



SHOWCASE 2026

Supporting University-Led
Impact Ventures & Mission-Led Businesses



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE



University of
Northampton



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

OPENING REMARKS

When the pandemic hit, many of us hoped it would prompt a hard look at how the economy works and a renewed commitment to building something fairer.

ImpactU began with a simple observation; **too many promising social ventures fall between the cracks.**

Often too applied for traditional research funding, and too impact-led for many early-stage commercial routes.

That belief sits at the heart of **ImpactU**; a collaboration designed to support university ideas to become **mission-driven businesses** that tackle the world's biggest unmet needs.

We set out to close the gap with our **Pathfinder Awards**; early-stage capital on commercial terms plus a shared training ecosystem (the ImpactU HUB) that helps founders build, test, and scale with confidence.

We have now **invested in 21 ventures** (with 5 more in the final stages) have **49 university members**, and engaged 660 learners through ImpactU HUB workshops, events, and networks.

Alongside the funding, founders gain access to a **ground-breaking learning platform** and expert-led sessions across venture building, fundraising, leadership, and impact measurement.

Today's Showcase is a celebration of that momentum, and an invitation. If you can invest, advise, pilot, partner, or open doors, please lean in. These ventures are ready to make things happen.



Best wishes,

Philippa Christoforou
Social Ventures Lead,
Oxford University Innovation



IMPACT BY NUMBERS



26 ventures invested in

£1.04m deployed*

via Pathfinder Awards (£40k convertible notes)

49 universities engaged

through the national network

660+ active Hub users

founders + university professional services

70 online expert-led workshops

delivered through the ImpactU HUB

In-person roadshow, Diverse Angels Driving Impact event and two Supporting Social Ventures bootcamp delivered.

**or made commitment to invest*

together
we are
IGNITED

Post-ImpactU funding to date

£633,500

includes grants/awards and investment





Follow-on equity investment to date

£500k+

follow-on investment & first staff hired in several ventures already - evidence of de-risking

IMPACT U OVERVIEW

ImpactU is a Research England-funded (£1.5m)

pan-university initiative created to close a persistent gap; many of the most promising, mission-led ideas emerging from universities are too applied for traditional research funding, and too impact-first for conventional early-stage commercial routes.

Delivered jointly by **Oxford University Innovation (OUI)** and the **London School of Economics (LSE)**, ImpactU combines two essentials that founders need early on - **patient pre-seed capital and practical venture-building support.**

Through the ImpactU Pathfinder Fund (a £1m fund deployed as £40k convertible notes) we provide the early runway to test, validate and de-risk ventures for follow-on investment.

Alongside this, the ImpactU HUB - a digital learning and community platform designed by LSE offers structured learning tracks, specialist content, and peer support for founders and the university staff supporting them.

ImpactU is guided by a governance board including **LSE, the University of Oxford, the University of Cambridge, the University of Northampton, and the University of York.** We're also grateful to the University of Bristol for supporting our ImpactU roadshow event.

At its core, ImpactU helps universities **turn evidence-led insight into scalable, mission-led businesses** and helps founders move from idea to investment with confidence.



VENTURE BIO: PAPCUP



PAPCUP

Elevator pitch:

Papcup is developing a **non-invasive cervical screening** alternative designed to increase screening uptake and save lives.

What problem are you solving?

Cervical screening attendance is too low, driven by discomfort, anxiety, and barriers to accessing current screening methods.

 PAPCUP



A new era in cervical cancer prevention.

What is your solution?

A non-invasive alternative designed for easier, more acceptable screening, supporting higher participation and earlier detection.

Traction to date:

LOIs secured through a pharmacy-led B2B2C route; early commercial validation and pricing pathway.

Milestone post ImpactU funding:

First employee hired; strengthened commercial position and readiness for partnerships and fundraising.

Impact to date:

Progress toward improved screening access, reducing barriers and encouraging early detection.

Investment Ask:

£1,000,000 pre-seed, target close **April 2026, SEIS/EIS available**, lead investor not yet secured. Seeking impact motivated angels.

What other support do you need right now?

Distribution partners (especially pharmacies), NHS/pilot pathways, and introductions to health-focused investors.



"ImpactU strengthened our commercial position and gave us the confidence and structure to progress faster."

- Sanziana Foia (Founder)

VENTURE BIO: NIMBUS AGRI-TECH



Nimbus Agri-tech

Elevator pitch:

Nimbus is building safer, greener weed and vegetation control, replacing chemical-heavy methods with field-ready electric technology.

What problem are you solving?

Chemical-intensive vegetation management harms biodiversity, costs land managers time and money, and faces tightening regulation and public pressure.

ImpactU's support has provided both the early capital and the confidence to move Nimbus from vision into execution. Funding has enabled the prototype build phase and strengthened Nimbus's positioning as an impact-driven agricultural robotics company preparing for field validation and future investment."

What is your solution?

Electric weeding/vegetation management tools designed for real-world land management and agriculture.

Traction to date:

Prototype development underway; early validation conversations with target users and potential partners.

Milestone post ImpactU funding:

Advanced technical development and commercial planning to move from prototype toward pilots.

Impact to date:

Progress toward reducing chemical herbicide use and supporting biodiversity-positive land management.

What other support do you need right now?

Warm introductions to pilot partners (land managers, estates, councils), and manufacturing/engineering support.



**- Luke Cramphorn-Neal
(Founder)**

VENTURE BIO: VERO



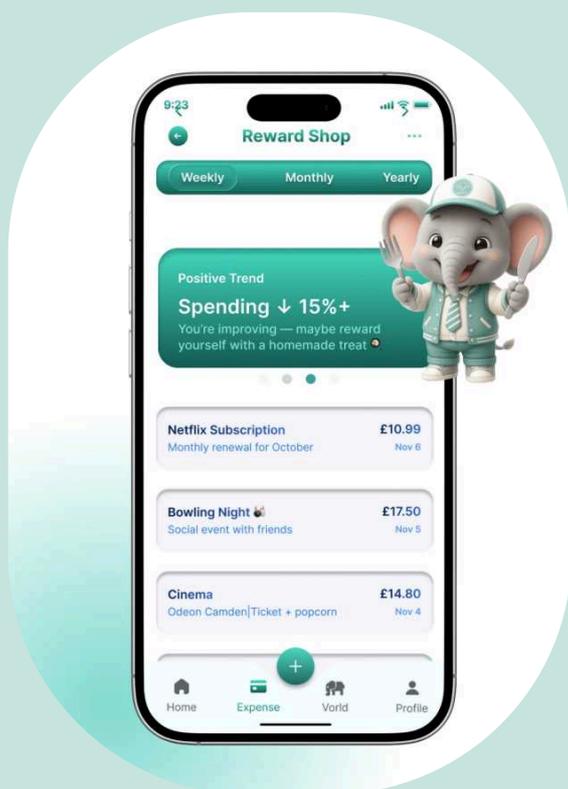
Elevator pitch:

Vero is an AI-powered financial wellness platform helping people build better money habits, especially those facing financial stress.

What problem are you solving?

The growing financial stress crisis among Gen Z students, rooted in a lack of practical, habit-forming financial tools in an economy that incentivise overspending.

The consequences extend beyond money, harming mental wellbeing, academic performance, and increasing vulnerability to university dropouts and long-term debt.



What is your solution?	An AI-led platform that delivers tailored insights, habit-building nudges, and practical guidance to improve financial outcomes.
Traction to date:	Completed a proof-of-concept with users; validated demand and engagement; building product readiness for broader rollout.
Milestone post ImpactU funding:	Converted early validation into a clearer product roadmap and strengthened investor readiness.
Impact to date:	Early users supported to improve money confidence and behaviour through personalised guidance.
Investment Ask:	£300,000 pre-seed
What other support do you need right now?	Partnerships (employers, universities, membership orgs), product distribution channels, and investor introductions.

ImpactU has played a significant role in strengthening our journey as founders. Through events and workshops, we gained a clearer understanding of the legal and operational landscape of entrepreneurship.

The ongoing support, warm introductions, and mentorship from ImpactU have not only accelerated our progress but also given us the confidence, knowledge, and foundation to build Vero as a responsible, impact-driven venture.” - Vero Team

VENTURE BIO: BIZUMI

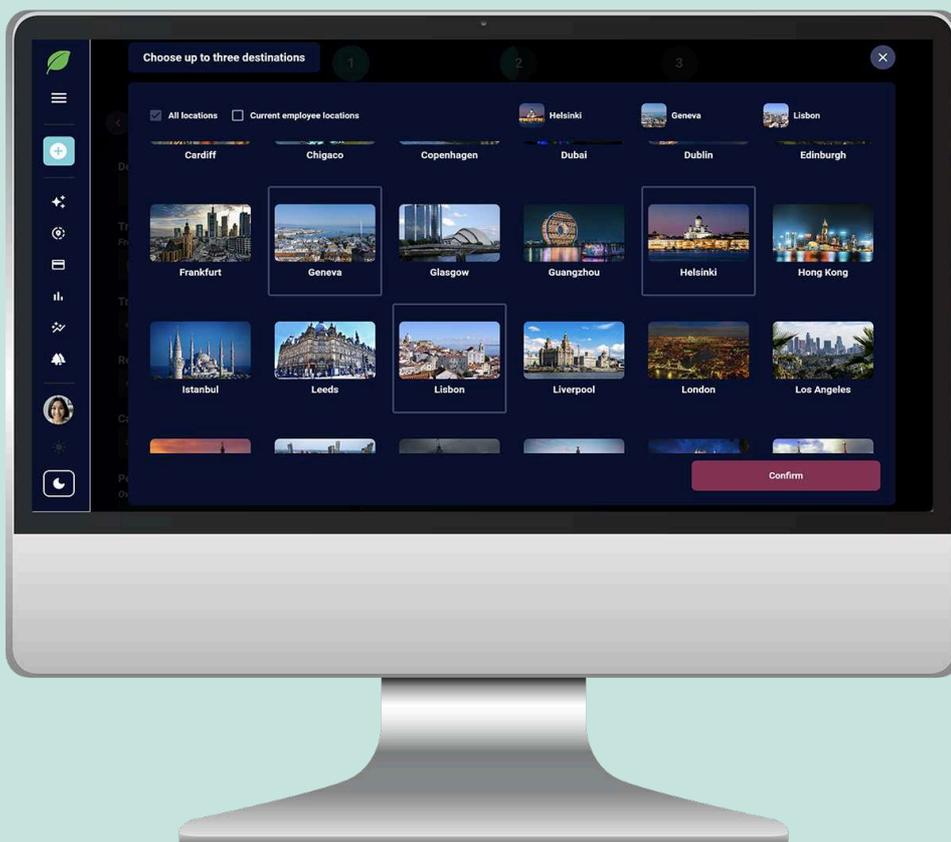


Elevator pitch:

Bizumi reduces the emissions and friction of global event travel, helping organisations plan smarter, lower-carbon travel at scale.

What problem are you solving?

Global event travel accounts for 10% of global emissions (more than Europe and Africa combined), but dedicated pre-trip planning tools don't exist leaving venues unable to lower indirect footprints and visitors wasting time and money using multiple fragmented tools.



What is your solution?

Replacing fragmented tools with an intelligent AI ecosystem that cuts planning time by 90% and travel-related CO2 emissions by over 50%; bridging the gap between venues and visitors, providing critical Scope 3 data, time and cost savings, and reducing travel related stress.

Traction to date:

£47K Innovate UK grant to validate technical prototype. 2 x pilots delivered. Secured strategic partnerships with Globuc.

Milestone post ImpactU funding:

Secured specialised technical talent. Accelerated product development for May 2026 launch,

Impact to date:

Pilots delivered 90% faster planning and 60% CO2 reductions.

Investment Ask

£240,000 SEIS

What other support do they need right now?

Expertise in localised marketing and international SaaS delivery. Strategic support in cross-border data regulations and IP protection



ImpactU provided critical capital to scale our technical team, while their on-demand training served as a vital strategic knowledge base for our transition from prototype to market-ready venture.

- Irena Holdsworth (Co-Founder)

VENTURE BIO: SLANT



Elevator pitch:

SLANT is a UK mobility technology company enabling the shift away from vans in urban logistics. We have developed a patent-pending, modular electrification unit that transforms standard trailers into high-capacity, data-connected delivery equipment at a fraction of the cost of cargo bikes.

What problem are you solving?

courier operators struggle to replace vans at scale, despite regulatory pressure and clear economic incentives to transition to zero-emission alternatives.



What is your solution?

SLANT has developed a patent-pending, modular Drive Unit that electrifies any compatible trailer, transforming a standard bicycle into a high-capacity, data-connected delivery system.

Traction to date:

Product development and pilots. +£200K grant funding. confirmed trial with Royal Mail. Multiple LOIs with UK cycle logistics operators.

Milestone post ImpactU funding:

Securing £110,000 grant from the Department for Transport's Freight Innovation Fund to deliver a live operational trial

Impact to date:

Progress toward lower-emission deliveries and reduced congestion pressure.

Investment Ask:

£750,000 pre-seed, SEIS/EIS available. Seeking lead investor. Target close Q2 2026.

What other support do you need right now?

Introductions to national courier operators, logistics providers, and large fleet owners to convert pilots into scaled deployments.



ImpactU provided early-stage conviction and catalytic capital at a critical moment, enabling us to progress from prototype refinement to real-world deployment.

- Artemis Fragkopoulos (Founder)

VENTURE BIO: TREM

Elevator pitch:

With millions affected and limited innovation in essential tremor treatments, we provide the reliable data foundation that pharma and research need to accelerate breakthroughs.

What problem are you solving?

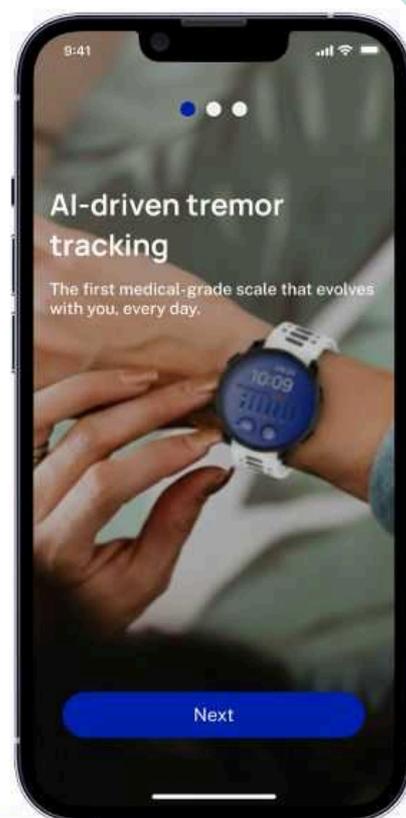
Despite affecting 1 in 80 people worldwide, 'Essential Tremor' has no validated, objective biomarker - meaning diagnosis, treatment and trials are a challenge.

What is your solution?

the first digital biomarker platform for Essential Tremor, transforming continuous wearable data into clinically meaningful tremor-severity scores, fluctuation patterns, and longitudinal trends.

TREM

Supported to
scale our vision



Traction to date:	Completed TRL4 feasibility study. Pilot with Oxford University Hospitals. Regulatory pathway defined. Clinical validation planning with NHS partners.
Milestone post ImpactU funding:	Receiving The Hill Innovation Accelerator at Oxford University Hospitals.
Impact to date:	Our TRL4 feasibility study demonstrates that continuous wearable data can capture tremor severity more reliably than the TETRAS scale - the current global clinical standard.
Investment Ask:	£700k pre-seed round (SEIS/EIS advance assurance secured). Raising from March 2026 with target close July 2026. Currently engaging potential lead investors.
What other support do you need right now?	Intro to pharma partners running neurology trials. Connections within NHS neurology departments and commissioning pathways.



ImpactU has been instrumental in both confidence and capital. The 1:1 pitch coaching was one of the most valuable sessions I've had as a founder. The £40k CLN enabled us to de-risk our technology and move into fundraising from a significantly stronger position.

- Ilinca Georgescu (Founder)

VENTURE BIO: LOGOS



Elevator pitch:

Every day, 1.5 billion pieces of misinformation spreads online. Nobody can tell what's real anymore. Logos is building the trust layer the internet never had: a tool that scans what you read and scores its reliability in real time.

What problem are you solving?

People can't tell if what they read online is trustworthy the Internet has no trust layer.

The screenshot shows a mobile news application interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'CNN Business' and various market categories. Below that, a 'Markets' section displays stock indices: DOW at 49,511.86 (0.23% down), S&P 500 at 6,896.28 (0.19% down), and NASDAQ at 22,778.83 (0.47% down). A 'Fear & Greed Index' is shown as a gauge at 42, with a note that 'Fear is driving the US market'. The main article is titled 'Supreme Court tariff reversal cements China's upper hand ahead of a critical meeting with Trump', published 6 hours ago by John Liu. The article features a large image of a shipping port with many colorful containers. On the right side, a 'Logos' overlay displays a 'Trust Score' of 61, categorized as 'GENERALLY CREDIBLE'. Below the score, there's a 'Summary' section with bullet points about the Supreme Court ruling and its impact on trade dynamics with China. At the bottom, there's an 'Other Coverage' section showing 10 outlets covered the story.

What is your solution?

A Chrome extension (live now, with Safari and mobile apps coming soon) that scans anything you read online and gives it a reliability score in real time.

Traction to date:

Live product. Proprietary bias detection models. Accepted into Microsoft for Startups accelerator. Enterprise pilots in progress.

Milestone post ImpactU funding:

Hired CPO to lead product strategy. Logos went from an idea with funding to a company with a system.

Impact to date:

Logos is live and already helping users assess the reliability of online content in real time

Investment Ask:

Raising £500K at seed stage. SEIS/EIS eligible. Currently seeking a lead investor.

What other support do you need right now?

Intro to think tanks, media organisations, and policy teams. Distribution partnerships. onnections to investors active in the trust, safety, and AI infrastructure space.



That signal gave every conversation with investors, partners, and recruits easier. Having Oxford University Innovation behind us changed how people take us seriously.

- Max Beleziakou (Founder)

VENTURE BIO: LAST



Elevator pitch:

Last is on a mission to disrupt the market of disposable, mediocre small household appliances. Starting with a toaster, we design innovative appliances that deliver true premium performance, uncompromising design and longevity, built to last with modular design enabling safe, convenient repairs, trade-in, customisation and upgrades.

What problem are you solving?

The UK produces over half a million tonnes of small appliance waste each year because current product designs and business models promote disposable, cost-optimised products that force replacement rather than repair. Even premium brands often deliver mediocre performance, and no competitor successfully balances design, performance and longevity.

What is your solution?

a range of premium small appliances backed by safe, convenient repair and trade-in.

Traction to date:

£50K grant. Innovate UK "Resource Efficiency for Resilience and Sustainability" work. Letter of support from Repair Cafe Wales (UK's largest repair café network). First patent filed (Feb); another planned for March; ongoing IP strategy

Milestone post ImpactU funding:

building traction in B2B and B2C, and improving investment readiness from mid-2026 onwards.

Impact to date:

User and repairability research. Gathered insights into the customer journey around repair café experiences.

Investment Ask:

Plan to raise £250k pre-seed in Q3 2026 via SEIS.

What other support do you need right now?

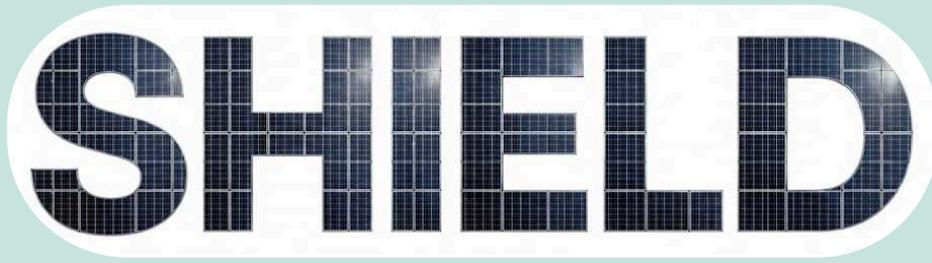
Advice/mentoring from someone with manufacturing and supply chain experience, ideally UK manufacturing in electronics or consumer goods
Introductions to potential B2B pilot partners in catering/hospitality/restaurant industries.



"The process of applying for ImpactU, including the pitch training and feedback from the panel has really helped me improve my ability to communicate Last's unique product and service propositions with clarity.

- Sean Polden (Founder)

VENTURE BIO: THE SOLAR SHIELD CO.



Elevator pitch:

We make solar affordable for African hospitals and carbon markets relevant to those most affected by climate change.

What problem are you solving?

All African hospitals should have solar but few do. Instead they often pay more than they should for low-quality power from legacy grid suppliers. Blackouts and brownouts interrupt surgeries, ruin cold chain products, and break sensitive lab equipment. This costs lives. Hospital managers want solar but can't afford the CapEx or the huge interest rates they would need to pay.



What is your solution?

We use sales of Digital Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) to make solar installations in African hospitals affordable. We work with international companies to sell RECs generated on site using unique digital technology.

Traction to date:

We have solarised one large demonstrator project at a hospital in Kenya and are now working on a further hospital where we will generate both RECs and lease revenues, creating the full chain needed for a sustainable, scalable model.

Milestone post ImpactU funding:

Recruiting a post-doctoral engineer, a medically trained sustainability expert, a Kenyan clean-energy entrepreneur, and a new finance director. We were limited in capacity with a single member of staff, but this funding allows us to thrive.

Impact to date:

Solarising Meru Hospital in Kenya has saved \$75,000 per annum, multiplied over the 25-year life of the project. The hospital has invested this money in a new cancer drugs fund and a high dependency unit.

Investment Ask:

£180k

What other support do you need right now?

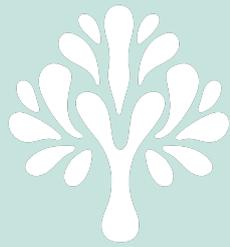
Investor connections and corporations who purchase renewable energy certificates.



ImpactU provided early-stage conviction and catalytic capital at a critical moment, enabling us to progress from prototype refinement to real-world deployment.

- A.Prof. Jacob McKnight (Co-Founder)

VENTURE BIO: PERIPEAR



peripear

Elevator pitch:

PeriPear is the first automated thermal wearable designed to prevent perineal injury during childbirth, addressing one of the most common, preventable harms in medicine.

What problem are you solving?

Nine out of ten women who give birth vaginally experience perineal tearing, 110M women every year, often facing lifelong pelvic floor dysfunction, incontinence, pain during sex, and mental health decline. In the US alone, this costs the healthcare system \$2.6B annually. Manual intervention can reduce severe tears by 50%, but it isn't standardised, scalable, or consistent, depending entirely on clinician skill and time.

Reducing Tearing In >50% of births



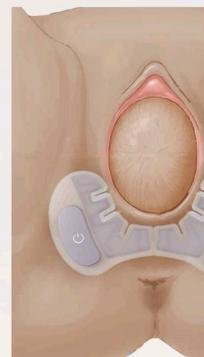
Over 10 years of evidence

Proven mechanism for injury prevention. Based on existing evidence



Safe & Easy

Electronic heating and moisture delivery SO13485 and EC 60601 certified



Hands Free

Adhesive to perineum
Applied by Midwife
during 2nd stage of labour

What is your solution?

PeriPear is the only automated thermal wearable for perineal protection. Our patent-pending device protects the perineum during delivery with no workflow disruption, painless application and removal, and was clinically validated at Hadassah Hospital (Jan 2026) with high acceptability from clinicians and patients.

Traction to date:

Functional prototype complete. Clinical validation. FDA pre-submission meeting March 10. CE mark Q4 2026. MOUs with leading hospitals in Singapore; a major Saudi distributor in progress. Funding raised: £500k to date (Innovate UK + angels including Zinc)

Milestone post ImpactU funding:

Hired exited MedTech founder Stephanie Monty as Head of Product.

Impact to date:

Demonstrated a 15:1 ROI for NHS trusts. Built regulatory pathways and institutional partnerships.

Investment Ask:

£1m pre-seed round open (closes March 26). HERmesa lead, <£20k SEIS remains, full EIS available.

What other support do you need right now?

Distributors with US/APAC connections, manufacturing, and NHS procurement/commissioning support.



Tremendous support from the team beyond the investment, involvement in events, panel discussions and raised visibility.

- Nina Van Shaick (co-Founder)

VENTURE BIO: TABLE TOP TRAVELS



Elevator pitch:

Tabletop Travels is a Community Interest Company based in Bristol that creates multi-sensory destination experience boxes designed to bring the joy of travel to people who may not be able to explore the world in person. Our mission is to spark connection, curiosity, and wellbeing through the power of travel from home.



What problem are you solving?

Older adults can experience isolation and loneliness. Tabletop Travels reduces loneliness by creating culturally rich, multi-sensory shared experiences that support social connection and mental wellbeing.

What is your solution?

Tabletop Travels curates multi-sensory boxes for isolated older adults, co-designed with the community we serve. Each box celebrates a European destination with locally inspired food and drink, tactile objects, stories, games and multimedia content. Facilitated “tea-party” sessions allow participants to explore each destination together, sparking conversation, creativity and connection.

Traction to date:

Delivered 500 boxes. Partnerships with Age UK, NHS and The Marmalade Trust.

Milestone post ImpactU funding:

Enabled Tabletop Travels to engage a freelance Creative Director.

Impact to date:

Stimulation & sensory engagement: supports memory, creativity and cognitive function. Emotional wellbeing: connection with global cultures and exposure to new ideas reduces loneliness, boredom and anxiety.

Investment Ask:

We're in process, hoping to unlock funding and secure partners.

What other support do you need right now?

Social prescribing, NHS commissioning, government partnerships, investors, and corporate sponsors.

Rachel Adams (creative Director)

VENTURE BIO: KALAMNA



Elevator pitch:

Kalamna partners with governments, schools and individuals, providing a one-stop shop with our proven and effective Arabic language teaching and learning programme, including curriculum, training and resources.

What problem are you solving?

More than half of children in countries of the Middle East and North Africa experience “learning poverty”, they cannot read and understand an age-appropriate text by age 10. Kalamna Global Ltd is committed to providing the best research and evidence-based resources and training to eradicate learning poverty in the MENA.



What is your solution?

We have developed a research and evidence-based early Arabic literacy programme that gets learners reading from day one.

Traction to date:

We have partnered with 3 schools and 3 charities, and Jolly Learning - the leading early literacy provider of English language resources to MENA schools. Winner in the Sustainability & Conservation category of the 2025 Wolfson Entrepreneurship Competition.

Milestone post ImpactU funding:

Securing contracts with 3 school clients, launching 2 pilots with charities, and partnering with a foundation to secure funding for an academic study.

Impact to date:

We have reached 3 beneficiary schools with over 300 students and completed product development of an early literacy programme.

Investment Ask:

£300k seed investment by Dec 2026. SEIS eligible. Looking for a lead investor.

What other support do you need right now?

Government partnerships, policy introductions and pilot partners.



We have been greatly supported by the funding, which has allowed us to accelerate our product development and investor readiness.

- Dr Saussan Khalil (Founder)

VENTURE BIO: REDD



Elevator pitch:

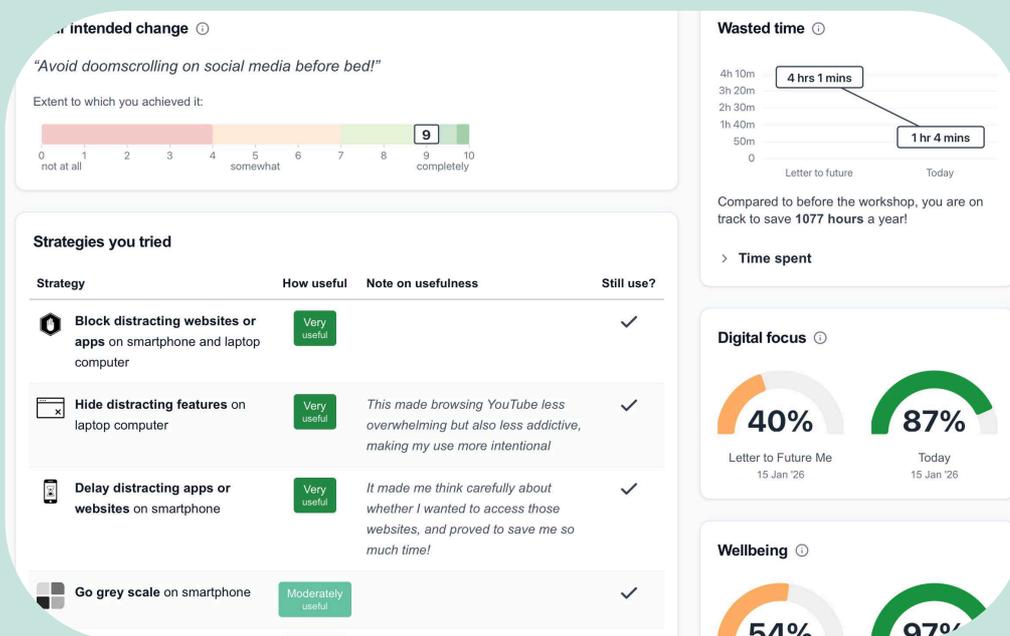
We help people take back control of their time and attention on digital devices. We make it easy and safe to implement research-backed strategies for digital self-control.

What problem are you solving?

9 in 10 students say smartphones and computers harm their productivity, and a quarter say they harm their mental health. There's a "jungle" of apps that promise to solve this, but it's overwhelming to know what actually works.

What is your solution?

The Reduce Digital Distraction Platform is like a personal trainer for your digital life, making it safe and easy to get back in control. We run a scalable training programme and build open-source digital focus tools based on a decade of Oxford University research.



Traction to date:	300+ workshops for 3,000+ participants at 32 organisations. Trained facilitators at 6 organisations. Open-source digital focus tools with 15,000+ installations, 7,500+ paying users, and an average App Store rating of 4.7.
Milestone post ImpactU funding:	Only recently funded - Feb 2026
Impact to date:	Won University of Oxford MPLS Social Impact Award (2024). First peer-reviewed publication. Qualitative feedback - "I love this app so much it's ridiculous, gave me my life back", "the most useful webinar I have ever attended in my career".
Investment Ask:	Up to £250k in strategic impact capital (fully funded for Phase 1; opportunistically raising to accelerate Phase 2). SEIS/EIS Advance Assurance pending. Seeking mission-aligned impact investors or philanthropic partners.
What other support do you need right now?	Intro to policymakers looking for alternatives in debates on banning smartphones/social media for youth. Intro to heads of schools interested in collaborating on pilots for younger audiences



- Ulrik Lyngs (Founder)

VENTURE BIO: TRIBELA



Elevator pitch:

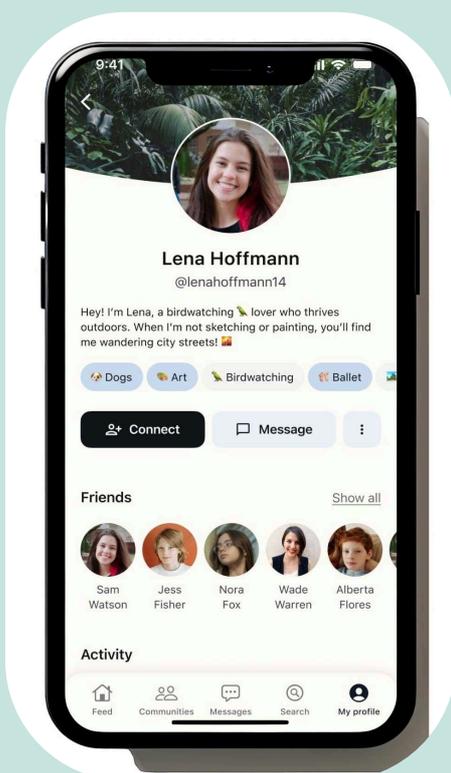
Tribela sits between constant exposure and total withdrawal, providing real connection, meaningful community and age-aware content. It's a social platform that fits into real life, built for intention, not addiction, with Tribela's own guardrail technology.

What problem are you solving?

Current social community platforms are optimised for engagement, performance, and scale, often leading to fatigue, pressure, and overwhelm, while amplifying harmful and extreme content. There is no scalable, mainstream social platform designed for healthy, intentional, and sustainable connection as a primary experience. Teens and young adults are facing record levels of online harm.

What is your solution?

Current social community platforms are optimised for engagement, performance, and scale, often leading to fatigue, pressure, and overwhelm, while amplifying harmful and extreme content. There is no scalable, mainstream social platform designed for healthy, intentional, and sustainable connection as a primary experience.



Traction to date:	Live in App Store with across 40 countries. Strong app reviews and user feedback. Average user engagement time of almost 40 minutes. Preparing to recruit a Youth Advisory Board.
Milestone post ImpactU funding:	Funding is very recent; since receiving it, Tribela's launch in Canada has happened, driving a large increase in media attention and user growth.
Impact to date:	Tribela has demonstrated that a different approach to social media is possible, placing wellbeing and intentional design at its heart and introducing a business model that puts the user first rather than profiting from attention and amplification models. Current user growth shows a clear desire for a new type of online social community.
Investment Ask:	£1.2M pre-seed , closing mid-March. Seeking a lead investor. Applying for advance Assurance under SEIS.
What other support do you need right now?	Pilot partnerships for moderation and age-assurance technology; lead/influential users to further drive adoption; introductions to explore government support.



We are at the start of our journey with ImpactU but we are very excited to build within this network.

- Natalie Boll (Founder)

VENTURE BIO: BIOBUDS



Elevator pitch:

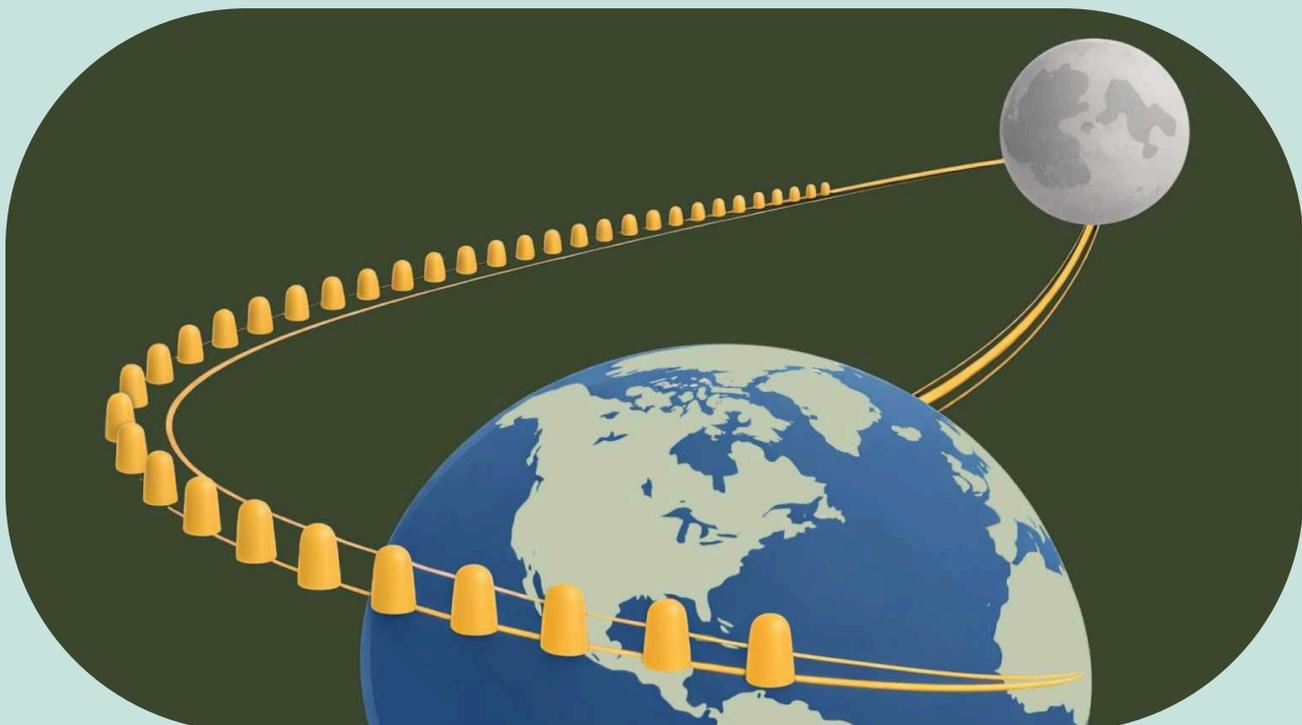
The world's first affordable, emissions-reducing hearing protection.

What problem are you solving?

50 million petroleum-based earplugs are thrown away every single day. They take decades to decompose and release methane as they do.

What is your solution?

We are building the world's first fully-biodegradable disposable earplugs.



Traction to date: Partnership with one of the biggest trade bodies in the music sector - the Night Time Industries Association, recommending BioBuds to their network of 9,000 venues with exposure to 74 million people. 7 Steel, the leading producer of low-carbon steel in the UK, go through 250,000 pairs annually, and see economic value in the carbon reduction we could provide.

Milestone post ImpactU funding: Prototyping phase promising, discovered several viable materials, now narrowing down to the most financially and environmentally choice. Final prototype will be ready in the next few months.

Impact to date: Progress toward lower-emission deliveries and reduced congestion pressure.

Investment Ask: **£150k pre-seed funding. SEIS eligible**

What other support do you need right now? Connections in manufacturing, construction, live music and events, transport, aviation, hotels, hospitals, or any other industry which relies on disposable earplugs.



ImpactU's funding has been invaluable, it was a vote of confidence. Others believing in Biobuds has taken our belief to the next level.

- Samuel Levey (Founder)

VENTURE BIO: FUTURE PLACES TOOLKIT



Elevator pitch:

The current way of doing planning consultation isn't working for communities, architects, civil engineers or councils. Future Places Toolkit helps the people responsible for consultation engage communities more deeply, enabling meaningful, constructive conversations and authentic insights in-situ, so plans align with community needs, resistance is reduced, and projects stay on time and on budget.

What problem are you solving?

Engaging people meaningfully with planning is a legal requirement, but current "town hall" methods are widely seen as dull and limited in depth and scale. A lack of real engagement contributes to project delays and budget overruns.



What is your solution?	An in-situ immersive experience that breaks down barriers in community consultation. It brings plans to life and encourages broader public participation, providing balanced and honest insights that can strengthen approval outcomes and improve design.
Traction to date:	Multiple pilots including local council and supporting a successful tender with architectural practice.
Milestone post ImpactU funding:	Recently become a Bristol University spin-out and incorporating as a limited company ahead of ImpactU funding.
Impact to date:	Engaged people of all ages, including those who may not otherwise engage with planning. We have had direct impact on the design of public spaces, for example, working with the local youth council led to the redesign of a playground.
Investment Ask:	£200,000 Seed Investment (SEIS)
What other support do you need right now?	Intros to architectural practices. Civil engineering consultants. Socially conscious developers. Local councils / regeneration teams. Engagement consultants

ImpactU has helped us focus our thinking, given us confidence and enabled us to be in a position for future investment.

- Jessica Hoffman (co-Founder)

VENTURE BIO: TAAHIRAH

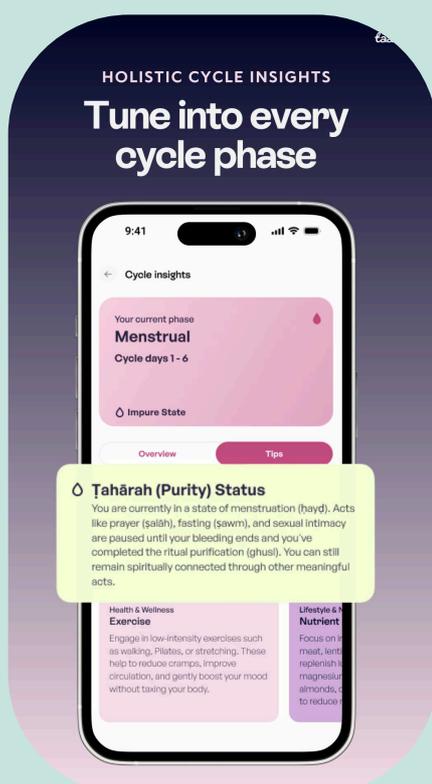
Taahirah

Elevator pitch:

Taahirah is a faith-informed women's health platform built by Muslim women, for Muslim women. We integrate trusted medical and Islamic guidance, supporting women from menstruation to post-menopause through precise cycle tracking, symptom insights, worship planning, and expert-led education.

What problem are you solving?

Muslim women navigate reproductive health through fragmented systems: a lack of foundational reproductive health education, mainstream healthcare that ignores religious context, and community spaces that either lack medical grounding or perpetuate shame—leaving women to reconcile physical, emotional, and spiritual needs alone. The result is confusion, stigma, delayed care, and a deep trust gap in a community that has been systematically overlooked.



What is your solution?

Taahirah is a digital platform and movement transforming Muslim women's reproductive health journeys—building the first ecosystem that integrates clinical and faith understanding to support Muslim women's health from menstruation to post-menopause.

Traction to date:	3,000+ app downloads in first month. Users across 5 continents. Strong repeat usage driven by cycle tracking/symptom logging, worship features and in-app educational content. 19,000+ active learners on Taahirah's education platform since Jan 2025 Early revenue - £350/month.
Milestone post ImpactU funding:	Moved Taahirah from concept to a live, revenue-generating product. Since funding, we designed, built, and launched the app publicly with scholarly and clinical input.
Impact to date:	Taahirah is already functioning as both a product and a trusted entry point into a broader ecosystem for Muslim women's health
Investment Ask:	£500k–£1M seed. Looking for a lead investor. Closing Q2 2026.
What other support do you need right now?	NHS expertise, pilot partners, business and marketing experts, support expanding into MENA/SE Asia, and angel networks.

The product is not only being used; it is being trusted.

- Farzana Salik (Founder)

VENTURE BIO: SERACARES

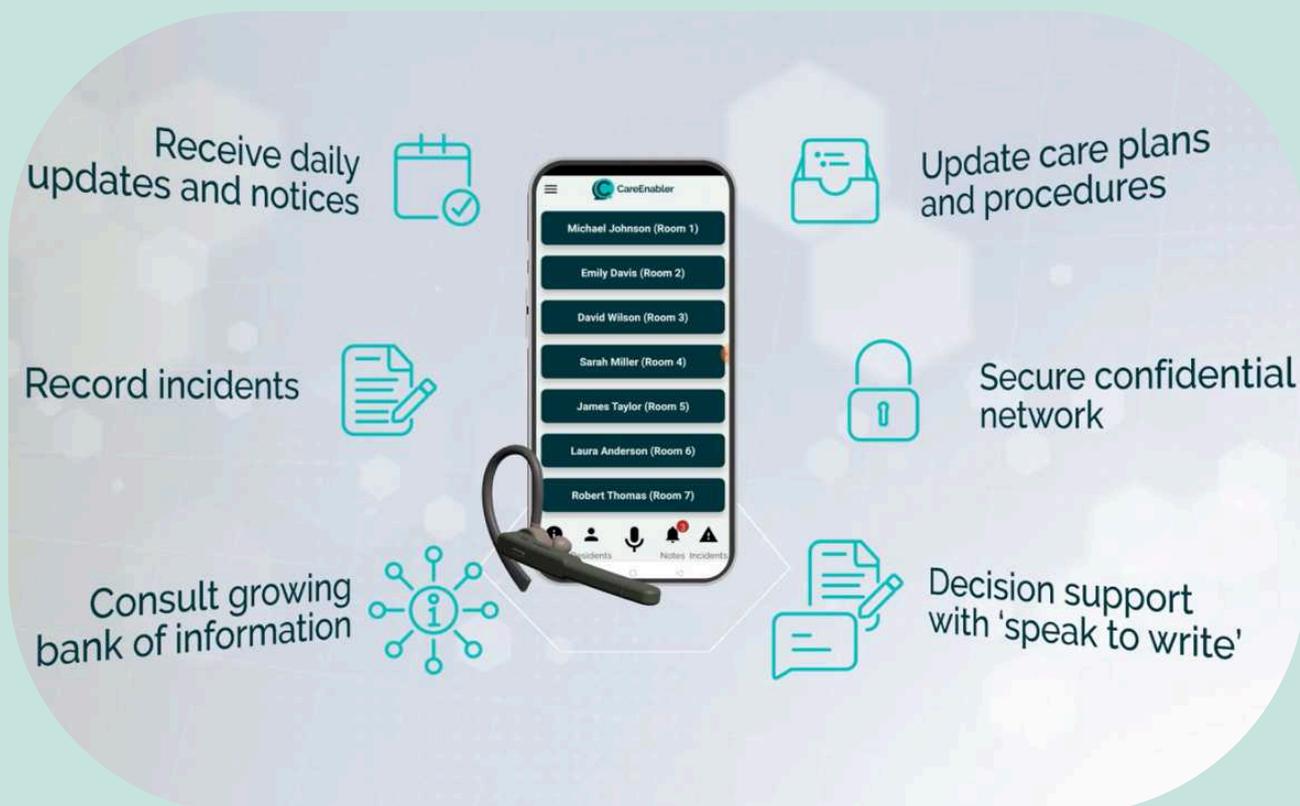


Elevator pitch:

SeraCares improves health and social care by enabling paid carers to spend more time delivering compassionate, compliant care and less time on admin—using hands-free voice-to-text and smart data systems at the point of care.

What problem are you solving?

In care homes and domiciliary care, too much time is spent on administration and there is inadequate support to enable more “hands free” time at the point of care. Carers need up-to-date information and support while delivering care, not paperwork after the fact.



What is your solution?

In care homes and domiciliary care, too much time is spent on administration and there is inadequate support to enable more “hands free” time at the point of care. Carers need up-to-date information and support while delivering care, not paperwork after the fact.

Traction to date:

First hands-free voice-to-text at the point of care: a pilot has been completed showing a 75% saving of admin per shift and better quality reporting of care needs.

Milestone post ImpactU funding:

Technology platform and initial functions tested and further scoped.

Impact to date:

Care workers, the “matron,” and the CEO of an 80+ bed care home/hospital are happy with the solution and want more.

Investment Ask:

Equity financing and recruiting

What other support do you need right now?

Team building, strengthening (overseas) supplier relationships, and route-to-market partnerships.



Peter Ashby (Founder)

CLOSING REMARKS

As we close, I want to be clear about what happens next. ImpactU is designed to de-risk, not to “complete” the journey.

Our Pathfinder funding (delivered as £40k convertible loan notes) gives founders the early runway to build, test and validate the market so that follow-on investors can crowd-in.

To date, **ImpactU has committed investment of £1.04m across 26 ventures**, spanning health, climate, finance, agriculture and more, with several already attracting meaningful follow-on capital and hiring first staff.

The timing could not be stronger. The UK is seeing real macro tailwinds. Government attention through a **new Office for the Impact Economy**, growing momentum behind social value in public and corporate procurement, and accelerating market appetite for evidence-led, mission-driven solutions.

NPC’s latest Impact UK report puts a headline number on the opportunity - the **UK impact economy is worth £428bn** in gross value added, around 15% of UK GDP.

At the same time, generational wealth transfer is reshaping capital. Bringing more socially and environmentally conscious HNWIs and family offices to the table.

The call, then, is two-fold: invest in these ventures now, and partner with ImpactU so that we can keep building the pipeline.

Universities are uniquely placed to turn evidence-based research and talent into rigorous, scalable impact businesses.

With the right long-term partners, we can fuel the next generation at pace, and at scale.



Please reach out to me for any future funding, partnership or sponsorship opportunities with ImpactU.

Best wishes,

Philippa Christoforou

Social Ventures Lead

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FINAL THANK YOU

Growing a national ecosystem and making 26 investments in under 2-years takes the effort, energy and collaboration of many actors, champions and partners.

First and foremost, the ImpactU team would like to thank **Research England** for the £1.5m grant that fuelled this ambition initiative.

In addition, we are hugely grateful to the ImpactU team and Governance board that included:

- Samuel Burgh - Oxford University Innovation (OUI)
- Rachel Abernethy (OUI)
- Charlotte Rowan - London School of Economics (LSE)
- Blué O'Connor - LSE
- Dr Richard Hazenberg - University of Northampton
- Dr Emma Salgård Cunha - University of Cambridge
- Colin Poma-Young - The University of York

ImpactU has also collaborated with a plethora of experts, including academics, entrepreneurs, lawyers, investors and more.

Across the ImpactU HUB, we have drawn upon the expertise of over 25 learning providers - too many to thank individually but that doesn't dilute the tremendous value you have brought to the UKs University ecosystem.

We also thank the myriad of champions sharing our message and being a voice for Impact and Social Ventures within their universities.

We look forward to collaborating with you all in the future.



Impact U



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POLITICAL SCIENCE ■



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