We Robotics
THE POWER OF LOCAL

Impact Highlight

2024

Our Overall **Impact**

Contributing to creating more sustainable and resilient local communities that:

- Are supported by local experts and actively collaborate with local, national, and global actors.
- Leverage sustainable and responsible technology solutions that adapt to their local contexts and needs.

We focus our work on 6 key outcomes to achieve our overall impact, contributing to the achievement of 13 SGDs together with Flying Labs.

1. Strong and sustainable network of local experts across the globe that lead applications of emerging technologies.

2. Enhanced connection and collaboration among local, national and global actors in implementing drone, data and AI tech solutions and improve drone policies and regulations.

3. Increased number of locally-led, ethical, and sustainable applications of drone, data, AI technologies for climate, disaster, health, agriculture, entrepreneurship, and more.

4. Greater recognition of local experts on a local and global level and inclusion of their expertise and experiences through changing the narrative and the systems supporting them.

5. Larger and more diverse future local STEM workforce to lead emerging tech solutions.

6. Wider knowledge of our bottom-up localization model among local, national, and global actors who adopt our model or similar approach to contribute to systems change.
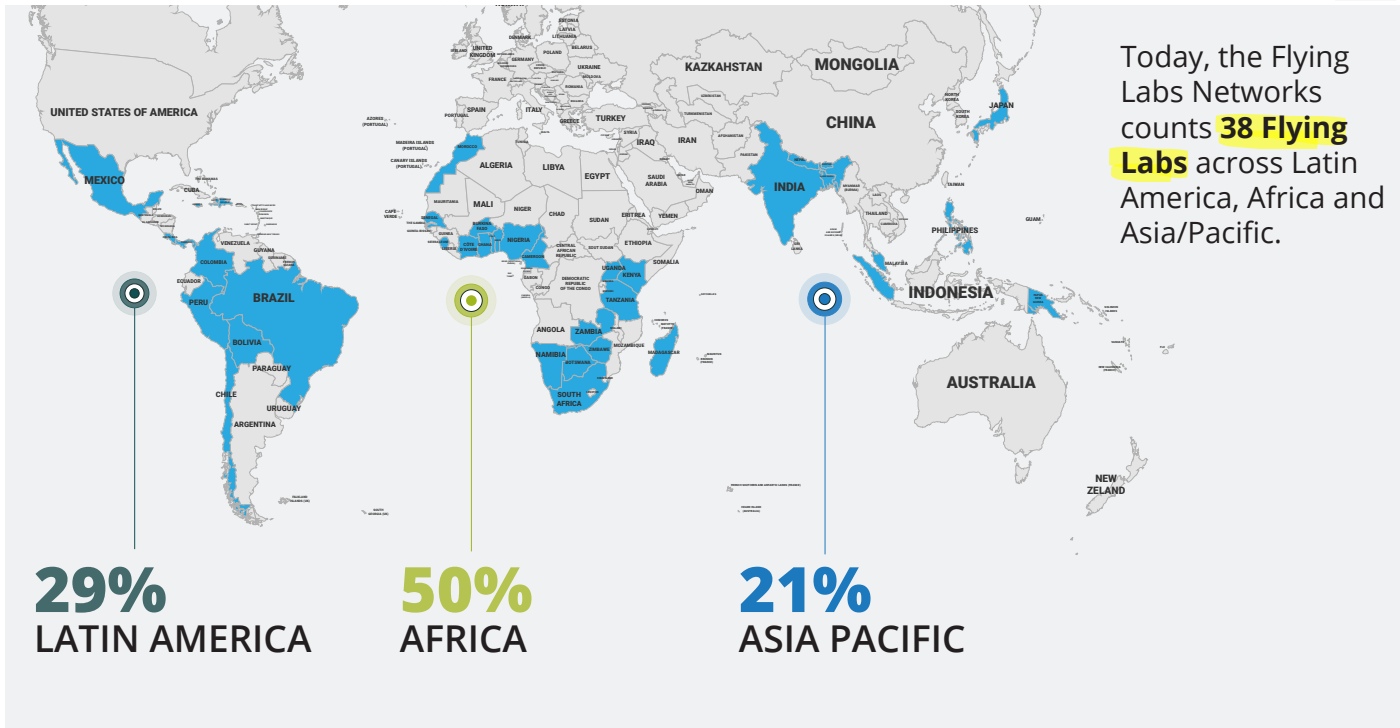
Key Outcome 1

Strong and sustainable network of local experts across the globe that lead applications of emerging technologies
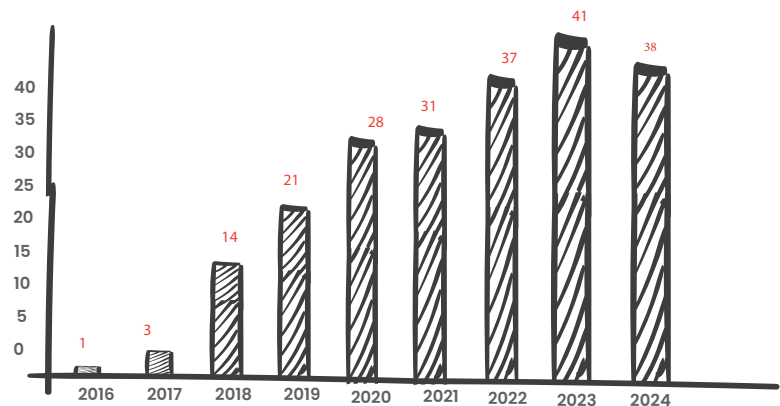
Our most important overarching impact to date is the co-creation of the Flying Labs® Network, an inclusive network of locally-led and demand-driven knowledge hubs. WeRobotics enables knowledge exchange, south-to-south collaboration, and experience sharing within the Network.

Today, the Flying Labs Networks counts **38 Flying Labs** across Latin America, Africa and Asia/Pacific.

29%
LATIN AMERICA

50%
AFRICA

21%
ASIA PACIFIC

Network growth

Since 2016, **44 Flying Labs joined the Flying Labs Network**, of which 38 were still part of the Network in 2024. Among them, 26 Flying Labs (68%) have been in the Network for 5 years or more. Six Flying Labs left the Network over the past 9 years due to changes in priorities, non-alignment with the evolving values of the Network, or external factors such as the socio-economic contexts of their countries. For 2024 (& 2025), our growth focus is predominantly on qualitative growth of the Network (including sharing and collaboration).
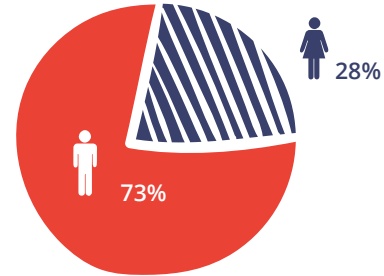

■ # of Flying Labs at the beginning of the year — # of Flying Labs at the end of the year
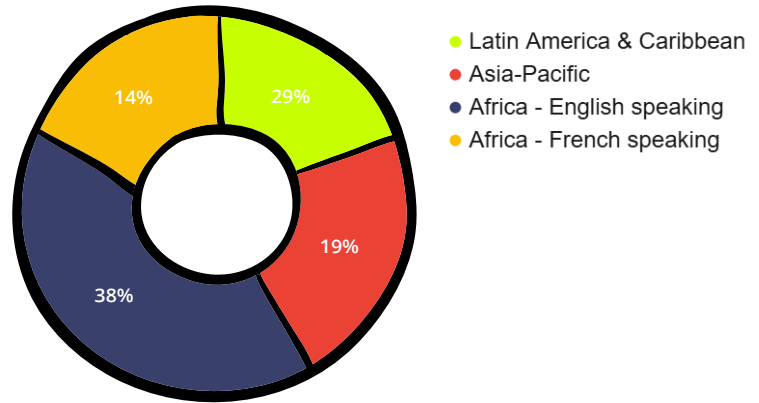
Local leaders and experts

Currently, the network brings together **271 local leaders and experts**, 27% women and 73% men. of the Flying Labs network, double the average industry benchmark of 13%

link to study

👩 28%

👨 73%

Internal cross-regional collaboration

Open dialogues, collaboration, and knowledge exchanges among Flying Labs members are one of the key elements contributing to the sustainability and qualitative growth of the Flying Labs Network. As such, we create internal spaces for such joint efforts among Flying Labs. In 2024, we facilitated **21 regional** calls and helped organize **2 regional retreats.**

14% 29% 19% 38%

- ● Latin America & Caribbean
- ● Asia-Pacific
- ● Africa - English speaking
- ● Africa - French speaking

Flying Labs Network

03:47 / 10:00

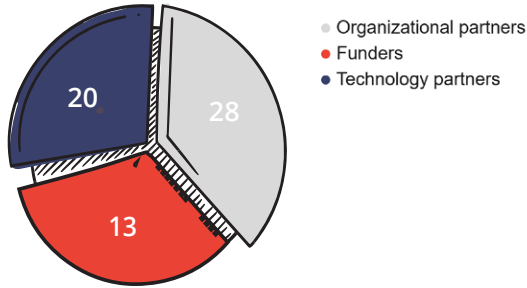📍 **Click to watch this video to hear from Flying Labs Members**
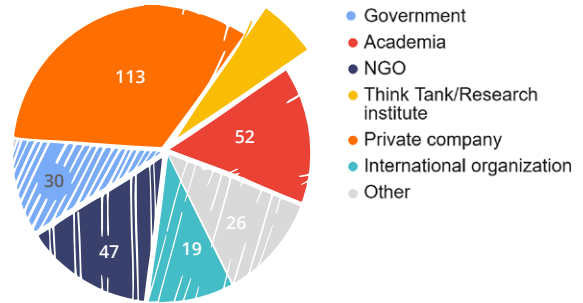
▶ WATCH NOW

Key Outcome 2

Enhanced connection and collaboration among local, national and global actors in implementing drone, data and AI tech solutions and improve drone policies and regulations

Our bottom-up localization model connects local experts with national and global actors in leveraging appropriate emerging technologies. By doing so, we are enabling an ecosystem of collaboration, transparency, and trust among all stakeholders.

WeRobotics Partners

- Organizational partners
- Funders
- Technology partners

20 · 28 · 13

61 Funders, Technology & Organizational Partners

Flying Labs Partners and Supporters

- Government
- Academia
- NGO
- Think Tank/Research institute
- Private company
- International organization
- Other

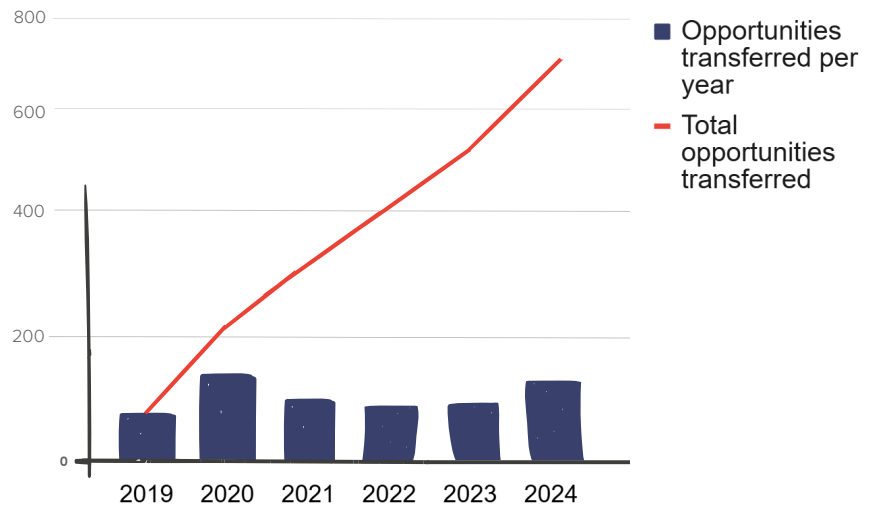113 · 52 · 30 · 47 · 19 · 26

300 Local, national, and international partners and supporters

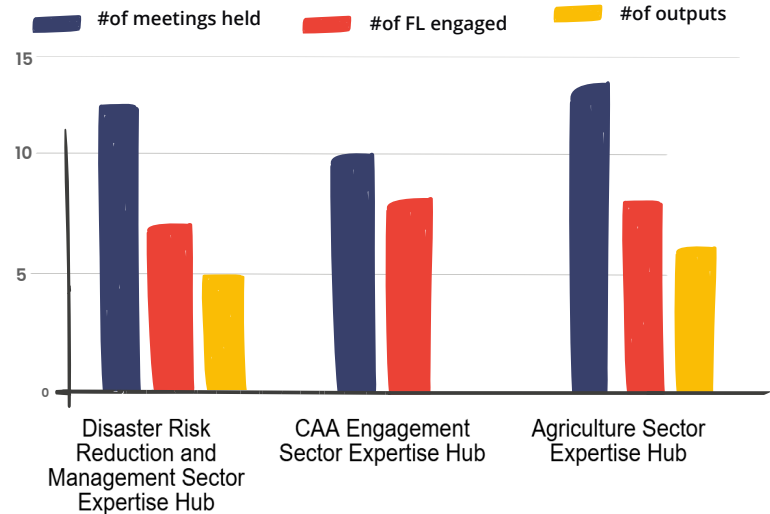## Opportunities transferred

We have transferred a total of **696 opportunities** to Flying Labs since 2019.

Co-creating and facilitating a vibrant, diverse, and global ecosystem allows us to transfer opportunities to Flying Labs. WeRobotics has transferred a total of **696 opportunities** to Flying Labs since 2019 of which **149** were transferred in 2024.

- Opportunities transferred per year
- Total opportunities transferred

2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024
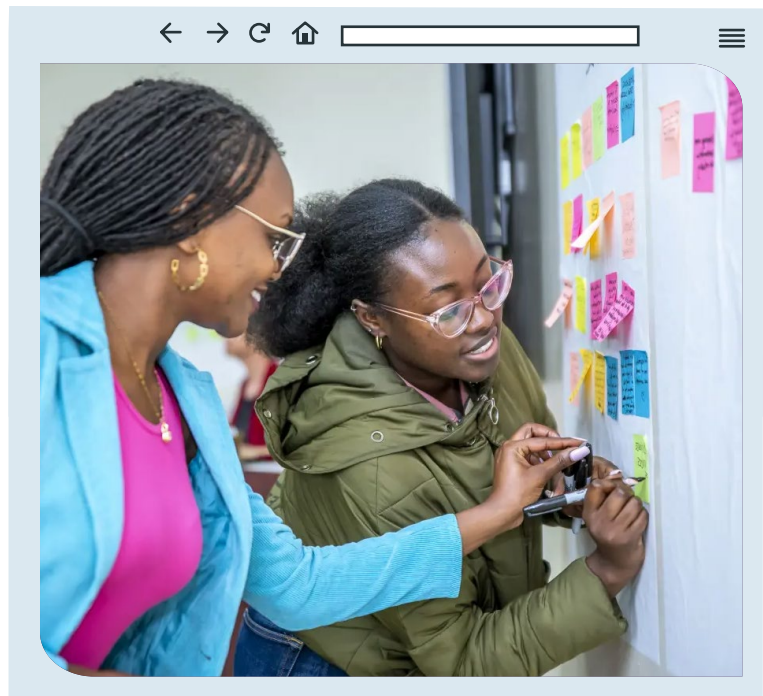
Sector-oriented collaboration

Together with Flying Labs, we launched **3 new initiatives for vertical (sector) collaboration** in 2024, focused on drone regulations & policies, disaster & climate resilience, and agriculture. Sector expertise hubs create a space for diverse sector experts from Flying Labs, WeRobotics, technology, and organizational partners. In their launch year of 2024, sector expertise hubs produced **first outputs** including **joint conference organization, joint project and training proposals, learning resources, knowledge-sharing sessions** to build on each other's knowledge, and **shared best practices,** and more.

Legend: #of meetings held | #of FL engaged | #of outputs

Categories: Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Sector Expertise Hub | CAA Engagement Sector Expertise Hub | Agriculture Sector Expertise Hub

Drone regulations & policies framework

Based on the framework co-created in 2023 with Namibia Flying Labs and Deloitte D2i, we successfully replicated the framework together with Kenya Flying Labs in 2024. The replication included a series of co-creation workshops with **48 local stakeholders** and a **detailed report** for the Kenya Civil Aviation Authorities with **quantitative data and recommendations** that will help shape improved regulations and technical guidance material for drone regulations in Kenya, positively impacting current and future drone operations and the local drone economy in the country.

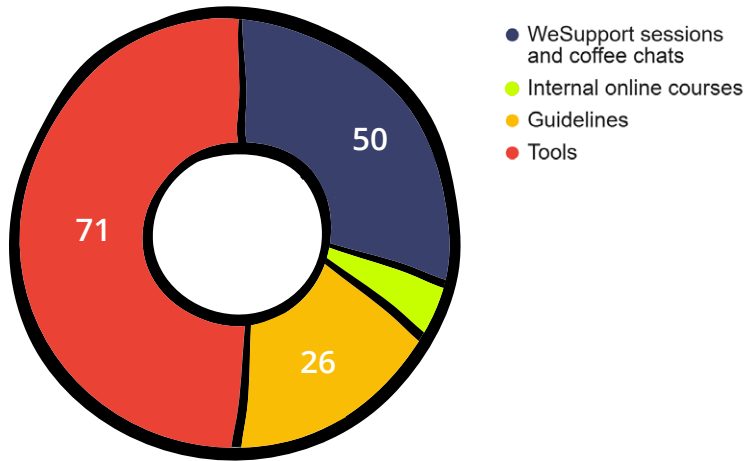To learn more read our blog post and watch the video.

Key Outcome 3

Increased number of locally-led, ethical, and sustainable applications of drone, data, AI technologies for climate, disaster, health, agriculture, entrepreneurship, and more
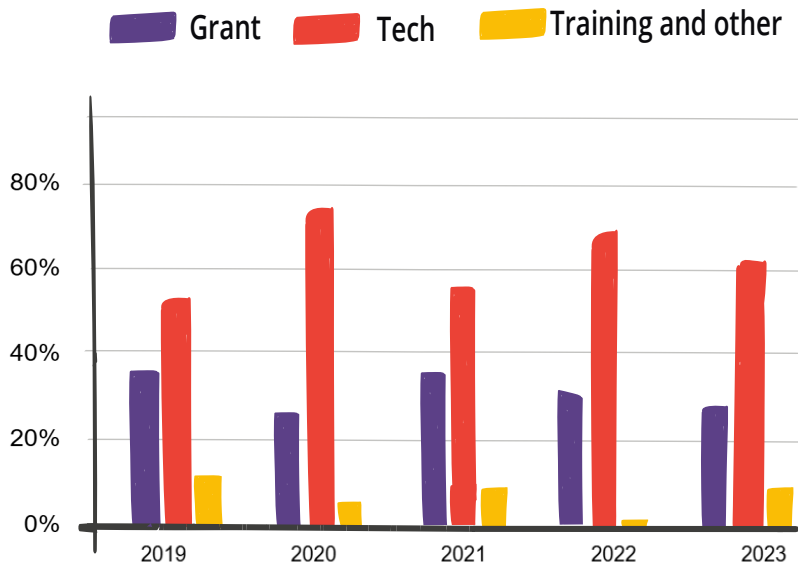
We provide local experts with resources to support their innovative and more sustainable technology solutions that address local challenges.

- WeSupport sessions and coffee chats — 50
- Internal online courses
- Guidelines — 26
- Tools — 71

Exclusive resources

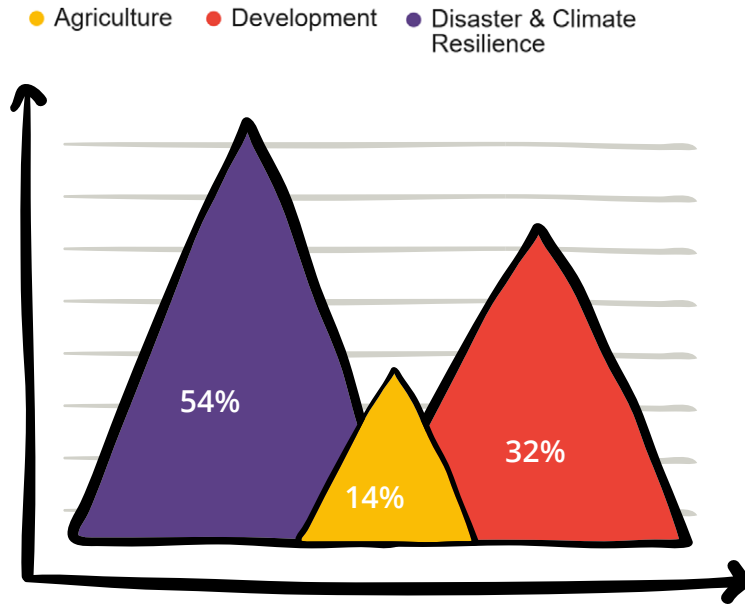> We have produced 150 exclusive and dedicated resources...

to support Flying Labs Network members in their project, training, and advocacy work. The resources range from technical workflows, ethical guidelines, engagement frameworks, and safety culture guidelines to operational, financial, and entrepreneurship tools.

Grant   Tech   Training and other

Transfer of revenue

> We transferred 52% of our revenue directly to the Flying Labs network in 2023, up from 23% in 2019 in the form of grants, technology transfer, training & other.
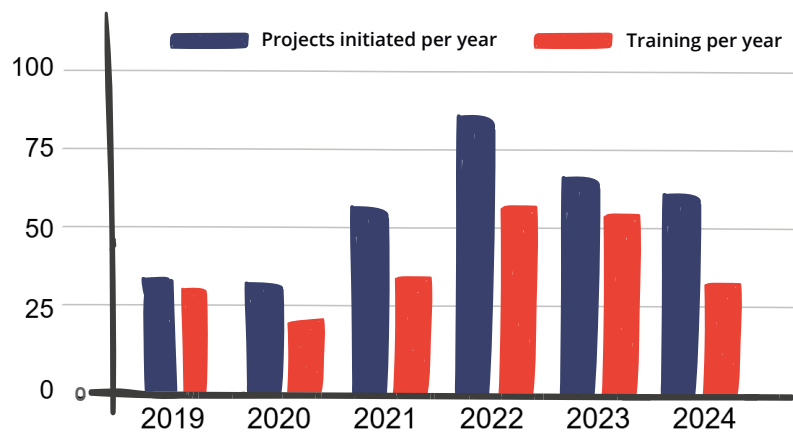
This puts us more than double above the aspirational 25% benchmark set by the Grand Bargain and Charter4Change. Note: only 2.1% of international humanitarian aid goes to local NGOs.

● Agriculture ● Development ● Disaster & Climate Resilience

54%

14%

32%

" Turning Data Into Action" Program

One of our main grants to Flying Labs is the "Turning Data into Action" program.

With this program, we enhance Flying Labs' capabilities in generating actionable data insights and systematically translating them into meaningful outcomes. Since its launch in 2021, the TDIA program has funded **22 projects** in agriculture, development, and disaster & climate resilience, impacting **1,033,954.00 people.** Flying Labs also created **41 replicable use cases and stories.**

Locally-led projects and training

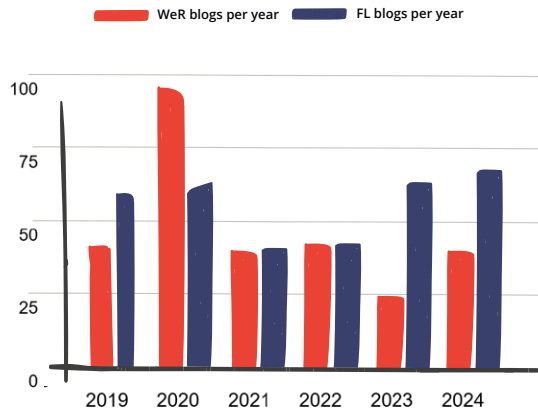367 impactful and innovative projects, 236 trainings locally organized.

Since 2016, Flying Labs have implemented **367** impactful and innovative **projects** and organized **236 trainings locally** in the areas of agriculture, climate action, disaster management, health, gender equity, STEM programs for youth, entrepreneurship, and more.

■ Projects initiated per year   ■ Training per year

100
75
50
25
0

2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

Key Outcome 4

Greater recognition of local experts on a local and global level and inclusion of their expertise and experiences through changing the narrative and the systems supporting them.
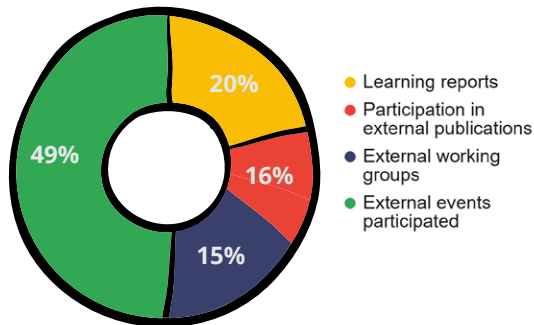
We aim to change the narrative and mindsets of local and international audiences on the power of local expertise and change how business is done at the systems level. We fully appreciate the complexity of such a journey.

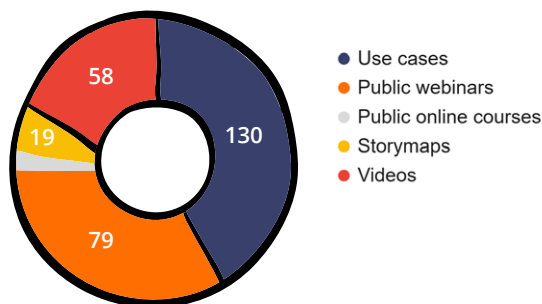Legend: WeR blogs per year, FL blogs per year

Storytelling
We publish a wide variety of blog posts to increase awareness of existing local expertise and locally-led technology solutions. Together with Flying Labs, we published **108** blog posts in 2024, bringing our total to **625** since 2019.

In 2024, we have adopted a new approach: collecting stories for a deeper look into the impact our work creates. Discover a curated selection of our impact stories on our Impact page.

Legend:
- Learning reports — 20%
- Participation in external publications — 16%
- External working groups — 15%
- External events participated — 49%

Experience Sharing
We share our key learnings and pitfalls by publishing reports and contributions to events, working groups, external publications, and more. This allows others to build on our experiences, to create more impact for themselves and others. Since 2019, we have shared our lessons learned through **93 reports, external events, groups and resources,** including **23** in 2024.

Legend:
- Use cases — 130
- Public webinars — 79
- Public online courses
- Storymaps — 19
- Videos — 58

Publicly accessible resources
Publicly accessible resources text: We co-created and published **52 publicly accessible resources** in the format of use cases, webinars, videos, storymaps, and online courses in 2024, bringing our total to **290** since 2019.

Find the latest story maps of Brazil Flying Labs and Costa Flying Labs about their TDIA projects in disaster & climate resilience.

Our White Paper: Empowering local drone ecosystems: a framework for proactive engagement with Civil Aviation Authorities
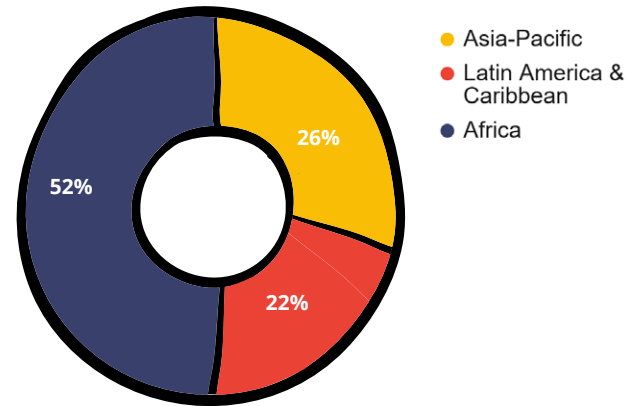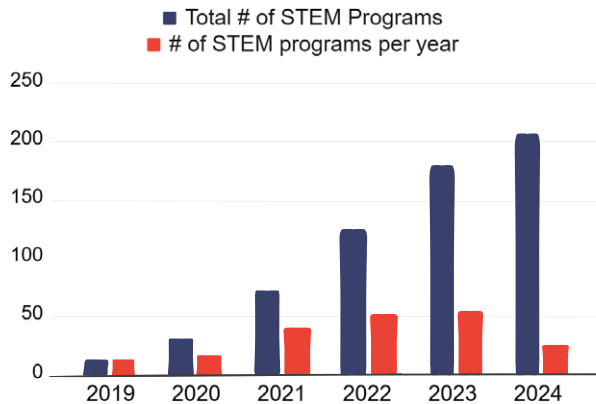
link to white paper

Key Outcome 5

Larger and more diverse future local STEM workforce to lead emerging tech solutions

We collaborate with Flying Labs in designing and conducting youth programs and entrepreneurship programs. We also provide online and in-person training, M&E, fundraising support, and more for their tailor-made youth engagements and entrepreneurship programs. Raising STEM awareness, contributing to gender equity and social entrepreneurship are close to our collective hearts at WeRobotics and Flying Labs.

STEM awareness and youth programs

■ Total # of STEM Programs
■ # of STEM programs per year

● Asia-Pacific
● Latin America & Caribbean
● Africa

52% 26% 22%

A total of 36 Flying Labs implemented tailor-made Youth/STEM programs and have organized **216 programs**, engaging over **11,800 youth** since 2019.

In 2024, **28 Youth/STEM** programs were carried out across the Network.

2024 Success stories

1. STEM training in drone technology in Nigeria
2. Youth-Led Training in Masvingo, Zimbabwe
3. Togo Flying Labs and the University of Lomé Collaborate to Develop Students' Skills
4. Kenya Flying Labs Plants Seeds of Innovation with the Tuhamasishe STEM Program
5. Brazil Flying Labs Empowers Youth Through Python Programming and Drone Technology
6. Technology on Wheels: Bringing STEM Education to Remote Villages in India

It's inspiring to see these young people engage with such advanced technology. We're not just teaching them to code; we're showing them how technology can address real-world challenges, including those within their own communities.

Brazil Flying Labs team

Key Outcome 6

Wider knowledge of our bottom-up localization model among local, national, and global actors who adopt our model or similar approach to contribute to systems change

We document our lessons learned from the co-creation and continued evolution of our inclusive networks model in detail, including our successes and pitfalls . We openly share these lessons learned, our model, frameworks, and network-related activities, to inspire as many actors as possible to contribute to systems change and create more impact.

Glocalization Model - First Successful Adoptions

4 Model adoptions by other organizations

The Glocalization Model, a replicable model for localization and scale, is our way of contributing to systems innovation in the international aid and development sectors. Over the past two years, we have worked with four forward-thinking organizations to learn how to best adopt the Glocalization Model. Learn more about our journey here.

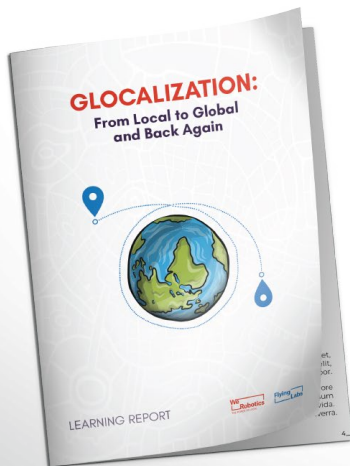## Glocalization Model - Sharing Our Learnings

10 Public sharing engagements

The Glocalization Model is the result of our 8+ years of co-creating the global Flying Labs Network. As a learning organization, we share our experience and knowledge by publishing reports, videos and articles, holding keynotes, and contributing to events, working groups, and publications created by other organizations.

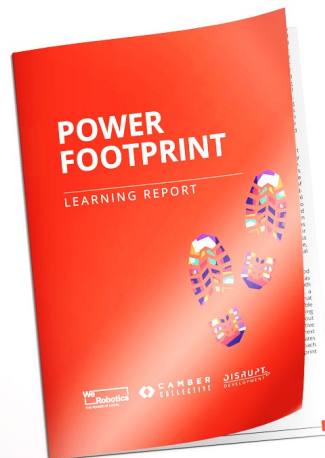## Explore the reports and case studies published in 2024:

Glocalization learning report

link to report

Power Footprint learning report

link to report

Case study by The Skoll Centre on WeRobotics/Flying Labs (part of WIPO's 2024 Global Innovation Index Special Theme 2024: Unlocking the Promise of Social Entrepreneurship)

link to case study

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THE POWER OF LOCAL

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