Teens in AI

#IWD GLOBAL TECHATHON

Report
2025

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Preface

Message from the CEO

Elena Sinel
Founder & CEO

This International Women's Day, we proudly marked another powerful milestone at Teens in AI with our 2025 IWD Global Techathon. Guided by this year's theme, **Accelerate Action**, we invited young people worldwide to take bold steps toward building a more equitable future through the ethical use of AI.

With **1,819 registered participants** from **19 countries**, the Techathon focused on three of the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: Good Health and Wellbeing, Quality Education, and Gender Equality**. These pressing issues shaped the challenges our participants tackled—designing AI-driven solutions that are inclusive, impactful, and grounded in real-world needs.

Techathons were delivered in **56 locations around the world** and in **23 languages**, reinforcing our belief that diversity of language drives diversity of thought. This linguistic inclusivity created space for rich collaboration across cultures and perspectives, strengthening the global relevance of the solutions developed.

With **55% participation from girls and non-binary teens**, we continue to drive momentum for gender equity in AI and technology—where representation still lags. Our deepest thanks go to our partners, Sage and Red Hat, for their ongoing support in helping us empower the next generation of changemakers.

This year's Techathon was a call to move faster and act with intention. The energy, ideas and courage of our young innovators leave no doubt: the future of AI is in capable hands—and change is not only possible, it's already happening.

Elena Sinel

Founder & CEO, Teens in AI

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The Teens in AI Team

Focused on delivering impact

To our partners and collaborators Sage and Red Hat, and all those experts and contributors who helped us deliver this year’s phenomenally successful IWD Global Techathon - thank you for delivering impact with us.

Teens in AI Team

Elena Sinel
Founder & CEO

Bev Chislett
Head of Marketing

Toby Otton
Head of Commercial Partnerships

Ntsika Bovula
Programme Project Manager

Success Oyeshola
Programme Project Manager

Semi Tayo
Programme Project Manager

Simdy Ekemezie
Marketing Manager

Tionae Webster
Marketing Manager

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Teens in AI

Programme Overview

Igniting change, one teen at a time

Programme Overview

Connecting people. Improving circumstances. Transforming lives.

Every International Women's Day, Teens in AI hosts a worldwide distributed Techathon for teens aged 12 to 18. This hackathon-style event (both virtual and in-person) brings young minds together to tackle real-world challenges using responsible AI and Data Science for social good.

The 2025 IWD Global Techathon saw an incredible 1,819 motivated teens from around the world collaborate to shape the future. Focusing on the critical United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of **Good Health and Wellbeing**, **Quality Education**, and **Gender Equality**, participants addressed issues deeply relevant to the global community.

Diversity drives innovation! We're delighted to have achieved a mission-aligned participation rate of **55.13% among females and non-binary young people**, propelling the tech and AI industry toward a more balanced and inclusive future. This progress helps address the current global disparity, where only 26% of individuals in data and AI fields are women.

Teens from 19 countries across 56 locations participated, from the UK and Europe, to Africa, the Middle East, North America and Asia, with a total of **23 languages worldwide**.

Working with our Partners Sage and Red Hat, we are delivering impact by inspiring inclusivity and empowering the next generation of AI enthusiasts to shape a more diverse and ethical future!

Voices of the Programme

23 languages. Diversity of Language = Diversity of Thought.

Delivering the programme in 23 languages reflects our commitment to inclusion and reinforces our belief that linguistic diversity drives diversity of thought—creating richer, more globally relevant solutions.

Language access is not only key to equitable participation, but essential for shaping future AI systems that serve all communities fairly; failing to embed this diversity risks deepening existing inequalities in AI.

Teens in AI

Delivering Impact
with our collaborators

“Increasing diversity and digital inclusion

Sage

Red Hat

Teens in AI

Our Impact in Numbers

for 2025 IWD Global Techathon Campaign

Teens in AI

1,819
Registered Teen Participants

55%
Girls & Non-Binary

79%
State Schooled

64%
Diverse ethnic backgrounds

26
Guest Speakers

315
Mentors & Instructors

19
Countries

23
Languages

91
Expert Judges

1,739
Average Volunteer Hours

56
Locations

214
Volunteer Ambassadors

3.8m
Reach

211,562
Engagement

160
United Nations SDG Projects

Teens in AI

Impact in Action

Flagship Locations
in the United Kingdom, South Africa
and Ukraine

This year’s Trailer

IWD Global Techathon 2025 Trailer

Accelerating Action: A three-month programme delivering inclusion, innovation and ethical AI

This year is the most ambitious Global Techathon campaign to date. Young people from around the world came together to tackle real-world challenges, develop creative tech solutions, and reimagine a more inclusive future.

Watch the trailer for a look at the journey.

Link: IWD Global Techathon 2025 Trailer

Flagship location

Newcastle, United Kingdom

Sage hosted its IWD Global Techathon for the second year running in Newcastle, welcoming 71 registered teen participants. With 63% representation from girls and teens from diverse ethnic backgrounds, the event showcased a powerful commitment to inclusion. Supported by dedicated mentors and guest judges, the local techathon created an engaging and inspiring space for young innovators.

71
Registered Teen Participants

35%
Diverse & Ethnic Backgrounds

28
Mentors

3
Guest Judges

3
Guest Speakers

Flagship location

Kyiv, Ukraine

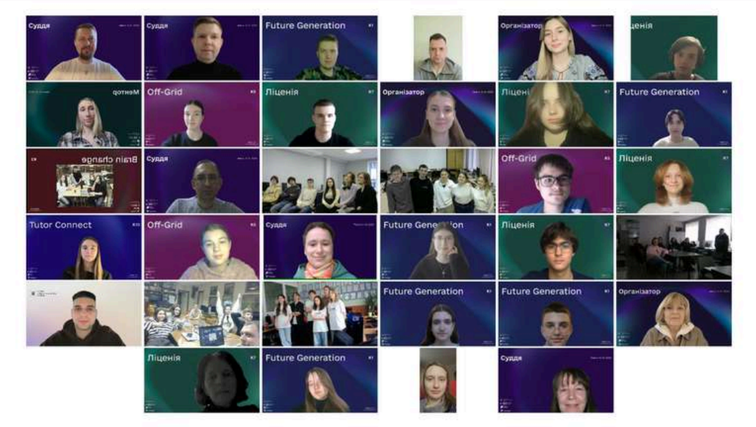
Ukraine hosted another impactful edition of the IWD Global Techathon, marking its second year of participation. Over two dynamic virtual days, 68 passionate teens came together ~ 56% of whom identified as girls or non-binary. Supported by dedicated mentors and guest judges, the event fostered innovation, inclusion, and a shared drive to use tech for social good.

68
Registered Teen Participants

56%
Girls & Non-Binary

27
Mentors

5
Guest Judges



Flagship location

Multiple locations across South Africa

South Africa marked its third year of participation in the IWD Global Techathon with a vibrant showing across three locations ~ **Thohoyandou (Limpopo Province), Alexandria, and Sandton (both Johannesburg, Gauteng)**. A total of 198 teen participants took part, with 63% identifying as girls. With the support of mentors and guest judges, the event showcased the power of collaboration and creativity across diverse communities. We had volunteers from Sage join the Sandton event.

198
Registered Teen Participants

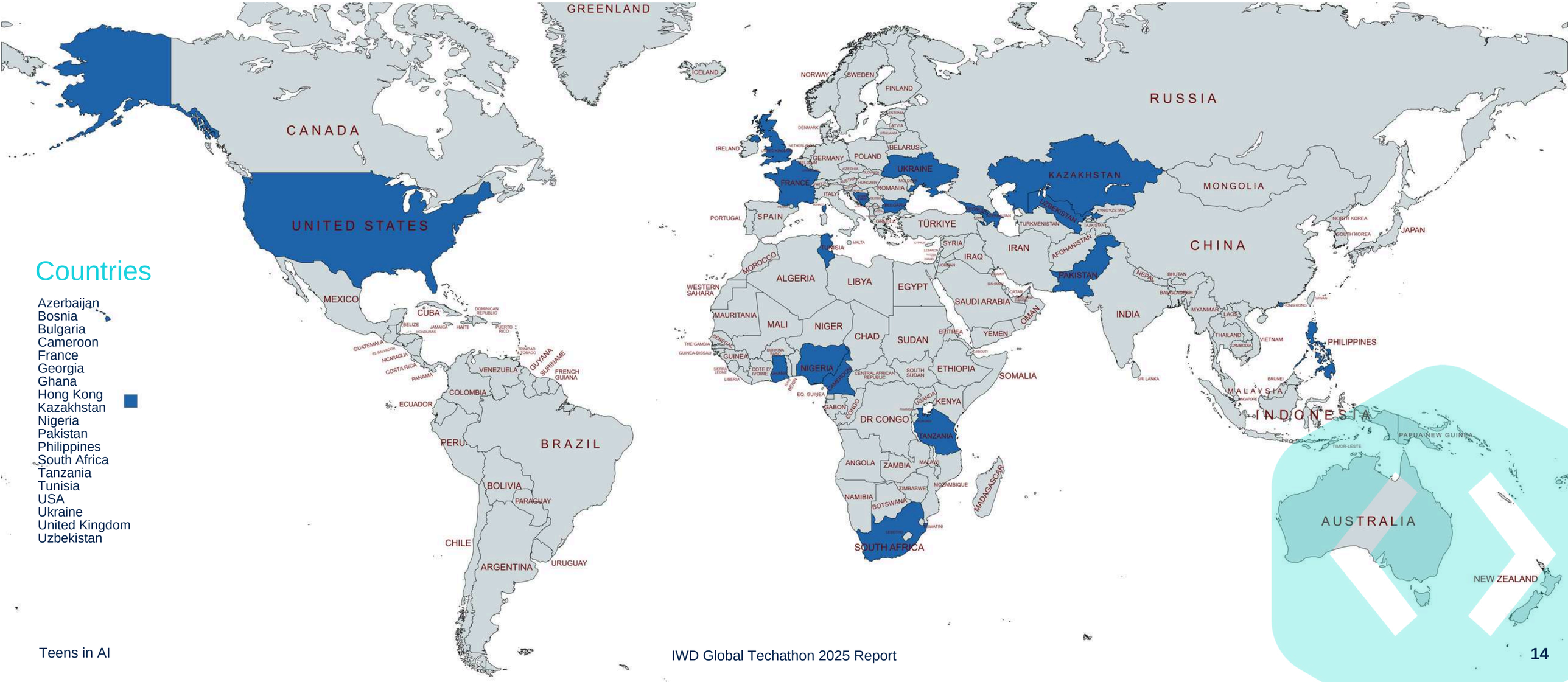
63%
Girls & Non-Binary

31
Mentors

12
Guest Judges

Our Global Reach

Teens in AI

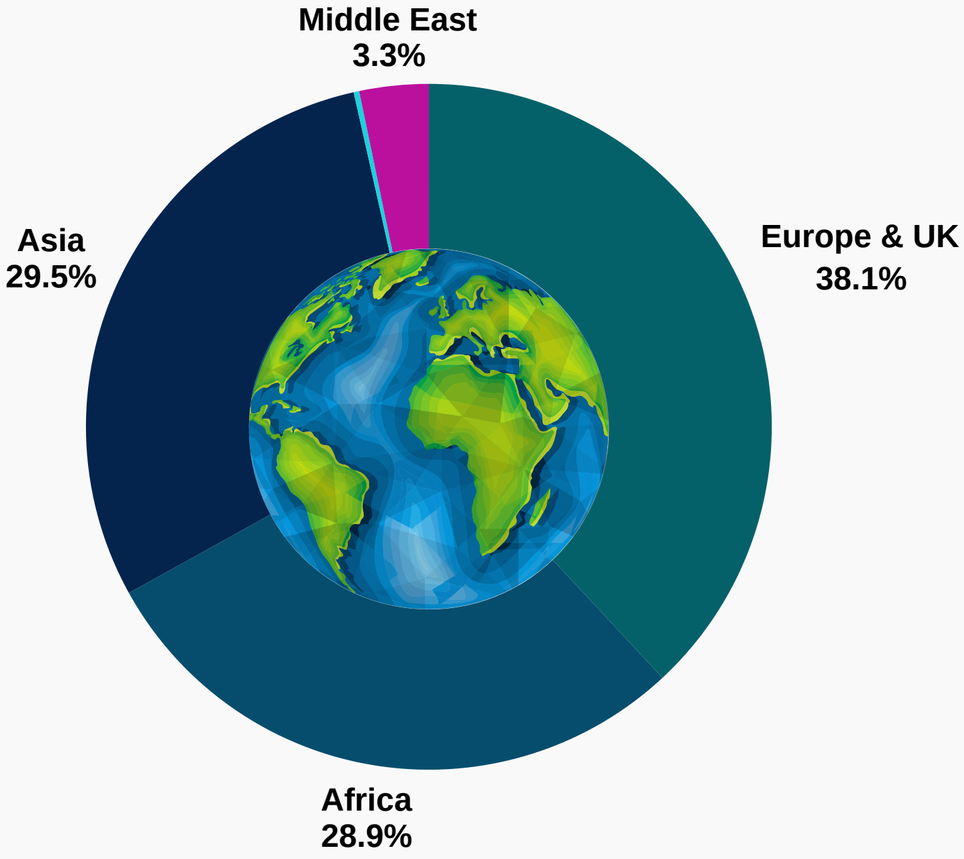


Countries

Azerbaijan
Bosnia
Bulgaria
Cameroon
France
Georgia
Ghana
Hong Kong
Kazakhstan
Nigeria
Pakistan
Philippines
South Africa
Tanzania
Tunisia
USA
Ukraine
United Kingdom
Uzbekistan

Impact in Action

Geographically diverse participation



This year, the largest share of participants came from **Europe and the UK, Asia, and Africa — together accounting for 96.5%** of attendees. This strong representation across three continents highlights the global relevance and growing reach of our inclusive AI education efforts.

We had a truly international turnout, with a rich cultural spread and meaningful representation from around the world.

This global reach continues to demonstrate the wide appeal of our programme and its ability to connect young people through shared curiosity, ambition, and purpose.

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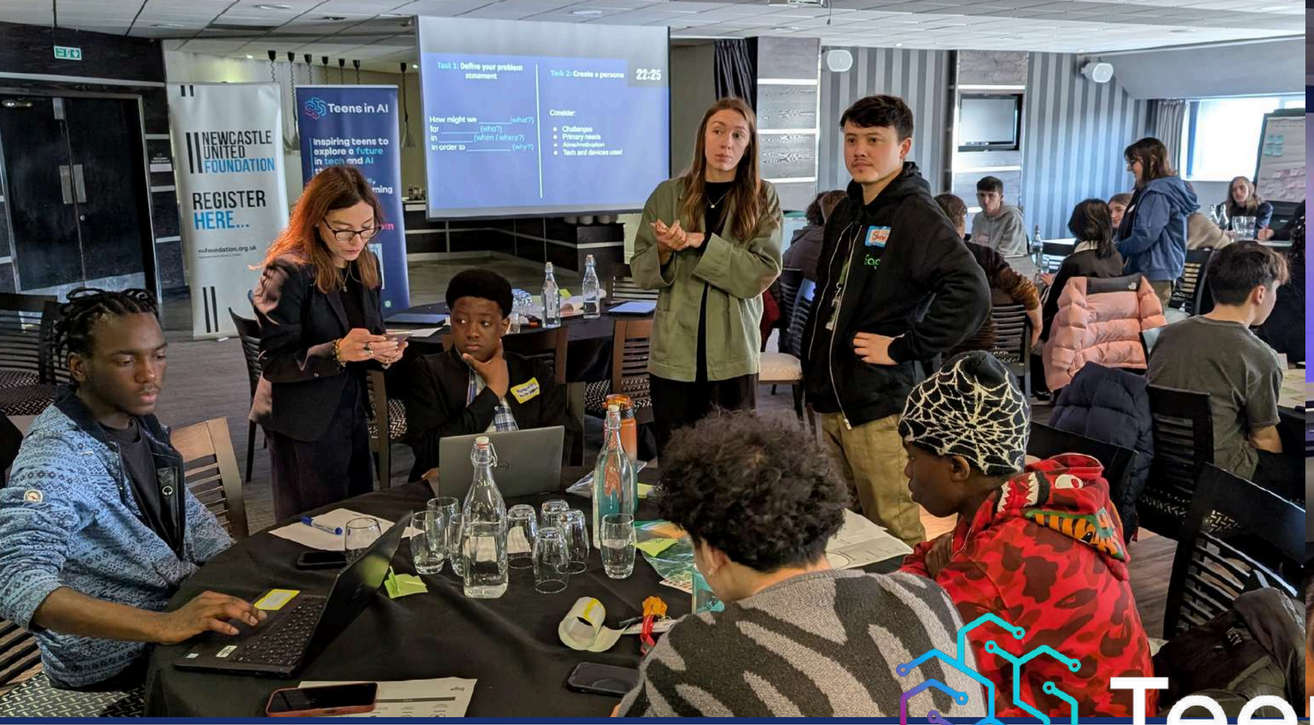

NEWCASTLE UNITED FOUNDATION
REGISTER HERE...
Teens in AI
Task 1: Define your problem statement
Task 2: Create a persona
22:25
How might we _____ (what?)
for _____ (who?)
in _____ (when / where?)
in order to _____ (why?)
Consider:
Challenges
Primary needs
Accessibility
Tech and devices used

What should be on your slides?
Introducing Your Team
Research of Problem
Idea / Impact
Design / Prototype
AI Ethics
Perfect Pitching

Teens in AI

Cathy
Win

Teens in AI
Volunteering is as easy as 1, 2, 3

Teens in AI

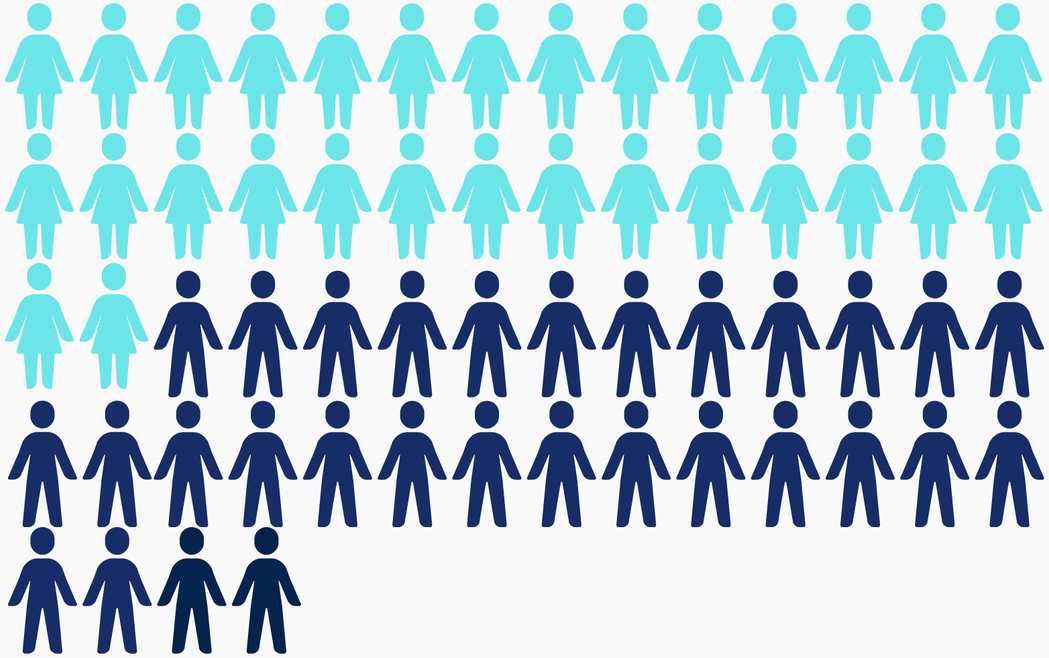
Diversity in Action

A focus on girls and underrepresented communities

Diversity in Action

Female and non-binary

The IWD Global Techathon 2025 saw a total of **1,819 registered participants** from around the world.



55.13%

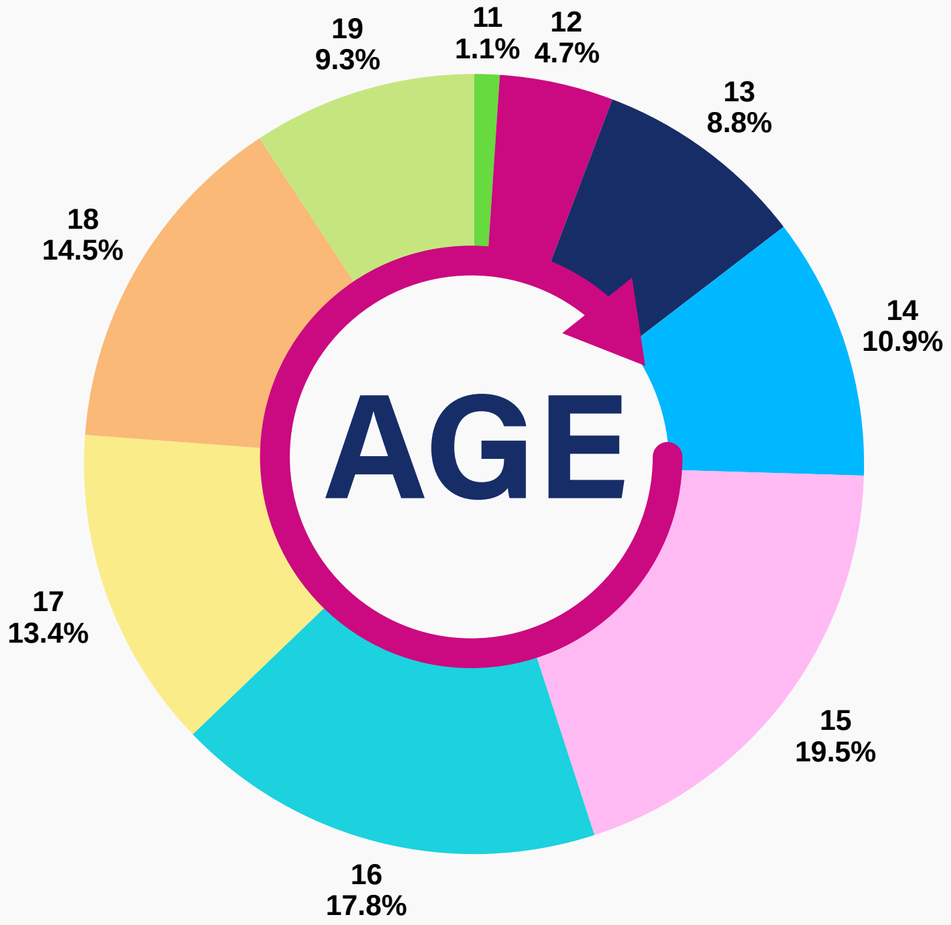
identified as Female and Non-binary

Notes:

Female & Non-Binary ~ This figure is calculated based on those who identified as Female, Non-Binary, ‘Other’ and ‘Prefer Not To Say’

Diversity in Action

Age range



Our campaign welcomed a dynamic mix of young people aged 11 to 19, bringing together both newcomers and returning alumni.

Mid-to-late teens formed the largest age groups, reflecting strong interest in AI and technology among those starting to think seriously about their interests and future careers.

Younger teens aged 11 to 13 were also well represented, showing early curiosity and enthusiasm for innovation from an early age.

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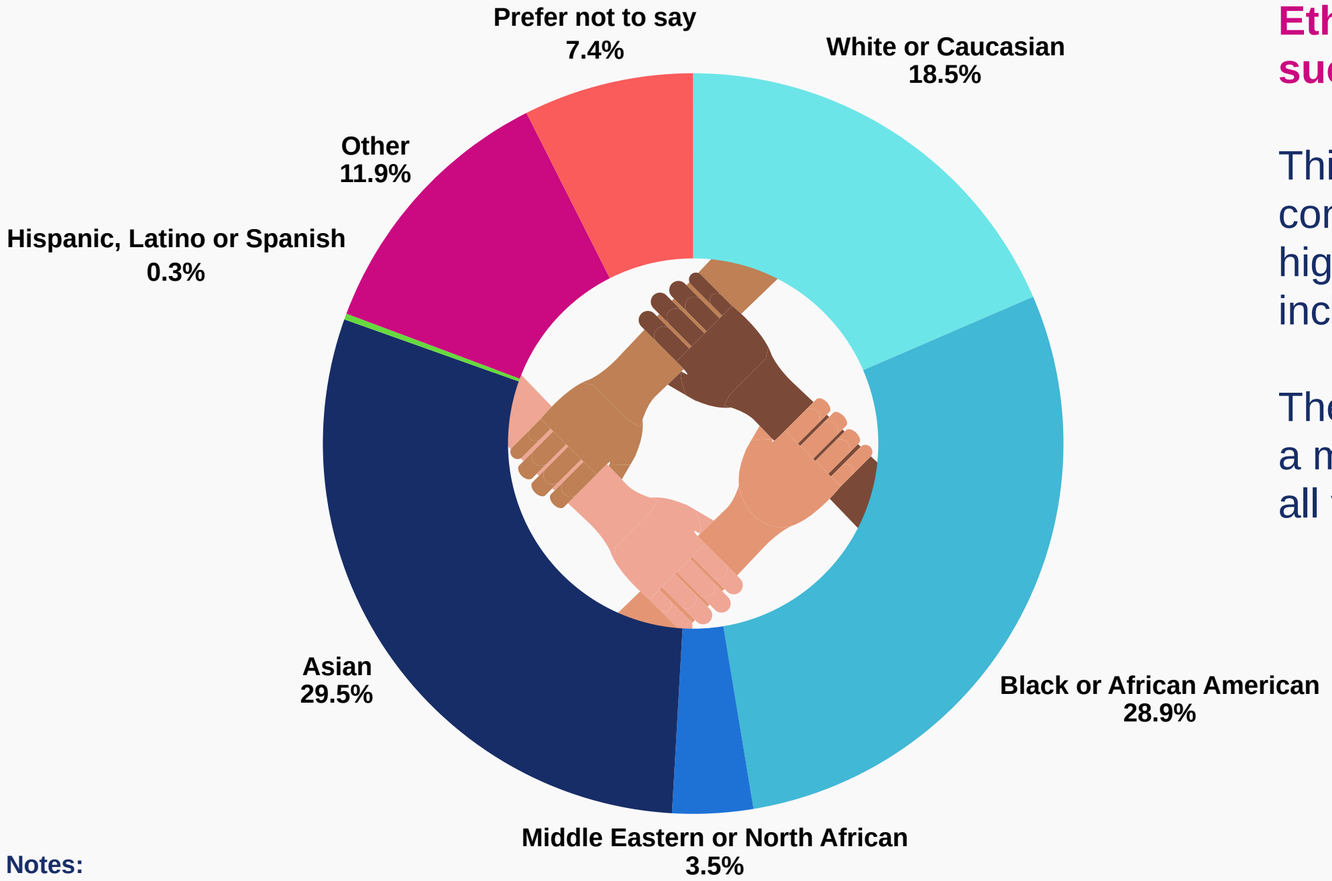
Diversity in Action

Ethnicities



Ethnic diversity remains central to the success of our IWD programme.

This year, 82% of participants identified as coming from ethnically diverse backgrounds—highlighting our ongoing commitment to inclusion and representation.

These figures mark continued progress towards a more equitable and diverse AI future, where all young people feel they belong.

Notes:

Diverse ethnic backgrounds ~ Black/African American, Hispanic, Latino/Spanish, Middle Eastern/North African and Asian; The balance includes 'Other Ethnic Background' not stated, 'Prefer Not To Say', and White/Caucasian.

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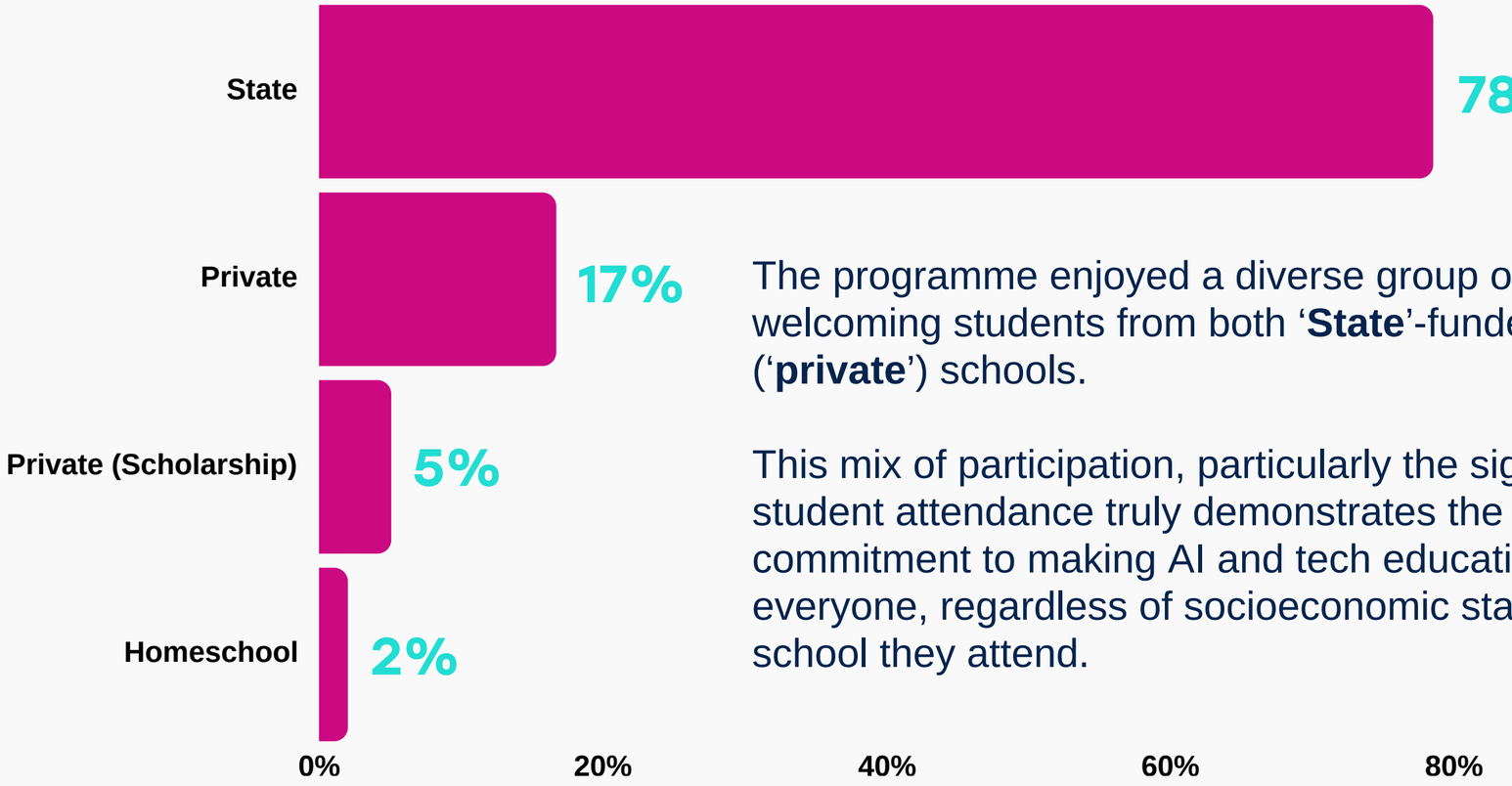
Diversity in Action

A focus on State-educated teens and those on scholarships



The programme enjoyed a diverse group of young people, welcoming students from both '**State**'-funded and independent ('**private**') schools.

This mix of participation, particularly the significant State student attendance truly demonstrates the programme's commitment to making AI and tech education accessible to everyone, regardless of socioeconomic status or the type of school they attend.

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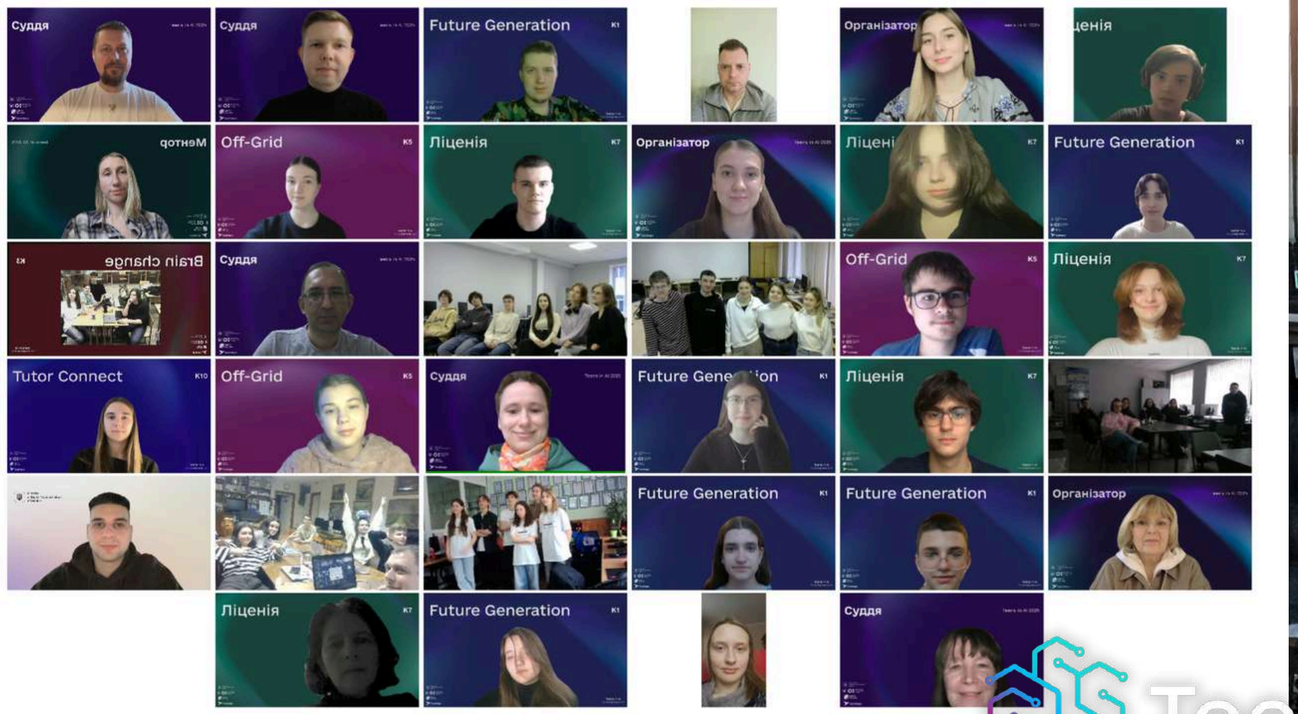
Суддя
Суддя
Future Generation
Організатор
Off-Grid
Ліценія
Організатор
Future Generation
Суддя
Off-Grid
Ліценія
Tutor Connect
Off-Grid
Суддя
Ліценія
Future Generation
Future Generation
Організатор
Ліценія
Future Generation
Суддя

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Teens in AI
Inspiring teens to explore a future in tech and AI
Task 1: Define your problem statement
Task 2: Create a persona
22:25
How might we _____ (what?)
for _____ (who?)
in _____ (when / where?)
in order to _____ (why?)
Consider:
Challenges
Primary needs
Aims/motivation
Tech and devices used

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Teens in AI

Skills Assessment

Understanding participant self-assessment

Programme Satisfaction

94% of participants in 2025 found that the programme improved their overall technical and soft skills

66% of participants expressed a **greater understanding of how tech/AI can be used in the real world**

58% **of participants expressed that, having participated in the programme, they have greater understanding of the importance of ethics in tech/AI**

78% of participants expressed that the programme **helped them understand the importance of teamwork**

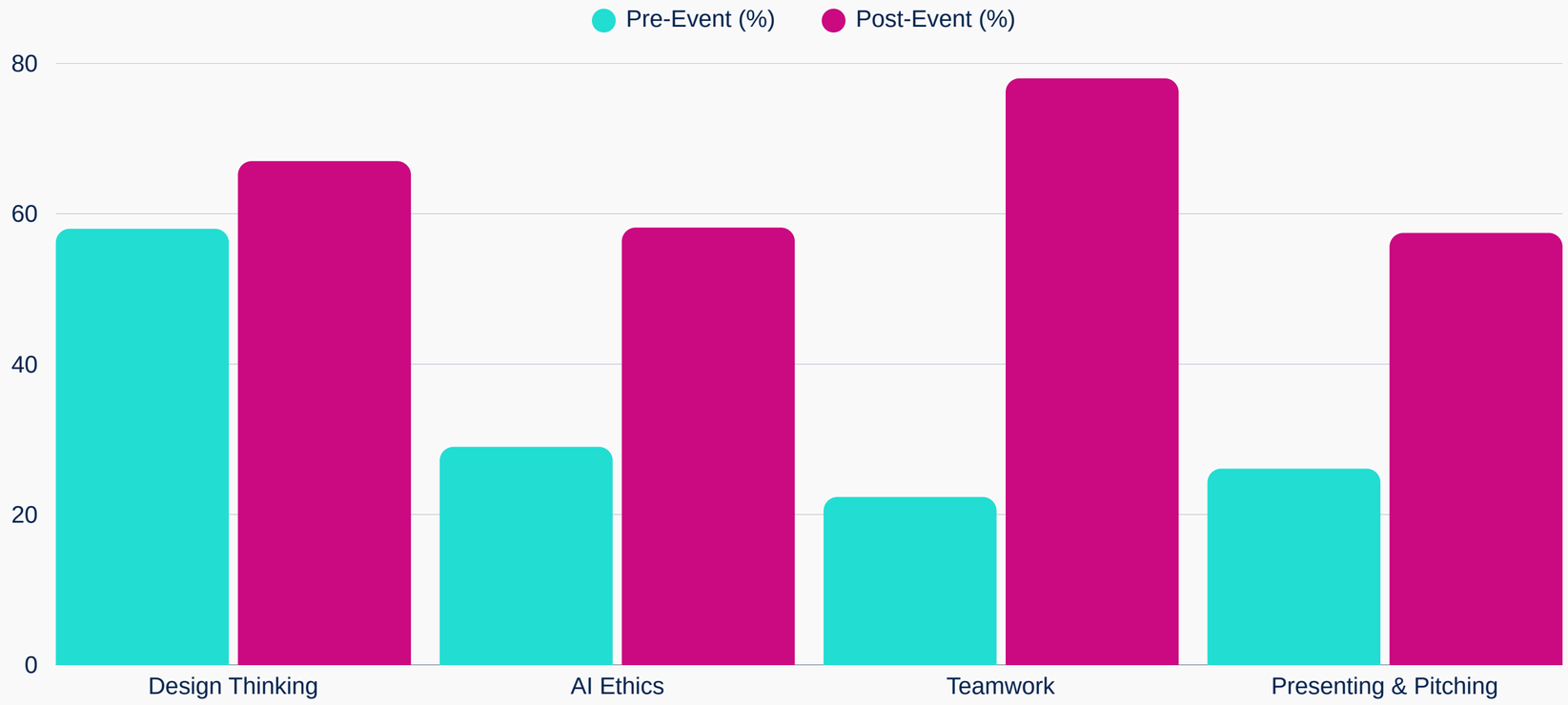
94% of participants expressed that they are now **certain that they want to pursue a career in tech/AI**

93% of participants stated that their experience was **‘Helpful’ and ‘Very Helpful’ in planning for their future**

75% of participants stated that they are now interested in attending **future Teens in AI events**

*Based on combined ratings of ‘4 High’ and ‘5 Very High’

Skills Assessment: 2025 programme



We provide participants with an opportunity to conduct self-assessments of their skills both before and after the programme, encouraging them to rate their proficiency in key areas based on programme subject matter.

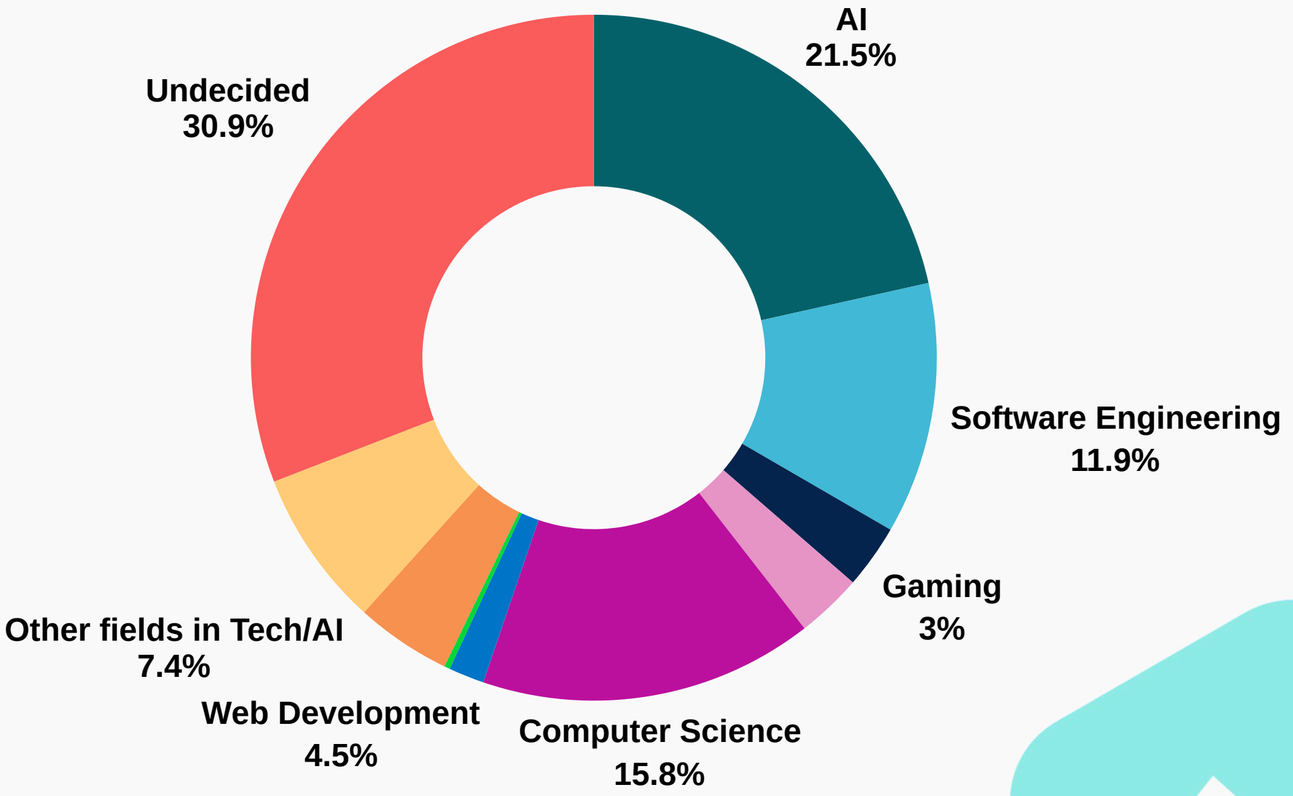
Their Futures, Our Responsibility

Inspiring their future

Deliberating on and shaping a career path involves introspection and understanding.

After this year's programme, participants shared their envisioned futures in Tech and AI. Interests ranged from Computer Science and Software Engineering to Gaming, Cyber Security, and HealthTech**.

30% were undecided about their career focus, likely due to their younger age and ongoing exploration of passions.



Key:
Cyber Security: 3.10%
Health/Medical Technology: 1.68%
EdTech: 0.27%

** **Other fields of interest** include Aerospace/Aviation Engineering, Blockchain, Robotics, AI Stock Market Analysis, Defence Industries, E-commerce, Entrepreneurship, Mechanical Engineering, and more.

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Volunteer Participation

Adding value

IWD programme Mentors, Instructors, Judges and Speakers are more than just technical experts. They bring real-world experience in AI, tech, and business across multiple industries, and also offer practical, experience-based insights.

Their dedication elevates participant experience, fostering a supportive environment where critical thinking, creativity and innovation can thrive.

432

Total registered Mentors, Instructors, Judges and Speakers across the programme

1,739

Average Volunteer Hours

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Shepherd Offshore
SMULDERS
NEWCASTLE UNITED

FANTA

Teens in AI

PACKARD AUDITORIUM
tech
Offering
306

Teens in AI

Programme Highlights

“A life-changing programme

Programme Highlights

The Teens in AI IWD Community Award

What makes Lungile’s initiative exceptional

Lungile and the Thohoyandou Techathon team’s efforts have truly demonstrated exceptional leadership and commitment to community impact. They were honoured with the Community Award for their passion in empowering youth through AI.

Their initiative aims to expand beyond Thohoyandou, using the $500 award to host a free AI workshop for underserved youth in Eswatini around International Youth Day (12 August 2025). This initiative, which is deeply personal to Lungile, will introduce young people to AI and inspire innovation, making a significant impact in a community that has shaped her life.

The Teens in AI team is proud to support Lungile's efforts to honour her grandmother and give back to Eswatini, helping to light the spark of tech-driven change.

Local Ambassador from Thohoyandou, South Africa:
Lungile Maile

> This is a dream come true not just for me, but for the youth of Eswatini. I’m grateful to the Teens in AI team for making this vision possible.

Programme Highlights

The winning teams

The Teens in AI IWD Global Techathon Winner 2025!

Futuristaan

Menova is an AI-powered menopause management app that provides symptom tracking, personalized health recommendations, access to expert-curated content, and a supportive community

Team members:
Maryam F, 19
Mahroosh U, 16

Location:
Islamabad, Pakistan

Link: **Watch the winning pitch here!**

Prizes:

- Tablets for all team members
- Mentoring with Sage Leadership
- Red Hat EMEA Voices Live Panel
- FREE 12 months membership access to AI Adventures
- Free tickets to attend the AI4Good Incubator

Programme Highlights

The winning teams

Amapiano

A solar-powered, low-cost tablet that uses AI to turn textbooks into interactive, gamified lessons, with built-in mental health and wellness support making learning engaging and accessible for underserved students.

Team members:
Palesa, 15
Maqungo, 13
Kamohelo, 13
Yuvaan, 15

Location:
Ikigai, South Africa

Prizes:
- Arduino kits for all team members sponsored by Red Hat
- Mentoring with Red Hat Leadership
- FREE 12 months membership access to AI Adventures
- Free ticket to attend the AI4Good Incubator

HandEcho

HandEcho is a smart glove that helps individuals with speech disabilities communicate by translating American Sign Language (ASL) into spoken words in real time. It bridges the gap between sign language users and non-signers for smoother everyday interactions.

Team members:
Maryam, 16
Mohamed, 16
Emna, 15

Location:
Tunisia

Prizes:
- Mentoring Opportunity with Teens in AI Senior Leadership
- Mentoring with Red Hat team
- FREE 12 months membership access to AI Adventures
- Free ticket to attend the AI4Good Incubator

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Programme Highlights

Participant consensus

> Attending the hackathon was an exhilarating experience where I collaborated with brilliant peers to solve real-world problems using innovative technology. I sharpened my coding skills, embraced teamwork, and tackled creative challenges. Other teens can expect a dynamic environment that fosters creativity, networking, and hands-on learning, resulting in a fulfilling, tech-driven journey.
>
> **~ Lanky, 16, Ghana**

> Actively participating in the Teens in AI Techathons sparked a deep interest in artificial intelligence and its real-world applications. Throughout the program, we engaged in problem-solving and innovative thinking, contributing valuable insights to team projects. Such a great experience!
>
> **~ Lydia A, 19, Ghana**

> My experience at the Techathon was amazing. It was exceptional on multiple sides, allowing me to connect with people who share my interest in Tech, build new friendships, expand my knowledge, and refine my skills. I am proud of my team's work and very happy about the opportunity.
>
> **~ Eya R, 17, Tunisia**

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Teens in AI

Programme Highlights

The Judges' voice

It's deeply inspiring and humbling to see the quality of what's been delivered. The ambition in some of the projects; to solve real life problems and problems that society has. The level of problem solving has been really outstanding and well executed.

~ Gustavo Zeidan, Chief Information Security Officer, Sage

I’m incredibly proud of what I witnessed today. Your bold ideas, collaboration, resilience, and creativity are living proof that when diverse, passionate minds come together, the results are extraordinary. The professionalism and impact you demonstrated are truly inspiring the future of tech is bright because of you

~ Claire Delalande, Vice President, EMEA Marketing, Red Hat

You are stepping up to solve challenges created by generations before you, and that shows true leadership. The way you're rethinking resources, sustainability, and impact is inspiring. Thanks to your innovation and sense of responsibility, we're moving in the right direction for the future.

~ Saba Rubaei, Senior Vice President,
Head of International Cyber Regulation Management (CISO), Citi Bank

Well done for having the energy and confidence to do something like this — it's inspiring to see young people using their time to create meaningful solutions through teamwork and human-centered innovation.

~ Tabitha Goldstaub,Brand Member, Luminate Group

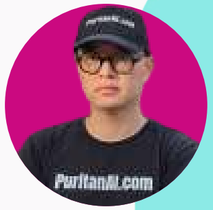
Programme Highlights

Featured Speaker views

> You are at the forefront of how AI is changing our world the most important skill you can build is the ability to adapt and keep learning, because the future of technology is evolving faster than ever.
>
> **~ Susi McDade, HR Business Partner, Global Services and EMEA Sales, Red Hat**

> Collaboration across organizations, countries and levels is key to closing the skills gap in AI. By embracing continuous learning and fostering teamwork, we can drive innovation together. Investing in AI expertise empowers us to unlock new possibilities and lead the way into the future.
>
> **~ Sylvia Lohr, Partner GTM Lead Data & AI, Microsoft**

> It was a pleasure to run the Chatbot workshop at Teens in AI's Global Techathon. Seeing young minds engage with AI so enthusiastically was truly inspiring. Thanks to Teens in AI for creating such impactful learning spaces!
>
> **~ Alex Yip, CTO, Puritan AI; and Vice Chair AI and Data Analytics Leadership Committee, Tech UK**



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Programme Highlights

How Mentors felt about their involvement and the programme

As a mentor, I thoroughly enjoyed guiding the teens in shaping their goals and objectives for their projects. It was fulfilling to help them refine their ideas, ensuring they had a clear vision and structured approach. I also took the opportunity to introduce them to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), explaining their significance and how they could be effectively integrated into their proposals. By connecting their projects to the SDGs, I encouraged them to think critically about global challenges and align their work with meaningful, real-world impact. Witnessing their enthusiasm and growth throughout the process was incredibly rewarding.

~ Angela L. Arago, Philippines

Mentorship is a privilege. Supporting young people in finding their own solutions was deeply rewarding. It's inspiring to witness their growth, creativity, and potential. Fellow mentors can expect a meaningful, energising experience that shapes the future while offering fresh perspectives and purpose.

~ Vandana Satgoor, South Africa

I mentored a group of teens I would describe as enthusiastic! It provided an opportunity for me to network and brainstorm on relevant issues in my area of expertise. I found it interesting and collaborative.

~ Joy Nnodi, Nigeria

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Programme Highlights

Local Ambassador views on their involvement

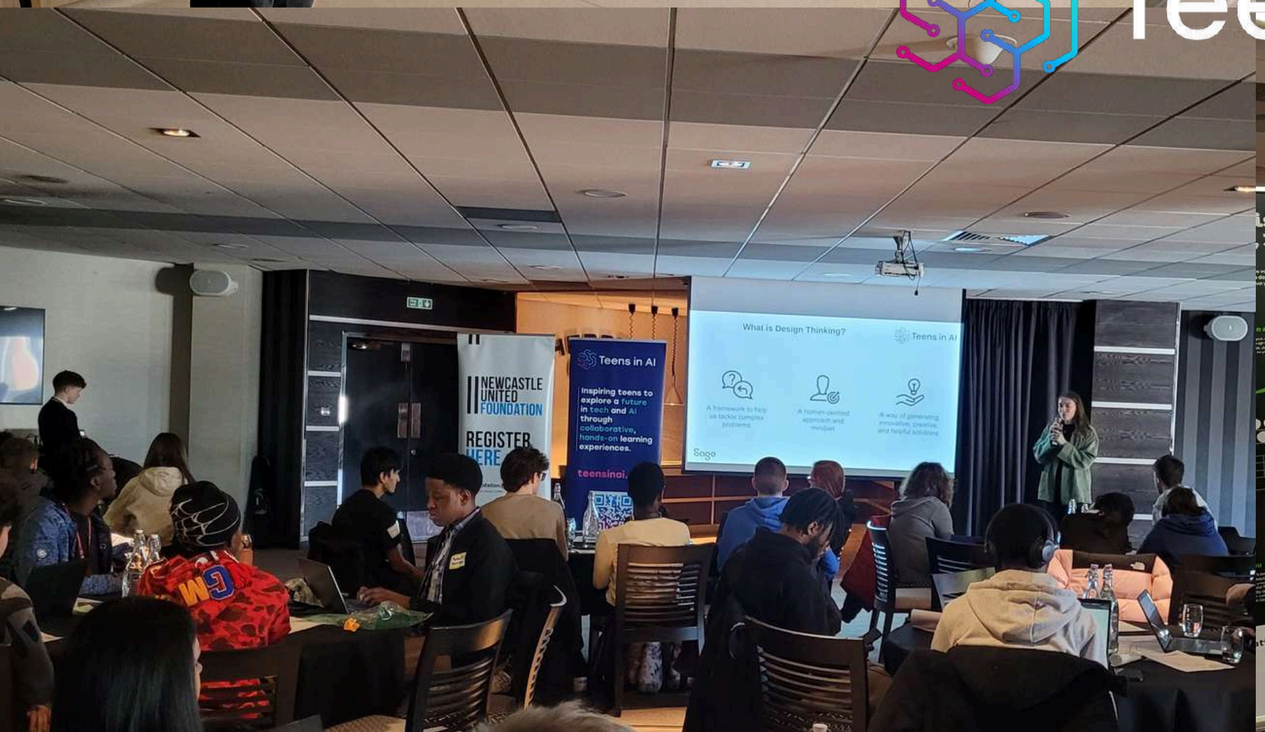
> Being a Local Ambassador was an exciting and rewarding experience! I would describe it as a journey of learning, leadership, and making a real impact. It gave us the opportunity to work with passionate people, organize events, and inspire others to explore AI for social good. At times, it was challenging balancing responsibilities and overcoming obstacles but it was all worth it because of the skills we developed and the connections we made. Overall, it was an incredible experience that helped us grow both personally and professionally!
>
> **~ Diimitrina Todorova, Burgas**

> I think it was a wonderful experience considering that it was just our second time organizing an event, and an international one at that. So, we really learned a lot with this event!
>
> **~ Tatiana Nanaieva, Ukraine**

> I would say it was a really good experience; I learned a lot; I met new people and made new friends (my fellow LAs). It also helped me expand my network and it was overall a really good experience!
>
> **~ Andre Mpoudi, Cameroon**

NAZIV GRUPE

Teens in AI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teensinai.
What is Design Thinking?
Teens in AI

Teens in AI
Inspiring teens to explore a future in tech and AI through collaborative, hands-on learning experiences.
teensinai.com
Team activity
1.5 hours
Project Showcase

Teens in AI

Virtual Panel

“Accelerating Action: Making AI Accessible for AI

Virtual Panel

“Accelerating Action: Making AI Accessible for AI

AI is reshaping industries, economies, and the way we work—but is the next generation ready? Our virtual panel explored how to close the talent gap, equip young people with the skills they need, and build an inclusive AI ecosystem that works for everyone.

730
Attended live

976
Total streams to date

Moderated as a live virtual panel by Teens in AI’s Head of Marketing, Bev Chislett, the discussion brought together thought leaders from Sage, Red Hat, and Microsoft, alongside a Teens in AI alum, to reflect on how we accelerate youth engagement in AI, address the digital skills gap, and build an AI ecosystem that leaves no one behind.

Delivered in Partnership with Sage and Red Hat

Virtual Panel

“Accelerating Action: Making AI Accessible for AI

Our Panelists

Bronwyn Dorrofield
Director, Sage’s Data & AI Academy

Susanne McDade
HR Business Partner, Global Services & EMEA Sales, Red Hat

Kimberly Fuqua
EMEA Director, Global Customer Success, Microsoft; Founder, Luminous Leaders

Ahana Chakraborty
Teens in AI alum; Student, King's College London Mathematics School

Link: Watch the Virtual Panel recording

Inspiring quotes

from our Virtual Panelists

Believe in yourself, be curious, and support one another. The greatest lessons often come from stepping into the unknown and learning through doing.

~ Bronwynn Dorrofield, Data & AI Academy Director, Sage

Lead by example, create spaces that invite different perspectives and openly welcome feedback, because true inclusion starts with how we behave and engage every day.

~ Susi McDade - HR Business Partner, Global Services and EMEA Sales - Red Hat

A growth mindset is one of the biggest enablers it helps you stay curious, resilient, and ready to learn and overcome any challenge, no matter who doubts you.

~ Kim Fuqua - EMEA Director of Global Customer Success - Microsoft & Founder of Luminous Leaders

One of the best parts of Teens in AI hackathons is the collaboration, working with people of different ages, backgrounds, and interests taught me that diverse teams create the richest learning experiences, skills, and friendships for the future.

~ Ahana Chakraborty - High School Student & Teens in AI Alumnae

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Engagement

Building brand values awareness

Engagement

Programme engagement across all channels

3.8m
Reach across all channels

201,992
Video views across all channels

211,562
Engagement across all channels

30,102
Individuals emailed

3,286
Link clicks to News Pages

521
TiAI social media posts across LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, Tiktok, X

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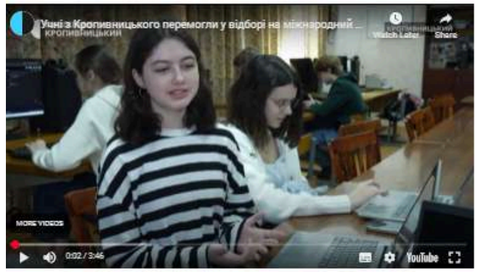
Third-party media

Teens in AI

"Вразили технологічною складністю та актуальністю": учні з
перемогли у нацвідборі міжнародного хакатону

Дарина Кузьміна Ірина Полуляк



Команда учнів "Ліцею нових технологій навчання" з Кропивницького перемогла у національному відборі міжнародного хакатону. Вони створили інтернет-сервіс, який виявляє дискримінацію чи булінг. Вік учнів – від 15 до 17 років. Україна вдруге бере участь у міжнародному хакатоні, який проходить у 97 країнах світу.

Про це Суспільному розповіла координаторка ШІ-проєктів Міністерства цифрової трансформації Софія Петькова.

За її інформацією, загалом було 255 заявок, з яких відібрали десять. Кількість учнів у командах була різна.

"Перше місце – команда з Кропивницького, перейшли в наступний етап, де міжнародні судді оцінюють всі проєкти з 97 країн світу. Вони вразили суддів своєю технологічною складністю і тим, що це актуальний проєкт. Ми побачили зацікавленість підлітків до штучного інтелекту і вирішили вдруге провести цей хакатон в Україні. Перше – було дуже важливо, щоб це були саме підлітки віком від 12 до 18 років, друге – мали обізнаність у сфері штучного інтелекту, навички програмування та рівень англійської мови".

За даними координаторки, міжнародне оцінювання проєктів триватиме з 4 по 18 квітня.

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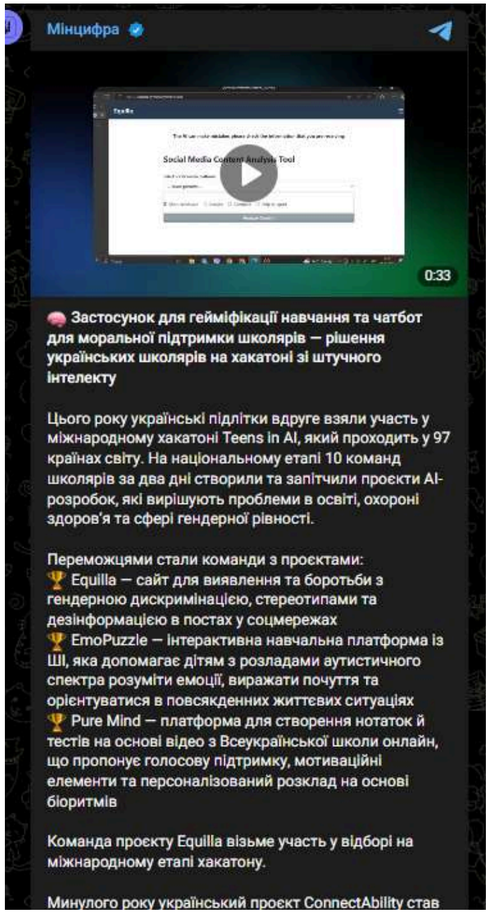


Link

Link

Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine + Follow
7,713 followers
1w •

🧠 Learning gamification app and chatbot for emotional support: Ukrainian students' AI hackathon solutions

This year, Ukrainian teenagers participated for the second time in the international Teens in AI hackathon, which takes place in 97 countries worldwide. During the national stage, 10 student teams developed and pitched AI-driven projects in just two days, addressing challenges in education, healthcare, and gender equality.

The winning teams and their projects:

🏆 Equilla – A website designed to detect and combat gender discrimination, stereotypes, and misinformation in social media posts.

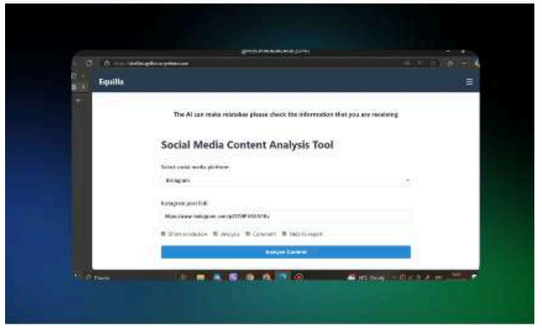
🏆 EmoPuzzle – An interactive AI-powered learning platform that helps children with autism spectrum disorders understand emotions, express feelings, and navigat everyday situations.

🏆 Pure Mind – A platform for creating notes and tests based on videos from the All-Ukrainian Online School, offering voice support, motivational elements, and a personalized schedule tailored to students' biorhythms.

The Equilla team will move forward to the international selection stage of the hackathon.

Last year, the Ukrainian project ConnectAbility won the competition. We wish Equill success and believe victory will once again belong to Ukraine! UA❤️

The event is organized by the Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine, Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, and Lviv IT Cluster, with support from the IT company TechMagic as part of the international Teens in AI hackathon.



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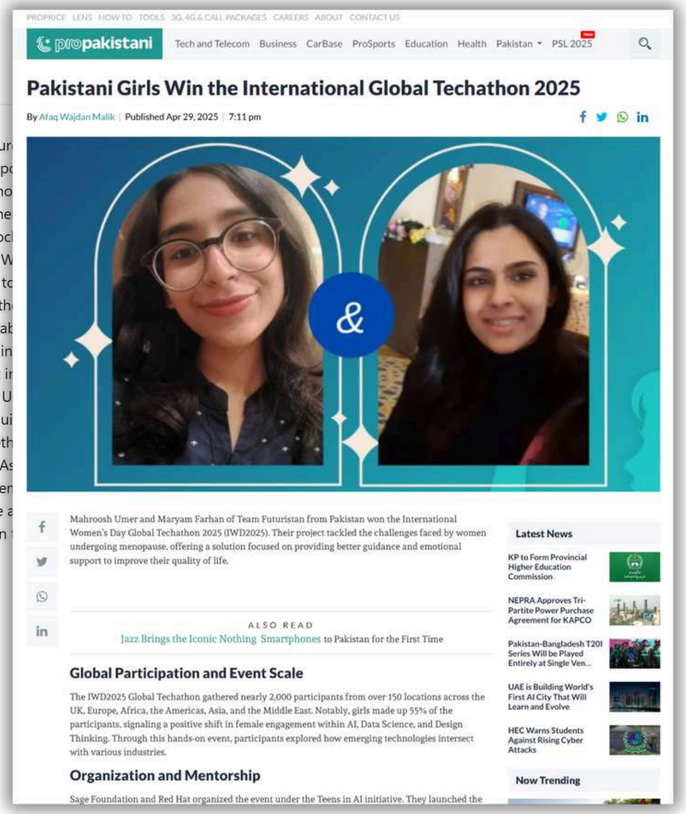
Talented girls from Pakistan win Int'l Women's Day Global Techathon Campaign 2025

Story by The Nation • 3w • 3 min read

Teens in AI, an initiative focused on inspiring teens to explore a futur
on learning experiences, partnered with global organisations Sage p
deliver this year's 2025 flagship International Women's Day Techatho
to April 2025, closing with its Global Demo Day, on 24 April. Togethe
equitable world where every individual has an equal chance to unloc
generating positive societal change. In celebration of International W
Global Techathons inspiring teens aged 12 to 18 to come together t
through the use of AI and Data Science for social good. This hackath
virtual, with challenges centred around the United Nations' Sustainab
of collaboration and innovation, the local team, guided by Noorulain
International, reached the finals, marking a significant achievement i
declared the Global Winners of the competition lead by Mahroosh U
provided a solution for women undergoing menopause and how gui
better. The IWD2025 Global Techathon saw participants come togeth
world from the UK and Europe, across Africa, and the Americas, to As
participants came together, 55% of whom were girls, immersing then
experience that allowed them to explore careers in AI, Data Science a
emerging fields intersect with other industries. This year, in addition

Link



PROPRICE LENS HOW TO TOOLS 3G, 4G & CALL PACKAGES CAREERS ABOUT CONTACT US

propakistani Tech and Telecom Business CarBase ProSports Education Health Pakistan PSL 2025

Pakistani Girls Win the International Global Techathon 2025

By Afaq Wajdan Malik | Published Apr 29, 2025 | 7:11 pm

Mahroosh Umer and Maryam Farhan of Team Futuristan from Pakistan won the International Women's Day Global Techathon 2025 (IWD2025). Their project tackled the challenges faced by women undergoing menopause, offering a solution focused on providing better guidance and emotional support to improve their quality of life.

ALSO READ

Jazz Brings the Iconic Nothing Smartphones to Pakistan for the First Time

Global Participation and Event Scale

The IWD2025 Global Techathon gathered nearly 2,000 participants from over 150 locations across the UK, Europe, Africa, the Americas, Asia, and the Middle East. Notably, girls made up 55% of the participants, signaling a positive shift in female engagement within AI, Data Science, and Design Thinking. Through this hands-on event, participants explored how emerging technologies intersect with various industries.

Organization and Mentorship

Sage Foundation and Red Hat organized the event under the Teens in AI initiative. They launched the

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Now Trending

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Pak girls win global techathon campaign

By PR | April 29, 2025

The representational image shows female students taking computer classes at a d
September 6, 2024. — Facebook/@sarhadruralsupport

LAHORE:Team Futuristan from Pakistan comprising Mahroosh Ur
were declared the global winners of International Women's Day Gl
(IWD2025). Their global project provided a solution for women un
how guidance and support can help them deal with it better.

The IWD2025 Global Techathon saw participants come together fr
locations around the world from the UK and Europe, across Africa
and the Middle East. Nearly 2,000 participants came together, 55%
immersing themselves in a challenging, hands-on tech experience
explore careers in AI, Data Science and Design Thinking; and learn
intersect with other industries.

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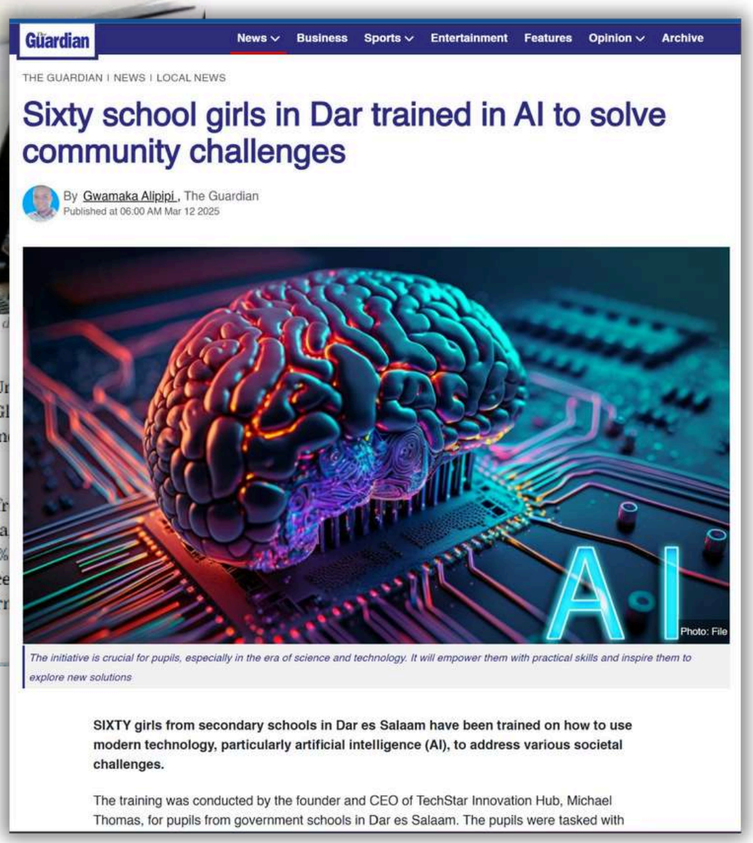

The Guardian News Business Sports Entertainment Features Opinion Archive

THE GUARDIAN I NEWS I LOCAL NEWS

Sixty school girls in Dar trained in AI to solve community challenges

By Gwamaka Alipipi , The Guardian
Published at 06:00 AM Mar 12 2025

Photo: File

The initiative is crucial for pupils, especially in the era of science and technology. It will empower them with practical skills and inspire them to explore new solutions

SIXTY girls from secondary schools in Dar es Salaam have been trained on how to use modern technology, particularly artificial intelligence (AI), to address various societal challenges.

The training was conducted by the founder and CEO of TechStar Innovation Hub, Michael Thomas, for pupils from government schools in Dar es Salaam. The pupils were tasked with

Link

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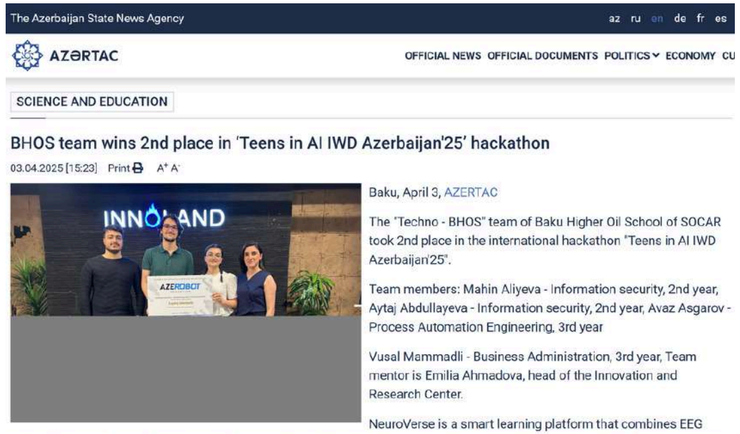

The Azerbaijan State News Agency

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SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

BHOS team wins 2nd place in 'Teens in AI IWD Azerbaijan'25' hackathon

03.04.2025 [15:23] Print A⁺ A⁻

Baku, April 3, AZERTAC

The "Techno - BHOS" team of Baku Higher Oil School of SOCAR took 2nd place in the international hackathon "Teens in AI IWD Azerbaijan'25".

Team members: Mahin Aliyeva - Information security, 2nd year, Aytaj Abdullayeva - Information security, 2nd year, Avaz Asgarov - Process Automation Engineering, 3rd year

Vusal Mammadli - Business Administration, 3rd year, Team mentor is Emilia Ahmadova, head of the Innovation and Research Center.

NeuroVerse is a smart learning platform that combines EEG sensors and artificial intelligence to monitor students' attention levels in real time. The system automatically changes the lesson format (interactive content, video, audio) based on brain activity, thus increasing attention. It also provides real-time progress reports, allowing teachers to take a personalized approach.

This project aims to contribute to the social benefits of artificial intelligence by supporting the goals of UN's SDG 4: Quality Education.

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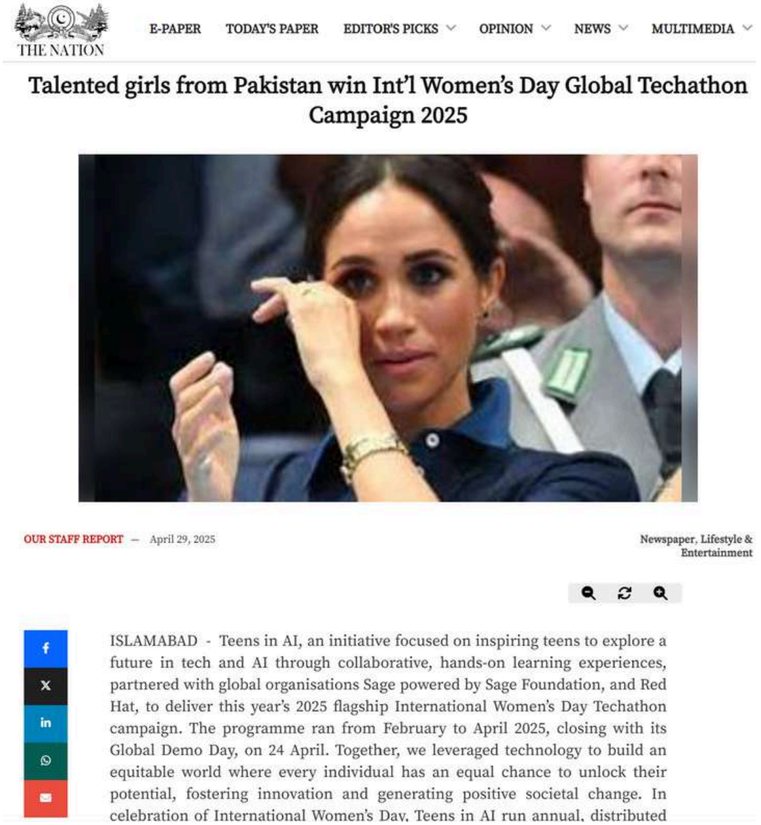

THE NATION

E-PAPER TODAY'S PAPER EDITOR'S PICKS OPINION NEWS MULTIMEDIA

Talented girls from Pakistan win Int'l Women's Day Global Techathon Campaign 2025

OUR STAFF REPORT — April 29, 2025

Newspaper, Lifestyle & Entertainment

ISLAMABAD - Teens in AI, an initiative focused on inspiring teens to explore a future in tech and AI through collaborative, hands-on learning experiences, partnered with global organisations Sage powered by Sage Foundation, and Red Hat, to deliver this year's 2025 flagship International Women's Day Techathon campaign. The programme ran from February to April 2025, closing with its Global Demo Day, on 24 April. Together, we leveraged technology to build an equitable world where every individual has an equal chance to unlock their potential, fostering innovation and generating positive societal change. In celebration of International Women's Day, Teens in AI run annual, distributed

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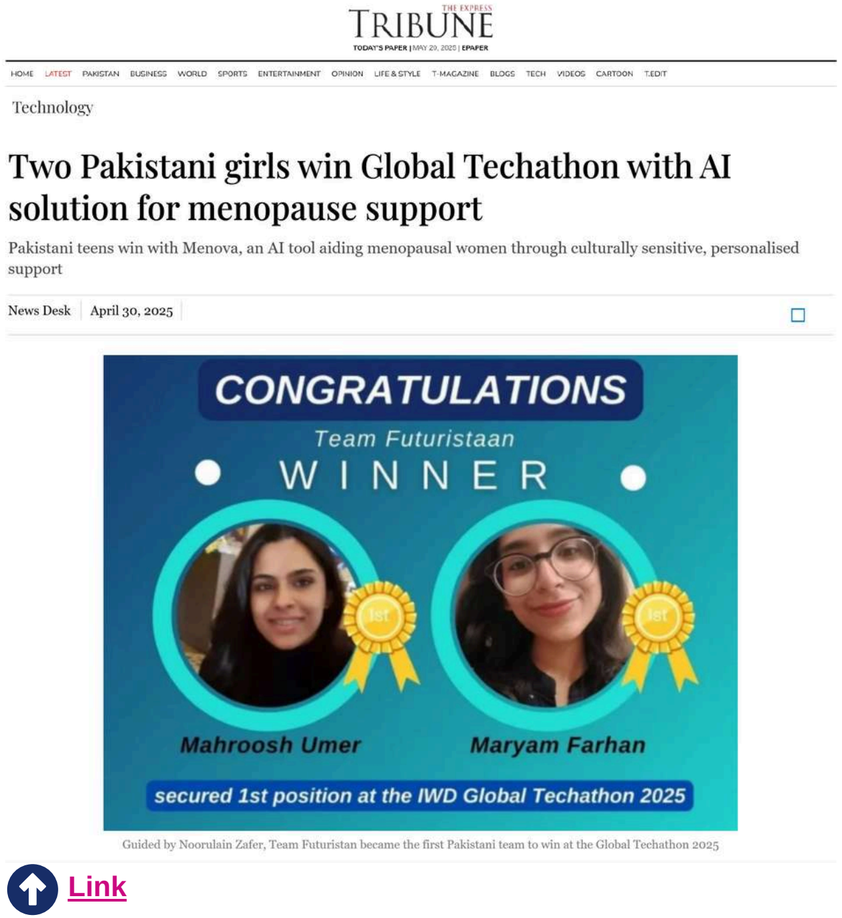

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THE EXPRESS TODAY'S PAPER | MAY 29, 2025 | EPAPER

HOME LATEST PAKISTAN BUSINESS WORLD SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT OPINION LIFE & STYLE T-MAGAZINE BLOGS TECH VIDEOS CARTOON T.EDIT

Technology

Two Pakistani girls win Global Techathon with AI solution for menopause support

Pakistani teens win with Menova, an AI tool aiding menopausal women through culturally sensitive, personalised support

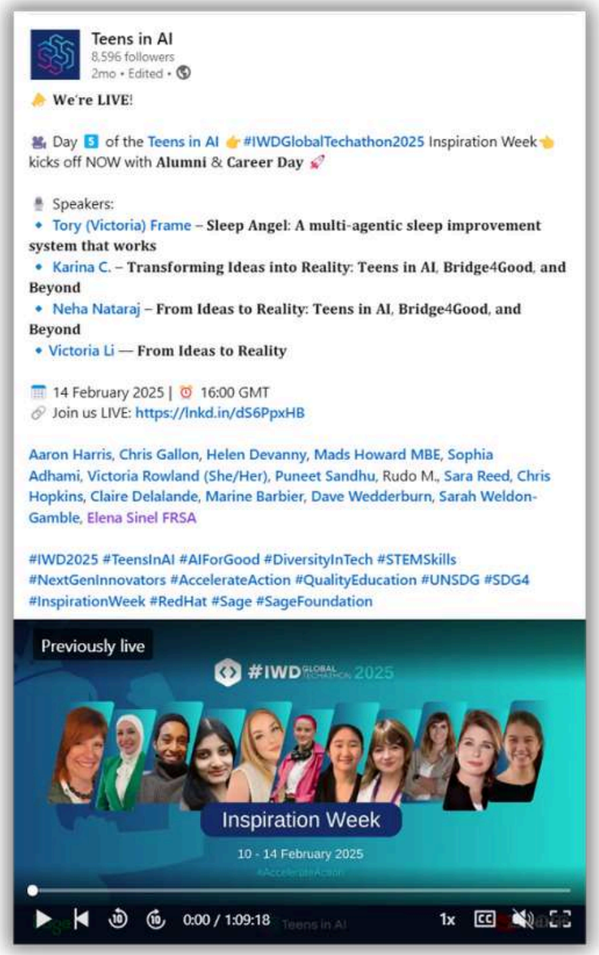
News Desk | April 30, 2025

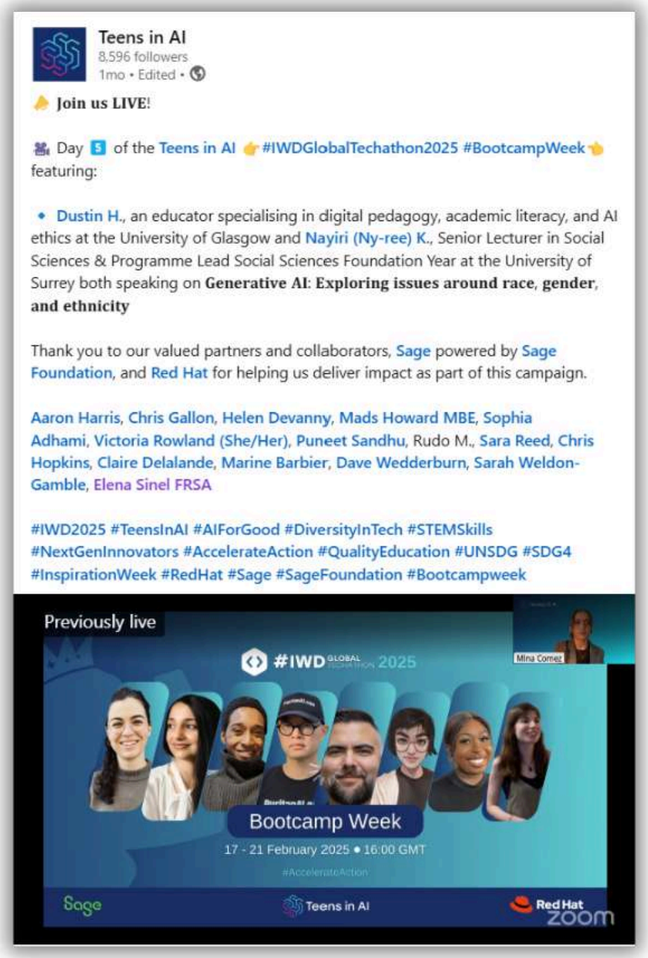
Guided by Noorulain Zafer, Team Futuristan became the first Pakistani team to win at the Global Techathon 2025

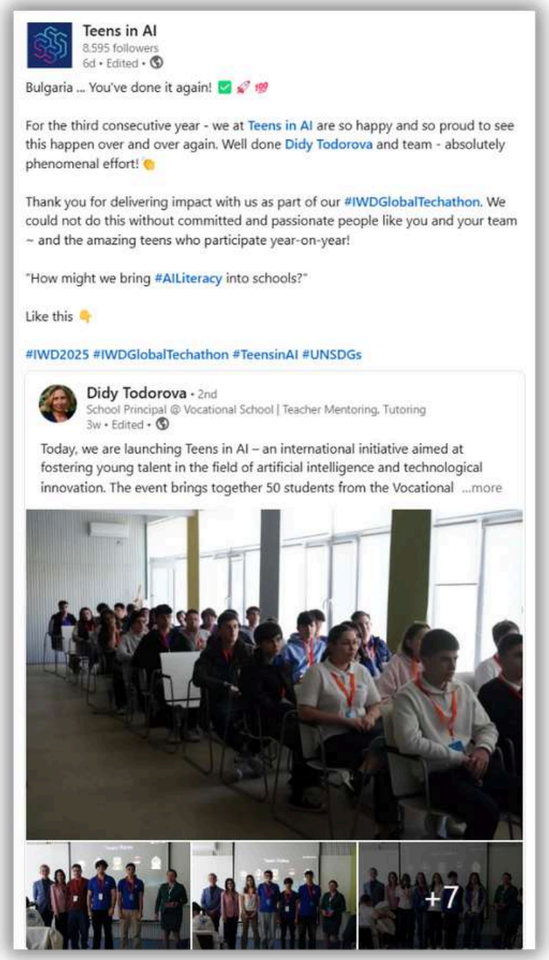
Link

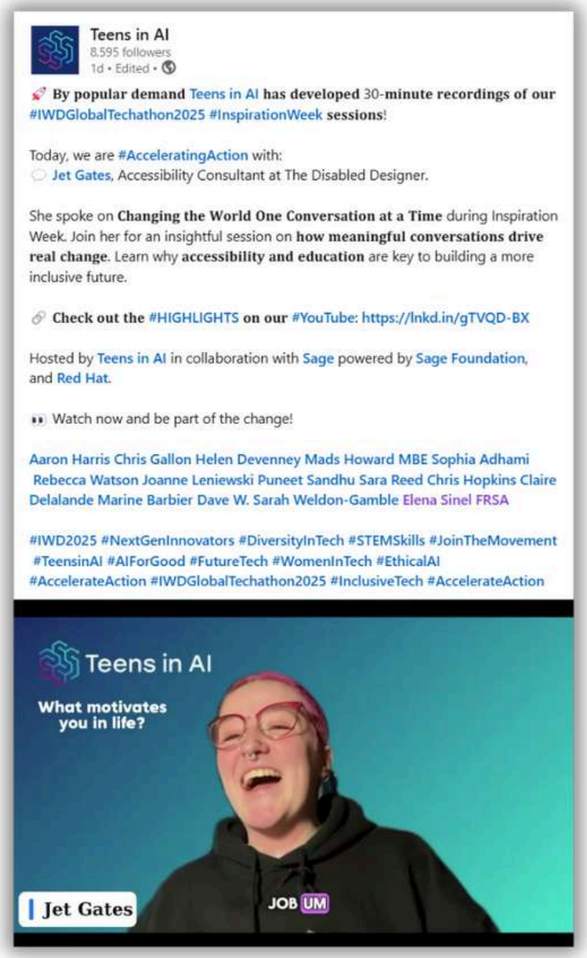
Sample engagement

Teens in AI









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Sample engagement

Teens in AI

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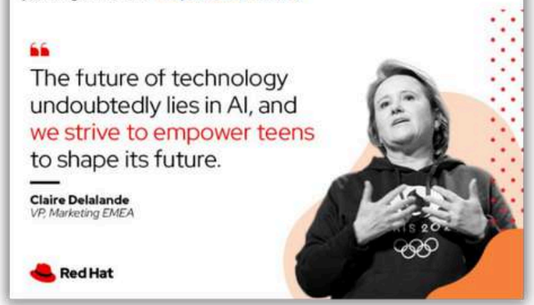
At Red Hat, we know that solving the skills gap requires action across education and industry, which is why we're proudly supporting Teens in AI, an organisation that empowers young people with the knowledge and experience to explore AI and contribute to real-world solutions. Read more from Claire Delalande to find out how you can get involved: https://red.ht/40O9vrQ



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Ahead of International Women's Day, and as part of Red Hat's ongoing support for Teens in AI, Red Hat's Cansu Kavılı Örnek led an amazing workshop on open source and generative AI and how teens can go from users to makers.

We also had the pleasure of inviting Patricia Mestre and Sylvia Lohr from Microsoft to talk about how we can build an inclusive future in AI, why inclusivity is key to responsible innovation, and how we can empower the next generation of technologists.

Watch their talks:
https://lnkd.in/exw7jKKu
https://lnkd.in/eiER-g4y
https://lnkd.in/egnNv8YE

Teens in AI
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Just 3 days to go! Ready to talk inclusion, opportunity, and the future of AI?

This Thursday, join us for our #VirtualPanel: **Accelerating Action – Making AI Accessible for All**, a key highlight of Teens in AI's **8th International Women's Day Global Techathon 2025**, in collaboration with Sage powered by Sage Foundation, and Red Hat.

Thursday, 17 April 2025
16:00–17:00 BST
Virtual Webinar
#Free and Open to all (Teens, Industry Professionals, Educators, and all who have an interest)

#Title - **Accelerating Action: Making AI Accessible for All**

With AI rapidly changing the landscape of work and society, how do we ensure the next generation isn't left behind? Join us for an insightful discussion as we explore how AI is transforming industries, economies, and how we work—yet the demand for talent continues to outpace supply. As businesses and governments invest heavily in AI, how can we ensure the next generation is equipped to thrive? And how do we build an inclusive AI ecosystem that benefits everyone?

Our esteemed Panelists:

- Bronwyn Dorrofield – Director of Sage's Data & AI Academy
- Jennifer Dudeck– Senior Vice President and Chief People Officer at Red Hat
- Kimberly Fuqua – EMEA Director of Global Customer Success at Microsoft and Founder of Luminous Leaders
- Ahana Chakraborty, a Teens in AI alum and student at King's College London Mathematics School with a passion for climate conservation and technology

Register free here:
https://lnkd.in/ddhSQZmj

Aaron Harris Chris Gallon Helen Devenney Mads Howard MBE Sophia Adhami Rebecca Watson Joanne Leniewski Puneet Sandhu Sara Reed Chris Hopkins Claire Delalande Marine Barbier Dave W. Sarah Weldon-Gamble Elena Sinel FRSA

#IWD2025 #NextGenInnovators #DiversityInTech #STEMSkills #JoinTheMovement #TeensinAI #AIForGood #FutureTech #WomenInTech #EthicalAI #AccelerateAction #AI

Shane Charles Nickerson • 2nd
Sales Development Representative excelling in Fintech Solution...
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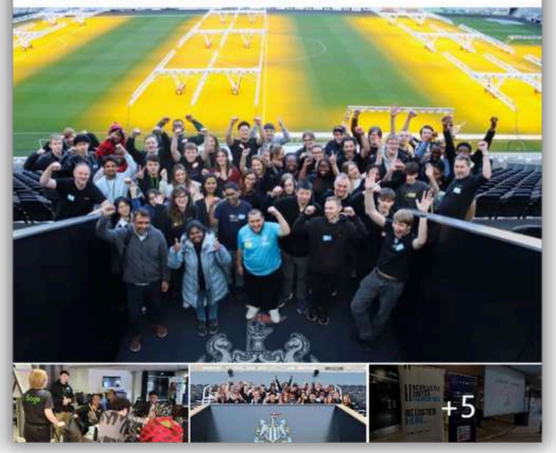
Recently I had an incredible experience volunteering with Sage as an AI Ethics Mentor with Teens in AI at St James' Park. It was an amazing opportunity to help out and guide the next generation of young innovators.

I got to work with some incredible people and it genuinely gave me hope about the next generation and their ability to utilise various AI tools. the team I worked with created a game called "Fun-key," which uses AI to provide education to children in low-income areas. I'm so proud of what they achieved together and the positive impact Teens in AI continue to have.

Massive thank you to Sage, Sage Foundation, Teens in AI and the amazing Elena Sinel FRSA for all the incredible work you are doing, I look forward to the next Hackathon in Newcastle and will be 100% volunteering again!

#AI #Ethics #TeensInAI #Volunteering #Education



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Dynamic marketing leader | 14+ years driving growth in B2B Sa...
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Red Hat is proud to support initiatives like Teens in AI that are paving the way for the future of artificial intelligence. Learn more about their mission and impact and our recent work together in France.

Teens in AI veut combler le déficit de compétences en IA
goodtech.info

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Bosnia and Herzegovina Techathon: Innovation in Action!

The energy in **Bosnia and Herzegovina** was electric as young innovators came together to tackle real-world challenges with AI! Over two days, teams brainstormed, built prototypes and refined their ideas with the help of expert mentors.
Thank you, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, **and our amazing** #LocalAmbassadors Mirza Rastoder and **Sabina Hodžić** for delivering such impact, it was a fantastic learning experience for participants!

Final pitches were nothing short of extraordinary—teams presented their solutions, impressed the judges, and showcased the power of AI for good. A huge shoutout to our incredible #Mentors, #Partners, and #Volunteers who made this experience unforgettable!

This year's #IWDGlobalTechathon2025, hosted by Teens in AI in collaboration with Sage, powered by Sage Foundation and Red Hat, is part of the **8th International Women's Day Global Techathon** 2025 with the theme #AccelerateAction. Let's go!

The journey doesn't stop here! Stay tuned as the #IWDGlobalTechathon2025 continues in cities across the globe, bringing together young changemakers to push boundaries and create impact with AI!

Aaron Harris Chris Gallon Helen Devenney Mads Howard MBE Sophia Adhami Rebecca Watson Joanne Leniewski Puneet Sandhu Sara Reed Chris Hopkins Claire Delalande Marine Barbier Dave W. Sarah Weldon-Gamble Elena Sinel FRSA Alema Pelesić Sara Lerota HUB Student Affairs - HUBSA

#IWD2025 #NextGenInnovators #DiversityInTech #STEMSkills #JoinTheMovement #TeensinAI #AIForGood #FutureTech #WomenInTech #EthicalAI #AccelerateAction

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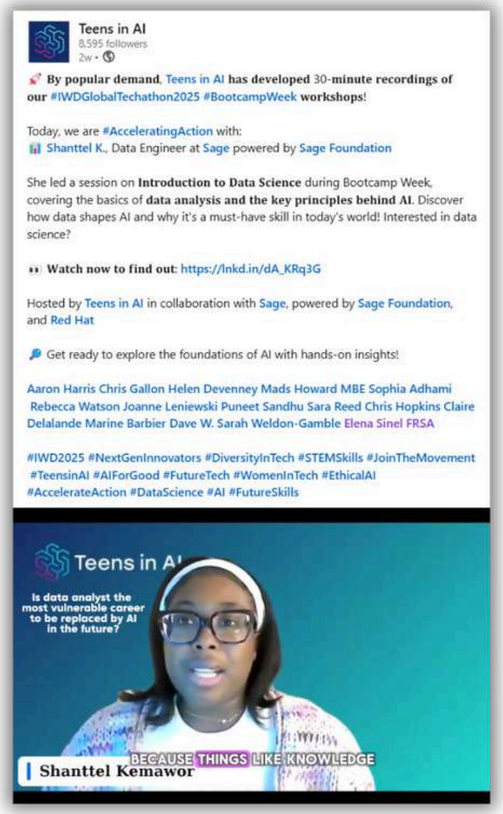

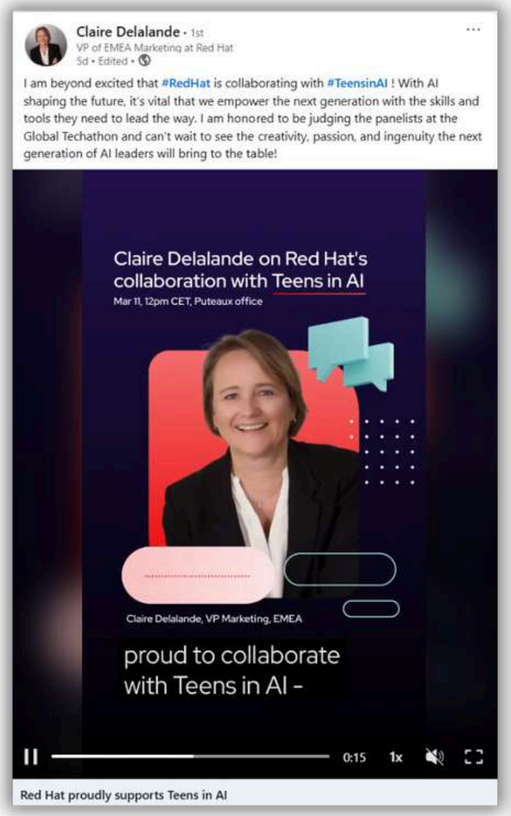

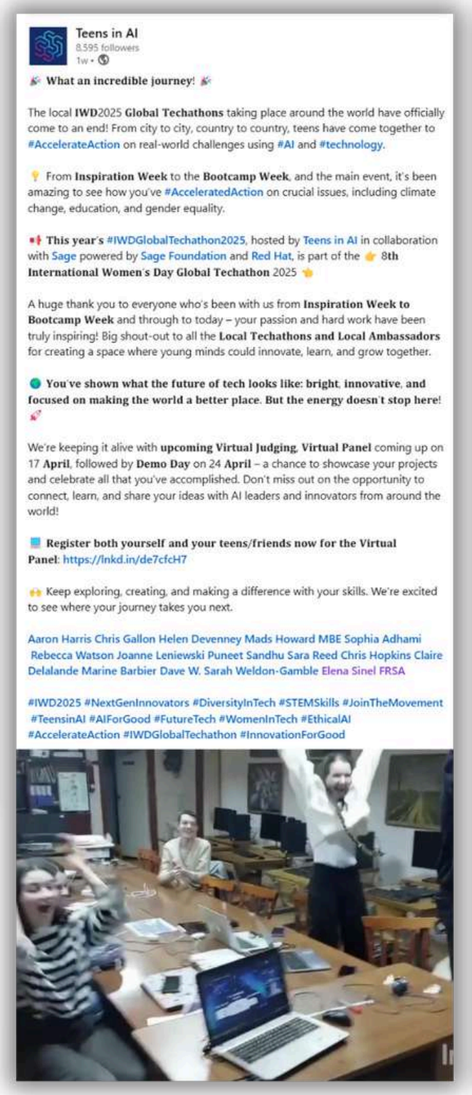

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Teens in AI

Alumni

How we support them and where they are today

The Winning Teams

How we are supporting our 2025 IWD Global Techathon alumni

Each team member will receive a brand **new tablet**, perfect for staying connected and advancing their AI learning journey. All team members will also enjoy a free **12-month membership to AI Adventures,** offering access to a wide range of AI learning resources and experiences. In addition, they will have the opportunity to meet with **Sage Leadership for mentoring and participate in a Red Hat EMEA Voices Live Panel**. Plus, they'll receive an exclusive invitation to attend the 2025 **AI4Good Incubator** free of charge.

Every team member will receive an **Arduino kit sponsored by Red Hat**, an excellent tool for hands-on learning and building real-world AI and robotics projects. They will also benefit from **mentoring sessions with Red Hat leadership**, gaining invaluable insights into the tech industry. In addition, all team members will enjoy free **12-month membership access to AI Adventures** to further expand their AI skills. Like the 1st place winners, they'll also be invited to attend the **AI4Good Incubator** free of charge, connecting them with a global community of innovators.

The team will be **mentoring from Red Hat experts** and **Teens in AI's senior leadership**, gaining invaluable insights and guidance from experienced industry professionals. They will also enjoy free **12-month membership access to AI Adventures**, empowering them to deepen their AI knowledge across a variety of topics. In addition, they'll receive an exclusive invitation to attend the **AI4Good Incubator** free of charge, joining a global community of young innovators.

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Teens in AI
NEWCASTLE UNITED FOUNDATION
REGISTER HERE...
Inspiring teens to explore a future in tech and AI
Task 1: Define your problem statement
Task 2: Create a persona
How might we _____ (what?) for _____ (who?) in _____ (when / where?) in order to _____ (why?)
Consider:
Challenges
Primary needs
Aims/motivation
Tech and devices used
22:25
Volunteer
BAKED not fried

Teens in AI

Alumni

Where are some of our alumni today?

Ahana Chakraborty - High School Student & Teens in AI Alumnae

A Teens in AI alum since 2018, Ahana has grown from participant to local organiser and IWD panellist. She conducted research at MIT's RSI program and will be joining UC Berkeley Engineering in 2025. Ahana continues to champion inclusivity and innovation in STEM.

Sofia Dey Choudhury, Student, Co-founder of Mathletico maths app

At just 13, Sofia is a UK Math Olympiad medalist and co-founder of Mathletico, a maths app for teens. An academic scholar at Wycombe Abbey, she’s passionate about tech and joined Teens in AI to apply her coding skills for real-world impact. Sofia continues to inspire with her drive for innovation and excellence.

Karina Chung, Student at Harvard University

Karina Chung is a current third-year undergraduate at Harvard studying Computer Science and Statistics. Over the last five years, she has applied AI and data science to address global challenges including homelessness and climate change in projects spanning academia, finance, non-profits, and start-ups. In her spare time, Karina enjoys practicing rock climbing and gymnastics.

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Teens in AI

Thank you to our

Judges, Speakers and Ambassadors

who made the world of difference

We thank our Judges

Meet the Judges who motivated the future of AI

Gustavo Zeidan
EVP, Global CISO
Sage

Claire Delalande
VP, EMEA Marketing
Red Hat

Tabitha Goldstaub
Board Member
Luminate Group

Saba Rubaei
SVP, Head of ICRM
Citi

We thank our Speakers

Teens in AI

Meet the Featured Speakers who shared their insights

Bronwyn Dorrofield
Sage

Kim Fuqua
Microsoft

Aaron Harris
Sage

Susi McDade
Red Hat

Ahana Chakraborty
Alumnae

Sylvia Lohr
Red Hat / Microsoft

Robert Clarke
FinalSpark/Uni of Bath

Alex Yip
Puritan AI & TechUK

Jet Gates
The Disabled Designer

Ruba Al-Zu'bi
Jordan Green Building Council

Patricia Mestre
Red Hat / Microsoft

Becki Green
UK Health Security Agency

Jade Hill
Sage

Karina Chung
Alumni

Neha Nataraj
Alumni

Dustin Hosseini
University of Glasgow

Victoria Li
Alumni

Tori Frame
University of Bath

Sofia
Student & Founder of Mathletico

Shanttel Kemawor
Sage

Morgan Briggs
Alan Turing

Sabeehah Mahomed
Alan Turing

Cansu Kavili Oernek
Red Hat

Nayiri Keshishi
University of Glasgow

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We thank our Virtual Judges

Meet the Virtual Judges who found the top projects

Ben Aung
Sage

Pauline Truong
Red Hat

Johan Robinson
Red Hat

Sophia Adhami
Sage

Jessica Wrigley
Sage

Heather Brown
Sage

Alex Yip
Puritan AI

Danny Bluestone
CACI Digital Experience

Nitendra Rajput
Mastercard

Olajide Ademola Ajayi
SAP

Andrea Palmer
Infosys

Loretta Awuah
Greenwich Leisure Limited

David Champeaux
Hitachi Solutions

Wendy Rentschler
BMC Software

Alexandra Feeley
Oxford University Press

Tom Spencer
Aviva

Harold Selman
Sopra Steria

Egmond Boon
CIEO The Awty International School

Ghayda Salameh
EM JordanGBC

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We thank our Virtual Judges

Meet the Virtual Judges who found the top projects

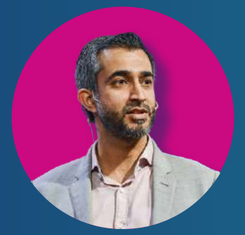
Melanie Bauer
Hitachi Solutions France

Luke Pearce
Santander UK

Rabia Cozijn
Transnet SOC Ltd

Maya Bankovich
PwC

Evelina Parnerud
IBM



Ravi Rabheru
Intel Corporation

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We thank our Local Ambassadors

Teens in AI

Meet some of our Ambassadors who made IWD2025 a success

Patrice Robertson
Ghana

Mirza Rastoder
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Sheila Fue
Tanzania

Dimitrina Todorova
Bulgaria

Lulu Burger
South Africa

Lungile Maile
South Africa

Lungile Maile
South Africa

Maanda Nekhavhambe
South Africa

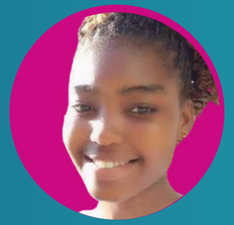
Christel Jusayan
Phillipines

Jemierex Valencia
Phillipines

Adelaide Yeboah
Ghana

Andre Mpoudi
Cameroon

Arshiva Saxena
Hong Kong



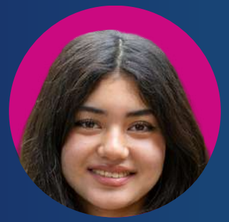
Beldi Zikudia
Tanzania

Esther Fomsi
Nigeria

Parinaz Dastur
USA

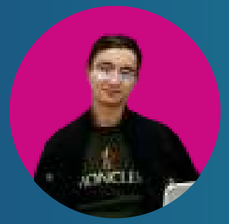
Sabina Hodzic
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Shrihaan Saxena
Hong Kong

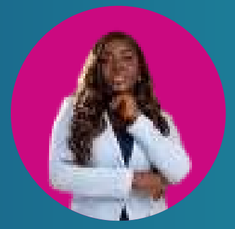


Talia Ye
USA

Taya Buchanan
South Africa



Azizbek Nurillayev
Uzbekistan



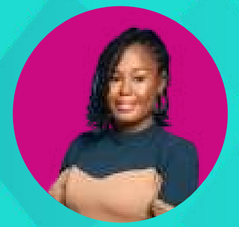
Blessing Akanle
Nigeria

Sarra Mtir
Tunisia

Noorulain Zafer
Pakistan

Rufat Azizzade
Azerbaijan

Tatiana Nanaieva
Ukraine



Magaret Ekerendu
Nigeria

Teens in AI

Setting the Benchmark

Editor's Notes

Setting the benchmark

Editor's Notes

Reflecting on the momentum of 2024, this year's IWD Global Techathon not only sustained but amplified our mission at Teens in AI. **The 2025 programme showcased remarkable growth, deeper inclusivity, and a stronger alignment with the evolving global workforce landscape.**

Global Expansion & Participation: In 2025, we expanded to **56 global locations** - a staggering **107% increase** from 2024's - demonstrating our commitment to reaching diverse communities worldwide. **Registered teen participation also rose to 1,819**, an increase on the previous year, reflecting **continued growth in global interest and engagement from young innovators**.

Inclusion: Our dedication to inclusivity bore fruit, with **64% of participants coming from diverse ethnic backgrounds**, up from 43% in 2024. **This significant increase reflects our ongoing efforts to create a tech ecosystem that mirrors the rich tapestry of global cultures and perspectives.**

Aligning with Global Workforce Trends: The **World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report 2025** emphasises the rapid evolution of the job market, see extract overleaf. **Our programmes' emphasis on these areas ensures participants are well-equipped to navigate and contribute to the dynamic landscape ahead.**

Looking Ahead: The 2025 IWD Global Techathon stands as a testament to the power of inclusive education and innovation. As we continue to empower the next generation of technologists, we remain committed to fostering environments where diversity thrives, skills are honed, and futures are forged.

Together, we are shaping a more inclusive and innovative world - one future at a time.

Bev Chislett

Head of Marketing, Teens in AI

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM **estimates that 170m new roles are projected by 2030.**

Stating that:

There will be a **net increase of 78m** jobs after accounting for 92m displaced positions.

AI and big data skills top the list of fastest-growing competencies, followed closely by networks, cybersecurity, and technological literacy.

Creative thinking, resilience, and flexibility are increasingly vital, underscoring the blend of technical and human skills needed in the future workforce.

Bev Chislett

Head of Marketing

Teens in AI

Our Programmes, Impact and Reach

How we deliver impact

AI4GOOD INCUBATOR 2025

Teens in AI

The AI4Good Incubator is a **global 5-day virtual bootcamp** style programme where teens aged 12-18 work in teams to build a tech-based project, inspired by a **climate-related** United Nations Sustainable Development Goal.

All genders are welcome to participate!

2025 programme dates:

28 July-1 August 2025

What teens can expect

Over the 5-day programme, teens will learn and experience:

- How AI works, its ethics and why it matters
- How to develop code responsibly
- How to build a prototype
- How to pitch a project to an expert panel of judges
- Get to experience a ‘day in the life of an entrepreneur’

Find out more

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AI ADVENTURES Courses

Teens in AI

Our **online**, **self-paced** AI Adventures **courses** teach teens the skills the industry is looking for both today and in the future, with AI ethics at its core.

- All our courses use project and problem-based learning methods
- Learning styles include video, glossaries, presentations, text, case studies coding challenges, projects and short quizzes

Learn

Our instructors are AI experts who have worked on real-world projects and will give you a good foundation into AI.

Achieve

You'll learn practical skills that can help you solve complex problems and develop creative solutions.

Succeed

With our courses, you'll be ready for future career opportunities across many different industries.

Find out more

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Our Programmes

Teens in AI

#IWD GLOBAL TECHATHON

Run February to April annually, a global event hosted virtually in a hybrid format where teens aged 12-18 come together to collaboratively solve a real-world problem through the use of AI and Data Science for social good. **Get involved**

AI4GOOD INCUBATOR

The AI4Good Incubator is a global 5-day virtual bootcamp style programme where teens aged 12-18 work in teams to build a tech-based project, inspired by a climate-related United Nations Sustainable Development Goal. **Get involved**

AI ADVENTURES Courses

AI Adventures self-paced courses go beyond just coding and AI creation. It's where young minds learn to think critically and solve real-world problems. We focus on using AI responsibly for the greater good, ensuring a brighter future where technology and humanity grow hand in hand. **Find out more**

TEENS IN ACTION
YOUR VOICE, YOUR FUTURE

A virtual event series for teens aged 12-18 where global AI leaders empower and engage young minds in thought-provoking conversations and discussions centred around AI-based topics. Each month, we invite expert speakers who specialise in AI, ethics, and social impact topics. **Find out more**

Our Bespoke Solutions

Our tailored consultancy solutions help corporates, governments, and educational institutions meet community-driven goals, offering support to navigate and achieve strategic objectives effectively. **Find out more**

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Our Impact in Numbers
Cross-programme 2021-2024

Teens in AI

We’re not just dedicated to increasing diversity in tech.
We’re striving for social impact through AI.

20,341
Registered Teen Participants

57%
Girls & Non-Binary

69%
State Schooled

80%
Diverse ethnic backgrounds

718
Guest Speakers

2,160
Mentors & Instructors

97
Countries

788
United Nations SDG Projects

504
Expert Judges

8,169
Average Mentor Hours

297
Volunteer Ambassadors

15
Awards

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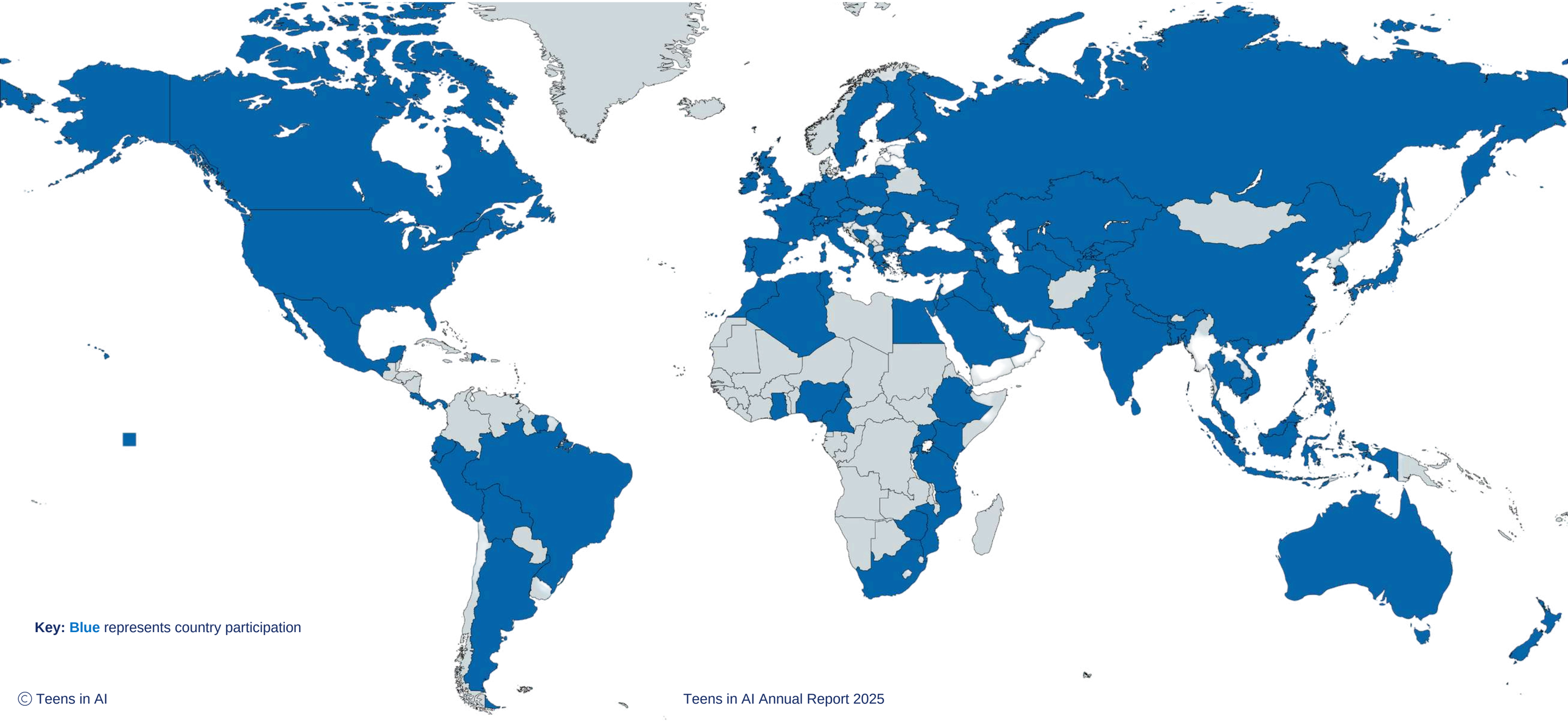
Our Global Reach

Teens in AI



Key: **Blue** represents country participation

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Teens in AI

Changing lives, transforming futures
~ one future at a time.

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