



Yarl IT Hub

ANNUAL REPORT - 2024

The community that dreams of making Northern Sri Lanka into an innovation hub.



INNOVATION



ENTREPRENEURSHIP



COMMUNITY



TECHNOLOGY

Yarl IT Hub

Yarl IT Hub (YIT), a not-for-profit social enterprise, committed to fostering technology, innovation, and entrepreneurship in the Northern Province. Created by and for the community, YIT comprises a diverse cohort of individuals driven by a shared vision: transforming Jaffna into a vibrant technology hub, akin to Silicon Valley. Our members are deeply dedicated to upholding the organization's core values



Yarl IT Hub Initiatives

The Yarl IT Hub is a dynamic platform empowering individuals through innovation, entrepreneurship, and digital literacy. For school students, it offers programs like YGC Junior, Aki Digital Learning, entrepreneurship clubs, and maker events. Young adults benefit from the Uki Technology School, YGC Senior, and community meetups. Entrepreneurs gain support through accelerators, digital content creation programs, and shared workspaces. The hub's research arm, Thulir, leads impactful projects, including apps for hearing-impaired children and digitally paired classrooms, driving technological and social advancements.

Initiatives for Young Adults

Initiatives like Uki Technology School and YGC Senior focus on building technical and leadership skills, alongside fostering community connections.



Initiatives for School children

Programs designed to ignite young minds through competitions, STEAM education, digital learning, entrepreneurship clubs, and hands-on maker activities, fostering creativity and innovation among students.



The community that dreams of making Northern Sri Lanka into an innovation hub.

Initiatives for the Entrepreneurs and Community

Provides tailored support through accelerators, content creation programs, and shared workspaces to help entrepreneurs scale their ventures.



Research Arm

Thulir serves as a vital social innovation center and the dedicated research arm of Yarl IT Hub. It plays a crucial role in driving innovation and creating positive social impact.

Initiatives for **School children**



Puthiya Payanankal

A STEM-based educational journey, gamified to engage and educate school students.



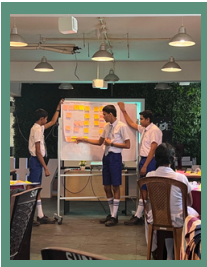
YGC Junior

A competition to ignite innovation, community engagement, and a passion for technology among school children.



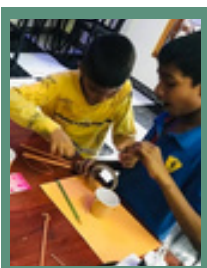
Aki

Aki is a digital learning platform that enhances student learning through interactive and accessible content, empowering students with 21st-century learning.



Entrepreneurship Clubs

Initiatives at the school level to cultivate business acumen and entrepreneurial spirit among students.



Maker Events

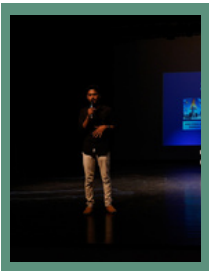
Maker Events inspire school children to explore creativity through hands-on projects in robotics, coding, and design. It nurtures innovation, problem-solving, and practical skills in a fun, interactive environment.

Initiatives for **Young Adults**



Uki

Uki is a full-scholarship technology school that provides comprehensive courses in full-stack development, digital marketing, startup essentials, and project management. It offers young adults a unique opportunity to acquire essential skills in the tech and business domains.



YGC Pitch Competition

This is a platform designed exclusively for young adults to showcase their business ideas, receive valuable feedback, and refine their entrepreneurial concepts for future success.



Community Meetups

Community Meetup is a space for like-minded individuals to connect, share ideas, and collaborate. It fosters networking, learning, and innovation through discussions, workshops, and hands-on activities.

Initiatives for **Entrepreneurs & Community**



YGC Accelerator

The YGC Accelerator is an intensive six-month program tailored for early-stage startups, equipping them with the necessary tools, mentorship, and resources to thrive in the competitive business landscape.



Digital Content Creator Accelerator

This 8-week intensive program is crafted for professionals and content creators who are serious about taking their digital content to the next level. Through targeted education, expert mentorship, and robust resources, we equip you with everything needed to scale your efforts and carve a unique niche in the digital world.



WEHub

Launched in 2024

WEHub by Yarl IT Hub is a dedicated space for empowering women entrepreneurs in Sri Lanka's Northern Province.



Intern-preneurship

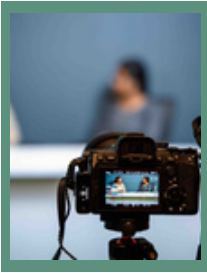
Launched in 2024

Yarl IT Hub's Intern-Preneurship Program is all about transforming raw talent and bold ideas into real-world impact.



UOJ Start Up Incubator

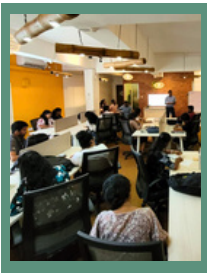
UOJ Startup Incubator empowers aspiring entrepreneurs with mentorship, resources, and a collaborative environment to transform ideas into successful startups while they are in university.



Kalam

Kalam is a versatile space that function as a co-working area, maker space, and a venue for hosting monthly community meetups. A Creator Studio for content creation. It plays a central role in fostering creativity, collaboration, and technological engagement within the community

Launched in 2024



Leadership Excellence Program

Leadership Excellence Program is an initiative designed to empower individuals with the leadership and business skills needed to drive meaningful, positive change in their communities and industries



YGC Innovation Festival

The YGC Innovation Festival is a dynamic event celebrating innovation, entrepreneurship, and creativity. It brings together entrepreneurs, professionals, and enthusiasts for networking, learning, and inspiration. The festival features pitch competitions, student expos, workshops, masterclasses, and technology showcases, fostering collaboration and new opportunities.

Yarl IT Hub's **Research Arm**



Thulir

Thulir serves as a vital social innovation center and the dedicated research arm of Yarl IT Hub. It plays a crucial role in driving innovation and creating positive social impact.

Yarl IT Hub's **Mission, and Values**



Our Mission

To transform the Northern Province into a vibrant innovation hub.



Our Values

- Operate with transparency
 - Empower the community with technology
 - Be technology and corporate independent
 - Be innovative
 - Be apolitical
 - Not for Profit
 - To nurture and develop talent in the community
-



2030 Goals

- Outreach to **1,000,000 people**
- Seed the idea of Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Technology in **100,000 secondary school students**
- Train **12,500** students at Uki for them to gain job opportunities
- Act as a catalyst for **2,500** Startups and SMBs
- Engage **5000 diaspora members**

Yarl IT Hub: 2024 Highlights

In 2024, Yarl IT Hub reached several remarkable milestones, underscoring our commitment to fostering technology, innovation, and entrepreneurship. Here are the highlights:

YGC Innovation Festival

Our YGC Innovation Festival underwent a remarkable transformation, evolving from a single event into a grand festival in Jaffna. This transformation attracted over 25,000 enthusiastic attendees. We owe the success of this event to the collaboration of more than 50 organizations, YIT Alumni companies which provided valuable experiential learning opportunities to participants

GRIT - Building a Gender-Responsive Entrepreneurial Ecosystem

In 2024, Yarl IT Hub became a partner in the Growth, Resilience, Investment, and Training (GRIT) Initiative. Funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC) and led by the World University Service of Canada (WUSC-EUMC), this initiative is dedicated to building a gender-responsive entrepreneurial ecosystem in Northern Sri Lanka.

WEHub Launched

Our WEHub initiative by Yarl IT Hub was successfully launched this year, creating a dedicated space for empowering women entrepreneurs in Sri Lanka's Northern Province. This platform aims to foster innovation, provide resources, and build a supportive community, helping women turn their entrepreneurial dreams into reality.

Digital Content Creator Studio

This year, Kalam by Yarl IT Hub introduced the Digital Content Creator Studio, a dedicated space equipped with state-of-the-art tools for content creation and product photography. Designed to support creators and entrepreneurs, the studio provides a professional environment to bring creative visions to life and enhance digital storytelling.

Intern-Preneurship Initiative

This year, Yarl IT Hub launched the Intern-Preneurship Program, designed to transform raw talent and bold ideas into real-world impact. By combining mentorship, resources, and support, the program empowers participants to turn their creativity and drive into extraordinary achievements. Whether developing a Gen AI product or tackling unique challenges, this initiative helps shape the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs.

Summer Internship Program

This year, Yarl IT Hub launched the Summer Internship Program, aimed at providing diaspora youths with an immersive experience blending community engagement, professional development, and cultural exploration. Interns actively participated in various community initiatives, gaining hands-on experience while fostering entrepreneurship and driving technological innovation.

Expanded Coworking space

Kalam by Yarl IT Hub introduced a new co-working space this year, featuring dedicated seating areas designed for more established companies. This premium space offers an ideal environment for established businesses seeking a professional setting, with enhanced amenities for those willing to invest a little more.

HNB Partners with Yarl IT Hub to Foster Entrepreneurship in Schools

Hatton National Bank PLC (HNB) has partnered with Yarl IT Hub to promote entrepreneurship among young students in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka. As part of its strategic Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives, HNB will sponsor the seed fund for 40 school-based Entrepreneurship Clubs.

Digital Content Creator Accelerator - Cohort 2

This year marked the restart of the Digital Content Creator Accelerator with its second cohort. Designed to nurture aspiring content creators, this program provides participants with the skills, tools, and mentorship needed to excel in the digital content industry. With a focus on innovation and creativity, Cohort 2 promises to drive impactful storytelling and digital engagement.

Short Certificate Courses by UKi

This year, UKi began offering short certificate courses on new and trending technologies, including Data Science, UI/UX Design, and Generative AI. These courses are designed to equip learners with industry-relevant skills, enabling them to stay ahead in the rapidly evolving tech landscape.

Puthiya Payanankal

The Puthiya Payanankal initiative was designed to foster innovation, creativity, and scientific thinking among students aged 11-14 in the Northern Province. By focusing on problem-solving, guided experimentation, and self-learning through gamification, the program aimed to ignite a passion for STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) among young learners.

The initiative targeted lower secondary education students (ages 11-14) across 538 schools, ultimately reaching 342 schools over the year. The project was structured into three levels, each accompanied by a guidebook that included experiments, observations, reports, and project-based learning activities. Students who successfully completed each level were rewarded with certificates, guidebooks for the next level, and additional motivational incentives such as stickers or badges.

The project has been received with overwhelming popularity and impact, prompting Yarl IT Hub to launch its second and third iteration. This year, the project is extended to over 15000 students in 340+ schools in the northern province, following the same format as the previous year.

For 2024, the project was initiated at the end of January and completed on July 2024, with a focus on rural areas where students often have limited exposure to technology and innovation. Puthiya Payanankal seeks to bridge this gap by offering a gamified learning experience that encourages creativity and problem-solving skills. Through Puthiya Payanankal, students are provided with a platform to engage in project based learning, which allows them to explore their interests and passions. The program also aims to foster an interest in STEAM fields by providing interactive activities, sessions, and challenges that promote scientific thinking and exploration.

In a long term perspective, we believe that Puthiya Payanankal provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain exposure to the world of technology and innovation. With the increasing importance of these fields in today's world, programs like Puthiya Payanankal are essential in preparing the next generation for a future that is heavily reliant on technology and innovation

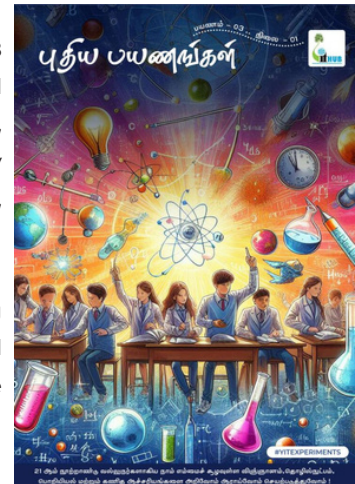
The Format

Similar to last year, this year's Puthiya Payanankal program also features three levels of engagement.

In level one, students are introduced to the Basic of STEAM with simple activities and introduced fundamental concepts of science and technology.

Level two builds upon the importance of the Waste Management and emphasized sustainability and effective use of plastics.

Finally, in level three, students are introduced to the world of Artificial Intelligence. AI is a powerful, and a must needed thing in the future. This book provides foundational knowledge of AI and its applications..



Participation and Achievements:

- The initiative distributed a total of 15,320 guidebooks (printed and PDF), with participation and completion statistics as follows:

Level 1:

- Participants Engaged: 4,607
- Completion Rate: 67.85%

Level 2:

- Participants Engaged: 2,104
- Completion Rate: 61.27%

Level 3:

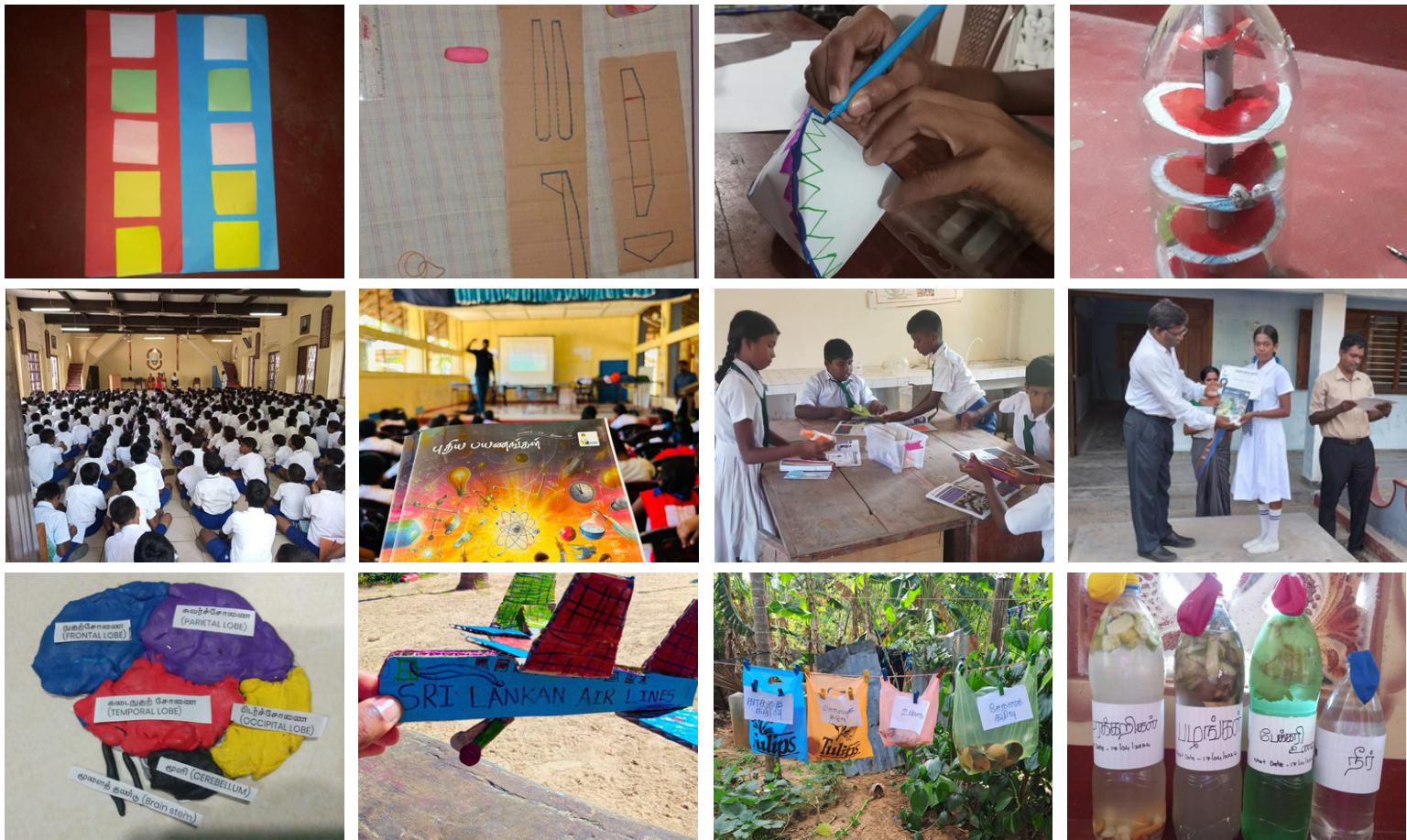
- Participants Engaged: 772
- Completion Rate: 26.68%

Impact

- Students gained practical knowledge through experimentation and developed critical problem-solving skills.
- The program's gamified approach inspired continuous engagement and improved completion rates across levels.
- The distribution of Arduino kits and personalized incentives motivated participants to excel in their STEAM journey.

Puthiya Payanankal successfully bridged the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application in STEAM education. By reaching over **342 schools** within **three years**, the initiative has paved the way for a generation of young innovators equipped with the skills and mindset necessary to address real-world challenges.

We acknowledge the significant contribution of Ramoshan and his family through their technical and financial support for Puthiya Payanankal 2024.



Yarl Geek Challenge Season 13 – Junior

Season 13 of Yarl Geek Challenge Junior witnessed yet another year of remarkable growth and engagement, reflecting its status as a premier technology innovation competition for school students in Northern Sri Lanka. Organized by Yarl IT Hub in collaboration with the Northern Province Education Department, the event continues to inspire the next generation of tech innovators.

Key Highlights

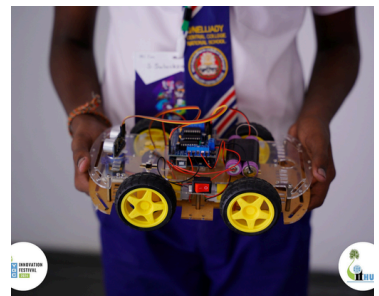
- Applications Opened: March 18, 2024
- Seminars Conducted: 15
- Workshops Conducted: 11
- Total Students engaged : 3000+
- Educational Coverage: All 13 educational zones in the Northern Province
- Zonal Competitions: Held on July 13th and 14th, 2024 with 897 student participation
- Finals: August 1st, 2024, as part of the YGC Innovation Festival

The season kicked off with seminars and workshops spanning all educational zones in the Northern Province. These sessions provided students with valuable insights and the opportunity to clarify doubts. Past participants of YGC Junior also joined to share their experiences, motivating the current batch. The workshop series concluded with resounding success, equipping students with the skills and confidence needed to showcase their innovative ideas.

Following that The zonal-level competitions took place over two days:

- July 13, 2024: Zones: Jaffna, Valikamam, Thunukkai, Mannar, Madhu, Vavuniya North, Vavuniya South, Kilinochchi South, and Island (Delft Division, Kayts Division, Velanai Division).
- July 14, 2024: Zones: Island (Karainagar Division), Thenmaradchi, Vadamaradchi, Mullaitivu, and Kilinochchi North.

This time, we engaged over 3000+ students from all the educational zones for the competition, where a total of 897 students showcased their creativity and dedication by presenting diverse projects across categories like Web, Mobile, Hardware, Innovation, and Application of Science in the zonal level competition. and in the finals, held on August 1, 2024, at the YGC Innovation Festival, brought together the most promising 87 teams from the zonal competitions.



Aki



Aki, founded in 2018, has made significant strides in the field of education and e-learning. In 2019, it launched the e-learning platform [www.aki.coach], which has become a valuable resource for students, teachers, and professionals. Here are some key achievements and offerings of Aki in 2024.

Courses for Secondary Education

- Aki offers a wide range of secondary education courses, including more than 70 courses in various subjects.
- These courses are designed to provide students in grades 6 to 11 with comprehensive learning materials and resources.
- The platform boasts an extensive question bank with over 8,000 questions, enhancing students' ability to practice and improve their knowledge.

Vocational Education

- Aki extends its educational reach with over 16 vocational education courses.
- These vocational courses cater to practical skills and knowledge required for various careers

Supporting Yarl IT Hub Initiatives

- Aki serves as a distribution platform for educational materials and coursework related to Yarl IT Hub's own educational programs like Uki full time and short time courses.
- This collaboration enhances the accessibility of educational resources to a broader audience
- This collaboration enhances the accessibility of educational resources to a broader audience

Advanced Level Courses

- Aki provides a valuable resource for Advanced Level students by offering more than 100 online course materials.
- These courses cover a wide array of subjects, including Biology, Chemistry, ICT, Mathematics, Biosystem Technology, and more.
- Advanced Level students can benefit from these materials to excel in their studies.

Professional Development for Teachers

- Aki offers courses specifically designed for teachers who seek to enhance their skills and knowledge.
- These courses cover topics such as Web Application Development, Mobile Application Development, Hardware Application Development (Arduino), Cyber Security, and other trending subjects.
- By providing professional development opportunities, Aki contributes to the continuous growth of educators.

Overall, Aki's dedication to education, extensive course offerings, and commitment to supporting both students and teachers make it a valuable platform in the field of e-learning. It plays a pivotal role in advancing education and skill development in the region

Entrepreneurship Club

The School Entrepreneurship Club continued to make significant strides in 2024, inspiring and empowering students and teachers across the Northern Province of Sri Lanka. With a mission to nurture entrepreneurial thinking and leadership skills, the club conducted numerous impactful workshops, awareness programs, and competitions throughout the year.

The Entrepreneurship Club, introduced by Yarl IT Hub in mid-2023, is an exciting new initiative aimed at nurturing the entrepreneurial spirit among young talents while they are still in school. This program has garnered significant interest and support from various stakeholders. In this year the initiative spread over many schools in the northern province with active participation

The primary goal of the Entrepreneurship Club is to inspire and foster entrepreneurship among students from an early age. Through this initiative, students have the opportunity to develop essential business and management skills by actively participating in entrepreneurial activities. Yarl IT Hub has conducted workshops in various regions, including Jaffna, Vavuniya, and Mannar, Kilinochchi to facilitate the formation of Entrepreneurship Clubs in schools.



Workshops and Training Sessions

- **Jaffna** : Held at Kalam by Yarl IT Hub, the workshop brought together students from 7 schools, including J/Manipay Hindu College, J/Jaffna Hindu College, J/Driberg College, J/Nelliady Central College, J/Uduthurai Maha Vidyalayam, J/St. Patrick's College, and J/Vaddu Hindu College.
- **Vavuniya** : A special workshop was conducted at the Zonal Education Office Vavuniya South, targeting school teachers from 11 schools, such as V/Periyakomarasankulam M.V, V/Poonthoddam M.V, V/Vipulanantha College, V/Vavuniya Church of Ceylon Tamil Mixed School, V/Saivapragasa Ladies' College, V/Muslim M.M.V, V/Rambaikulam Girls' M.V, and others. The session emphasized the importance of integrating entrepreneurial skills into the school curriculum.
- **Mannar** : A series of introduction sessions were conducted in December across multiple schools, including: Mn/Al-Mina Maha Vidyalayam, Mn/Thoddaveli G.T.M School. Mn/Karisal R.C.T.M (Additional awareness programs were held at the Zonal Education Office - Madhu and Mn/Andankulam R.C.T.M School, engaging students and educators to promote entrepreneurial awareness.

School Entrepreneurship Club Competition

The highlight of the year was the School Entrepreneurship Club Competition, which saw participation from 9 schools across the Northern Province. Participating schools included:

- J/Jaffna Central College
- J/St. James Girls' School
- V/Vipulanantha College
- V/Nelukkulam Kalaimagal Maha Vidyalayam
- V/Cheddikulam Maha Vidyalayam
- Mn/Murunkan Central College
- Mn/De La Salle College
- Mn/Thalaimannar Pier G.T.M.S
- Mu/Mullaitivu Maha Vidyalayam

This competition provided a platform for students to showcase their entrepreneurial ideas, fostering creativity, innovation, and problem-solving skills. and the best teams are awarded in the YGC Innovation Festival



The Most Revenue Generating
School Entrepreneurship Club

J/Jaffna Central College



The Most Impactful School
Entrepreneurship Club

Mn/ Thalaimannar Pier Gtms



The Best Business Model
Innovation School
Entrepreneurship Club

V/ Cheddikulam Maha Vidyalayam

HNB Partners with Yarl IT Hub to Foster Entrepreneurship in Northern Province Schools

On September 10, 2024, Hatton National Bank PLC (HNB) has partnered with Yarl IT Hub to promote entrepreneurship among young students in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka. As part of its strategic Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives, HNB will sponsor the seed fund for 40 school-based Entrepreneurship Clubs.

This collaboration aims to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and resources necessary to explore their entrepreneurial potential and nurture innovation. The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signifies a significant step towards empowering the next generation of leaders and innovators.



Impact

In 2024, the School Entrepreneurship Club successfully expanded its reach, engaging students and teachers from various districts, including Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Vavuniya, Mannar, and Mullaitivu. By hosting interactive workshops, introduction sessions, and competitions, the club continued to inspire the next generation of entrepreneurs, equipping them with the skills and mindset needed to address real-world challenges and drive sustainable development in their communities.

Uki by Yarl IT Hub

Uki, our comprehensive scholarship-based accelerator program with a strong focus on coding, continued to make significant strides in 2024.

The program offers a six-month-long intensive, in class training program, equipping students with the necessary skills to join tech companies as interns, junior developers, or to embark on entrepreneurial ventures. This comprehensive training includes hands-on coding experience, project management knowledge, and digital marketing expertise, preparing our students to excel in the ever-evolving tech industry. Our graduates are well-equipped to contribute effectively to tech companies or pursue their entrepreneurial dreams with confidence.



In 2024, Uki Jaffna center covered three batches of students, Cohorts 9, 10, 11 helping them develop essential web development skills using the MERN stack. The curriculum focused on programming, business skills, communication, and personal coaching to ensure well-rounded growth for each student.

Throughout the year, Uki welcomed many guests, industry experts, and volunteers who shared their knowledge and experiences with the students

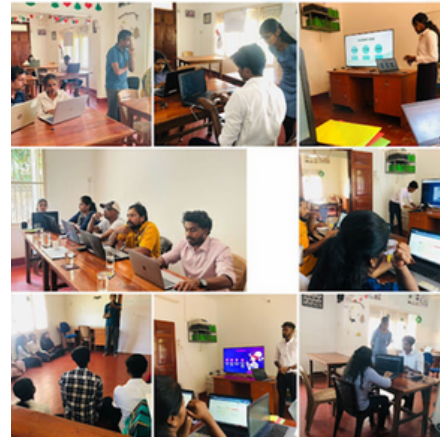
This year, Uki Jaffna center also celebrated many events, faced challenges, and found solutions along the way. With this spirit of growth and positive attitude, Uki is now ready to step into 2025 with even greater determination and excitement

Uki Cohort 9 - Jaffna

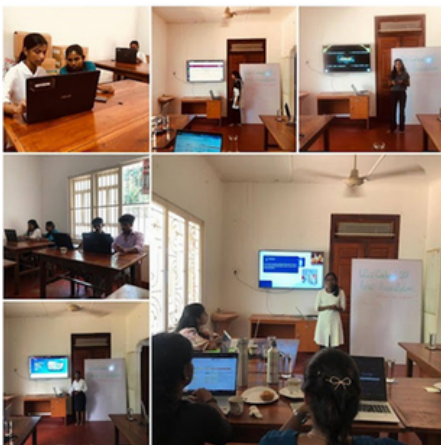
The Uki Cohort 9 batch began on August 7th, 2023, and concluded on March 17th, 2024. By the end of the program, 23 students successfully completed their journey in the Uki Jaffna - Full Stack Web Development.

In 2023, students finished all programming modules. From January to March 2024, they focused on their final projects, applying what they learned. They also worked on ideation, customer validation, business model canvas (BMC), and financial projections in 2023.

The first Viva was on February 16th, 2024, focusing on technical aspects like technology and user experience. Panellists included Sivashankar Sivaganeshamoorthy, Jegatheesan Sriram, Vithushan Logeswaran, Minerva Jeyarajah, Niroobana Sinthurjan, and Karthigesu Dilani. The final presentations on March 16th and 17th, 2024, covered both business and technical topics. Additional panellists Rajanbala, Vasanthan Dasan, and Mathangi joined to evaluate the projects



Uki Cohort 10 - Jaffna



The Uki Cohort 10 batch began on April 29th, 2024, and concluded on November 17th, 2024. By the end of the program, 19 students successfully completed their journey in the Uki Jaffna Full Stack Web Development.

In 2024, Technical wise Uki Cohort 9 started with the basics, catering to students with different levels of programming experience. They were provided with Ubuntu machines and learned touch typing using Klavaro every morning. The course began with programming fundamentals, pseudocode, flowcharts, and group exercises to improve soft skills

Students were introduced to Linux, command-line basics, and Visual Studio Code for web development. They learned HTML5, CSS3, and Bootstrap, following the W3School and Bootstrap documentation.

Git and GitHub were introduced for version control, and students built personal web pages on GitHub. JavaScript and ES6 were covered, with students working on projects in Codecademy and FreeCodeCamp. MongoDB, Mongoose, and Full-Stack development were introduced, allowing students to create applications with Node.js, Express.js, and MongoDB

React was taught as the front-end framework, followed by Data Science basics, Python, and data visualization. Students were encouraged to complete the Guvi Python course for additional practice. Regular exams and assignments helped track progress. The cohort concluded their final presentations on November 17th, 2024.

Uki Cohort 11 - Jaffna

Uki Cohort 11 commenced with the application process in November 2024, receiving 72 applications, of which 50 attended interviews. From this, 26 students were selected, and 24 (13 girls and 11 boys) joined the program. A parents' meeting was held on December 21, followed by an orientation on December 23, which included an introduction to Uki and Yarl IT Hub, course breakdowns, club introductions, and engaging activities like card games and the "Meet and Dog" game. The batch began with the Introduction to Programming module and has made promising progress within two weeks. This cohort is expected to conclude by June 2025



Activities in Uki



Uki Gavel Club

Uki Gavel Club helped students improve their communication, public speaking, and leadership skills with initiatives like Project TEDx, Project Tech Talk, and the Website Intro Series, allowing students to explore new topics, deliver tech talks, and share useful websites for coding, design, and productivity.



Guest Workshops

Uki Gavel Club helped students improve their communication, public speaking, and leadership skills with initiatives like Project TEDx, Project Tech Talk, and the Website Intro Series, allowing students to explore new topics, deliver tech talks, and share useful websites for coding, design, and productivity.



Uki Fitness Club

Focusing on holistic fitness for the body, mind, and spirit. The club organized regular morning yoga, meditation, and team-building activities.



Personal Coaching

Personal Coaching was introduced to help students develop skills in areas such as dealing with cultural diversity, building confidence in presentations, leadership, team building, conflict resolution, and engaging with strangers.

And also Sam Coomaraswamy has been a key contributor to Uki's Business Leadership Session Series for the past two years, conducting weekly Zoom sessions for students in Jaffna, Vavuniya, and Kilinochchi. His mentorship has helped students refine their final project ideas, develop leadership skills, and engage in meaningful discussions. Dedicated to each batch for nearly two months, he continues to make a lasting impact every six months, guiding students with his invaluable expertise.

Uki - Kilinochchi

In 2024, Uki Kilinochchi resumed its Full-Stack Web Development program with Cohort 6, marking a fresh start after a one-year hiatus.

The students have made significant strides through diverse activities, including gardening, Zumba, yoga, meditation, and exercise, fostering teamwork and mental well-being. Storytelling presentations, Business Sessions, public speaking, and personal development workshops boosted their communication skills and confidence, while English lectures enhanced their language proficiency.



Uki - Vavuniya

In 2024, Uki Vavuniya launched its first-ever Full-Stack Web Development program with Cohort 1, marking an exciting milestone for the region.

The program received a remarkable response, with 24 applications comprising 6 female and 18 male candidates. On July 27, 2024, the orientation session welcomed 9 enthusiastic students (3 girls and 6 boys), officially beginning their academic journey. This session included a comprehensive overview of the curriculum, introductions to faculty, and a strong focus on teamwork and collaboration. Students were also briefed on expectations, project milestones, and upcoming events, ensuring clarity and alignment from the outset.



The curriculum for Cohort 1 was meticulously designed to establish a solid foundation in web development. For Cohort 2, the curriculum was enhanced to reflect industry demands and feedback including Tailwind CSS, SDLC, Docker in the curriculum.

Special events and initiatives at Uki Vavuniya played a significant role in enhancing the learning experience for students. The Tech Bite Series, introduced on May 8, 2024, aimed to provide exposure to advanced topics beyond the core curriculum, with the inaugural session focusing on CI/CD workflows to equip students with essential skills for continuous integration and deployment. Additionally, skill-building workshops were conducted to ensure holistic development. On June 17, 2024, a session titled "Working on People Skills" emphasized teamwork, communication, and interpersonal development. Following this, on June 22, 2024, a workshop on UI/UX Design Thinking introduced students to design principles and user-centric approaches, further enriching their technical and creative skill sets.

Uki - Part time/Short Courses

In addition to its full-time programs, Uki expanded its offerings in 2024 to include part-time and short courses, addressing current industry trends and essential skill sets. These flexible learning opportunities allowed participants to upskill and stay competitive in the ever-evolving tech landscape.

The Part-Time Courses provided in-depth learning for professionals and students alike:

- Data Science: A comprehensive course covering data analysis, visualization, and predictive modeling.
- Project Management: Focused on project planning, execution, and Agile methodologies.

The Short Courses offered targeted learning experiences in specific areas of demand:

- Introduction to UI/UX (In-person): Conducted to explore the basics of user interface and user experience design.
- Introduction to AWS (Online): An interactive course introducing cloud computing fundamentals with Amazon Web Services.
- Introduction to Python (Kilinochchi): A foundational course in programming, fostering computational thinking and problem-solving skills.

These initiatives reflect Uki's commitment to fostering accessible, quality education that aligns with industry needs.

Uki Startup Essentials

The Uki Startup Essentials program equips aspiring entrepreneurs with essential skills to build and grow startups. The program combines theory with practical applications to address real-world challenges. In 2024 Uki startup essentials runs 2 cohorts.

The 3rd cohort ran from 23 April to 13 July, offering a comprehensive curriculum that covered key areas such as problem validation, value proposition, financial modelling, business model canvas, pitch deck creation, and customer discovery. Participants gained practical insights and tools to navigate the startup ecosystem effectively.

The 4th cohort - YGC 13 Pitch Competition Bootcamp, an intensive bootcamp from 8 June to 13 July further deepened the learning with sessions related to building a business. These focused workshops enabled participants to refine their skills and prepare for entrepreneurial success.

Graduation was held on 3 August 2024, marking the culmination of the program. This was followed by the YGC 13 Pitch Competition Weekend (2–4 August), where participants showcased their startup ideas, received business mentoring, refined their pitch decks, and presented to a panel of judges.

Finally the applications for the 5th cohort opened in December 2024. The next program begins in January 2025, continuing to empower aspiring entrepreneurs in Northern Sri Lanka. With a similar structure and focus on essential startup skills, the 2025 cohort aims to build on the successes of previous years and drive innovation in the region.

In conclusion, 2024 has been a year of growth, learning, and overcoming challenges for Uki Jaffna's Full Stack Web Development program. Even with challenges like different skill levels, limited job opportunities, and managing large groups of students, Uki kept adapting and finding solutions. Through guest sessions, industry interactions, and hands-on projects, students gained useful knowledge and experience. While some students secured internships, others are still looking for opportunities or continuing their studies abroad. Finally, Uki Jaffna - Full Stack Web Development successfully completed 2024. We continue to learn from students and revamp our teaching practices based on their capabilities and performance. The students have forged a strong bond with each other and Uki, and this is positive and mutually beneficial for both Uki and the students



Yarl Geek Challenge Season 13 – Senior (YGC Pitch Competition)

The Yarl Geek Challenge Senior (YGC Senior) continues to be a prestigious entrepreneurship competition that empowers young innovators by fostering business acumen, technological expertise, creativity, and problem-solving skills. This competition serves as a launchpad for aspiring entrepreneurs, equipping them with the knowledge and experience necessary to transform their ideas into viable ventures.

The 13th edition of YGC Senior was conducted as a physical event under the YGC Innovation Festival 2024. This year, the competition saw an overwhelming response, with over 96 applications submitted by aspiring teams eager to make their mark in the entrepreneurial world.

The journey began with the selected teams undergoing an intensive training program—the UKI Startup Essentials Program—which provided them with essential knowledge on startup fundamentals, business model canvas development, and effective presentation techniques. Through this structured mentorship, teams worked closely with experienced mentors to refine their ideas, strengthen their business strategies, and enhance their pitching skills. A diverse panel of mentors from various industries contributed their expertise, ensuring that participants received valuable guidance throughout the process.

Following the mentorship phase, a rigorous selection process took place, culminating in 24 outstanding teams earning a spot in the highly anticipated finals. The grand finale was held as part of the YGC Innovation Festival 2024, bringing together talented entrepreneurs, industry experts, and a dynamic audience to witness groundbreaking ideas come to life.

The competition was conducted in two distinct categories:

- Tech Category: Focused on teams developing innovative technology-driven solutions.
- Tech-Enabled Category: Recognized teams utilizing technology as a key enabler in their business models.

Additionally, this edition introduced a special award for the Best Agri Solution, emphasizing the importance of agricultural innovation in addressing real-world challenges.

The Yarl Geek Challenge Senior 13th Edition successfully upheld its legacy of nurturing young entrepreneurs, equipping them with the skills and networks required to drive impactful change. As the competition continues to evolve, it remains dedicated to inspiring the next generation of leaders in technology, business, and innovation.



YGC Accelerator

The YGC Accelerator program in 2024 continued to support and nurture early-stage startups, providing them with essential resources and guidance to thrive in the competitive landscape. Here's an overview of the program's activities in 2024

- The accelerator program has a duration of 6 months and is conducted twice a year.
- It is carefully curated to benefit early-stage startups and those aiming to scale their businesses.
- Selected startups receive comprehensive training, mentorship, seed funding, and opportunities for networking.
- The program's primary goal is to empower entrepreneurs by helping them develop effective marketing strategies, acquire startup creation skills, expand their professional networks, and connect with potential investors.

In 2024, two cohorts were conducted. Cohort 7, which started in October 2023, concluded in March with four startups. The subsequent cohort, Cohort 8, began in March 2024 and ended in October 2024. For this cohort, we received 37 applications and, after a rigorous screening process, five companies were selected.

Following this, Cohort 9 began in November 2024 and is currently ongoing. We received 36 applications for this cohort. After an initial screening and interview process, seven startups were chosen to participate in the program. These cohorts represent a diverse group of startups, each with its own unique ideas and goals. The YGC Accelerator program continues to play a vital role in nurturing and fostering entrepreneurship in the region, providing startups with the support they need to succeed.

YGC Accelerator - Cohort 8 Companies

NextGen Innovations Pvt Ltd



Located in the vibrant heart of Sandilipay, Jaffna, our dynamic team specializes in custom software development for mobile and web platforms, leveraging cutting-edge AI and ML technologies to create intelligent solutions.

FEASTO



FEASTO is an affordable digital solution for small and micro-businesses to go online at just \$6.99 monthly. Business owners can manage orders via email or Whatsapp, and customers easily track their orders. With FEASTO's template-based approach, businesses can build their webstore in three minutes, no tech skills required & simply choose a template that suits their businesses.



Possible Green Private Limited

This company was founded in 2016. They started with flavoured tea production and now they are into herbal tea, herbal coffee, spicy tea & coffee, flower teas, fruit teas and veg teas. They focus on both local and export market.



VS Mushroom Enterprise Pvt Ltd

VS Mushroom Enterprises (Pvt) Ltd, a venture that began with a vision to revolutionize the mushroom industry. Our flagship venture, Mr. Think Mushroom Hut, stands as a testament to our dedication to culinary excellence and ready-to-serve practices. Building on this success, we are excited to announce our foray into value-added products with the launch of Mr. Think Myco Chips. These mushroom chips represent our commitment to innovation and providing healthier snack alternatives to our customers.



Shakerz

This company was founded in 2022 and they exclusively focuses on producing variety of milkshakes. They have nearly 100 varieties of milk shake and also have expanded their products waffles and smoothies which goes with shakes.

YGC Accelerator - Cohort 9 Companies



2SF Labs Co-working space

2SF Labs is a dynamic coworking space based in Uduppiddy, Sri Lanka, dedicated to empowering entrepreneurs, freelancers, and startups. We provide a collaborative environment that fosters innovation and creativity, equipped with essential facilities for professionals to thrive. Our mission is to create a supportive community where ideas can flourish, businesses can grow, and connections can be made, making 2SF Labs a vital hub for local and regional business development



Ms. Maniquine

Ms. Maniquine clothing brand offering customized dresses for women and kids. Launched in 2021, we introduced saree shapewear in December 2023, with plans to expand into products like fit shorts and feeding wear. We are now looking to grow our presence in Sri Lanka and internationally. We seek guidance from the accelerator program to help scale our business and navigate this expansion



Cloud Parallax (Pvt) Ltd

Cloud Parallax is a forward-thinking company dedicated to empowering businesses through innovative, secure, and efficient cloud solutions. With expertise in public cloud providers like AWS, Google Cloud Platform (GCP), Azure, and bare-metal technologies, the company enables organizations to optimize their infrastructure, reduce costs, and accelerate growth. Their services span cloud-native application development, frontend and backend development, and database solutions, using advanced tools like Angular, Svelte, PHP (Laravel), and Golang



TrendsED

TrendsEd empowers tech students by offering hands-on learning experiences that help them build portfolios, create products, and stay updated with the latest technologies. Through expert-led webinars, interactive bootcamps, and structured courses, we provide valuable industry insights and practical skills. Our approach bridges the gap between academia and industry, enabling students to gain real-world knowledge and secure internships or job opportunities. With a focus on career growth, TrendsEd helps students develop the skills they need to succeed in the fast-evolving tech landscape



Revolbot PVT Ltd

The Revolbot was established in 2023 for enabling research and development for special requirements by pioneering possibilities and in house mass production. We serve the requests from our clients in terms of feasibility study, preliminary design, prototype ,proof of concept and finally Industrial standards complying products. Currently we are servicing various requests coming from eco-friendly product manufacturing industry, Food industry. Meanwhile we are running multiple internal R&D projects which includes renewable energy harvesting methods and mechatronics projects



Asta Pvt Ltd

Asta is a software development company specializing in UX-driven solutions. Based in Colombo and Jaffna, we focus on website and mobile app development, UI/UX design, AI, and IoT. With a 19-member team, we create user-friendly products tailored to client needs and guide projects from MVP development to scaling. Our commitment to user experience sets us apart, ensuring every solution is intuitive and effective. We are expanding into healthcare, fintech, transport, and education sectors



Greshy likes

Greshy Likes is a startup company that manufactures herbal cosmetics. We produce herbal lip balm, perfumes, herbal body lotion, herbal body wash, herbal Facewash, hair oil , creams & etc with the main focus on perfumes. Further as an existing business we are trading bridal fancy jewelry, party wear dresses & consultancy services

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Mentors

We extend our deepest gratitude to the incredible mentors who dedicated their valuable time, expertise, and guidance to support the Accelerator Cohort 7, 8, and 9 companies. Your unwavering commitment to nurturing the next generation of entrepreneurs has been instrumental in their growth and success. By sharing your knowledge, providing thoughtful feedback, and offering steadfast encouragement, you have played a pivotal role in shaping a stronger entrepreneurial ecosystem. Thank you for being an integral part of this journey and for inspiring future innovators with your passion and generosity.



Vasanthan



Ragu



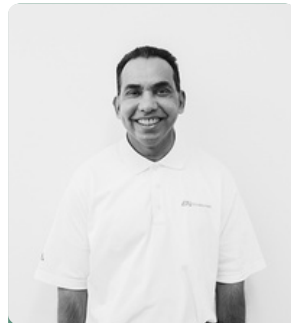
Giri



Miller



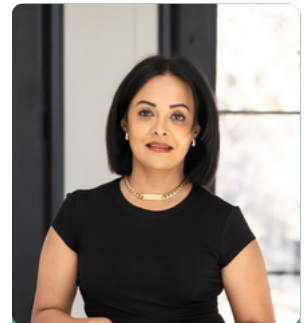
Mohan



Velan



Ravi



Tharshini



Rajan



Sathish



Kula

Digital Content creator Accelerator

In 2024, the DCC Accelerator Program supported by WUSC, continued its mission to support and uplift aspiring digital content creators. It provides intensive and time-limited support to cohorts of digital content creators, helping them scale and monetize their content. The program offers comprehensive education, resources, and mentorship necessary to accelerate growth, enhancing the portfolios of professionals and integrating them into the creator economy. It is specially designed for professionals looking to refine their niche and expand their digital presence

- The accelerator program has a 2-month duration and is conducted twice a year.
- It is carefully designed to benefit early-stage content creators, as well as those aiming to scale and monetize their content.
- Selected participants receive comprehensive training, mentorship, and opportunities for networking with industry experts and peers.
- The program's main objective is to empower digital creators by honing their marketing strategies, improving content production skills, expanding their professional networks, and connecting them with potential sponsors or platforms.



We had a Digital Content Creation Bootcamp on June 1-2, 2024 at Kalam by Yarl IT hub with the intention of introducing participants to the fundamentals of digital content creation, emphasizing storytelling and production techniques. The event served as a precursor to the 8-week accelerator program. For this program 21 participants attended, with 3 subsequently enrolling in the 2nd cohort of the accelerator program.

Following the bootcamp the applications for the second cohort opened in June itself. and got 91 applications, after the interview process 10 candidates (5 males, 5 females) from diverse professions and districts for the 2nd cohort.



WEHub by Yarl IT Hub

WEHub is a new initiative by Yarl IT Hub. In 2024, as part of the GRIT Project in partnership with the World University Service of Canada (WUSC), WEHub launched its first center in Kilinochchi. This initiative dedicated to empowering women entrepreneurs in Sri Lanka's Northern Province. This vibrant space serves as a hub for fostering innovation, leadership, and sustainable business growth, aiming to bridge the gender gap in entrepreneurship. Through tailored programs, mentorship, and resource access, WEHub helps women overcome challenges and unlock their entrepreneurial potential. The initiative provides training in essential skills such as business planning, financial literacy, digital marketing, and technology integration, enabling women to build resilient businesses in competitive markets.

WEHub also emphasizes community building, creating a network of like-minded women entrepreneurs who can share experiences, collaborate, and support one another. By facilitating access to funding opportunities, market connections, and expert guidance, WEHub ensures that its participants have the tools they need to succeed.



Moreover, the initiative plays a crucial role in promoting gender equity by showcasing the success stories of women entrepreneurs, inspiring more women to step into leadership roles. With its holistic approach, WEHub continues to drive economic empowerment, social inclusion, and sustainable development in Northern Sri Lanka, transforming the entrepreneurial landscape for women in the region.

WEHub 2024 Highlights



09.03.2024
WeHub launch

Dr. Vasanthan Dasan led a discussion on overcoming business challenges and accessing international markets.

Mrs. Suganthiny Sivakumar introduced mushroom cultivation techniques.

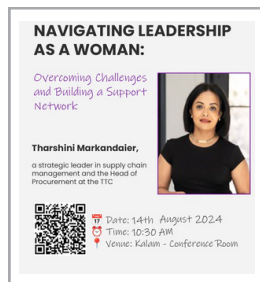
Participants: 25 (20 women)



24.03.2024
Second Session - Mushroom Cultivation Workshop

Hands-on guidance and advanced insights into mushroom cultivation were provided.

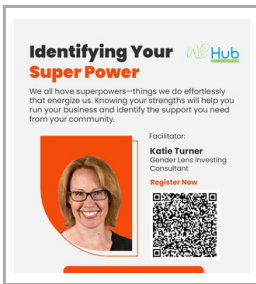
Participants: 13 (10 women)



24.03.2024
Navigating Leadership as a Woman: Overcoming Challenges and Building a Support Network

Strategies for overcoming leadership challenges and building a robust support network.

Participants: 22 women



07.10.2024

"Identifying Your Super Power" Workshop

Participants explored personal strengths to support their business goals and developed supportive networks.

Participants: 24 women



17.10.2024

Women Innovators Ideation Workshop at Kalam by Yarl IT Hub

Women ideated and prototyped solutions for challenges in Agriculture, Education, Medical, Technology, and Entrepreneurship, receiving constructive feedback.

Participants: 25 women



14.12.2024

"Building and Growing a Digital Presence" Workshop

This hands-on session empowered women to leverage digital platforms for business growth.

Participants: 10 women

Several participants have begun collaborating with WEHub for ongoing support and development.

Through these initiatives, WEHub has continued to empower women entrepreneurs in Northern Sri Lanka, fostering innovation, leadership, and sustainable business growth.



Kalam by Yarl IT Hub



Kalam, the collaborative coworking space and maker space located in Jaffna, has played a significant role in the tech and community landscape in 2024.

This year we launched another Coworking space with Internet Connection and dedicated seats, and also as a part of Kalam we introduced the Digital Content Creator Studio also.

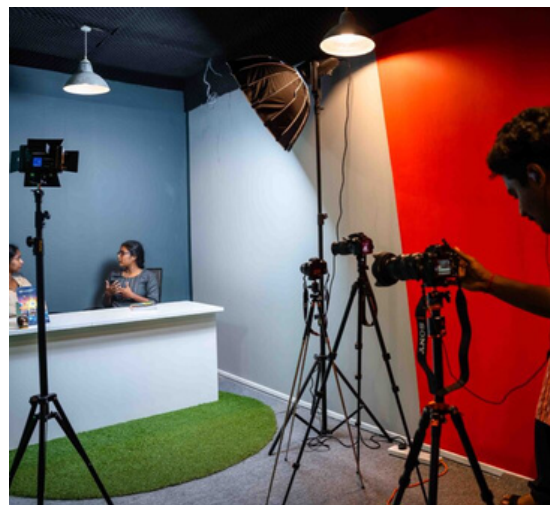
Coworking Space

- Kalam continues to serve as a vibrant co-working space, attracting professionals and individuals looking for a collaborative work environment
- kalam have two coworking space, Common Coworking space, standard coworking space.
- Standard coworking space launched this year with dedicated seatings, internet connection for more established companies who like to have a private space, Common coworking space still used by entrepreneurs to build their business
- The daily occupancy of the co-working space has shown consistent growth, indicating its popularity and promising future



Digital Content Creator Studio

- Launched in 2024, the Digital Content Creator Studio serves as a creative hub for content creators, videographers, and digital enthusiasts, providing a fully equipped production environment. It was established as part of the GRIT Project in partnership with the World University Service of Canada (WUSC).
- The studio boasts a wide range of cutting-edge equipment, including professional cameras, lighting setups, high-quality microphones, green screens, and editing workstations, making it ideal for producing diverse content.
- The daily utilization of the studio has grown steadily, highlighting its importance in nurturing creativity and supporting the ever-expanding digital content landscape.



Maker Events and Workshops for Students

- Kalam has actively hosted maker events and workshops, particularly for school students and kids
- It has become a hub for creativity and innovation, with Wednesday evenings often dedicated to young minds exploring and creating in the maker area.



Hub for Yarl IT Hub Events

- Kalam has become a central venue for various Yarl IT Hub events, including community meetups, workshops, and training sessions
- These events contribute to fostering technological engagement and community growth in the region.



Host Venue for External Organizations

- Kalam has extended its services to external organizations, renting out its space for hosting events during weekends
- These events encompass a wide range of activities, including Awarding Ceremonies, Workshops, Tech Events, Digital Storytelling Events, Community Meetups, and Annual Events

In summary, Kalam's role as a co-working space, maker space, content creation space and event venue has made it a vital hub for technological and community-related activities in Jaffna. Its contribution to fostering innovation, collaboration, and community engagement is evident in its various initiatives and partnerships throughout 2024



Leadership Excellence Program

The Yar! IT Hub Leadership Excellence Program is a prestigious initiative designed to empower individuals with the leadership and business skills needed to drive meaningful, positive change in their communities and industries. Through intensive in-person sessions, the program provides participants with the tools, mentorship, and resources to grow into impactful leaders.

The program is open to individuals from diverse backgrounds, including students, professionals, educators, entrepreneurs, and aspiring leaders committed to making a difference.

- The program runs with a cohort-based model and includes hands-on learning experiences.
- Participants receive comprehensive training, mentorship, and networking opportunities with industry leaders.
- The key focus is on building leadership, strategic thinking, communication, and community engagement skills.

The program aims to:

- Develop participants' leadership abilities to motivate teams and foster future leaders.
- Equip participants to lead impactful initiatives that drive community transformation.
- Inspire a lifelong commitment to learning and collective growth.

The 1st Cohort Impact

The inaugural cohort of the Yar! IT Hub Leadership Excellence Program consisted of 26 participants who actively engaged and successfully completed the program. The sessions were conducted over two weekends, providing an intensive and immersive experience focused on leadership development and community engagement.

Participants explored key modules such as Personal and Professional Growth, Communication and Influence, and Strategic Leadership and Decision-Making. The cohort demonstrated exceptional commitment, actively participating in workshops, interactive discussions, and practical exercises aimed at fostering leadership skills and strategic thinking.

This pioneering group has already started implementing the knowledge and skills gained, driving impactful initiatives in their communities and industries.



Intern-Preneurship Program

The Intern-Preneurship Program by Yarl IT Hub is all about transforming raw talent and bold ideas into tangible, real-world impact. Launched in 2024, this new initiative provides a platform for young innovators to bring their creativity and drive, while we supply the resources, mentorship, and support needed to make progress. Whether it's developing cutting-edge solutions or tackling new challenges, the program empowers participants to turn their potential into extraordinary achievements.

This project is proudly funded and supported by the Vaithegi Vasanthakumar Family, whose invaluable contribution has made it possible to create opportunities for aspiring innovators. Together, we are shaping the future by nurturing the next generation of leaders and changemakers.

Highlights of 2024

This year, the Intern-Preneurship Program has taken a leap forward by spearheading the development of three real-world Large Language Model (LLM) applications. These applications address real-world problems with innovative solutions, showcasing the power of AI and the vision of our interns.

Looking Ahead

The program aims to evolve these applications into fully-fledged startups in the near future. With a focus on fostering entrepreneurial spirit and leveraging advanced technology, the Intern-Preneurship Program not only equips participants with invaluable skills but also contributes to building a thriving ecosystem of innovation and startups.

Thulir



SOCIAL
INNOVATION CENTRE

Thulir serves as the social innovation center within Yarl IT Hub, and its inception dates back to 2018. This initiative aligns with Yarl IT Hub's strategic objective of act as a catalyst for 2,500 Startups and SMBs by the year 2030. The Thulir team comprises dedicated full-time researchers who are tasked with generating reports, devising business models, and developing technological solutions.

These outputs are intended for community adoption, allowing them to harness the provided resources to generate economic prospects and employment opportunities at the grassroots level.

YGC Innovation Festival

Aug 1, 2, 3, 4

The YGC Innovation Festival, held from August 1st to 4th, was a huge success, drawing in a record-breaking crowd of over 25,000 visitors. This annual event has become a beacon of inspiration, showcasing the best and brightest ideas.

The festival began with a bang as 114 teams of young innovators from 13 educational zones in the Northern Province competed in the YGC Juniors Finals. These talented students, representing 13 different educational zones, showcased their groundbreaking inventions in four different categories. The energy and enthusiasm were palpable as these young minds presented their ideas to a panel of judges.

The excitement continued on August 2nd with the YGCIF Student Expo, where many of the YGC Juniors finalists, along with other students, had the chance to display their projects to the public. Alongside this, a mini-expo throughout the YGC Innovation Festival featured over 30 alumni companies of YIT, adding another layer of innovation and entrepreneurship to the festival. This mini-expo opened a gateway for the audience to meet the founders and co-founders directly to discuss business propositions or future collaborations.

The festival wasn't just about student projects. Visitors of all ages enjoyed a fascinating architectural tour of the Jaffna Cultural Center, led by the architect himself. The "Manovannam" music show, with its unique blend of innovation and tradition, captivated audiences. The hands-on learning sessions brought a unique blend of tradition and technology, offering participants the chance to immerse themselves in the art of cooking, pottery, and handloom weaving. Simultaneously, the Maker Space provided students with an exciting introduction to cutting-edge tools like 3D printers and Arduino, alongside interactive experiments that made learning scientific formulas both fun and accessible.

The festival also featured several exciting competitions. Codestrom 2.0, a 5-hour coding hackathon, challenged over 40 teams to showcase their coding skills. The "Follow Your Path" robotics competition for school students ignited a passion



for robotics and engineering. Aspiring entrepreneurs had the opportunity to pitch their tech and tech-enabled business ideas in the YGC Pitching competition.

Universities and educational institutes also made a significant impact at the festival, presenting their innovative projects and research, emphasizing academia's crucial role in fostering innovation and progress. Adding to the cultural richness of the event, the art and sculpture exhibition by the Department of Painting and the Department of Sculpture from the Sir Ponambalam Ramanathan Faculty of Performing and Visual Arts, University of Jaffna, provided a visual feast for all attendees, captivating audiences of all ages with its breathtaking displays.



The resounding success of the YGC Innovation Festival 2024 was a result of the combined efforts of many. The generous sponsors and partners, including our Pioneer Partner ITEE Foundation, Platinum Partners Synamon Global, Lebara Foundation, WUSC Sri Lanka, Gold Partner Aravanai, Platinum Sponsor 3Zero House Sri Lanka powered by Acted, Northern Uni, Ecosystem Partner Dialog Innovation Foundry, Gold Sponsor comdu.it, John Keells IT, Silver Sponsor 99x, Creative Software, WSO2, hSenid Mobile, Senzmate, EAI Technologies, Anjuvannam, TIQRI, Accounting Partner V-Ignite, Green Tech Partner Ecosteem, Strategic Partner Lankan Angel Network, the Northern Provincial Education Department, who helped immensely with all the coordination with schools and the success of YGC Juniors, principals, teachers, parents, and the countless volunteers who worked tirelessly to make the event possible, all deserve recognition. Their passion and commitment created an unforgettable experience for everyone who attended.



This year's record-breaking attendance is a clear indication of the Yarl IT Hub and YGC Innovation Festival's growing influence and its ability to spark a love for innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship in people of all ages and backgrounds. The YGC Innovation Festival 2024 has undoubtedly left a lasting impact, inspiring the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs to dream big and make their mark on the world.



Events, Workshops and Meetups of 2024

Throughout 2024, Yarl IT Hub conducted a robust array of events, including numerous workshops, training sessions, knowledge transfers, and open days. One of the notable initiatives included a series of Train-the-Trainer workshops focused on empowering school teachers with critical skills in technology, IoT, and robotics.

These sessions took place on the 25th of September in Mannar, the 4th of October in Kilinochchi North, the 9th of October in Madhu, and the 25th of October in Valikamam. The workshops were crafted to provide hands-on experience and practical activities in integrating technology into classroom settings. Teachers engaged enthusiastically in these activities, which centered on Arduino and robotics, exploring innovative methods to enhance student engagement and learning. These efforts are part of a broader commitment to laying a foundation for technology-driven education in schools across the region.

This workshop/events series represents just one of the many impactful events we conducted in 2024.

January



05.01.2024
Realising Your Potential in the Early Stages, Including Entrepreneurship, and Achieving Success



07.01.2024
Arduino Boot Camp in Jaffna!



14.01.2024
Kids Holiday camp

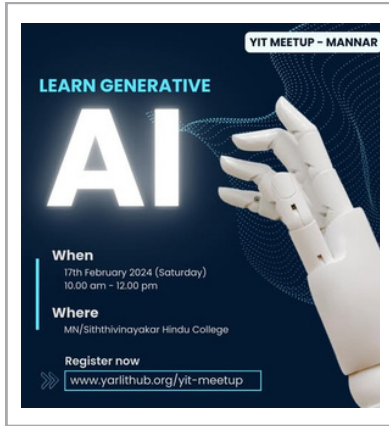


19.01.2024
FiTEN Yarl 2024



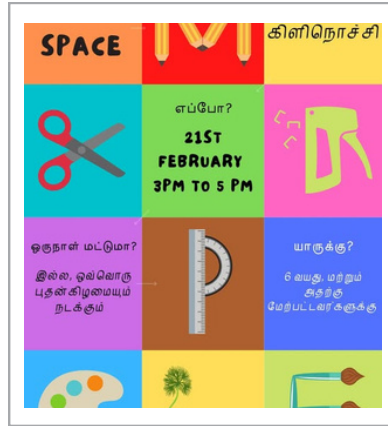
28.01.2024
Arduino Boot Camp in Kilinochchi!

February



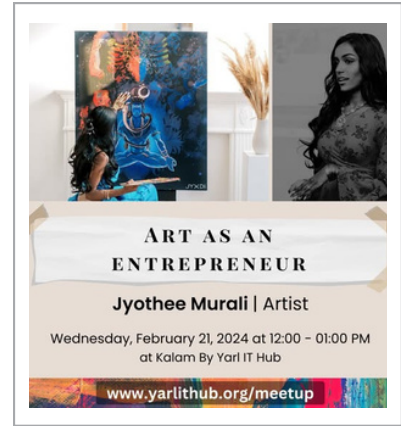
17.02.2024

Learn Basics of AI



21.02.2024

Makerspace Start : Kilinochchi



21.02.2024

Turn Your Art into Gold!



24.02.2024

YIT Open day - 01



28.02.2024

Entrepreneurs club introduction :
Vavuniya

March



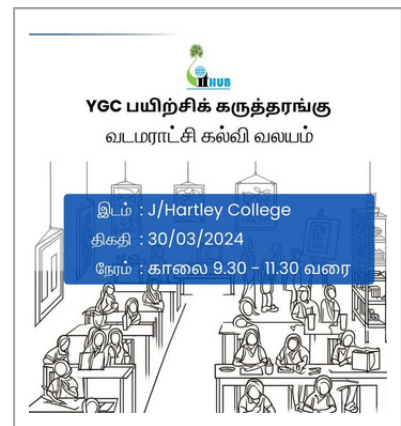
09.03.2024

WeHub launch



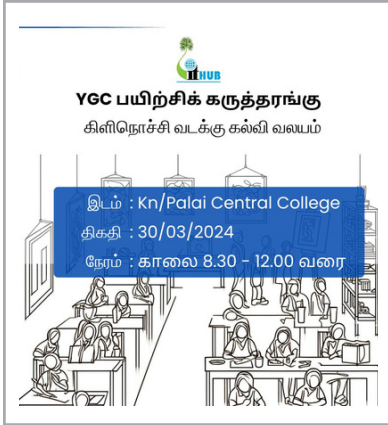
16.03.2024

YIT Open day - 02



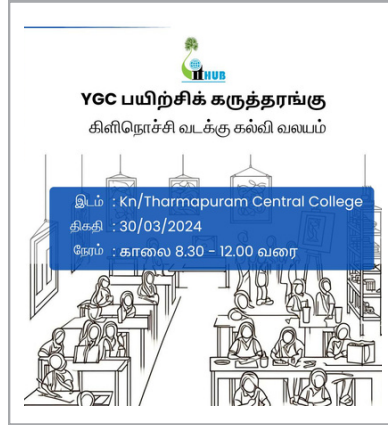
30.03.2024

YGC Junior Workshop : Vadamaradchi



09.03.2024

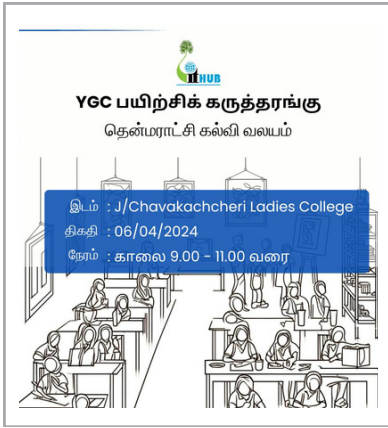
YGC Junior Workshop : Kilinochchi North



16.03.2024

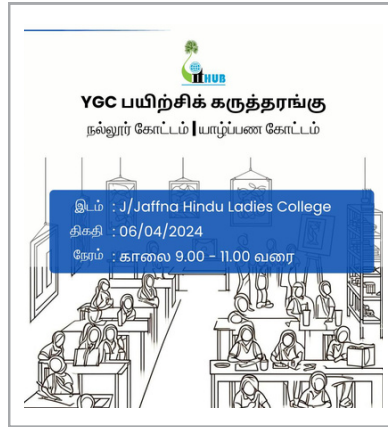
YGC Junior Workshop : Kilinochchi North

April



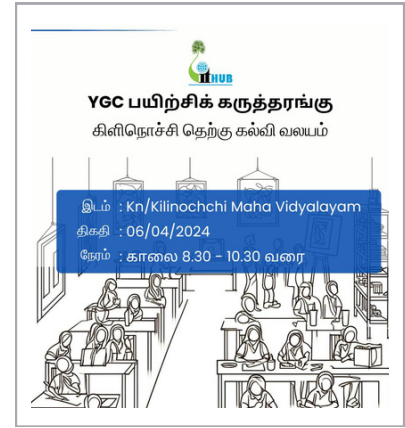
06.04.2024

YGC Junior Workshop : Thenmaradchi



06.04.2024

YGC Junior Workshop : Jaffna



06.04.2024

YGC Junior Workshop : Kilinochchi south



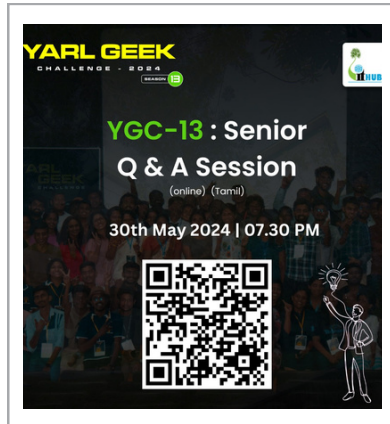
20.04.2024

Open Day - 03

May



12.05.2024
Architecture Bootcamp

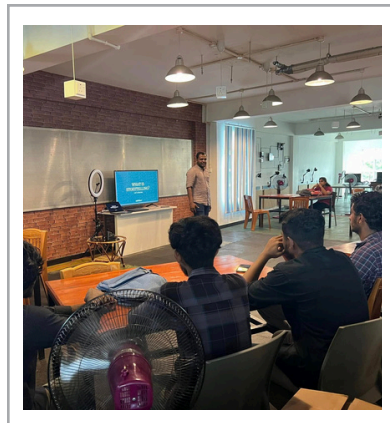


30.05.2024
YGC Senior Q and A Session

June



01.06.2024
Women ideation Workshop



01.06.2024
Digital Content Creation Bootcamp



08.06.2024
Introduction to drone technology



15.06.2024
YGC Junior Workshop: Kilinochi north



15.06.2024
YGC Junior Workshop: Thenmaradchi



16.06.2024
YGC Junior Workshop: Vadamaradchi



YIT Open Day
22th June 2024, Saturday →
10:00 am - 11.45 am
at Kalam by Yarl IT Hub

**உடனடி வியாபாரமாக மாற்றக்கூடிய
பணை உற்பத்தி பொருட்களின்
அறிமுகம்**

பணை அபிவிருத்தி சபை (PDS) மற்றும் பணை ஆராய்ச்சி
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Register now
www.yarlithub.org/openday

4th floor, 218, Stanley road, Jaffna, Sri Lanka | +94 76 767 3158 | event@yarlithub.org

22.06.2024

Open Day - 04



YARL GEEK | www.yarlithub.org/ygc-junior

**YGC Junior பயிற்சிப்பட்டறை
முல்லைத்தீவு வலயம்**

இடம் : மு/புதுக்குடியிருப்பு மத்திய கல்லூரி
திகதி : 30/06/2024 - ஞாயிற்றுக்கிழமை
நேரம் : காலை 9.30 - மாலை 1.00 வரை



30.06.2024

YGC Junior Workshop: Mullaitheevu



YARL GEEK | www.yarlithub.org/ygc-junior

**YGC Junior பயிற்சிப்பட்டறை
மன்னார் வலயம்**

இடம் : St Xavier boy's college
திகதி : 29/06/2024 - சனிக்கிழமை
நேரம் : காலை 9.30 - மாலை 1.30 வரை



30.06.2024

YGC Junior Workshop: Mannar



YARL GEEK | www.yarlithub.org/ygc-junior

**YGC Junior பயிற்சிப்பட்டறை
மடு வலயம்**

இடம் : Mn/ Karunkandal School
திகதி : 29/06/2024 - சனிக்கிழமை
நேரம் : காலை 9.30 - மாலை 1.00 வரை



30.06.2024

YGC Junior Workshop: Madu

July



03.07.2024

YGC Junior Workshop : Mannar



12.07.2024

YGC Junior Workshop : Vavuniya



**MEET UP WITH
RAJESH NAMBIAR**

CHAIRMAN OF NASSCOM

Friday, 19th July
4 PM - 6 PM
Kalam by Yarl IT Hub



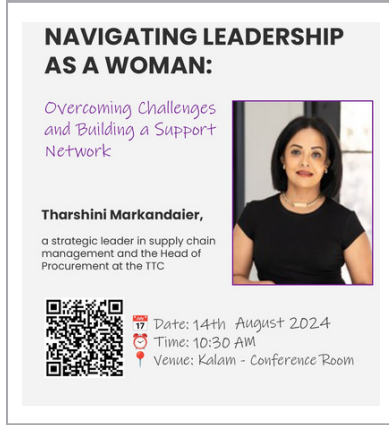
19.07.2024

Meet up with Rajesh Nambiar

August



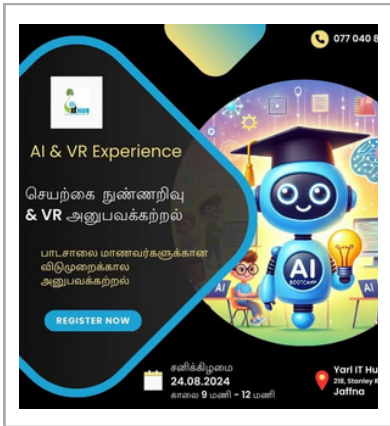
01.08.2024, 02.08.2024, 03.08.2024, 04.08.2024
YGC Innovation Festival



14.08.2024
Navigating Leadership as a Women



18.08.2024
Open Day - 05

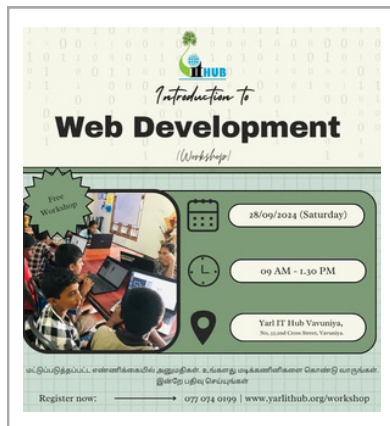


24.08.2024
AR & VR Experience Learning

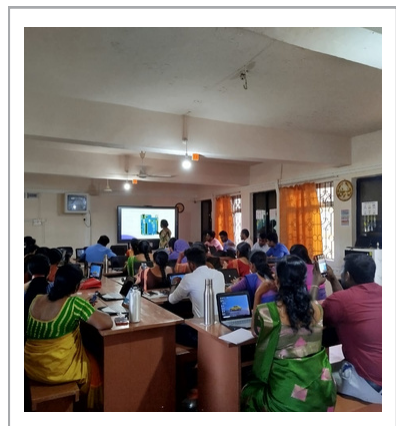
September



15.09.2024
Scratch programming : Vavuniya



28.09.2024
Web Development workshop : vavuniya



29.09.2024
Robotic/Arduino workshop for teachers in Mannar

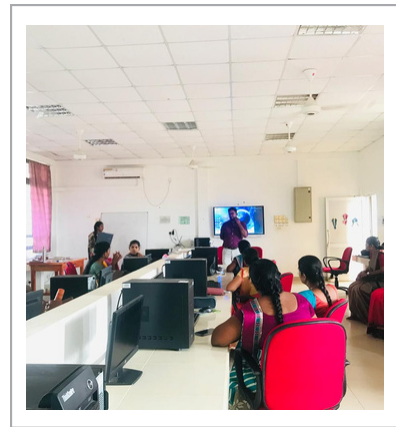
October



06.10.2024
Web Development workshop : Jaffna



12.10.2024
VR & AR Experience Learning : vavuniya



12.10.2024
Robotic/Arduino workshop for teachers in Kilinochchi



16.10.2024
Generative AI workshop in kilinochchi



17.10.2024
Women Innovators Ideation Workshop



17.10.2024
Robotic/Arduino workshop for teachers in Madu



26.10.2024
Digital Safety : Jaffna



26.10.2024
Introduction to web development : Mannar



26.10.2024
Scratch programming for kids

November



01.11.2024
Robotic/Arduino workshop for teachers in Valigamam



03.11.2024
Gen AI for Everyone



06.11.2024
Launch of Digital Content Creator Studio



23.11.2024, 07.11.2024
Uki UI/UX Short Course



23.11.2024
Volunteer Meetup in Vavuniya



30.11.2024, 01.12.2024, 07.12.2024, 08.12.2024
Leadership Excellence Program

December



07.12.2024
Shaping Tomorrow Through STEAM



14.12.2024
Web Development workshop : vavuniya

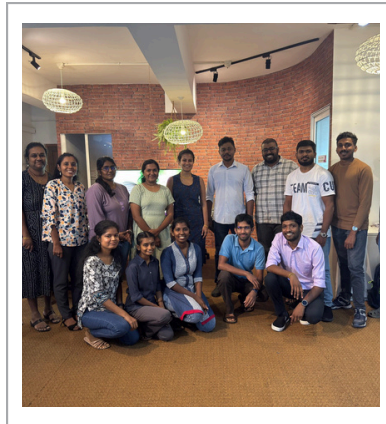


14.12.2024
WEHub Digital presents workshop



14.12.2024

Unlock the Future with Big Data, AI, & Cloud Computing



29.12.2024

Innovation Through Research!

YIT Overall Impacts on Community

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Startups | 125 + |
| UKI Graduates | 600 + |
| Students engaged | 75,000 + |
| Workshops & Meetups | 289 + |
| Market access events | 240 + |
| Jobs Created | 1,200 + |

Our partners

WUSC Joined as a Partner in 2024

WUSC has joined hands with Yarl IT Hub as a partner through the Growth, Resilience, Investment and Training (GRIT) Project, funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC) and implemented in collaboration with the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) in 2024. This six-year collaborative initiative is dedicated to fostering a gender-responsive entrepreneurial ecosystem in Sri Lanka's Northern Province. With a special emphasis on young women, GRIT aims to create sustainable pathways for socioeconomic empowerment and inclusive growth by supporting women entrepreneurs in achieving their business aspirations and contributing significantly to the local economy.

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Partners

As we embark on another impactful year, we want to extend our deepest gratitude to our incredible partners for their unwavering support of all our initiatives in 2024. Your collaboration, trust, and generosity have been the driving force behind our success, empowering us to create meaningful change in communities and industries.

A special thank you to our Pioneer Partner: ITEE Foundation, our Platinum Partners: Synamon Global, World University Service of Canada (WUSC), Lebara foundation and our Gold Partner: Aravanai for their invaluable contributions. Your support has been instrumental in driving innovation, fostering leadership, and enabling growth.

Together, we are shaping a brighter future. Thank you for being an essential part of our journey and for believing in the power of positive impact. Here's to making 2024 a year of remarkable achievements—together!

Pioneer Partner



Platinum Partners



Gold Partner



Thank you 2024

As we reflect on the remarkable journey of Yarl IT Hub in 2024, it is with profound gratitude that we acknowledge the collective strength and commitment of our partners, volunteers, organizations, and the Education Department of the Northern Province. Your unwavering support and dedication have been the cornerstone of our success, enabling us to transform challenges into milestones.

To each of our partners, your collaboration has been instrumental in our endeavors. Your belief in our vision and your active engagement have significantly amplified our impact. Your expertise, resources, and innovative approaches have enriched our initiatives, making them more robust and far-reaching.

Our volunteers, you are the heartbeat of Yarl IT Hub. Your enthusiasm, skills, and dedication have not only driven our projects forward but have also instilled a spirit of community and resilience. Your selfless contributions have been essential in bringing our ideas to life and in fostering a nurturing environment for learning and growth.

A special note of gratitude to the various organizations that have stood by us. Your support has been multifaceted – from financial assistance to providing platforms for dialogue and development. You have been pivotal in our quest to create sustainable and impactful solutions for the communities we serve.

As we celebrate the successes of 2024, it's evident that these achievements were not a solo endeavor but a symphony of concerted efforts. Your trust, partnership, and active participation have been the driving forces behind reaching our remarkable milestones. Without you, our journey would not have been this impactful or far-reaching.

As we look forward to the horizon of 2030, we invite you to continue this journey with us. Your enduring support, innovative ideas, and passionate involvement will be pivotal as we strive to achieve our ambitious goals and bring our vision to fruition. Together, let's shape a future that resonates with the values of empowerment, innovation, and community.


Thank you for being part of our story. Let's continue to dream, innovate, and inspire as we march towards a brighter and more inclusive future.





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Join with us

www.yarlithub.org/joinus