

Global Winners of the School Enterprise Challenge 2015 Announced

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UK-based charity Teach A Man To Fish has announced winners from Zambia to Mexico, recognising the best school-based businesses launched in 2015

Extreme poverty remains a huge challenge at international level and one that traditional education often struggles to solve. Another pressing challenge in the context of global education is solving the youth unemployment crisis, with 75 million people aged 16 to 24 currently unemployed.

The School Enterprise Challenge was designed as a way of transforming large numbers of young people from all over the world from job seekers into job creators. The programme challenges young people to establish a socially responsible, yet profitable, business at their school. This offers a platform for providing hands-on relevant education to students, at the same time as generating extra income for the school. In 2015, more than 2,900 schools from over 100 countries benefited from participating in the School Enterprise Challenge. Those that reached business implementation stage generated an average income of \$680 in their first 4 months of operation.

"We are delighted to be organising the School Enterprise Challenge for the sixth year running. With more countries and schools getting involved the competition will be even bigger and better and more young people will be equipped with the skills needed to enter the business world," Nik Kafka, CEO of Teach A Man To Fish

The overall Global Winner was the Kariba South Primary School in Zambia. Through its on going involvement in the School Enterprise Challenge the school established and grew an impressive tailoring centre. The students have generated impressive profit by using second-hand materials and by finding new markets in both Zambia and the UK.

"The Young Tailors Club is very important to me because I can now make a living from sewing. When I grow up I will start my own business making skirts, dresses, bags, aprons and school uniforms for my community." Clever, student at Kariba South Primary School

Other winning business start-ups in schools included a bakery using home-grown products in Ukraine and a start-up in Scotland that needed no start-up capital and had very low direct costs later on.

The 2016 programme is now open for schools around the world to register their interest and official registration for the 2016 School Enterprise Challenge opens on the 14th of March. Registration is free and open to all schools. For more information on the School Enterprise Challenge please visit <http://www.schoolenterprisechallenge.org/>

Ends: 413

Contact Details: Nick Monro – dikson@teachamantofish.org.uk

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Scan Me:



Company Contact:

Teach A Man To Fish

T. +44207 263 2306

E. info@schoolenterprisechallenge.org

W. <https://www.schoolenterprisechallenge...>

Additional Contact(s):

dikson@teachamantofish.org.uk

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