Impact Highlight

We Robotics
THE POWER OF LOCAL

December 2023

Last update: March 2024
We update our impact report on an annual basis

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 12 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 **41 Flying Labs** across Latin America, Africa and Asia/Pacific.

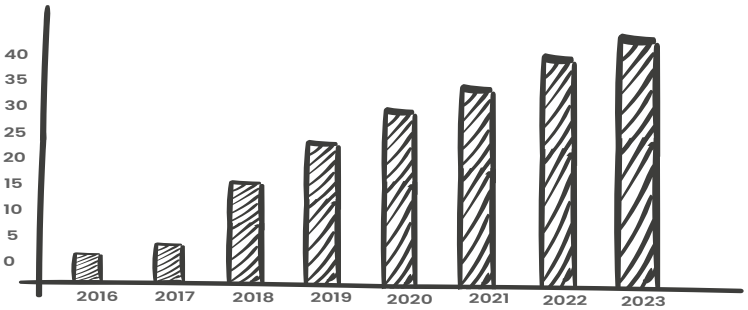
25%
LATIN AMERICA

50%
AFRICA

25%
ASIA PACIFIC

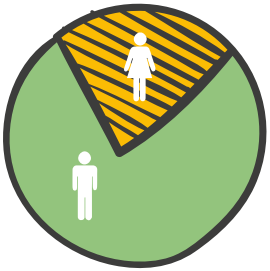
NETWORK GROWTH

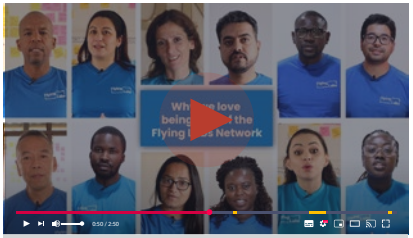
The Flying Labs Network grows organically. It is fully demand/ need driven and sustained by existing local organisations.



Currently, the network brings together **316 local leaders** and experts, of which 74% are men and 26% are women - double the average industry benchmark of 13%.

link to study

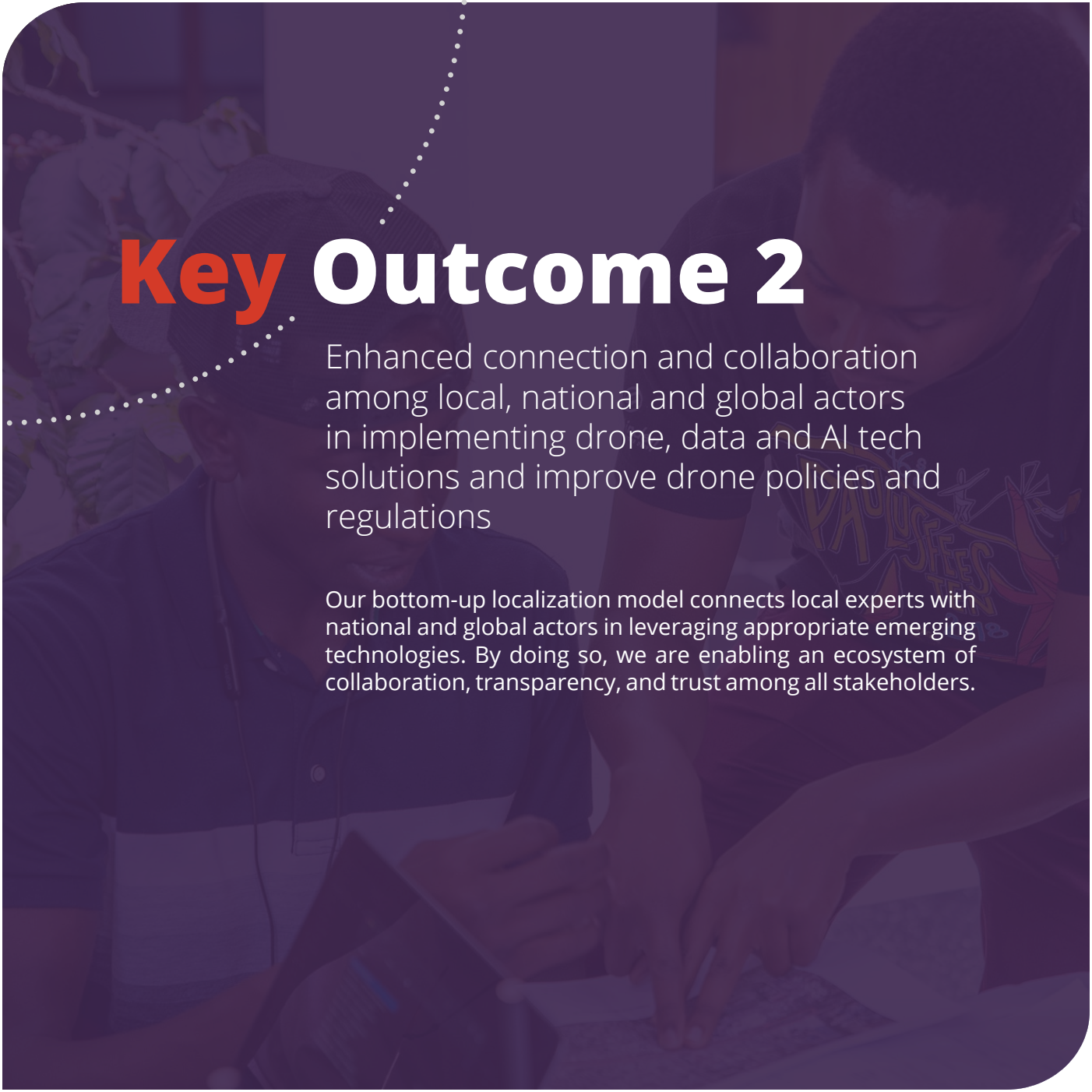




Why we love being part of the Flying Labs Network

Hear from Flying Labs members

WATCH NOW

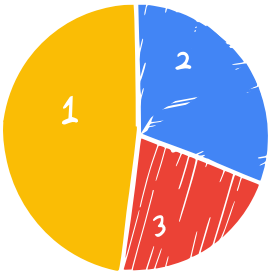


Key Outcome 2

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



1. Organizational partners
2. Technology partners
3. Funders

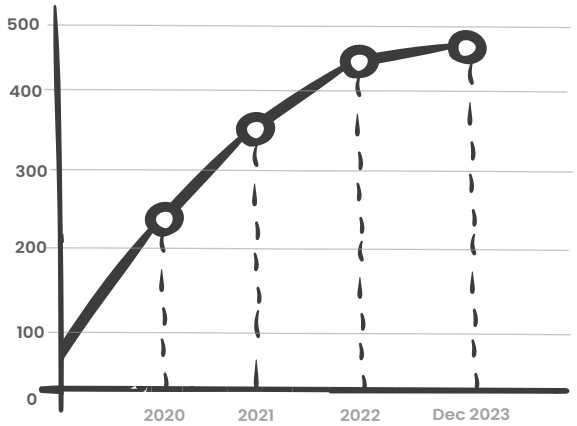
56 Funders, Technological & Organizational Partners

Flying Labs Partners and Supporters

1. Government
2. Academia
3. NGO
4. Think Tank/Research Institute
5. Private Company
6. International organization
7. Other

266 Local, national, and international partners and supporters

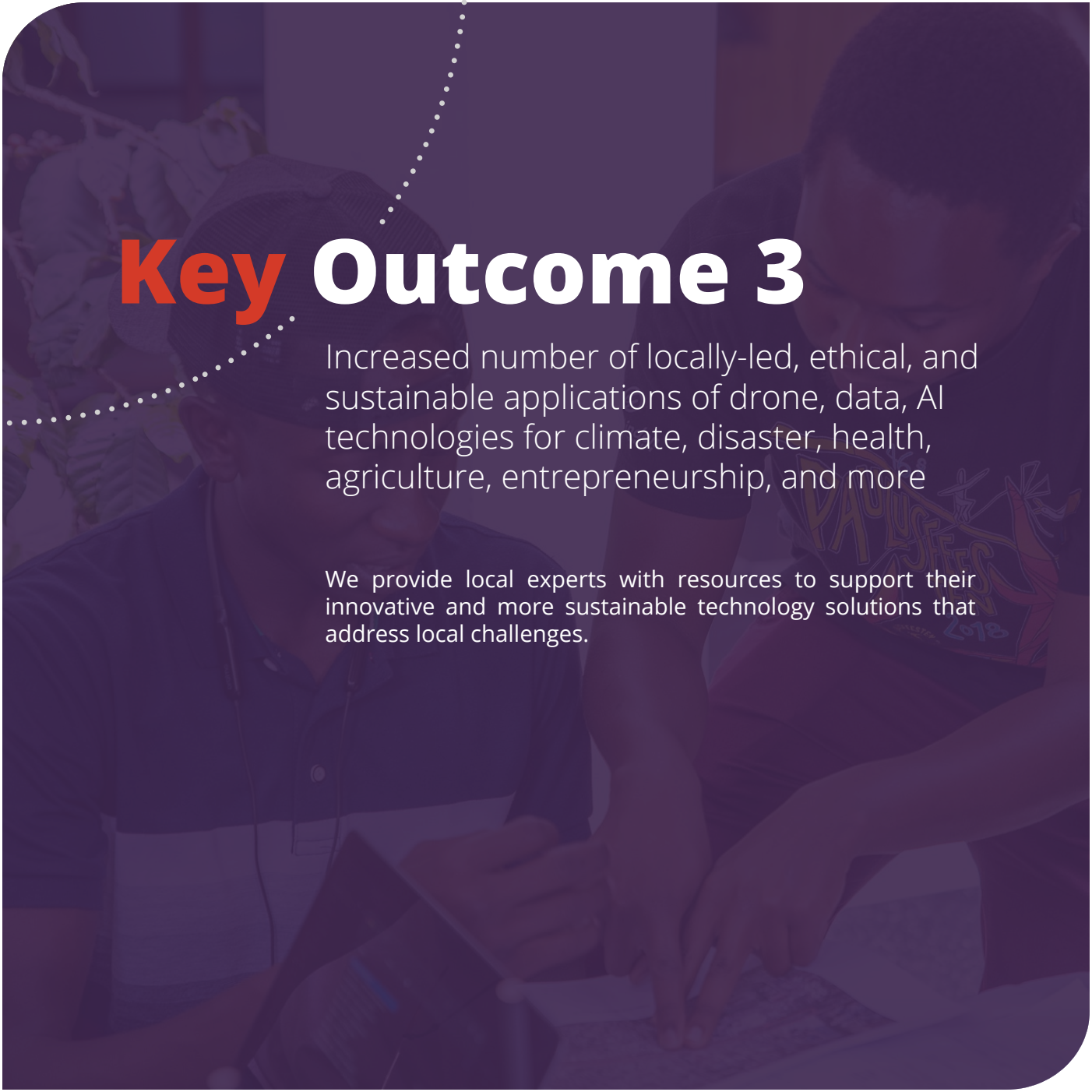
We have transferred a total of **498 opportunities** to Flying Labs since 2019.



Co-creating and facilitating a vibrant, diverse, and global ecosystem allows us to transfer international opportunities to local experts.

A recent example of collaboration and ecosystem building is the establishment of Agrohubs by Cote d'Ivoire Flying Labs in collaboration with agricultural cooperatives with the aim to facilitate access to services such as aerial spraying by drone, training in good agricultural practices, and the supply of quality inputs to farmers.

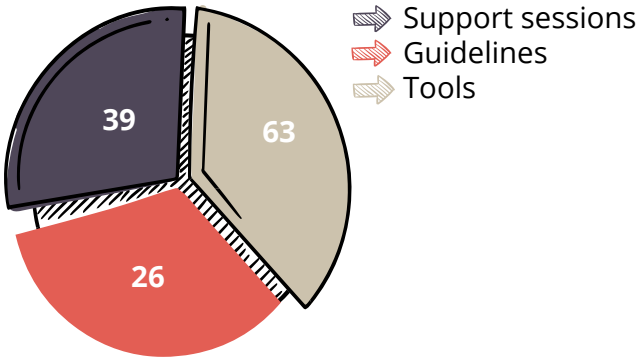
Click here to read the blog post.



Key Outcome 3

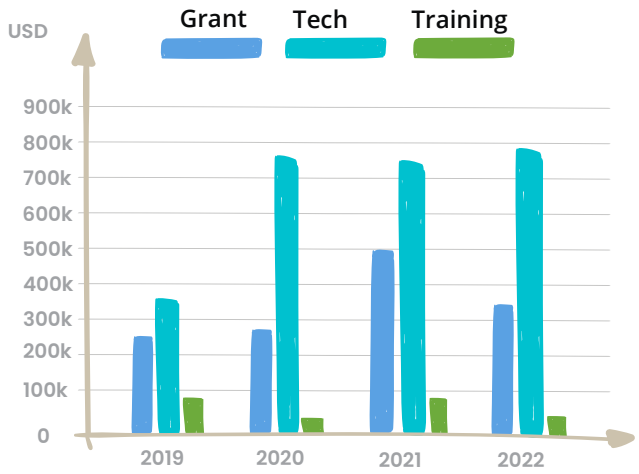
Increased number of locally-led, ethical, and sustainable applications of drone, data, AI technologies for climate, disaster, health, agriculture, entrepreneurship, and more

We provide local experts with resources to support their innovative and more sustainable technology solutions that address local challenges.



We have produced 128 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, safety culture guidelines to operational, financial and entrepreneurship tools.



We transferred 56% of our revenue directly to the Flying Labs network in 2022 in the form of grants, technology transfer, and online and in-person training.

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.

227 impactful and innovative projects. 206 trainings organized locally

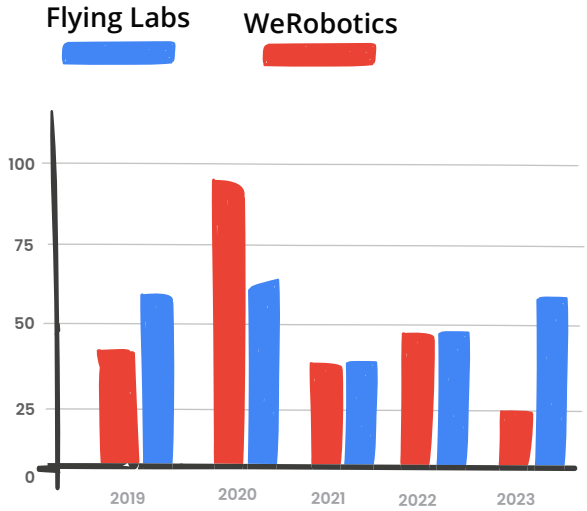
Since 2019, Flying Labs have implemented **227** impactful and innovative **projects** and organized **206 trainings locally** in the areas of agriculture, climate, disaster, health, gender equity, entrepreneurship, and more.

Key Outcome 4

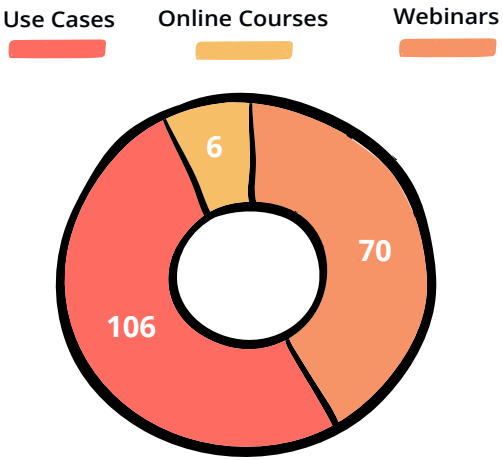
Greater recognition of local experts on a local and global level and inclusion of their expertise and experiences through changing the narrative and the systems supporting them.

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.

We use storytelling and publish a wide variety of blog posts publicly accessible resources to increase awareness of the abundance of existing local expertise and locally-led technology solutions. And we actively support Flying Labs in creating and publishing blog posts, use cases, story maps, and videos, to share the evidence of their impactful work.



Our main storytelling tools are the WeRobotics and Flying Labs Network blogs. Together, we have published **517 blog posts** since 2019.



We have also co-created and published **182 publicly accessible resources** in the format of use cases, webinars, and online courses since 2019.

UNICEF decided to partner up with us for a Cape Town conference. They reached out to us via LinkedIn asking us to present, after seeing a post about what we had done in this project

– Obed Radebe,
Technical Director,
South Africa Flying Labs

Our latest public learning report: Turning Data into Action

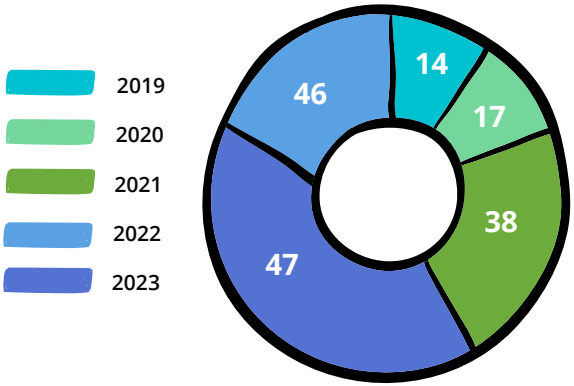
link to report

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



75% of Flying Labs implement tailor-made Youth/STEM programs and have organized **162 programs** since 2019.

Watch here how we are empowering youth

"Drones as Services" entrepreneurship programs

We have co-implemented local "Drones as a Service" entrepreneurship programs in Nepal, Tanzania, Senegal, and Panama, supporting 16 local teams in creating their local businesses. Our first global competition supported 10 local drone-related entrepreneurial ventures from Africa, Latin America, and Asia/Pacific to start-out and grow.

Click here to learn more about these programs and hear from our participants.

.....I didn't think I could get this opportunity to learn something new and help other people learn it as well...In my community now people respect me a lot and they value me. It is something that I am proud of. So this training brought a lot of changes in my life. Because of this opportunity, I was able to save up some money. Now I have an opportunity to study robotics. Now I can go to college.

~ Laureen Mupombwa, Fly for the Future program participant, Zimbabwe

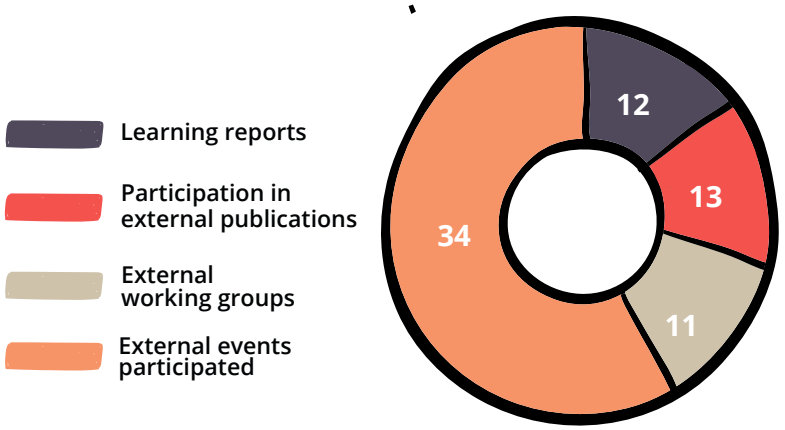
To date (November 2023), WeRobotics continues to support, mentor, and help us navigate uncharted territories as we strive to achieve a sustainable and prosperous business status. We know firsthand how essential this post-competition collaboration between funders and founders can be in shaping supportive and insightful spaces for young entrepreneurs to thrive.

Brice Sikem Nyuykonghi , Executive Director of Map & Rank, Cameroon & Winner of Unusual Solutions Competition in 2020

Key Outcome 6

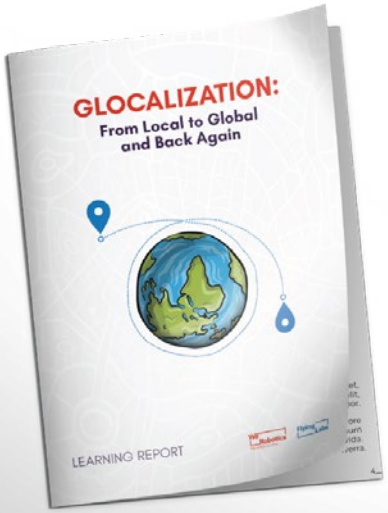
Wider knowledge of our bottom-up localization model among local, national, and global actors who adopt our model or similar approach to contribute to systems change

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.



Experience Sharing

We publish learning reports and share our experiences through contributions to events, keynotes, working groups, external publications and more. We have contributed to **70 external events, resources, and groups** since 2019.



link to report

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Inclusive Networks Model

We pack all our knowledge and experiences by creating models and frameworks that are replicable. Our Inclusive Networks Model is made up of 2 distinctive frameworks and a handbook We are currently supporting a first organization with our experiences, and learnings for the co-creation of their network.

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