



FUTUREMAKERS FORUM 2021

Competition winners

The competition provided young people (aged between the ages of 16-35 with a connection to Futuremakers by Standard Chartered) with the opportunity to tell business leaders joining the Futuremakers Forum 2021 what they want them to know about the future of work and skills.

The top 5 entries will receive up to \$750 (USD) worth of credits to unlock online skills training from selected providers. Finalists were also given a platform to share their ideas with Forum delegates from around the world.

[Read the full terms and conditions](#)

Read our winning entries:

- [Futuremaker, Uganda \(29\)](#)
- [Futuremaker, Kenya \(24\)](#)
- [Futuremaker, India \(23\)](#)
- [Futuremaker, Kenya \(23\)](#)
- [Futuremaker, Uganda \(25\)](#)



Futuremaker, Uganda (29)

One of the characteristics of living things is that they grow. Although all living things grow, we grow differently. A calf can walk minutes after birth and feed itself in hours, but it takes a baby over nine months to take the first steps and a few years to hold a spoon. I wonder if you ever wished things different. Have you ever wished your baby would simply tell you they are hungry, instead of screaming you to deafness? Unfortunately, that is not how it works. Also unfortunate is the fact that many young entrepreneurs seem to expect such from their businesses. Even though businesses are technically not living things, they grow too.

Therefore, growth has to be measured and systematic. I feel like many young entrepreneurs do not understand this. Uganda is said to be one of the most entrepreneurial countries on the planet, but only a fraction of those new businesses celebrate a 5th birthday. Why? Because they lack the basic skills and understanding of business. Say, they want to earn so much too quickly and will often channel much of the revenue out of the business instead of reinvesting it. How can business leaders aid such young businesspeople then? By offering training and mentoring on how to manage and grow businesses.

I am a #Futuremaker because I speak into the dreams of the next generation, and I believe business leaders need to know that any little wisdom shared with a young mind could birth a business empire.



Futuremaker, Kenya (24)

I am a future maker, because I have the power to unlock the potential in me
And I believe, business leaders need to know that young people have
dreams

Guidance and motivation, is what we lack

Our dreams shatters, as we watch it slowly disappear into sightlessness

We need your affirmation; you are our mirror through you we see us

My imagination will take me everywhere; My future starts today!

I am a future maker, because I predict future by creating it

Conscious leadership should be your portion, attracting young talent it is

Through finance empowerment, we can thrive by venturing in investment

Through creativity, we can save money while increasing productivity

My imagination will take me everywhere; My future starts today!

I am a future maker, because I believe in the word

We've got skills and imagination, that we can bring to the table

With new energy, we can bring fresh perspective and ideas

Bringing in advantage, as we know how to communicate with our peers

And yes! We can strike a deal

My imagination will take me everywhere; My future starts today!

I am a future maker, because my tomorrow must be better

Through mentorship, young people can examine their business plans and
ideas

Through adaptability, as situation arise and evolve, we adjust

Why yes! You can better support young entrepreneurs

My imagination will take me everywhere; My future starts today!



Futuremaker, India (23)

Young people are the Future maker's I saw was that training was given only to those who have passed higher secondary and above. This tickled my mind and I question myself, 'why do we have to wait till we passed our higher secondary, graduates, master's, etc.?' Is there not a way that we can help those primary and secondary students? For example communication skills, active listening, problem-solving, teamwork, etc. Can we not train these at the same time at school? Because if we can do so, we are saving our time, the students will be good enough to work after completing their studies, they can start their own business if they may want to. Government, organizations, and companies won't have to waste their time by training them again. In today's world, computers have been an important part of schools, organizations companies, etc. We can do so many things with the help of computers for example they are used for recordings, researching, locations, etc. We even work online by accessing the internet. But most of the young people don't even know how to use it. This is what we must do something about it. We have computers as a subject at school but some schools didn't take the responsibility to teach the students properly. This is what we must be concern about this, we should help them while they are at school. This is how we can make changes in the future. We give hope to the young people who feel that they are lost. We give opportunities to those who never got the chance to learn to grow.



Futuremaker, Kenya (23)

The regular parallel.

The future is bright, repeatedly they say,
Its truth I fright, perhaps that's pessimism,
I explore the thought, what the future holds,
Am a young mind, what better do I know?
But I have to try, I am a Futuremaker because,
The irregular parallel is my hope.

A good education, certainly a bright future,
I don't object, to some it has proved true,
Others are skeptics, many are in favor,
Then a question, what is a good education?
In our fields we learn, part from that little else,
The irregular parallel is my hope.

The millennia's have heard, much has been said,
Much knowledge they have, courage they lack,
Its truth is for everyone decide, what do you think?
And I believe yes, business leaders need to know,
We are a plot, the book is yet to be complete,
The irregular parallel is my hope.

The future and the past, a regular parallel,
What is current will remain, unless change,
The future is bright, but if we help each other,
Am yet to see many years, yet this has been,
All we can succeed, with this thing needful,
Kindness, the hope for the irregular parallel.



Futuremaker, Uganda (25)

Main objectives: To create job opportunities for the innovative youths with aim of reducing poverty especially among the deaf community.

I am a future maker because I want to break the communication barrier between business leaders and innovative youth in deaf community and I believe business leaders need to know that successful businesses are ones that include the needs of everyone. Everyone is a user, customer and an opinion former that shapes perception and future success of our businesses. Due to today's technology advancement and covid19 pandemic, relevant business information is passed on via live online Zoom, LinkedIn and others. However, most of the Deaf innovative young are left out due to lack of sign language interpreters and challenge in accessing substitutes/captions coupled with difficulty in reading. To resolve the above problem, there is need to set up an inclusive business information access center for innovative youths, employing sign language translators who will translate live webinar business information to deaf young and at least two skilled youth who will work as videos editors as well as translating them in sign language for deaf with reading challenges. There is need to establish a platform that inspires, trains, supports and gives any available business opportunities to those capable of sustaining them. Herein are some of the requirements needed to start up business.

- a) Spacious conference room
- b) good internet
- c) office space
- d) Big television, computers and public address system
- e) Two sign language interpreters
- f) Two skilled video editors.