

AN OVERVIEW OF ASHOKA
AFRICA BUILDERS



Ashoka around the world

Ashoka is a global leader in social innovation and home to the world's largest network of social entrepreneurs. Recurringly recognized as one of the world's most innovative and impactful organizations, Ashoka pioneered the field of social entrepreneurship forty years ago and has introduced and mainstreamed the terms "social entrepreneur" and "changemaker."

FOUNDED

1980

ELECTED

3 817+

ASHOKA FELLOWS

FROM

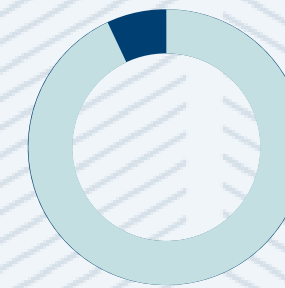
97+

COUNTRIES

Read about Ashoka's [theory of change, the new inequality, and the new framework](#) required for an everyone a changemaker world.

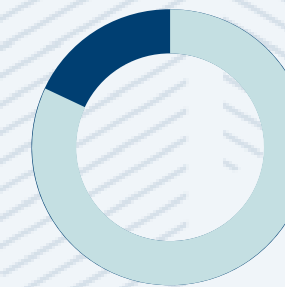
650 million people benefited from the work of Ashoka Fellows globally in 2021

OUR IMPACT



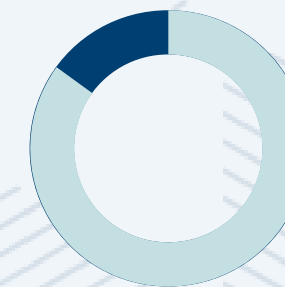
93%

of Ashoka Fellows indicated they have achieved systemic change in the area they work in



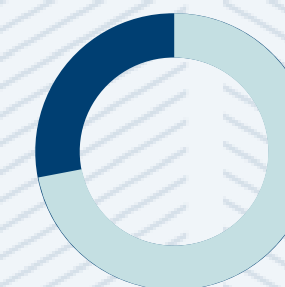
82%

of Fellows have had their innovations replicated by others



85%

of Ashoka Fellows report that Ashoka has helped increase their impact



72%

of Fellows have changed policy at the national and/or international level

Ashoka in Africa

Ashoka started in Africa in the early nineties to support rigorously vetted social entrepreneurs who are addressing the most critical social and environmental problems on the continent.

We believe in the power of collaboration to bring about positive change at large scale in communities throughout Africa.



33 + years
of experience in
Africa



A presence in **23**
Sub-Saharan
countries



A network of over
490 Ashoka Fellows
individually selected
and **1,000** young
changemakers



Over USD **22** million
mobilized to directly
support social
entrepreneurs through
stipends



4 regional offices (Lagos,
Dakar, Nairobi,
Johannesburg) and an
integrated Pan-African
strategy team

Ashoka has a Pan-African presence

Solutions are out there. We know where to find them

33+

years
experience

28

countries

490+

Fellows elected

4

regional offices

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

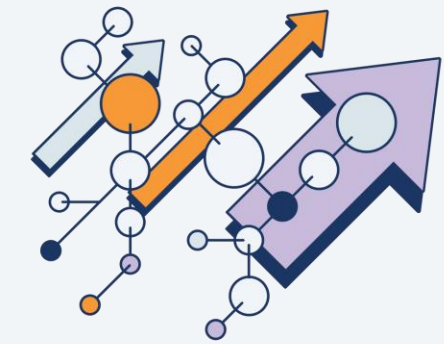
Our main lines of action



Identify, select, and support leading social entrepreneurs to drive **positive change at scale.**



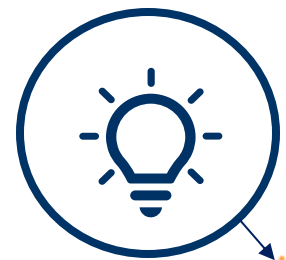
Seed a culture of **changemaking** to unlock **youth potential** and enable them to **thrive.**



Build stronger **ecosystems** for social innovation and changemaking, engaging **investors, business and public players.**

Our expertise: selecting social entrepreneurs through a carefully crafted process

SELECTION CRITERIA



New idea

Candidates have a new solution or approach to a social problem, which changes the pattern in a field.



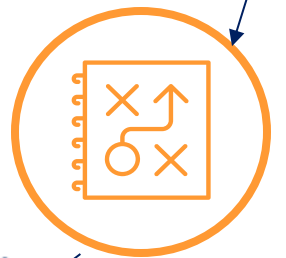
Entrepreneurial approach

Passion, vision, pragmatism and perseverance.



Social impact

The solution addresses an important social or environmental problem. There is a demonstrated impact and the potential to scale it to change existing structures and mindsets (systemic change).



Creativity

Both in defining the vision and in problem solving.



Ethical Fiber

Social entrepreneurs have to be trusted across different stakeholder groups to inspire major structural changes to society.

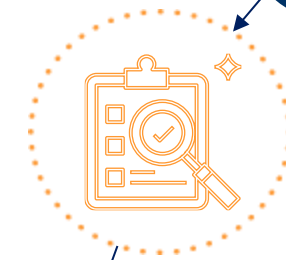


SELECTION PROCESS



1

Nomination



2

National evaluation



3

International evaluation



4

Panel review incl. externals



5

Board review

Our expertise: supporting social entrepreneurs to scale



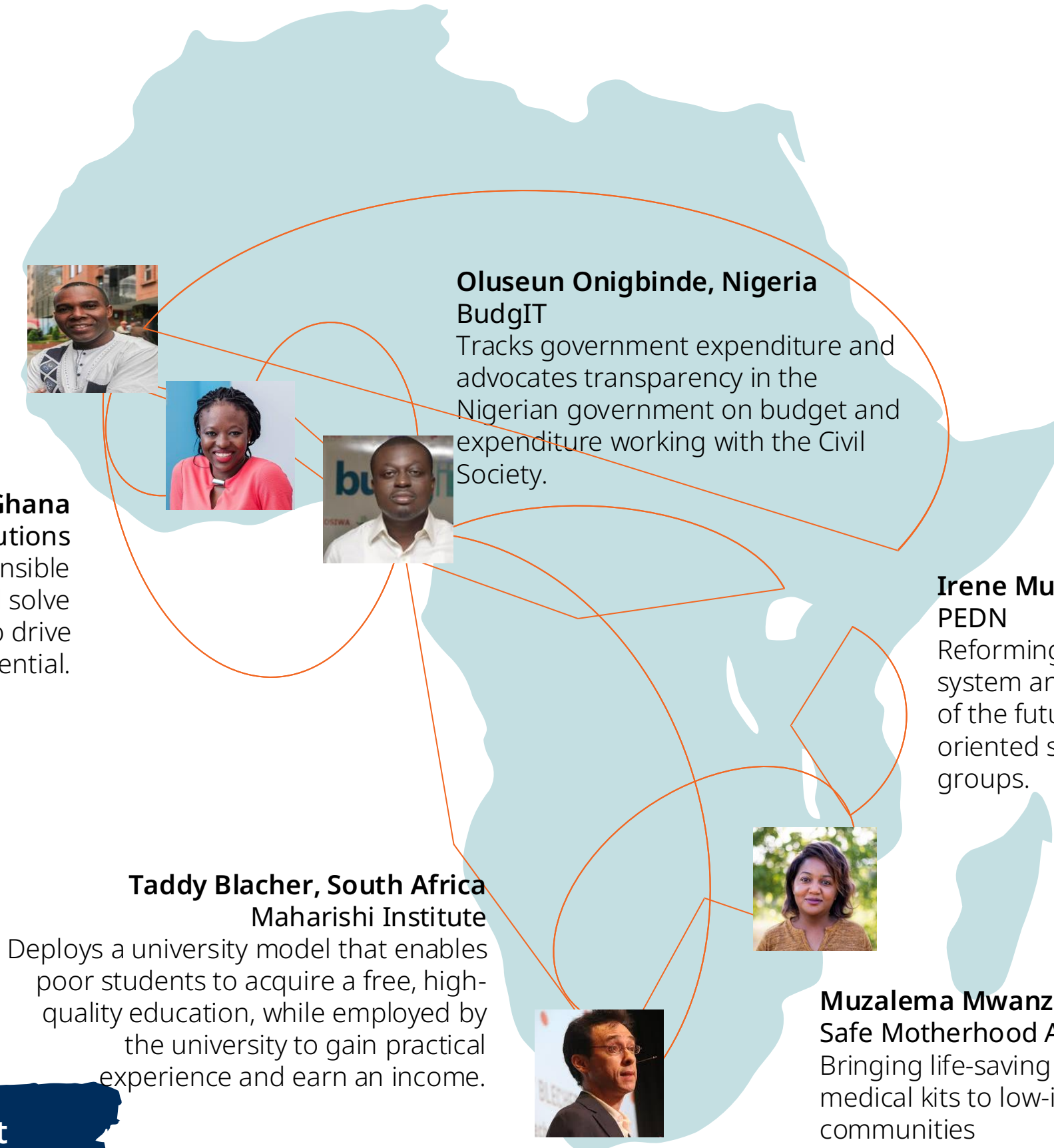
The Ashoka Fellowship is a unique blend of financial support to the entrepreneur and lifelong support through the network. It includes the Ashoka's global label, a prestigious Fellowship for social entrepreneurs as well as critical support through the 5 C's framework:

- **Capital:** a 3-year unrestricted stipend to the social entrepreneur to enable them to focus full-time on their social venture and reduce their risk
- **Community of peers:** a global resource directory, peer-to-peer connections and support
- **Connections** to opportunities for growth and to possible supporters across sectors (visibility, funding, etc.)
- **Capacity building:** focused on core issues such as systems-change, financial sustainability and personal sustainability
- **Collaborative models:** bringing together "mosaics of solutions" around a given topic and building synergies for impact

Ashoka Fellows: building an inclusive Africa

Sena Alouka, Togo
Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement
Transforms young people into environmental champions and support the creation of the green economy in the Sahel region.

Regina Honu, Ghana
Soronko Solutions
Enables Ghanaians to be responsible for their own problems and solve them through use technology to drive human potential.



These are 6 of over 490 Fellows in Africa. The vast majority address deep inequalities.

What the Ashoka Fellowship means for Fellows



89%

report that the Ashoka stipend helped them focus full-time on their idea



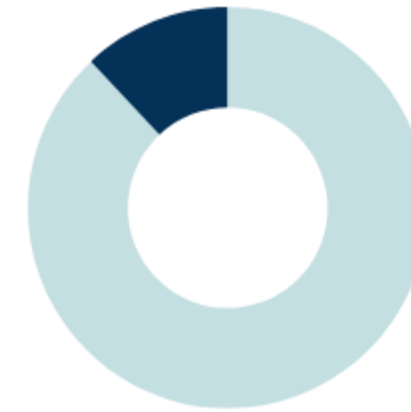
91%

report that Ashoka has helped them increase their impact



80%

feel strongly connected to the Ashoka community and in average collaborate with 4 other Fellows



79%

have received strategic guidance from Ashoka

We select and accompany them along their journey – with catalytic investment, strategic guidance, and an unmatched peer-to-peer community. With them, we seed a **culture of changemaking** where everyone owns the future and helps to shape it.

About the Ashoka Support Network and Africa Builders

Ashoka Africa Builders is a group within Ashoka Support Network (ASN) for African leaders, African Diaspora leaders and other leaders passionate about Africa.

Launched in 2004, the Ashoka Support Network is a global community of accomplished professionals and philanthropists who share and advocate for Ashoka's values and vision, whilst unleashing their own potential as changemakers. ASN members provide Ashoka with financial support while lending Ashoka Fellows and young changemakers their time and expertise. They join to give back to, learn from and co-create with our community of changemakers.

With over 300 members worldwide, we have built a powerful network that amplifies our work. **We now want to intentionally build a group of ASNers from and for Africa to accelerate our impact on the continent and build a powerful network of supporters who deeply understand the African context.** Imagine what we can achieve if leaders from all sectors use their skills, resources and networks to drive social change!

Benefits of joining the network

Engage with highly vetted social entrepreneurs creating positive change at scale in Africa

- Opportunity to serve as a Thought Partner for a leading social entrepreneur to help him/ her expand their impact. You will share your expertise for social change and learn in return. Engagement is tailored based on the time you have available and your interests in terms of sectors and geographies.

Learn about social innovation and systems-change

- Invitation to selected Ashoka online and offline events and learning programs
- Quarterly newsletters with curated content
- Conversations with Ashoka Fellows

Build a network of like-minded successful business executives and entrepreneurs in Africa and beyond

- The Ashoka Support Network has over 300 members and Ashoka Africa Builders are growing
- All members are business executives and entrepreneurs sharing a passion for social change and a belief in the power of the “Everyone a changemaker” vision
- All members want to be multipliers of social change thanks to their “poly capital””: investment, network, expertise and influence.

Meet the first AAB members



Adeolu Adewumi-Zer

Ms. Adeolu Adewumi-Zer is a US-trained actuary and business consultant with over two decades of professional experience. She most recently served as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer for Allianz Nigeria Insurance Ltd (AllianzNigeria), a subsidiary of the German multinational Allianz SE. A Nigerian and self-described Afro-optimist, Adeolu believes the growth and transformation of Africa can best be accomplished by empowering Africans to create measurable social impact and together generate shared value via purposeful growth and investment across the continent.



Chinedu Maduakoh

Chinedu is the Managing Director of Topline Limited, an indigenous company that specializes in Pipeline and Process Engineering services in the oil and gas industry with offices in both Nigeria and the U.A.E. He has a Mathematics/Economics degree and an MBA from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. He is also a member of various national and international bodies hinged on the energy sector and societal development. He is deeply interested in wildlife conservation and in shaping young people to become changemakers in their society.



Alex Schaber

Alex is the Managing Partner of Wohnbaustudio, a mid-size German real estate development company. Prior to this role he spent almost a decade working globally for General Electric in various management positions. Alex studied in Germany and China and has a Master degree in International Business. Alex is passionate about partnering with motivated individuals set out to change their society and environment for the better. He joined the AAB as a way to deepen the impact of his family's philanthropic endeavours in Africa.

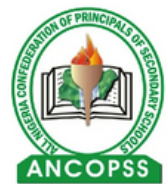
Our partners include

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

GIVING PARTNERS INCLUDE



PRO BONO AND STRATEGIC PARTNERS



What they say about Ashoka

I am thankful for the amazing support from Ashoka. You have been a huge part of my growth and impact!"

**Regina Honu, Founder and CEO of Soronko Solutions,
Ashoka Fellow, Ghana**

Ashoka believed in the vision of Fundi Bots at a stage when I wasn't quite sure how it would all work out. The strategy and scale guidance, personal financial support, and community of Ashoka since 2014 helped create a foundation of leadership, intentionality, and learning at Fundi Bots, helping transform this idea into a fully-fledged movement that has worked with more than 34,000 students. With absolute objectivity, we would not be here without Ashoka. I cannot overstate how catalytic your support has been for us and for Africa's children.

**Solomon King, Founder and CEO of Fundi Bots,
Ashoka Fellow, Uganda**

It is a personal nourishment to have the opportunity of working with such inspiring people as Ashoka social entrepreneurs. They are an inspiration for my own life. They help me improve my personal and professional journey. Ashoka is offering me this new journey.

**Alejandro Gorodisch, President of Farmacity
Ashoka Support Network member, Argentina**

Ashoka is a wake-up call. I have learned that there are many opportunities to step into radical systemic change, to up my game and participate in shifting the dynamics of social inequalities, both in the social and business sectors.

**Fabienne Serfaty, Social Impact Investor
Ashoka Support Network member, UK**

Ashoka seeks to catalyze the citizen sector by adapting the venture capitalist approach. The idea is to search for budding innovators, to supply them with seed money and to connect them in a global Fellowship.

The New York Times



Minimum annual donation to join Ashoka Africa Builders

Non-Africa based members (3-year commitment for the ASN)	Euros 10,000
Members from the African Diaspora (first generation)	Euros 5,000
Africa-based members who do not benefit from tax deduction for philanthropic donations	Euros 2,500

Annual contribution amounts have been set with an equity lens.



Get in touch with us today.
We need everyone to act now.
Everyone a changemaker.

Find out more at: www.ashoka.org



Stephanie Schmidt, Ashoka Africa Partnership Director, Johannesburg
sschmidt@ashoka.org

