



DBS-NUS SOCIAL VENTURE CHALLENGE ASIA 2017 REPORT




NUS
Enterprise



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MESSAGE FROM THE ORGANISERS

Four years ago, we started the DBS-NUS Social Venture Challenge Asia with a vision to identify and support ventures that generate scalable and sustainable social impact. Since then, the Challenge has grown in scale every year, and we have celebrated the progress and achievements of our past participants. With a maturing social impact landscape, the Challenge has evolved alongside it. Here are some highlights this year.

- ◆ Entrepreneurs face different issues at each stage of their journey. We introduced two separate submission categories for the Challenge, so as to provide greater and differentiated support to both early-stage and growth-stage social ventures.
- ◆ We continue to work in close collaboration with corporations who can provide rigorous support to the winners in their respective areas of expertise. Syngenta has renewed their commitment for a second year as the Sector Champion for Agriculture. We are glad to announce new partnerships, with The HEAD Foundation coming onboard as the Sector Champion for Education, and Dell joining us as a Digital Partner.
- While financial support is important for social ventures, other forms of assistance can be equally beneficial. Hence, our support extends beyond the Challenge as we strive to provide the finalists with business connections, mentoring and incubation support even after the Challenge period.

We deeply appreciate the time and effort placed by our Steering Committee members, judges and mentors. We also acknowledge and thank our network of over 50 partners and collaborators across Asia, who have been invaluable in making the Challenge possible.

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 the world a better place.

- The DBS-NUS Social Venture Challenge Asia Team
December 2017



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 DBS Foundation and NUS Enterprise, 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.

Since 2014, the Challenge seeks to raise awareness of social entrepreneurship and build a robust community of social entrepreneurs and capacity builders across Asia.

The Challenge also provides multi-dimensional support for budding social entrepreneurs and builds capacity through public education in social entrepreneurship. Participants will be supported and mentored by some of the most experienced practitioners in this field.

With meaningful networks as well as increased awareness and support for budding social entrepreneurs, the DBS-NUS Social Venture Challenge Asia will accelerate the impact of winning teams to solve today's most pressing social problems.



THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

April - May 2017
Application Period



Idea Category - Ventures are validating their idea, trying to build a minimum viable product, or have conducted trials with a small group of customers.

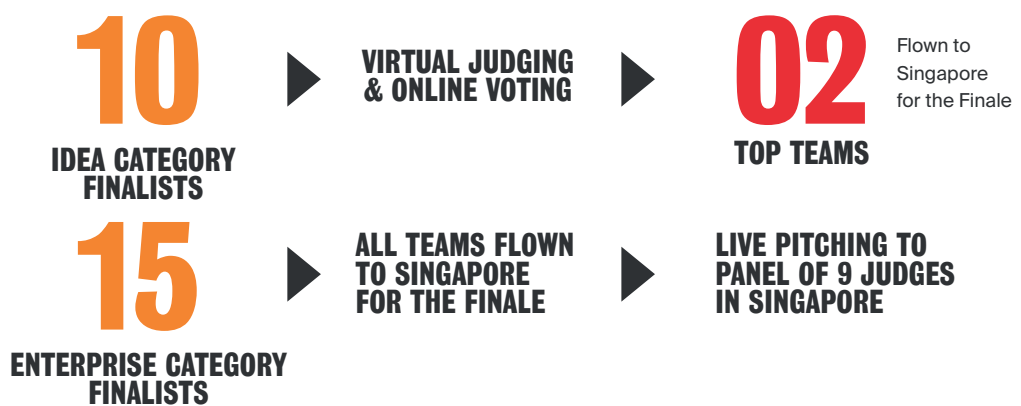
Enterprise Category - Ventures are consistently generating revenues, or expanding to new regions to grow in their size and impact.

19 June 2017
Announcement of Shortlisted Teams



Selected to proceed to the next round

14 August 2017
Announcement of Finalists



2 - 4 October 2017
Finale Programme in Singapore



150+ invited guests attended the Finale and Networking Dinner at the National Gallery Singapore.

AWARDS

IDEA CATEGORY (2 AWARDS)

2 awards worth S\$5,000 each for the top Idea Category teams that are at a stage where they are validating their idea, trying to build a minimum viable product, or have conducted trials with a small group of customers.

ENTERPRISE CATEGORY (6 AWARDS)

6 awards worth S\$20,000 each for the top Enterprise Category teams who have shown high potential for business growth and social impact in Asia.

SYNGENTA INNOVATIVE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AWARD (AGRICULTURE)

1 award worth S\$20,000 for the top Enterprise Category team with the best proposed use of technology and innovation for agriculture.

THE HEAD FOUNDATION INNOVATIVE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AWARD (EDUCATION)

1 award worth S\$20,000 for the top Enterprise Category team with the best proposed use of technology and innovation for education.

DELL DIGITAL AWARDS

2 awards worth S\$5,000 each for the top Idea or Enterprise Category teams with the best proposed digital projects for their social businesses.

ASIA FOR GOOD READER'S CHOICE AWARD

(Non-Monetary)

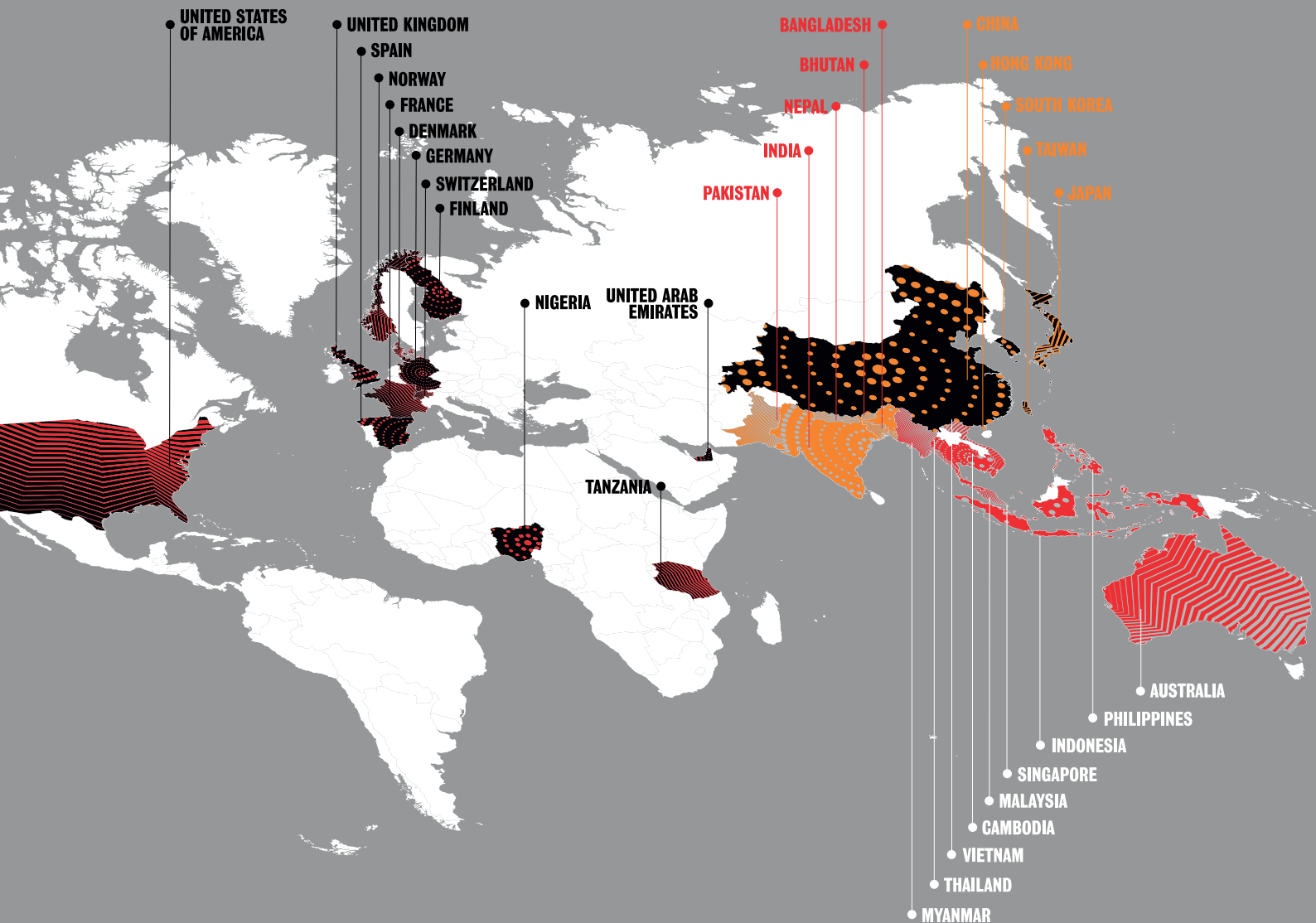
1 Reader's Choice award for the team with the highest vote based on public voting conducted on Asia For Good. The team will receive a full-length feature to be published on Asia For Good, which will be promoted on social media.

JUDGES' CHOICE AWARD

(Non-Monetary)

Judges' special commendation, in recognition of the team's efforts towards sustainable and scalable impact through their social enterprise.

COUNTRIES OF APPLICANTS



SOUTHEAST ASIA & OCEANIA

Australia
Cambodia
Indonesia
Malaysia
Myanmar
Singapore
The Philippines
Thailand
Vietnam

EAST ASIA

China
Hong Kong
Japan
South Korea
Taiwan

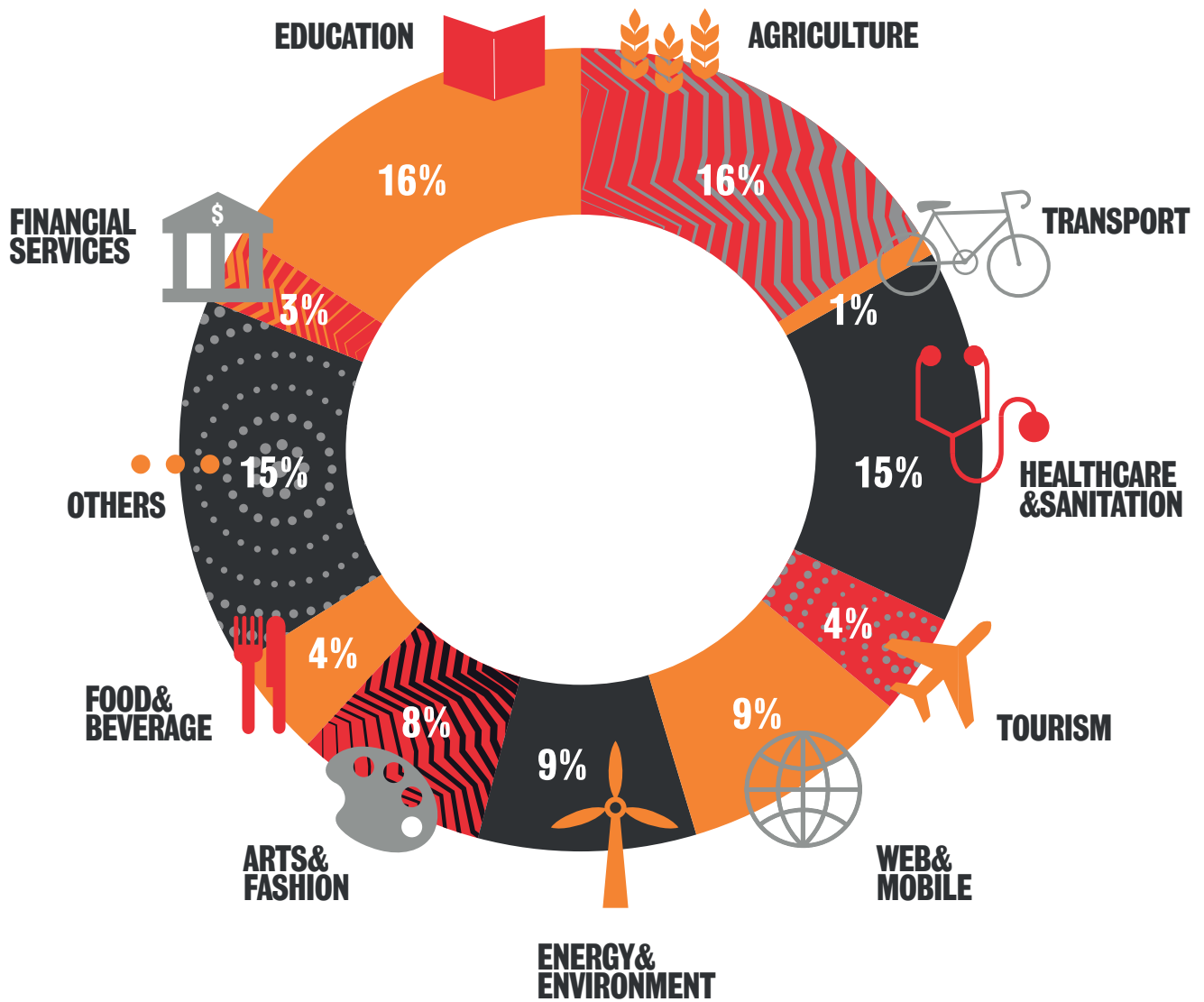
SOUTH ASIA

Bangladesh
Bhutan
India
Nepal
Pakistan

OTHERS

Denmark
Finland
France
Germany
Nigeria
Norway
Spain
Switzerland
Tanzania
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
United States of America

SECTOR OF IMPACT





Quin Thong,
ANA by Karma



1 on 1 mentoring
by James Coffey,
Experian



Final Round Judges
Group Photo



Team Imagtor w/
Mr Ho Swee Huat
from The HEAD
Foundation

Aniket Doegar,
Haqdarshak
Empowerment
Solutions



OUR PARTNERS IN 2017

Sector Champions



Digital Partner

Supporting Partner (Special Mention)



Impact Partners



Asia Centre for Social Entrepreneurship & Philanthropy
NUS Business School



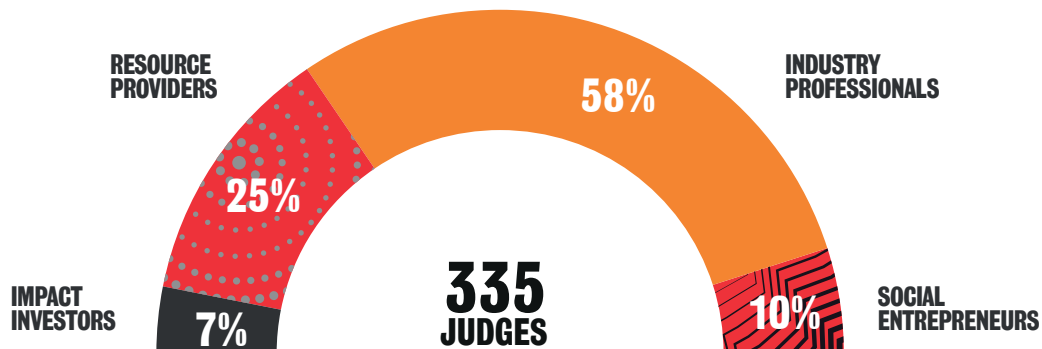
ASPACE
PHILIPPINES



Supporting Partners



THE JUDGES



Final Round Judges



Professor Wong Poh Kam

Chair of the Judging Panel;
Director of NUS
Entrepreneurship Centre



Pang Yee Beng

Senior Vice President
Commercial Business, South Asia
and Korea, Dell EMC; and Managing Director,
Dell Malaysia



Ada Wong

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



Joyce Tee

Managing Director &
Group Head (SME Banking),
DBS Bank



C.D. Liang

Director of Operations and Development,
The HEAD Foundation



Jayesh Parekh

Managing Partner,
Jungle Ventures



Dev Dhiman

Managing Director, South East Asia
Experian



Stephen Wong

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



Elvie Ganchero

Community and Partnerships Manager APAC,
Syngenta

The background is a solid orange color. It is decorated with two patterns of dots: a series of red dots in the bottom-left corner and a series of grey dots in the top-right corner, both arranged in a curved, diagonal pattern.

AWARD WINNERS 2017

AWARD WINNERS 2017

Idea Category Winner



Country: The Philippines
Sector: Agriculture
Website: cocoasenso.com

CocoAsenso hopes to make the country's Virgin Coconut Oil (VCO) industry more efficient and inclusive, by establishing a network of small to medium-scale coconut processing facilities in remote regions of the Philippines. They purchase coconuts directly from local farmers and process them into desiccated coconut, from which VCO is then extracted. These farmers will be offered fair prices and employment, as well as training and financing to improve crop production.



Idea Category Winner



Country: Indonesia
Sector: Energy & Environment
Website: evoware.id

Evoware's solution for plastic waste in Indonesia is edible, eco-friendly and biodegradable bioplastics made from sustainably produced seaweed. It can be used as an alternative to traditional plastic packaging or turned into edible cups. Their sustainable value chain also helps to increase the livelihood of Indonesia's seaweed farmers.



Enterprise Category Winner



Country: Hong Kong
Sector: Arts & Fashion
Website: anabykarma.com

ANA by Karma empowers Bhutanese women weavers to utilise their talents to achieve financial independence and support their families, by finding functionalities for heritage weaving techniques that will appeal to the modern consumer. It also funds training and development programmes for the weavers and their children.



AWARD WINNERS 2017

Enterprise Category Winner



Syngenta Innovative Social Enterprise
Award (Agriculture) Winner

Country: Indonesia

Sector: Agriculture

Website: crowde.co

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.



Enterprise Category Winner



Country: India

Sector: Financial Services

Website: haqdarshak.com

Haqdarshak Empowerment Solutions helps poor citizens discover and apply for government and non-governmental financial schemes they are entitled to, by training a network of community entrepreneurs to deliver this service through an AI-based mobile and web platform that assesses their scheme eligibility. It also works with government and private organisations to digitise scheme information.



Enterprise Category Winner

Judges' Choice Award Winner



Country: India

Sector: Energy & Environment

Website: helpusgreen.com

HelpUsGreen upcycles waste discarded by Indian temples and mosques 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®, a biodegradable alternative to plastics.



AWARD WINNERS 2017

Enterprise Category Winner

The HEAD Foundation Innovative
Social Enterprise Award (Education)

Dell Digital Award Winner

Country: Vietnam

Sector: Education

Website: imagtor.com

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 competitively priced high-quality digital services for international clients, such as video and photography editing.



Enterprise Category Winner

Dell Digital Award Winner

Country: Indonesia

Sector: Web & Mobile

Website: temu.co.id

TEMU wants to break the cycle of poverty in urban slums through providing low-skilled workers with access to job opportunities. Their mobile and web application collects data from job providers and job seekers, and synthesizes the data to match individuals with the right job opportunities.



Asia For Good Reader's Choice
Award Winner

Country: Hong Kong

Sector: Education

Website: slco.org.hk

SLCO Community Resources provides a bilingual language development programme for parents and young children, both deaf and hearing. Using both sign and oral language as a medium of instruction, it enhances children's language and cognitive development, and promotes social inclusion through having a mixture of deaf and hearing individuals in its classes.





FINALISTS 2017

FINALISTS 2017



Country: China
Sector: Web & Mobile
Website: Ofenbei.com

Beijing Ofenbei Technology makes poverty alleviation more efficient and sustainable by using big data and internet technology to connect communities in need with resource providers such as NGOs, local governments and commercial institutions. It enables more social resources to be channelled into less developed regions to help address poverty issues.



Country: India
Sector: Agriculture
Website: cattlemettle.com

Cattle Mettle helps marginal and small rural dairy farmers increase their cattle productivity and household income. It manufactures quality, natural and affordable cattle feeds by restructuring locally available fruit and vegetable waste into edible products. Their holistic online-offline model helps farmers choose the best nutrition for their cattle at a cost they can afford, delivered to their doorsteps.



Country: Tanzania
Sector: Energy & Environment
Website: ecoact.co.tz

EcoAct Tanzania uses an innovative plastic extrusion technology to recycle and transform post-consumer plastic waste into plastic lumber for building, construction and furniture. It acts as a durable and affordable alternative to wood timber, helping to reduce deforestation and addressing pollution caused by plastic waste.



Country: Hong Kong
Sector: Web & Mobile
Website: web.iseemobile.com

iSEE Mobile Apps aims to build a barrier-free society to facilitate the equal participation of the visually impaired in society. Its suite of user-friendly mobile applications helps visually impaired individuals with daily activities such as identifying money, deciphering restaurant menus, and news updates.

FINALISTS 2017



Country: Singapore

Sector: Healthcare & Sanitation

Website: jaga-me.com

[Withdrew from Finale]

Jaga-Me is a technology platform that connects family caregivers with care professionals nearby, enabling families to access fast, quality and affordable care anytime, anywhere. It creates jobs for freelance healthcare professionals, and empowers them with training to enhance their skills.



Country: Taiwan

Sector: Transport

Knight Digital Technology is generating a circular economy for furniture in Taiwan. Its automated platform matches empty delivery trucks to jobs along their return journey, minimizing wasted man-hours and fuel. Its digital marketplace for donating unwanted large furniture enables such furniture to be re-used by those in need, reducing the amount of pollution generated by discarded furniture.



Country: The Philippines

Sector: Financial Services

Website: possible.net

POSIBLE.NET makes financial services and e-commerce more accessible to underserved communities. Its B2B2C platform enables community-based microbusinesses to become local touchpoints for financial and e-commerce transactions, through equipping them with low-cost, internet-enabled, portable point-of-sale machines.



Country: Indonesia

Sector: Healthcare & Sanitation

Website: wecare.id

WeCare.id is a peer-to-peer medical crowdfunding platform that enables poor and underserved patients to secure funding for their medical treatments through direct case-based donations. Its membership scheme also acts as a form of micro-insurance to ensure long-term care for patients.

OUR PAST PARTICIPANTS



Zaya Learning Labs

India

2014 Grand Prize Winner

“Through winning SVC Asia in 2014, we received operational and financial support from the Organisers, which helped us drastically scale our business and impact a lot more students.”

- Neil D'Souza, CEO of Zaya Learning Labs

Zaya Learning Labs offers a complete school operating system which includes high-quality educational content, curriculum, lesson plans, and teacher development delivered through technology. They provide the resources and infrastructure needed for blended learning to low-income schools and public schools around India. Through their innovative technological solutions such as ClassCloud and English Duniya, every child will have access to personalised learning even in places without the internet and qualified teachers.

Currently, Zaya Learning Labs has grown their impact to 400 schools and 150,000 students. In addition, 2017 is the first year where Zaya Learning Labs first became profitable, and they will be launching a low-cost version of ClassCloud, named School Wifi, in October 2017. Zaya Learning Labs aims to reach out to more schools and students and hopes to build up on the current products, making learning more personalised.

www.zaya.in

OUR PAST PARTICIPANTS



Krakakoa

Indonesia
2015 Finalist

"SVC Asia provided us with a platform to expand our network, and enabled us to receive the necessary support to achieve greater sales."

– Sabrina Mustopo, Founder and CEO of Krakakoa

Krakakoa is a “bean-to-bar” chocolate company that is making premium chocolates using high-quality cocoa beans sourced directly from smallholder cocoa farmers in Indonesia. Krakakoa engages these farmers by equipping them with the necessary knowledge, tools, and support to improve the quality and quantity of their production, and also to increase their income.

Since participating in SVC Asia in 2015, Krakakoa has trained close to 1,000 farmers and expanded their production facilities, increasing their production capacity. After a rebranding exercise in 2016, Krakakoa became a more distinctive and reputable brand, and can better represent its Indonesian origins. In addition, Krakakoa is the first Indonesian chocolate maker to achieve both bronze and silver awards from the Academy of Chocolates with Indonesian beans. Krakakoa hopes to expand its business model and export its products to other countries across Asia and into Europe.

www.krakakoa.com

OUR PAST PARTICIPANTS



Naireeta Services

India

2016 Syngenta Agriculture Social Enterprise Award Winner
(Best Use of Technology & Innovation)

"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

Bhungroo is a unique rainwater management solution developed by Naireeta Services, which helps poor farmers adapt to disasters like drought and prolonged waterlogging. Bhungroo filters, injects and retains excess storm water underground for reuse in dry seasons. Naireeta Services has multiple designs of Bhungroo to cater to different agroclimatic zones.

Naireeta Services has reached out to universities and technology institutes in 11 Indian states to share their technology, so that students can replicate Bhungroo in their home states. They are also targeting countries in Southeast Asia and Africa. Bhungroo has gone on to win several awards, including the Securing Water for Food Programme and Cartier Women's Initiative. Naireeta Services aims to create an ecosystem where everyone can be a changemaker by generously sharing their technology so that it can be expanded and replicated to achieve greater impacts.

www.naireetaservices.com

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2018

