

Youth**Action**Net[®]



G E T T E R S



Today's youth are pioneering solutions in every field critical to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Through YouthActionNet[®], young leaders gain invaluable knowledge and skills, and the chance to be part of a larger mission. I know because I am a YouthActionNet fellow.

— AHMAD ALHENDAWI

UN SECRETARY-GENERAL ENVOY FOR YOUTH

Achieving ambitious goals takes audacious leaders: young leaders.

In 2015, the global community agreed on **17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** for achieving greater peace, prosperity, and an end to extreme poverty by 2030. Some call these goals overly ambitious; others say they don't go far enough.

No matter where you stand on this continuum, one truth remains irrefutable. Reaching the SDGs can only happen in partnership with young people. Today's 1.8 billion youth—the largest youth generation ever—will not only inherit the world

shaped by these goals, but are uniquely equipped to offer solutions.

Over the last 16 years, YouthActionNet®, a signature initiative of the International Youth Foundation (IYF), has invested in the extraordinary power of young people to innovate, to challenge the status quo, and inspire their peers.

Our nearly 1,400 fellows in 90 countries are tackling some of the biggest challenges of our time. Supported by 23 national and regional youth leadership institutes,

YouthActionNet fellows benefit from advanced training, funding, network-building, and lifelong learning opportunities. Our efforts ensure that these young founders and CEOs have what it takes to carry out their work more effectively, sustainably, and at scale.

Read on to learn about the innovative approaches pioneered by YouthActionNet fellows to improve health and education, promote gender equality, combat climate change, protect the oceans, and more.



Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages.

—GOAL 3



Through the Ibà Foundation, founded by **Salu Mayowa**, volunteers (above) clean up mosquito breeding grounds in Lagos, Nigeria. Ibà offers a multi-faceted approach to preventing malaria—from distributing treated nets and antimalarial drugs to producing a comic book and a mobile app designed to dispel common misperceptions about the disease.

“I lost several primary school years because I had no mosquito nets,” says Salu, a malaria survivor. “These experiences instilled in me a deep passion to combat the disease.”



Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

—GOAL 5

Concerned about the number of her female peers being abused and harassed, **Lina Khalifeh** launched SheFighter in 2010. The first self-defense studio for women in Jordan and the Middle East, SheFighter has empowered more than 12,000 young

women to feel secure and confident, with greater self-esteem.

Says Lina, “We not only teach self defense, but provide a platform for sharing stories and finding solutions through our stories.”



I think the biggest pull for our volunteers is the community. It’s about giving back but it’s also about being with people who share the same values.

—CHRISTEN BRANDT
CO-FOUNDER, SHE’S THE FIRST,
UNITED STATES

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education.

—GOAL 4

Christen Brandt co-founded She's the First (StF) to provide scholarships to girls in low-income countries with the goal of fostering first generation graduates and cultivating the next generation of global leaders. To date, StF has engaged 1.3 million high school and university students whose efforts are supporting the education of nearly 2,000 girls, like Rebecca (left) and Marian (right) in Sierra Leone.





Ensure access to
affordable, reliable,
sustainable, and
modern energy
for all.

—GOAL 7

Pollinate Energy, co-founded by Emma Colenbrander, works to improve the lives of the urban poor in India through providing access to sustainable products. Over four years, Pollinate has installed more than 13,400 solar systems in 1,540 communities, reaching 61,760 people.



No one wanted to work with this market... The risk of investing in a poor, transient population was simply too great.

—EMMA COLENBRANDER
CO-FOUNDER, POLLINATE ENERGY,
INDIA

Promote productive employment and decent work for all.

—GOAL 8

Through Arropa Chile, **Felipe Cortés Bravo** markets sustainable products made by low-income women out of recycled clothing. To date, the initiative has saved 13 tons of used clothing from ending up in landfills, while providing vulnerable households with a steady source of income.

Says Felipe, “Our goal is to change how products are made,

how businesses operate, how the environment is treated, and to ensure vulnerable people are able to live with dignity.”



Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

—GOAL 13

Anna Sowa uses the power of film to motivate audiences to take action on critical social and environmental issues.

In 2015, she co-produced *Aghbalou—The Source of Water*, a documentary about the impact of climate change on people living in Morocco’s Todgha Valley. Chouette Films, the UK-based production company she co-founded, places a premium on green filmmaking through recycling equipment, composting food, using low-

emission vehicles, and other planet-friendly strategies.

“We produce videos and documentaries that are a powerful force for change,” says Anna, “and that inspire people and organizations to engage and act.”



Conserve and
sustainably use the
oceans, seas, and
marine resources.

—GOAL 14

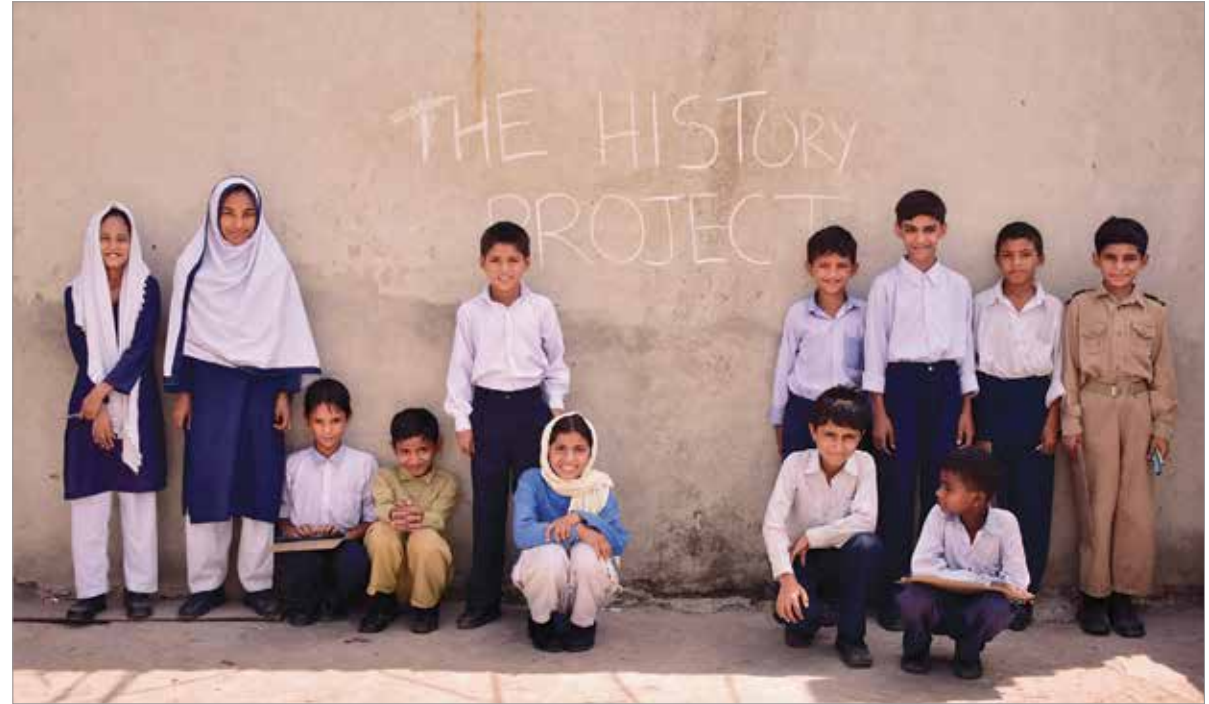
Irene Hofmeijer founded Life Out Of Plastic (L.O.O.P.) to raise awareness of the impact of plastic pollution on marine ecosystems in Peru. To date, L.O.O.P. has removed 95 tons of waste, upcycled 1.3 million plastic bottles, and engaged 30,000 people through campaigns and clean up efforts.



When you spend eight hours in a canoe traveling down the Amazon and see more plastic than fish, you begin to think seriously about what consumption is doing to our planet.

—IRENE HOFMEIJER

FOUNDER, LIFE OUT OF PLASTIC (L.O.O.P.),
PERU



Promote peaceful and inclusive societies.

—GOAL 16

For **Qasim Aslam**, Co-founder of The History Project (THP) in Pakistan, making students conscious of contrasting historical narratives holds a key to combating intolerance and prejudice. Through its books and in-school activities, THP empowers young people to

become critical, independent thinkers.

“We want to equip young people to question, not just stereotypes and what they hear in the media,” says Qasim, “but who they are before someone else decides it for them.”

How We Help Change-Makers Reach Their Goals

YouthActionNet was born from the need to invest in the power of the largest generation of youth ever known to tackle some of world's greatest challenges. Our mission to strengthen and scale the impact of young leaders across the globe is carried out through a robust strategy that rests on six key pillars.

1 Focus on early stage ventures

Our work focuses on meeting the needs of young social entrepreneurs, ages 18 to 29, who are in the early

stages of developing their ventures—when they need help the most. We build the knowledge and skills of our fellows, and connect them to one another, while continuing to nurture their growth as leaders for life.

2 Support uniquely tailored to young leaders

Sixteen years of supporting youth-led innovation has given us unique insights into what young change-makers need and want to become more effective. We recognize

that support needs to include investments in both people and organizations, with both becoming catalysts for change. Our local and global fellowship programs combine advanced training, peer-to-peer learning, access to networks, and advocacy opportunities.

3 Creation of a locally-rooted, globally-connected network

YouthActionNet fellows are supported through a locally-rooted, globally-connected network of 23

youth leadership institutes around the world. These institutes—housed within universities, foundations, and nongovernmental organizations—tailor their approaches to meet the needs of youth leading change within their countries/regions. This social franchise model enables us to scale our impact, while ensuring local ownership and long-term sustainability.



BADIR fellow Maria Haddad (left) poses with a beneficiary of Beit Sitti (My Grandmother's House), the initiative she co-founded to help women in Amman, Jordan generate income while promoting the nation's rich culinary legacy.

4 Inspiring a new generation of change-makers through university systems

With the ultimate aim of engaging an emerging generation of youth as change-makers, we connect our fellows to students on university campuses. By sharing their experiences in addressing community challenges, fellows bridge the gap between theory and practice, while inspiring their university peers to consider how they, too, can contribute to positive change. Learning flows both ways with

students sharing their skills in marketing, business planning, and communications with fellows.

5 Sharing knowledge about youth-led social change

Working in tandem with our university partners, YouthActionNet gathers cutting-edge information about young change-makers and the youth social innovation sector within specific countries. Our research agenda explores critical questions such as

what motivates youth to take action? What are their greatest needs? What are the barriers and opportunities facing young women leaders? With this information, we are better equipped to advocate for policies, programs, and investments that best meet youth needs.

6 Emphasis on continuing education and lifelong learning

With hundreds of our fellows advancing their social change careers, we are committed to providing high-impact

continuing education opportunities across our network. Learning takes many forms—whether through webinars, videos, mentoring, or the sharing of valuable resources. In 2015 alone, six out of ten of our fellows took advantage of these learning opportunities. We recognize that whether our alumni pursue careers in business, government, or social sector organizations, they are change-makers for life.



Through YouthActionNet, IYF and Laureate have created an innovative and adaptable program model that can be implemented in any context, ensuring true local ownership.

—ESTHER BENJAMIN
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
GLOBAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS
& CHIEF BENEFIT OFFICER,
LAUREATE INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITIES

A Locally-Rooted, Globally-Connected Network

Below are the people and programs that are working with us to make this vision a reality.

Anglophone Africa Regional Program

Diana Ntamu | Social Entrepreneurs Transforming Africa (SET Africa)
Kampala, Uganda
www.facebook.com/SETAfrica

Arab Regional Program

Hamzah Abaza | King Abdullah II Award for Youth Innovation and Achievement
Amman, Jordan
www.kafd.jo

Australia

Molly Whelan | Young Social Pioneers
Melbourne, Australia
www.fya.org.au

Brazil

Cristiane Alperstedt | Jovem Empreendedor Social—UAM
São Paulo, Brazil

Otávio Melo Neto | Jovem Empreendedor Social—UnP
Natal, Brazil

Yukie de Almeida | Jovem Empreendedor Social—UniNorte
Manaus, Brazil

Carolina Spinola | Jovem Empreendedor Social — UNIFACS
Salvador, Brazil
www.premiolaureatebrasil.com.br

Chile

Ana María Correa & María Olivia Rivas | YouthActionNet Chile
Santiago, Chile
www.accionjoven.cl

Costa Rica

Lourdes Brizuela | Premio Yo Creo
San José, Costa Rica
www.premioyocreo.com

Francophone Africa Regional Program

Ciré Kane | Innove4Africa
Dakar, Senegal
www.synapsecenter.org/innove4africa

Honduras

Leonardo Rivera | Premio Yo Emprendo
Tegucigalpa, Honduras
www.premioyoemprendo.com

Jordan

Hafez Neeno | BADIR
Amman, Jordan
www.badir.jo

Kyrgyzstan

Mirbek Asangariyev | School of Social Entrepreneurship
Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
www.ase.kg/en

Mexico

Miguel Romo Cedano | Premio UNITEC a la Innovación Tecnológica para el Desarrollo Social
Mexico City, Mexico
www.unitec.mx/premio

Sandra Herrera Lopez | Premio UVM por el Desarrollo Social
Mexico City, Mexico
www.premiouvvm.org.mx

Morocco

Dina Kerboute | Entrepreneurs en Mouvement
Casablanca, Morocco
www.entrepreneursenmouvement.com

Nigeria

Asuquo Asuquo | Social Innovators Programme
Lagos, Nigeria
www.leapafrica.org

Peru

Jack Zilberman & Javier Garcia | Premio Protagonistas de Cambio UPC
Lima, Peru
www.premioprotagonistasdelcambio.upc.edu.pe

Senegal

Prof. Ousmane Sene | Projet JETS (Jeunesse, Entreprise et Transformation Sociale au Sénégal)
Dakar, Senegal
www.warccroa.org/jets

South Africa

Bronwyn Dugtig | MSA LEAD
Johannesburg, South Africa
www.msalead.msa.ac.za

Spain

Andrés Pina | Premios Jóvenes Emprendedores Sociales
Madrid, Spain
www.emprendoressociales.universidadeuropea.es/

Turkey

M. Serdar Apaydin | BİLGİ Genç Sosyal Girişimci Ödülleri
Istanbul, Turkey
www.bilgiggo.org



MEXICO

Partners: Universidad del Valle de México (UVM) and Universidad Tecnológica de México (UNITEC)

HONDURAS

Partner: Universidad Tecnológica Centroamericana (UNITEC)

COSTA RICA

Partner: Universidad Latina de Costa Rica

PERU

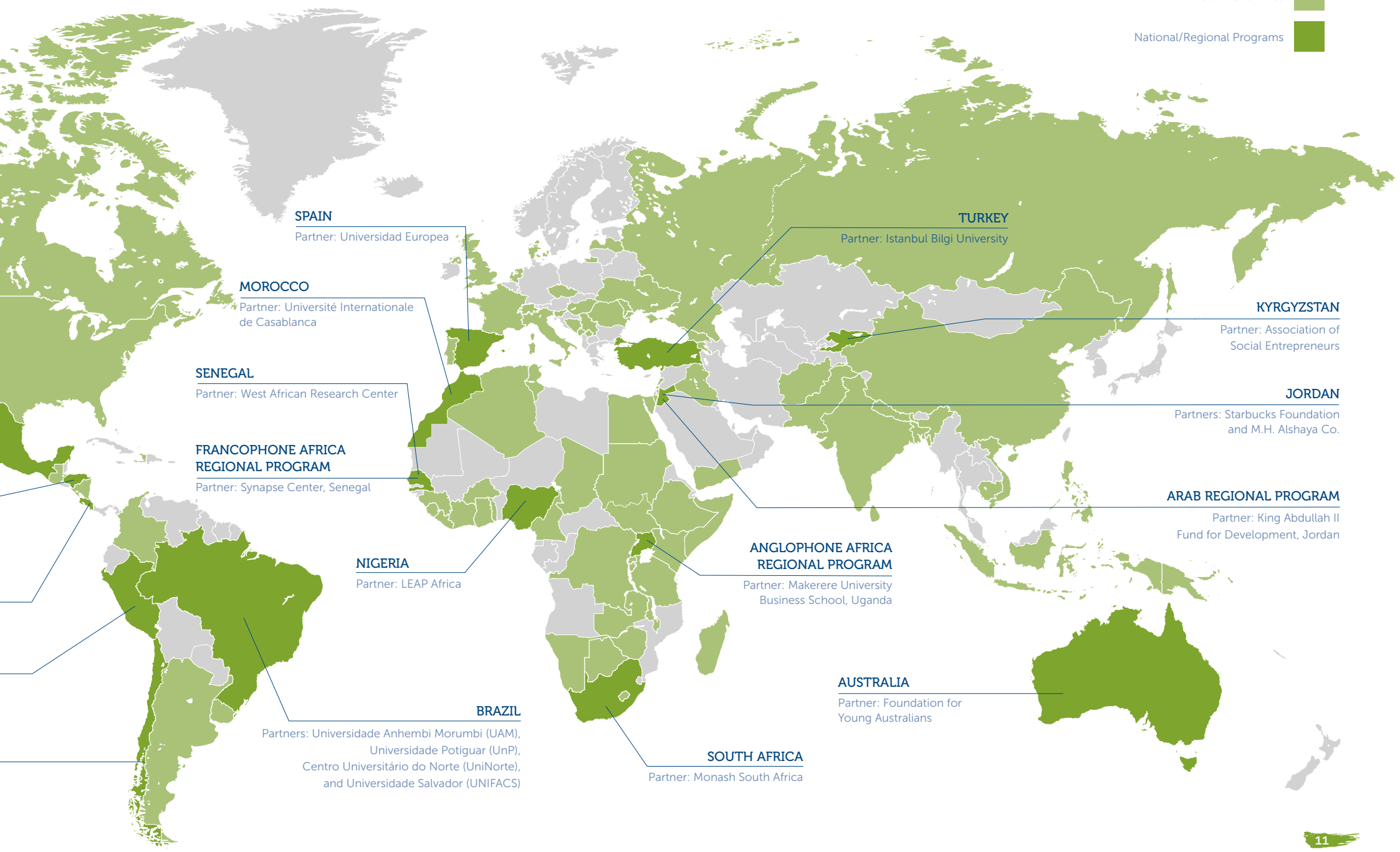
Partner: Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (UPC)

CHILE

Partner: Universidad Andrés Bello (UNAB), Instituto Profesional AIEP

Fellow Countries

National/Regional Programs



Class of 2016 // Laureate Global Fellows

Each year we proudly support the leadership journeys of 20 outstanding young social entrepreneurs through the Laureate Global Fellowship. Supported by Laureate International Universities, the yearlong program includes advanced leadership training, coaching, advocacy, and networking opportunities. Together, these young change-makers—all under 30 years of age—demonstrate Laureate’s commitment to developing an emerging generation of global leaders.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



Leo Henghes, 24
UniTED
UNITED KINGDOM

Through UniTED, Leo seeks to unite and strengthen student action globally by facilitating consulting relationships between university students in developed nations and their peers in low-income countries. Its initial focus is in Uganda, where 85 youth-led projects are benefiting.
www.unitedpartnerships.org



Robert Lee, 25
Rescuing Leftover Cuisine
UNITED STATES

To address the dual problems of food waste and food insecurity in the U.S., Robert co-founded Rescuing Leftover Cuisine (RLC). Now operating in 12 cities, RLC volunteers pick up uneaten food from over 100 businesses, delivering it to 300 food shelters.
www.rescuingleftovercuisine.org



Chris Mukasa, 27
Fatuma's Voice
KENYA

Through Fatuma's Voice, Chris encourages Kenyan youth to express themselves through art, poetry, and music, while creating bottom-up solutions to social issues. In 2015, the initiative reached over 1,860 young artists and 450,000 online and in-person audience members.
www.fatumasvoice.org

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT



Sharon Adongo, 26
Uwazi Technology Consulting
KENYA

Sharon co-founded Uwazi Technology Consulting to strengthen the impact of social change organizations through technology solutions that improve financial and operational systems, track outcomes, and increase efficiencies, with sales revenues among Uwazi's social enterprise clients having increased by 27 percent. www.uwazi.co.ke



Luisa Bonin, 26
Tamo Junto
BRAZIL

Luisa co-founded Tamo Junto (We Are Together) as Brazil's first online platform providing low-income micro-entrepreneurs with the knowledge and opportunities to develop their businesses. An initiative of Aliança Empreendedora, Tamo Junto has over 4,500 registered users with 350 companies and NGOs offering their support.
www.tamojunto.org.br



EDUCATION



Michelle Chimuka, 25
Sani Foundation
ZAMBIA

Michelle founded the Sani Foundation to facilitate the full inclusion of individuals with intellectual disabilities into Zambian society, beginning with training youth and young adults for jobs in the open labor market.



Aditya Gupta, 27
People for Parity
INDIA

Aditya co-founded People for Parity (PfP) to engage youth in taking ownership on gender issues and preventing gender-based violence (GBV) and discrimination in India. To date, PfP has delivered gender education to over 6,000 students, with 150 youth trained to lead GBV prevention efforts.
www.peopleforparity.org



Salaheddine Moutacharif, 22
Msroufy
MOROCCO

Salaheddine launched Msroufy, a social enterprise, to help low-income university students connect to part-time and freelance jobs so they can stay in school. In the last year, Msroufy engaged more than 20 employers as partners, who offered part-time jobs to 300 students.
www.msroufy.com



Imran Sarwar, 29
Rabtt
PAKISTAN

As Co-founder of Rabtt, Imran trains university students to serve as volunteer teachers and mentors of high school students, who develop critical and creative thinking skills, self-confidence, and empathy. Rabtt has reached 1,800 high school students and 1,200 university students, teachers, and corporate professionals. www.rabtt.org



Saddam Sayyaleh, 25
I Learn
JORDAN

Through I Learn, Saddam creates knowledge spaces for vulnerable women, girls, boys, and men to develop themselves through academic and psychosocial support, legal education, cultural activities, and life skills training. The initiative's learning spaces in 12 communities have served 700+ participants.
www.facebook.com/ILearnJo

Class of 2016 // Laureate Global Fellows



ENVIRONMENT



Irene Hofmeijer, 28
Life Out Of Plastic
PERU

Irene created Life Out Of Plastic (L.O.O.P.), a social enterprise, to reduce the impact of plastic waste on marine ecosystems. To date, L.O.O.P. has removed over 95 tons of waste, upcycled 1.3 million plastic bottles, and engaged 30,000 people through campaigns and clean up efforts.
www.loop.pe



Tsechu Dolma, 23
Mountain Resiliency Project
NEPAL

Through the Mountain Resiliency Project, Tsechu works with isolated communities negatively impacted by climate change to ensure greater food and water security through the building and maintenance of greenhouses and orchards, with over 700 students and women trained in 2015 alone.



HEALTH



Maia Freudenberg, 24
Projet Jeune Leader
MADAGASCAR

Through Projet Jeune Leader, Maia works to reduce teen pregnancy, school dropouts, and risky sexual behavior among young adolescents through a comprehensive, school-based, sexual health and leadership education program, now operating in 7 middle schools and reaching over 8,500 adolescents.
www.projetjeuneleader.org



Rainier Mallo, 25
AIME
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Rainier co-founded AIME to predict and help prevent disease outbreaks using a combination of artificial intelligence, epidemiology, and public health expertise. With 88 percent accuracy, AIME supplies vital information to public health officials, saving lives and money.
www.aime.life



Jordan O'Reilly, 27
Hireup
AUSTRALIA

Through Hireup, an online platform, Jordan is revolutionizing the way that people with disabilities in Australia choose, hire, and manage their support workers. In 2015, the Hireup platform attracted more than 1,000 individuals with disabilities and support workers.
www.hireup.com.au



SOCIAL INCLUSION



Maria Fe Cajina, 22

Arte Manifesto
PERU

Maria Fe co-founded Arte Manifesto, the first social network for emerging artists in Latin America, to elevate the role of artists and provide them with a means of marketing and selling their work. To date, 2,000 artists have participated, with 20,000 people viewing their creations.
www.artemanifesto.com



Daniela Calderón, 25

Semillas: Arquitectura en Comunidad
COSTA RICA

Through Semillas: Arquitectura en Comunidad (Seeds: Community Architecture), Daniela engages citizens, businesses, NGOs, and the public sector in a participatory process to rehabilitate public spaces and help communities reach their goals. To date, Semillas has worked with five urban and two rural communities.



Rehab Eldalil, 26

Catherine Exists Project
EGYPT

A documentary photographer, Rehab launched the Catherine Exists Project to raise awareness of and support for the people of St. Catherine's Protectorate in South Sinai, with the goal of promoting intercultural understanding and dialogue.
www.catherineexists.com



Jacqueline Joseph, 27

Equal Playing Field
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Jacqueline co-founded Equal Playing Field to end violence against women and girls and promote gender equality through a prevention-based, sport-for-development model targeting adolescents and actively engaging men and boys. Since 2014, over 1,100 students in 4 schools have participated.
www.facebook.com/equalplayingfieldorg



Rashida Namulondo, 28

Sophie Muwanika Institute of Art for Change
UGANDA

Through the Sophie Muwanika Institute of Art for Change, Rashida uses theater and storytelling to help secondary school students experiencing depression, low self-esteem, and/or trauma to heal emotionally, while educating audiences about their needs.
www.thesomi.org

From the President & the Chairman

William S. Reese

President & CEO
International Youth
Foundation

Douglas L. Becker

Chairman
International Youth
Foundation

Founder, Chairman & CEO
Laureate Education, Inc.

Inspired Leadership

Youth have an essential role to play in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals precisely because they embody a new set of values—and a new story—for others to live by. Values such as empathy, equity, and equality are the North Star guiding YouthActionNet fellows such as Felipe Cortés Bravo in Chile and Lina Khalifeh in Jordan.

These and the rest of our nearly 1,400 fellows in 90 countries represent a collective worldview that values collaboration over competition and meaning over materialism. For these value-driven change-makers, leadership is not the province of one individual, but involves shared responsibility. Skeptical of top-down authority structures, youth-led organizations tend to be flatter, with more decentralized decision-making. By the same

token, youth ventures are increasingly pursuing networked solutions, working in partnership with others to achieve shared goals—at scale.

The commitment of today's young leaders to core values is what compels staggering numbers of volunteers to join them. In 2015 alone, YouthActionNet fellow ventures benefited from the hard work and team spirit of over 28,970 volunteers. Recognizing their natural ability to inspire and motivate their peers, we create opportunities for fellows to teach, learn from, and collaborate with students. Our signature partnership with Laureate International Universities has enabled us to engage university students around the world in nurturing a vibrant social movement of young people leading change.

Fellows also bring a fresh set of values to sustaining

their ventures, employing ever more creative means to generate the financial resources needed to achieve their goals. Many are pursuing alternatives to traditional nonprofit models, with 11 percent operating as for profits and 36 percent as hybrid organizations.

While the challenges facing our world are great, it's the ability of today's pioneering young leaders to not only innovate solutions—but win hearts and minds—that compels our work through YouthActionNet. Achieving the 17 historic and daunting milestones articulated in the SDGs will require a massive shift in how we value and treat each other and the planet. For this, we place our faith in those audacious youth who are architects of a new worldview.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FOUNDATION

The International Youth Foundation (IYF) invests in the extraordinary potential of young people. Founded in 1990, IYF builds and maintains a worldwide community of businesses, governments, and civil society organizations committed to empowering youth to be healthy, productive, and engaged citizens. IYF programs are catalysts of change that help young people obtain a quality education, gain employability skills, make healthy choices, and improve their communities.

www.iyfnet.org

LAUREATE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES

This publication was produced with support from Laureate International Universities. Since 2001, Laureate International Universities has provided more than US\$23 million in grants to more than 100 nonprofit organizations to support initiatives around education, youth leadership, global citizenship, economic opportunity, and the arts.

A member of the YouthActionNet community, Laureate International Universities sponsors the Laureate Global Fellows and is co-sponsor of YouthActionNet programs at institutions within their network—which is the world’s leading higher education provider, comprised of more than 70+ institutions of higher education in 25 countries and with over a million students.

www.laureate.net

PHOTO ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover: Life Out Of Plastic; Page 2: Ibu Foundation, SheFighter; Page 3: Kate Lord; Page 4: Pollinate Energy; Page 5: Arropa Chile, Chouette Films; Page 6: Life Out Of Plastic; Page 7: The History Project; Page 9: Nidal Nassar.

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Signature Partner



Partners



SAMSUNG





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