



Youth Venture

Catalyzing a Movement of Young Changemakers

An Overview

The YV vision and mission



Our core
Vision:

A culture of young people initiating and leading positive, lasting change, leading to dramatic growth of changemakers worldwide

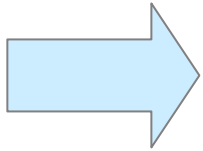
Our global
Mission:

Catalyzing a global movement of young changemakers

Youth Venture
(USA) Mission:

Youth Venture invests in the ideas and capacity of youth, ages 12-20, to create, launch, and lead sustainable community-benefiting organizations.

Introduction framework



Introducing Youth Venture – the basics

Social Entrepreneurs

A Short History:
Youth Venture and Ashoka

Introducing Ashoka – and understanding the
connection

Additional details on Ashoka and Youth
Venture

Contact information

Youth Venture: the basics of who we are and what we do



Who we are

- Investors in young people to become Venturers
- Catalysts of a global movement of Venturers

What we do

- Invest (figuratively and literally) in teams of young people to launch sustainable, community-benefiting ventures
- Connect our Venturers into a global network
- Build the Youth Venture movement
- Raise awareness of Venturers and youth-led social change
- Shape a culture of youth-led social change
- Help shape an enabling environment for Youth Venturers

Our goal

A global Youth Venture movement through which young people redefine their role in society as competent leaders of social change and dramatically increase the number of changemakers in the world

What is a youth social venture?



A youth social venture:

- Is a new initiative started by young people
- Is youth-led, created, and managed
- Involves a strong team
- Has clear, attainable goals, a credible plan and budget
- Has an adult “ally” willing to support, but not control, the launch of their idea.
- Has venturers who care and have the skills and energy to be successful
- Leaves a lasting benefit to the community



Youth Venture – USA (example venture)



Nick Cuttriss and Jessie Fuchs-Simon – American Youth Understanding Diabetes Abroad (AYUDA) (Washington DC and Ecuador)

Their Idea

- A support group for children with diabetes in Ecuador
- A youth-led education and advocacy program

Their Impact

- Established a national diabetes camping program, *Campo Amigo Ecuador*, serving over 550 youths
- The Pan-American Health Organization has published and distributed their “youth-to-youth” book throughout Latin America
- Have provided over \$1.75 million in donated diabetes supplies and professional medical services to Ecuador



{ Nick and Jesse posing with the Peruvian Ambassador to Ecuador.

Who are the young venturers?



Youth Venturers:

- Are adolescents (age 12-20)
- Range in socio-economic demographics, from poor to upper class, urban to rural, diverse ethnicities, etc.
- We specifically target low income youth of diverse backgrounds, often marginalized in society
- All have potential to make positive impact in their community, given the right support and encouragement



Core YV: Our Process



There are only 2 elements of the YV product that are “non-negotiable”:

1 Action plan

2 Selection panel

...the rest of the product can be developed and tailored to fit any region or youth population



What is a Social Entrepreneur?



A social entrepreneur is a visionary who changes the pattern of how society operates

- Has the same qualities as a business entrepreneur: vision, creativity, pragmatism, innovation, determination
- Creates a radically new solution to a social problem with the potential to revolutionize a whole sector

Leading social entrepreneurs need changemakers



A social entrepreneur pioneers a new field or new pattern in society



Changemakers enter the new field, build on the new idea, and multiply change

Complementary visions of Youth Venture and Ashoka



Youth Venture

Culture of young people initiating positive, lasting change, leading to dramatic growth of changemakers

- Individual young people experience that they can lead positive, lasting change
- Role models of young people inspire other youth
- Young people see they are part of global movement
- Youth years changed, society tipped toward youth-led social change

Ashoka

Social entrepreneurs as pioneers and role models for changemakers with an enabling citizen sector

- World's leading social entrepreneurs launch system changing solutions that allow others to replicate and spread
- Social entrepreneurs inspire others to take initiative
- Competitive citizen sector spawning innovation and productivity, with infrastructure changemakers to launch ventures

**Joint vision:
Everyone a
changemaker**

Overview of Ashoka



- The first, largest and fastest growing global association of social entrepreneurs
- Invested in over 1,700 of the world's leading social entrepreneurs in 60 countries
- Social entrepreneurs work in the areas of health, human rights, civic participation, environment, economic development, and youth development

Ashoka's vision: "Everyone a changemaker"



- Ashoka's vision is a world where everyone has the freedom, confidence and societal support to address any social problem and make change
- In working toward this vision, Ashoka strives to shape the social sector to be entrepreneurial, productive and globally integrated
- Ashoka invests in social entrepreneurs because they are the most powerful force for change and the role models for the social sector

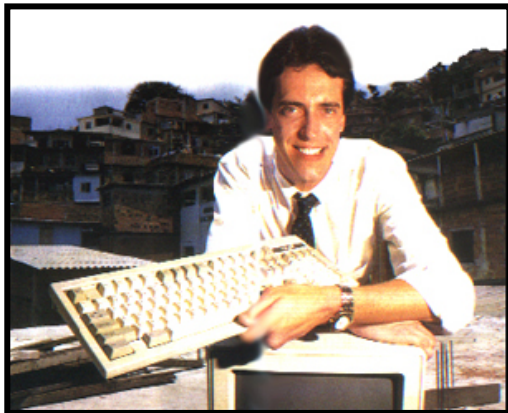
The New York Times

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

Social entrepreneurs have powerful new ideas that change a system



Rodrigo Baggio – Bridging the Digital Divide (Brazil)



Problem

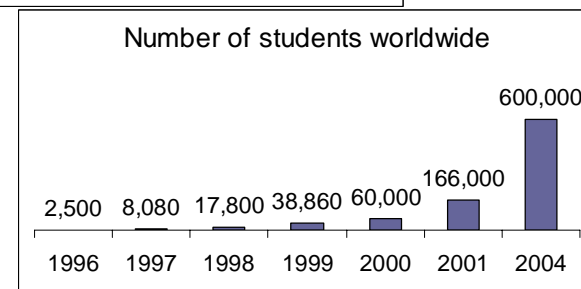
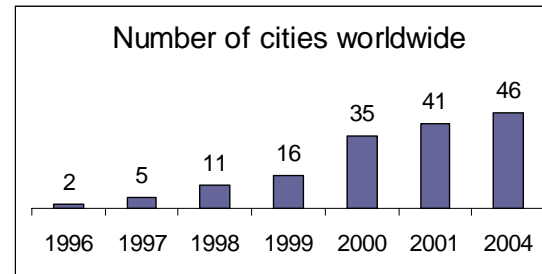
- Digital revolution was bypassing 138M people in Brazil's urban slums

Rodrigo's innovation

- Set up computer training centers in slum communities
- Community provides a space, management, and teachers
- Rodrigo provides the rest including teacher training, equipment and software

Results

- Over 962 schools in 11 countries benefiting 1.8 M people



The system change we are seeking



When we have achieved:

- Critical mass of young people successfully launching social ventures
- Young social venturers are connected and have a collective identity

Reinforced by:

- More serious engagement with youth by sectors of society (e.g. schools, corporations)
- Media portraying youth more positively

We will have changed the system:

A “tipped” system in which young people leading social change becomes the norm and expected by young people and adults alike

About Youth Venture



History

Youth Venture was founded and spun off from Ashoka in 1996, based on the work of Ashoka Fellows from around the world

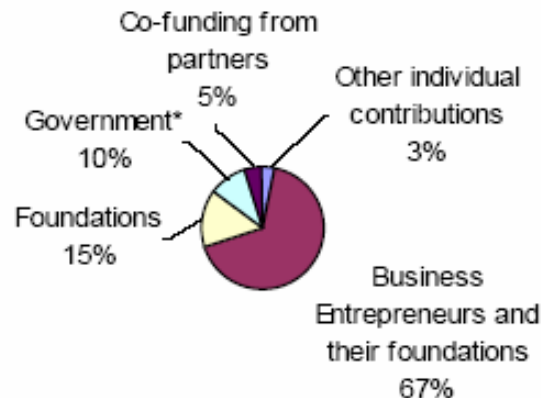
The team

Youth Venture has a full-time staff of 6, plus 21 Americorps Vista staff. For more on the Youth Venture team, check out www.youthventure.org

Values

- We believe that young people are capable
- We believe that young people of all backgrounds deserve the opportunity to lead, to participate, and to get the guidance and support they need
- While the Youth Venture opportunity is available to all 12-20 year-old youth, the focus of our limited resources is primarily on young people from disadvantaged backgrounds
- We seek systemic change

Funding sources



*Funding for Americorps Volunteers

Major backers include:

- Pierre Omidyar
- Ron Ansin
- Linden Family
- Staples

About Ashoka



History

Ashoka was founded in 1980

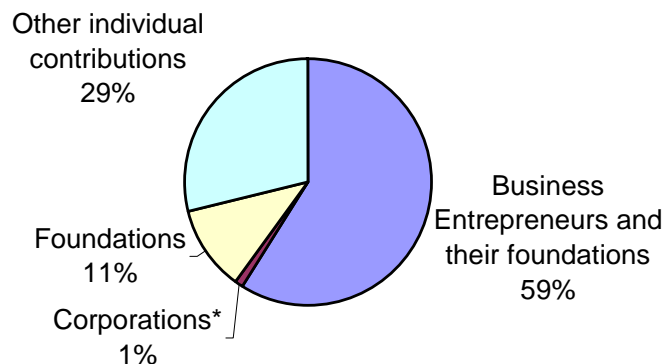
The team

Ashoka has a staff of 135 innovative, entrepreneurial people from all over the world. For more information on Ashoka's team you can find our bios at: www.ashoka.org

"Ashoka"

Ashoka takes its name from the 3rd century BC leader who unified the Indian subcontinent. Ashoka is recognized as one of the world's earliest social innovators. He created one major structural innovation after another in both economic development and in social welfare. In Sanskrit, Ashoka means "the active absence of sorrow." This organization was founded in the spirit of the leader Ashoka's extraordinary creativity, global-mindedness and tolerance.

Funding sources



* Funding sources do not include in-kind contributions

Major backers and partners

- Jensen Family
- Pierre Omidyar
- Stephan Schmidheiny
- Michael Hilti
- Jeff Skoll