



**GLOBAL  
RESILIENCE  
PARTNERSHIP**

**For immediate release**

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## **Global Resilience Partnership announces 16 new Innovation Challenge winners**

*Mentoring scheme supports innovators working on novel solutions to build resilience in the Horn of Africa, the Sahel, South Asia and Southeast Asia*

September 24, 2019 - The Global Resilience Partnership (GRP) has announced the 16 winners of their Innovation Challenge, focused on surfacing resilience solutions across Africa and Asia.

Challenge winners receive three months of technical advice, mentoring and leadership training to nurture their resilience initiatives at the intersection of three strategic areas: *Peace & Stability, Food & Water Security* and *Disaster Resilience*.

Winners come from the private sector, international and local NGOs, technology suppliers and research institutes. The GRP Innovation Challenge is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), which leads international development and humanitarian assistance efforts to save lives, reduce poverty, strengthen democratic governance and help people progress beyond assistance.

“The global challenge to eliminate hunger and poverty is becoming increasingly concentrated in fragile and vulnerable regions, where increased extreme weather events and political instability are common. Making progress will require us to support organisations with innovative and proactive resilience-based approaches suited to complex, volatile and uncertain contexts,” said **Deon Nel**, CEO of the Global Resilience Partnership.

Every US\$1 spent on proactive resilience building saves at least US\$3 in humanitarian assistance, yet only US\$1.30 is spent on pre-emptive resilience building for every US\$100 spent on reactive humanitarian aid. Similarly, less than 10 per cent of climate finance reaches fragile states, despite them facing the greatest risks.

“Vulnerable communities desperately need new approaches to avoid or at least pre-empt looming threats such as food shortages, conflicts or disasters, as well as better to prepare for when they do happen. By finding better and more inclusive ways to do this, we potentially address both the underlying causes of catastrophe as well as relieve suffering when it happens,” said **Jesper Hornberg**, Lead on Innovation at the Global Resilience Partnership.

“Global efforts must become more focused on longer-term solutions which multiply the resilience of vulnerable communities, rather than reactively addressing problems after they have happened. This way of thinking is clearly found in the work of the GRP Innovation Challenge winners,” added **Nel**.

The winners of the Innovation Challenge:

### **Peace & Stability**

- **Rainbow Resources Lanka (Pvt) Ltd:** Local business for peace and stability
- **Great Vision Research and Consultancy (GVRC) Limited:** Community Enterprise Development Impact Bond (CEDIB) for Climate Resilience in West Pokot County of Kenya

### **Food & Water Security**

- **Association Pro Milk Mali:** Healthy Milk for Mali from Mali
- **Danish Red Cross:** Ethiopian Rainwater Harvesting Ecosystem & Blended Financing Facility
- **FarmBetter:** FarmBetter
- **Global Parametrics R&D:** F-cubed project: Forecast and Financing for Famine (F<sup>3</sup>)
- **M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation:** Building resilience of fishing communities using ICTs for promoting sustainable fishing and environment practices in coastal and marine ecosystems.
- **SMART Sustainable Safe Water (S3W) Global Crowd Service Platform:** SMART Sustainable Safe Water (S3W) Global Crowd Service Platform
- **Water Governance Institute:** Promoting Solar-powered Integrated Fish and Crop (Aquaponics) Commercial Farming among Refugee and Host Communities in Uganda
- **Savia Atmospheric Fountains & Rivers:** The Discovery of Ice being Atmospheric

### **Disaster Resilience**

- **Amal:** Puntland Environmental Protection Effort (PEPE)
- **Atma Connect:** Catalyzing a Paradigm Shift: Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction At Scale
- **Tuklas Innovations Lab (under Plan International):** SolveX38: Intelligent Flood Warning and Monitoring System
- **Youth Innovation Lab:** Disaster Information Management System for Resilience
- **Lutheran World Relief:** Climate Resilient Women Entrepreneurs “Sakchham Mahila Pariyojana”
- **The Resurgence Urban Resilience Trust (Resurgence):** DARAJA (Developing Risk Awareness through Joint Action)

Winners were assessed on the potential of their innovation to build long-term, inclusive resilience.

This Innovation Challenge follows the successful implementation of two previous challenge rounds, consisting of 21 projects focused on similar goals.

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**Notes to Editors:**

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**About the Global Resilience Partnership**

The Global Resilience Partnership (GRP) is a partnership of public and private organisations joining forces towards a resilient, sustainable and prosperous future for vulnerable people and places. The GRP believes that resilience underpins sustainable development in a more unpredictable world. The GRP Secretariat is hosted by the Stockholm Resilience Centre.

Learn more:

[globalresiliencepartnership.org](http://globalresiliencepartnership.org)  
[stockholmresilience.org](http://stockholmresilience.org)

**About the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)**

In support of America's foreign policy, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) leads the U.S. Government's international development and disaster assistance through partnerships and investments that save lives, reduce poverty, strengthen democratic governance, and help people emerge from humanitarian crises and progress beyond assistance.

