Introduction

In response to the COVID-19 impact on tourism, the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), launched the Healing Solutions for Tourism Challenge to identify the most disruptive startups, entrepreneurs, innovators and existing technologies with ready-to-implement solutions to make travelling possible in one of the categories:

- **Healing for People:** health and sanitary solutions, with projects trying to trace and stop the spread of the virus and infected people and proposing alternative ways for governments to fight the disease.

- **Healing for Prosperity:** economic solutions, with projects trying to optimize and generate additional revenues to companies and communities.

- **Healing for Destinations:** confidence recovery, destination rebranding campaigns, airports safety and crisis communication.
Global Finalists

Throughout the 4-week call, 1183 projects from 110 countries were received and evaluated by a Committee of Experts from the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), The World Health Organization (WHO) and The World Bank. 30 semi-finalists and 9 finalists were selected. Solutions mostly use the following technologies to deliver their impact: Virtual and Augmented Reality, Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data and Blockchain.

SEE GLOBAL FINALISTS HERE

REGIONAL RUNNER-UPS AFRICA

BODA Community Smart City Applications Suite • Ghana
Safe environmentally friendly disinfection • South Africa
Solar Automatic Body Sanitation Tool • Cameroon
VISTA Destination Network Open Platform and Ecosystem • South Africa & Namibia
Pitch: A borderless proximity based mobile solution with early detection, crisis communication, crisis management features enabling easy, efficient and effective reporting of symptoms without need for localised emergency numbers or multiple country specific mobile apps. Coupled with the AI enabled Coordination Centre Dashboard application, it provides a ‘one Digital Solution’ for Citizens, Call Centres, Pandemic Management Doctors, Laboratory Technicians, Ambulance station and Staff, Disease Control Agents and Researchers EVERYWHERE in the world - all working from a single source of person data.

Contact: christian.asante@casantey.com

Website: www.bodacommunity.io

Year Established: 1997

Funding: (Self Financed) to date. Solution operational in some countries. Funding required to scale up particularly through increased resources in marketing and publishing the solution.

Team: Casantey Business Solutions Group (CBSG) is the Oracle University in Ghana and a technology innovation hub. The company has a Staff strength of 62 and is led at the C-level by Christian Asante MBA, LL.M as CEO, Getrude Dzansi MBA Finance as COO and CFO and Daniel Marfo Msc as CIO.
Pitch: ECA Technology is a SAFE, proven, “green” ALTERNATIVE to hazardous chemicals. ECA is applied to all hard surfaces in the hospitality travel industry to achieve a 99.9% rate of disinfection. ECA is cost-effective, non-toxic to humans, non-tainting, non-flammable, easy to use and made fresh on-site as required.

Contact: derik@radicalwaters.com

Website: www.radicalwaters.com

Year Established: 2016

Funding: Since its inception Radical Waters has been privately funded by the shareholders. The majority shareholder has invested a substantial amount in the operation of the company and the obtention of patents. Due to the Covid-19 crisis, the company is currently self-funded from its sales efforts. However, we foresee substantial growth, due to the market acceptance of our technology, and hence need to prepare for this growth.

Team: Radical Waters is a small company with a highly skilled and dedicated Team. Most of the team members have been with the company for more than 8 years. Our skill sets are in sales, marketing, service and maintenance and ECA application development.
Pitch: Looking at the poor hygienic and environmental conditions in Africa and looking at the economic resources of the families and administrations, a team of the engineers design local solutions adapted to the environment, economic situation and social conditions of the population and administration, based on the locally available and accessible materials.

To combat the price surges in gloves and masks, we designed a mobile solar automatic sanitizer with large diffusion area, for external body disinfection entering public offices such as hospital, schools, restaurant, offices and other closed environment.

This solution will reduce eventual microbiological load in the public environment and it will decrease eventual contamination.

Contact: agenceuniversitaireinnovation@gmail.com

Website: www.aui-techno.com

Year Established: 2016

Funding: So far, we have spent $53000 on production. But what we have does not enable meet the demands of our products. So we need $120 000 to effectively and efficiently supply our products to those in need.

Team: Our staff is divided into two categories: the administrative staff and the Technical staff who most often are in the workshop at Baffousam, in the Western region of Cameroon. Their backgrounds are equally diverse: IT expert and Specialist in management of projects, Technical Support Qualification and Bio-safety engineer.

Our holistic methodology and managed service to inclusively enable all hospitality and tourism businesses in a Destination and the seamless integration of bookable and non-bookable content of all hospitality and tourism businesses will be made available to all other stakeholders in the destination.

Our VISTA Destination Network Open Platform and Ecosystem and the UNWTO Digital-Transformation-Strategy is a unique Supply-Site Platform and 4th Industrial Revolution Project enabling an entire destination and its hospitality and tourism businesses taking back control of their visibility, digital presence, reputation, communication, and distribution.

Contact: thomas@rainmaker.travel

Website: www.rainmaker.travel

Year Established: 2019

Funding: 100% Bootstrapped, Only Founders Money Injected, No Loans, No Liabilities, Funded otherwise from Revenue only which has been entirely reinvested into the business.

Team: Team of experienced professionals in IT, International Hospitality, Digital Marketing, complex integration, development, migration and automation challenges, business process automation and API development and Enterprise Architectures Telco operations.