



19 social projects in 15 countries
– Supported by iF Design with EUR 50,000



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A LITERACY REVOLUTION FOR THE ROHINGYA

The project addresses the educational crisis facing Rohingya children in refugee camps in Bangladesh by providing them with access to high-quality education in their own language. Children on the Edge supports more than 6,300 children in the world's largest refugee camp: Kutupalong and on the island of Bhasan Char. Since Rohingya children are not allowed to learn the national language Bengali and at the same time have to follow a Burmese curriculum that they hardly understand, this creates a major barrier to learning. The introduction and teaching of the “Hanifi” writing system – a script developed specifically by the Rohingya – actively addresses this challenge.

Jury Statement

“In Kutupalong, the world's largest refugee camp, Rohingya children are finally learning in their own language through the 'Hanifi' script, a revolutionary shift from imposed Burmese language. Beyond education, this is the survival of a culture and a voice reclaimed and restored.”



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

“We're thrilled to win the iF SOCIAL IMPACT PRIZE! This award celebrates our pioneering Hanifi literacy programme, enabling thousands of Rohingya refugee children to learn in their mother tongue. These funds will be a huge help as we expand Hanifi lessons to all our refugee classrooms in Bangladesh, ensuring meaningful education for all.”



Prize Money: EUR 5,000

SDG: 04 Quality Education

Project Country: Bangladesh

Initiator: Children on the Edge,
Chichester, UK



**SOCIAL IMPACT
PRIZE 2025**



AGUA SANA

This project provides clean drinking water in Guatemala by significantly reducing pollution in Lake Atitlán - a vital water source for the local population - through innovative greywater treatment. Around 70,000 people are benefiting from improved health as a result. The greywater is first collected and purified using septic filter systems before being further clarified via an underground irrigation system using native plants. This simple, cost-effective and easily replicable method not only protects the lake's fragile ecosystem, but also strengthens the long-term well-being of the community.

Jury Statement

"Congratulations on your inspiring work cleaning Lake Atitlán, the drinking water source for 70K people. Your nature-based, sustainable solutions effectively improve water health and food security while restoring the sacred ancestral watershed. Kudos!"



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

"Receiving the iF SOCIAL IMPACT PRIZE validates Water4Life Guatemala's belief that saving this lake is a global concern. We are grateful for the prize, the jurors' faith in our work, and the publicity generated for our simple, inexpensive, and effective strategy to save this polluted lake before it's too late."



Prize Money: EUR 5,000

SDG: 06 Clean Water and Sanitation

Project Country: Guatemala

Initiator: Water 4 Life Global Inc.,
Guatemala



**SOCIAL IMPACT
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THE ZENA LAUNCHPAD

This is an effective educational program in Kamuli, Uganda, that supports women from rural areas living below the poverty line. In a one-year program, participants acquire practical entrepreneurial skills that enable them to start their own businesses after graduation. Through fixed-term employment contracts, the women not only receive a solid education, but also an income, 60% of which they can set aside each month as start-up capital. Graduates of the Zena Launchpad thus create new sources of income for their families and contribute to the long-term economic empowerment of their communities.

Jury Statement

“The Zena Launchpad is a powerful catalyst for change, equipping young women with the skills, confidence, and leadership to transform not just their own lives, but entire communities. It redefines what's possible when women are empowered to lead, thrive, and uplift others.”



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!



Prize Money: EUR 3,000

SDG: 05 Gender Equality

Project Country: Uganda

Initiator: Zena, Kamuli, Uganda

BREAKING BARRIERS IN DENGUE DETECTION

This project has developed an innovative microneedle patch as a self-test that allows people in remote regions to diagnose dengue fever easily, painlessly, and safely at home. The patch takes a small blood sample and detects both early and recurrent infections. This improves healthcare, relieves overburdened systems, and enables early action against dengue fever.

Jury Statement

"An innovative solution for the early and painless diagnosis of dengue fever – especially in remote regions. This strengthens healthcare provision and reduces the burden on medical facilities. This is truly a groundbreaking innovation for many people around the world!"



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

"Winning the iF SOCIAL IMPACT PRIZE 2025 validates our efforts in driving innovation in global health. We remain committed to developing solutions that make diagnostics more accessible and contribute to preventing epidemics, advancing our mission to create meaningful, lasting impact worldwide."



Prize Money: EUR 3,000

SDG: 03 Good Health and Well-Being

Project Country: India

Initiator: Crux Product Design, Bristol, UK

TERRAVERDE CARE – BIODEGRA- DABLE SANITARY PADS

The project produces biodegradable sanitary pads from agricultural waste such as pineapple leaves, banana stems, and corn cobs. It thus offers a sustainable and environmentally friendly alternative to conventional products while combating plastic waste and unemployment in rural areas. It also promotes women's dignity and self-determination through a culturally appropriate, circular solution.

Jury Statement

“TerraVerde Care Pads turn agro-waste into biodegradable sanitary pads - tackling period poverty, plastic waste, and rural inequality. The jury values its circular design, community focus, and dignified approach to both hygiene and income generation. A triple-impact solution.”



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

“We’re honored to receive the iF SOCIAL IMPACT PRIZE 2025! This recognition fuels our mission to turn agro-waste into biodegradable pads, empowering women, protecting the planet, and restoring dignity - one pad at a time. Thank you for believing in us!”



Prize Money: EUR 3,000

SDG: 12 Responsible Consumption and Production

Project Country: Nigeria

Initiator: Allgreen Ivy Limited, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria

TURNING PLASTIC WASTE INTO SEWING THREADS

The project recycles plastic bottles into high-quality, affordable sewing thread for the textile industry in Uganda. It reduces plastic waste, promotes the local economy, and creates jobs for over 100 women and young people. The locally produced thread is cheaper and more readily available than imported goods, reducing dependence on imports and promoting sustainable production.

Jury Statement

"The solution addresses many important issues: women empowerment to transform their communities, scalable circular business model based on the use of the plastic waste. A systemic and transversal thinking designed to close the loop. Congratulations!"



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

"On hearing the news, we were overjoyed and humbled! Winning the iF SOCIAL IMPACT PRIZE affirms our mission to empower women and youth by transforming plastic waste into sustainable threads. We'll use the funds to support more waste collectors and expand our efforts to create jobs and reduce plastic pollution across East Africa."



Prize Money: EUR 3,000

SDG: 13 Climate Action

Project Country: Uganda

Initiator: Helton traders limited,
Kampala, Uganda

WOMEN MASONS: RESILIENT HOUSING IN INFORMAL SETTLE

The project provides women in Buenos Aires with practical training in construction and renovation trades. In this way, the project helps women to build safe and resilient houses. This improves the quality of housing in local informal settlements and promotes the social participation of women as skilled workers and construction managers.

Jury Statement

““Women Masons” empowers women in informal settlements by training them to build safe, resilient housing. It challenges gender norms, creates livelihoods, and delivers community-led impact, an inspiring and impactful model of equity-driven, sustainable development.”



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

“We're thrilled to receive the iF SOCIAL IMPACT PRIZE! From Villa 21-24, we adapt homes to face climate challenges with a gender and justice lens. This recognition strengthens our collective struggle for dignity, equity, and community resilience. Thanks a million!”



Prize Money: EUR 3,000

SDG: 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities

Project Country: Argentina

Initiator: Fundacion TEMAS, Buenos Aires, Argentina



**SOCIAL IMPACT
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PATHWAYS OF RESILIENCE: WELLNESS & TRAUMA RECOVERY

This project is revolutionizing trauma treatment in the conflict-ridden region of Ituri in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. It supports 1,500 women and young people with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) through a combination of narrative exposure therapy, mobile outreach work, and traditional forest rituals. Conducted by local health workers and peer mentors, the project links mental health with culture, community, and nature. In this way, it not only promotes individual healing, but also strengthens interpersonal relationships, cultural identity, and sustainable community structures.

Jury Statement

“This project supports one of the most affected people, women in one of the worlds most war-affected regions. The impact of a prize for this project is immediate and effective. Next to this, the way the project helps the traumatized women is so true to the local customs instead of imposed from above/others, that it will likely support healing in a way that is innovative and rooted. iF being a design prize, this project has many great design elements in it like the forest rituals.”



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

“Rebuilder’s Ministry is honored to receive the iF SOCIAL IMPACT PRIZE. As an indigenous DRC organization, we support war-displaced tribal groups to heal, recover from trauma, and rebuild strong, healthy lives. Thank you for recognizing and supporting our work.”



Prize Money: EUR 2,500

SDG: 03 Good Health and Well-Being

Project Country: Congo

Initiator: Rebatisseurs, Bunia, Ituri Provinz, Congo



**SOCIAL IMPACT
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KUBUENTLE FARMING

This is an aquaponics farm in Botswana that combines fish farming and soil-less vegetable cultivation to provide a sustainable, year-round supply of fresh leafy vegetables and herbs to the greater Gaborone area. The climate-friendly system saves up to 90% water and reduces dependence on rain-based agriculture.

Jury Statement

“A climate-smart and sustainable solution for drought-ridden places in the world, improving food security. This solution addresses a basic need for all and food insecurity is a driver for many other issues, therefore this truly is a game changer.”



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

“InnovationKubuentle Farming is proud to win the iF SOCIAL IMPACT PRIZE 2025! Our climate-smart model empowers communities, reduces imports, and advances SDGs. This honor fuels our long-term mission: building resilient food systems and scaling sustainable agriculture across Botswana and beyond.”



Prize Money: EUR 2,500

SDG: 03 Good Health and Well-Being

Project Country: Botswana

Initiator: Kubuentle Farming, Botswana



MAKEHER SPACE: ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS FROM WASTE

The project empowers young women in resource-poor communities, particularly in Nigeria, to develop technical and scientific solutions to local challenges. The program teaches practical skills in technology, design, engineering, science, and mathematics. By adapting the maker space concept to rural and low-income regions, participants learn to make useful products such as solar-powered lamps or power banks from waste materials. In this way, MakeHerSpace promotes environmental sustainability, economic independence, and strengthens the social position of young women.

Jury Statement

"This is a deceptively simple yet profoundly powerful idea with real ripple effects. Waste is efficiently used, young women are empowered, gender norms are disrupted, income is generated, local leaders are created, communities benefit and future STEAM careers are ignited. Love it!"



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

"We are honored to receive this prize, which we consider a recognition of the importance of diversity in Science, Technology, and Engineering. We are motivated to keep building the pipeline of Nigerian girls and women in STEM. This award will help expand our engineering and technology programme to more young women in low-resource communities."



Prize Money: EUR 2,000

SDG: 05 Gender Equality

Project Country: Nigeria

Initiator: Women's Technology Empowerment Centre (W.TEC), Lagos, Nigeria

SAFE YOU: DIGITAL SAFETY FOR WOMEN & GIRLS

This is a mobile app that helps women and girls protect themselves from violence by enabling anonymous reporting, emergency alerts, and direct contact with verified local support services. At the same time, the app collects data to strengthen policy measures against gender-based violence and promote systemic change. With over 35,000 users, Safe YOU has already saved lives through rapid emergency alerts and enabled thousands to access support safely.

Jury Statement

“This sharp app tackles GBV by empowering women and girls with SOS alerts, on-scene evidence capture and access to support. I love that it's scalable across borders, and has the potential to create systems change through its focus on data collection and cross-sector coordination.”



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

“We’re honored to receive the iF SOCIAL IMPACT PRIZE 2025. This recognition strengthens our mission to make safety accessible for every woman and girl. The funds will support survivor outreach and community engagement in regions where Safe YOU is most needed.”



Prize Money: EUR 2,000

SDG: 05 Gender Equality

Project Country: Armenia

Initiator: IMPACT INNOVATIONS
INSTITUTE'S INITIATIVES
FOUNDATION, Yerevan, Armenia

SAKHEE PROJECT - TRANSGENDER TRANSFOR- MING SLUMS

The project in the Indian district of Thane combats low vaccination rates in urban slums by employing members of the transgender community as trusted health ambassadors. These ambassadors are trained to identify unvaccinated children, accompany families to health services, and provide information on vaccination. Using culturally sensitive communication, storytelling, and a mobile app for real-time data collection, the project promotes behavioral change and improves access to basic medical care for around 200,000 people.

Jury Statement

“This project ticks a lot of boxes. It puts transgender women on the map as an inspiring information source for underserved people in slums. The way they do it, by using comics, is also very accessible for all kinds of people; young old, illiterate or not.”



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

“We’re honored to win the iF SOCIAL IMPACT PRIZE for the Sakhee Project—an initiative where transgender women lead health change in slums using digital talking comics to fight vaccine hesitancy. This award celebrates inclusive design and community power to reach zero-dose children and drive health equity.”



Prize Money: EUR 2,000

SDG: 03 Good Health and Well-Being

Project Country: India

Initiator: ZMQ Development, Delhi, India

LIVESAVING CAMPS

The program offers mobile empowerment camps for people with disabilities in crisis and war situations. It strengthens their self-determination and safety through survival training, which includes swimming, first aid, and crisis management. The goal is to reduce deaths and dangers for this often neglected group and to teach them life-saving skills and greater self-confidence.

Jury Statement

“Promoting independence among disabled individuals in areas where they have to protect themselves is crucial, specially in times of uncertainty. This scalable solution addresses this issue showing a potencial to save thousands of people in conflict and climate change affected area.”



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

“Winning this prize affirms that we are not alone in our efforts to empower disabled individuals worldwide. It motivates us to persevere with renewed confidence. The prize funds will enable us to organize the Lifesaving Camp 2026. In the interim, we will continue refining our approach, learning from our experiences, strengthening partnerships, and expanding our reach.”



Prize Money: EUR 2,000

SDG: 10 Reduced Inequalities

Project Country: India

Initiator: Stretch More, Brighton, UK



EARTH SMILES IN KENYA

The project transforms dry, depleted soils in Kenya into fertile, green landscapes using semi-circular soil depressions known as “Earth Smiles.” The depressions break up the hard crust, retain rainwater, and allow the soil to recover. This cost-effective method improves water storage in the soil, protects against erosion, and strengthens the ecological and social resilience of local communities.

Jury Statement

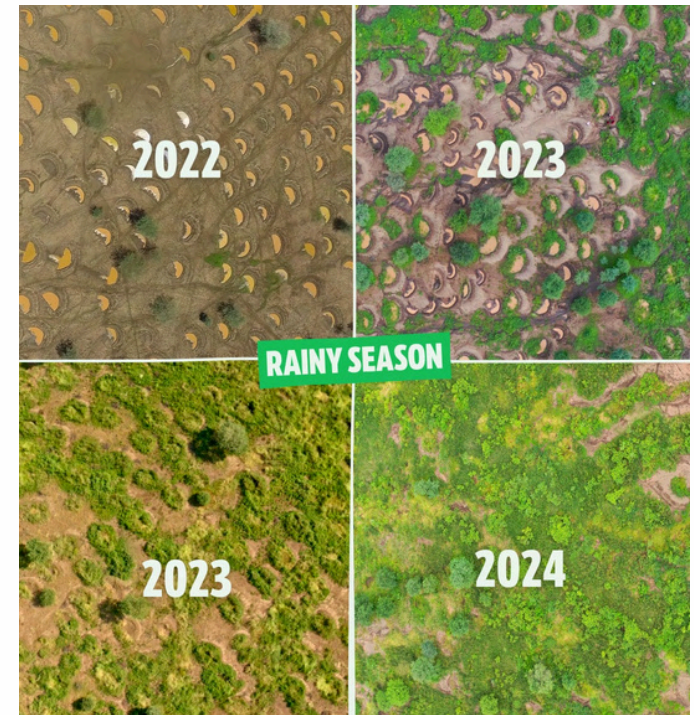
“Earth Smiles transforms vast, dry, and degraded lands into vibrant green landscapes by using low-cost soil and water conservation interventions. This project significantly impacts the resilience of local communities and has tremendous potential for scaling across all of Africa.”



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

“This recognition from iF Design is an incredible validation of the hard work and dedication of our teams and, most importantly, the inspiring local communities in Kenya who are tirelessly working to restore their degraded land. “Earth Smiles” embodies our belief that by re-greening our planet, we not only combat climate change but also foster thriving ecosystems and resilient communities.”



Prize Money: EUR 2,000

SDG: 13 Climate Action

Project Country: Kenya

Initiator: Justdiggitt, Amsterdam, The Netherlands



YAMBA MALAWI'S CHILDHOOD AND LIVELIHOODS PROGRAM

This project is the only graduate program in the world that focuses specifically on the needs of children. The project supports entire communities in breaking the cycle of poverty in a sustainable way. With community-led programs in the areas of child welfare, sustainable entrepreneurship, and financial literacy, it creates new perspectives for children and long-term changes in their living environments. The unique model ensures that adult caregivers also receive targeted support - so that their children have the chance to grow up healthy, safe, and empowered.

Jury Statement

"Your transformative work, empowering communities to break the cycle of poverty with your poverty alleviation program, is truly inspiring. Needle moving and very needed! Our children are the future. Congratulations on supporting families to thrive!"



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

"Yamba Malawi is honored to be selected as a recipient of the iF SOCIAL IMPACT PRIZE! This opportunity will support our growth and help implement our Childhoods and Livelihoods Program, the world's only child-centered, ultra-poor graduation program. With this support, we can further our vision of a world free from multidimensional child poverty."



Prize Money: EUR 2,000

SDG: 01 No Poverty

Project Country: Malawi

Initiator: Yamba Malawi, New York City, USA



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LIBERDADE PARA TRABALHAR (FREEDOM TO WORK)

This is a reform initiative that makes it easier for millions of Brazilians - especially people living in poverty - to access economic opportunities. By removing bureaucratic hurdles such as arbitrary permits, long waiting times, and corruption, the project enables small businesses to operate legally and with dignity, with minimal risk. In this way, it creates space for work, self-employment, and participation - free from unnecessary bureaucracy. The project supports cities and states in implementing the Economic Freedom Act, a nationwide legal framework that exempts small, low-risk businesses from permit and license requirements.

Jury Statement

"One of my favorites because it shows how design can be a powerful tool to eliminate bureaucratic barriers that hold people back. In today's world, simplifying systems through thoughtful design isn't just innovative, it's essential."



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

"We are honored to receive the iF SOCIAL IMPACT PRIZE 2025. The award strengthens ILISP's mission to remove bureaucratic barriers for low-income entrepreneurs in Brazil. It will help us expand our support to more municipalities, expanding economic freedom and creating opportunities for those who need it most."



Prize Money: EUR 2,000

SDG: 08 Decent Work and Economic Growth

Project Country: Brazil

Initiator: LISP - Instituto Liberal de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil

UPCYCLE & EMPOWER: GHANA WOMEN'S APPRENTICE- SHIP

The project empowers 35 disadvantaged women (aged 18–25) in Ghana through practical training in plastic waste recycling, life skills, and entrepreneurship. The project combats youth unemployment, gender inequality, and environmental pollution at the same time. Graduates receive mentoring, start-up support, and reliable sales opportunities through Trashy Bags. With its dual approach, focus on the circular economy, and strong local partnerships, the program promotes sustainable development and economic self-determination.

Jury Statement

“One of my favorites because it combines environmental sustainability with economic empowerment in a tangible, impactful way. well-designed, locally grounded approach.”



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

“Winning this prize means a great deal to our entire team. The funds will go directly towards purchasing new eco-impactful equipment, enabling us to upskill some of our lower-skilled workers through hands-on training. It will also allow us to remove even more plastic waste from our environment – turning what is pollution into opportunity.”



Prize Money: EUR 2,000

SDG: 08 Decent Work and Economic Growth

Project Country: Ghana

Initiator: Trashy Bags Project, Accra, Ghana



SHOE MY FEET FOUNDATION

This is a social project with dual purpose: Children in rural schools in Nigeria are provided with shoes to improve their safety, comfort, and dignity. At the same time, young people are trained in empowerment workshops to make shoes themselves. In doing so, they develop their creativity and learn a sustainable craft with future prospects. To date, the project has reached over 3,000 children and more than 2,000 families, leading to higher school attendance rates and community-supported educational opportunities.

Jury Statement

“By offering shoes for protection, it restores pride in every step to school and gives children a reason to attend with confidence. It also teaches youth to craft shoes and co-create solutions within the communities. A powerful initiative in respect for human dignity.”



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

“When we received the news, we screamed ‘Praise God!’ This award is a dream come true, a proof that impact matters. With this support, we’ll reach more children with hope under their feet and expand our work to more communities.

Thank you for believing in us!”



Prize Money: EUR 2,000

SDG: 04 Quality Education

Project Country: Nigeria

Initiator: SHOE MY FEET

FOUNDATION, ENUGU STATE, Nigeria

WEALTHYCATS: PLAY TO BUILD FINANCIAL RESILIENCE

This project teaches children in Thailand basic financial skills, especially in resource-poor regions. The program uses playful learning and community support to make financial education accessible and sustainable. In this way, it promotes justice, resilience, and sustainable development.

Jury Statement

"It addresses financial exclusion through a joyful, design-led approach that engages underserved children. Playful branding and a cat character spark curiosity and introduce money, saving, and smart spending through hands-on learning, fostering habits of equity and resilience."



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project!

Winner Statement

"We're overjoyed! This global award validates our WealthyCats mission to empower kids with real-world financial skills. The funds will help us expand our game to underserved communities. Every child deserves the power to make smart financial choices early in life. Thank you, iF Design, for believing in our vision and helping spark global change."



Prize Money: EUR 2,000

SDG: 04 Quality Education

Project Country: Thailand

Initiator: Team H Is Happy Company
Limited (Registered Social Enterprise),
Bangkok, Thailand

