



ASHOKA & VENEZUELAN DIASPORA

CHANGEMAKERS IN
THE TECH WORLD -
LEADERSHIP & IMPACT
PROGRAM

Ashoka: Innovators for the Public
2023

www.ashoka.org/diaspora-networks
www.changemakers.com



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INTRODUCTION

Many change-making oriented citizens of a region are those that form part of a diaspora. Building a new life in a completely different world triggers powerful entrepreneurial energies, and at the same time, changes one's worldview. Only a small percentage of the population of any country is able to do it, but they do it in a way that opens up new opportunities for their families and the generations to come.

The Venezuelan diaspora is in a powerful position, as they stand as the current and future agents of change in both their new home and their home country.

The United Nations estimates that more than 7 million people have left Venezuela as a result of the political turmoil, socio-economic instability, and humanitarian crisis. This makes the Venezuelan migration one of the largest displacements of people in the world in the 21st century. In the United States, Venezuelan immigrant adults have considerably high levels of education, especially in terms of four-year college degrees. Around the world, management, business, science, and arts occupations are some of their top employment field.

Ashoka believes in the power of the Venezuelan diaspora to leverage social impact in their new home countries, back in Venezuela, and in the tech industry. For this reason, we developed a unique Leadership & Impact Program that offers tools for professional and personal growth, while supporting social entrepreneurship in Venezuela.

- ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEVERAGING THE SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP ECOSYSTEM AND SUPPORTING LEADING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS IN VENEZUELA?
- DO YOU WANT TO ACTIVATE YOUR LEADERSHIP AND CHANGEMAKING SKILLS, TOGETHER WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE VENEZUELAN DIASPORA WORKING IN TECH?
- DO YOU BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF THE TECH SECTOR TO CREATE SYSTEMIC CHANGE FOR THE GOOD OF ALL?

If you answer YES to any of these questions, this opportunity is for you! In the next pages, learn more about the program and how to apply - as a participant and as a partner.

JOIN THIS PROGRAM

WHO IS THIS PROGRAM FOR	OBJECTIVES	DATES AND TIME COMMITMENT	FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION
<p>Professionals who identify as part of the Venezuela diaspora, living in any country, AND are part of a tech company.</p> <p>We encourage application of professionals who have any role within a tech company.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Leveraging the social entrepreneurship ecosystem in Venezuela and social enterprises led by Venezuelan social entrepreneurs2) Equipping members of the Venezuela diaspora with change-making and new leadership skills3) Connecting them with other members of the Venezuela community and co-creating with social entrepreneurs	<p>The program runs in the second semester of 2023 - Dates to be confirmed.</p> <p>Applications are open.</p>	<p>The full price of the program is US\$ 3000, which will be used to fund a new social entrepreneur in Venezuela. We are asking for individual contributions of 50% of the full price, which is US\$ 1500. *</p> <p>The funds raised by this program will cover the costs associated with selecting a leading social entrepreneur in Venezuela for the Ashoka network and providing funds to maximize their impact over three years</p>

*Writer and philanthropist MacKenzie Scott has partnered with Ashoka and will match all funds raised for new social entrepreneurs in the Global South. Investing in the program presents an opportunity to double your contribution. For instance, if you contribute US\$ 1500, MacKenzie will add an extra US\$ 1500, bringing the total to US\$ 3000, covering your participation and providing funds for a social enterprise in Venezuela.

*Ashoka social entrepreneurs are building change all around the world. To learn more about the criteria to be part of the network, as well as the work led by them, click [HERE](#).

* We strongly recommend exploring professional development funds offered by your company and forms of corporate donations - like Google Matching Gifts. Ashoka is happy to work with you to unlock other ways to finance your participation

To apply as a participant or to fund this program as an Ashoka partner, please reach out to:

Ashoka Diaspora Networks

Funder or collaborator: Asier Ansorena - aansorena@ashoka.org

Participant: Isa Carvalho - icarvalho@ashoka.org. Applications [HERE](#) (or: <https://forms.office.com/r/p95ePRSRCn>)

THE ENGAGEMENT JOURNEY

For this program, we will work with a group of 15-20 individuals who are members of the Venezuelan diaspora working in the tech industry and committed to the following objectives:

1. Leveraging social impact in Venezuela by funding one new social entrepreneur in Venezuela in partnership with Ashoka
2. Developing leadership and change-making skills together with other members of the Venezuelan diaspora working in tech

Ashoka has created a global network of 4000 social entrepreneurs, of which 25+ are located in Venezuela. The programs will unlock opportunities for individuals to connect with Ashoka's Venezuelan leading social entrepreneurs, as well as expand their connections with the Venezuelan community within the tech industry. Also, working with Ashoka will unleash participants' transformational identity, creating a ripple effect in other communities and institutions they are a part of.

By engaging in a series of activities, learning opportunities, and real-life social innovations, they activate their change-making identity and pursue their roles as agents of change in their industries and in their communities.

Our Engagement Journey has 2 phases: DEVELOP and ACT.

This is a 6-month program, with an expected time commitment of 6-8 hours per month (time commitment varies each month). Learn about each phase in the following pages.

DEVELOP

1 professional development short course + online learning circles and workshops



ACT

Development of 1 personal impact plan and co-creation with a leading social entrepreneur

PHASE 1: DEVELOP

In this initial phase, participants will learn important social innovation frameworks and connect with a global community of changemakers from diverse backgrounds, industries, and leadership levels. They will be invited to consider how the tech industry can transition from business innovation to real systems change.

Simultaneously, participants will be encouraged to look inward and embark on their inner journeys. They will be empowered to claim their identity as changemakers and members of the Venezuelan diaspora while envisioning and articulating new possibilities for themselves and their future.

During this first phase, Ashoka will offer professional development training and discussion circles focused on tools, concepts, frameworks, and the exchange of stories aimed at helping participants develop their skills and build connections.



While participating in all activities of this phase is optional, we encourage all participants to build the foundation for the projects they will aim to achieve in the next phase, which will be more practical and goal-oriented.

Objective: To expose participants to cases of success in social intrapreneurship and social entrepreneurship, to inspire them to advance social practices in their professional and personal circles. To leverage participants' change-making identity and sense of purpose.

Time-commitment: 12 to 14 hours over a two-month period

PHASE 2: ACT

The goal of this step of the engagement journey is to practice a change-making mindset and commit to lasting impact actions.

In this step of the program, Ashoka works closely with individuals and the group as a whole to develop their impact goals – the objectives they would like to achieve once the program is over.

Equipped with the tools, frameworks, and experiences gained in the previous phase (“DEVELOP”), the group is invited to embark on concrete social innovation actions and projects.

To complete the program, individuals will select one final project to exercise their roles in the “Everyone a Changemaker world” we aspire to build. Some examples of final projects proposed include (but are not limited to):

- Co-creation of projects with a social entrepreneur working in Venezuela
- Fundraising campaign for a social enterprise program led by a Venezuelan social entrepreneur vetted by Ashoka
- Interviews posted on media and Ashoka's social media channels



Objective: To turn theory into practice by offering a range of opportunities for participants to engage with Ashoka and Ashoka’s network of leading social entrepreneurs – from capacity building to coaching to financial funding. At the end of this 2-phase journey, participants will have committed to least one impact project, designed with the support of the Ashoka teams.

Time-commitment: 8 to 12 hours over a three-month period.

MEET ASHOKA



Ashoka is the largest network of social entrepreneurs worldwide, with more than 4,000 Ashoka Fellows (well-recognized and awarded social entrepreneurs) in 90+ countries putting their innovative ideas into practice to create deep societal change. Ashoka Fellows are a crucial part of this program, as participants will have the opportunity to connect and co-create with them during the program.

In Venezuela, Ashoka has over 25 social entrepreneurs. Here are examples of four in Venezuela you will have the opportunity to connect with:

Mireya Vargas
CENTRO LYRA



To leverage the power of civil society and grow the impact of nonprofits, Mireya created the very first management and training center for social organizations in Venezuela.

Luis Francisco Cabeza
CONVITE A.C.



Luis amplifies voices and promotes social rights by connecting key players in the social and public sectors. His work has deep impact in vulnerable populations, such as women, youth, and elderly.

Mauricio Parilli
APRENDO Y EMPRENDO



Mauricio is empowering the youth of Venezuela by creating a social movement of change agents that influence their surroundings and become role models for their communities.

Alejandro Marius
TRABAJO Y PERSONA



Alejandro's organization promotes the value of work in Venezuelan society by improving the professional technical training of the population, especially for young people, women and the most vulnerable groups.



APPLY HERE:

Venezuelans in Tech - Leadership
Program APPLICATION FORM

