

ENTREPRENEURIAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

CLASS OF 2020

WINTER INTAKE



AUSTRIAN**STARTUPS**
INSPIRE. CONNECT. CHANGE.

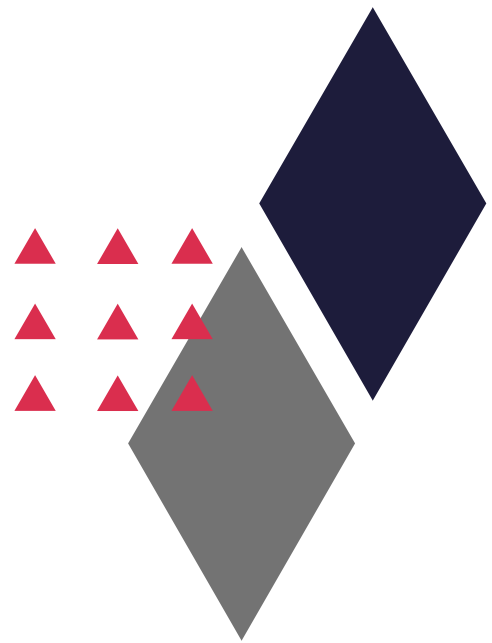


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**ENTREPRENEURSHIP
WILL BE AS COMMON
AS SKIING IN AUSTRIA**

”



About the ELP

We unlock innovative entrepreneurship in Austria

As AustrianStartups we strongly believe that with the right mindset, knowledge and role models, everybody can become an entrepreneur. The Entrepreneurial Leadership Program is a two-semester program for motivated individuals, that has been designed with this thought in mind. Over the course of one year, 20 high potential fellows went through 16+ workshops, 8+ Thinker's Lab sessions & an individual mentoring program, while building up their network in the startup community. It is not yet another accelerator or incubator, but a program aimed at equipping ambitious and entrepreneurial minds with the necessary skills, knowledge and network to become founders or work in the Austrian startup ecosystem. Our program is based on three pillars: Mindset, Skills & Experience

Entrepreneurial Mindset

Thinker's Lab

During the one year program, fellows take part in at least 8 Thinker's Lab sessions where they engage in discussions on controversial topics entrepreneurs are regularly confronted with. In the past we covered topics such as 'Are Founders allowed to lie?', 'Building a remote company vs. Office Life' or 'VC Money vs. Bootstrapping'.

Network

In the second semester of the program, every fellow gets a mentor from the Austrian startup scene. We carefully select and match mentors and mentees, according to ambitions and interests of both parties. Through the mentorship program as well as community events, fellows get introduced to the Viennese startup ecosystem and are enabled to start building their own network. Consequently, they connect with many people that foster entrepreneurial thinking in their daily lives.

Skills

Startup Skills

The fellows participate in 8+ hands-on workshops where they are able to learn relevant startup skills ranging from growth hacking, business model development to funding.

Personal Development

With 8+ workshops on personal development, we want to enable our fellows to grow also on a personal level and address important topics such as building a team, managing diversity or personal reflection. Also within the mentor program, the fellows are encouraged to set themselves personal goals that they can work on with their mentors.

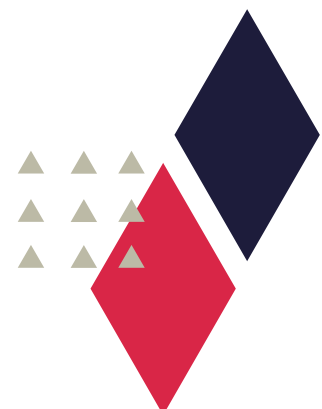
Experience

Project Work

During their first semester the fellows work in small teams on entrepreneurial projects for the Austrian startup ecosystem. In the past fellows have started a youtube series about how to Startu Up in Austria, organised a hackathon or developed a startup database concept.

Community Support

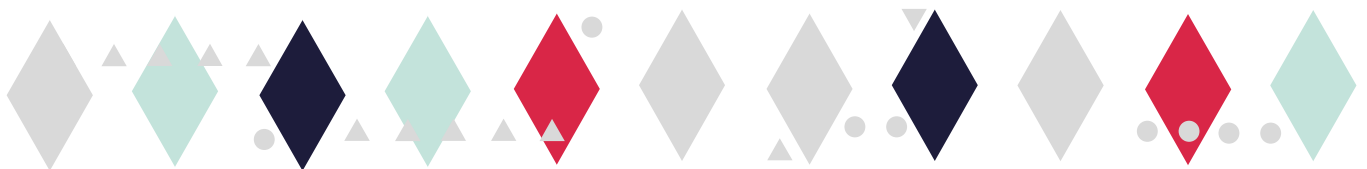
The program brings together bright minds from many disciplines. We facilitate various social events such as a kickoff-weekend, hikes or Christmas parties, allowing our fellows to connect. We build an inclusive community that enables everyone to get feedback and support for their own ideas and projects. During their second semester, the fellows can choose to work on a startup idea and participate in regular peer group check-ins. This allows them to learn from each other's experiences and holds them accountable to their own goals. Every semester there is also a hackathon weekend where fellows can bring their own projects to the next level.



The people at AustrianStartups
believe that

entrepreneurial thinking and acting are key for positive change

We are currently facing the
biggest crisis since 70 years.
Our society depends on people
with a proactive & forward-
thinking mindset to master the
challenges ahead





the people behind

The AustrianStartups leadership team is in charge of organising the workshops, facilitating discussion evenings, supervising projects and making sure all fellows can take the most out of the ELP experience.



MARKUS RAUNIG
Chairman of the Board



HANNAH WUNDSAM
Managing Director



JOHANNA EINSIEDLER
**Head of Research &
Operations**



JOSINE BAKKES
Head of Social Impact



EVA KEIFFENHEIM
Head of Education



TASO PANTELIADIS
Communications Lead



JONA MISCHITZEK
Creative Lead



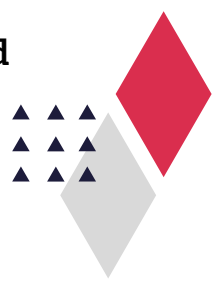
MARLENE LECHNER
**Education Program
Manager**



LISA UNTERLERCHER
Partnerships Lead



IPEK HIZAR
Community Lead





our projects

The project work provides fellows with the opportunity to dive into the ecosystem, build their network and find future co-founders.

One of the main pillars of the ELP is active community engagement. Every fellow gets the opportunity to collect first-hand experience in the entrepreneurship ecosystem through working on projects within the community. The topics for these projects have a broad range. From "[How to Start Up from Austria](#)", a Youtube series of inspiring stories of Austrian Entrepreneurs, to the [Austrian Startups Awesomeness Award](#), a celebration of the most impactful founders & entrepreneurs in 2020.



Finding future co-founders

An important element of the project work is that the fellows get to know each other. The ELP cohort is highly diverse, with participants from backgrounds such as tech, business, psychology, chemistry and many more. By working on projects together, the fellows get the chance to find motivated people with whom they can work with in the future. Be it for their own startup or any other project that they want to put their passion into.

Building up a network



Through projects like the organisation of the Growth Stage Breakfast, where founders of growth stage startups are brought together to exchange experiences, fellows get in contact with successful entrepreneurs in the AustrianStartups network.

This is a unique opportunity to build up a network of future mentors, investors and cooperation partners in Austria.



Applying learnings

Another reason why the projects are integral to the program, is that the learnings gained through theoretical input can be applied by the teams right away. For example the Entrepreneurship Education team applied their learnings from the no-code workshop that they attended as part of the program by conducting a prototyping session with a class of pupils.

Some of the projects also helped the ELP community to develop itself further. Be it through the ELP Hackathon, where fellows could work together on their own startup ideas for a weekend and get lots of insights and guidance from mentors, or the Starting Up Day, where they organised a co-founder matchmaking and invited experts that provided information regarding the incorporation of business ideas in Austria. Throughout the year the fellows hence shaped the program and themselves.

By working on these projects the fellows developed their own leadership skills, discovered new strengths and passions and grew closer together as a community.

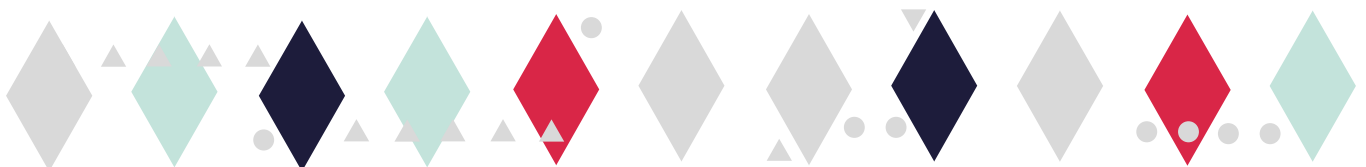
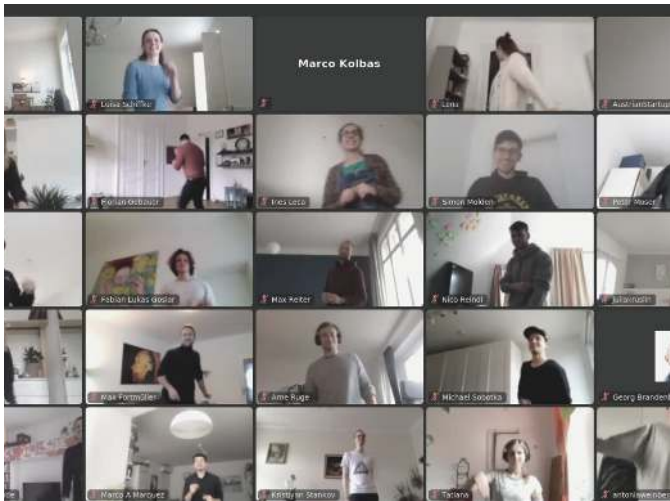


impressions

Top: Hackathon June 2021

Middle (L-R): Online Kickoff, Scavenger Hunt Kick-Off Weekend

Bottom (L-R): Outdoor Fun Day Team Event, First Online Buddy Group Get Together





The Betas

winter 2020 intake

The second intake of the AustrianStartups Entrepreneurial Leadership joined us in October 2020.

Given that Austria went into lockdown in November 2020, the betas definitely did not have the easiest start. While they got to meet once in person at our kickoff weekend on an outdoor scavenger hunt through Vienna, most of their interactions were constrained to happen online. But -staying true to the entrepreneurial spirit - they viewed the situation as an opportunity and not a problem. We were delighted to see that despite the odds, the fellows grew into a closely knit community that supported each other whenever needed.

This is the point where we want to say thank you to everyone of our betas for staying motivated and engaged throughout the semester despite the difficult circumstances. It truly has been a pleasure to have you! We wish you all the best for what's still ahead for you!

Who are the Betas?

Every semester the aim is to take in a diverse group of people, motivated to shape the Austrian startup ecosystem of the future. The majority of the fellows in our first intake plan on starting their own startup in the future, while another 17% want to work at a corporate as an intrapreneur.



67% plan to start their own startup

We believe that we need more diversity in Austria's startup ecosystem and want to empower everyone who is genuinely willing to have a real impact.



Our fellows come from 8 different countries

This is also why we run this program completely in English and are proud to have fellows from 8 different nationalities in the cohort. 44% of the fellows in this intake were female and our fellows came from numerous different backgrounds such as chemistry, business, medicine, neuroscience, informatics, art history and food science.



44% of our fellows identify as female

Semester 1

OCTOBER 2020 - JANUARY 2021

OCTOBER



THINKER'S LAB DISCUSSION
STARTING UP: AUSTRIA VS. U.S.



MINDSET & OPPORTUNITIES
WITH MARKUS RAUNIG
FROM AUSTRIANSTARTUPS



FOUNDER WELLBEING
WITH MICHAEL LUKESCH
FROM VALANX BIOTECH

CUSTOMER DISCOVERY & VALIDATION
WITH BENEDIKT GLATZL
FROM FOUNDERS INSTITUTE



NOVEMBER

PROTOTYPING & MVP DESIGN
WITH MICHAEL IONITA FROM
FOUNDERS IN EUROPE



EMOTION & CONFLICT MANAGEMENT
INNOVATE OR DIE - BUSINESS
ETHICS OF INNOVATION



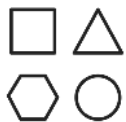
MANAGING DIVERSITY

WITH MAGGIE CHILDS
FROM HOME TOWN MEDIA

DECEMBER



SALES & PARTNERSHIPS
WITH CAN ERTUGRUL, FROM
TRIPLESTORY



THINKER'S LAB DISCUSSION
STARTING UP 100% REMOTE?



THINKER'S LAB DISCUSSION
VC MONEY VS. BOOTSTRAPPING



2021

REFLECTION & GOAL SETTING

WITH EVA KEIFFENHEIM, HEAD
OF EDUCATION FROM
AUSTRIANSTARTUPS & WRITER

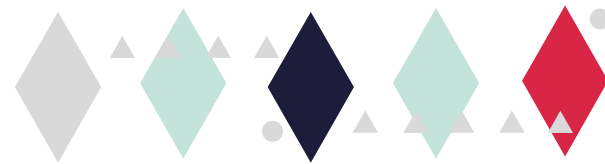


HOW TO BUILD A GOOD TEAM
WITH PAUL STANZENBERGER
FROM TEAMAZING



Semester 2

MARCH 2021 - JUNE 2021



2021

MARCH



STAYING PRODUCTIVE
WITH THE AUSTRIANSTARTUPS
TEAM



GROWTH HACKING
WITH ADRIAN ZETTL
FROM THE VENTURY



THINKER'S LAB
DISCUSSION
FREE SPEECH VS. HATE SPEECH

BRANDING & DESIGN
WITH DESIREE HEUSL FROM
MARQANT STUDIO



THINKER'S LAB
DISCUSSION
BITCOIN, NFT'S &
EVERYTHING CRYPTO



APRIL

STARTUP FUNDING IN
AUSTRIA
WITH LISA FASSL FROM FEMALE
FOUNDERS



PITCHING
WITH PITCH PROFESSOR
DANIEL CRONIN

MAY

BUILDING A KICKASS
TEAM
WITH MARKUS RAUNIG FROM
AUSTRIANSTARTUPS



THINKER'S LAB
DISCUSSION
WHERE IS AI HEADING?

LEGAL, TAXES & ADMIN
WITH SOPHIE BOLZER FROM
AUDVICE



GETTING THE BEST
OUT OF YOUR TEAM
WITH MARKUS RAUNIG
FROM
AUSTRIANSTARTUPS

JUNE

MAKING THE RIGHT
DECISIONS
WITH JOHANNA EINSIEDLER
FROM AUSTRIANSTARTUPS

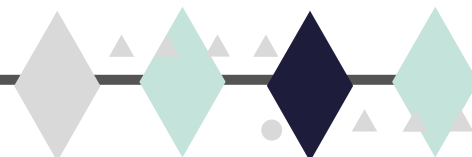


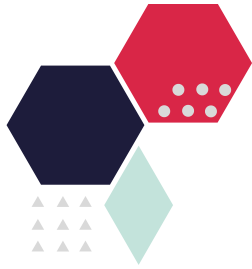
THINKER'S LAB
DISCUSSION
WHAT YOU CAN(T) SAY



NURTURE YOUR
HEALTH & ENERGY
WITH HABIT COACH EVA
GRUBER

SALES & PARTNERSHIPS
WITH GARETH LEWIS
FROM HAPPONE





our workshop hosts

Those are the people who were willing to share their experiences and their knowledge with us and our fellows within the past year. A big thank you to all of them!



MICHAEL IONITA-GANEA
Co-Founder,
Founders in Europe



MICHAEL LUKESCH
Founder & CEO,
VALANX Biotech



LISA-MARIE FASSL
Startup Beauftragte,
Co-Founder Female
Founders



ADRIAN ZETTL-SINGH
Partner at The
Ventury



FELIX HÄUSLER
Founder & CEO,
Grape



DESIREE HEUSL
Graphic Designer,
Illustrator & Product
Designer



DANIEL CRONIN
Entrepreneur,
Lecturer, Moderator,
Public Speaker



SOPHIE BOLZER
Founder & CEO,
Audvice



GARETH LEWIS
Business Design
Therapy, happone



PAUL STANZENBERGER
Founder &
Managing Director
teamazing



BENEDIKT GLATZL
Co-Director Founder
Institute Austria



CAN ERTUGRUL
Founder, Triplestory



EVA GRUBER
Habit Coach

... AND THE AUSTRIANSTARTUPS TEAM



your best ELP moment

At one of the last events of this year we asked our fellows about their best moment during the Entrepreneurial Leadership Program - read what they have to say about their experience.

Every moment (and there are many of them) in which I get the opportunity to meet and talk to inspiring people with similar interests.

INTERACTING WITH OTHER MOTIVATED PEOPLE WHO WANT TO CHANGE THE AUSTRIAN ECONOMY FOR THE BETTER.

I really enjoy the interactive atmosphere of the lectures

My favourite ELP moment was dancing over Zoom during an energizing session.

Learning all the tools I need that I can start to create impact in Austria

Winning a group of friends I would never have met otherwise

CONSTANTLY BEING INSPIRED BY COURAGEOUS PEOPLE AND STARTING OFF MY OWN VENTURE WITH A LOT OF ELP SUPPORT

My favourite ELP moment was when we tackled seemingly impossible challenges and solved them at the end.

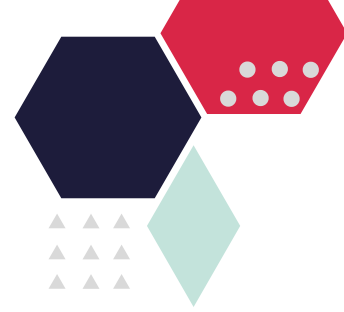
SEEING ALL THE PARTICPANTS IN PERSON THE FIRST TIME OF THE FIRST LIVE EVENT

HAVING GREAT CONVERSATIONS WITH WONDERFUL LIKE MINDED PEOPLE

Finding more & more inspiration to actually found my own startup every week!

Exchanging with motivated people about innovative ideas and getting to know the startup ecosystem in Austria

Our fellows & their startup ideas



67% of our graduates have already founded or plan to found their own startup after the Entrepreneurial Leadership Program. Some ideas are still in the early stages, others are already in the implementation phase - but we think all of them have a great potential which is why we would like to share them with you!



DORIAN MAST

MSC. STRATEGY,
INNOVATION &
MANAGEMENT
CONTROL

INDUSTRY



Marketplace

STAGE



Live

CONNECTED SPACES

A PLATFORM CONNECTING VACANT COMMERCIAL SPACES WITH TEN-ROTARY USAGE CONCEPTS FROM THE CREATIVE SCENE

Problem

Vacancies are extremely costly, 4€ per month and sqm are the cost of leaving commercial spaces vacant in Vienna. Currently there is a lack of visibility for vacant spaces, no central database and no efficient connection to utilization concepts. Excessive red tape makes owners neglect meaningful interim usages, especially short to mid term ones. Lastly you have a trust issue: owners and space seekers, they don't trust each other at all. One side fears that their spaces will be occupied, the other fears to be thrown out at the first occasion....

Solution

A marketplace for vacancies and utilization concepts from the creative scene. Through our platform we want to make both sides visible to each other and establish efficient linkages into both directions. By automizing the underlying pain point processes, we want to simplify the relationship of owners and seeker in such a way, that meaningful interim usages become possible. Furthermore, we want to build a community around spaces and concepts in order to foster trust and lasting relationships.

How do you know its a problem?

Validated through more than 40 Interviews and 2 surveys. Furthermore, we collected feedback from 11 Spaces (currently listed with us) and more than 200 utilization concepts (filed on our landing page). If you want to experience it yourself: just open your eyes when strolling the city - sooo many empty ground floors etc.

What's your central unique insight?

Our Network into both directions is our USP at the moment.



SEBASTIAN
BRUCKER

DCX CONSULTANT AT
CAPEGEMINI |
BUSINESS STUDENT

INDUSTRY



HR

STAGE



Prototype

LIDA

LIDA IS AN INNOVATIVE SOFTWARE THAT SUPPORTS MANAGERS WITH INSIGHTFUL NUDGES REGARDING THE TEAM IN ORDER TO BECOME AN INSPIRING REMOTE LEADER.

Problem

Managers tend to lose touch with their employees while they are working remotely due to the lack of personal contact and other remote challenges.

Solution

LIDA uses artificial intelligence to analyse the team and to provide insightful nudges as well as advice to become a more attentive, a proactive and inspiring remote leader.

How do you know its a problem?

From our own experience while we were working from home. In addition, we conducted several interviews with potential users.

What's your central unique insight?

LIDA uses an algorithm in order to rebuild the connection between team and manager as well as to provide preventive advice.



KRISTIYAN STANKOV

ART HISTORIAN

INDUSTRY



Marketplace

STAGE



Prototype

ADORARES

FINEST EUROPEAN CRAFTSMANSHIP

Problem

Many artisans, artists and small businesses still preserve old, traditional techniques. They are often the last guardians of almost disappeared crafts. So far, they have been able to sustain themselves and their families with their work. Currently, many of them are forced to give up. In many exciting conversations with artisans, we recognised the following challenges: European crafts are still almost exclusively rooted in small, regional structures. If there is a website at all, it usually lacks sufficient range. The product presentation often does not meet the requirements and standards of the target group. Their limited reach and international competition by global corporations make the survival of small artisans difficult if not impossible. Thus, not only are the livelihoods of hundreds of talented craftspeople at risk, but also the diversity of the cultural heritage that constitutes their skills.

Solution

Adorares will become a digital showcase for unique handmade products from the workshops of exceptional European artisans. The team behind Adorares will create professional portfolios of the artisan and take over the distribution of their products. Through the power of a union, the unequal competition between large corporations and local artisans can be balanced. The platform is intended to present the cultural diversity of European arts and crafts on an equal footing. The aim is to overcome inequalities and price differentials. Adorares wants to promote fair working conditions and prices that correspond to the high quality of the products. The platform connects end customers, architects and designers directly with producers. The aim is to make the finest European handicrafts accessible to an international audience and thus save them from extinction.

How do you know its a problem?

Many of the niche arts and crafts, that used to be part of the social life of every small community, have vanished. Not only niche crafts have disappeared, but also furniture makers and potters are getting rarer. In many exciting talks to artisans we have found out that the reason is the lack of customers. On the other hand, statistics show that the interest is increasing, people are seeking for personalised, handmade furniture and decor. The problem is that artisans are very difficult to find, because of their lacking online presence.

What's your central unique insight?

The extinction of craftsmanship has been seen as an individual matter of the producers. My co-founder and I have realised that this is a structural problem that can be solved with the help of digital media. Because of the pandemic, the retail sector faces a challenging time. The innovation of Adorares lies on the one hand in the digitalisation of a currently analogue sector and on the other hand in the philanthropic focus. We work closely with the craftsmen in the digitalisation process. Already one Viennese artisan - who was unfortunately forced to give up - wants to reactivate his business after the launch of Adorares.



ALEXANDRA BRANDL

MSC ENVIRONMENTAL & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

INDUSTRY



Sustainability

STAGE



Live

HEROBOX

DIGITAL SHARING SYSTEM FOR TO-GO FOOD CONTAINERS

Problem

We fight single use waste and push for a zerowaste circular economy in the food packaging business

Solution

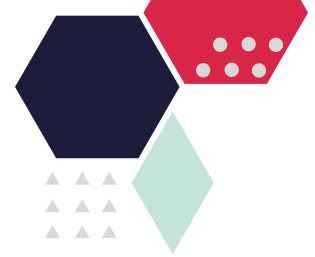
With HeroBox you can pick up your take away food in a reusable container, enjoy your meal and return the container at any partner restaurant. ZeroWaste and completely free of charge!

How do you know its a problem?

Just look at the waste bins in Stadtpark after lunch time. The people play Tetris with their disposable boxes to fit them into the bins. At the same time single use food containers are the third largest polluter of single use objects for the ocean (after bags and straws).

What's your central unique insight?

Talk to people, be bold and just start. You are already ahead of the crowd if you turn your words into action. If you see the problem and find that your solution could help then others will agree with you. Don't worry about that.



JULIA KRUSLIN

MSC. STRATEGY,
INNOVATION &
MANAGEMENT
CONTROL

INDUSTRY



FinTech

STAGE



Prototype

PROJECT C

INVEST CONFIDENTLY AND EASILY THROUGH EDUCATION

Problem

Due to the current setup of our pension system, age poverty will shape our society. To counteract this fact, people have to take accountability for their retirement provision. While investing in the financial market would be an appropriate means to do so, most people are afraid to take the first step, due to lack of knowledge. In fact, >70% state that missing knowledge is the main reason they are not investing yet.

Solution

We are building a beginner-friendly app, which intertwines the processes of learning and investing. Solid knowledge will provide our users with enough confidence to make their own decisions.

How do you know its a problem?

A wide array of studies confirm that lack of knowledge is one of the main drivers for inactivity. Furthermore, we conducted 50 user interviews to validate our hypotheses.

What's your central unique insight?

Existing solutions focus either 1) on providing knowledge (e.g. books, youtube videos) or 2) on execution (Traderepublic, Flatex). There is no end-to-end provider that provides a structured learning curriculum and the opportunity to invest.



PRIMOŽ CUVAN

MSC ELECTRICAL
ENGINEERING &
ROBOTICS,
IOS DEVELOPER

INDUSTRY



HealthTech

STAGE



Live

HOMECLINICO

MAKING HOME-BASED REHABILITATION ACCESSIBLE

Problem

The problem post-stroke and post-TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury) patients face after getting home from the hospital is a proper and quality rehabilitation process. The home-based rehabilitation market is not overcrowded yet and therefore no optimal solution for remote physiotherapy exists. The home-based solutions that exist are often expensive, too big (cannot fit into the patient's home), or too difficult for the patient to operate. It is well known that patient's family members involvement is crucial. Family members want to be included, however most of the time they do not know how to be involved and how to help the patient. Due to COVID-19, fewer and fewer physiotherapists are available. It occupied them with difficult cases and made the option of meeting the patient in person impossible.

Solution

The smartphone-based rehabilitation system HomeClinico is intended for home rehabilitation for patients after stroke and traumatic brain injury (TBI) who are affected by restricted movement in their upper extremities. Almost everyone owns a smartphone. Suppose post-stroke or post-TBI patients could use their smartphones as the means of rehabilitation. In that case, this could indicate a very accessible way to a better physiotherapy process in their home environment. We have developed an easy to use home-based rehabilitation system. It consists of a mobile application and a handle. Patients can improve both cognitive and motor skills with the use of our application. The fact that it is smartphone-based makes it not only accessible but also affordable. The application consists of exercises and daily therapy sessions. Exercises for therapy sessions can be selected by the application itself or a medical professional. Medical professional can receive the patient's progress which gives him/her a better insight into the prescribed therapy and a chance to alter it sooner rather than later. Another important advantage of HomeClinico system is that the patients can exercise wherever and whenever it suits them.

How do you know its a problem?

The problem of home-based rehabilitation is one of the most important problems the patients face when they come home from hospital. They need to exercise multiple times a day to improve their skills and not let the wane. The lead physiotherapist from Slovenia (Tatjana Jeglič), department of neurological deceases at Celje hospital (Slovenia), rehabilitation center Laško (Slovenia) and association of stroke survivors in Slovenia all expressed importance of HomeClinico's solution for post stroke and post-TBI (traumatic brain injury) patients.

What's your central unique insight?

An affordable and high quality home-based rehabilitation system that is in the patient's pocket.



HARALD SCHÖNY

PHD STUDENT IN CHEMISTRY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA

INDUSTRY



HealthTech

STAGE



Idea

METABOLIZE ME

THE FUTURE IS INSIDE YOU

Problem

We actually don't understand changes in life that effect our health and fitness. Am I healthy? Why do I get fat? What should I eat? Everyone is different and we all need our own recommendation.

Solution

A health fingerprint, tested on a regular basis. By measuring hundreds of parameters over time, nutritional, fitness and health related issues can be observed and individual recommendation can be given. Processes like aging or a changing lifestyle can be scientifically observed and are translated to an understandable useful form.

How do you know its a problem?

As a scientist I have noticed that there is a lot of information about these processes in the scientific community but barely any real application for costumers. Why? Because: 1. people are too different and only you during a healthy period are the right reference point for comparison. 2. time vs. accuracy vs. information - measuring a lot of parameters fast and accurate is the Holy Grail in life science 3. doctors are humans and cannot know the meaning of hundreds of parameters by heart Therefore, our solution will 1. track people over time, starting ideally during a healthy state 2. use a novel cheap and accurate technique for analysis developed in our lab and 3. convert the outcome in user-friendly information.

What's your central unique insight?

We have developed this novel cheap and accurate technique for analysis. Although many labs around the world work in this field, the price and accuracy is always the limit for a bigger scale application. With our technique, we produce the core ingredients by yeast in a simple fermentation process. It is like brewing beer with chemical superpowers that allows us to offer the analysis much cheaper than others. In the digital 21st century, knowledge about life is easily publicly available and we only have to connect our analysis with this knowledge and translate it to a customer-friendly product.



FELIX GÜNTHER

B.SC. IN ECONOMICS, M.SC. APPLIED ECONOMICS

INDUSTRY



Sustainability

STAGE



Live

ONE MEAL A DAY

WE COMBINE TASTY COOKING EXPERIENCES AND HEALTHY MEALS THAT ARE GOOD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT - BY DELIVERING YOU EVERYTHING WE REMOVE THE BARRIERS FOR YOUR AS WELL AS THE PLANET'S HEALTH!

Problem

Fighting climate change in the tastiest way: more than a quarter of worldwide emissions are due to the impact of our diet. This highly underestimated field offers plenty of potentials, especially because no investments or technology is needed.

Solution

Through plant-based meal boxes, we inspire delicious meals which are low in emissions. Thereby we work on two dimensions: offering a convenient cooking experience, explain you the benefits for your health and the planet as well as how you can integrate more of that food into your daily life. Thereby, the journey towards a more sustainable diet becomes joyful and tasty

How do you know its a problem?

Well, by now most of us have heard about climate change and its impact on our life as humans. A topic which is rising but not that present yet is the impact of diet. Whereas more and more people seek to eat more sustainably, they are stuck in routines, the effort seems too high or they lack inspiration.

What's your central unique insight?

People care about the environment, but they either don't know what to do or the options take too much effort - we have a solution for both!

Not all fellows are currently boarding the startup rollercoaster - some are pursuing an academic degree, working at existing startups or want to work in intrapreneurship or the broader startup ecosystem. We have had the pleasure to get to know this amazing people throughout the last year and we truly believe you should meet them too!



MAR DE JOSE HOMS
CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS /
INNOVATION PROJECT MANAGER

About

I am an Innovation Project Manager with a background in Corporate Communications and passion for social innovation, storytelling and community building because of their power to transform people, organizations, and ultimately the world. Curiosity is my motto, and the beach my happy place.



GEORG BRANDENBURG
FOUNDER/ OWNER OF
BUSINESSCAMPUS EHRENSHAUSEN,
COWORKING

About

Being an Entrepreneur is a great and exciting possibility to contribute to and have impact on society. Me and my friends are working hard on developing Business Campus Ehrenhausen into Carinthias most livable workplace with a strong, supportive, highly professional and deeply humane community.



JAMIE HUDDLESTONE
DEVELOPER

About

I've done many different jobs in many different places, but life is still full of surprises: having decided to leave university in the UK to move to Vienna before the pandemic hit, I'm now enrolled on a degree course in electronics and business here! The last year has been hard for me in lots of ways, but I'm glad I stuck with the ELP - everyone has been so supportive, and I'm now working on a great startup idea with a great team.



IPEK HIZAR
BUSINESS PSYCHOLOGY STUDENT |
COMMUNITY LEAD AT AUSTRIANSTARTUPS

About

Living in several countries has helped me realize that everything is interconnected. I am currently studying my master's in Business Psychology and will travel to the U.S for my exchange semester with special focus on innovation and economics. My dream is to become a global leader some day who creates impact in different countries while having a macro-level understanding of the world we live in.



KATHARINA KOZEL
STRATEGY DESIGNER @ DESIGN TO INNOVATE
| BACHELOR OF ARTS IN BUSINESS @ FH ST.
PÖLTEN

About

My journey at the ELP started when I worked in a Startup. Throughout this year I met so many interesting people and I've learned so many new things, personally and work-wise. By using all my learnings, I decided to become self-employed. Now I am helping companies & startups to grow, become more user-centered and innovative by organizing Hackathons, Marketing Workshops and Design Sprints.



MANTAS BANDONIS
PRODUCT ENGINEER @XUND.AI | MSC
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE & DIGITAL
HEALTHCARE

About

Emerging technologies, innovative projects, a healthy dose of critical thinking, and exciting discussions make me get going every day. My interests lie in product management in the AI field, and currently, I am focusing on finishing my studies in AI & Digital Healthcare and moving forward with XUND. So joining the ELP to meet like-minded people with a passion for innovation and start-ups was a no-brainer!



THOMAS HOLLERER
FOOD TECHNOLOGIST & INNOVATOR

About

Passion & curiosity for innovation! The world needs more tasty and healthy food that is good for people and the environment. Making a difference in this field takes more than technological expertise. Entrepreneurship and connections to other industries bring new colours and ideas to this often conservative industry. That's what I'm looking for in my daily work and that's what I love to do. The ELP and all the fellows supported this wonderfully and widened my perspective even more. I look back with gratitude after a year and am more motivated than ever to improve our food systems in tasty ways.



MAGDALENA RIEDERER
MASTER IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT |
MARKET MANAGER AT A MED-TECH
STARTUP | STUDYING HUMAN MEDICINE

About

Versatile, enthusiastic business graduate and human medicine student, loaded with an eclectic knowledge in various fields! I am inspired by new challenges and continually striving for personal development. Since - besides once really running a marathon - founding my own company is on top of my bucket list, I happily joined AustrianStartups. Everything med, health, nutrition, sports - that's what really inspires me. And you gotta know that I am highly passionate with things that light the spark in me ... :)



SOPHIE SPITZER
MSC INTERNATIONAL MARKETING /
PROJECT MANAGER AT NOVID20

About

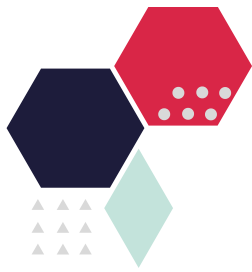
My hunger for exploring the unknown is insatiable. Constantly trying to challenge my status quo I am currently pursuing my MBA whilst working as a project manager at Novid20. Working there is an endeavour in itself as we are developing and facilitating large scale covid screening solutions together with governmental agencies and leading scientists to curb the spread of the pandemic. As a peoples' person by nature and with a strong affiliation towards philanthropy I aim to shape a better world for all of us and future generations, together.



BARBARA DZINO
MSC/ PROJECT MANAGER REGULATORY
AND CLINICAL RESEARCH AT MYMIND
GMBH

About

I made a development from working at a pharma company to taking the leap and joining startups. I really like the fast pace environment of startups and the versatility, but in healthcare you usually have long complicated processes before you can safely go to market. I find this particular mixture extremely interesting and enjoy learning new aspects of the healthcare sector. There is certainly a lot of digitization and innovation happening - I am excited to be part of that.



our mentors

During the second semester of the ELP our fellows all got matched with a mentor from the Austrian startup ecosystem. These are the people that supported our fellows on their personal journey.



**MARGARETA
SAILER**
Founder,
Mondaysquares



**MICHAEL
LUKESCH**
Founder & CEO,
VALANX Biotech



LISA KRAPINGER
CMO, breathe ilo



RUDOLF DÖMÖTÖR
Managing Director, WU
Entrepreneurship
Center



LUKAS FECHTIG
Co-Founder & CEO,
zerolens



MARKUS ERTLER
Business Angel



**MICHAEL
IONITA-GANEA**
Co-Founder,
Founders in Europe



LISA-MARIE FASSL
Startup Beauftragte,
Co-Founder Female
Founders



SABINE WALCH
Founder & CEO
AvoCard, Business
Development
NOVID20



**CONSTANZE
STOCKHAMMER**
Managing Director
Social
Entrepreneurship
Network Austria

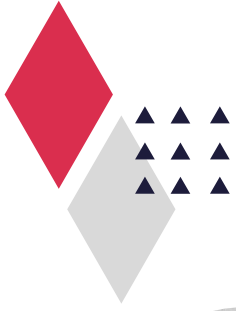


ROBERT KOPKA
Founder & Managing
Director Luke Roberts
Lighting



GEORG WEBER
COO PrimeCrowd





CLEMENS WASNER

**Founder & CEO,
Enlite AI**



MICHAEL SCHRAMM

**Head of Digital &
Emerging Tech
Austria, EY**



LUKAS RENZ

**Co-Founder & CEO
Bärnstein**



MAURIZIO POLETTI

**Chief Platform
Officer, Erste Group**



**CLAUDIA
FALKINGER**

**Innovation
Strategist, ÖBB**



SIMONE PIES

Business Angel



HANNES KRIEGER

**Founder
analog.space,
Venture Scout**



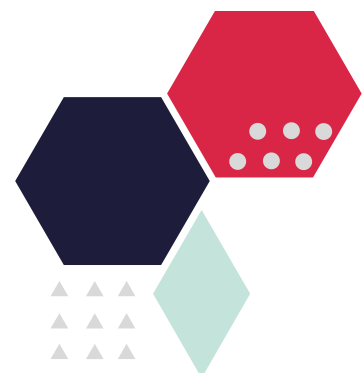
THOMAS METZLER

**Prof. of
Entrepreneurship,
FH Vorarlberg**




CHRISTOPH JESCHKE

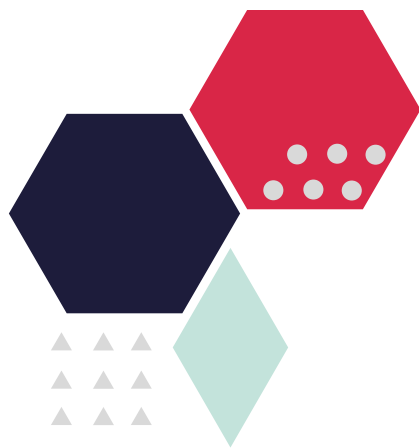
**Senior Business
Development
Manager, wikifolio**



we are family



No matter where our graduates are heading now - we wish them all the best on their future journey. They will always be part of the AustrianStartups Family.



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