

SA's Use-It wins in inaugural HSBC Future Skills Innovation Challenge

The 12 winners of the inaugural HSBC Future Skills Innovation Challenge include South Africa's Use-It, an organisation that teaches young people how to manufacture innovative products out of waste.



Image source: [Use-It](#)

The competition recognises social enterprises that are helping people develop the skills needed to get a job, manage their money and build a successful future. HSBC launched the competition in partnership with Ashoka, a global network for social entrepreneurs. The 12 chosen initiatives will receive prizes of up to \$25,000 each to help grow their projects, as well as support and mentoring from leaders at the bank and Ashoka.

Daniel Klier, global head of sustainable finance, HSBC, said: "Developing the right skills will be even more important as the world emerges from the coronavirus pandemic and encourages sustainable economic growth.

"It has been great to be involved as a judge with the HSBC Future Skills Innovation Challenge, and see first-hand how our 12 winning social entrepreneurs are helping people develop key skills and shape the economy of tomorrow."

Use-It

Says Use-It founder Chris Whyte: "The programme offers entrepreneurial skills to capitalise on opportunities to start and grow sustainable businesses that form part of the mainstream economy in South Africa."

The organisation has developed a system that combines crushed glass and waste plastic to create a cement replacement to be used in paving stones. It has also devised a way to convert plastic waste into fuels for cooking and heating. The programme trains young people in techniques such as these, helping participants develop the skills and inspiration they need to start their own businesses.

For the full list of winners, [click here](#).

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