



ASHOKA AFRICA



ASHOKA
EVERYONE A CHANGEMAKER™

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS REPORT | 2023



EVERYONE A CHANGEMAKER

EVERYONE A CHANGEMAKER

EVERYONE A CHANGEMAKER

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	4
OUR STRATEGY	5
OUR FOOTPRINT IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA	6
ASHOKA FELLOWS IN AFRICA	7
I. FINDING AND SUPPORTING SYSTEM CHANGERS	8
Electing New Ashoka Fellows	10
Creating Meaningful Engagements through Fellowship	16
II. SEEDING A CULTURE OF CHANGEMAKING	22
Youth as Ambassadors: Electing AYC's In Africa	24
Co-leading the Everyone a Changemaker Movement	28
III. BUILDING STRONGER ECOSYSTEMS FOR CHANGEMAKING	34
Knowledge Products	37
CALLS TO ACTION	38
HIGH LEVEL FINANCIAL REPORT	40
OUR PARTNERS	42

INTRODUCTION

Africa is a continent of immense opportunities.

While it boasts rich natural resources and a burgeoning youthful population, it also faces significant socio-economic and environmental challenges. Poverty, lack of access to basic services like healthcare and education, unemployment, and environmental degradation are among the key issues. However, amidst these challenges, social entrepreneurs in Africa are emerging as change agents, leveraging innovation, creativity, and sustainability to address pressing societal problems. This report highlights how Ashoka Africa's Everyone a Changemaker community is effectively tackling them.

Social entrepreneurship offers hope and tangible solutions. However, to fully harness the potential of social entrepreneurship, supportive policies, access to funding, and enabling ecosystems are essential. Collaborative efforts involving governments, NGOs, investors, and the private sector are crucial to scaling and replicating successful social innovations, ultimately transforming the socio-economic landscape of Africa for the better.

STRONGER TOGETHER.



OUR STRATEGY

Ashoka is on an audacious mission to create a world where everyone is a changemaker, and where everyone has the agency and skills to make a positive change in their communities and thrive.

Such a world is one in which solutions to societal issues surpass the problems themselves. In Africa, we believe in the power of collaboration to bring about positive change at large scale in communities throughout Africa.

To support these efforts, our focus lies on three main lines of action: leading social entrepreneurs, the next generation of changemakers, and a connected ecosystem.

OUR CORE PILLARS:



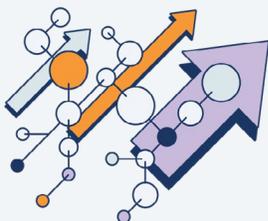
FINDING AND SUPPORTING SYSTEM CHANGERS

We **identify, select, and support** leading social entrepreneurs (Ashoka Fellows) to drive **positive change at scale**. We also learn from them and share back the insights to influence society's next big goals.



SEEDING A CULTURE OF CHANGEMAKING

Launched in response to the transformative experiences shared by leading social entrepreneurs in the youth sector, we are building a robust network of influential partners who transform the growing up years ecosystem for all socio-economic levels. Where **every young person is equipped** with the power and support required to **lead change**.



BUILDING ECOSYSTEMS FOR CHANGEMAKING

We endeavor to create **interconnected, value-aligned networks** that transcend silos across organizations and sectors, establish new societal norms, and promote co-development of projects that foster lasting change.

OUR FOOTPRINT IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

SAHEL: (DAKAR OFFICE)
Burkina Faso, Senegal,
Mali, Togo, The Gambia,
Benin, Cote D'Ivoire,
Guinea Bissau, Niger

**ANGLOPHONE WEST
AFRICA (LAGOS OFFICE)**
Nigeria, Ghana, Cameroon,
Liberia

CENTRAL AFRICA
Democratic Republic
of Congo (DRC)

**EASTERN AFRICA
(NAIROBI OFFICE)**
Kenya, Uganda,
Tanzania, Rwanda

**SOUTHERN AFRICA
(JOHANNESBURG OFFICE)**
South Africa, Zimbabwe,
Zambia, Botswana,
Mozambique, Malawi

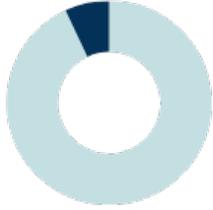
33+
years
experience

28
countries

490+
Fellows elected

4
regional offices

ASHOKA FELLOWS IN AFRICA



94%

of Ashoka Fellows elected in Sub-Saharan Africa are African entrepreneurs.

GENDER DISTRIBUTION



60%

Male

40%

Female

AREAS OF WORK

Ashoka Fellows work across fields of work on critical societal issues, with concrete results on key SDGs



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



EDUCATION



CIVIL PARTICIPATION



HEALTH



HUMAN RIGHTS



CLIMATE & PLANET

I. FINDING AND SUPPORTING SYSTEM CHANGERS

Ashoka invests in people with entrepreneurial mindsets. We search the world for leading social entrepreneurs through an intensive, human-centered “Venture” process. Venture constitutes Ashoka’s flagship program and serves as the process for the identification of Ashoka Fellows. This program involves a meticulous process that spans 4 to 8 months, resulting in the selection of exceptional social entrepreneurs with innovative, system-changing solutions to the world’s most urgent problems. Over the past four decades, this program has identified over 3,900 unique innovators in over 95 countries, connecting them to the people, ideas, and resources needed to grow and deepen their impact.

Newly elected Ashoka Fellows in Africa were chosen based on their creativity, innovation, entrepreneurial quality, ethical fibre, and social impact.

FIVE CRITERIA FOR THE ASHOKA FELLOWSHIP

Ashoka’s selection criteria are anchored by five elements against which all Fellow candidates are evaluated:



A NEW IDEA

A new solution or approach to a social problem that will change the pattern in a field, be it human rights, the environment, or any other.



CREATIVITY

Successful social entrepreneurs must be creative both as goal-setting visionaries and as problem solvers capable of engineering their visions into reality.



SOCIAL IMPACT

Ashoka is interested in ideas that it believes will change the field significantly and that will trigger systemic impact.



ENTREPRENEURIAL QUALITY

Entrepreneurial quality defines leaders who see opportunities for change and innovation, and devote themselves entirely to making that change happen and for all.



ETHICAL FIBER

Trusted and inspiring social entrepreneurs across different stakeholder groups to deliver major structural changes to society.



VENTURE GOALS FOR 2024 TO 2027

In 2023, we guided 22 social entrepreneurs through the selection process, effectively doubling the number of Ashoka Fellows from 10 to 19. Our goal is to further expand this network by electing between 28 to 35 Fellows annually for the next three years, starting from 2024. Our goal is to:

- increase the annual elections of new Ashoka Fellows in Tech & Humanity, Planet & Climate, Gender through the mobilization of flexible funding that supports social entrepreneurs with groundbreaking ideas, irrespective of their field of work.
- foster meaningful engagement for newly elected Fellows.
- commence the selection of the first Fellows in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

ELECTING NEW ASHOKA FELLOWS

Meet the 2023 Ashoka Fellows!

The following 16 social entrepreneurs have been confirmed Ashoka Fellows. We are in the process of mobilizing funding for their stipends. 3 social entrepreneurs have passed all the steps until the selection panel and are currently being reviewed by the Ashoka Global board.

EAST AFRICA



JANE WAITHERA **POSITIVE EXPOSURE KENYA | KENYA**

Jane has made the de-stigmatization and advancement of people living with albinism a national policy priority for Kenya. With the explicit endorsement of the African Union, it has become an urgent policy priority for all the member states. Her latest innovation, “Albinism and I”, is an online initiative to be rolled out in 2024 with the goal of creating and linking communities of support for people living with albinism across Africa as well as extending to other regions of the world.



LUCY MUKURIA **TRUE NORTH | KENYA**

Lucy is pioneering a holistic approach to veteran care, with a special focus on mental health. Through their innovative Cradle-based model, encompassing physical and mental well-being, they're reshaping reintegration for a brighter future and advocating for systemic change, even within the challenging landscape of the existing system.



MALIK SHAFFY
KINA RWANDA | RWANDA

Malik is redefining play's role in Rwandan society challenging conventional norms, liberating play from confined spaces and advocating its universal application. Through a fusion of media advocacy, community engagement, and policy reform, he's driving a profound mindset shift, empowering play to be a catalyst for societal transformation.



ISABELLE KAMARIZA
SOLID'AFRICA | RWANDA

Isabelle is addressing nutrition insecurity in Rwanda's public hospitals by providing vulnerable patients with free medically tailored meals through an innovative farm-to-fork model. Currently, she is scaling her solution nationally in partnership with the government and extending her reach to schools, prisons and other public institutions.



OLIVIER NSENGIMANA
RWANDA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION | RWANDA

Olivier harmoniously blends African cultural heritage and ecological wisdom, transforming conservation into a deeply personal and communal commitment. By tapping into the profound connection between people and nature in African societies, he's spearheading a standard that seamlessly unites top-down policies with bottom-up community-driven initiatives. Drawing from the Rwandan proverb "three stones are required to have a pot standing," symbolizing unity, this model revolutionizes communities' relationship with conservation emphasizing collective responsibility and harmonious coexistence.

ANGLOPHONE WEST AFRICA



OLUWATOBI ADEGBITE **ENTOJUTU | NIGERIA**

Tobi uses nature-based approaches and low-cost innovation to address low agricultural and livestock yield for farmers helping them increase profitability and attain sustainability in their farming practices.



ABIODUN ADERENI **HELPMUM | NIGERIA**

Abiodun is leveraging technology to expand the effectiveness of midwives' work and services in health care centers in rural communities reducing infant and maternal mortality rates in Nigeria.



NELSON OLANIPEKUN **CITIZENS' GAVEL | NIGERIA**

Nelson is enabling the administration of justice by introducing tech solutions to improve the management of cases and the access to legal help for all. He is also working to improve the conditions in prisons and detention centers, so that people are treated fairly and humanely.



OMOWUMI OGUNROTIMI **GENDER MOBILE INITIATIVE | NIGERIA**

Omowumi is working to prevent sexual harassment in higher education institutions by helping them introduce new rules and regulations designed to mitigate, punish, and hold perpetrators accountable.



PASCHAL ACHUNINE
HEALTH EMERGENCY INITIATIVE (HEI) | NIGERIA

Adedayo is creating an ecosystem of collaborative action amongst different stakeholders to bring public attention to the prevalence of childhood cancer and rapidly improve the capacity of early detection and treatment in West Africa and beyond.



PHILOMENA ANYANWU
EL-AGED CARE LTD | NIGERIA

Philomena is building a better architecture to support the needs of the elderly population in rural areas. She is helping rural communities to reimagine their lives by designing new standards of care and developing innovative care models to improve the functional and social abilities of the older persons to live dignified, independent lives and contribute to communities, and society.



MICHAEL SUNBOLA
LAGOS FOOD BANK INITIATIVE | NIGERIA

Michael is reducing food waste while helping millions of Nigerians to access food and better nutrition. He has built a collaborative infrastructure with the capacity to significantly reduce food waste and hunger for millions of Nigerians while at the same time mobilizing local communities to improve food security and self-reliance.

SOUTHERN AFRICA



HASTINGS NHLANE **ACADES | MALAWI**

Hastings is changing the negative perceptions around agriculture being a career of last resort for many young people in Malawi by making a viable business opportunity. Hastings provides young farmers with access to markets, training, loans, and agricultural inputs to capacitate them with the skills to make them successful farmers.



BUSISIWE MKHUMBUZI-POOE **THINKSHIFT | SOUTH AFRICA**

Busisiwe is capacitating young people from disadvantaged schools with the necessary 21st century competencies to allow them to thrive in today's ever changing and 4th IR driven markets.



Building and Maintaining Networks

- ① Visibility → value proposition
- ② Relationship mgt/Community
- ③ Removing barriers and creating rewards/incentives e.g. discounts, hosting events
- ④ Actively engaging - listening honestly / follow up
- ⑤ Build a network when you don't need it
Birthday
Beef
Budget
- ⑥ Capacity building / soft skills
↳ elevator pitch, confidence,
- ⑦ Networking tools - business cards, brandod
HMs.



The Ashoka Fellowship has been as strong catalyst for the growth of my impact. Ashoka helped me with the confidence to think big, and taught me to think in systems. I am so fortunate to be part of the Ashoka family.

TIM CONNIBEAR, ASHOKA FELLOW SINCE 2015, SOUTH AFRICA

CREATING MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENTS THROUGH FELLOWSHIP

The Ashoka Fellowship is a unique blend of financial support to the entrepreneur and lifelong support through the network. We continued to engage and support Ashoka Fellows based on the five Cs approach: Capital, Community of Peers, Connections, Capacity Building and Collaboration.

Here are some illustrations of how we have supported Fellows in Africa through the five Cs in 2023:

CAPITAL

A three year unrestricted stipend to the social entrepreneur to enable them to focus full-time on their social venture and reduce their risk.

- USD **797,000** were disbursed in new Fellows' stipends in 2023.
- Over **USD 700,000** in additional funding was mobilized for Ashoka Fellows.

COMMUNITY OF PEERS

Peer-to-peer conversations, consultations and network of support.

- A panel discussion aimed to explore the challenges, opportunities, and models of financing social innovation in Africa, focusing on innovative approaches to drive sustainable development and positive social impact.
 - Overall, Ashoka Fellows receive newsletters when they can share news, are connected through WhatsApp groups and are invited to regular Huddles where they can connect, share and learn from their peers.
- 

CONNECTIONS

Connections to opportunities for growth and to possible supporters for visibility, funding, etc.

- A panel discussion on innovative solutions for optimal nutrition in Africa was organized as a collaboration between various stakeholders, including government representatives, civil society organizations, private businesses, and experts from the Innovative Cooperative for Optimal Nutrition (ICON).

CAPACITY

Strategic support on core priorities such as systems-change, financial sustainability and personal sustainability as well as pro-bono support from Ashoka partners to help Fellows scale their impact through critical expertise.

- **52 Fellows** from Africa participated in the Ashoka global co-learning sessions online.
- **Eight Fellows** took part in the executive in residence program where Fellows collaborated with senior corporate executives - benefiting from high-level pro bono expertise.
- **Three Fellows** in East Africa engaged as speakers, faculty, and participants in the Visionary Program.

COLLABORATION

Bringing together “mosaics of solutions” around a given field of work and building synergies for greater impact.

- Community of Practice One Health with **six Fellows** who co-created a One Health project to tackle infectious zoonotic diseases in Africa
- **Eight Fellows** working on equity in Africa collaborated for greater impact thanks to the support of the UPS Foundation
- New Allies Report on how INGOs and social entrepreneurs collaborate to transform global development based on interviews, surveys and a range of events with Fellows.
- **16 Fellows** are involved with ICON, an innovative cooperative operating across eight West African countries. ICON's primary mission is to combat malnutrition in Africa. They achieve this through initiatives such as establishing a common brand, implementing a quality charter, creating a distribution platform, and conducting awareness campaigns on malnutrition.

ADVANCING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

Ashoka has recently expanded its reach to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), marking a significant milestone in our commitment to advancing social entrepreneurship and changemaking in this large country of 100 million inhabitants. Our team has successfully formed a network of six advisory committee members who possess a deep understanding of the socio-economic landscape in the DRC.

AS A RESULT

- **Ashoka Fellowship Nominations:** We received a total of 64 nominations for the Ashoka Fellowship in the DRC. After a rigorous selection process, the top candidates will proceed with the process.
- **Expansion of Network:** We aim to engage new nominators and actively involve the DRC Advisory Committee in guiding our initiatives.
- **Thought Leadership:** We took part in the first two editions of the DRC Social Innovation Summit in Kinshasa as a strategic partners together with 10 Fellows from the region including Wereje Benson who has made significant contributions to social innovation in the DRC.



TOWARDS GREATER EQUITY IN AFRICA

The **Africa Equity Project** in partnership with the UPS Foundation, has been a transformative initiative aimed at fostering greater equity and economic development for marginalized communities in Africa. By supporting 14 Ashoka Fellows from Nigeria, South Africa, Egypt, and Morocco through a Pan-African Accelerator program and a ChangemakHers community, the project has indirectly impacted the lives of over 350,000 people.

AS A RESULT

- **In-person Convening:** A dynamic event in Lagos sparked personal connections, learning and collaborations.
- **Learning Series:** Four deep dives into crucial topics reached over 57 Fellows and their team members, fostering strategic reflections and learning.
- **Collaboration Grants:** Four mini-grants totaling USD 20,000 incentivizing cross-border collaborations, amplifying collective impact.
- **Connections to UPS:** Fellows gained access to UPS expertise, opening doors to new partnerships and opportunities.
- **ChangemakHers Initiative:** Onboarded 80 female social entrepreneurs into the WISE Network, creating a vibrant community of women changemakers.



This project has shown the importance of creating local and national collaboration in order to act together and work towards a common goal, and since the greatest impact can only be achieved together, it has yielded an extremely fruitful and positive effect. One recommendation I can give the Ashoka team is just to continue in this direction because collaboration leads to greater progress.”

MARYAM MONTAGUE, ASHOKA FELLOW, MOROCCO

IMPROVING THE LIVELIHOOD OF SMALLHOLDER FARMERS IN EAST AFRICA

Ashoka, in partnership with the Mott Foundation, has been working to boost the adoption of innovative solutions in agricultural value chains, addressing climate change challenges, and ultimately improving the livelihoods of smallholder farmers in East Africa.

AS A RESULT

- **Mapping of Innovative Solutions:** We identified and mapped 149 innovators, with 52 participating in the report survey, highlighting challenges, opportunities, and insights from innovators at the intersection of agriculture and renewable energy.
- **Collaborative Entrepreneurship Program:** We selected 12 innovators to participate in the program. Focusing on nurturing the growth and advancement of innovators in the agriculture and renewable space. This included in-person and virtual capacity-building workshops, establishing connections among innovators, social entrepreneurs, thought leaders, and partners.
- **Spark Fund Creation:** The project also aimed to create a Spark Fund to support and accelerate initiatives within the agriculture and renewable energy sector. Additionally, two new Ashoka Fellows were elected and supported, with one more going through the Fellowship selection process. Contributing to the development of a robust ecosystem for social entrepreneurship and changemaking in East Africa.



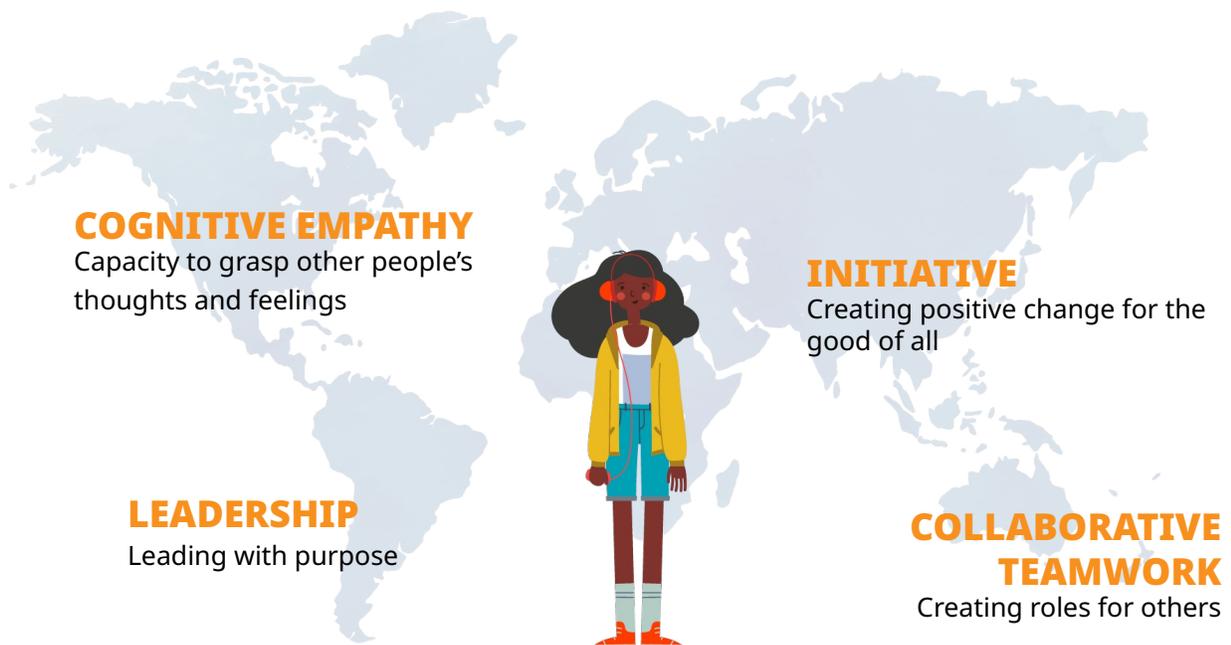


II. SEEDING A CULTURE OF CHANGEMAKING

Ashoka's vision is of a future where all of us play a role, no matter how small, in solving problems for the good of all—as if it's second nature. We call this an Everyone a Changemaker (EACH) society. In a world that is changing fast and in ways it never has before, it is more important than ever that we all have a voice and power. And that also means having the changemaker skills to both navigate and drive change: empathy, teamwork, new leadership, and changemaking. Beyond access to quality education, a new inequality is emerging between those who are equipped to navigate change and the others.

WHO DO WE CALL A CHANGEMAKER?

MINDSET: "I AM POWERFUL. I CAN CREATE CHANGE."



We are working through a systemic approach based on the following lines of action:

- **Youth as Ambassadors:** Selecting Ashoka Young Changemakers (AYC). These young people 12-20 selected for their existing changemaking endeavor work hand in hand with Ashoka and our partners to ensure that every young person realizes their power to create change.
- **Network Connections:** Creating Peer-to-Peer Allies for AYC's. Enabling connections across changemaker networks, creating a space for ongoing connection and collaboration, builds identity, and enables changemakers to learn and share inspiration.
- **Building Networks:** Increasing impact by engaging influential players through partnerships to transform the way children and young people grow up. These partners - teacher unions, education schools, publishers, media companies and government - work alongside Ashoka to develop unique ways of creating large societal shifts that lead to empathy and changemaking as required skills in growing up.
- **Storytelling:** Spreading #EverydayChangemaking stories. A storytelling initiative that aims to convey the power and agency of a young person who has identified a problem, formed and led a team, and created a solution. These stories help everyone see the new reality — that the world is changing fast and this requires redefining what “growing up” means.
- **Education:** Supporting parents and guardians through YourKids. The Your Kids workshop is designed for employees as a place to convene with like-minded colleagues to create their own unique ideas for practicing changemaking skills with those they love most: their kids.



YOUTH AS AMBASSADORS: ELECTING ASHOKA YOUNG CHANGEMAKERS IN AFRICA



When I started my initiative, everything changed for me. I always say that Changemaking change my life. I know that I was on earth to help other people... I want to let other young people know that you're not too young to make a difference."

DEBORAH BENJAMIN, ASHOKA YOUNG CHANGEMAKER

Ashoka Young Changemakers are a carefully selected network of young people who have found their power to create change for the good of all around them. They engage their peers and societies in realizing a world where everyone is a changemaker.

In 2023, seven young Nigerians were elected as Ashoka Young Changemakers. A carefully selected global network of young people aged 12-20 years old, who have found their power to create positive social change in realizing a world where everyone is a changemaker.

[LEARN MORE](#)



MUHAMMAD USMAN **FOUNDER OF YOUNG DEVELOPER FOUNDATION**

Muhammad is supporting the development and economic empowerment of less privileged children and youth by working with strategic partners to provide them with education and skills acquisition sponsorships and creative development workshops. He firmly believes in the power of community-led solutions and is working with indigenous stakeholders in these communities to provide sustainable solutions to the food insecurity, clothing, and shelter problems faced by street children and Almajirai children. Additionally, he continues to ensure proper sensitization of the public on the urgency of these issues and the need to take collective action for sustained impact.



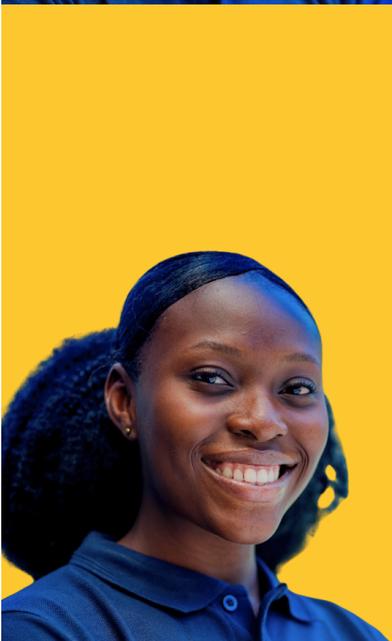
AMARA NWUNELI
FOUNDER OF PRESERVE OUR ROOTS

Amara Nwuneli is creating awareness about climate change and getting all relevant stakeholders involved in finding lasting solutions to climate change. She is championing youth-led changemakers, supporting and mobilizing innovation and change through climate education courses and boot camps, educational hubs, informational videos, social media presence, and local projects, towards ensuring the varying impacts of climate change are reduced.



JOSHUA CHIEFO-EJIOFOBIRI
FOUNDER OF TECHPLUG IT

Joshua is increasing access to high-quality Information Technology (IT) and STEM education for young people in Nigeria. He believes that the Tech space should be inclusive irrespective of social-economic background. He is working to bridge the digital divide and equip the next generation with essential technical skills and knowledge that are in high demand in today's rapidly evolving job market.



RUTH EGBEDI
FOUNDER OF YOUNG AFRICAN FOUNDATION

Ruth is taking strides towards enhancing menstrual health education, achieving environmental sustainability, and attaining gender equality in STEM in Nigeria. Ruth is firm in her belief that girls in Africa can unlock their complete potential when given proper support. She is committed to tackling period poverty and ensuring a better and safer recycling system by providing training to underprivileged young women and girls on how to make reusable pads from sustainable and hygienic materials that are easily sourced from their environment.



MAGNUS IMAM
FOUNDER OF ZERO UP INITIATIVE

Magnus is dedicated to empowering young people with access to information and opportunities regardless of their socio-economic background or situation in life. He is building the capacity of young people across Nigeria through a range of training programs, seminars, workshops, and online courses that provide them with practical skills, knowledge, and avenues for harnessing opportunities that they need to succeed in life.



ABEEDAH ALABI
FOUNDER OF PROJECT CLIMESET

Abeedah is tackling the issue of climate change illiteracy among young people in her community and across the country. She understands that a shift in mindset is the first step to acting toward reducing the devastating effects of the climate change problem in Nigeria. She is filling the knowledge gap and empowering young people in primary and secondary schools, with the necessary information and skills to address climate change in their communities.



VICTOR EYO
FOUNDER OF WEGODIGITEENS

Victor is ensuring access to digital skills training for other young Africans, especially those who are from marginalized communities, living with disability, displaced, or from less privileged backgrounds. He aims to help bridge the digital gap created by the emergence of new technology and the shift from an analog to a digital reality.



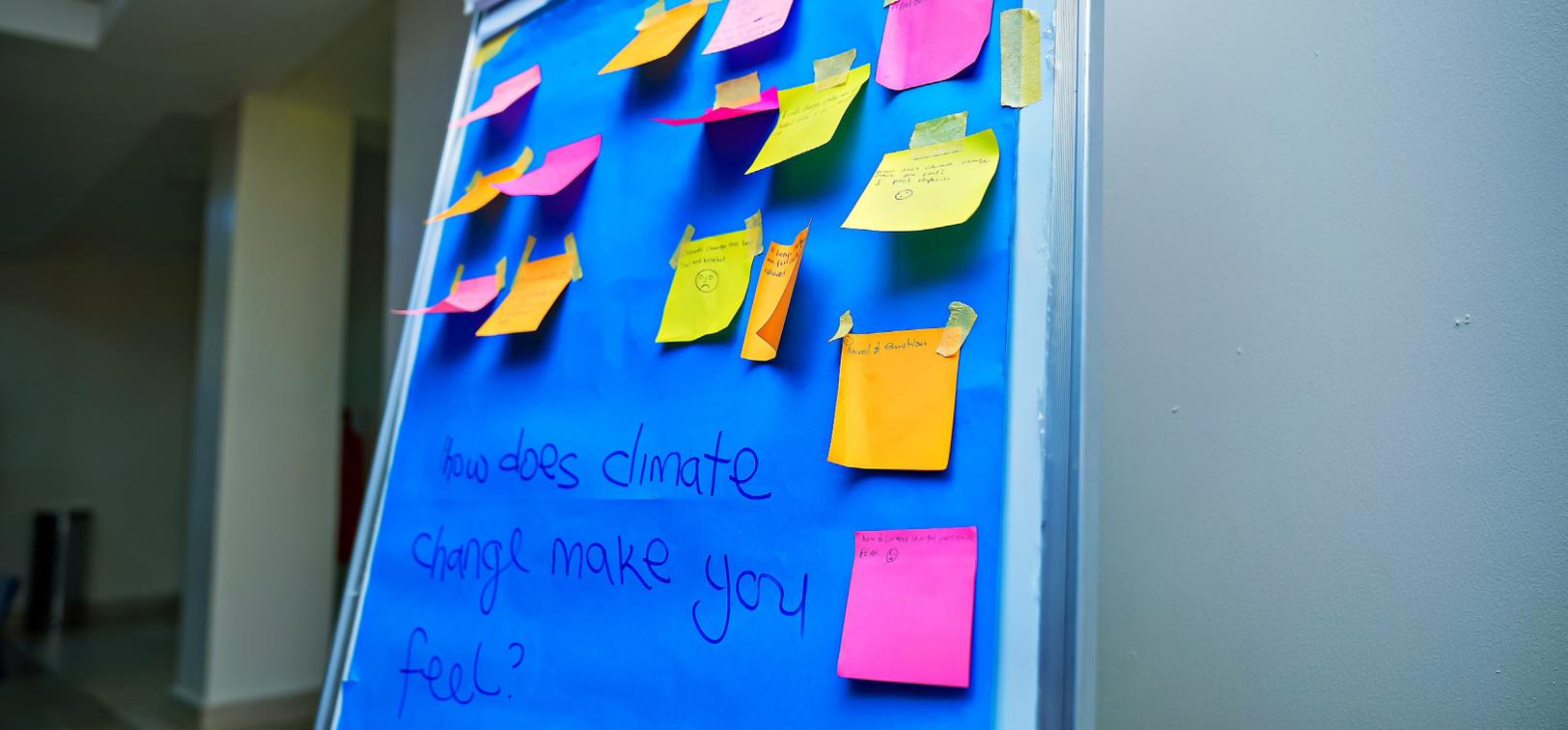
CO-LEADING THE EVERYONE A CHANGEMAKER MOVEMENT

EQUIPPING 2 MILLION YOUNG PEOPLE WITH CHANGEMAKERS SKILLS BY 2030

Ashoka has made significant strides in unlocking the changemaker potential of young people across Africa. Here are some key highlights from our impactful endeavors throughout the year.

AS A RESULT

- **Identifying and Engaging Young Leaders:** We provided capacity-building support to over 60 young ambassadors of the EACH movement across Africa.
 - **Mobilizing and Engaging Influential Institutions:** We forged a partnership with the Lagos Ministry of Education to implement a changemaker training program for over 90 teachers across 20 local governments in the state. Additionally, we launched an online Changemaker course on the Pan-African Trace Academia application, benefiting 628 young individuals who gained valuable employability skills.
 - **Building a Core Team of Teams:** Through Metro Area engagements in four states across Nigeria and the establishment of Collectives for Youth Changemaking in Southern Africa and the Sahel region, we fostered collaboration among young changemakers, Ashoka Fellows, staff, and strategic partners. These core teams are driving initiatives that highlight the importance of changemaking in African societies and empower individuals with the skills needed for positive action.
 - **Seeding a Culture of Changemaking:** Through inspiring stories and practical changemaking guides, we reached over 200,000 people via print media, 266,000 people via social media, and over 12 million people via television and radio through the TRACE partnership.
- 



ACTIVATING & SUPPORTING YOUTH-LED CHANGEMAKING IN CLIMATE JUSTICE & ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

This project is a testament to our commitment - alongside the Ford Foundation - to fostering a generation of young leaders in Senegal and Nigeria are equipped to tackle climate and environmental challenges through innovative, equitable, and sustainable solutions.

Our mission is to counteract environmental degradation and its inequities by empowering young people to lead the charge. By integrating community insights into decision-making processes and enhancing the leadership and communication skills of youth, we aim to amplify their roles in environmental protection efforts.

AS A RESULT

- Successfully reached and trained 80 students and 40 teachers through workshops, creating a ripple effect of environmental awareness and action within schools.
- Participating schools engaged over 800 students and 120 teachers in the creation of over 100 social innovation projects with an eco-sustainability focus.
- Scheduled a pivotal workshop in Port-Harcourt, Nigeria to enhance collaboration within the Climate Justice Community of Practice.
- A series of webinars scheduled for 2024 is set to reach over 500 participants, further promoting the role of young changemakers and the support of adult allies in environmental sustainability efforts.

EMPOWERING EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS FOR A TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGEMAKING EDUCATION

The **CTEACH** initiative (Changemaker Educator Activation Program) is a transformative educational journey focused on changemaking in education. It empowers educators and school administrators to collaboratively design changemaking experiences, fostering an environment where students can thrive. The program provides 21st-century skills, access to culturally relevant tools, expanded resources, and opportunities to engage with families and communities in the changemaking journey. It aims to create a supportive ecosystem where every child, especially those from under served communities, can flourish and contribute positively to society. The CTEACH initiative will be expanding to other regions in Nigeria in 2024 and other countries in Africa and world thereafter.

AS A RESULT

- **Empowering Educators:** Conducted a 3-day residential training for 52 public school teachers across 26 Local governments in Lagos State to equip them with the skills and resources needed to cultivate changemakers in their classrooms.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** Established strategic partnerships with organizations like First Book, UPS, WohnbauStudios, and Lagos State Ministry of Education.
- **Sustainability Plan:** Worked with partners in the Lagos state education ecosystem to co-create a train the trainer model that will be used to scale the pilot across the country. The Time for Change initiative has provided the significant fuel to sustain the pilot by providing necessary resources and opportunities for research and development.



EMPOWERING THE FUTURE OF SYSTEMIC CHANGE THROUGH THE NEXT GEN CHANGEMAKERS ACADEMY

The **Next Gen Changemakers Academy** stands at the forefront of nurturing young, solution-oriented entrepreneurs across francophone sub-Saharan Africa. This innovative, six-month online capacity-building program is specifically designed to arm the next generation of systemic leaders with essential skills, knowledge, and resources to drive impactful social change projects.

AS A RESULT

- **Selection and Diversity:** From an impressive pool of 420 applicants, 51 promising young leaders from 12 countries were selected. These individuals were chosen based on creativity, teamwork, potential social impact, and a demonstrated entrepreneurial spirit aimed at systemic change.
- **Curriculum and Training:** The academy offered an immersive learning experience through eight carefully curated modules, focusing on systemic change. Delivered through a blend of online learning, peer sharing, insights from Ashoka Fellows, and practical teamwork, all aimed at embedding systemic thinking and action into the fabric of participants' projects.



III. BUILDING STRONGER ECOSYSTEMS FOR CHANGEMAKING

Ashoka is an ecosystem builder thanks to our extensive experience and networks. The initiatives below illustrate how we create opportunities, solve problems, and scale-up social impact by breaking through walls between sectors and within organizations to work together in fluid, open, and communicative teams.

BUILDING AN AFRICAN TRANSFORMATIVE STRATEGY

In 2023, Ashoka continued its strategic collaboration with the **African Union Commission** to advance social entrepreneurship and changemaking, aligning with the ambitious Agenda 2063 for Africa's development. This involved engaging with various divisions and agencies within the AUC, including the Youth Division, Education Division, African Union Development Agency-Nepad (AUDA-NEPAD), and The Africa Observatory on Science Technology and Innovation (AOSTI).

AS A RESULT

- **Education Division:** Education Division: Contributed to the roadmap for the Year of Education in Africa 2024 and supported the Education Innovation annual awards.
- **Youth Division:** Shared recommendations during the 4th Specialized Technical Committee on Youth, Culture and Sports, influencing priorities for youth development and the African Youth Plan of Action 2024 – 2029.
- **AUDA-Nepad:** Provided input on the review of the Science Technology & Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA) 2034, focusing on accelerating Agenda 2063 priorities.
- **AOSTI:** Shared insights from 372 Ashoka Fellows working in the Technology and Humanity field, focusing on cross-collaboration and partnership opportunities with Innovation agencies from African Union member states.

Looking ahead to 2024, Ashoka is intensifying its commitment with a dedicated team focusing on building an African Transformative Strategy. This strategic initiative aims to leverage insights from Ashoka Fellows and partners to support Africa's socioeconomic transformation in alignment with Agenda 2063 goals.

BUILDING A STRONGER ECOSYSTEM OF LEADERS IN AFRICA THROUGH THE VISIONARY PROGRAM

The **Ashoka Visionary Program** is an innovative, part-time leadership initiative for social entrepreneurs, professionals, and leaders from the social, business and government sectors in East Africa. This program provides participants with a comprehensive learning experience in social entrepreneurship and social innovation, access to a global network, and opportunities for meaningful peer engagement. Through this program, we offer exclusive access to Ashoka's four decades of expertise, toolkits, and networks of social entrepreneurs, changemakers, and partners.

AS A RESULT

- 85 leaders of change from the corporate, public and iNGO sectors across East Africa have participated in the visionary program since its inception in 2020.





BUILDING AN AFRICAN CHANGEMAKER LEGACY THROUGH DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT

Ashoka Diaspora Initiative is a global network of diaspora leaders, groups and organizations who want to see their communities thrive in a world defined by accelerating change and are willing to contribute to positive social change both in their countries of origin and of residence.

AS A RESULT

- **ADSEN:** In September 2023, the Ashoka Diaspora team successfully facilitated the 'Leaders Lead On-Demand' African Descendant Social Entrepreneurship Outbound Exchange (ADSEN). This initiative supported the International Decade for People of African Descent, marking the founding of ADSEN, a diverse group of 100 African descent social entrepreneurs and changemakers from around the world.
- **Venture-Philanthropy Fundraising Partnership:** Developed a partnership with a platform for diaspora investing to raise USD 2 million for 20 new Fellows through a crowdfunding drive from 1000 African Impact Investors.
- **Changemakers Legacy Program:** Designed a program leveraging influential diaspora leaders to build young changemakers across Africa. The first partner, Charles Winnsboro Group, will provide accredited IT education for young people in Nigeria, followed by remote IT opportunities for graduates.
- **Global African Diaspora Group:** Supported the establishment of a group of social entrepreneurs and changemakers in the US and Spain.
- **African-Japan Alliance for Changemakers:** Co-created an alliance through the African Diaspora Network, Japan.

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

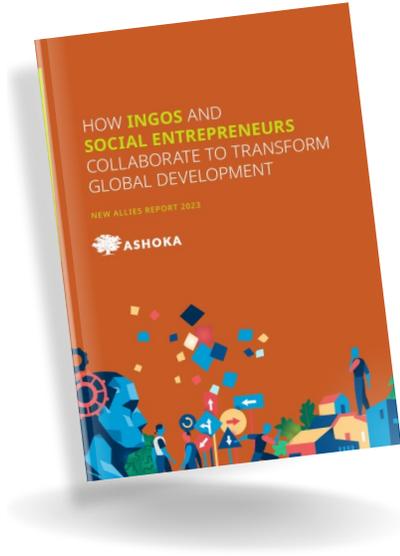
In 2023, we published the following reports with a focus on Africa:



ROOTS OF CHANGE

Shares five cases of Ashoka Fellows in Africa to demystify systems change and contextualize it for the African continent. The report also distills How To's and insights for social change leaders, impact investors and philanthropists, and influential players such as corporates and governments to accelerate positive change.

[READ THE REPORT](#)



NEW ALLIES

In this report, based on interviews, surveys and a range of events, Ashoka identified 14 actions that INGOs, social entrepreneurs, funders, and intermediaries can take to unlock the potential of these collaborations and systemic social innovation.

[READ THE REPORT](#)

CALLS TO ACTION

JOIN OUR CAMPAIGN TO **SUPPORT** MORE SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS IN AFRICA

Every year Ashoka searches the continent to identify amazing social entrepreneurs who have the potential to create large-scale change.

Donating to Ashoka enables us to elect new social entrepreneurs into our Fellowship, provide support services to existing Fellows, and launch collaborations between Fellows, corporations, and citizen sector organizations to promote continued innovation in areas of pressing global need.

We are on an ambitious growth plan to elect 70 new Africa Fellows a year in five years from approximately 20 Fellows a year currently. We have a strong pipeline of amazing candidates addressing critical social and environmental issues with passion, dedication and creativity.

Ashoka's network of social entrepreneurs directly impacts the lives of millions of people in Africa. Help us invest in a new generation of innovators for the public on the African continent.

HELP US REACH OUR AMBITIOUS GOALS!

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

[DONATE ONLINE](#)

[BECOME A FUNDING PARTNER](#)





JOIN THE ASHOKA SUPPORT NETWORK: THE ASHOKA AFRICA BUILDERS GROUP

The **Ashoka Support Network (ASN)**, a visionary initiative launched with the aim of cultivating a community of accomplished business leaders and founders dedicated to bolstering the impact and growth of Ashoka Fellows and Ashoka as a whole.

Launched 20 years ago, ASN has provided unparalleled support and has blossomed into a network of 300 members spanning 25 countries. Today, our focus is on expanding this network globally, but also with a particular emphasis on Africa to engage partners who deeply understand the continent.

THE ASHOKA AFRICA BUILDERS:

We have launched the Africa Builders group within the ASN and are actively seeking individuals to join us in this journey.

Joining the ASN offers you the opportunity to forge enduring social impact by collaborating with exceptional social entrepreneurs matched with your areas of interest and expertise. You'll gain invaluable insights into social innovation and emerging trends in social entrepreneurship while connecting with like-minded individuals from around the world.

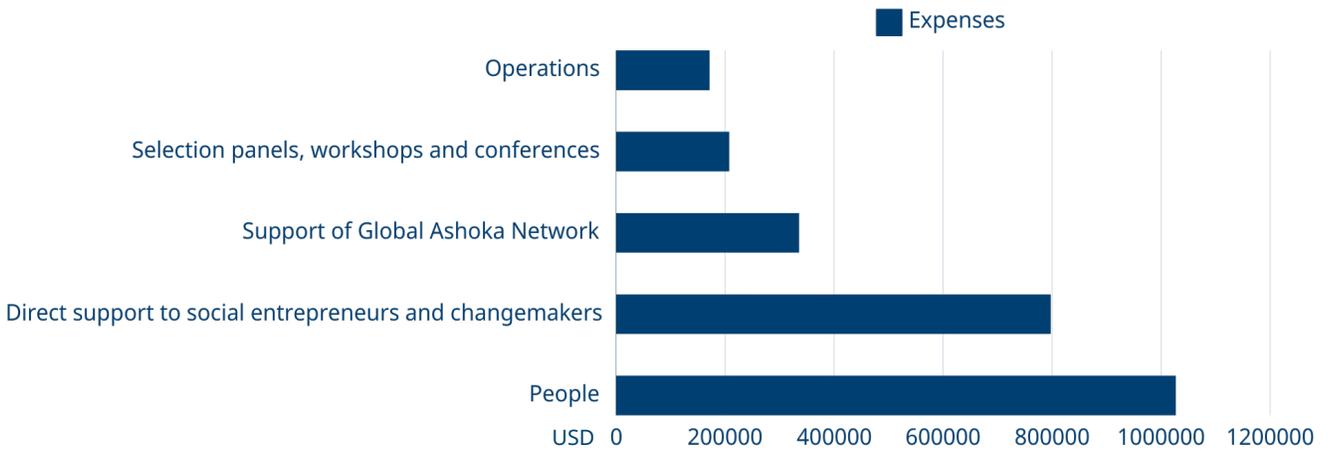
COME JOIN US ON A TRANSFORMATIVE JOURNEY.

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

[CONTACT US](#)

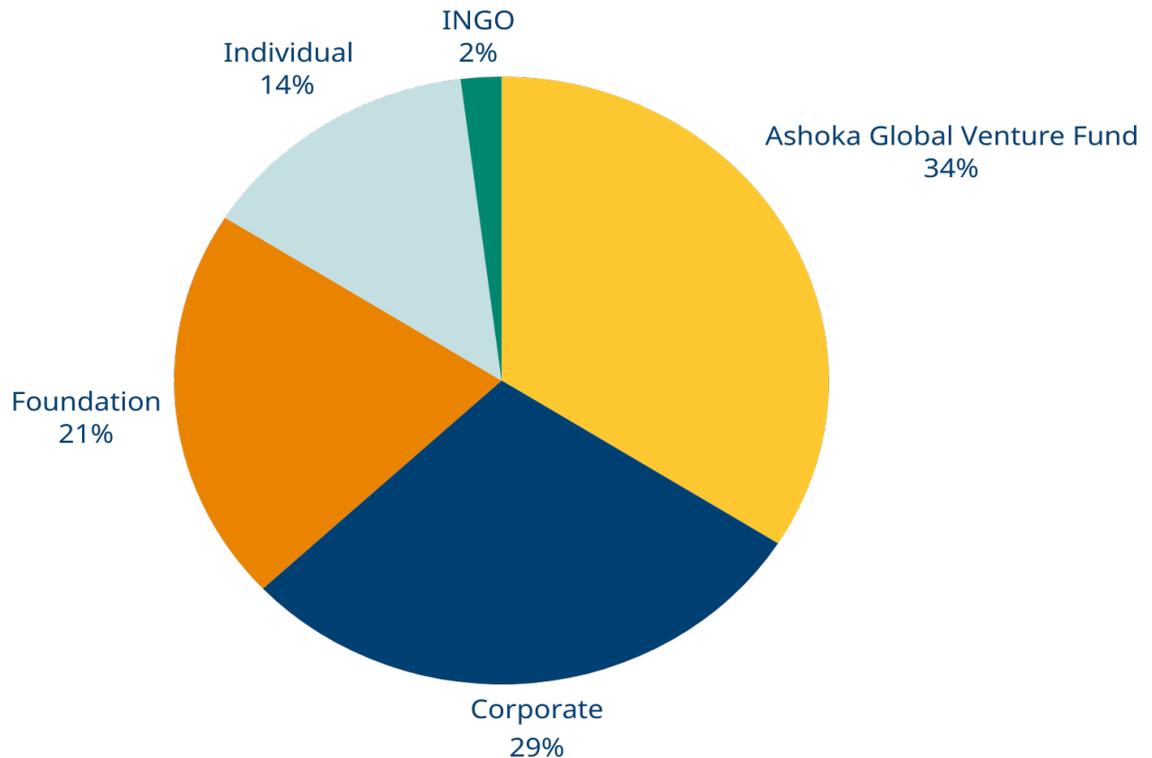
HIGH LEVEL FINANCIAL REPORT

2023 ANNUAL EXPENSES



Total Expenses: USD 2,540,901

2023 ANNUAL REVENUES PER TYPE OF FUNDER





OUR PARTNERS

Ashoka's approach is to work collaboratively to support social entrepreneurs across Africa. Thank you to all the partners that trust us.

GIVING PARTNERS



PRO BONO AND STRATEGIC PARTNERS

CORPORATE PARTNERS



NON PROFIT PARTNERS



INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS



ACADEMIC PARTNERS



HOW YOU CAN PARTNER WITH US

Ashoka offers several ways to partner with Ashoka:

- **BECOME A FUNDING PARTNER**

Our giving partners generously provide grants to support Ashoka's core strategy to drive social impact in Africa at scale.

- **BECOME A STRATEGIC PARTNER**

Our strategic partners leverage their networks, infrastructure and influence to help Ashoka and Ashoka Fellows scale impact.

- **BECOME A PRO-BONO PARTNER**

Our Pro Bono Partners share their know-how and professional expertise to support Ashoka and Ashoka Fellows in their social missions. It provides inspiring engagement opportunities for employees.

- **BECOME A NOMINATOR**

Our nominators help us identify new Ashoka Fellows and Ashoka Young Changemakers across fields of work and countries.



ASHOKA
EVERYONE A CHANGEMAKER™

africa@ashoka.org

Nairobi | Johannesburg | Lagos | Dakar