



BIG

IDEAS

Below are the BIG IDEAS discussed at FUTURES – Social Innovation Forum on 21 and 22 March 2014.

- Sustainable rural school training programme with voluntary teachers.
- Generate funding through (1) cultivation of bare lands in rural schools and (2) school and business partnering programme.
- TESOPA - Technology social partnership.
- Domestic water management / purification system
- Strict conservation of watersheds and community - management of riverine forests and water purification.
- Education on better water usage (targeting school children)
- Electronic cards enabling recording and access to patient's medical history
- Low cost mass scale genetic screening programme
- 'Click for Life' – an on-line e-learning portal
- Alternative employment assessment/credential system
- Floating gardens
- Alternative vocational training model/centre geared to meet market needs
- 'LEARNINGING' - Empowering self-driven learning by helping individuals, "classroom" and "schools" adapt learning skills
- 'Dr. Choon' –healthy lifestyle choices



Sustainable rural school training programme with voluntary teachers



Issue: Inaccessibility to up-to date / good education.

Description of the idea: The purpose is to develop village based volunteer driven sustainable, supplementary, content specific teaching using existing resources.



Ananda Galappatti

Santhusha Jayathilaka

Chandra Embuldeniya

Senel Wanniarachchi

Indika Fernando

Sharanya Sekaram

Joanne Kotelawala

K Suneth Chaminda

Kalana Karunanayake

Thisara Kasthuriarachchi

Maithree Malwattegodu

Udara Dharmasena

K Pradeepa Somarathna

W G T Fernando



Generate funding through

- (1) cultivation of bare lands in rural schools and
- (2) school and business partnering programme.



Issue: Lack of facilities and finances in schools.

Description of the idea: Explore the use of schools' bare land to cultivate and generate income and link the schools' needs to corporates.



Ajith Abeysekera

Azam Bakeer-Markar

Fayaz Hudah

Joanne Kotelawala

Kishor Hameed

Lekha Wanasekara

P.T.A. Hassan



TESOPA - Technology social partnership



Issue: Seeking advice on technology for social innovations.

Description of the idea: Building a volunteer pool of technology experts, to provide required advice towards utilising technology for social innovation.



Akeela Rasheed

Samisa Abeysinghe

Chandika Jayasundara

Sanda Wijeratne

Fayaz Hudah

Rohan Jayaweera

Harsha Purasinghe

Shanaka Hettiarachchi

Rathika de Silva



Domestic water management / purification system



Issue: Domestic water wastage.

Description of the idea: Re-use grey water and rain water, so that it is used and not wasted.



H K Charitha Buddhika Heendeniya

Inas Jenabdeen

Julianne Boulton

I D Milani Buddhika

Ruwan Senanayake

V T Ariyaratne



Strict conservation of watersheds and community - management of riverine forests and water purification



Issue: Lack of water quantity and quality for communities along rivers and in water sheds.



Anusha Alles

Harshini de Silva

Nishan Fernando

P.T.A. Hassan

Thirukumar Premakumar

Vidhura Ralapanawe

Sumedha Devapriya



Education on better water usage (targeting school children)



Issue: Lack of education leads to confusion on whether the causes and remedies are related to water issues.

Description of the idea: Series of educational activities including social media, poster, sticker, programmes. Education focused on better water usage, re-use, re-cycling and health factors.



P.T.A. Hassan

Rehan Fernando

Ruminda Wimalasiri

Samisa Abeysinghe



Electronic cards enabling recording and access to patient's medical history.



Issue: Lack of centralised medical records of patients at hospitals.

Description of the idea: The idea is to create a centralised database of all patients' medical history and records which could be accessed nationwide. This database will be linked to an electronic card provided to patients. The patient will present this card to the medical doctor at each visit, allowing the doctor to access his/her medical history/records.



Aaranya Rajasingam

Misbah M. Sheikh

Akeela Rasheed

Rathika de Silva

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Sanda Wijeratne

Dilini Ekanayake

Shanaka Hettiarachchi

Kenosha Kumaresan



Low cost mass scale genetic screening programme



Issue: Treating 3,000 patients with Thalassemia in Sri Lanka cost 5% of the recurrent health budget. 60 - 80 new children with the condition are born every year, which could be prevented..



Akeela Rasheed

Kishor Hameed

Lasantha Wijesekara

Rathika de Silva

Shalutha Athauda

Vajira Dissanayake



'Click for Life' – an on-line e-learning portal



Issue: Lack of accessibility and availability of education in Sri Lanka.

Description of the idea: On-line training courses for school leavers and anyone else interested. Course materials - marketing, finance, operations, communications etc.



Bhagya Ratnayake

Theodore Kotelawala

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Shanaka Hettiarachchi

Himali Jinadasa

Afsar Deen

Ishan Jalill

Rajiv Gunasena



1. Paper qualifications don't mean much to employers;
2. Those who have the competencies do not have the qualifications



Issue: Alternative employment assessment/credential system.

Description of the idea: Initially, a website containing testing modules will be developed. The website will be (1) accessible to companies for a fee to test their applicants; and (2) accessible to job seekers to demonstrate their competencies.



Dharshnie Guniyangoda

Pulsara Goonewardena

Dilshard Ahmed

Safra Anver

Harsha Purasinghe

Sifaan Zavahir

Ishara Madushanka

Sujata Gamage

Madhubhashini Rathnayaka

Eranga Gunasekara

Nilusha Shayamali

Harsha Liyanage



Floating gardens



Issue: Purify water by growing floating gardens.

Description of the idea: Using phyto remediation to clean grey water.



Ruwini Perera

Susil H Liyanarachchi

Yasangi Muditha Randeni

Yomal Gunatilleke

Gayani Ranasinghe

Dishard Hamer



Alternative vocational training model/centre geared to meet market needs



Issue: The gap between the existing vocational training and the required skills for available jobs.

Description of the idea: To create a collaborative model to create new vocational training hub or uplift the standards of existing vocational training centres which can really cater to the market needs .this vocational training hub should also provide the people with soft skills.



Bhagya Wijayawardana

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Sachinda Dulanjana

Thushara Wijewardena

Samisa Abeysinghe



‘LEARNINGING’ - Empowering self-driven learning by helping individuals, "classroom" and "schools" adapt learning skills



Issue: Education system is too dependent on quality teachers which are a scarce resource.

Description of the idea: Start small (workshops in pilot schools) to test and develop the concept and scale it until eventually we can have Learninging schools - no teachers (only facilitators), flexible, holistic learning experiences.



Ayanthi De Zoysa

Nilusha Shayamali

Dharshnie Guniyangoda

Priyan Dias

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Safra Anver

Harsha Purasinghe

Sifaan Zavahir

Ishara Madushanka

Eranga Gunasekara

Madhubhashini Rathnayaka

Harsha Liyanage



Dr. Choon' – healthy lifestyle choices



Description of the idea: Mobile delivering of healthy lifestyle choice (food/health tips/ health screening) through a suitably trained empowered village local hub (auto-mobile).



Akeela Rasheed

Ishra Nazeer

Kalana Peiris

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