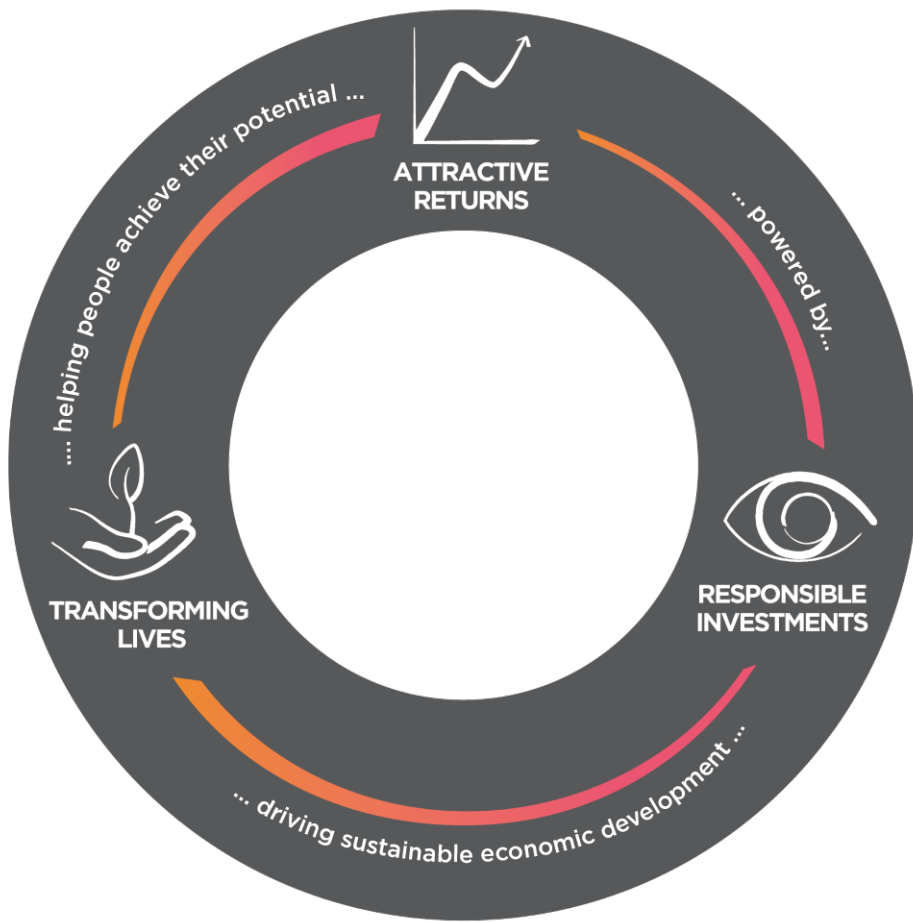




ALQUITY TRANSFORMING LIVES AWARDS 2025

*Unlocking Opportunity in Challenging
Environments for Young People*

Alquity
TRANSFORMING
LIVES
FOUNDATION



OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME

Through the **Transforming Lives Awards**, Alquity aims to unlock the potential of outstanding non-profits, enterprises, and entrepreneurs working in disadvantaged communities. The Awards provide access to capital, visibility, and expert support — helping them scale their work and transform more lives.

Whether focused on skills development, social enterprise, or creating jobs for marginalised groups, our awardees share one goal: advancing UN Sustainable Development Goal 8 — Decent Work and Economic Growth for All.

Our **2025 Focus:**
Youth pathways to
employment & enterprise

8 DECENT WORK AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH



THE AWARDS PROCESS

We began by identifying 98 candidates, all nominated by organisations supporting exceptional, locally-led initiatives creating real impact in their communities.

Each nominee demonstrated four key features:

- Alignment with **SDG 8**, working to improve economic wellbeing in marginalised communities
- **Strong leadership** and **sound management** as a social enterprise or non-profit
- Clear evidence of **positive impact** and **community engagement**
- **Grassroots connection** - ideally locally founded and led





Our 2025 Awards delivery partner, EMpower – The Emerging Markets Foundation, then worked with us through two stages of shortlisting, reviewing 40 trusted partners across seven countries and narrowing the list to six excellent finalists.

THE TRANSFORMING LIVES AWARDS PANEL

A group of experts and industry peers, supported by EMpower’s regional teams - then assessed each finalist’s impact, governance, and potential for long-term success.

We are deeply grateful to our panelists for their generous contributions of time and expertise:



Ollie Belcher
Shivia



Paul Robinson
Alquity



Geneva Banzky von Ambroz
Evelyn Partners



Graham Bishop
Handelsbanken Asset
Management



Esther Arthur
The Ashmore Foundation



Paul Dennis
Holden & Partners



Francisco Gonzalez
Alquity



Joshua Robinson
Alquity Foundation

A young man with a bright smile, wearing a blue hoodie and a matching beanie, stands behind a counter. He is holding a tall glass filled with a white milkshake. The background is a dark, moody setting, possibly a cafe or bar, with various items on the counter behind him. The overall lighting is dim, with a blue tint.

INTRODUCING THE
2025 TRANSFORMING LIVES
AWARDEES



In South Africa and Indonesia, young people are facing complex challenges - from poverty and inequality to gender discrimination and limited access to education, jobs, and mental health support.

In Indonesia, many girls in rural areas still leave school early with limited choices, while in South Africa millions of young people struggle to find work and safe spaces to grow.

Yet, in both countries, there is extraordinary potential, energy and determination among youth to build better futures. **Our 2025 Awards honour three outstanding organisations** that are helping them do just that.

R.O.L.E. FOUNDATION

BALI, INDONESIA



PROJECT:

Construction of a
Bamboo Classroom

FUNDING:

\$32,000

In Bali, many young women still face barriers to education and decent work. Family expectations, early marriage, and the cost of schooling often mean they leave education early and struggle to find good jobs.

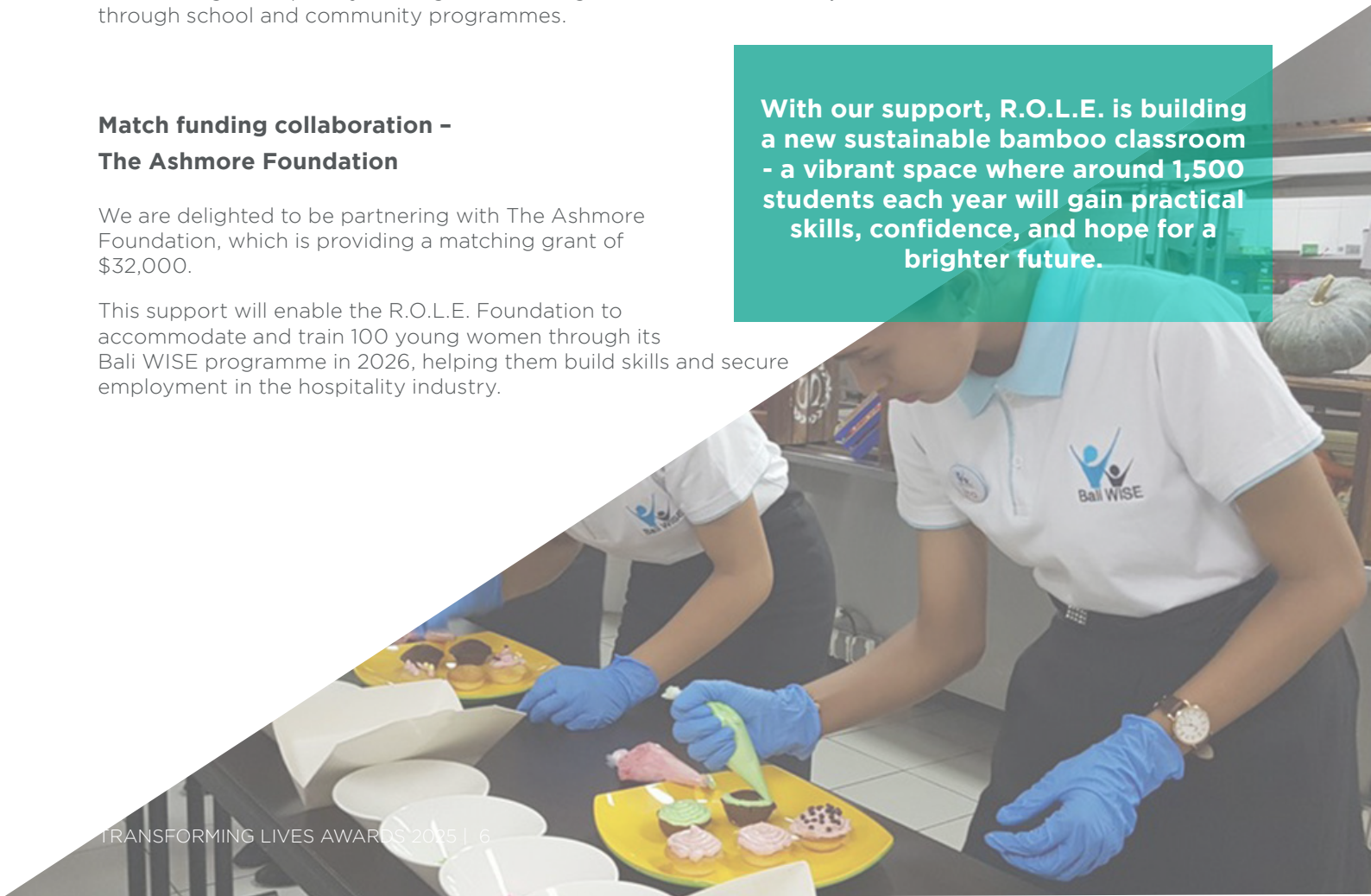
The R.O.L.E. Foundation's Bali WISE programme helps change that story. It gives marginalised young women free training in hospitality and digital marketing, connects them to real jobs, and raises environmental awareness through school and community programmes.

Match funding collaboration - The Ashmore Foundation

We are delighted to be partnering with The Ashmore Foundation, which is providing a matching grant of \$32,000.

This support will enable the R.O.L.E. Foundation to accommodate and train 100 young women through its Bali WISE programme in 2026, helping them build skills and secure employment in the hospitality industry.

With our support, R.O.L.E. is building a new sustainable bamboo classroom - a vibrant space where around 1,500 students each year will gain practical skills, confidence, and hope for a brighter future.



ASPIRE YOUTH

SOUTH AFRICA



PROJECT:

Incubator Programme

FUNDING:

\$20,000

High unemployment and deep inequality leave millions of young South Africans feeling excluded from opportunity - and often struggling to see a positive path forward.

Aspire Youth helps change that. Through a 20-month programme that blends life skills, mental health support, job and entrepreneurship training, young people gain the tools and confidence to build brighter futures for themselves. Our grant funds Aspire's 12-month Incubator Programme, helping 35 young people to start and grow their own micro-businesses.

With an impressive 85% success rate, graduates go on to earn sustainable incomes and become role models for others in their communities.

SOZO FOUNDATION

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA



PROJECT:

Fuel the Future -
Hospitality Learning
Lab & Coffee House

FUNDING:

\$32,000

In Vrygrond Township, Cape Town, young people grow up surrounded by poverty, overcrowding, and few safe places to learn or work. With no local high school and limited access to the internet, opportunities for education and employment are scarce - leaving many young people vulnerable to crime or substance abuse.

The Sozo Foundation offers hope through its Skills and Entrepreneurship School, where young people gain practical, work-ready experience.

With our support, over 100 young people will gain skills and work experience in Sozo's Fuel The Future Coffee House - a new social enterprise designed to bridge the gap between vocational training and meaningful employment or self-employment.

INVESTING IN POTENTIAL



Through these three inspiring partners - R.O.L.E. Foundation in Indonesia, The Sozo Foundation and Aspire Youth in South Africa, the Alquity Transforming Lives Foundation is helping young people gain the confidence, skills, and opportunities they need to transform their lives.

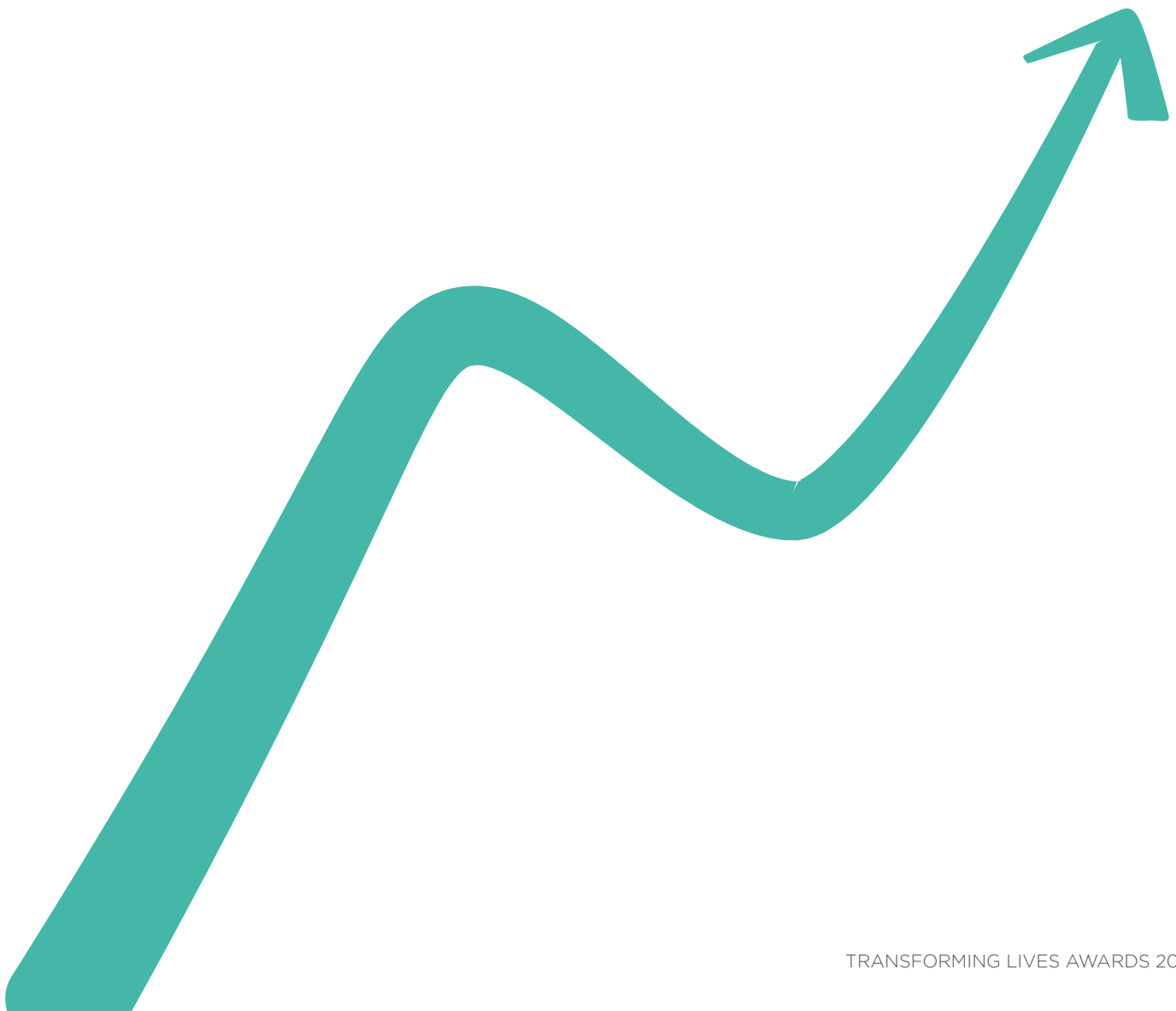
Each project demonstrates how targeted support can create lasting change - empowering youth to build brighter futures for themselves, their families, and their communities.

COMBINED SUPPORT AND COLLABORATION

Our partner, EMpower, is aligning its own grant funding and technical support with the Transforming Lives Awards, ensuring the three awardees receive deeper and longer-term backing. Alquity, The Ashmore Foundation and EMpower are, together, contributing more than \$250,000 in combined funding and support to strengthen youth livelihoods and enterprise in Indonesia and South Africa.

This joint investment includes direct grants, follow-up funding to help awardees expand their reach, and hands-on accompaniment from EMpower's regional teams through 2026.

We are excited to be moving forward as a powerful example of partnership - multiplying resources, sharing expertise, and maximising impact for young people and their communities.





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