



BOOST

Building Opportunities on Sustainable Talent



Executive Director's Message



It is a pleasure to share another edition of the BOOST Newsletter and to reflect on the progress we continue to make together in creating meaningful opportunities for young people.

Over the past few months, our programmes have continued to expand opportunities for

young people to strengthen their employability, entrepreneurship, digital, climate and leadership skills. Through initiatives such as the Ruwa Social Innovation Hub, Enactus Zimbabwe, climate action and green skills programmes, entrepreneurship challenges, and career-readiness initiatives, we are connecting young people to practical pathways for learning, enterprise development, and the world of work.

Our work continues to demonstrate that young people need more than programmes they need supportive ecosystems where they can learn, innovate, access mentorship, build enterprises, and transition into sustainable livelihoods. As we implement our 2026 - 2030 strategy, we remain committed to deepening our reach, strengthening our interventions, and ensuring that more young people, particularly young women and underserved communities, can participate meaningfully in Zimbabwe's social and economic development.

We are grateful to our partners, government stakeholders, private-sector collaborators, institutions, mentors, staff, volunteers, and, most importantly, the young people who make this work possible. As we look ahead, our focus remains on turning participation into measurable outcomes, skills into employment, ideas into viable enterprises, and innovation into solutions. We invite you to explore the stories, achievements, and lessons captured in this edition.

Thank you for continuing to walk this journey with us.

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IMPACT AT GLANCE

Total Reach
August - September 2026

2534



YOUNG PEOPLE REACHED

Across all programs,
activities, and engagements



THAT'S 2534 MORE
YOUNG PEOPLE WITH
SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE,
OPPORTUNITIES AND
PLATFORMS TO CREATE
BRIGHTER FUTURES.



AUGUST 2026
PEOPLE REACHED: 916



SEPTEMBER 2026
PEOPLE REACHED: 1618

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY & INNOVATION CHALLENGE

288

 Young people reached
43 teams pitched

33 teams in the International Youth Day Innovation
Challenge
10 teams in the Schneider Electric Energy Transition
Challenge

FUTURE OF WORK, CAREER READINESS & MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

683

 programme participation
engagements

382 students trained at HIT (Harare Institute of
Technology
301 participants during the program launch

ENACTUS ZIMBABWE TEAM AUDITS

180

 students and team members
supported

14 Early Stage entries
6 Impact Stage entries

ENACTUS ZIMBABWE NATIONAL COMPETITION

635

 people reached
*(students, judges, faculty advisors, government
representatives, corporate partners etc)*

14 university student teams
32 judges
18 faculty advisors

SMART DRINKING & MODERATION CHALLENGE

160

 students engaged across
institutions

16 institutions
5 thematic areas

CONTENT CREATION BOOTCAMP

33

 young people trained in
digital content creation and
storytelling

SALES SKILLS TRAINING

29

 young people trained in
sales, marketing and
customer engagement

SAFE & INCLUSIVE CITIES (SAIC)

101

 young people reached
31 referrals
19 youth-owned businesses mapped

SCHOOL-BASED GREEN SKILLS TRAININGS

132

 young people reached through
Schneider-supported school
engagements

SAFEGUARDING (PSEA) DIGITAL CAMPAIGN

187 WhatsApp community members reached
30 actively engaged

106

OTHER HUB ACTIVITIES

learners reached through Chigubhu
Lantern school visit



International Youth Day 2026: Celebrating Young Innovators and Solutions for a Changing Zimbabwe



Young people took the stage at the 2026 International Youth Day commemoration at Ruwa Innovation Hub, celebrating youth creativity, innovation, and solutions to community challenges.

Over three days, young innovators strengthened their skills, refined their ideas, and pitched their solutions to stakeholders, judges, and potential partners.

The programme reached 288 young people, including 83 innovators, with 43 teams pitching their solutions and 12 youth-led innovations exhibited.

The commemoration was graced by Hon. Kudakwashe Mupfema, Deputy Minister of Youth Empowerment, Development and Vocational Training, who highlighted the role of young people in driving innovation and entrepreneurship, while emphasising emerging opportunities in AI, digital technologies, automation and the green economy.

He also called for stronger pathways to help youth innovations move from prototypes to markets, commercialisation and sustainable enterprises.



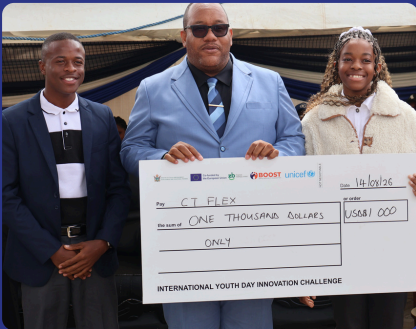
Following the challenge, the Hub initiated the 2026 IYD x Schneider Innovation Incubation Roadmap to support winning teams beyond the competition.



The incubation pathway is designed to provide mentorship, technical and business support, Impact Fund guidance, progress tracking and market linkages, helping young innovators move from prototype development to market readiness and potential commercialisation.

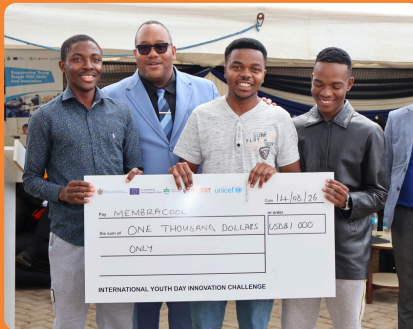
Innovation Corner

The International Youth Day Innovation Challenge recognized five youth led innovations, with each team receiving USD 1,000 to support the continued development of their solutions.



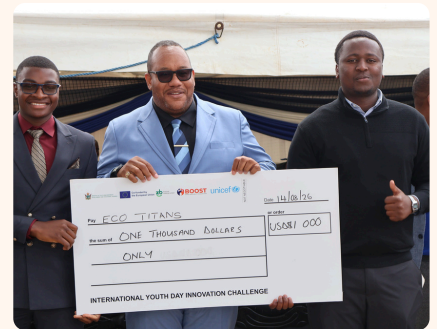
CT Flex Chewe Technologies

A micro-insurance platform offering flexible cover designed around the irregular incomes of informal workers.



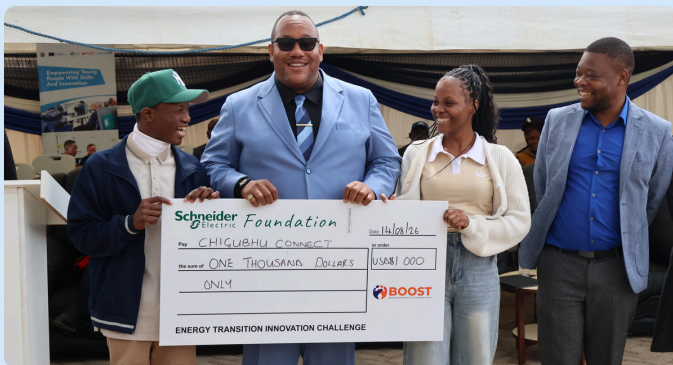
MembraCool

A low-energy cooling system that uses water and a specialized membrane, offering an alternative to conventional refrigerant-based cooling.



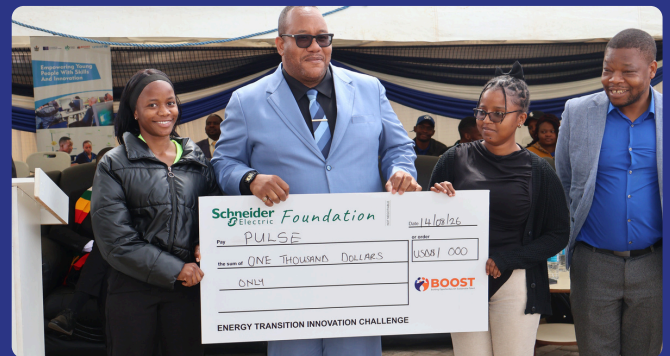
Eco Titans Earth to Energy

A biodigester solution designed to convert water hyacinth into renewable biogas for cooking and heating.



Chigubhu Connect

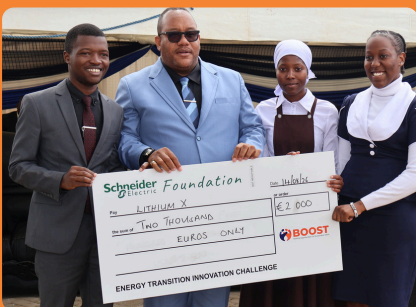
Solar-powered recycling kiosks reward users for depositing plastic bottles while creating opportunities for waste pickers.



PULSE

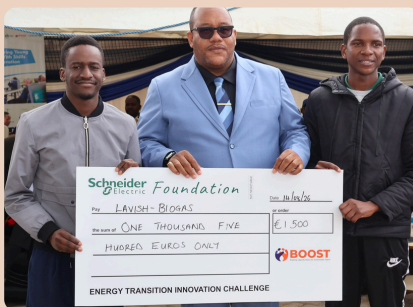
A Skills Passport platform that verifies young people's skills and connects them to work, learning, and other opportunities.

The Schneider Electric Energy Transition Challenge supported youth-led innovations focused on energy transition and sustainability. Three teams were recognized through the challenge.



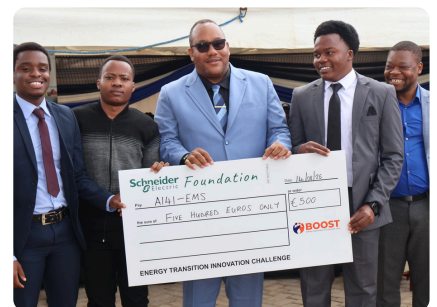
Lithium-X

A battery recycling solution designed to recover valuable materials such as lithium, cobalt, and nickel for reuse in battery production.



Lavish Bio Gas

A small-scale biogas solution that converts organic waste into clean energy while producing bio-slurry that can be used as fertilizer.



AI4I-EMS

An AI-powered system that analyzes electricity data, forecasts, and recommends actions to help institutions manage energy consumption.



Preparing Young People for the Future of Work: BOOST and Crown Bank Launch Career Readiness and Mentorship Programme

As technology, AI and changing employer expectations reshape the world of work, BOOST and Crown Bank launched the Future of Work, Career Readiness, and Mentorship Programme to help young people build practical skills, confidence, and professional connections.

The programme kicked off at Harare Institute of Technology (HIT) on 26 August, reaching 382 students through a career-readiness session focused on workplace expectations, employer needs and preparing for employment before graduation.

It was formally launched during the Enactus National Competition, bringing together 301 participants and stakeholders, including 148 students, alongside faculty, alumni, industry representatives, and partners.

The launch featured remarks from Dr Dennis Murekachiro, Director in the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development, and Ms Ndanatsei Nyamhunga, Crown Bank Head of Corporate and Institutional Banking. Both engaged with students and stakeholders around the importance of stronger connections between education, industry, and young talent.



At its core, the programme is creating pathways for young people to move beyond academic qualifications and build the skills, networks, financial knowledge and workplace exposure needed for their future careers.

Enactus Zimbabwe 2026 National Competition: A Generation Reimagining What Is Possible



What happens when young people stop seeing challenges as barriers and start seeing them as opportunities to create something new?

At the 2026 Enactus Zimbabwe National Competition, university students turned that question into action, presenting ideas that tackle some of the country's most pressing challenges. From transforming invasive water hyacinth and plastic waste into valuable products, to developing climate smart agricultural solutions, digital platforms, clean energy technologies and innovations designed to improve health and livelihoods.



Held from 3 to 4 September 2026 at the Golden Conifer Conference Centre in Harare, the National Competition brought together 15 university teams, industry leaders, government representatives, judges, faculty advisors, and partners.



But the competition was more than winning a title. It was about giving young innovators a platform to test their ideas, engage with industry and demonstrate how entrepreneurship can respond to real challenges facing communities.



Keynote speaker Dr Shingai Mutasa, Founder and Group CEO of Masawara, encouraged young people to recognise the power of their thinking, reminding them: "Our minds are the most powerful instruments. What you feed them is what comes out."

The competition featured both Early Stage and Impact Stage categories. Midlands State University's Earth to Energy emerged as the Early Stage Champion with a portable circular biogas solution that converts cow manure and invasive water hyacinth into clean cooking gas. In the Impact Stage, Bindura University of Science Education's Silk PET was named Champion for its circular manufacturing solution, which converts discarded PET plastic bottles into recycled fibre and finished products.

The journey continues beyond the national competition. Earth to Energy and Silk PET will represent Zimbabwe at the Enactus World Cup in São Paulo, Brazil, from 16–19 November 2026, allowing the teams to take their innovations to a global audience.





BEHIND EVERY GREAT IDEA IS A COMMUNITY

Thank You for Making Generation:Re Possible

The 2026 Enactus Zimbabwe National Competitions were more than two days of presentations, pitches and awards. They were the result of a community of students, educators, industry leaders, judges, partners, Government representatives, alumni and organisers who came together to create a platform where young people can innovate, connect, learn and build.

To everyone who played a part — thank you.



OUR STUDENTS THE HEART OF ENACTUS

To the students who took to the stage, shared their ideas and demonstrated courage, creativity and determination. This platform belongs to you.



OUR JUDGES THANK YOU FOR CHALLENGING THE THINKING

To our **32 judges**, thank you for giving your time, expertise and experience. Your questions and feedback helped teams think deeper and stronger.



OUR FACULTY ADVISORS & UNIVERSITIES

To our **18 Faculty Advisors**, university leadership and academic communities, thank you for supporting and guiding students long before they stepped onto the competition stage.



OUR MCs, SPEAKERS & PROGRAMME CONTRIBUTORS

To our keynote speaker, panellists, alumni and all programme contributors — thank you for bringing energy, insight and inspiration to the stage.



OUR PARTNERS & SPONSORS

Thank you to our valued partners for creating opportunities for students through industry knowledge, mentorship, networks and support.



GOVERNMENT & DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

We appreciate the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Development and Vocational Training, the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development, IDF and all our ecosystem partners for their continued support.



15

UNIVERSITY
TEAMS



32

JUDGES



18

FACULTY
ADVISORS



COUNTLESS
HOURS OF
PREPARATION



ONE

COMMUNITY
COMMITTED TO
YOUTH INNOVATION

The competition may have lasted two days. The relationships, ideas and opportunities created can last much longer.

Thank you for believing in young people.

Thank you for investing in their ideas.

Thank you for helping create a platform where innovation can move from the stage into communities, markets and industries.

WE ARE GENERATION:RE.



**PEOPLE.
IDEAS.
ACTION.
A BRIGHTER
TOMORROW.**

Bringing Digital Skills to Schools Through the Mobile Hub



The Ruwa Innovation Hub officially launched its Mobile Hub, a new outreach initiative designed to take the Hub's programmes and resources directly to schools in surrounding communities. The initiative aims to expand access to digital skills and innovation opportunities by delivering monthly outreach sessions at different schools, ensuring more young people can benefit from practical, future ready learning.



The first session was held at Great Hope College, where students participated in an interactive training on Artificial Intelligence and Internet Safety.

The session introduced learners to the opportunities presented by AI while equipping them with practical knowledge on how to use digital technologies safely, responsibly, and ethically.

Students explored topics including online privacy, cyber safety and responsible online behaviour, learning how to protect themselves from online threats while respecting the rights of others in digital spaces.

Beyond the training, the outreach introduced students to the programmes and

opportunities available through the Ruwa Innovation Hub, encouraging them to participate in future skills development, innovation, and entrepreneurship initiatives.

Through the Mobile Hub, BOOST is extending innovation beyond its physical space, ensuring that more young people have access to the digital knowledge and skills needed to thrive in an increasingly connected world.



Ruwa Innovation Hub: Highlights

Across August and September, Ruwa explore emerging technologies, develop Innovation Hub continued to create practical businesses, and connect with opportunities. pathways for young people to build skills,

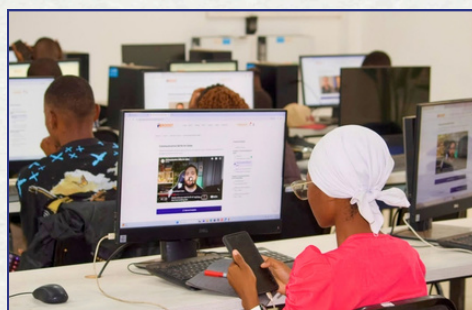


Film Festival Screening & Dialogue | August

The Hub used the documentary “Black Experiences in Business” to open conversations about the realities of entrepreneurship. The 28 participants explored persistence, personal investment, collaboration and the importance of turning ideas into tangible solutions.

AI Agents Class | August

The Hub held its first AI Agents class, giving young people a practical introduction to building simple AI agents. The programme is designed to progress towards business process automation, client solutions and AI-powered services, positioning young people as potential AI solution providers.



PSEA Digital Awareness | August

Through the Hub's WhatsApp community, young people and community members received information on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and available reporting channels. The campaign reached 187 community members, with 30 engaging with the content, while six awareness posters were developed for the Hub's computer labs.

Content Creation Bootcamp | September

Thirty-three young people took part in a three-day bootcamp covering storytelling, scripting, smartphone filming, editing, publishing, marketing and distribution. Participant feedback showed strong satisfaction, with participants calling for more hands-on practice and advanced sessions.





Sales Skills Training | September

Through its partnership with Membra Consulting, the Hub trained 29 young people in communication, sales representation and route-to-market skills. The initiative is also building a 50-person sales talent pool, with potential job placement and job-shadowing opportunities.

Schneider Electric School Engagements | September

The Hub extended its green skills work into schools, reaching 132 young people through sessions on energy transition, clean energy, recycling and innovation. The Chigubhu Lantern demonstration showed learners how waste materials can inspire practical energy solutions, while Innovation and Science Clubs are creating opportunities for continued engagement with the Hub.



CALM Regional Learning Visit | September

Ruwa Innovation Hub hosted the Climate Action for the Last Mile (CALM) Regional Learning Visit, bringing together partners and stakeholders from Zimbabwe and Comoros, alongside KOICA, UNICEF, government representatives, implementing partners and young innovators.

The visit provided an opportunity to explore the Hub's innovation spaces, engage with young innovators and climate-focused solutions, and discuss pathways for mentorship, incubation, finance, market access and employment.

The Hub's next phase will focus on turning skills, ideas and participation into real opportunities. This includes expanding Innovation Corner as a platform for ongoing mentorship, peer learning, and technical support; strengthening incubation and market linkages for youth-led innovations; connecting young people to jobs, internships, freelancing, and employer opportunities; and continuing practical training in digital skills, AI, entrepreneurship, employability and green innovation. The Hub will also strengthen partnerships with schools, employers, mentors and ecosystem stakeholders to help young people move from learning and ideas to products, income, employment, and sustainable enterprise.

SAFE & INCLUSIVE CITIES: Creating Pathways for Young People to Thrive

Young people living in fragile urban communities face interconnected challenges, including unemployment, limited economic opportunities, violence, gender inequality, and limited opportunities to participate in decisions that affect their lives. The Safe and Inclusive Cities (SAIC) programme, supported by Plan International Zimbabwe, works to address these challenges by strengthening young people's safety, economic opportunities, and participation in their communities.



As BOOST we are supporting this work by creating practical ways for young people to develop businesses, access employment opportunities, build their skills, access SRHR information and services, and engage in community and decision making spaces. Through entrepreneurship support, employability activities, youth dialogues, networking and referrals, we are helping young people turn their ideas and potential into meaningful opportunities.

Implemented in Bulawayo, we engaged young people across Pumula, Makokoba, and Mzilikazi through a range of activities. 38 young people participated in Youth Business Pitch Sessions, with 9 selected for start-up or business booster support. A Summer Networking Fashion Show generated 103 referrals, while an intergenerational dialogue brought together 40 participants to discuss employment, apprenticeships, internships, entrepreneurship and stronger connections between young people and other community stakeholders.

These activities are helping to create a strong link between skills, ideas, opportunities, and livelihoods. As the programme continues, BOOST will focus on strengthening financial literacy and business development, providing mentorship, connecting young people to markets and employment opportunities, and supporting youth led enterprises to grow.

SEEDCO–BOOST Innovation Challenge

Seed Co. is an agricultural company focused on supporting farmers and strengthening food production through innovative agricultural solutions. Through its partnership with BOOST, the SeedCo–BOOST Innovation Challenge creates a platform for innovators to develop and advance ideas that can contribute to a more productive, sustainable and food-secure agricultural sector.

The latest challenge has now moved to its next stage, with 15 teams shortlisted for the Investment Readiness and Innovation Sprint.

The shortlisted teams are developing solutions across areas including agricultural technology, seed systems, data and intelligence, digital platforms, traceability and farm management.

SEED CO
The Home of Bumper Harvests

In partnership with
BOOST
BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES
ON SUSTAINABLE TALENT

From Ideas to Impact

CONGRATULATIONS!

TO SHORTLISTED TEAMS

We are excited to announce the teams shortlisted for the next phase of the SeedCo–BOOST Innovation Challenge!

Your innovative ideas stood out, and we look forward to working with you in the Investment Readiness and Innovation Sprint (28 September – 2 October 2026).

SHORTLISTED TEAMS

1	GenoSim	9	AgriPulse
2	AgriWatch Intelligence	10	AgroLink
3	DFOS	11	SeedCo Operating System (SeOS)
4	SeedShield	12	SeedFlow
5	AgriTrace – SeedTrace	13	PULSE – Processing Unit Live Status Engine
6	STAE – SeedTrack Ecosystem	14	SeedAssure Command
7	Edge SeedCo	15	SeedIQ
8	SeedTrack Live 360		

Thank you to all teams who applied!
Your innovation and passion for agriculture inspire a brighter, more food-secure Africa. The journey continues!

**YOUNG IDEAS
BIGGER
HARVESTS**

The Home of Bumper Harvests

It starts with the right seed.

0242308881-5 / 08677020255 | seedco@seedcogroup.com | www.seedcoonlineshop.com/zw



Building the Future Together

Stay Informed - Stay Connected

As we conclude, we celebrate the young people, educators, innovators, partners, communities, and supporters who continue to make our work possible. Every programme delivered, every innovation nurtured, and every opportunity created brings us one step closer to a Zimbabwe where young people are empowered to shape a sustainable and prosperous future.

Here's to building opportunities on sustainable talent.

Here's to learning, innovating, and creating impact.

Up Coming Activities

Enactus World Cup

16-19 November 2026

Smart Drinking and Moderation Challenge

5 November 2026

SeedCo Innovation Challenge

To be Advised

If this is your first time interacting with us - welcome. If you've been part of our journey, thank you for believing in our mission and walking alongside us. Each month, we'll bring you stories of innovation, resilience, partnerships, and the young people transforming challenges into opportunities across Zimbabwe.

Want to share your story in the next issue? Email us at boostfellowship@gmail.com or send a message at +263 78 044 5843

Whats Happening at the Ruwa Hub the Month of August

Incubation Corner Webinar

09 October 2026

Solar installation Training and Mechandizing trainings, Schneider trainings

12 - 16 October 2026

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