



Empowering those who make a difference

18 social projects in 15 countries
supported by iF Design with EUR 50,000



Uwe Cremering
CEO iF Design

“The iF Social Impact Prize is particularly close to our hearts because we want to actively contribute to a better future by supporting these projects. The projects we support demonstrate the hope and positive change that can be created when people stand up for others.”

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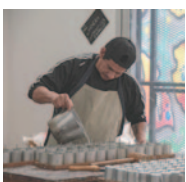
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SDG
13 Climate Action

Project Country
Italy

Initiator
Circolo del Design
Torino, Italy



**SOCIAL IMPACT
PRIZE 2025**

Green Culture – Design for Climate Action

Capacity-building program with
digital toolkit

Most Cultural & Creative Enterprises (CCE) aim to cut their carbon footprint but lack sector-specific skills and tools; generic sustainability courses and expensive consultancies leave a “knowledge-to-action” gap. Green Culture closes it by creating a new professional role—the Green Coordinator—trained in environmental science, service design and cultural economics, and by offering an open-source Green Toolkit that converts climate data into clear, measurable road-maps. The hybrid model blends co-design with carbon metrics, was piloted with 75 organisations and produced 75 actionable plans, proving both scalability and uniqueness.

Jury Statement

Green Culture cultivates climate action as a creative process. Through the nurturing of Green Coordinators with the Green Toolkit, it plants the first design seed that allows creative and meaningful alternatives to sprout, grow, and spread across cultural institutions.



Scan the QR code to learn
more about the project!



**SOCIAL IMPACT
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SDG
02 Zero Hunger

Project Country
Malawi

Initiator
Moving Windmills
Kasungu, Malawi



Moving Windmills

Nutrition and nourishment

Our feeding program tackles chronic hunger in Kasungu, where many families eat only once a day, by providing thousands each month with nutritious, locally grown foods like soy and indigenous greens. What makes it innovative is how it fuels the capacity of local innovators: by ensuring children can focus in school and adults have energy, they can fully engage in our innovation hubs to access tools, resources, and training. By partnering with farmers and other feeding programs, we not only fight hunger but also create a pipeline of healthy, empowered changemakers solving their own community challenges.

Jury Statement

Hunger affects millions of people, and seeing this critical issue addressed in such an innovative and sustainable way is truly encouraging. I'm impressed by the impact and successes so far; it's a unique project clearly driven in passion.



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more about the project!



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SDG
03 Goodhealth and Well-Being

Project Country
Eswatini

Initiator
Clinton Health Access Initiative
Mbabane, Eswatini



TextWell4Health

Scalable SMS-based health platform for EPI & NCDs

TextWell4Health addresses the critical challenge of EPI missed doses for children under 5 years and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) and its complications, where patients lack support for self-management. With 990,000 mobile subscribers and limited internet in remote areas, patients miss crucial health education and medication adherence support. This innovative, scalable SMS platform delivers automated real-time appointment reminders and health education SMSs to clients. By preventing adverse events and NCD complications through proactive engagement, TextWell4Health fills a vital gap as no similar platform exists in Eswatini.

Jury Statement

This SMS-based tool tackles missed EPI doses in children under 5 and supports self-management for patients with NCDs. It's simple, cost-effective, and scalable. With iF Social Impact Prize recognition, it can reach and support even more people in need.

Winner Statement

We're deeply honored by this recognition! Winning the iF SOCIAL IMPACT PRIZE affirms our mission to improve health through digital innovation. The funds will help us scale TextWell4Health to reach more communities with life-saving health information.



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SDG
03 Goodhealth and Well-Being

Project Country
Kenya

Initiator
Circleg Prosthetic Limited
Nairobi, Kenya



Circleg – Accessible Prosthetics for All

Holistic and Affordable Prosthetic Care

Globally, over 65 million people need a prosthetic device, yet few have access to affordable and durable solutions. Conventional prosthetics are costly, often low quality, centralised, and discarded when broken, causing social exclusion, financial strain, and waste. Circleg offers modular, repairable, locally produced prosthetics co-created with users. By applying circular economy principles, we extend product life, reduce environmental impact, and ensure dignity and independence. Over 400 prosthetics are already in use in East Africa, with feedback confirming usability, satisfaction, and community benefit.

Jury Statement

Circleg provides affordable, user-co-created prosthetic devices, locally produced to cut CO2 and designed with circular economy principles. Funded by grants and investors, this social enterprise combines innovation, inclusivity, and sustainability for lasting impact.



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04 Quality Education

Project Country

Brasil

Initiator

Instituto Caldeira

Porto Alegre - Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil



Geração Caldeira

Education for Employability Program

Geração Caldeira tackles the serious scenario of school drop-outs and productive exclusion of young people in vulnerable situations, offering a real path to the job market. The program is innovative in that it connects education, employability and technology within an innovation hub, bringing together more than 160 partners. It is unique in that it acts throughout the young person's journey - from awareness-raising to professional integration - with a replicable methodology, financial support and strong coordination between the public, private and social sectors.

Jury Statement

Geração Caldeira deserves recognition as a design-oriented, efficient qualification program that involves young people with disabilities and has proven successful: free 120-hour courses, over 10,000 participants online, over 450 trained in person, 92% of graduates employed or studying after one year. Through mentoring, and collective experiences, the program encourages dialogue about inequalities, strengthening young people's self-confidence.



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SDG
05 Gender Equality

Project Country
Zimbabwe

Initiator
No Means No Worldwide
McLean, Virginia, US



No Means No Zimbabwe

Child Abuse Prevention

In Zimbabwe, violence against children is pervasive: childhood prevalence of any violence experienced before age 18 is 27% among females and 26% among males (VACS 2019). This inflicts lasting trauma, hinders the stability of communities and endangers future generations. While the scale of the problem is overwhelming, significant research shows that the No Means No prevention program works. Instead of relying on expensive aftercare services alone, the design-driven program equips youth with practical, lifelong skills they can use to prevent and stop violence in real time, leading to healthier and safer communities for generations to come.

Jury Statement

Rigorous, locally led program turning awareness into action: a participatory curriculum that teaches practical prevention and bystander skills, engages all genders, spans literacy levels, integrates into schools, scales via trainers, and shows measurable reductions in violence.



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06 Clean Water and Sanitation

Project Country
China

Initiator
Aquacendo
Shanghai, China



Aquacendo LightUp Filtered Bottle

Water Bottle/Urgent Life Needs/ Social Attention

Its innovation lies in the design, which smartly integrates the basic living and health needs of children in impoverished areas. A hollow fiber membrane filter removes 99.99% of bacteria and microorganisms, helping reduce waterborne diseases such as diarrhea. The cap features a solar-powered LED light, and the water inside the bottle diffuses the light softly and effectively. This thoughtful combination of clean water and light transforms the bottle into more than a tool—it becomes a symbol that spreads awareness and sparks meaningful dialogue around the urgent challenges faced by vulnerable communities.

Jury Statement

The Aquacendo LightUp Filtered Bottle seamlessly integrates clean water access and solar lighting into a single, portable design. By merging health, safety, and sustainability, it exemplifies how thoughtful innovation can meet urgent human needs with dignity and impact.



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SDG
08 Decent Work and Economic Growth

Project Country
Greece

Initiator
SELFMADE AID MKO
Samos, Vathy, Greece

Skills Factory

Community-led Humanitarian Aid & Skills Center

While Europe continues to search for solutions to migration and integration - often through top-down programs that fail - the SKILLS FACTORY offers a living, working alternative. It is a community-led prototype that empowers displaced people to produce essential humanitarian aid themselves. By combining vocational training, self-managed production, and local cooperation, it transforms passive recipients into valued contributors. This model restores dignity, builds bridges with local communities, and proves that inclusion can be practical, sustainable, and urgently effective.

Jury Statement

SKILLS FACTORY is a place where displaced people don't just get help—they build, cook, sew, and create it themselves. It's smart, hands-on, and full of heart. A powerful example of how dignity, skills, and community can turn crisis into opportunity.



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Decent Work and Economic Growth

Project Country

Argentina

Initiator

Luz de Esperanza

Buenos Aires, Argentina, Argentina



Luz de Esperanza – Hands that transform lives

Social and Labor Inclusion Program

People recovering from problematic drug use face serious obstacles to accessing employment and reintegrating into society. Luz de Esperanza transforms this reality through its factory, where creativity and design become tools for change. Based in a marginalised neighbourhood of Buenos Aires, its triple impact model combines design and creativity to create products that improve the lives of vulnerable communities. Luz de Esperanza creates handmade soy wax and recycled glass candles that combine aesthetics and functionality while promoting the social and labor inclusion of people in treatment for problematic drug use.

Jury Statement

Luz de Esperanza helps people in recovery find their way back—through skills, fair work, and handmade candles from recycled materials. The project feels especially thoughtful and holistic, tackling healing, purpose and dignity from all angles. The candles are both symbolic and real—a small light for a new beginning.



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SDG
10 Reduced Inequalities

Project Country
India

Initiator
Dream India Network
Bangalore, India



Colour The Fallen Stars

Rescue and Rehabilitation- Destitute and elderly

The current project addresses the plight of abandoned elderly and the destitute person in select 10 Indian cities. Demographic shift in population structure in India has led to the urgent requirement for supporting the elderly especially those neglected and abandoned. The current project is unique which plans to provide systematic support to the helpless and destitute and elderly persons, with a team of skilled and qualified staff. The project will provide through mobile van services- rescue and rehabilitation support and medical and mental health counselling. Collaboration with State Government departments is a major highlight of the project.

Jury Statement

Few populations are more overlooked than people living on the streets—especially the elderly. The images show the dedication put into this work, which not only involves providing assistance but also seeks possible reintegration with their families or into society. The program covers several cities and has been running for several years, so I believe the funds could be well used to reach more people.



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SDG

10 Reduced Inequalities

Project Country

Kenya

Initiator

Maisha Foundation
Nairobi, Kenya

EmpowerHer

Coaching for Women's Empowerment

This project is a holistic empowerment program for vulnerable young pregnant women and mothers in Kibera, Nairobi. The program includes group and individual coaching to identify talents and goals to work towards; training in business and personal finance, and work-related soft skills. All this through coaching sessions that allow us to accompany them in achieving their dreams, being themselves the protagonists of their empowerment, ensuring long-term impact for them, their families and communities. This programme aims to break cycles of poverty by combining emotional support, skill-building, and sustainable pathways to independence.

Jury Statement

This project moved me immediately (something essential when it comes to engaging others) because of the population involved – teenage mothers in a state of absolute vulnerability – and because of the loving yet determined way the project's leader acts, a woman who, at 70 years old, continues her mission, now with the help of new generations.

Winner Statement

We are deeply honored and happy to receive the iF SOCIAL IMPACT PRIZE 2025! This recognition celebrates the strength of women we work with in Kenya. The funds will help us expand our EmpowerHer program, providing economic empowerment through training, tools, and opportunities for dignified, independent livelihoods to our Maisha mothers.



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SDG
02 Zero Hunger

Project Country
India

Initiator
The Akshaya Patra Foundation USA
Fremont, US



**SOCIAL IMPACT
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Nourishing Dreams through Mid-Day Meals

NGO-run social impact project

Millions of children in India attend school hungry, leading to poor learning and dropouts. The Akshaya Patra Foundation solves this by providing 2.2 million fresh, nutritious school meals daily. Using innovative centralized kitchens, we scale nutrition delivery efficiently and hygienically, with minimal waste. Our unique public-private partnership makes the model sustainable and replicable. Covering 24,000+ schools, the program boosts enrollment, reduces absenteeism, improves learning, and fights malnutrition—turning a simple meal into a powerful tool against poverty.

Jury Statement

I am truly inspired by this project. It was incredible to see their passion, dedication, and consistency for more than two decades. They are addressing a critical issue, and I'm glad to see the remarkable impact they're making; ensuring children are fed & able to stay in school.



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SDG
04 Quality Education

Project Country
Ukraine

Initiator
Katalyst Education
Warsaw, Poland



**SOCIAL IMPACT
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Pi-station Ukraine – open education for all

Open educational resource platform

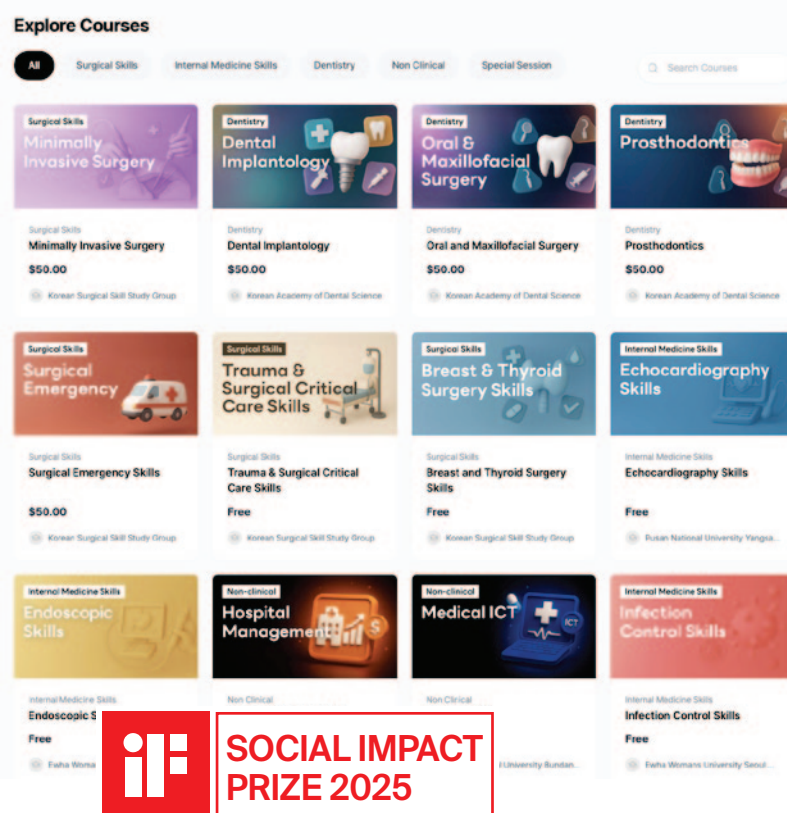
The war in Ukraine has disrupted education for millions of children, leaving 66% learning remotely with little access to quality resources. Pi-Station Ukraine solves this by offering free, curriculum-aligned video lessons created by Ukrainian teachers. We've already published over 1,500 lessons-viewed nearly 6m times, and continue expanding. Through partnerships with UNICEF, the Ministry of Education we ensure wide access. Videos are accessible online and offline, supporting even those in frontline zones. For many displaced children, Pi-Station is more than a platform-it's a lifeline, a classroom, and a bridge to a more hopeful future.

Jury Statement

Free, curriculum-aligned platform delivering high-quality K-12 video lessons and exercises for Ukrainian students amid war; mobile and offline access; locally made content; ministry & UNICEF partnerships; 1,500+ videos. It is a scalable, proven model.



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SDG
04 Quality Education

Project Country
Worldwide

Initiator
Korea Health Industry Development Institute
Seoul, Korea



MKA e-class

Education Website (LMS)

Across Africa and other LMICs, clinicians lack up-to-date procedural training due to travel, visa, and placement barriers. MKA e-class, operated by KHIDI, delivers hospital-grade skills online: Surgery (Basic/Advanced, HPB, GI, Colorectal, Breast/Thyroid, Trauma/EM/Critical Care, MIS), Internal Medicine (Echocardiography, Endoscopy, Infection Control), Dentistry, and Non-clinical (Medical ICT, Hospital Management). Since July, 17,740 learners from 121 countries joined (~95% Africa/LMICs). A hybrid model keeps 15 courses free while a few paid sustain fast, reliable CDN-level access.

Jury Statement

MKA e-class delivers a seamless learner experience—from enrollment and assessments to certification—grounded in service design and usability. It scales efficiently across 19 courses, turning best-in-class clinical practice into accessible training worldwide.



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SDG
07 Affordable and Clean Energy

Project Country
China

Initiator
HappyPower
Shanghai, China



HappyPower

Behavioural Energy Economy System & Infrastructure

Public spaces “lack interactive and sustainable attractions,” while venues want footfall and green value. HappyPower fuses clean-energy tech with social gaming so every climb, jump or spin turns playgrounds into distributed micro-grids, building an “energy internet” and participatory Behavioral Energy Economy. The system revives physical activity, supplies low-carbon power and lets communities co-create their own signature energy playgrounds.

Jury Statement

Through playful experience, it transforms everyday movement into a shared act of climate awareness, proving that sustainability can emerge from a behavioral, shared responsibility toward the energy challenges in cities.



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more about the project!



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SDG
Sustainable Cities and Communities

Project Country
Italy

Initiator
Whitesock Srl
Florence, Italy



Inundo: a narrative game for flood resilience

Educational game

Inundo is a visual novel that turns climate risk education into actionable community preparedness, focusing on floods—the most frequent and damaging climate hazard in Europe. Through a richly researched simulated town and branching choices, players learn vulnerabilities, mitigation actions, and coordination with institutions, translating complex DRR concepts into practical behaviors and civic engagement by youth. Uniqueness lies in the depth of technical content validated by PUI and ISSNOVA, blended with compelling storytelling that models real conflicts and decisions, already piloted across six countries with measurable competence gains.

Jury Statement

Inundo transforms flood resilience education into an interactive narrative, where player choices shape community outcomes. Blending storytelling, systems thinking, and climate awareness, it makes complex climate risk management accessible, engaging, and deeply impactful.



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03 Good Health and Well-Being

Project Country

Nigeria

Initiator

Eight medical
Lekki, Nigeria



God's Eye-AI driven OS for Emergency care

Emergency care solution for emerging market

Eight Medical addresses Nigeria's critical emergency care gap, where over 60% of deaths are preventable with timely intervention. Millions face delays due to poor infrastructure, fragmented services, and lack of coordinated response. Our innovation is a tech-enabled emergency operating system that integrates AI triage, real-time ambulance dispatch, hospital bed visibility, and digital payments; accessible via app, WhatsApp, USSD, and voice. Unlike traditional models, we provide a unified, scalable solution that ensures care within 10 minutes, transforming how emergencies are managed in low-resource settings.

Jury Statement

Eight Medical empowers people without access to traditional healthcare by providing AI-driven medical assistance through a mobile platform. Proven and scalable, the initiative bridges a crucial healthcare gap in Nigeria and sets a model for equitable, technology-enabled care worldwide.



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more about the project!



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SDG
03 Good Health and Well-Being

Project Country
Kenya

Initiator
Let's End Fistula Initiative (LEFI)
Eldoret, Kenya



Tuwape Kesho – Keep a girl in school

Menstrual Health and Girls' Education

Period poverty affects over 500 million women and girls worldwide, with 65% of Kenyan girls lacking access to menstrual products, causing them to miss up to 20% of school days annually. LEFI through The Tuwape Kesho Project addresses this by producing affordable, reusable sanitary pads and coupling them with menstrual hygiene education. Its innovation lies in merging sustainable pad production with skills training for women, creating both immediate solutions and long-term empowerment. By reducing absenteeism, improving dignity, and promoting economic resilience, the project offers a unique, scalable response to menstrual health challenges.

Jury Statement

The project is an effective example of a great use of human centered design addressing period poverty while promoting sustainable solutions. It addresses SDGs 3, 4, 5 and 12, safeguarding girls' health, ensuring education, overcoming gender barriers and supporting responsible production and consumption. Congratulations!



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!