

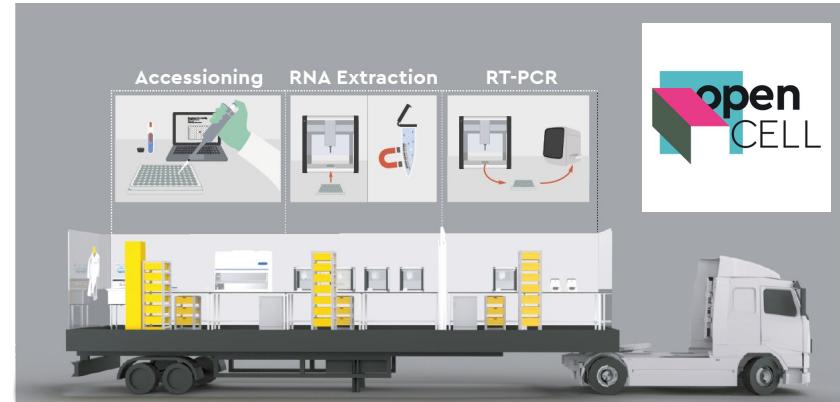
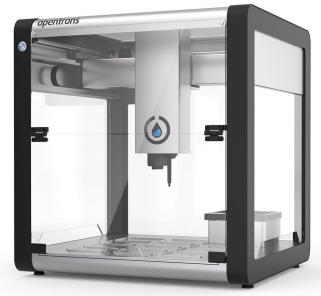
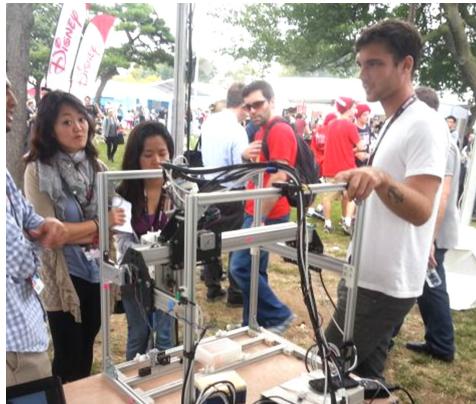


Scaleup Impact Summit 2021

Grassroots Innovation - The Future of Innovation

Aravindh Panch | DreamSpace Academy

How Grassroots innovations respond to COVID-19?

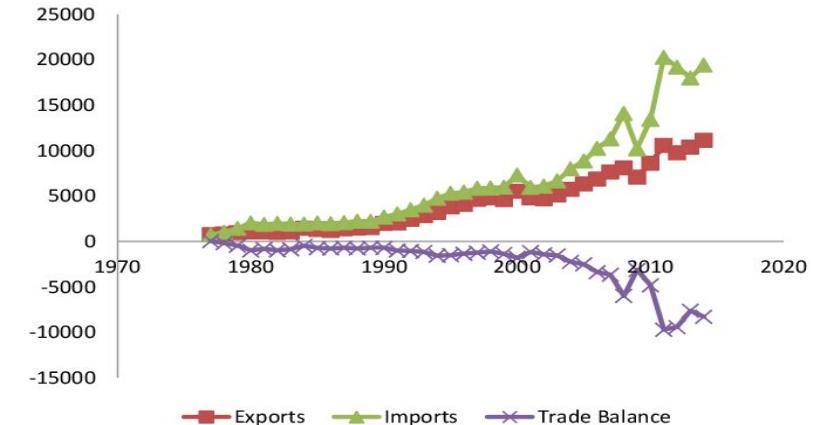
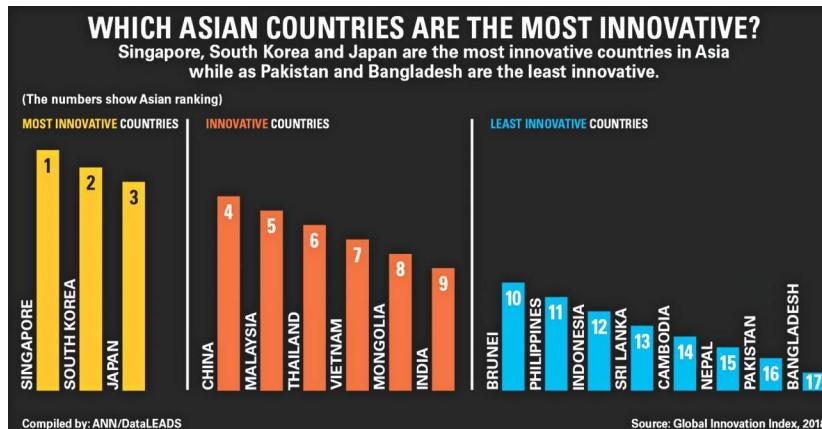


Source: opentrons.com, opencell.bio, bento.bio, openbioeconomy.org

Why do we do what we do?

Three decades of **civil war** in Sri Lanka caused a massive impact on **socio-economics** and **environmental ecosystems**

One of the **least innovative** country in Asia | **negative trade** balance of \$ 9.1B in 2017

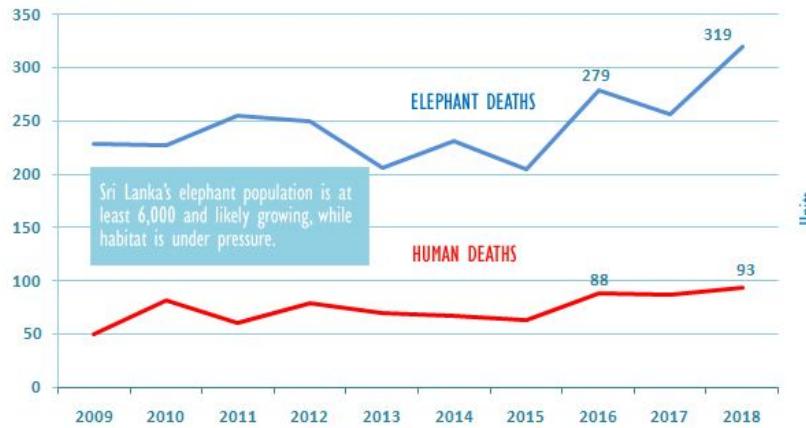


Source: unocha.org, global-innovation-index-2018, researchgate.net, oec.world

Why do we do what we do?

The **international aids** provided significant support, but **imported solutions** couldn't solve fundamental local problems sustainably

Biodiversity loss and environmental degradation | 415 elephant death in 2019



Source: dreamspace.academy

Why do we do what we do?



We set out to **empower locals** to solve complex local challenges !!!

Source: unocha.org, global-innovation-index-2018, researchgate.net, oec.world

Who are we?



DreamSpace Academy is a **community innovation centre** tackling local socio-economic and environmental challenges with **challenge-based learning** and **grassroots innovations**

What is our mission?

Our mission is to empower **underprivileged communities**, protect **environmental ecosystems** and build **sustainable startups** in Sri Lanka

We are a **non-profit social enterprise** achieving several **sustainable development goals** with a balance between the **social mission** and the **business venture**

What are our verticals and activities?

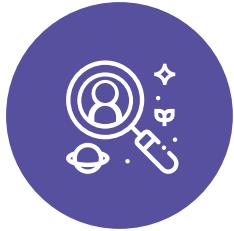
SOCIAL MISSION

Personalised Empowerment
Peacebuilding
Community Building
Wellbeing Advocacy

BUSINESS VENTURE

Social Enterprises
Capacity Building
International Aid Projects
Service Providing

How do we empower with DreamSpace Lifecycle?



Candidate Discovery

A candidate is identified by the motivation to tackle local environmental and societal challenges.



Maker Education

The candidate is trained in anything from photography to biotechnology with interdisciplinary workshops.



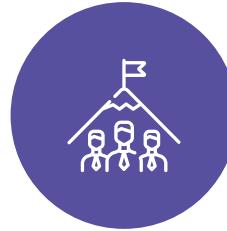
Grassroots Innovation

The candidate's lifelong interest and immediate project are identified to solve a complex local challenge.



Domain Expertise

The candidate's knowledge-base is amplified by collaborating with international experts and organisations.



Venture Building

The candidate's solution is graduated as a startup for socio-economic & environmental development.

How does DreamSpace Lifecycle work?



Candidate Discovery



Source: dreamspace.academy

How does DreamSpace Lifecycle work?



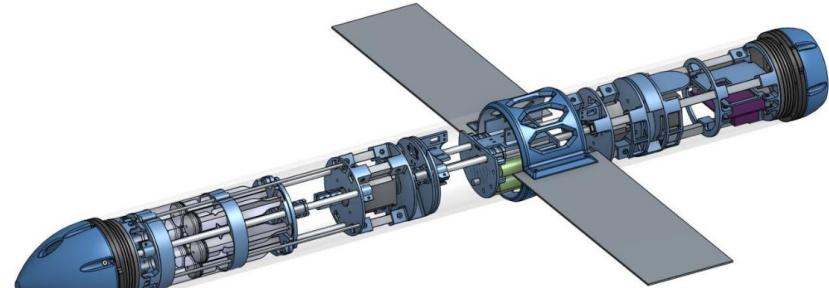
Candidate
Discovery

Maker
Education



Source: dreamspace.academy

How does DreamSpace Lifecycle work?



Candidate Discovery

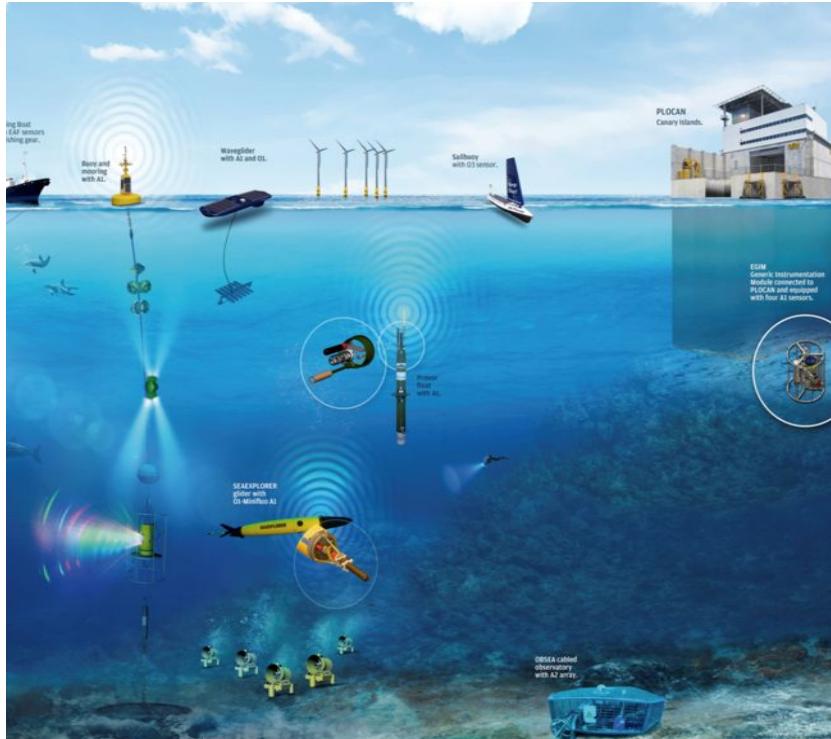
Maker Education

Grassroots Innovation



Source: dreamspace.academy

How does DreamSpace Lifecycle work?



Candidate Discovery

Maker Education

Grassroots Innovation

Domain Expertise



Source: plocan.eu

How does DreamSpace Lifecycle work?



Candidate Discovery

Maker Education

Grassroots Innovation

Domain Expertise

Venture Building



Source: dreamspace.academy,oceanswell.org,generationunlimited.org



Behind The Scenes
More about us ...

How do we innovate?



Local Challenges

A fleet of fieldworkers identifies local socio-economic and environmental problems. We question challenges and solutions first with Design Thinking.



Open Innovations

Open innovations are chosen as the foundational solution for the identified challenges. Collaboration with original authors is established.



Research & Development

With the support of external experts, further research and development is done on the chosen solution, thereby contributing to open innovations



Local Manufacturing

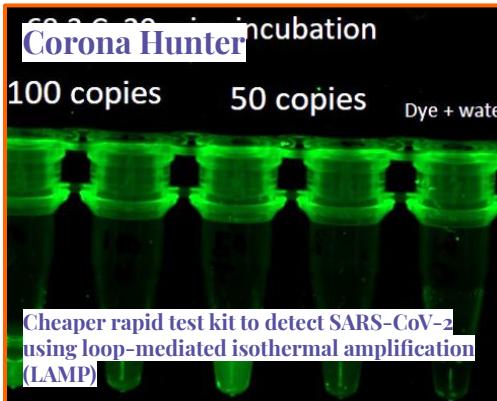
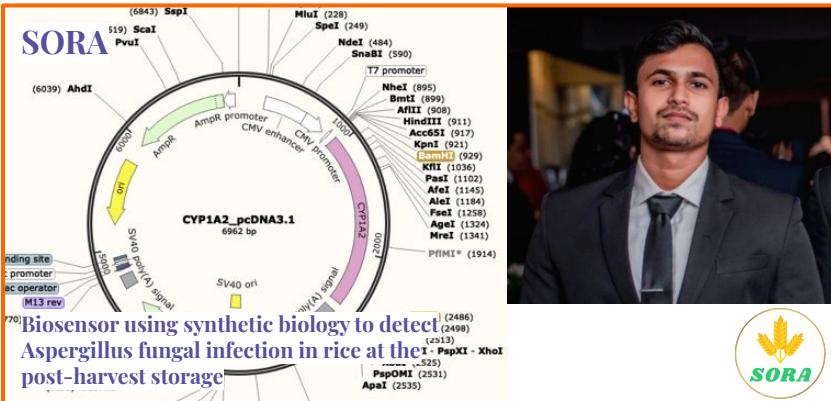
Produce with local materials and service providers to create awareness of regional products. Build manufacturing capacity to provide job opportunities.



Go To Market

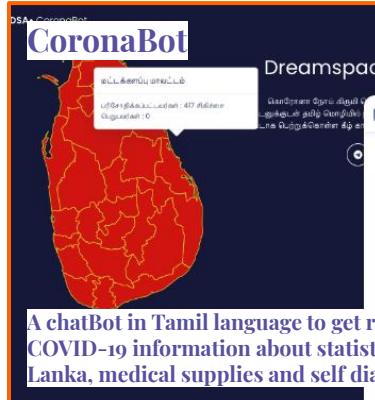
Pilot the solution with relevant stakeholders to validate the market potential. Build an inclusive business model to share the benefits with all contributors.

What are our grassroots innovations?



Source: slintec.lk, trashfortrade.com, jogl.io, siwi.org, igem.org

What are our grassroots innovations?



CoronaBot
DSA CoronaBot
Dreamspace CoronaBot

A chatBot in Tamil language to get real-time COVID-19 information about statistics in Sri Lanka, medical supplies and self diagnostics.

Just One Giant Lab
Learning & solving together



DreamBot
araBot

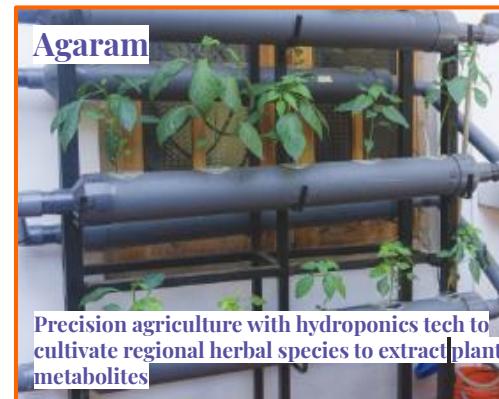
Multipurpose digital fabrication machine to provide an affordable & maintainable solution for local wood and metal handworkers

Just One Giant Lab
Learning & solving together



Biogas Digester

Decentralised low-cost digester to produce biogas from household organic waste or cattle manure from farms



Agaram

Precision agriculture with hydroponics tech to cultivate regional herbal species to extract plant metabolites



What capacities do we build?



Electronics Lab



Software Lab



Mechanics Lab



Business Lab



Art Lab



Bio Lab



Story Lab



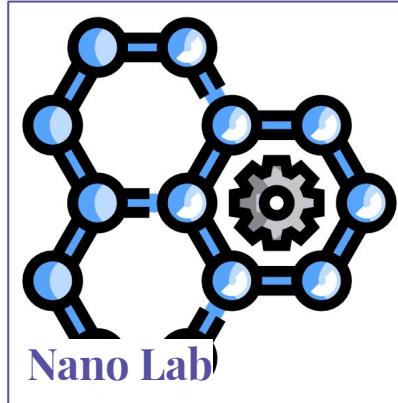
Space Lab

Source: dreamspace.academy

What capacities do we build?



Civics Lab



Nano Lab



Fabrics Lab



Edible Lab



Mind Lab



Language Lab

Source: dreamspace.academy

How do we build domain expertise?



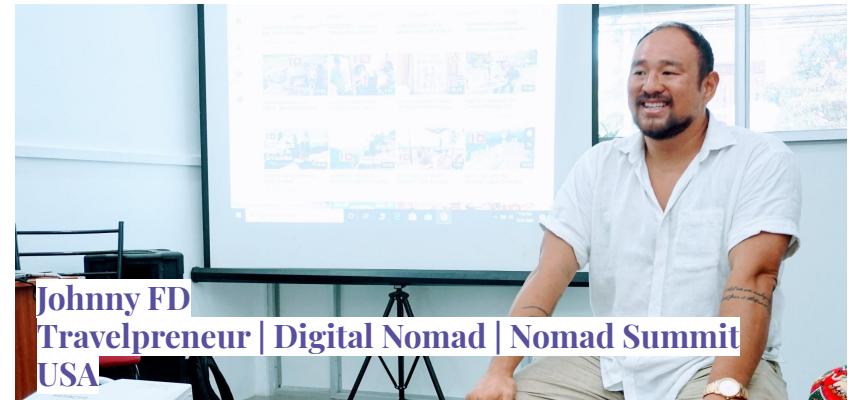
Maite Hernandez Zubeldia
Design Thinking Expert | Hasso Plattner Institute
Germany | Cuba



Dr. Nico Meißner
Storyteller | Deputy Director | Griffith Film School
Australia | Malaysia



Femke Kroes | Janene Liston
Business Mentor | Pricing Strategist | BookBridge
Switzerland | Netherlands



Johnny FD
Travelpreneur | Digital Nomad | Nomad Summit
USA

Source: dreamspace.academy,bookbridge.com

How do we build peace and advocate well-being?



Fine Arts | Painting



Performing Arts | Vocal | Instrumental | Music



Handcrafting



Mind Sport | Critical Thinking

Source: dreamspace.academy

How do we build peace and advocate well-being?



Environmental Advocacy



Youth Empowerment



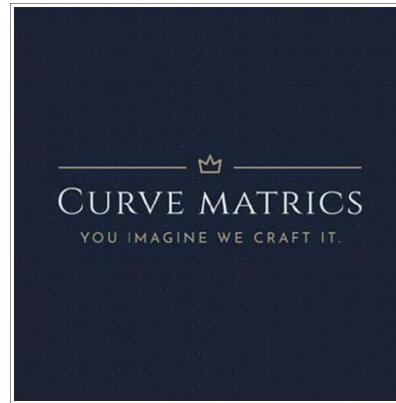
Peacebuilding and Reconciliation



Rural Development

Source: dreamspace.academy

What are our enterprises and initiatives?

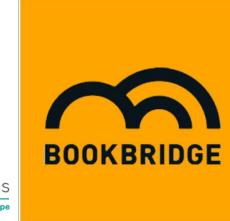


Source: trashfortrade.com, oceanbio.me, ireactsrilanka.org, sylcsl.org

What are our achievements?



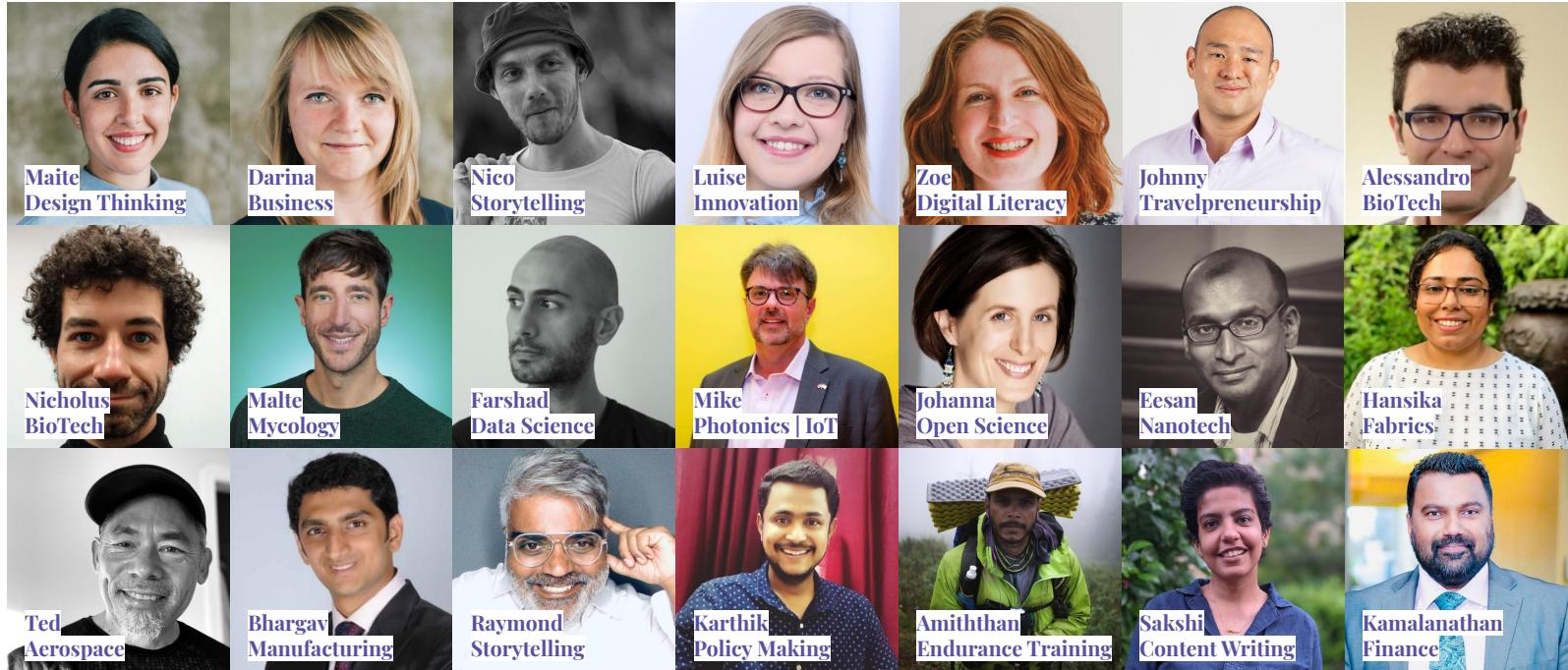
Who is talking about us?

Who are our team members?

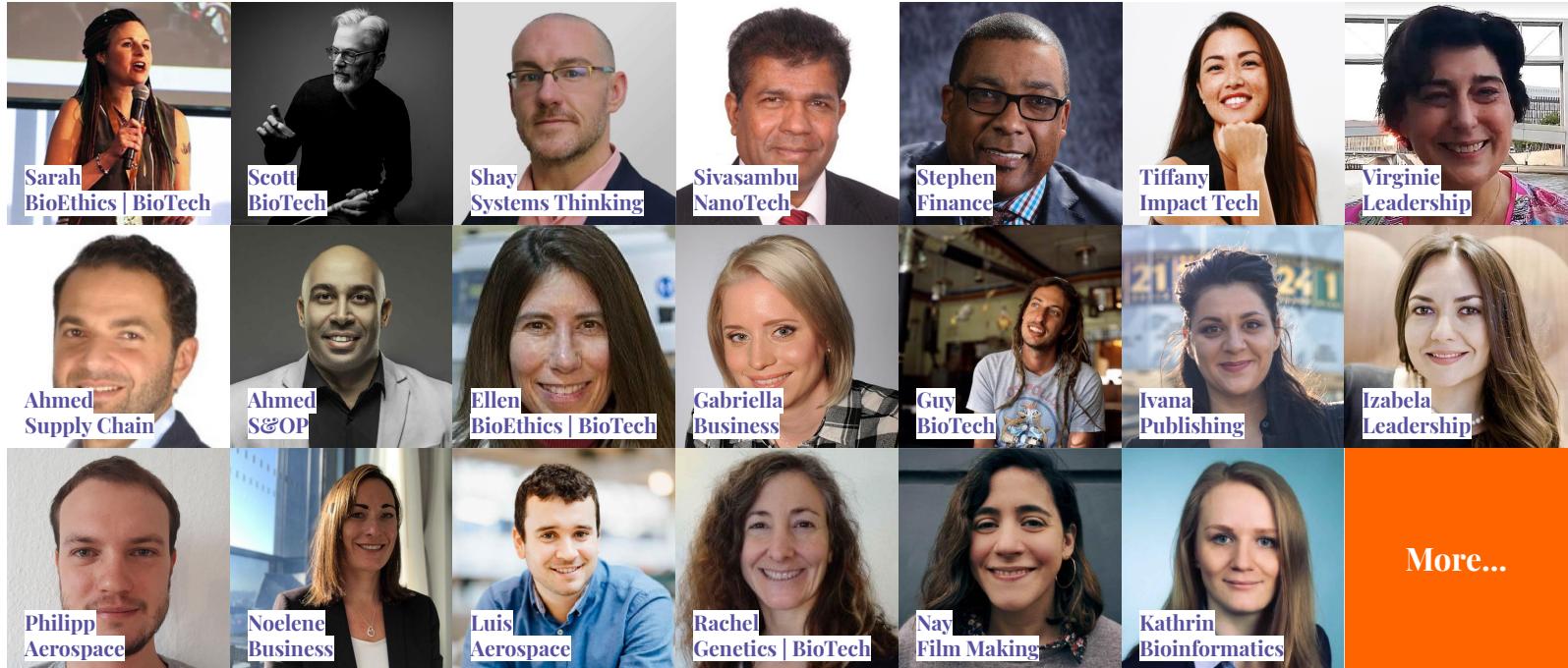


Who are our subject-matter mentors?



Source: linkedin.com

Who are our subject-matter mentors?



Source: linkedin.com

How can you support us?



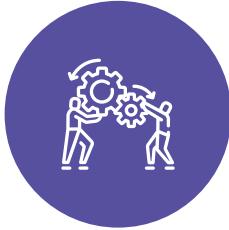
Personal Engagements

Engage with us personally by one-to-one mentoring, training our trainers, advising, coaching, sharing your time and heart



Impact Investments

Invest in us with fundings & grants, buy or donate us hardware & software tools, materials & services for impact as return



Project Collaborations

Collaborate with us on international aid projects on peacebuilding & reconciliation, rural & women empowerment



Service Bookings

Book our services in capacity building, design, research & development, digital fabrication, software & hardware product development



Empower Us

Empower us by talking about us, connected us with like-minded people, nominating us to awards, challenges, fellowships

Impact Investments



Personalised Empowerment

Fund an underprivileged candidate's Lifecycle program consisting of 5 stages spanning 18 months



Modern Infrastructure

Fund us to buy hardware & software tools, materials & services to create complex community innovations



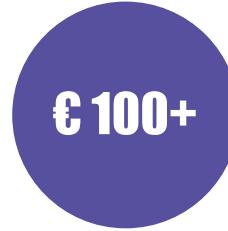
Innovative Ecovillage

Co-invest in building our innovative Ecovillage for harbouring local and international frugal innovators



Lifeline Support

Fund our basic operational and utility costs by smaller monthly or larger one-time donations to keep us alive



Trainee Sponsorship

Sponsor trainees from age 6 to 21 to support their capacity building workshops of different disciplines and durations

Co-Creating The Dreams



Join our mission to **co-create the dreams !!!**

Story Deck at
[http://storydeck.
dreamspace.academy](http://storydeck.dreamspace.academy)

Support Deck at
[http://supportdeck.
dreamspace.academy](http://supportdeck.dreamspace.academy)

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