



Global Grad Show 2020

The most diverse showcase of graduate ideas expands programme to identify global trends and take social impact projects to market

- *A new exhibition format will reveal the top-of-mind social and environmental challenges according to graduates from 60 countries*
- *Trends will be drawn from a record 1,600 graduation projects submitted by students in 270 universities - a 30% increase on the previous year – with 100 shortlisted to provide insight and understanding on global environmental, social and economic issues*
- *The Global Grad Show entrepreneurship programme secures funding to take two life-changing solutions to market*
- *9th November marks the unveiling of the new interactive virtual exhibition and the beginning of a new entrepreneurship training cohort*

October 12th, 2020: [Global Grad Show](#), held under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Latifa bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Chairperson of Dubai Culture & Arts Authority is the world's most diverse programme for graduates working on social impact innovation which continues to expand its reach, real-world impact and legacy. Today, it has revealed a forward-looking approach to its applications' review process, new success stories from its 2019 inaugural entrepreneurship programme and an interactive digital platform where graduate talent and projects will be featured from November.

The programme, now in its sixth year and held in partnership with A.R.M. Holding and Dubai Culture, will evolve to focus on the most commonly shared concerns among graduates from around the world, identified from the record 1,600 + applications received from 270 universities in 60 countries. Entries, up 30% on the previous year, range from leading institutions such as Harvard, MIT and Imperial College to universities in developing countries. With representation for the first time from countries such as Indonesia, El Salvador and Oman, the 2020 exhibition will be the most diverse Global Grad Show to date.

The applications are the outcome of rigorous academic research conducted by graduates and their professors, offering unique insight into areas of deep concern for the future generation, in the fields of environmental, social and economic development.

This year's showcase will be organised around key surfacing trends and 100 projects will be selected to illustrate their nature, complexity and global relevance. The show will be a forward-looking gathering of solutions for each identified trend, created by the world's most talented science, technology and design students.

The projects will be brought to life in an inaugural interactive digital exhibition, giving a voice to the next generation of innovators. The virtual exhibition will allow for direct interaction with the

graduates behind each one of ideas and will also see prototypes, films and original research material visually curated for online visitors to engage and interact with, including a global heat map of ideas and trending issues.

Global Grad Show also announced today the funding of two graduate projects from the 2019 Entrepreneurship Programme through A.R.M. Holding AED 10 million Fund, which was set up to support Global Grad Show participants to develop their business models and go to market.

They are:

- **SpectrumLab:** a reflective thermochromic paint that changes its colour based on temperature. The IP-backed new material was developed for use in construction, with the aim of reducing building's temperature variance and improving energy efficiency. If applied at scale, the technology has the potential to help regulate heat islands and urban temperatures. By Willy Camou, Francesco Giordano, Raphael Sanchez & Zeynep Tuluman from **Politecnico di Torino and Collège des Ingénieurs**.
- **Safe Cooking:** a portable stove developed for people (estimated 2 billion around the world) whose current cooking methods are unsafe, inefficient and expensive. The new design is a simple and affordable solution that consumes less fuel, cooks faster and includes a proper ventilation system, allowing fire cooking to remain a central part of domestic life for poor communities, without posing health risks. By Sarmad Hassan from the **University of Karachi**

Commenting on the importance of supporting social impact innovation, Mohammad Saeed Al Shehhi, CEO of A.R.M. Holding, said: "We are thrilled to support the Global Grad Show start-ups Safe Cooking and Spectrum. Their mission resonates with us at A.R.M. Holding where we embrace solution finding and value ideas that benefit humanity at a large scale. They are a true endorsement of the calibre of students that the Global Grad Show attracts, and we look forward to supporting more projects in the future"

In addition, Global Grad Show's Covid-19 initiative, one of the first international open calls to address Covid-19 challenges, has four projects currently undergoing entrepreneurship training, with one advancing to pilot stage:

- **Foresight:** an AI system which processes clinical information of patients in intensive care units, capable of predicting and alerting patient health deterioration, up to 48hrs earlier than current diagnosis alternatives. The system was designed to be easily integrated into hospitals, using data already commonly collected by intensive care units, being capable of streamlining patient care around the world. The founder is Sam Tukra, currently undertaking a PhD at **Imperial College London** in AI and Advanced Machine Vision.

The 2020 Global Grad Show participants will be invited to apply to the new cohort of the Entrepreneurship Programme, which to date has supported 30 projects, in fields ranging from medical to waste management and from mental health to migrating communities, to do further research, meet industry and prepare for their market launch. The Programme's goal is to accelerate



the development of innovations created by graduates through tailored business training, mentorship and by providing introductions to investors and stakeholders from the social development agenda.

On November 9th, Global Grad Show, will unveil the trends from the 2020 applications, the selection of 100 projects and the interactive digital platform where year-round content will be made available to all audiences. On the same day, the programme will inaugurate a physical exhibition focusing on talent from the MENA region, as part of Dubai Design Week.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About A.R.M Holding

A.R.M. Holding is a multi-focused economic enabler that creates synergies and opportunities through local, regional and global investments. At the core of the company's business strategy is its commitment to social responsibility. A.R.M. actively employs its resources to advance society and empower its players to pursue innovative solutions and inspire a better future. A.R.M. collaborates with like-minded organizations and leverages its network and partnerships to create meaningful relationships and create growth opportunities. It holds equity stakes in some of Dubai's foremost companies in a variety of economic sectors including Banking, Telecom, F&B, Real Estate, and Hospitality. Investing in Real Estate since 1976, A.R.M. has contributed to society with significant investments in numerous industries and versatile projects across the region and internationally. To learn more about A.R.M. Holding, please visit: www.armholding.ae

About Dubai Culture & Arts Authority

On 8 March 2008, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, launched the Dubai Culture & Arts Authority (Dubai Culture). The mandate of the Authority is to serve as a dedicated entity for culture, arts, heritage, and literature in the Emirate of Dubai, and to drive the growth of the city's artistic and cultural landscape. Under the leadership of Her Highness Sheikha Latifa bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Chairperson of Dubai Culture, the Authority has played an integral role in reinforcing Dubai's position as a vibrant global centre for creativity.

Dubai Culture aims to enhance Dubai's cultural scene and draw attention to the UAE's rich heritage. The Authority's mandate is to build bridges of constructive dialogue between different civilisations and cultures to enhance Dubai's position as a creative and sustainable global city for culture, heritage, arts, and literature, with an aim to empower these sectors by developing creative and innovative projects and initiatives locally, regionally, and globally.

Dubai Culture manages heritage sites across Dubai including Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood and Al Shindagha Museum, apart from managing Dubai Public Library branches which includes Etihad Museum Library, Al Twar Public Library, Al Rashidya Public Library, Hor Al Anz Public Library, Al Safa Art & Design Library, Al Mankhool Public Library, Umm Suqeim Library, and



Hatta Public Library. Dubai Culture also plays a significant role in empowering the four creative sectors (arts, culture, heritage, and literature) by launching innovative initiatives and projects that aim at productive outcomes.