





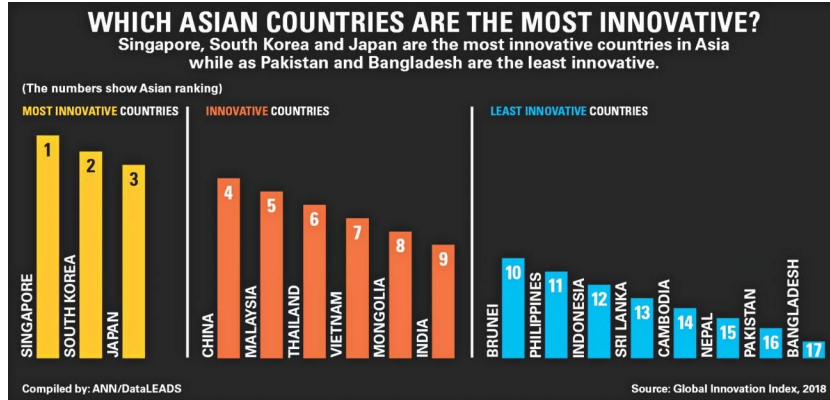
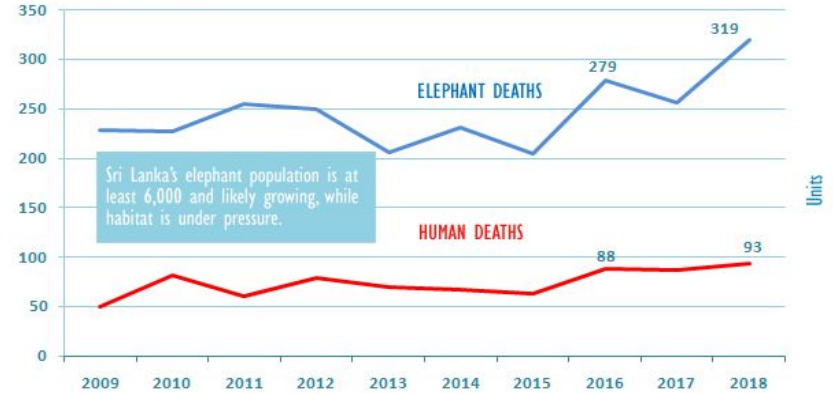
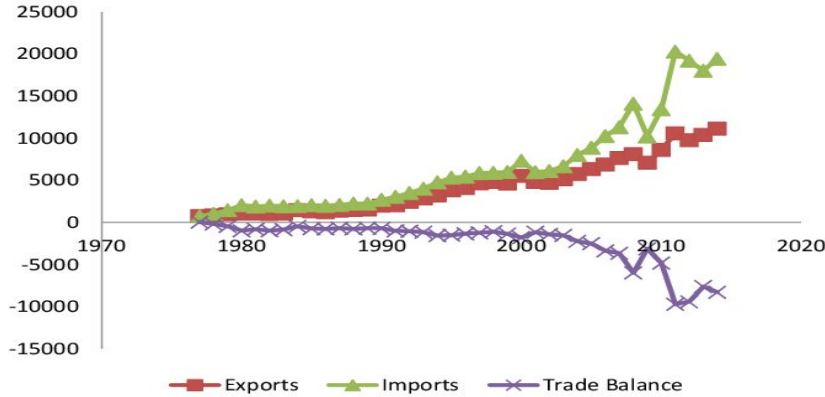
# Why do we do what we do?

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

**International aid** provided significant support, but **imported solutions** couldn't solve fundamental **local problems sustainably**

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

# Why do we do what we do?



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

# Who are we?



**DreamSpace Academy** is a non-profit social enterprise tackling local **socio-economic** and **environmental** challenges through **challenge-based learning**, grassroots **innovation** and **impact-venture building**





# What is our mission?

Our mission is to achieve **sustainable development goals** in Sri Lanka by empowering **underserved communities**, protecting **environmental ecosystems**, facilitating **peacebuilding** and fostering **impact venture**



# What is our vision?

Our vision is to build a **self-sustaining ecosystem** for local & international changemakers to **co-learn**, **co-innovate**, **co-live**, **co-farm** and **co-produce**, thereby co-creating next-generation enterprises to make Sri Lanka the biggest **social & tech innovation hub** in South Asia

# 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?



## Changemaker Discovery

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



## Challenge-based Learning

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



## Grassroots Innovation

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



## Domain Expertise

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



## Impact-Venture Building

The Changemaker's solution is graduated as a impact venture for socio-economic & environmental development

# How does DreamSpace Lifecycle work?



Changemaker  
Discovery

Source: dreamspace.academy

# How does DreamSpace Lifecycle work?



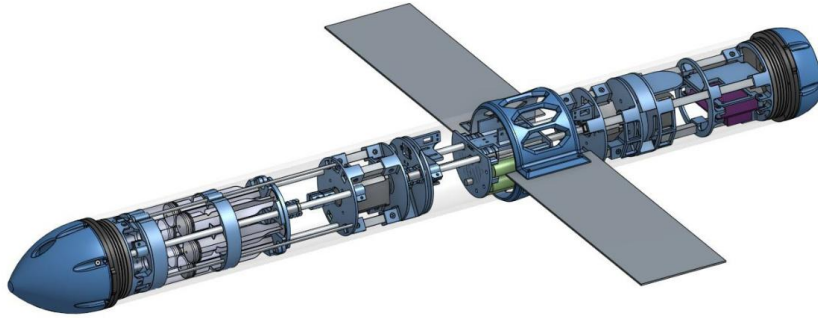
Changemaker  
Discovery

Challenge-based  
Learning

Source: dreamspace.academy



# How does DreamSpace Lifecycle work?



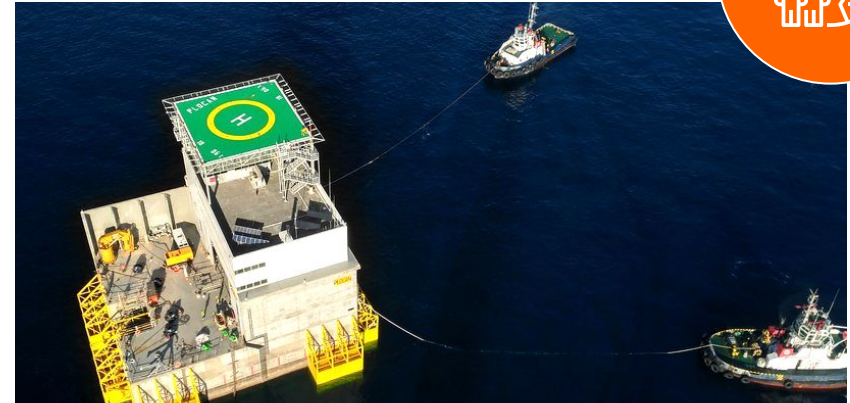
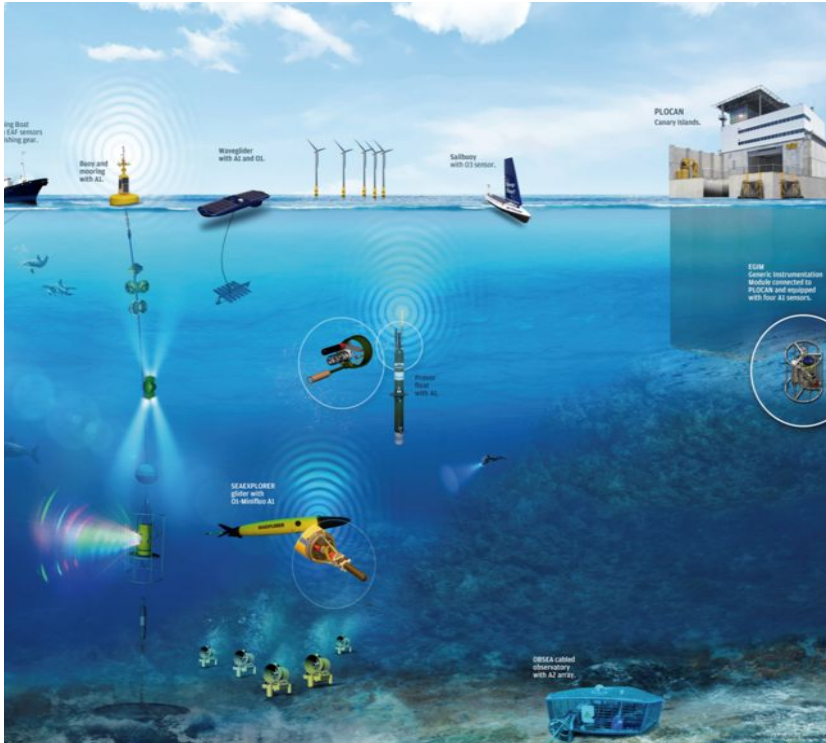
Changemaker  
Discovery

Challenge-based  
Learning

Grassroots  
Innovation

Source: dreamspace.academy

# How does DreamSpace Lifecycle work?



Changemaker  
Discovery

Challenge-based  
Learning

Grassroots  
Innovation

Domain  
Expertise

Source: plocan.eu



# How does DreamSpace Lifecycle work?



Changemaker  
Discovery

Challenge-based  
Learning

Grassroots  
Innovation

Domain  
Expertise

Impact-Venture  
Building

Source: [dreamspace.academy](https://dreamspace.academy), [oceanswell.org](https://oceanswell.org), [generationunlimited.org](https://generationunlimited.org)

# What impact have we co-created?

9+

## Changemakers

empowered from the underserved communities

1430+

## Trainees

trained with interdisciplinary skills to uplift the livelihood

8+

## Labs

built for interdisciplinary learning and co-creation

14+

## Innovations

developed to tackle socioeconomic & environmental challenges

19+

## Ventures

built by our empowered changemakers and incubatees



**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?

## Circular Plastic



## Interactive plastic recycling machine to shred, melt, produce filament and injection mould usable products from waste plastics



## Biofilter



## Biofilter made from syzygium cumini (java plum) seed extract to remove cadmium pollution in water

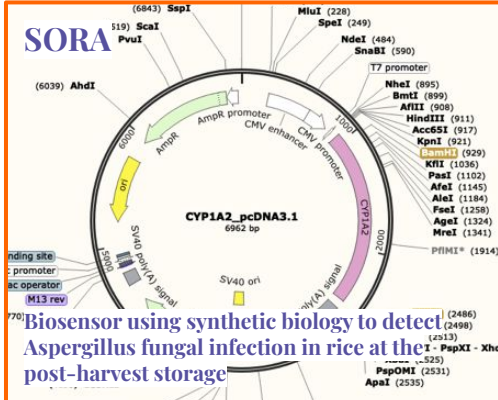


SIWI STOCKHOLM  
JUNIOR  
WATER PRIZE

## Biogas Digester



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



# Biosensor using synthetic biology to detect *Aspergillus* fungal infection in rice at the post-harvest storage



Source: trashfortrade.com, siwi.org ,igem.org



# What are our grassroots innovations?



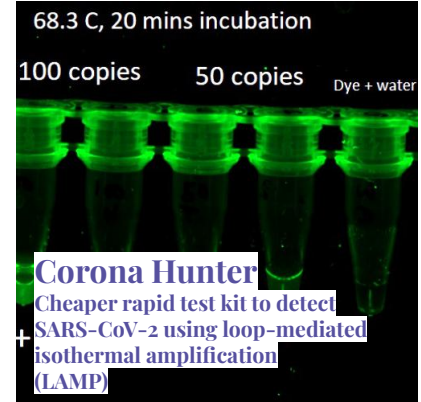
**CoronaBot**  
A chatBot in Tamil language to get real-time COVID-19 information about statistics in Sri Lanka, medical supplies and self diagnostics



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



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



68.3 C, 20 mins incubation  
100 copies 50 copies Dye + water  
**Corona Hunter**  
Cheaper rapid test kit to detect SARS-CoV-2 using loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP)



**Underwater Glider**  
An autonomous underwater vehicle to keep an eye on our Blue Ecosystems



**DreamFungi**  
A biocomposite material using mycelium as an alternative sustainable material



**Facemask Detector**  
An authorisation system to give access to people who wear a facemask

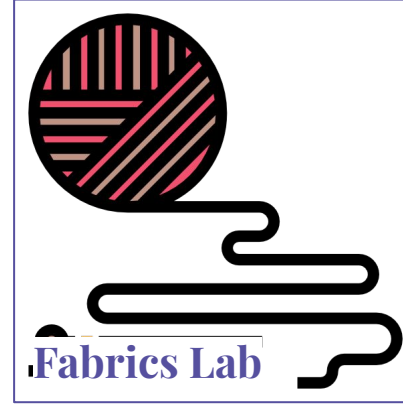
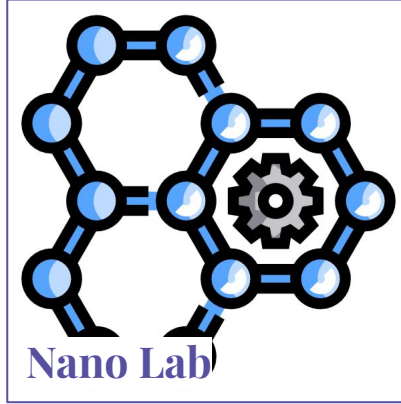
Source: dreamspace.academy

# Our interdisciplinary labs



Source: dreamspace.academy

# Our interdisciplinary labs





# Our infrastructures: DreamSpace Collective



Source: dreamspace.academy

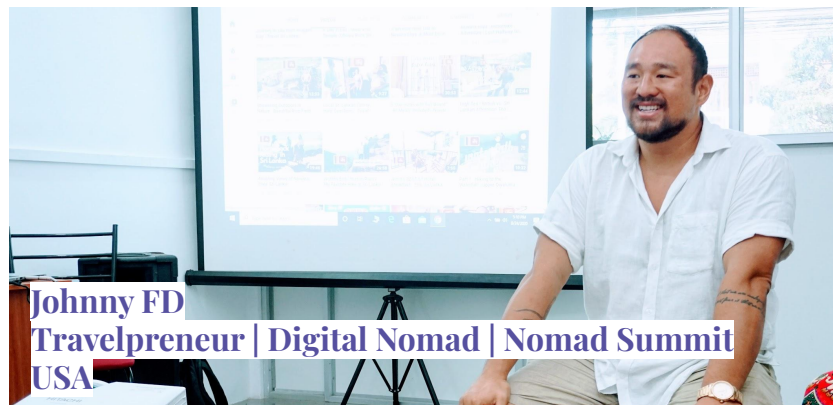
# Our infrastructures: DreamSpace Hive



Source: dreamspace.academy



# How do we build domain expertise?



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

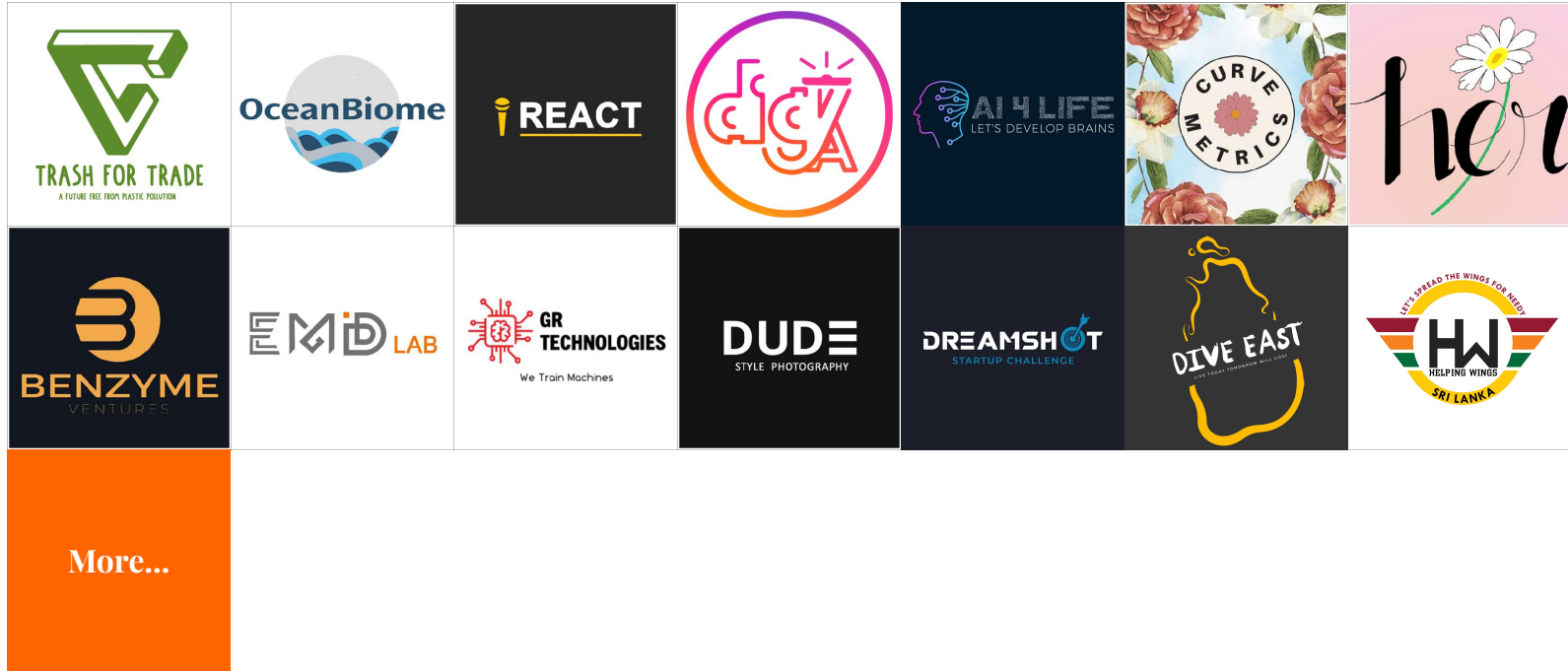


# How do we build peace and advocate well-being?



Source: dreamspace.academy

# What are our ventures?

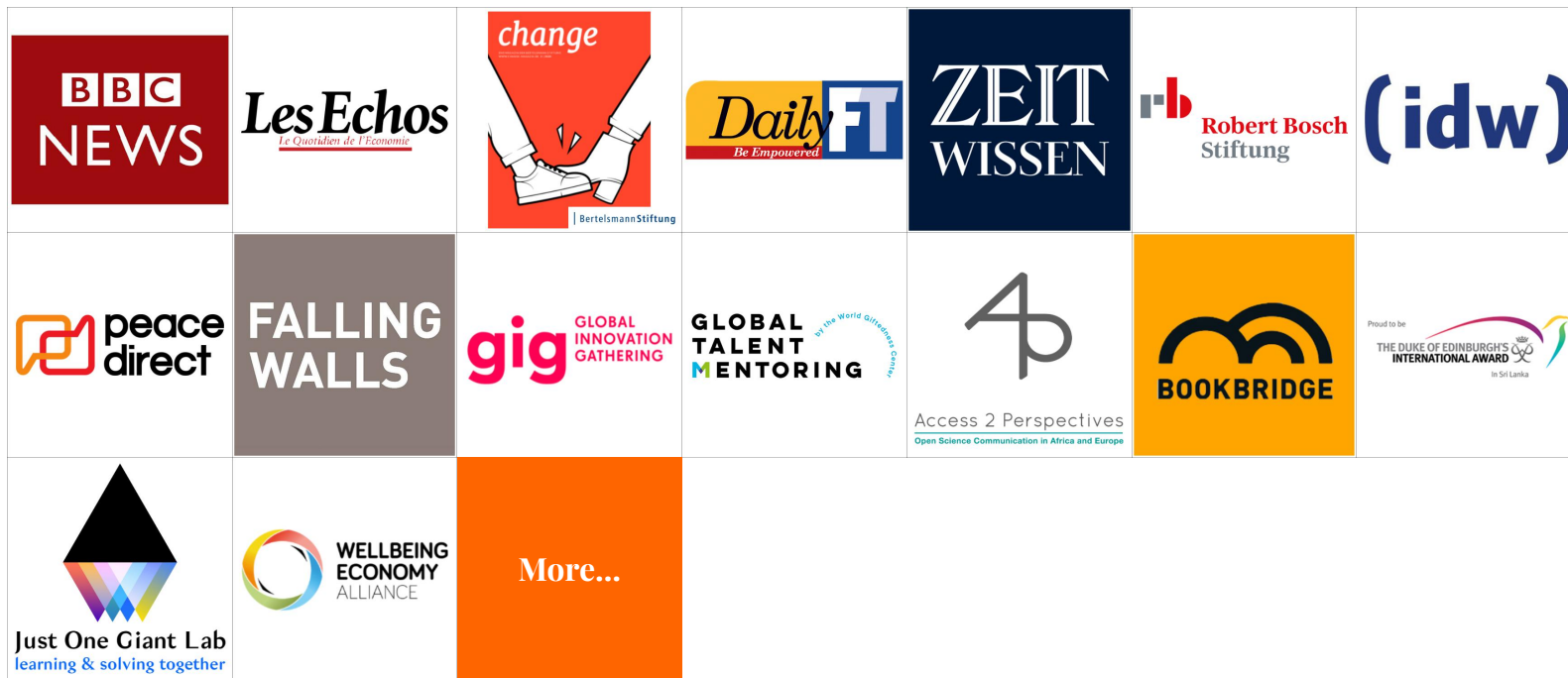


Source: [trashfortrade.com](http://trashfortrade.com), [oceanbio.me](http://oceanbio.me), [ireactsrilanka.org](http://ireactsrilanka.org), [sylcsl.org](http://sylcsl.org)

# What are our achievements?



# Who is talking about us?





# Who are our team members?

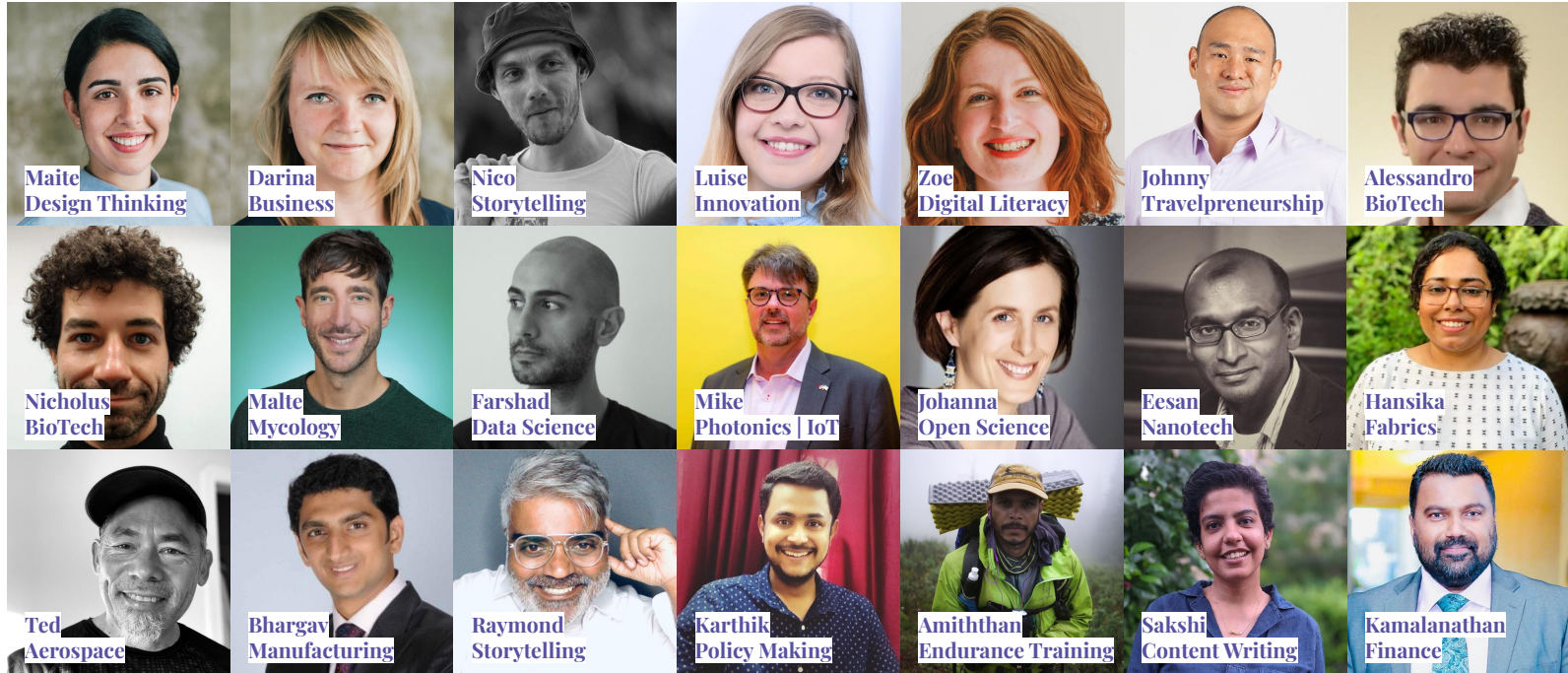


# Who are our team members?



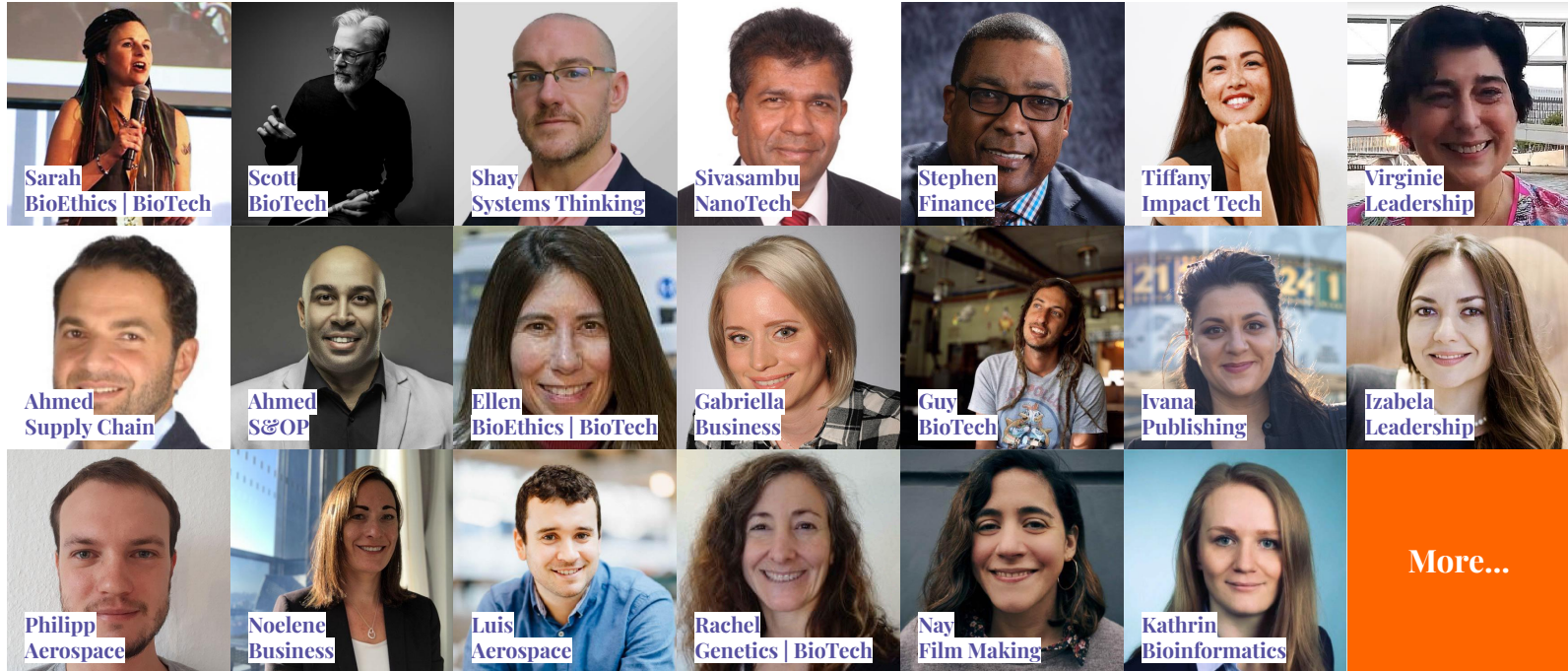


# Who are our subject-matter mentors?



Source: linkedin.com

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Source: linkedin.com

# How can you support us?



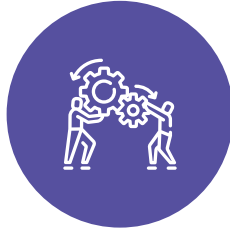
## Personal Engagements

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

€ 300K+

## DreamSpace Ecovillage

Co-invest in building our innovative Ecovillage for incubating local and international innovators and startups

€ 20K+

## Modern Infrastructure

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

€ 10K+

## Startup Innovation

Fund a locally developed grassroots innovation project to become a startup innovation with a focus on commercialisation

€ 5K+

## Personalised Empowerment

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

€ 10+

## Lifeline Support

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

# Co-Creating The Dreams



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

**Story Deck at**  
<http://storydeck.dreamspace.academy>

**Support Deck at**  
<http://supportdeck.dreamspace.academy>

**Aravinth Panch**  
Co-Founder | Director  
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**Kishoth Navaretnarajah**  
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