

2019-2024



5-YEAR Impact Report 2024

THE ROCKET
FOUNDATION

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Message From Our Founders

In a world full of challenges and uncertainty, we shouldn't forget the incredible potential each of us holds to create positive change. At The Rocket, we believe that by coming together, pooling our resources, and acting with intention, we can achieve amazing things.

Over the last five years, we've partnered with extraordinary individuals and organisations devoted to making the world a better place. They show that our collective efforts truly make a difference—and that by empowering communities they can thrive, creating ripples of positive change.

Every grant we make is an investment into the future—a step toward improving lives, restoring ecosystems, and building a fairer, more sustainable world. We believe this is essential for us all and have seen firsthand that our actions reward not only the beneficiaries, but also the givers. So far, this has been an amazing journey!

Fabrice d'Erm
CoFounder



Rebecca Berlinger
CoFounder



Daniel Wyss
CoFounder



01



About The Rocket

Our mission is to **identify and support social enterprises and change-makers**, who are creating a better world

We focus on positive impact creation by supporting entrepreneurship, innovation and opportunities to grow, scale and multiply impact.

We perform detailed due diligence on social enterprises assessing their business plans and proposed impact creation.

We provide a launch base for the most promising - fuelling their success with funding alongside coaching & mentoring.

We monitor performance on an ongoing basis, measuring and reporting to our donors on the impact creation.



The Rocket Foundation is a Swiss non-profit foundation. Our founders cover our operating costs, ensuring 100% of donations directly support our portfolio projects. By partnering with The Rocket Foundation, individuals and corporations can amplify their impact, enhance their reputation, and engage stakeholders in meaningful ways.

Our Approach



The Rocket Foundation drives transformational change by supporting carefully selected high-impact projects that create meaningful and lasting outcomes

1

IDENTIFY SOLUTIONS

We support visionary change makers, vetting and selecting exceptional projects which we bring into The Rocket Portfolio.

2

BUILD RESILIENCE

We support our portfolio projects to strengthen their business models, helping them scale and achieve long-term success.

3

PARTNER FOR CHANGE

Fuelled by donations, we collaborate with individuals, families, corporations and foundations pooling resources to maximise impact.

4

REPORT ON IMPACT

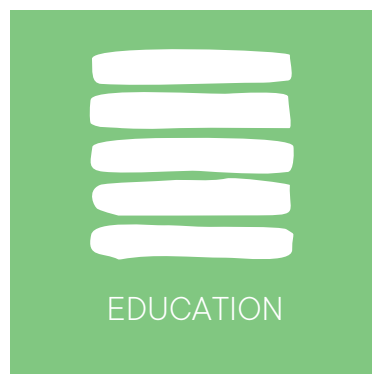
We connect donors to projects through transparent reporting and engaging content, showcasing the impact of our collective efforts.

Core Pillars



Our portfolio focuses on six core pillars:

**Sustainability, Entrepreneurship, Education,
Community, Environment, and Partnership**



—ensuring that our combined efforts drive
meaningful change and maximise impact



SUSTAINABILITY

Safeguarding the future

To us, sustainability means building resilience to deliver long-term environmental, economic, and social benefits. We aim to create regenerative systems designed to thrive into the future.

For instance, Blue Ventures aligns environmental stewardship with economic sustainability, while Reforesting Baran strengthens natural capital to support both ecological health and economic prosperity.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Scaling impact through the multiplier effect

Entrepreneurship drives job creation and income generation, which in turn stimulate local economies, sparking further economic activity and opening the door to more opportunities.

By incorporating income generation into our projects, we enable impact at scale, empowering communities to become self-sufficient and resilient. For example, the Faso Velo bike hub in Burkina Faso has grown into a profitable enterprise, now employing over 10 people.

PARTNERSHIP

Pooling our resources to scale our impact

Our success is driven by the power of partnerships. We invest in finding the right project partners where our involvement can truly make a difference—pooling resources to achieve greater impact.

In India in 2024 we brought in partners to 'Fund a Pond' in additional villages, more than doubling our impact.



COMMUNITY

Built around the needs of the local people

Our projects prioritise local communities, involving them in decision-making and focusing on marginalised groups to promote equity and lasting change.

Reforestation Baran for example not only restores the environment but also improves livelihoods; enhancing income, food security, and opportunities. True sustainability is achieved when communities are involved, educated, and empowered to sustain the impact.

EDUCATION

Empowering communities for sustainable impact

Education is at the heart of every project we support, ensuring communities not only receive resources but also gain the knowledge to use them effectively.

In Baran, our work with The Flow Partnership combines water access with education on management and protection, fostering sustainable restoration. Training local workers builds knowledge and understanding, while awareness initiatives promote lasting, positive change.



ENVIRONMENT



Healthy ecosystems as the foundation of all life

For us, nature and climate are inseparable. Protecting and restoring ecosystems is essential, as they are the foundation of life and play a critical role in capturing carbon and regulating the climate.

Thriving ecosystems are key to combating climate change and ensuring a sustainable future for everyone.

Our Portfolio

We provide catalytic funding to help our portfolio projects **scale, grow, and attract investment** beyond what we provide them

We partner for the long term, providing not just funding, but supporting to shape their strategy and be sustainable into the future. Notable successes include Future Coders and Child's i pilot projects that have expanded over tenfold, and Faso Velo in Burkina Faso, now a thriving social enterprise.

theflowpartnership

Reforeesting Baran

WATER RETENTION | SOIL REGENERATION | REFORESTATION

blue ventures
beyond conservation

{ FUTURE.CODERS }

child's i foundation

velafrica

PHOTO CREDIT: CHILD'S I





theflowpartnership

Reforeesting Baran

WATER RETENTION | SOIL REGENERATION | REFORESTATION

"Trust is the most important thing in any partnership, and we've found that with The Rocket. They have been instrumental in launching the Baran project, helping us bring together the right people and resources to make real change possible.

The Rocket has the vision to imagine what's possible and the drive to make it happen."

Minni Jain, Director of Partnerships, The Flow Partnership

Ecosystem Restoration in India

Community

Education

Sustainability

Environment

Partnership

Reforestation Baran is an ambitious ten year project to rejuvenate and reforest 125 sq km of degraded land in Rajasthan, India.

Land which was once dense forest, but due to lack of water, soil erosion and famine it has crossed a tipping point of ecological degradation. The villagers who inhabit the area have lost their source of livelihood.

This is a transformative journey, working with the communities across the region.

It has huge potential to restore biodiversity and store thousands of tonnes of carbon, but also to restore a basic healthy life for the tribes and communities who rely on this land.

We have completed the first stage building ponds in Guwari, Bhoyal, Purana Faredua, Ranipura and Kasba Nonera and planting nearly 10,000 trees.

- **Regenerating ecosystems**
- **Transforming communities**
- **Reducing poverty**
- **Empowering females**



Ponds Built

4

Water capacity

139,500 m3

People impacted

+2,000

Trees planted

+9,000

**AUGUST 2024:
OUR PONDS
ARE FULL +
OVERFLOWING**

- WATER ENABLES AGRICULTURE AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY
- MEN CAN FARM LOCALLY, REDUCING MIGRATION
- COMMUNITIES HAVE FOOD SECURITY
- GIRLS ARE PROTECTED FROM TRAFFICKING

"There is an urgent need in the Philippines to help strengthen the rights of small-scale fishers to access, use and manage their traditional fishing grounds.

Blue Ventures is working to build a network of local partner organisations to scale up locally led marine conservation and fisheries management."

Alastair Harris, former CEO of Blue Ventures

Scaling Into The Philippines

Community

Education

Environment

Sustainability

Entrepreneurship

- **Building sustainable livelihoods**
- **Protecting marine life**
- **Tackling Poverty**
- **Increasing climate resilience**

Blue Ventures works to restore the world's oceans and improve the livelihoods of traditional fishing communities, partnering with small-scale fishers and community organisations to address overfishing and safeguard ocean life in ways that benefit people.

In 2022 The Rocket Foundation partnered with Blue Ventures to launch their operations in the Philippines, a global epicentre for marine biodiversity rich in both Flora & Fauna.

50% of the population live in rural areas with 75% relying on agriculture/fisheries. This location is ideal for Blue Ventures' community led

approach to biodiversity protection and marine conservation.

They are now opening a Blue Ventures base in Cebu and over the next 2 years plan to expand their support to 15 Fisheries Management Bodies and 4 local NGOs.

Through these partnerships they provide capacity building, implement data collection and monitoring, support saving and loan schemes, strengthen governance and provide access to their network of partners, knowledge and experience



Women trained

7



Villages in scope

9



Impacted population

6,250



PHOTO CREDIT: BLUE VENTURES

THE ROCKET FOUNDATION
5-YEAR IMPACT REPORT 2024



"The Rocket Foundation has helped Child's i launch into our next stage of development, supporting us with critical funds, providing input into our strategy, visiting our project in Uganda and creating partnerships with The Rocket's partners, to help us achieve our mission for children to grow up in safe and loving families in Uganda."

Lucy Buck, Founder and ex-CEO of Child's i

COVID Bike Project

Community

Education

Sustainability

- **Build resilience in vulnerable communities**
- **Identifying and combating the challenges which lead to families breaking down**
- **Ensuring children grow up in loving families**

The COVID-19 pandemic created widespread hardship, affecting not only those with medical needs but also millions impacted by the economic fallout of global lockdowns. In many communities, this led to a lack of food on the table.

In partnership with Child's i, we launched a three-month emergency response programme to support vulnerable families and children in Uganda.

In Kampala, we equipped 15 community workers with bicycles, mobile phones, and COVID-19 response packs to enhance their mobility and connectivity. This programme addressed urgent needs during the lockdown, while also serving as a pilot to evaluate the effectiveness of better-equipped community volunteers, to enable Child's i to extend their reach.

Following this success, the approach has become a core part of Child's i's model, now scaled to more than 200 volunteers across 15 districts. Together, they are building lasting change, strengthening families, and keeping them together.



Children supported

645

Expanded districts

13

Reach for bicycles + mobile data

x3

PHOTO CREDIT: CHILD'S I

THE ROCKET FOUNDATION
5-YEAR IMPACT REPORT 2024



{ FUTURE.CODERS }

"Digital skills are essential for youth today, and an important foundation for success in an increasingly interconnected and technology-driven world. Proficiency in digital tools fosters creativity, problem-solving, and collaboration, empowering youth to innovate and compete in the global economy."

Chirag Shah, Technology Entrepreneur

Launching FutureCoders

Education

Entrepreneurship

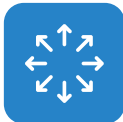
Partnership

Community

- **Training youths in programming and robotics**
- **Providing access to IT professionals & opportunities**
- **Focusing on refugee and migrant families**



Number of students

20

Expanded to

+500

Average age

16

– further widening the inequalities that exist in society.

In 2020 our partnership with Powercoders enabled them to launch their Future Coders initiative, expanding their activities to support youths from refugee, migrant and underprivileged backgrounds; providing access to technology, education and skill-building to help prepare them to enter the workforce of the future.

This project provided the initial training for 20 youths.

The role of digital technology in the workplace is ever-growing and without access to training, many will be underprepared for the jobs of the future



PHOTO CREDIT: FUTURECODERS

Since then the project has continued to expand to over 500 youths across Switzerland and corporate partnerships have enabled participants to enter apprenticeships in the IT space, a fantastic outcome.



velafrica

"Through its donations, The Rocket Foundation supported us to open the fifth bike hub in Burkina Faso. This allows the local population to access affordable high-quality bicycles from Switzerland. We created jobs as bike mechanics and in logistics and sales.

Faso Velo is ambitious and it is expected that we provide 5000 bicycles from Switzerland a year. This is another activity The Rocket Foundation has supported. It is a cause that is worthy of support – every bike shipped improves lives and simplifies the owners day to day routine."

Paolo Richter, Founder and Executive Director, Velafrica

FasoVelo Bike Hub

Entrepreneurship

Community

Education

Sustainability

- **Reusing old bikes & preventing waste**
- **Integration & upskilling in Switzerland**
- **Creating social entrepreneurship in Africa**
- **Providing clean & affordable transport in Africa**

Velafrica connects work and integration in Switzerland with development in Africa. Since 1993 the Non-Profit Organisation has collected old, worn-out bicycles, refurbishing them with social institutions and exporting them to its partners in Africa. Through the export of recycled bicycles, Velafrica promotes bike mobility with initiatives like the "Bike to school" project and social entrepreneurship.

Exported bicycles are sent to bicycle centres which serve as hubs for sales and repairs, vocational training and bike-related jobs. The Rocket Foundation co-funded the Fasovelo bike hub in Burkina Faso.

Since then over 30,000 bicycles have been sold through this hub and employment has been created for more than 10 employees.

The hub has also become a centre for the Velafrica vocation programme run across the country from which over 400 bike apprentices have graduated.



Bikes sold

30,000



Employment created

10



Social enterprise

Profitable



PHOTO CREDIT: VELAFRICA

THE ROCKET FOUNDATION
5-YEAR IMPACT REPORT 2024

Impact Framework



Project Goal	Project	Outcome
Extended Reach - supporting families in need	Child's i	Achieved - 2020
Ecosystem Restoration Food Security Improved Liveilhoods	Reforesting Baran	In Progress
Profitable Social Enterprise	Faso Velo	Achieved - 2023
Marine Conservation Increased Catch Improved Livelihoods	Blue Ventures	In Progress
Increased opportunities	Future Coders	Achieved - 2020

Corporate Partnership With The Rocket

Corporate partnerships are a key component of The Rocket. We help organisations understand how to leverage their assets to become a force for good.

We provide advice around building philanthropic strategies and help companies understand what impact means for them - offering solutions that reflect their company values and purpose.

By collaborating with The Rocket, corporations can amplify their impact, enhance their reputation, & engage stakeholders in meaningful ways.

1 Project Sponsor

Fund a specific Rocket initiative or project

2 Impact Partner

Make recurring donations to The Rocket's portfolio of vetted projects

3 Catalyst for Change

Pledge a percentage of revenue or profits towards The Rocket portfolio



LAURA ZOELLER
Siventus Co-founder & Partner

We're happy to have found a long-term partner that makes a real impact on people's lives as well as nature and aligns perfectly to what we do. We contribute financially to the Rocket with 1% of our revenues to provide long-term funding for The Rocket's amazing projects.



DAVID STOCKTON
DulSCO CEO

This partnership goes beyond mere financial contribution, as it is an investment in the lives of thousands and a commitment to driving genuine change. The opportunity for our team to actively participate adds a deeper layer of meaning to our involvement.

Future Vision

The Rocket Foundation was born out of a shared passion to give back. We believe in the power of partnership and leveraging our networks to create significant, sustainable change.

Since our launch in 2019, we've been piloting ideas and refining our approach. In 2023, we began scaling our impact by bringing funding partners on board.

In 2024 we worked with our corporate partners to implement employee matching campaigns, pledges and fundraising drives.

Strategic next steps

We are now poised to expand our reach and impact. By forging strategic partnerships we can tackle more ambitious projects and drive greater change. We are excited to welcome new partners on this journey, together, we can make the next five years even more impactful.

PHOTO CREDIT: THE FLOW PARTNERSHIP



Our Team



We are a group of like-minded people who share a desire to contribute to a better society. We came together to pool our resources and multiply our impact

Fabrice d'Erm

Co-founder



Background
Investment professional

Personal mission
Inspire and empower lasting change

The Rocket is...

"Our legacy to future generations to make a better world"

Rebecca Berlinger

Co-founder & COO



Background
Finance & Sustainability professional

Personal mission
Empowering families + restoring our planet

The Rocket is...

"A vehicle to unlock the incredible potential each of us holds to create positive change"

Daniel Wyss

Co-founder & Chairman



Background
Investment banking professional

Personal mission
Inspire growth, innovation & lasting impact

The Rocket is...

"My commitment to driving change & creating opportunities to empower others"

Chirag Shah

Entrepreneur



Background
Technology entrepreneur

Personal mission
To role model the concept of paying forward

The Rocket is...

"A community that creates a multiplier effect from our individual social impact efforts."

Since 2019, the Rocket Foundation has had the privilege of partnering with remarkable organisations —true changemakers dedicated to tackling urgent global challenges and fostering resilience across communities in need.

It is these organisations that drive real, lasting change. And it is thanks to the generosity of our donors and partners that we're able to support and amplify their impact.

We thank you for your continued partnership and support

Contact

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