

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM

YEAR IN REVIEW 2017



seforum
SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM

Letter from the Chair

On behalf of the Board of Directors, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the Year in Review for SE Forum. With this report, we seek to share the journey of SE Forum over the past year, as well as provide insight into the year ahead.

2017 was a big year for SE Forum; we completed a three-year project with SIDA that enabled us to work with social entrepreneurs in their local communities as well as here in Sweden. You'll read about these programmes and the entrepreneurs in the following pages, as well as other partnerships we formed over the year.

During 2018, we look forward to building on the momentum gained from our past programmes to grow the SE Forum ecosystem of partners, trainers, mentors and community members striving to promote, inspire and empower social entrepreneurs.

At the same time, we'll continue to innovate our own work to build an even stronger and more sustainable team. It promises to be a critical year in our history, and I hope you'll join us in the journey.



Photo credit: Juliana Wiklund

Lastly, I'd like to thank the rest of the board members, the SE Forum team and our extended community that worked together to bring all of our programmes to fruition in the past year. It truly takes a committed group of people to change the world. I look forward to SE Forum's continued role in supporting those brave enough and passionate enough to choose the path of social entrepreneurship.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'Maria J. Bustamante'.

Maria J. Bustamante

Chairman, SE Forum Board of Directors

Letter from the Executive Director

SE Forum's work strengthens social entrepreneurship both in Sweden as well as abroad. We are passionate about the work because we believe it's the future of business and ultimately good for the planet.

The past year has allowed us to use our international experiences to share learnings with entrepreneurs around the globe, but it has also helped view and review Sweden, where we are based. We travelled to countries like Kenya, Ukraine, Belarus, and Malaysia to explore challenges and opportunities for social entrepreneurs. And for the 2017 SE Outreach Accelerator we had participants from countries like Guatemala, Uganda, Pakistan, and Botswana.

This Year in Review will present findings, insights and impact from the past year, but also look ahead to future years of SE Forum. Future years where we aim to create a stronger and more efficient ecosystem for entrepreneurs in Sweden and beyond to use their business to solve society's most pressing problems.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicklas Wallberg'.

Nicklas Wallberg

Executive Director, SE Forum

The SE Forum *vision* is to contribute to a more just and sustainable world by unleashing the potential of entrepreneurship to address society's most pressing problems.

Our *mission* is to promote, inspire and empower social entrepreneurs to start and scale businesses that address global challenges in Sweden

WHAT WE DO

Programme activity

Since launching in 2004, SE Forum has carried out a varied range of programmes, training sessions, workshops, and accelerators to support social entrepreneurs with business skills, leadership training, impact measurement, and much more. 2017 was no exception as we ran the SIDA backed SE Outreach Accelerator in Stockholm, and Social Business Bootcamp and Training of Trainers in Kenya. We also worked with Swedish Institute to run training sessions for entrepreneurs within their alumni network.



Growing the ecosystem

We aim to create social impact through the entrepreneurs we support, but also to strengthen the ecosystem they operate in to allow for increased social impact. We are often able to explore various parts of the world, but in 2017, we had the opportunity to focus on the Swedish ecosystem. We spoke at events on the topic and were part of a report produced by Tillväxtverket and Sweco looking at how to create an efficient ecosystem for social entrepreneurship.



A Baltic collaboration

We also collaborated with partners from Latvia and Belarus on a project funded by Nordic Council of Ministers, where we produced an analytical review exploring partnerships between municipalities and social enterprises. The review also included recommendations and case studies of best practice examples.



WHERE WE'RE GOING

As our flagship programme, the SIDA funded SE Outreach Accelerator, came to an end in 2017, we are in 2018 designing new collaborations and new programmes to support social entrepreneurs. For example, our partnership with the leading American non-profit Seeds of Peace and their GATHER Fellowship. We run the social entrepreneurship track of the fellowship and are in 2018 inviting fellows who work towards transforming conflict through their innovative solutions here to Stockholm, Sweden.

Ultimately, we want all business to be good business and we want the ecosystem for social entrepreneurship to be strong enough to help. Our actions should inspire and empower entrepreneurs to use their business to do good and we want to work with partners who share this vision.



“ **Sida considers SE Forum to be a driver of change, a forerunner dedicated to influencing the private sector to work in a more sustainable and inclusive way and thereby contribute to poverty reduction.** ”

Emilie Göransson, Sida



The 2017 SE Outreach Accelerator participants came from Nigeria, Guatemala, Pakistan, Malaysia, Uganda and Botswana, each solving societal challenges in their communities and countries.

They were selected out of 900 applicants from 92 countries and joined our six-month programme in Stockholm to develop their businesses to create bigger social impact

Destiny Frederick EcoFuture, Nigeria



Destiny is a biochemistry graduate with a passion for recycling. Having done research on waste management and recycling, she knew that unmanaged landfills and illegal waste dumpsites were leaving residents of Edo State, Nigeria, at risk of blockage, erosion, pollution and disease spread. She founded EcoFuture, a recycling company that collects plastic waste from local waste collection companies.

EcoFuture is able to sort and manage the waste to subsequently sell on to larger companies that create new products with the recycled material, creating a more environmentally friendly supply chain and saving the country from plastic pollution. Since graduating from the SE Outreach Accelerator, Destiny re-thought her business model and switched from a highly competitive B2C model to an elevated B2B model.

Habiba Ali Sosai Renewable Energies, Nigeria



With a Master Degree in finance, a PhD in management and over a decade's experience of working in the renewable energy sector, it was during a conference in 2009 that Habiba's eyes were opened to the dangers of indoor pollution. She learned that a woman who sits by a kerosene lantern for three hours inhales harmful fumes equivalent to two packets of cigarettes.

She set up Sosai Renewable Energies that today produces and distributes solar products to rural areas in Nigeria. Sosai provides small-scale solar home systems, as an affordable way of bringing light to off-grid communities. Since graduating from the SE Outreach Accelerator, Habiba has raised 400,000 Euros on the Bettervest Funding platform as a long-term loan to implement her projects.

Jennifer Menegazzo Korbatá, Guatemala



Raised in Guatemala with a passion for ethical fashion, Jennifer is well-aware of the struggles local artisans face in preserving the traditional Mayan culture and making a living from their hard work. She founded Korbatá, an ethical fashion brand that creates unique patterns and sells high-quality fashion accessories for men, promoting Mayan textiles made by artisans in indigenous communities around the country.

Korbatá's mission is to promote and preserve community development through the creation of sustainable sources of income, empowerment and recognition of the various expressions of Mayan and Guatemalan culture. Since graduating from the SE Outreach Accelerator, Jennifer has signed a contract for exclusivity with a department store in Guatemala, which allows her to expand her work and hire more staff.

Maria Mushtaq Care Connect, Pakistan



Maria is an entrepreneur and technology enthusiast. She has over 14 years of experience in corporate management as well as an extensive background in healthcare, the public sector and the telecommunications industry. Healthcare service delivery and accessibility is one of the national challenges in Pakistan, especially in rural areas.

With eight years of experience in designing healthcare solutions and systems, Maria decided to contribute to her country by setting up Care Connect, a tele-medicine platform that aims to improve service delivery of primary healthcare services, primarily in rural or under-privileged urban areas. Since graduating from the SE Outreach Accelerator, Maria has formed a partnership with a big local NGO to cooperate on a healthcare record management project. Now she has fully a functional MVP and is setting up the Advisory Board.

Nina Othman Grow the Goose, Malaysia



Nina is a seasoned entrepreneur having run many businesses in Malaysia, a country where 86% of urban households have zero savings. To tackle the growing problem of bankruptcy amongst young people under 25, Nina came up with the idea of Grow the Goose as a methodology to improve the savings culture and, as a consequence, empower kids and teens to pursue their dreams.

Grow the Goose runs financial empowerment workshops and believes that every child, regardless of their parents' income, has the right to financial literacy and should be able to create a financially sustainable life for themselves and their community. Since graduating from the SE Outreach Accelerator, Nina has expanded their community outreach to three new villages. The company received 'Impact Driven Enterprise Accreditation' by Malaysian Global Innovation & Creativity Centre.

Samuel Malinga Sanitation Africa, Uganda



Growing up in the slums of Kampala, Samuel has witnessed people suffer from water-borne diseases caused by sanitation problems. Determined to change this, Samuel decided to study engineering to come up with a solution to the sanitation challenges in his community. Sanitation Africa Ltd was founded in 2015 with the mission to enable low-income households to access decent, affordable sanitation facilities.

Samuel and his team design innovative toilet solutions and improve and upscale existing ones, to create sustainable and dignified sanitation solutions. His work has made Samuel one of the UN Young Leaders for the Sustainable Development Goals. Since graduating from the SE Outreach Accelerator, Samuel and his team have won the Innovation Against Poverty Sida fund to further scale up their company.

Tendekayi Katsiga Deaftronics, Botswana



Tendekayi is an electronic engineer who realised that 70% of the hearing aids distributed in Africa are only used for a month, due to the high cost and unavailability of batteries. Based in Botswana, Tendekayi decided to harness the power of sunlight to help deaf children of the developing world, where electricity is scarce and batteries are expensive.

He founded Deaftronics, a company that creates solar-powered hearing aids manufactured by people with hearing impairments, giving children and young people with hearing impairment education and employment opportunities, helping them to break the cycle of poverty they are trapped in. Since graduating from the SE Outreach Accelerator, Tendekayi has changed his pricing strategy into value based, improved the organisational structure and made a clear division of labour, which greatly strengthened his organisational capacity.

As part of our work to strengthen the social entrepreneurship ecosystem, we use events to promote good business solutions and initiatives where possible. In 2017, we were able to host a few events of our own and also took part in events and panel debates to discuss topics such as cross-sector partnerships and collaborations in Sweden and abroad.

Ukrainian Philanthropist Forum

Our Executive Director Nicklas Wallberg attended the IX International Conference of Ukrainian Philanthropist Forum: 'Social Innovations: New Solutions to Old Problems' and participated in panel discussions on topics such as impact measurement and accelerator programmes for entrepreneurs.



A celebration of social entrepreneurship

In March, we hosted an evening event at our new office Norrskén House, as we simply wanted to share impressive results from previous SE Outreach Accelerator participants and celebrate the growth of the social entrepreneurship sector.



Almedalen

One of the highlights in Sweden's political calendar is the week in Almedalen on the island of Gotland. Our Executive Director took part in a panel discussion on how to foster and enhance sector collaboration to solve society's toughest challenges.



Graduation event

In September, we saw the culmination of six months of hard work and celebrated the 2017 SE Outreach Accelerator participants alongside guest speaker Jakob Trollbäck sharing insights behind designing the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.



Tillväxtverket panel debate

Our Executive Director joined a panel of different players within the Swedish social entrepreneurship sector to discuss and explore how to create an efficient ecosystem for social entrepreneurship in Sweden.

OUR SOCIAL IMPACT

SE Forum is a non-profit membership organisation based in Sweden that advocates responsible business solutions to address local and global challenges. SE Forum was founded in 2004 and has since provided a variety of programmes and services that aim to transform the norms around the way business is done and the composition of the private sector. We promote, inspire and empower entrepreneurs all over the world to use business to do good, with our members and partners working to solve some of society's most pressing problems.



Promoting

We connect entrepreneurs and provide a platform and creative space to foster the emergence of new and innovative ideas.



Inspiring

We share the latest trends in social entrepreneurship, such as business model innovation, and a diverse range of methods needed to create and scale social impact.



Empowering

We provide entrepreneurs with support, tools, and networks to accelerate progress and demonstrate benefit for society and the environment.

We believe that all social entrepreneurs should aim to create the biggest social impact possible. And to do so it's important to be asking questions and measuring the right things and ultimately learn from them.

In 2017 we were amongst the founding members of an informal network in Sweden of practitioners in the sector who are interested in exploring social impact measurement and how to do it well. We have also spent time evaluating our own work and monitoring past participants of our various programmes to see the impact as well as to follow up on the impact they're having in their own communities.

SE OUTREACH ACCELERATOR 2015-2017



96 %

of social enterprises are thriving after the program

90 %

increased their impact and reached more beneficiaries



71 %

improved sustainability and mentioned the SE Outreach Accelerator's role in it

81 %

benefited from their network growth during the programme



SOCIAL BUSINESS BOOTCAMP

75 %

of participants in Kenya and Palestine reported they have been actively using the knowledge gained during the programme in their work

340

students at African Nazarene University are now annually taught social entrepreneurship after Training of Trainers content has been added to the curriculum

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

Sida works on behalf of the Swedish government to reduce poverty in the world. Sida has been our main funding partner and we have worked closely together to increase the impact of our entrepreneurs.

Scandic Hotels

Headquartered in Stockholm, Scandic has 230 hotels in seven countries in Europe, most of which are in the Nordic region. Scandic Norra Bantorget provided our entrepreneurs a comfortable home away from home during the SE Outreach Accelerator.

Sigtuna Foundation

Sigtuna is a conference and meeting venue that also houses an extensive library of Sweden's largest press archive. The Foundation annually awards scholarships to scholars, writers, translators and teachers. We were able to spend time during both Part 1 and 2 of the SE Outreach Accelerator in the inspiring and relaxing atmosphere of the Foundation.

Norrskan House

Norrskan House is Europe's biggest hub for impact and technology, run by the Norrskan Foundation, and SE Forum's home. We were also able to host training sessions and events on the premises during the SE Outreach Accelerator.

Swedish Institute

The Swedish Institute promotes interest and confidence in Sweden around the world. We have had the pleasure of partnering with them on various projects, visits, and training programmes during 2017.

Nordic Council of Ministers

NCM - the official body for inter-governmental cooperation in the Nordic region that seeks solutions with viable positive effects for everyone in the region. NCM supported SE Forum's partnership with Social Entrepreneurship Association of Latvia (SEAL) and ODB Brussels under the project "Social Entrepreneurship in the Baltic Sea Region: Building Bridges", which aimed to improve the social entrepreneurship ecosystems in Latvia, Sweden and Belarus.

Hand In Hand Eastern Africa, Multimedia University of Kenya

HiHEA – is a member of the Hand in Hand global Network whose vision is to reduce poverty through enterprise development and job creation. MMU – a public university focused to accelerate the development of Kenya's Information and Knowledge sectors. SE Forum teamed up with these organisations to deliver the Social Business Bootcamp and Training of Trainers in Kenya in 2017.

We would also like to thank our trainers, mentors, board members and team who have all helped support entrepreneurs doing good in 2017.

Team

Nicklas Wallberg, Executive Director
Fiona Hazell, Programme Director
Tove Nordström, Communications & Coordination Lead
Svitlana Pinchuk, Social Impact Coordinator
Analice Martins, Project Coordinator
Lena Reschke, Programme Assistant

Trainers

Lena Ramfelt, Pernilla Bard, Ruth Brännvall, Ruben Brunsveld, Bo Tonnquist, Lasse Lynchell, Luciana Oliveira, Karin Sharma, Tove Nordström and Susanna Nissar.

Mentors

Maew Osataphan, Karin Ruiz, Maria Erdmann, Shail Gupta, Anna Ljungbergh, Emelie Ekblad, Gregg Vanourek, Siju John and Oren Ipp.

Board

Maria Bustamante, Mona Bostarius, Ylva Hansdotter, Ebba Theding, Eva Jarlsdotter, Gregg Vanourek, Johan Carrick, Ola Jönsson, Victor Ganguly and Jenny Fürstenbach.

1

Become a partner

We are passionate about leading the work on improving and growing the social entrepreneurship ecosystem and we are always exploring future collaboration opportunities.

Are you interested in workshops, incubators or accelerators? Is your company or organisation looking for ways to help achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals? Would you like to know more about social entrepreneurship and how to get involved? Get in touch with us to discuss how your company or organisation could use business to do good and create change.

2

Become a member

We have a passionate and experienced membership network of business professionals, academics and supporters, who support us and each other to make a difference and use business to do good. Your membership with us could be the first inspiring step towards becoming a social entrepreneur, support others, or a way of meeting like-minded people to share your experiences with.

To find out more, check out our website www.se-forum.se or send us an email at info@se-forum.se

“ *This accelerator has fulfilled all my weak points in business management and I have strong mentors to consult and rely on.*

SE Outreach Accelerator participant

“ *For me as a mentor, getting to know fantastic entrepreneurs from around the world is inspiring!*

SE Outreach Accelerator mentor

“ *A huge thank you for your super professional engagement in our event. We are very happy how everything turned out and it was clear that the participants also loved it.*

Linnéa Lindgren, Program Manager, Swedish Institute

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