Benetech: Software for Social Good

Communities around the world face pressing problems that cry out for innovative software solutions. More than 90% of published materials are inaccessible to people with dyslexia or a visual impairment. 78 countries have laws that criminalize LGBT relationships. One in seven people in the United States live in poverty. 35% of women worldwide have experienced gender-based violence at some point in their lives.

Powering Real, Lasting Social Change

We harness the power of software and data to drive positive social change. Our mission is to empower communities with software for social good. We achieve our mission by uniting two worlds: the social sector and Silicon Valley. We serve as a bridge between the social sector and Silicon Valley by working closely with both communities to identify needs and software solutions that can drive real, lasting social change. Our software includes solutions for education, human rights, poverty alleviation and the environment. Our highly scalable solutions can enable the social sector to make better use of data to inform decision-making, improve effectiveness and evaluate performance—we call that data for action and impact.

12M+
Ebooks delivered that transform how people with disabilities read and learn

50+
Countries where rights defenders can more safely document violations

1.3M
People in the Bay Area with better access to social services*

*Projection

> " We've been thrilled by Benetech's ability to repeatedly reach scale in bridging Silicon Valley tech and social impact, and I'm proud to have supported them for the past 10 years. "
>
> **— JEFF SKOLL, FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN, THE SKOLL FOUNDATION**

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IDEAs that Work

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Constant Innovation

The need for software to empower social good only continues to rise. Through ongoing innovation, Benetech delivers solutions for critical needs. Benetech is dedicated to identifying and scaling applications with the highest chance of addressing the needs of entire sectors.

Benetech Labs

Benetech Labs is our innovation and new product development center, where we explore areas of need and develop software prototypes by engaging with communities, other technologists, and nonprofits. We experiment to find effective solutions that Benetech and the communities we serve can take to scale and achieve large, lasting social impact.

Education

Our work in education is focused on one big thing: make learning inclusive for everyone around the world. We provide books to people that read and learn differently through Bookshare, the world's largest, accessible online library; we run DIAGRAM, an R&D center that creates new ways for people who learn differently to access math and other STEM subjects, images, and video; and we drive systemic change in the publishing industry through Born Accessible, an initiative to make all ebooks fully accessible when they are first created.

> Bookshare has had a huge impact on my life. It's my hope that all people with reading disabilities such as dyslexia are able to use Bookshare to succeed in the classroom and become lifelong learners. **— BRIAN MEERSMA, BOOKSHARE MEMBER**

Human Rights

Our human rights work empowers rights defenders around the world to pursue truth and justice by providing secure software solutions and capacity building. Our Martus platform is a free and open source toolset allowing professionals to securely capture, encrypt, and analyze sensitive information. We regularly train human rights practitioners on data collection to protect at-risk communities, including women, ethnic minorities, and LGBTI individuals.

Poverty

Inequity demands social action. Lack of access to education, employment, health, housing, and justice hinders human progress. We're driven to level the playing field by providing collaborative software platforms. Through information and data exchange we can help close the gaps and provide a bridge to new opportunities for those who need it.

Environment

Conservationists around the world face challenges from climate change to deforestation and other environmental crises. We've developed software that guides planning, delivers best practices, and collects data for better quantification and visualization of sustainability impact. For example, Miradi became the leading platform of choice for adaptive conservation project management and planning and has been utilized in more than 170 countries.

About Benetech

Benetech is a nonprofit that empowers communities with software for social good. Our work transforms how people with disabilities read and learn, makes it safer for human rights defenders to pursue truth and justice, and connects people to the services they need to live and prosper. We're constantly pursuing the next big social impact.

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