









Contents

Foreword 2-3

About the Challenge 4-5

Our Impact 2014 - 2018

2018 Winners and Finalists

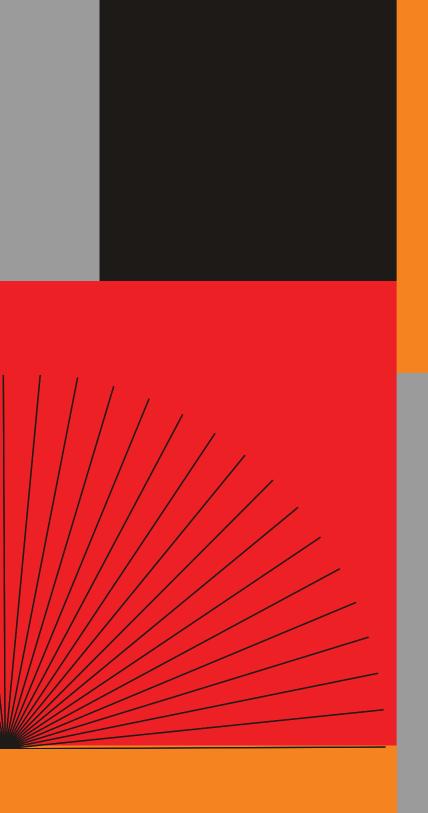
Voices from the Challenge 15-16

Photo Gallery 17-21

Alumni Features

Our Community 28-33

Judges and Mentors 34-35 Contact Us





Back in 2014, we set out on a mission to build a community of changemakers across Asia and support them in solving the world's most pressing social problems. With the social entrepreneurship ecosystem in Asia still in its infancy at the time, the DBS-NUS Social Venture Challenge Asia (SVC Asia) was a joint effort led by DBS Foundation and NUS Enterprise, to discover and raise the profile of promising social entrepreneurs inthe region.

Since then, SVC Asia has grown in scale, with an increase in participation and quality of entries a reflection of the growing interest in social ventures. In 5 years, we cumulatively attracted over 4,000 entries from 60 countries worldwide. Through the Challenge, we have met many talented individuals who are passionate about making an impact in their respective communities, and supported them in scaling their impact through financial support, business connections and mentorship. As we mark the 5th anniversary of SVC Asia, this report is a reflection of five years of social impact in Asia, as well as a celebration of the diverse stories and achievements of our alumni.

SVC Asia would not be possible without the invaluable support from our strong network of more than 1,000 partners, judges and mentors over the years. We would also like to express gratitude to our past and present mentors and Steering Committee members for their guidance. Without you, we would not have been able to foster a collaborative ecosystem to change Asia for the better. Finally, to our participants, your journeys are an inspiration to us, and your passion for the betterment of communities across Asia encourages us. Thank you for making Asia a better place for the future.

Together, we can #ChangeAsiaToday.

Sincerely,

The DBS-NUS Social Venture Challenge Asia Team

About the Challenge



The DBS-NUS Social Venture Challenge Asia (SVC Asia) is an Asia-wide competition for social enterprises, open to any member of the public. Organised by NUS Enterprise and DBS Foundation, the Challenge aims to identify and support innovative new ideas and existing social ventures that have the potential to generate positive, scalable and sustainable social impact. SVC Asia seeks to raise awareness of social entrepreneurship and build a robust community of social entrepreneurs and capacity builders across Asia.

SVC Asia also provides multi-dimensional support for budding social entrepreneurs and builds capacity through public education in social entrepreneurship. Every year, the selected finalists travel to Singapore for workshops and coaching with experts, before facing the final round of judging. The Challenge culminates with a prestigious awards ceremony, where the winners are announced. After the Challenge, winners and finalists are supported and mentored by some of the most experienced practitioners in this field.

With a dedicated learning platform and meaningful networks as well as increased awareness and support for budding social entrepreneurs, SVC Asia accelerates the impact of winning entries to solve today's most pressing social problems.

Financial Support

Top teams received up to SGD\$100,000 in funding to grow their impact.



Knowledge Growth

Workshops and online courses for participants to refine their business models, plus knowledge sharing and mentorship by SVC Asia partners.



Network Growth and Media Exposure

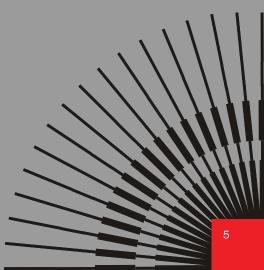


Participants forged new connections with industry experts, impact funders, and were featured in online and offline media channels.

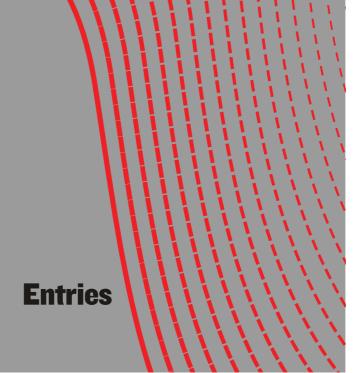
A Supportive Community



An Asia-wide community of partners and SVC Asia alumni to support participants' growth and provide opportunities beyond the Challenge.







4,078
entries from
60
countries worldwide

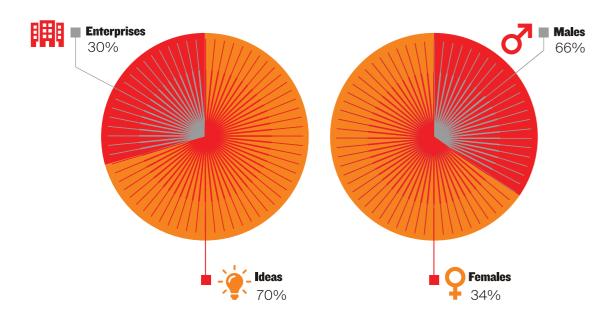
in 5 years

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
418 Entries 19 Countries	683 Entries 30 Countries	1027 Entries 32 Countries	1080 Entries 31 Countries	870 Entries 42 Countries	

Applicants' Place of Residence

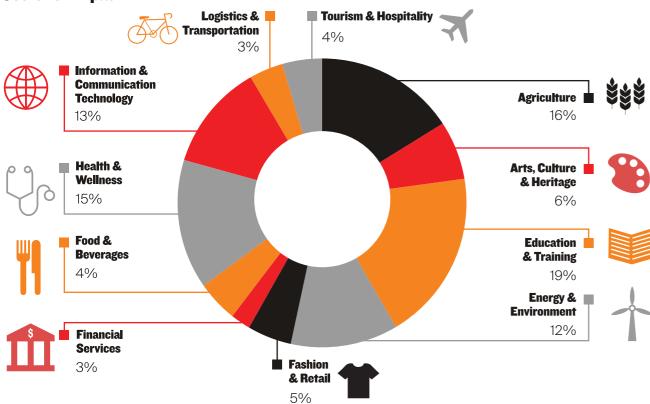
Southeast Asia & Oceania		East Asia		South Asia	
Australia	New Zealand	China		Bangladesh	
Cambodia	Singapore	Hong Kong		Bhutan	
Indonesia	Thailand	Japan		India	
Laos	The Philippines	Mongolia		Nepal	
Malaysia	Timor-Leste	South Korea		Pakistan	
Myanmar	Vietnam	Taiwan		Sri Lanka	
Afghanistan	Palestine	Algeria	Finland	Spain	
Afghanistan	Palestine	Algeria	Finland	Spain	
Azerbaijan	Saudi Arabia	Austria	France	Switzerland	
Egypt	United Arab Emirates	Canada	Germany	Tanzania	
Israel		Colombia	Ghana	The Netherlands	
Kazakhstan		Costa Rica	Italy	Turkey	
Kyrgyzstan		Czech Republic	Kenya	Uganda	
Lebanon		Democratic Republic	Mexico	United Kingdom	
		of the Congo	Nigeria	United States of America	
		Denmark	Norway		

Participants' Profile



*Enterprises: Ventures are consistently generating revenues, or expanding to new regions to grow in size and impact *Ideas: Teams are still validating their idea, building a minimum viable product, or have conducted trials with a small group of customers

Sector of Impact



Awards





Top Prizes

Awards ranging from SGD \$5,000 to SGD \$100,000 for the top teams who have shown high potential for business growth and social impact in Asia



Over the years, we have worked with the following key partners who provided sponsorship for additional awards:



The HEAD Foundation Innovative Social **Enterprise Award (Education)**

SGD \$20.000

for the social enterprise with the best proposed used of technology and innovation for education



Dell Digital Awards

SGD \$5,000

for the teams with the best proposed digital projects for their social businesses



Syngenta Innovative Social **Enterprise Award (Agriculture)**

SGD \$10,000 -SGD \$20,000

for the social enterprise with the best proposed use of technology and innovation for agriculture



Experian Powering Opportunities Award

SGD \$15,000

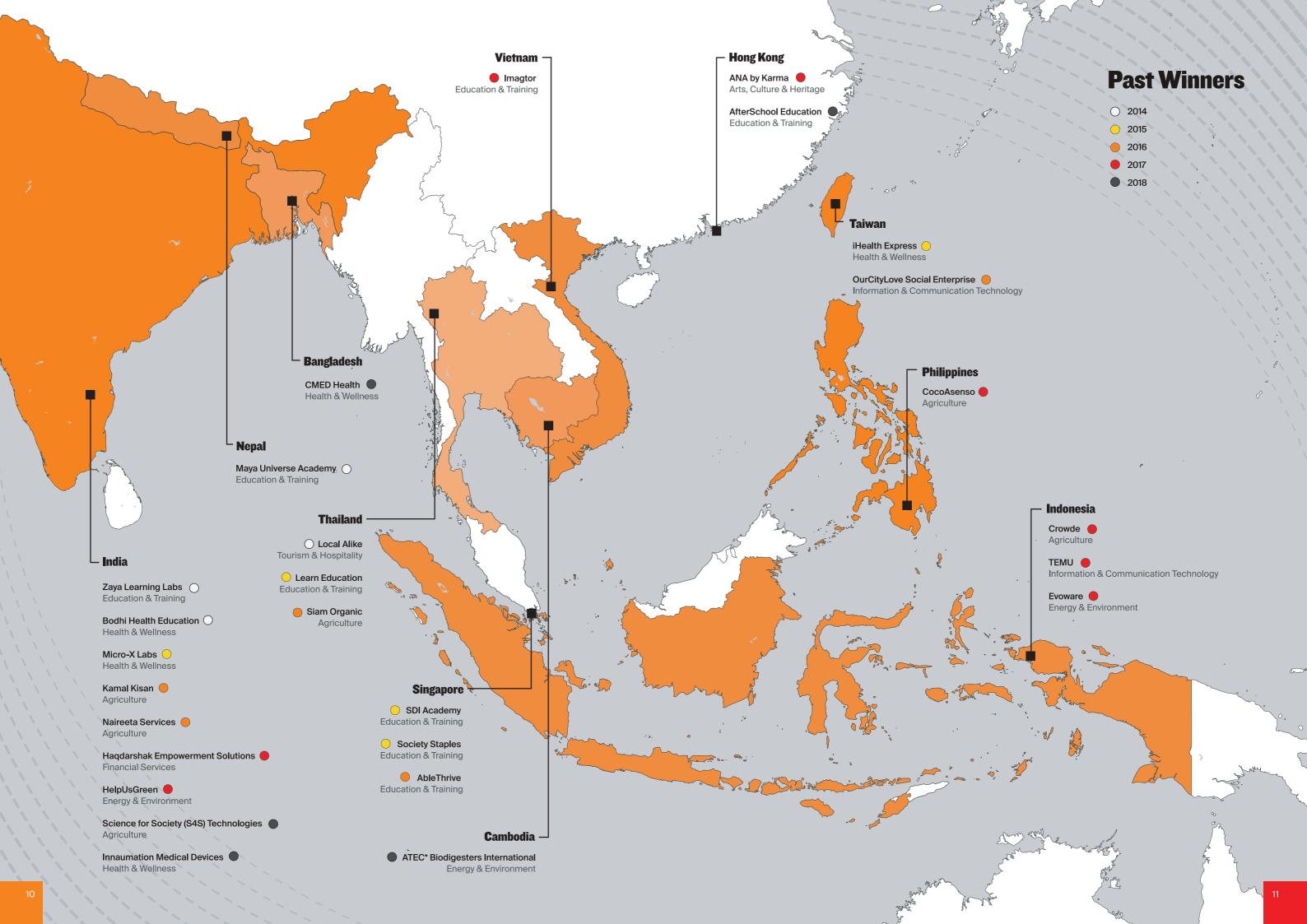
to recognise an innovative social enterprise with the potential to deliver a strong social impact to over 100,000 people



raiSE VentureForGood Grant Award

SGD \$25.000 -SGD \$50.000

for new or existing social enterprises addressing a social gap or need in Singapore







ATEC* Biodigesters International

Second Runner-up: SGD \$20,000

ATEC* Biodigesters International has created the world's first commercially scalable 'plug and play' biodigester. Household resources like manure and kitchen waste are utilized to produce biogas for cooking and organic fertilizer for farming. It helps rural villages to have gas for daily cooking needs, increases agricultural yields and household incomes, and mitigates greenhouse gas emissions.

- Cambodia
- Energy & Environment
- atecbio.com





2018 Winners

Science for Society Technologies (\$4\$)

Top Prize: SGD \$50,000

Science for Society (S4S) Technologies is helping small and marginal women farmers to produce dehydrated food products through a patented electricity-free solar-powered conduction dryer. Its food dehydrators allow farmers to process and preserve agro-produce into dehydrated form, helping farmers reduce post-harvest losses, earn additional income and enhance food security.

- India
- Agriculture
- # s4stechnologies.com



CMED Health

The HEAD Foundation Innovative Social Enterprise Award (Education): SGD \$20,000

CMED Health has developed an AI-driven cloud-based preventive healthcare platform. It allows users to store, monitor and access their health vitals through the use of IoT-enabled smart medical devices, enabling early identification of health risks. CMED also trains health agents to provide these health services across rural locations, educating society's most vulnerable on the importance of regular health screenings and practices to lead a healthier life.

- Bangladesh
- Health & Wellness
- cmed.com.bd





Innaumation Medical Devices

First Runner-up: SGD \$30,000

Innaumation Medical Devices is helping laryngectomy patients from poor socio-economic backgrounds to regain the ability to speak again. Their invention – a low-cost voice prosthesis device made of platinum cured medical grade silicon – is over 400 times more affordable than other prosthesis devices in the market.

- India
- Health & Wellness
- innaumation.com





AfterSchool Education

Experian Powering Opportunities Award: SGD \$15,000

AfterSchool Education is an online learning platform that provides students with a personalized, effective and affordable learning experience through inexpensive online courses, a gamified social learning community, and a learning recommendation system with machine learning. It also aims to reduce educational inequalities by giving underprivileged students access to quality education.

- Hong Kong
- Education & Training
- afterschool.com.hk





_zBVWBNHV²

Bambuhay

- Agriculture
- bambuhayph.com

Bambuhay encourages ecologically sustainable production and consumption through creating eco-friendly bamboo based products. It also promotes social inclusion and sustainable livelihoods for marginalized communities, by empowering them to become Agri-preneurs through training and equipping them with green methodology and technology.



BeBetter Education Technology

- China
- ****** Education & Training
- betterfq.com

BeBetter Education Technology provides comprehensive online and offline financial education solutions for children aged 3 to 14 years, equipping them with competencies such as financial literacy, innovative thinking and entrepreneurial spirit. Their solutions include financial board games, in-school curriculum, and an intelligent financial competency assessment system.



Phi Life Center

- Singapore
- Education & Training

Phi Life Center aims to build a Learning and Inspiration Hub for marginalized youths to be educated, equipped and empowered, transforming them from beneficiaries into active contributors of society. Youths-at-risk are supported through personal life and vocational mentoring as well as apprenticeships, enabling them to gain quality work skills and strong life values.



Kendal Agro Atsiri

- Indonesia
- ****** Energy & Environment

Kendal Agro Atsiri distills essential oils and sells it as raw material to businesses, as well as a retail product to consumers. It empowers rural villagers to increase their income and overcome poverty through working as cloves leaves collectors. Its eco-friendly waste management system also reduces the amount of air pollution released into the environment.



TS Voice Technology

- ♂ Health & Wellness

TS Voice Technology is developing an affordable AI-empowered mobile-based speech aid device that provides a real time communication solution for patients who have lost their verbal capabilities due to illness. The device incorporates human-centered ergogenic design and can generate a natural personalized voice for each individual.



■ Neil D'Souza

CEO of Zaya Learning Labs, India
(SVC Asia 2014 Winner)



Tanin Timtong

Co-Founder and Managing Director
of Learn Education, Thailand
(SVC Asia 2015 Winner)

a lot more students.'

Voices from

the Challenge



'We attracted many partners and funders after the competition, allowing us to nearly triple our growth. We also benefitted from the knowledge sharing from the mentors and judges, and continued support from the organisers. Whenever we have challenges, the DBS-NUS team is always our great partner.'

'SVC Asia was a great learning experience for us, we can feel how much we have improved from this. We also realized our shortcomings and the points that we need to improve on.'

Moinul Chowdhury
Head of Growth of CMED Health
(SVC Asia 2018 Winner)



John Joseph Gabriel Puzon
Founder and CEO of
POS!BLE.NET
(SVC Asia 2017 Finalist)



'This experience has inspired us to re-evaluate our company's mission with a greater emphasis on how we can impact society more.'

Quin Thong
Founder and CEO of ANA by Karma
(SVC Asia 2017 Winner)



'Joining the competition has given us a solid reason to reach back out to the people around us who have supported us the most and strengthened our ties with them. Even getting into the semi-finals will immediately push your market exposure to a higher level. Of course, if you are lucky enough to get into the finals, you have a chance to fly to Singapore, and they will give you training and you'll meet great people. Just by being in the Finals, you are winners already.'

'After winning the Syngenta award at SVC Asia 2016,
Syngenta representatives paid a visit to our program
areas, and shared about their Good Growth Plan. They
brought capacity building and guidance to the door steps
of our community.'

Biplab Paul
Director of Naireeta Services
(SVC Asia 2016 Winner)



C.D. Liang Director of Development
The HEAD Foundation



'I was pleasantly surprised by the different varieties of solutions, and especially how many of the finalists apply the latest technology in bridging gaps in society.'



Mr. Piyush Gupta, Group Chief Executive Officer at DBS Bank, speaking at the launch of SVC Asia on 24 September 2013



The team from Indonesian social enterprise Kitabisa at the 2014 Awards Ceremony



SVC Asia 2014 winners and finalists at the Awards Ceremony



A three-day bootcamp in March 2014 equipped semi-finalists with strategies for building a successful social venture

Photo Gallery



Guest-of-Honour Dr. Tony Tan Keng Yam, then-President of Singapore, presenting the Grand Prize to Zaya Learning Labs



Michael Lwin, co-founder of Koe Koe Tech from Myanmar, pitching to the audience at the Awards Ceremony



SVC Asia 2015 winners and finalists at the Awards Ceremony



A Funders Showcase event gave semi-finalists the opportunity to showcase their social ventures to impact funders and forge new connections



The founding team of Learn Education, SVC Asia 2015 Grand Prize Winner



Prof. Wong Poh Kam, Senior Director of the NUS
Entrepreneurship Centre, conducting an overseas
workshop in Hong Kong on 'A Purpose-driven Approach to
Business Model Design', hosted by SVC Asia Impact
Partner, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Institute for
Entrepreneurship



Unilever CEO Mr. Paul Polman (2nd from left) joined the Finalists for a Q&A Session



Mr. Paul Polman, CEO of Unilever, gave a Keynote Address at the Awards Ceremony on how businesses can lead the way to a better world



Final Round Judges pose for a group photograph



An exclusive 'SE' Connect' session brought finalists, investors and capacity-builders together to forge meaningful connections and identify specific areas of support



SVC Asia 2016 winners and finalists at the Awards Ceremony



SVC Asia 2017 winners and finalists at the Grand Finale event



Individual mentoring sessions helped finalists refine their pitches, Pictured: the Beijing Ofenbei Technology team with their mentor, James Coffey from Experian



Attendees at the Grand Finale left their feedback for the finalists on specially designed postcards



Finalists attended a storytelling workshop conducted by Our Better World, and a session on working capital optimisation by DBS BusinessClass



Imagtor (Vietnam) receiving The HEAD Foundation Innovative Social Enterprise Award (Education)



Prof. Wong Poh Kam from NUS Enterprise presenting the Judges' Choice Award to Ankit Agarwal, co-founder of HelpUsGreen



Finalists picked up best practices in digital marketing, data visualisation and more at a full-day bootcamp conducted by SVC Asia Corporate Partner Accenture

Mathematical Particular Security (Control of Control of

Five SVC Asia alumni social entrepreneurs returned to share their experiences at a panel discussion during the Grand Finale



Bambuhay Social Enterprise from The Philippines showcased their innovative bamboo-based products during their pitch to the judges



SVC Asia 2018 organisers, key partners and winners at the Grand Finale event



Science For Society (S4S) Technologies receiving their Top Prize award from DBS and NUS representatives



Zaya Learning Labs

Education & Training

2014 Grand Prize Winner

Zaya Learning Labs offers a complete school operating system, with innovative technological solutions such as ClassCloud and English Duniya. They provide the resources and infrastructure needed for high-quality blended learning to over 2,000 low-income schools in India and beyond.

Milestones

- From 6 schools... Zaya's solutions are now in 2,147 schools, impacting over 500,000 students
- Recipient of Microsoft Corporation Affordable Access Initiative Grant in 2016
- 2016 Awardee of DBS Foundation Social Enterprise Grant Programme



2014 2015

Alumni Features

SVC Asia has helped our winners grow their impact, touching over 800,000 lives across Asia



Learn Education



****** Education & Training

2015 Grand Prize Winner

Learn Education's mission is to innovate learning platforms by leveraging technology to improve the quality of education in Thailand. Their platform helps teachers to equip students with the knowledge, skills and abilities to become self-learners and responsible critical thinkers.

Milestone

- Grew number of partner schools by 10x, from 15 schools to 150 schools
- Currently serves 14,000 teachers and 45,000 students
 One pilot school saw a 31% improvement in national test scores
- Co-founder Tanin Timtong selected as Ashoka fellow in 2018

SDI Academy

SDI

- Singapore
- Education & Training
- 2015 raiSE VentureForGood Grant Award Winner

SDI Academy blends digital media and rigorous data collection to design and deliver high-quality language, vocational and computer skills training which up-skill immigrants and help them assimilate into the mainstream. By partnering corporations, employers and international agencies, they are working towards creating safer and more productive workplaces for migrant workers.

Milestones

- Expanded to 4 countries, with 6600+ students trained and over 200,000 hours of lessons delivered
- Funded by Singtel Future Makers 2018
- Enactus Singapore National Champion 2018



OurCityLove Social Enterprise

众社會企業 OurCityLove

- Taiwan
- Information & Communication Technology
- 2016 Jury Prize Winner

OurCityLove Social Enterprise maps data of accessible venues, facilities, and services on a cloud-based platform. It also offers training courses to restaurants for disability-friendly certifications, and employment training for persons with disabilities.

Milestones

- Currently present in 9 cities in Taiwan, HongKong and Malaysia, and will be expending into Philippines, South Korea, Japan and Thailand
- Received more than 109 technical and social innovation awards over the past years
- Successfully helped over 2,000 restaurants and hotels to improve their accessible environment and quality of friendly service



2016



Siam Organic

- Agriculture
- 2016 Grand Prize Winner

Siam Organic aims to alleviate farmers' poverty through innovative organic products, including its nutritious Jasberry™ rice. Jasberry™ rice combines the taste of world-famous Thai Jasmine rice with berries' nutritional, antioxidant benefits, accounting for its global appeal.

Milestones

- 4,000+ football fields of Jasberry rice planted
- Its 2500+ farmers earned 14x more profit than conventional rice farmers
- Top Prize Winner of the Chivas Venture 2017
- Became the first Thai food company to receive B Corporation certification





2017

Imagtor



d Education & Training

2017 Enterprise Category Winner, The HEAD Foundation Innovative Social Enterprise Award (Education) Winner, and Dell Digital Award Winner

Imagtor helps People with Disabilities (PwDs) have a successful career through equipping them with employable skill sets and providing an empowering work environment. It employs and trains PwDs to provide high-quality digital services such as video and photography editing for a global clientele.

magtor

Milestones

- Grown recruitment of PwD students to 60 per year, and employed 52 staff, of which 60% are PwDs
- International attention resulted in over 100 active working partners, with a monthly average growth of 36%



ANA by Karma

- e Ana
- ♀ Hong Kong♂ Arts, Culture & Heritage
- 2017 Enterprise Category Winner

ANA by Karma empowers Bhutanese women weavers to utilise their talents to achieve financial independence and support their families, by re-interpreting heritage weaving techniques that will appeal to the modern consumer. Proceeds are invested back into the community through training and development programmes.

Milestones

- Trained 100 women weavers, 3x more than planned
- Over 10,000 pieces of Bhutanese handwoven work sold
- Introduced a new product innovation personalized luggage belts paired with an online app



Haqdarshak Empowerment Solutions

हक़दर्शक Haqdarshak

- India
- Financial Services
- 2017 Enterprise Category Winner

Haqdarshak Empowerment Solutions helps poor citizens discover, apply for and benefit from government and non-governmental financial and welfare schemes, by training a network of community entrepreneurs to deliver this service through an AI-based mobile and web platform that assesses their scheme eligibility.

Milestones

- 33,000 welfare applications submitted, with US\$3.3 million in benefits channelized
- Launched an online public portal for citizens in March 2018 and poised for geographical expansion from 10 states to 20 states in India
- 2018 Awardee of DBS Foundation Social Enterprise Grant Programme
- Co-founder Aniket Doegar selected as Acumen India fellow in 2018



2017



Crowde



- Agriculture
- 2017 Enterprise Category Winner and Syngenta Innovative Social Enterprise Award (Agriculture) Winner

Crowde is a crowd-investing web platform that helps poor farmers raise working capital by connecting them to retail investors, with a win-win profit sharing scheme. By partnering with trusted farming communities, it commits to increasing farmers' capabilities while also ensuring a profitable return for investors.

Milestones

- Distributed over 51 billion rupiah to farmers in Indonesia in 2018, empowering 10,000 farmers across 20 cities
- Recognised as one of Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia 2018
 Social Entrepreneurs



HelpUsGreen



- ****** Energy & Environment
- 2017 Enterprise Category Winner& Judges' Choice Award

HelpUsGreen upcycles floral-waste from Indian temples through a 'flowercycling®' concept, preventing this waste from polluting sacred rivers. It provides livelihoods to manual scavenger women by employing them to process floral-waste into organic fertiliser, natural incense and Florafoam®.

Milestone

- Launched two new plants to increase their processing capacity to 38 tonnes of flowers a day
- Received the United Nations Young Leaders Award and Momentum of Change Award in 2018
- 2018 Awardee of DBS Foundation Social Enterprise Grant Programme
- Awarded the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Goalkeepers Global Goals Award in 2018



Powered by a global network of 101 Partners and more than 900 Judges & Mentors over the years.

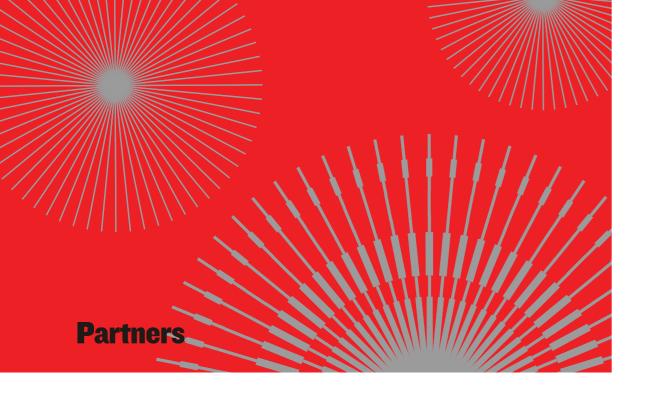


Visit us at: www.dbs.com/dbsfoundation
Get in touch: dbsfoundation@dbs.com



Visit us at: enterprise.nus.edu.sg Get in touch: enterprise@nus.edu.sg As a corporate foundation in Asia solely dedicated to championing social entrepreneurship, DBS Foundation contributes towards building a more inclusive society so that those at society's margins can enjoy productive and rewarding lives. DBS Foundation works with Social Enterprises and Social Entrepreneurs in Singapore, India, Indonesia, China, Taiwan and Hong Kong with programmes ranging from venture challenges, learning forums, intensive incubation, grant support, financing and skilled volunteer mentoring. The Foundation is an endeavour from DBS Bank to make an even greater impact in addressing Asia's evolving social needs.

NUS Enterprise, the entrepreneurial arm of the National University of Singapore (NUS), plays a pivotal role in advancing innovation and entrepreneurship at NUS and beyond. It actively promotes entrepreneurship and cultivates global mind-sets and talents through the synergies of experiential entrepreneurial education, active industry partnerships, holistic entrepreneurship support and catalytic entrepreneurship outreach. Its initiatives and global connections support a range of entrepreneurial journeys and foster ecosystem building in new markets. These initiatives augment and complement the University's academic programmes and act as a unique bridge to industry well beyond Singapore's shores.



Key Partners

Sector Champions







Valued Partner





Digital Partner

Knowledge Partners





Corporate Partners







Impact & Supporting Partners





























































Impact & Supporting Partners

Impact & Supporting Partners





































































































































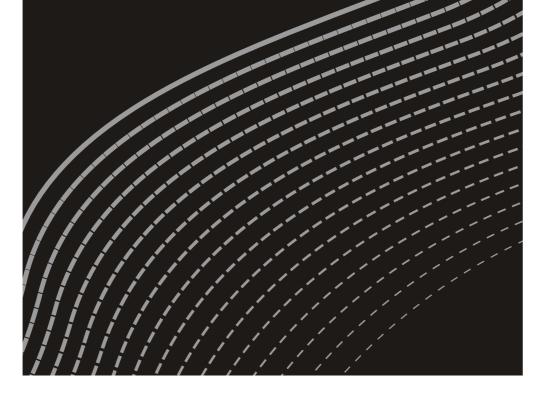












Judges and Mentors

Number of Judges and Mentors

163 2014

2015

2016

2017

260

Social Entrepreneurs Impact Investors 9% 11% **Industry** Resource 📋 Providers 32% **Professionals Protes** 48%

Final Round Judges



Prof Wong Poh Kam

Chair of Judging Panel Senior Director, NUS Entrepreneurship Centre



Karen Ngui

Managing Director & Head (Group Strategic Marketing & Communications),



Ada Wong

Chairperson, Make A Difference Institute Convenor & Director, Good Lab Foundation



Barbara Guerpillon

Manger for Southeast Asia and Australia, Unilever Foundry



C.D. Liang

Director of Development, The HEAD Foundation



Dev Dhiman

Managing Director (Southeast Asia),



Elvie Ganchero

Community and Partnerships Manager APAC, Syngenta



En Lee

Pacific, LGT Impact



Ivaylo Kolev

General Manager -Financial Marketplaces (Southeast Asia), Experian



James Tan

Joyce Tee

DBS Bank

Managing Partner, Quest Ventures



Jayesh Parekh

Managing Partner, Jungle Ventures



Jia Jing

Vice President, China Global Philanthropy Institute



Founder, Kiwanja.net and FrontlineSMS



Law Gin Kye

Board Member, Family Business Network Asia



Lim Chu Chong

Managing Director &

Group Head (SME Banking),

Managing Director & Head, DBS Institutional Banking (China)



Loretta M. Hennessey

President, L. Hennessey Associates LLC



Ming Tan

Executive Director, **COMO** Foundation



Naina Subberwal Batra

Asian Venture Philanthropy Network



Natalia Agapitova

Senior Program Officer, World Bank Group



Pang Yee Beng

Senior Vice President -Commercial Business, South Asia & Korea, Dell EMC, Managing Director, Dell Malaysia



Paul Basil

Founder, Villgro



Robert Kraybill

Managing Director, IIX Asia



Sadeesh Raghavan

Member, Acumen Fund **Investment Committee**



Sébastien Marot

Founder. Friends International

Valeria Budinich

Citizenship, Ashoka

Founder, Full Economic



Sonia Gupta

Managing Director, Accenture Strategy



Stephen Wong

Adjunct Lecturer of MSSc in Global Political Economy, The Chinese University of Hong Kong



Vignesh Naidu

Director of Operations, The HEAD Foundation



Willie Cheng

Chairman, Singapore Institute of Directors



Together, we can #ChangeAsiaToday



Contact us

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- svca@nus.edu.sq
- @DBSNUS



