

FUTURE17

Sustainable Development Goals
Challenge Program

PROJECT EXAMPLES



Throughout the previous cycles of Future17 there have been a huge range of inspiring projects collaborating with various project partners from all around the world. We present several examples below of projects that may help to inspire your own project development.



University
of Exeter



BREAKING THE CYCLE – EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT FOR CHILDREN OF SEX WORKERS IN BANGLADESH (BANGLADESH)



*Sustainable
Development
Goals:*



Summary:

The project aims to support vulnerable children through an integrated model that combines quality education, safe accommodation, and market-relevant vocational skills, while strengthening long-term sustainability through a professional fundraising strategy.

**Students: Exeter, AUS,
Stellenbosch and UNEC**

Mentors: Exeter and Stellenbosch

Findings and conclusion:

The project team collaborated with the Life Transformation Foundation to turn their vision for supporting marginalized children in Dhaka into a fundable, actionable plan. They assessed the challenges, clarified the operational model, and identified key priorities to address poverty, exploitation, and educational exclusion.

To enable fundraising and launch readiness, the team produced a comprehensive set of deliverables, including a pitch deck, funder database, program templates, brand identity, donor outreach materials, and a complete social media and website strategy.

COMIC BOOK FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND CLIMATE ACTION (UGANDA)



Sustainable Development Goals:



Summary:

The project aims to inspire young people to take environmental action by turning complex issues into engaging stories and visuals. Students will create a multi-issue comic for schools, libraries, and online platforms to raise awareness and encourage eco-friendly behaviors, with impact measured by reach, engagement, and changes in attitudes.

Students: Exeter, Duke Kunshan and UNEC

Mentors: Duke Kunshan and UNEC

Findings and conclusion:

The team created a comic aimed at children and young readers to make environmental issues more engaging and accessible. It follows Leo and Sienna as they explore themes of deforestation and pollution through imaginative storytelling, promoting responsibility, friendship, and hope.

A collaborative design process combined multiple narratives and visuals. Expected outcomes include reaching over 10,000 readers, 5,000+ social media engagements, a 25% knowledge increase, 2,000+ pledges, 50 community projects, and strengthened partnerships, media coverage, and volunteer involvement

AIRPORT NEXUS: RESEARCHING SUSTAINABLE FUTURES AT NEWQUAY (UK)



Sustainable Development Goals:



Summary:

The project aims to make Cornwall Airport Newquay a hub for sustainable aviation and community benefit by reducing carbon emissions, promoting renewable energy and circular practices, supporting green jobs and skills development, and creating replicable models for environmentally responsible regional airports.

Students: Exeter, AUS, Stellenbosch and UNEC

Mentors: Exeter

Findings and conclusion:

The project team conducted Cornwall Airport Newquay's first integrated sustainability assessment, evaluating energy, emissions, waste, water, operations, SAF readiness, and governance using international frameworks. They identified the airport's current status, key impact areas, and essential metrics for Net-Zero and accreditation.

The team's work underpins the Airport Nexus Sustainability Toolkit, supporting evidence-based decisions, pilot projects, investment prioritisation, and alignment with aviation decarbonisation pathways.

BEYOND THE PLATE: MAPPING PLANT-BASED PERCEPTIONS AMONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN BRAZIL (BRAZIL)



Sustainable Development Goals:



Summary:

This project examines Brazilian university students' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors around plant-based eating, including misconceptions, barriers, and openness to reducing animal products. It also explores their awareness of the link between food choices and climate change. Findings inform strategies to promote more ethical, sustainable, and practical eating habits.

Students: Exeter, AUS, Stellenbosch and UNEC

Mentors: Stellenbosch

Findings and conclusion:

The team found that surveys for Brazilian students need cultural and methodological adaptation. Items referencing foreign foods or plant-based trends may not reflect local diets, and unclear, lengthy, or double-barreled questions can cause confusion. Using concise wording, visual aids, and regionally relevant examples can improve clarity. Ethical approval, Portuguese informed consent, and secure data handling are essential. Future surveys should be culturally adapted and aligned with Brazilian research standards.

ECOCERT17: ENERGY PERFORMANCE FOR AFRICAN HOMES (SOUTH AFRICA)



Sustainable Development Goals:



Summary:

The project aims to establish an energy performance certification framework for African homes, enabling households, builders, and policymakers to make informed decisions that improve efficiency, affordability, and sustainability. The vision is for every home to be energy-smart, cost-effective, and climate-resilient, helping reduce carbon emissions, address energy poverty, and promote sustainable housing, while setting a global benchmark for green growth.

Students: Exeter, AUS, Stellenbosch and UNEC

Mentors: Stellenbosch and UNEC

Findings and conclusion:

The project proposes a three-pillar residential EPC framework that integrates home energy efficiency improvements, standardised benchmarking, and behavioural incentives to promote better energy use. It aims to help households reduce costs, understand their energy performance, and adopt more sustainable practices.

The framework supports SDG 7 and SDG 11 by making energy use measurable and actionable at household level. Future work should focus on community pilot studies and partnerships with financial institutions and retailers to enhance incentives and policy integration.

CHATBOT FOR CHANGE: EMPOWERING 100K FAMILIES (PARAGUAY)



*Sustainable
Development
Goals:*



Findings and conclusion:

The project team developed an AI-enabled mentorship chatbot for Fundación Paraguaya's 100K Initiative, delivering a Customer Journey Design, Chatbot Messaging Framework, and Re-Engagement Strategy. These outputs map client interactions, guide AI-driven messaging, and reconnect inactive users, creating a scalable, human-centred model that translates the Poverty Stoplight methodology into a practical tool to support families' progress toward sustainable poverty reduction.

Summary:

This project aims to support Fundación Paraguaya's 100K Initiative by developing an AI-enabled mentorship chatbot to help 100,000 microfinance clients tackle multidimensional poverty, as measured across all Poverty Stoplight indicators. The chatbot will guide families through their customer journey, provide tailored messages addressing key poverty indicators, and re-engage those who have become inactive.

**Students: Exeter, AUS,
Satbayev and Stellenbosch**

**Mentors: Exeter and
Stellenbosch**



University
of Exeter

