically improving workers' conditions and reducing environmental damage. Maria is proving that fashion can be produced sustainably and fairly while still being cost-competitive.

AART VAN VELLER

VANDEBRON

NETHERLANDS



Aart has revolutionised the consumption of renewable energy, empowering both consumers and producers by establishing an alternative marketplace to the traditional system and by making green energy accessible and affordable to everyone. His organization, Vandebtron, was recognised as the Number 1 energy company by the Dutch Association for Consumers. Aart created the Netherlands' first renewable energy marketplace by changing market dynamics, creating demand for renewable energy and has advanced the transition from grey to green energy.

PATRICK HOLDEN

SUSTAINABLE FOOD TRUST

UK



Having been a leading pioneer of the organic food market in the UK 30 years ago, Patrick is now building a cross-industry coalition to design and introduce a broader more inclusive approach to allow for sustainability in farming and food systems to become mainstream. The Sustainable Food Trust works with industry leaders, policy makers and consumers to demonstrate that people will buy organically and sustainably produced food if you give them transparency about the production methods and their consequences.

KAI GILDHORN

MUNDRAUB.ORG

GERMANY



As a solution to the considerable amount of underutilized and free public fruit resources in Germany, Kai has initiated a citizen-curated online map of public fruit which now has 45,000 registered members in 70,000 locations. Kai empowers citizens to take responsibility for their local fruit resources thereby changing the patterns in which citizens interact with their environment and encouraging sustainable consumption. These changes ultimately help mitigate the challenges of urbanization and increases people's appreciation for nature's cultural, social and ecological value.

HEALTH

BAS VAN ABEL

FAIRPHONE

NETHERLANDS

ACTIVE IN: Europe, Congo



Fairphone is the first company to produce entirely sustainable smartphones with complete supply chain transparency and has sold 60,000 phones in its first 18 months. Bas is proving that it is possible to produce fair and sustainable products even in one of the most challenging and complex industries.

DURUKAN DUDU

ANATOLIAN GRASSLANDS

TURKEY



Durukan is localizing proven regenerative farming techniques, recruiting teams of local farmers and young individuals to own the production and regeneration processes, and connecting them to alternative markets and supply-chains. He has established 10 regenerative farms and mobilized hundreds of young people. In doing so, he is promoting an agriculture that not only enriches the soil, but also makes village communities attractive and viable living environments, reshaping rural life in Turkey.

IGNACIO HERNÁNDEZ MEDRANO

SAVANA

SPAIN



Savana is the first online A.I. platform of medical knowledge. Ignacio is showing how quantitative analysis of medical records can be crowd-sourced through new technology to improve the quality of care by using Big Data to empower doctors with the best possible medical insights. He has assembled 20 million patient files across 25 hospitals.

MARTIN AUFMUTH
EIN DOLLAR BRILLE E.V.
GERMANY
ACTIVE IN: Worldwide



Martin has invented a portable non-electric bending machine to create glasses at low cost and developed a micro-entrepreneurship model for local people to become barefoot opticians (village level entrepreneurs who run their own practices and help their local populations). In 2016 Martin's organization trained 120 barefoot opticians and who provided 39,000 people with glasses. By training local and disadvantaged people in diagnoses, production, sales and maintenance, and production of glasses with his non-electric bending machine, he aims at ensuring financially self-sustaining long-term access to primary optical health care.

HÉLÈNE VIRUEGA
EQUIPHORIA
FRANCE



Héléne has developed a bespoke non-pharmaceutical approach to improve the quality of life of patients suffering from developmental, degenerative or post-traumatic neurological disorders by utilizing the human-horse bond. Héléne aims to deeply change the way in which we design care processes for patients suffering from neurological disorders.

BENJAMIN MOUSNIER-LOMPRÉ
IPSO SANTÉ
FRANCE



IPSO Santé has developed a new type of primary healthcare centre that is more effective and serves over 20,000 patients. Benjamin is shifting the medical investment to a more preventive approach by pioneering a new primary care model that completely reshapes the way general practitioners practice and are organized in France.

MARK SWIFT
WELLBEING ENTERPRISES
UK



Wellbeing Enterprises is creating a social movement for health that mobilizes and empowers communities to take control of their own health and wellbeing. By allowing practitioners to refer patients to non-clinical solutions within local communities, W.E. has scaled to four cities across the North-West of England and is working in 17 GP practices and two large hospitals. Mark broadens the understanding and definition of healthcare thereby treating the underlying causes of illness by both unleashing and bolstering the resources and talent of these communities.

JOOST VAN ENGEN
HEALTHY ENTREPRENEURS
NETHERLANDS

ACTIVE IN: Rwanda, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda and Haiti.



Healthy Entrepreneurs sells its medicines and health related products in a financially sustainable way. Health related products and educational content have reached 2.78 million people in 5 countries with the help of franchise micro entrepreneurs. Joost is ensuring that those who have never been reached by conventional health supply chains, nor development programmes, will be granted the basic human right to health care.

ANDREW BASTAWROUS
PEEK VISION FOUNDATION
UK

ACTIVE IN: Worldwide, Botswana, Kenya, India



Peek Vision is reducing preventable blindness and untreated vision impairment by increasing the capacity and efficiency of public health eye care systems by developing and integrating technological tools. The goal is to screen and treat every child in Botswana by 2020 by developing tools that can be used by non-medical professionals to screen, diagnose, and connect patients to treatment at scale. Andrew is thus not only pushing the cusp of technology in eye health but is redesigning the logistical system of delivering screening, diagnosis, and capturing data that makes the case for greater intervention.

MARC KOSKA
THE SAFEPOINT TRUST
UK

ACTIVE IN: Worldwide



Marc invented and successfully mainstreamed one of the world's first auto-disable syringes that prevents syringe re-use in low-resource environments. Since beginning his work in the late 1980's, Marc is credited with saving 10 million lives by changing WHO policy and best practice on the ground through advocacy and campaigning.

BARBARA MULLER
BABYHUIS
NETHERLANDS



Babyhuis is a safe and supportive home for mothers and new-borns who are at risk of being separated. It provides invaluable support and fundamentally impacts the babies' development. Barbara is dedicated to the development bonding of primary caregivers to babies at risk, particularly during delivery and in the first few months of the new-born's lives.

HUMAN RIGHTS

OLE KASSOW

CYCLING WITHOUT AGE

DENMARK

ACTIVE IN: Denmark, Worldwide



Cycling Without Age combats elderly isolation by bringing together young volunteers with nursing home residents to cycle around cities using rickshaws. The movement has spread to over 30 countries and comprises a global network of more than 8,000 volunteers. Cycling Without Age showcases the joy of intergenerational exchange in society while simultaneously improving the physical health and well-being of all participants.

GEERTRUI SERNEELS

SOLENTRA

BELGIUM



Geert has pioneered a culturally sensitive and community-based mental healthcare system for refugees and migrants. Her methodology was recognised as one of the top 3 practices across the EU by the International Organization for Migration. Geert is ensuring that all professionals who work with refugees are trained to meet their psycho-social needs and is working to prove that first level mental health support for refugees (or mentally distressed people) should be provided by all professionals working with refugees.

GÜNEY HASTEMOĞLU

YOUTH RE-AUTONOMY FOUNDATION OF TURKEY

TURKEY



The Youth Re-Autonomy Foundation is the first foundation working on juvenile delinquency in Turkey. The Foundation recognises the invisibility and vulnerability of children and youth in the justice system. Güney established an entirely new field and built crucial interventions that previously did not in Turkey for disadvantaged groups of children and youth within the justice system.

LUCIANA DELLE DONNE
MADE IN CARCERE
ITALY



Luciana is working across 12 prisons in Italy to provide sustainable job opportunities for women detainees, restoring dignity to their condition and teaching them new skills spendable on the labour market in order to reduce reoffending rates. Made in Carcere is proving that working environments for prisoners can be fair and create value.

CARLO STASOLLA
ASSOCIAZIONE 21 LUGLIO
ITALY



Associazione 21 is working to end the segregation of Europe's most marginalized populations, the Roma, by working at institutional, community and civil society levels to transform the conventional approach to the issue from an ethnic perspective to a socio-economic one. His work has led the current City Council of Rome to adopt the "Plan to Overcome Roma Camps", taking the first institutional action in the direction of closing the camps and integrating Roma people into society.

VIVIANA WAISMAN
WOMEN'S LINK WORLDWIDE
SPAIN
ACTIVE IN: Worldwide



Women's Link Worldwide works to change gender bias in courts through strategic litigation, driving public debate, and publications. Vivian is showing how in order for human rights to be truly enforced there needs to be a strengthening of legal institutions and social mobilization.

JACQUELINE WILLIAMSON
KINSHIP CARE NORTHERN IRELAND
IRELAND
ACTIVE IN: UK



Kinship Care Northern Ireland runs programmes, conducts research, and lobbies for policy change to support the financial, physical and mental wellbeing of some of the most impoverished and stigmatised children and carers in Northern Ireland. Jacqueline is transforming the foster care system of Northern Ireland to place young people at the centre of care.

INCLUSIVE ECONOMIES

JACEK PURSKI

INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AWARENESS (IBS)

POLAND

ACTIVE IN: Poland, Europe



The Institute of Public Safety Awareness is reducing the risk of extremist threats and crime from within communities by training teachers, parents, police officers and social workers with the necessary know-how and skills to identify and reverse the radicalization process affecting youth in Poland and Europe. Jacek is shifting the roles and responsibilities of each member of a society from a potential victim to an active builder of common trust and cooperation for public safety.

PABLO SANTAUEFEMIA

BRIDGE FOR BILLIONS

SPAIN

ACTIVE IN: Worldwide



Pablo has developed an accessible and scalable online incubator for early stage entrepreneurs. He connects them with the resources they need to succeed and supports over 150 entrepreneurs in 21 countries. Pablo is democratizing access to high quality professional support and business mentoring, unleashing the power of entrepreneurship to create social and economic growth, and proving that anyone can be an entrepreneur if they receive the necessary guidance and mentoring.

GEERT VAN DER VEER
HERENBOEREN
NETHERLANDS



Herenboeren is putting the use of farmland back into the hands of local communities by using a model of collective ownership and management. Focusing on restoring people's relationship with the land Herenboeren is creating the basis of an alternative system for food production which respects animals, cooperates with nature, and revitalizes the soil while offering a tangible platform for driving agricultural dialogue and innovation. Herenboeren is proving that agriculture can be crowdsourced and crowd-managed.

VICTORIA TORTOSA VICENTE
LA EXCLUSIVA
SPAIN



La Esclusiva provides rural (and often elderly) populations with essential services, such as grocery deliveries, to 10,000 families that improve their quality of life and create opportunities for social interaction. Vicky is drastically improving rural habitation and stalling rural depopulation by redesigning distribution services.

TANFER DINLER
AGRICULTURAL INSURANCE FOUNDATION
TURKEY



Tanfer has developed multi stakeholder insurance policy models safeguarding the future of Turkey's agriculture industry and ensuring full economic citizenship in rural populations. He has reached over 6 million people through his work and has opened up a brand-new market for insurance companies to connect with farmers. Thereby creating a unique hybrid value chain which has found its way from the fields of rural Turkey to the financial centres of Europe.

IREK BIAŁEK
MANAGERS OF THE FUTURE MOFFIN FOUNDATION
POLAND



Managers of the Future Foundation are creating a more inclusive workforce by training and supporting CSR and diversity managers to influence how companies change their hiring practices by working with 30 companies and a total of 8000 people. Irek is transforming the concept of 'diversity' hiring and identifies managers within companies as strategic and latent resources for building a peer-to-peer network of motivated change agents within company culture.

RICCARDA ZEZZA

MAAM - MATERNITY AS A MASTER

ITALY

ACTIVE IN: Worldwide, Italy



Maternity as a Master is a digital programme that recognizes the experience acquired during the maternity leave as transferable skills both at home and in the workplace and has been adopted by 23 corporations in 213 cities in the world. Riccarda believes that maternity leave should be understood by parents, colleagues and employers as a time of profound learning, rather than simply time away from work.

ELEONORA VOLTOLINA

LA REPUBBLICA DEGLI STAGISTI

ITALY



With La Repubblica degli Stagisti, Eleonora tackles youth unemployment and unfair labour conditions for young people by promoting fairer business practices and by making unpaid internships illegal. Eleonora works to transform internships into a legitimate pathway to employment to combat the exploitation of young people.

DANIEL KERBER

MORE THAN SHELTERS

GERMANY

ACTIVE IN: Germany, Greece, Jordan



With More Than Shelters, Daniel prototypes and scales context-relevant products, services and processes for each stage of a refugee's journey and has improved living conditions of 80,000 refugees in Jordan. Daniel is shifting the refugee response paradigm from standardization to humanization, from dependency to autonomy, and from loss of hope to participation in a better future.

VINCENZO LINARELLO

GOEL

ITALY



Gruppo Cooperativo Goel is a consortium of 15 social enterprises and 28 businesses which came together to create a 'democratic holding for change' with the goal of stifling the Ndrangheta's (the Sicilian mafia) hold on the economy. By creating a parallel positive economy, Vincenzo offers the local population a third alternative between unemployment and collaborating with organized crime.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

ABDULHALIM DEMIR CLEAN CLOTHES CAMPAIGN TURKEY TURKEY



Abdulhalim is building a coalition to address the unethical and unsustainable practices of the Turkish textile industry. He has worked to change national policy to ban manual sandblasting, close down all sandblasting sweatshops in the country, and to empower textile workers. By aligning the interests of key stakeholders to cooperate in entrepreneurial advocacy efforts and developing win-win solutions that make it possible to strike a balance between livelihoods and workers' health and safety, Abdülhalim is disrupting entrenched unethical manufacturing processes.

YASAR ADANALI BEYOND ISTANBUL TURKEY



Beyond Istanbul is a Centre for Spatial Justice which involves all members of the community including disadvantaged groups and experts from multiple disciplines to create more equitable urban planning. Yasar identifies and opens ways for multiple stakeholders to drive participatory urban planning processes and practices that take social, environmental, and human rights concerns into account.

KNUT OVE BØRSETH KJØR FOR LIVET - DRIVE FOR LIFE NORWAY ACTIVE IN: Norway, Europe



Drive For Life engages youth at risk of dropping out of school by using motor and motorsports. Knut seeks to shift the general perception of these young people as troublemakers in society by showing their unique leadership potential and willingness to thrive as citizens. Drive For Life has been adopted in 30 municipalities across Norway, scaled to Sweden and reached young people in 5 other European countries.

RUI MARQUES
IPAV
PORTUGAL



Ubuntu Academy provides leadership skills to hundreds of young people from vulnerable contexts (such as immigrants and ethnic minorities) enabling them to develop social entrepreneurial ventures. Rui has created a model that leverages the power of young immigrants and non-immigrants to transform them into leading role models and guarantee their full social integration in Europe.

MASSIMO VALLATI
CALCIOSOCIALE
ITALY



Massimo reframes and restructures the rules of soccer to encourage empathy, inclusion and leadership in young people and adults. Through Calciosociale, Massimo motivates young people to become changemakers and recreate the spirit of community among people of different ages, social and economic backgrounds, utilising sport for good rather than commercial opportunity or competition. He has reached more than 3,000 young people and their families.

FLORIAN ZECH
AMANDLA EDUFOOTBALL
GERMANY
ACTIVE IN: South Africa



AMANDLA EduFootball creates Safe Hubs which provide under privileged youth across South Africa with education opportunities, employment training and football as alternatives to crime and violence. So far these Safe Hubs have engaged with 6,000 participants. With these Safe Hubs Florian establishes spaces where social service providers can collaborate resulting in more efficient and effective programme delivery and new transversal youth development policies at provincial and national levels.





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Ashoka is a **LIVING ENCYCLOPEDIA** of social innovation in every field around the world. ”

JIMMY WALES, FOUNDER OF WIKIPEDIA,
ASHOKA FELLOW

GET INVOLVED



Nominate extraordinary social innovators to be Ashoka Fellows through our website: [Ashoka.org/Engage](https://www.ashoka.org/Engage).

We work with companies, organisations and individuals. If you are interested in donating or collaborating reach out to Rainer Hoell (rhoell@ashoka.org), Ashoka Europe.

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If one were to examine the forensics of significant impact in healthcare, impact in education and the environment, they will often find the fingerprints of Ashoka. ”

STUART DAVIDSON, CO-FOUNDER AND SR. MANAGING DIRECTOR,
SONON CAPITAL



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