

SIT Alumni

SITolarship 2018 Report

The SITolarship initiative, launched in 2018, supports high-impact ventures in scaling their impact. Through this programme, social entrepreneurs can be funded to attend conferences and training programmes, participate in networking exercises, visit similar projects in different countries to exchange experiences, or procure consultancy services.

The SITolarship programme is open to all SIT Alumni – the entrepreneurs and innovators who have participated in any edition of the Institute’s Social Programme flagship initiatives: the Social Innovation Tournament and the SIT Impact Bootcamp.

In 2018, the following eight Alumni benefited from a grant under the SITolarship initiative:

2018	Amount of grant in EUR
Aprendices Visuales	4 332
Design by Pana	5 453
Farmidable	1 452
Hearstrings	2 300
Konexio	4 277
Miwa	4 168
Planetiers	3 000
QTrobot Autism Therapy Stores	6 500
TOTAL GRANTS	31 482

1. Aprendices Visuales

Miriam Reyes, founder of Aprendices Visuales, participated in several online courses of the UNIR programme – education for children 0 to 6 years old – to gain expertise on education and innovative methodologies.

The course helped Aprendices Visuales to adapt and transform their online courses to fit school needs, especially enabling teachers to be trained. They created an eight-week online programme “Maestros Visuales” (Visual Teachers) where teachers can develop their visual communication and thinking skills, and they offer them visual tools that they can use and apply directly in their day-to-day work with children. They have trained 36 teachers from various schools in Spain, Mexico, Peru and Chile.

2. Design by Pana

Design by Pana participated in the Wohnen & Interieur Fair, one of the largest exhibitions for living spaces, design, accessories, home entertainment and gardens in Austria. Design by Pana was the first Albanian company to be represented. They presented their work – four unique pieces of furniture made from recycled wood and pallets – and established contact with around 500 businesses and companies.



3. Farmidable

Two team members from Farmidable attended a training course for multimedia/audiovisual production and online content management (social media).

The training course gave the team the knowledge, skills and tools to enhance Farmidable's social media strategy, as well as produce media content and a video. With the knowledge acquired, Farmidable will be working in new campaigns and producing new media content.

4. Heartstrings

Heartstrings hired a consultant to improve their platform by developing and designing the website version of their existing mobile application.

The deliverables included (i) drafting of a new framework; (ii) adapting design; (iii) deployment and setup; and (iv) test and optimisation.

The new version of the website will play a significant role in making the Heartstrings platform accessible to everyone and maximising the impact of their work.

5. Konexio

One member of Konexio participated in the SXSW Festival in Austin (United States), the world's premier tech, media, and culture festival, bringing together start-ups, tech giants, governments and media from across the globe to discuss the emerging trends in technology and culture. The 2018 edition focused on Tech4Good and diversity and inclusion initiatives in tech.

This represented a crucial opportunity for Konexio to increase visibility not only in France and Europe, but in the United States as well, in addition to meeting potential investors, potential corporate partners, and local and international press.

Konexio was selected as one of 14 national winners of the La French Tech and Business France SXSW start-up competition.



Meeting with France's Consul General in Texas, Alexis Andres



Participation in La French Tech's "Tech4Good" panel

6. Miwa

Petr Báča (CEO) and Václav Čapek (CTO) participated in the five courses of the Stora Enso Acceleration Programme 2019 in Helsinki, Finland.

The programme led the start-ups through all the stages needed to develop their business – Product Excellence, Benchmarking and Planning, Understanding Customer Drivers, Driving Change, Go-to-market and Vision Framing.

Miwa had the opportunity to share their tasks with skilled and experienced partners and to gain valuable know-how in packaging and material use. The main areas that will be improved are product improvement (material development) and business improvement (Stora Enso cooperation).

7. Planetiers

The grant was used to hire a consultant to organise three workshops.

Workshop 1 was exclusively for the Planetiers team and covered the Business Model Canvas from the point of view of the two large groups of B2C and B2B clients.

Workshop 2 focused on the consumer view and the value proposition canvas model was developed from the point of view of consumers.

Workshop 3 focused on the supplier view. The same tool – value proposition canvas – was used but to listen and record the reasons why suppliers sell their products through Planetiers.

8. QTrobot Autism Therapy Stores

QTrobot hired an IP Specialist firm to develop an IPR management strategy for the creation and management of their therapy store, including: (i) Freedom to Operate Search; (ii) patentability search of the main ideas of the project; and (iii) technology/market landscape search.

This was the first time QTrobot looked into the IPR-related concerns and opportunities of the project. They now have at their disposal a very detailed and thorough survey of the patents related to the project and to the ideas that can potentially be the subject of a patent application, which will highly impact both R&D and the IPR protection roadmap.