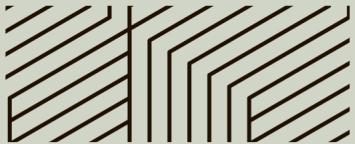




# Empowering Resilience

SocialBoost's Impact  
Report 2022-2023



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# About SocialBoost

SocialBoost is an international organization at the forefront of connecting the startup community, public technology organizations, government, and businesses to implement innovative civic tech solutions.

## Mission

At SocialBoost, our mission is to connect the vibrant startup community and tech expertise with governments and civil society to create technological solutions with social impact. Since 2012, we have been developing impact tech products for effective governance and democracy, creating the startup ecosystem through acceleration programs, camps, hackathons, and consulting government and non-profit organizations on technology issues.

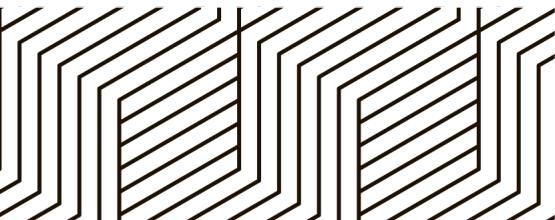
## Vision

Our vision is to spearhead innovative projects that catalyze positive transformations in developing economies, collaborating with both local and global partners to drive impactful projects to fruition. We aim to leverage qualified technological expertise to contribute to international development initiatives, fostering inclusive opportunities for all through the power of technology.



## Values

At SocialBoost, we uphold values of collaboration, inclusivity, integrity, and innovation. We believe in leveraging our team's extensive professional experience in digital acceleration, IT development, strategic communications, digital ecosystems, and impact investing to deliver comprehensive solutions tailored to the unique needs of our partners. Through our work across various industries, including cyber security, digital democracy, open data, economic development, impact tech, reintegration, and decentralization, we strive to build resilient communities and facilitate sustainable development.



# Address from the founders



Dear Partners and Supporters,

Over the past two years of full-scale Russian invasion, Ukraine has gone through unprecedented challenges. Yet, they allowed us to witness unimaginable cases of resilience, bravery, and passion. Against all odds, SocialBoost has continued to pursue its mission and vision. Reflecting on a journey that formed the new SocialBoost identity, we formed the highlights from our projects within 2022-2023 into this Impact Report to share it with you.

While the loss of the 1991 Mariupol Startup Development Center in early 2022 significantly impacted our team and plans, we have quickly regrouped and scaled our projects in Kyiv & online as a testament to our commitment to growing impact tech in Ukraine. In May 2022, we launched the 1991 Reload online program, specifically designed for IDP entrepreneurs from frontline and de-occupied regions including our Mariupol community. The program played a pivotal role in guiding 48 startups through their challenges.

We continue to do everything possible to drive digital transformation in Ukrainian municipalities and empower communities through technological innovation, demonstrating the transformative power of technology even in the face of adversity. Despite the numerous challenges presented by the war, Ukrainian communities remained open-minded about implementing new digital solutions into their operations, including the Hromadsky Project and Dosvit platforms. With the support of national and international partners, we successfully launched and implemented the Hromada 4.0 program, aimed at enhancing the digital sustainability of regions.

Our agility and impact-oriented approach allowed us to promptly unite Ukrainians to address challenges amid the full-scale war, including the spread of disinformation, cyber threats, and technological hurdles. As a result, the “National Defense Hackathon” and “1991 Hackathon: Media” helped lay the groundwork for dozens of projects and startups capable of making a positive change.

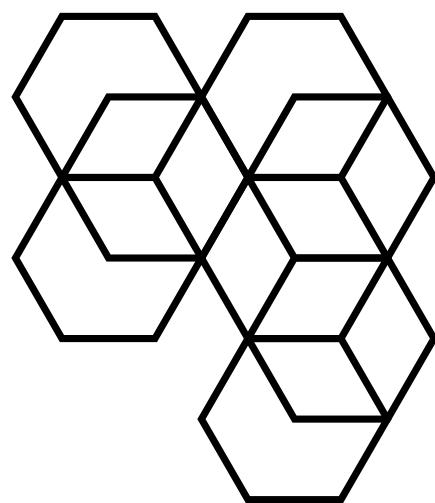


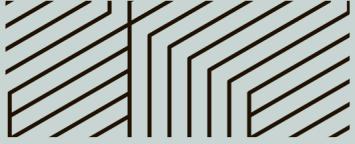
We have expanded our effort to support promising startups with the launch of 1991 Ventures. The newly established VC fund became possible due to the 12-year legacy of SocialBoost and especially the 1991 Accelerator — Ukraine's largest pipeline accelerator focusing on impact tech which accelerated over 200 companies between 2016 and 2024 and aided them in raising over \$10M in VC grants following Demo Days.

As we look to the future, SocialBoost will continue to advocate for impact tech in various industries. With comprehensive support from the Ukrainian government, International organizations and the enduring resilience of the Ukrainian people as our inspiration, we are poised to continue making a meaningful impact. We extend our gratitude to our international partners, including USAID, UK aid, FCDO, OSCE, and the European Union, whose support has been crucial in achieving meaningful and lasting change. We also express our sincere appreciation to all those who have supported and worked with us throughout this journey. Together, we will continue to strive for more significant achievements in the years ahead.

Thank you for your unwavering support.

Denis Gursky and Viktor Gurskyi





# **Impact on Digital Transformation in Ukraine**

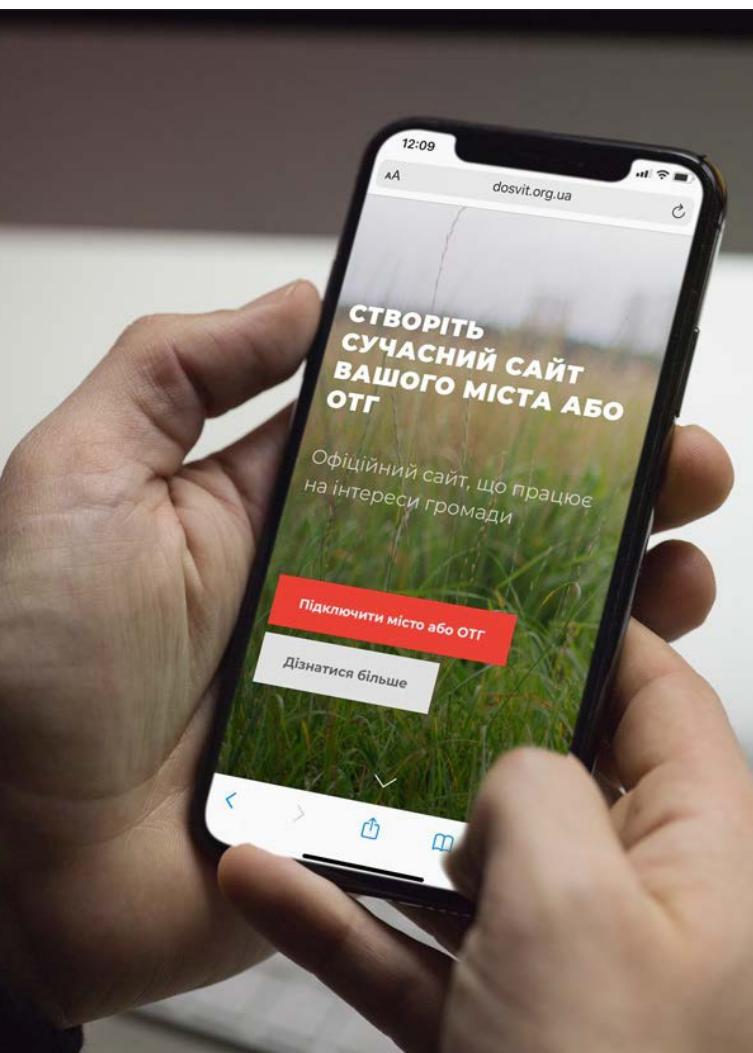
**Empowering Innovation,  
Governance, and Socio-  
Economic Development**



# Hromadsky Project and Dosvit

## Adapting Municipalities in Times of War

The Hromadsky Project and Dosvit platforms have been pivotal in driving digital transformation within Ukrainian municipalities, even amidst the challenges of war. Hromadsky Project is an innovative online platform revolutionizing how cities and municipalities manage their budgets, granting citizens a genuine say in their city's development and providing local authorities with insights into municipality needs and concerns. Dosvit, on the other hand, enables local governments and cities to create modern websites and adapt them to their needs, focusing on local economic potential, transparency and accountability, and participation.



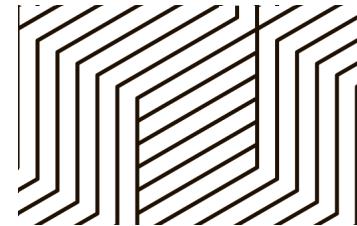
**DOSVIT**

 ГРОМАДСЬКИЙ  
ПРОЕКТ

Despite the onset of full-scale war on February 24, 2022, both platforms' support services continued without interruption, demonstrating their resilience and importance. In March 2022, amidst concerns of occupation, 46 Hromadsky Project platforms were strategically blocked to safeguard user data. These included platforms from Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, Kyiv, Sumy, Kharkiv, Kherson, Chernihiv, and Mykolaiv regions. Upon the de-occupation of certain regions in January 2023, 29 platforms were unlocked, with 17 remaining blocked, primarily from Zaporizhzhia, Kherson, and Donetsk regions.

During 2022, several Ukrainian cities utilized the Hromadsky Project platform for digital voting to rename native quarters, coinciding with the renewed interest in honoring national figures and Ukrainian geographical names.

In 2023, Ivano-Frankivsk conducted a participation budget on the Hromadsky Project platform, determining winners from among 104 projects, 38 of which are currently in the implementation stage. Chernihiv also expanded its platform usage, conducting the School Participatory Budget, showcasing the platforms' effectiveness in facilitating community engagement and driving positive change.



Meanwhile, Dosvit faced minimal disruption, only being blocked upon the specific requests of individual municipalities. Its status as the municipality's official website facilitated seamless communication between municipalities and the population. Despite some requests for adjustments, Dosvit continued to serve as a vital communication tool for municipalities, with its usage expanding from 15 municipalities in 2022 to 24 municipalities in 2023.

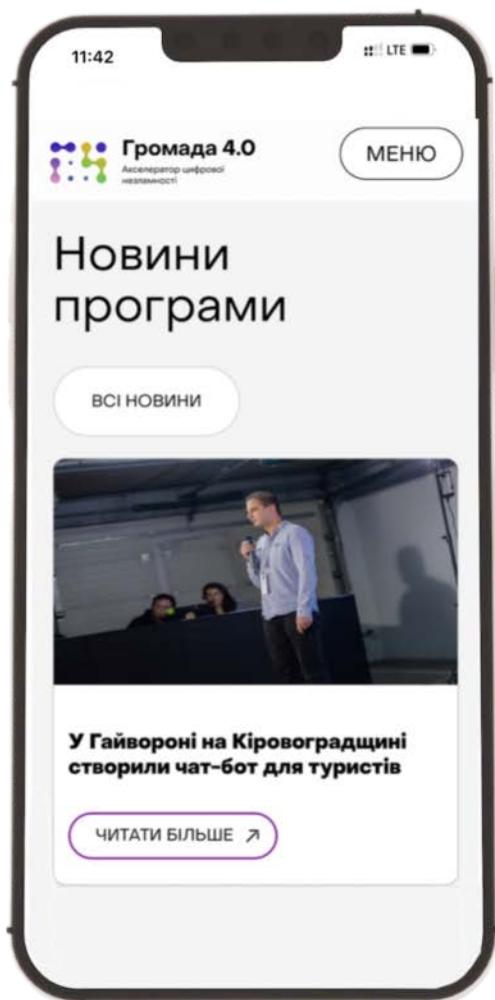
Throughout these tumultuous times, both platforms' unwavering operation and utilization underscore their significance in driving digital transformation and community engagement within Ukrainian municipalities, showcasing the resilience and adaptability of local governance structures amidst adversity.

# Hromada 4.0

## Empowering Municipalities through Digital Transformation

In the face of Russia's full-scale invasion, local self-government reform in Ukraine faced unprecedented challenges. Despite wartime adversities, municipalities (hromadas) recognized the imperative to sustain development, manage budget deficits, and persist in digitization efforts initiated prior to the conflict.

The urgency to prioritize a digital state amid wartime chaos became evident. Municipalities grappled with the need to enhance digital literacy, engage citizens interactively, and fortify cyber security. Against this backdrop, Hromada 4.0 emerged — a program designed to develop digital municipality projects, ensuring wartime resilience and future reconstruction needs.



### Громада 4.0

Акселератор цифрової незламності

Hromada 4.0 is not just a program; it's a transformative initiative aiming to redefine the operational paradigm of municipalities and empower their residents. The program utilizes existing technologies and pioneers novel solutions to bolster sustainability, optimize digital processes, and foster innovations for the nation's recovery and reconstruction.

## Program Components

**Digital Development:** The program champions digital development, increasing digital literacy, and the seamless integration of technologies. It, in turn, provides Ukrainian municipalities with a unique opportunity for post-war reconstruction.

**Community Collaboration:** Hromada 4.0 fosters a sense of community among local government workers, civil servants, digital transformers, activists, and experts. The platform enables swift communication, effective exchange of experiences, and sharing practices and knowledge.

**Communications:** Highlighting the success stories of communities to strengthen stakeholders' confidence in the correctness of the chosen direction of development and attract new participants to the community.

## Achievements and Main Figures

### 291 Applications

A testament to the program's resonance, 291 applications were received from municipalities eager to partake in Hromada 4.0.

### 52 Selected Municipalities

After meticulous evaluation, 52 municipalities were chosen, reflecting the program's commitment to widespread inclusion.

### 60+ Hours of Training

Rigorous training sessions totaling over 60 hours equipped participants with the knowledge and skills needed for effective digital transformation.

### 29 Developed Concepts

The program spurred the creation of 29 well-defined concepts, each contributing uniquely to the digitization landscape.



## Horokhivska Hromada and "SMART School" Project

The Horokhivska hromada undertook the ambitious project of optimizing the educational process by developing the "SMART School" — a collaborative platform for educational institutions, students, and parents. Since its inception in 2020, the project has expanded from one educational institution to a comprehensive implementation across all 21 educational institutions in the municipality.



*Volodymyr Bratchun from the Horokhiv City Council:* "Our team benefited greatly from participating in the program, especially through meetings with mentors and experts. They gave valuable advice and helped solve pressing issues related to the development of our project."



## Course "Hromada 4.0 – Creating Digital Transformation Projects"

Practical information on how to transform municipalities to create a full-fledged concept of a digital transformation project of the municipality for further presentation to donors, investors, municipality residents, or submission for state funding.

Hromada 4.0 stands as a beacon of hope, ushering in a digital era where technology is integral to daily life. The program ensures sustainable recovery and post-war economic growth by facilitating digital projects tailored to municipality needs.

## Lozuvatska Hromada and Cloud-Based Manager's Panel

The Lozuvatska hromada tackled the challenge of streamlining information for village council employees and residents through a cloud-based manager's panel. The team transitioned from hypotheses to a real case, developing a prototype of a convenient website dashboard with essential information for municipality management.



*Ihor Petrenko, head of the department of digital transformations of Lozuvatska hromada:* "We came to the program with a ready-made prototype of the community leader's panel and a database in the form of tables. But all this was done chaotically next to the routine and main work. Thanks to workshops and lectures, the approach has become more product-oriented. We began to understand what result we want."

## Kozelshchynska Hromada and GIS in Land Management

The Kozelshchynska hromada showcased resilience by implementing a Geographic Information System (GIS) for efficient land management processes, overcoming economic and social challenges. GIS was hailed as a significant initiative, offering multiple functions such as integrating various information sources and automating managerial decision-making.



*Bohdan Zhuravel, a land surveyor specialist:* "The involvement of other municipalities in the process of development and implementation will make it possible to create a community within which it is possible to exchange and take into account the experience of everyone, to attract a larger number of specialists for the work and testing of GIS of land resources management. Together, overcoming all the difficulties that may arise is much easier. Therefore, expanding this initiative to other territories became one of the important achievements of the team."

Hromada 4.0 extends beyond a conventional program; it is a community, a catalyst for change in the digital realm. Intending to develop resilient digital projects for municipalities, the initiative has not only weathered wartime challenges but has laid the groundwork for a future where technology becomes a driving force for recovery, growth, and innovation.



# **Impact on the Startup Ecosystem**

**A Catalyst for  
Entrepreneurial  
Advancement**



# 1991 Reload

The 1991 Reload program has emerged as a dynamic acceleration initiative, evolving into a vital lifeline for tech startups affected by the ongoing war in Ukraine. Initially designed to bolster ventures in eastern Ukraine, the program adeptly adjusted its course to provide a digital sanctuary for all Ukrainian entrepreneurs contending with the challenges wrought by the war.

In 2019, with the support of the USAID Economic Resilience Activity (ERA), SocialBoost established the 1991 Startup Development Center in Mariupol, envisioning the development of technology startups in eastern Ukraine. However, the Russian invasion of 2022 caused an inevitable change of plans. The occupation of the city of Mariupol and the active hostilities in the east of Ukraine forced the team to unite in the Kyiv office. The 1991 Reload program focused on supporting Ukrainian entrepreneurs who experienced problems due to the war. Surpassing expectations, the team executed three online acceleration programs during 2022–2023: "1991 Reload," "1991 Acceleration: First Batch," and "1991 Acceleration: Next Batch." This comprehensive initiative was pivotal in guiding startups through diverse developmental facets, resulting in tangible growth and success.

Alongside the acceleration programs, SocialBoost introduced the "Mentor Yard" support program for MSME owners. It features technical consultations and online educational events, elevating the knowledge and expertise of entrepreneurs facing contemporary challenges. With contributions from ten experts, the program provides comprehensive consultations on vital startup and entrepreneurship topics, transcending geographical boundaries to engage participants nationwide. Eight informational events empower MSME owners with insights into business and product development, reflecting the program's effectiveness in fostering entrepreneurship and knowledge sharing within the community.

## Empowering Startups Amidst War

1991 | Reload

3  
programs

Conducted 3 acceleration programs

48  
startups

Supported 48 startups

\$1.2m  
in sales

And pre-seed investments

1.7  
million people

Reached 1.7 million people through educational and informative content

## Additional Outcomes

### Elevated Recognition

The program's steadfast support significantly elevated the recognition of Ukrainian startups and groundbreaking projects, resonating both nationally and internationally.

### Facilitated Cross-Industry Collaborations

As a catalyst, the program fostered unforeseen collaborations and partnerships, cultivating a climate of innovation and robust knowledge exchange between startups and diverse organizations.

### Inspired Entrepreneurial Resilience:

Beyond its original intent, the program emerged as a wellspring of inspiration, motivating entrepreneurs to persist and thrive amid uncertainty, nurturing a resilient entrepreneurial spirit across Ukraine.

### Extensive Knowledge Dissemination:

The program's diverse activities were pivotal in disseminating knowledge and expertise widely. This impact extended to individuals and communities, providing invaluable insights into the realms of technology, entrepreneurship, and innovation.

## Handstree

An online platform connecting global philanthropists with Ukrainian social impact projects, revolutionizes traditional crowdfunding by fostering long-term relationships through subscription-based donations. In 2022–2023, Handstree participated in the PHINEO Startups acceleration program, addressing global challenges. Recognized with the Commitment Award by FES-Ehemalige e.V. Association awarded the Berlin Startup Scholarship, Handstree received funding, resources, and support for platform development.



*Alex Kuvallini, CEO, Handstree UG: "The 1991 Accelerator program was a bridgehead for Handstree platform during our early steps in the startup world. Lean canvas, pitch decks, and pitching, along with expert meetings – everything was geared toward our primary goal: empowering our team, Unique Selling Proposition, and product. Despite the challenges posed by the full-scale invasion and occupation of Mariupol, the decision to continue our program online, holding significant meaning for our entire team. Even now, almost two years later, the accelerator team remains consistently helpful and supportive. A heartfelt thank you and warm hugs from Berlin."*



## Griselda

A data intelligence platform that transforms raw data into refined, actionable information catering to defense, urban services, and industrial sectors. Griselda benefited from BRAVE1 defense technology cluster grants and executed humanitarian and infrastructural projects. Post the Kakhovskaya HPP explosion, TEMB Military and Griselda collaborated on the "Water Evacuation" Telegram bot, aiding rescue efforts in Kherson. Recognized at the 2023 IT Arena Startup Competition, Griselda secured a share of \$200,000 investment from an anonymous American angel, marking a significant milestone.

## G-MAK

Dedicated to advancing security systems with active anti-theft measures, the company introduces innovative devices equipped with unique technology to deter intruders physically. In 2022–2023, the team showcased our technology at CEATEC in Japan, Viva Technology in France, IT Arena in Lviv, the SelectUSA Investment Summit, and the Startup Grind Global conference in the USA. Additionally, G-MAK was nominated in the top 5 in the Defense & Security category at the Ukrainian Startup Awards 2023 by LIFT99 Kyiv Hub.

## Knopka

Knopka is a cloud-based solution designed to automate various processes in healthcare delivery within hospitals and medical institutions. Since 2022, Knopka has actively participated in various incubation, acceleration, and mentorship programs, including the Empowering Future Entrepreneurial Ukraine, EIT Health Bridgehead program, Startup Wise Guys training, and export training from the Nova Poshta Business School. In the Startup Competition at IT Arena 2022 finale, Knopka clinched the second position, securing \$18,000 for the startup's development. Additionally, in the same year, TechCrunch's Editor at Large, Mike Butcher, featured Knopka in a list of noteworthy Ukrainian startups worthy of investor attention. Throughout 2022–2023, Knopka actively participated in numerous national and international events, including the Consumer Electronic Show (CES) in Las Vegas, Slush in Finland, MEDICA in Düsseldorf, and The Future of Ukraine Summit in Berlin. Notably, at CES 2024 in Las Vegas, Knopka was honored with the CES 2024 Innovation Awards in the Digital Health category.

The 1991 Reload program, born out of necessity, has evolved into a formidable force for positive change within Ukraine's tech ecosystem. Its adaptability, comprehensive support, and positive outcomes have played a pivotal role in fostering resilience, innovation, and entrepreneurship in the face of adversity. The success stories and profound impact at various levels underscore the significance of such programs in nurturing the growth of startups in Ukraine.

## FIREkit

A comprehensive service designed to manage and analyze all investments in one convenient platform. With over 3000 users and generating revenue exceeding \$2000, Firekit has established itself as a valuable tool for investors. In 2023, Firekit embarked on a new initiative by launching the FIREkit marketplace, collaborating with major financial institutions in Ukraine. Additionally, the team initiated mobile application development and forged partnerships with the INVESTMENT Ukraine conference.



## Easy Peasy Insurtech

The neo-insurance platform enables car drivers to pay for CASCO on a pay-per-mile basis in a few clicks through the mobile app. In 2023, the team made waves at Web Summit 2023, showcasing their startup at their stand and earning a spot among the top 105 startups in the PITCH competition. Founder Marina Avdeyeva showcased the platform's potential on the Woman Tech Community stage. Additionally, Easy Peasy Insurtech expanded its presence at Viva Technology in Paris and launched a partnership program for car insurance with one of the largest leasing companies, ULF. In 2024, the team successfully completed the Pre-Revenue Program of Startup Wise Guys, solidifying its position as a leader in the insurtech space.



*Marina Avdeyeva, Founder at Easy Peasy*

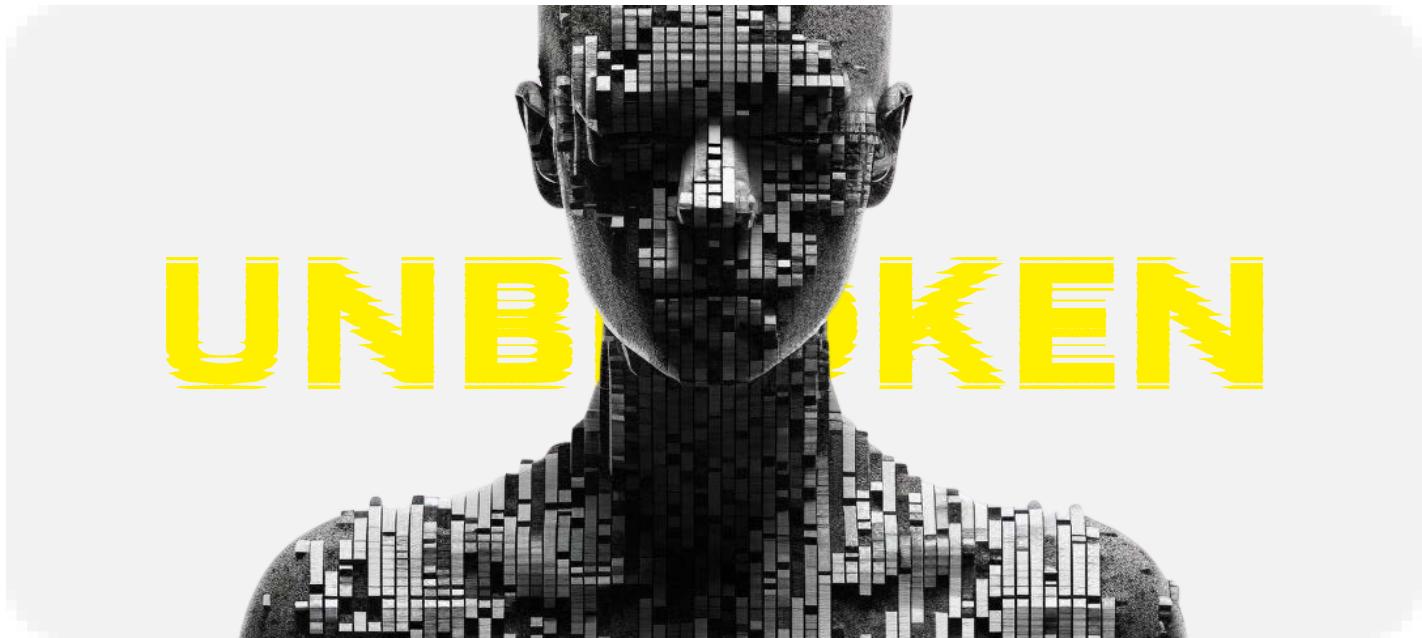
*Insurtech:* "Easy Peasy was just getting started when we entered the accelerator program in 1991. All we had then been a few clients and a website built on a builder. Three months passed like one day: mentoring, lectures, networking with other founders. It was the most powerful boost for us! After 3 months, we had a new platform, a 3-fold growth, increased team, and even a small profit. And most importantly, we were sure that our idea worked! Now our MRR is 20,000 EUR, investment funds are following us, and we are scaling to the Baltic countries. And on the first slide of our pitch deck is the 1991 logo, as the first accelerator in our life that made us what we are today."



# Open Data. Unbroken

## Transformative Impact of Open Data during Wartime

In the tumultuous landscape of wartime Ukraine, the Open Data. Unbroken acceleration program emerged as a beacon of innovation, demonstrating the transformative power of open data in addressing critical challenges. In a world driven by digital advancements, the economic impact of open data is profound, projected to contribute €334 billion to the European Union's economy by 2025. Against this backdrop, Open Data. Unbroken set out to unleash the potential of open data in fortifying governance, fostering transparency, and shaping a resilient investment landscape, particularly in times of conflict.



Initiated with key objectives and operational from June to September 2023, Open Data. Unbroken showcased the meaningful impact of open data projects in addressing wartime challenges comprehensively. The accelerator's commitment to transparency and accountability was exemplified through its collaboration with the Ministry of Digital Transformation and OSCE, ensuring a rigorous selection process and robust mentorship for the chosen projects.

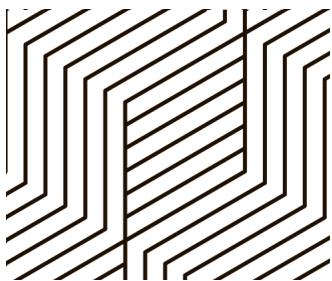
## The success stories emanating from Open Data. Unbroken underscore the transformative impact of open data in navigating the complexities of war and fostering resilience:

### Chatbot "IDP Nazar"

The brainchild of Sergiy and Dmytro Sergeev, this chatbot originally designed for municipal utility plans became a lifeline for internally displaced persons (IDPs). Fleeing Mariupol, the Sergeev brothers repurposed the bot to aid IDPs in finding jobs, offering over 8,000 users access to more than 5,000 employment and government assistance services. This initiative showcased how open data could be leveraged to foster economic well-being and self-sufficiency for those displaced by conflict.

### Information Aggregator "Plant Varieties"

Created by Oleksandr Solsky and his team, this aggregator became a crucial resource for agronomists, gardeners, and farmers navigating the disruptions to agriculture caused by the war. Providing comprehensive information on pesticides and agrochemicals authorized for use in Ukraine, along with assisting farmers in selecting the best plant varieties, 'Agrarians Together' fosters more resilient agricultural practices.



### Chatbot "Where is the Shelter?"

This chatbot, developed by Konstantin Homma and his team, addressed the critical need for safe shelters during air raids. Compiling data on 56,000 registered civil protection facilities across Ukraine, the bot became a vital tool for citizens to find secure shelters and report issues for proper maintenance. Beyond its immediate impact, the team aims to publish the created dataset on the National Open Data Portal, unlocking the full potential of open data related to shelters.

Every participating team received a grant of 10,000 euros, a testament to their exceptional promise and strong alignment with the program's objectives. This financial support was geared towards propelling the development of their innovative products and fostering the growth of impactful solutions that address critical challenges.

The core values of Open Data. Unbroken — innovation, transparency, and empowerment — have not only fueled the success of individual projects but have also contributed to a broader culture of open data utilization in Ukraine. Participants in this program have demonstrated the practical impact of open data in addressing immediate challenges. They have paved the way for future initiatives that harness the potential of open data to build a more resilient and transparent society, even in the face of adversity. Open Data. Unbroken stands as a testament to the transformative potential of open data in times of crisis, showcasing its power to turn challenges into opportunities and illuminate a path toward a more inclusive and innovative future.

# National Defence Hackathon

In the wake of a full-scale invasion and the escalating need for innovative cyber warfare and information security solutions, the National Defence Hackathon emerged as a collaborative initiative, bringing together leading Ukrainian specialists in cybersecurity, disinformation combat, and IT. With the participation of NATO and foreign cybersecurity experts, this unprecedented alliance between the public and private sectors, bolstered by SocialBoost's community-building role, was driven by the urgent need to strengthen the capabilities of the Russian Armed Forces. In addition, SocialBoost's mission is to enhance the technological capabilities of the Armed Forces against the Russian aggressor.

The National Defence Hackathon 2022 was a testament to the resilience and innovation of the Ukrainian tech community. Over three days, nearly 500 participants, including top-notch Ukrainian cyber specialists, IT experts, and international representatives, engaged in an intensive hackathon focused on technical challenges, disinformation combat, and legal aspects. The primary objective was to develop innovative solutions that would provide the Armed Forces of Ukraine with a significant technological advantage.

The hackathon unfolded in three key areas, addressing real-world tasks crucial for the country's defense. Teams took on challenges ranging from data analysis systems and video stream innovations to psychological influence and counter-disinformation measures. Noteworthy as the largest event of its kind in Ukraine, the National Defence Hackathon 2022 gathered nearly 300 participants forming 41 teams, directly competing and presenting 17 selected projects at the technical solutions exhibition. Additionally, around 200 specialists contributed to panel discussions integrated into the hackathon, adding depth and insights to the event.

## Fostering Innovation for Resilience



The hackathon's impact extended beyond mere numbers, translating into tangible outcomes. Teams successfully formulated concepts, built innovative solutions, and demonstrated their projects within a short timeframe. These solutions spanned data analysis systems, video stream advancements, large-scale data collection and analysis, enemy identification systems, and distraction and psychological influence measures. Importantly, teams in the technical direction and IPSO shared practical applications of their ideas in countering the Russian aggressor.

The National Defence Hackathon played a pivotal role in advancing the technological capabilities of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. By fostering collaboration between the public and private sectors, the event underscored the agility and innovation potential within the Ukrainian tech ecosystem, showcasing its ability to respond swiftly and effectively to complex challenges posed by modern warfare. The hackathon stands as a testament to the strength of collective efforts and the role of technology in bolstering national defense in the face of evolving threats.

# 1991 Hackathon

## Media — Transforming Information Security

The Russian invasion of Ukraine not only shattered territorial boundaries but ushered in a new era of disinformation and propaganda, necessitating a resilient response. In this context, SocialBoost and the 1991 Accelerator initiated the 1991 Hackathon: Media in January 2023. This Ukrainian-European hackathon focused on identifying digital solutions to counter disinformation, analyze data for media, and develop cyber hygiene.

The roots of the hackathon lie in the evolving landscape of warfare, where information has become as critical as territory. The invasion heightened the urgency for innovative approaches to counter disinformation, prompting the 1991 Accelerator to extend its impact-driven startup ethos to the 1991 Hackathon: Media. The event in Warsaw sought to forge digital solutions that empower governments, media, businesses, emerging tech players, and the public to navigate the information space amid the chaos of war.

**x 1991 x**  
**□ hackathon:  
media**



### Hackathon Dynamics:

Open to global tech enthusiasts, the hackathon attracted 120 online and offline participants. Teams collaborated on challenges ranging from algorithms and real-time monitoring to user education and big tech responsibility. The 48-hour event witnessed a surge of creativity, yielding tech solutions in automation, cyber threat prevention, and information hygiene. The final day saw 15 diverse teams from multiple European countries presenting their projects.

### Pre-Event and Industry Heavyweights:

A pre-event gathered luminaries from Google, Meta, NATO Strategic Communications Centre of Excellence, OSCE, Voice of America, and Radio Liberty. Their insights during three panel discussions formed the bedrock for addressing disinformation from governmental, tech, and civil society perspectives.

### Impact and Post-Hackathon Boost:

OSavul, MindGuards, and Dattalion emerged as triumphant champions, with OSavul experiencing significant post-hackathon success. The Ukrainian AI-focused software company secured a \$1 million investment from the SMRK venture fund in spring 2023. This capital injection is earmarked for amplifying the technology platform, international expansion, and robust marketing endeavors.

## 1991 Hackathon winners



### OSavul

A web platform that monitors cross-channel information influences operations and automatically detects Coordinated Inauthentic Behavior (CIB) signals.

### MindGuards

Tech tools for checking information, including the background of the authors of the materials and the content.

### Dattalion

The largest consolidated open-source database of photo and video footage related to civilian suffering due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.



The 1991 Hackathon: Media has been a cornerstone in fortifying the startup ecosystem amid the challenges of disinformation in times of war. This initiative not only spurred the development of innovative solutions but also fostered a collaborative spirit among European entities, bringing together industry leaders, experts, and organizations to collectively address the menace of misinformation. Through the Hackathon, SocialBoost has played a pivotal role in advancing technological resilience, forging partnerships, and contributing to the broader narrative of safeguarding truth and information integrity in the digital realm.

# 1991 Ventures

## Nurturing Mission-Driven Innovation

In the crucible of war upheavals, Ukrainian startups faced unprecedented challenges, compelling them to seek refuge and investment opportunities in Europe. Responding to this, 1991 Ventures emerged as a beacon of support, a London-based seed venture fund uniquely positioned to invest in mission-driven Central and Eastern European (CEE) founders.

Born from the self-funded network of the 1991 Accelerator in the CEE region, 1991 Ventures is more than a financial backer; it's a facilitator of dreams and a catalyst for impactful innovation. Its mission is clear: to empower founders from the emerging markets of CEE with not just funding but also bespoke mentorship tailored to their unique journeys.



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The investment focus of 1991 Ventures spans diverse sectors, all intricately connected to data and deep tech. From government technology (govtech) to civic tech, cybersecurity, fintech, mobility, and smart city solutions, 1991 Ventures explores the intersections where innovation meets impact.

Guided by a commitment to Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) standards, 1991 Ventures is unwavering in its adherence to ethical practices. The fund is aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), addressing the most pressing challenges of the modern era by navigating signals from the market, government, and international organizations.

As the CEE region undergoes transformative changes, 1991 Ventures serves not just as a financial backer but as a strategic partner for founders navigating the complex landscape of innovation. The missions contribute not only to business success but to the betterment of society at large.





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Alliance of Democracies

**ZAS VENTURES**

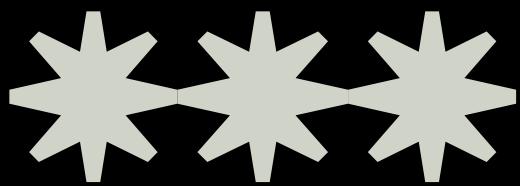


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Website

[www.socialboost.ua](http://www.socialboost.ua)

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Linkedin

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