



# **Yarl IT Hub**

**Annual report - 2021**

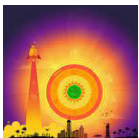


## What is YARL IT HUB.



Yarl IT Hub (YIT) is a not-for-profit social enterprise that strives to inspire, support, and foster Technology, Innovation, Education, and Entrepreneurship in the community. It's an organization by the community, for the community. The Yarl IT Hub community consists of all those who share the dream of making Jaffna the next Silicon Valley and abide by the core values of the organization. Founded in 2011, YIT continues to experiment, grow, and positively impact more lives at the grassroots level by organizing and operating these programs and competitions.

## Yarl It Hub 2021 Initiatives.



**Yarl Geek Challenge Senior:** Startup accelerator and competition.



**YGC Junior:** Innovation, community engagement, and technology competition for school children.



**Uki:** Full scholarship-based technology school.



**Aki:** Digital education platform for secondary school children.



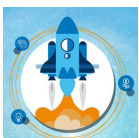
**Thulir:** Social innovation center.



**Hatch Kalam:** Co-working space and Maker space.



**Sudar:** Encouraging and supporting women getting into technology and entrepreneurship.



**YGC accelerator:** A six-month acceleration for selected early-stage startups.

# Yarl IT Hub's Vision, Mission, and Values.

**Our Vision :** Our vision is to make Jaffna the next Silicon Valley

**Our Mission :** Making Jaffna an innovation hub

**Our Values :**

- To nurture and develop talent in the community
- Operate with transparency
- Empower the community with technology
- Be technology and corporate independent
- Be innovative
- Be apolitical
- Not for Profit

## Yarl IT Hub's 5 Year Plan.

Our five-year plan was developed in 2017, and although there are setbacks due to different emerging challenges we are making an effort to meet the goals we set as we reach 2022.

### 5 Year Goals

- To have 10,000 students learning via the Digital Education Platform
- 1000 students from Uki Technology school gaining Jobs in Tech Industry
- Be a catalyst for the formation of 100 startups and enterprises from the community

### Yarl IT Hub Strategy to meet 5 Year Goals

#### Capacity Building

- By scaling the Uki coding school to increase our number of graduates.
- Scaling our digital secondary education initiative.

#### Ideation

- Through Thulir, which is the research & social innovation center of YIT

#### Networking and Community Building

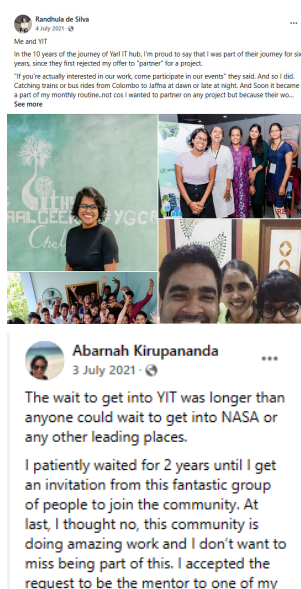
- Through active local and diaspora engagement

#### Funding

- Arranging Seed funding for early startups which get selected for the YGC Accelerator. The partnership with Momentum Venture Partners enabled this.

# 2021 & Yarl IT Hub

- **YARL IT HUB** has celebrated 10 year of accomplishment. It created a large impact on the social media website due to the fact many volunteers and fascinated humans have shared their opinions and mind through social media. Finally, it became a trending campaign with pool of posts along with hashtags **#YIT10** , **#MEandYIT**.
- **Thulir** team is currently engaged in a sprint to prototype a mobile app for hearing-impaired children at Kaithadi Nuffield School, aiming to enhance their learning experience through sports. This initiative is being conducted in partnership with LIRNEAsia, and the app is currently under development.
- **Uki**, the coding school, demonstrated its phenomenal success as all of its graduates who sought internships were able to secure them. Despite pandemic situations, Uki, the technology school in Jaffna, successfully completed two cohorts online.
- The enhanced capacity at both Uki **Jaffna** and **Kilinochchi** locations has raised the total annual capacity of Uki coding school to accommodate 100 graduates.
- Yarl Geek Challenge Season 10 has been successfully concluded.
- Conducted over 20 **workshops** and **meetups** on emerging technologies, both online and offline.
- In the 10th edition of Yarl Geek Challenge, a novel addition was made with the introduction of the **“Explore”** webinar series. Known as ‘YGC Explore’, this series comprises live webinars where experts from diverse fields and industries engage in detailed discussions about opportunities that startups can explore and innovations taking place in their respective domains.



## Uki & 2021



Uki is a comprehensive, scholarship-based accelerator program focused on coding, offering in-person classes at its centers in Jaffna and Kilinochchi. In response to the pandemic, Uki recently introduced virtual online classes, which have proven to be successful. Uki is dedicated to providing opportunities for students who have not been selected for tertiary educational institutions or any form of vocational education.

The program offers a six-month-long intensive, in-class training program, equipping students with the necessary skills to join tech companies as interns, junior developers, or to embark on entrepreneurial ventures.

2021 marked another significant milestone for Uki. However, the pandemic necessitated the transition of all courses, teaching, and workshops to the online platform. Despite this challenge, the following events were successfully conducted throughout the year:

- The first online cohort commenced on December 14, 2020, and a total of 12 students successfully completed the program.
- The success of the 1st cohort prompted the organization of the 2nd online cohort, which took place from May 2021 to September 2021, involving a total of 40 students.
- An Online Data Science course was also conducted for a duration of 10 weeks, starting from November 23, 2020, and concluding on February 5, 2021. This course significantly inspired students in Sri Lanka, fostering their enthusiasm and transforming them into proficient professionals aspiring to become data-driven decision-makers within the marketplace. Impressively, a total of 20 students diligently followed and successfully completed the program.
- Upon completing the cohort, the students participated in the Yarl Geek Challenge Season 10.



# Yarl Geek Challenge Season 10 – Junior & 2021



100+ School Students



100+ Workshop  
Participants



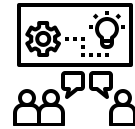
70+ Applications



42 Teams



2 Webinars



5 Workshops

Yarl Geek Challenge Junior is an annual technology innovation competition organized by Yarl IT Hub in collaboration with the Northern Province Educational Department. It is designed for school students who have a passion for technology and innovation. This year, the competition has reached its 10th consecutive year, marking a decade of providing a platform for school students. YGC10 Junior is being conducted online for the second time due to pandemic-related reasons.

YGC Junior – Season 10 was officially inaugurated on March 10th with an announcement about workshops designed to aid students in their preparation for the competition. The initial session was conducted via Zoom on March 13th to introduce students to YGC Junior Season 10. This session served as an excellent opportunity for students to address any uncertainties they had. Furthermore, alumni from past YGC Junior competitions shared their experiences during this session.



The call for applications was launched in mid-March 2021, followed by a series of workshops tailored for school students to provide an overview of web development. This comprehensive 10-hour workshop delved into the fundamentals of crafting an e-commerce website using WordPress and WooCommerce. Additionally, two more workshops were conducted, focusing on mobile development and hardware applications. Moreover, mentoring sessions were arranged to offer guidance and support to teams in need.

The Yarl Geek Challenge – Season 10 Junior Training workshop was successfully completed by May 2021, with a primary focus on Mobile Application Development. This workshop specifically targeted students who had completed their Ordinary Level (OL) exams. It comprised a 10-hour online session.

In the current year, a total of 42 teams took part in the zonal-level competition, representing various locations across the Northern Province. The Zonal evaluations took place on Saturday, June 26th, 2021. Despite facing numerous obstacles such as travel restrictions, school closures, limited internet connectivity, and limited access to hardware resources, the students demonstrated remarkable dedication and creativity in their projects. Notably, 31 teams have successfully qualified for the finals, scheduled to be held on July 10th, 2021.

**YARL GEEK CHALLENGE**  
**SEASON 10 JUNIOR**

Yarl Geek Challenge Season 10 - Junior இன் வலயமட்ட போட்டிகள் ஜூன் 26 ஆம் திகதி நடைபெற்றது. வடமாகாணத்தின் பல பாடசாலைகளைச் சேர்ந்த மாணவர்கள் பங்கு புற்றிடுகின்ற இப்போட்டியிலிருந்து 31 அணிகள் இறுதிப் போட்டிக்கு தெரிவாகின.

**இறுதிப் போட்டிக்கு தெரிவாகிய அணிகளின் விபரம்**

Team Lead's Name	School Name
Antony Thevathas Dilshan	J/Vaddu Hindu College
Sivakumar Saathveegan	J/Jaffna College
Praveenan Parameswaran	J/Jaffna College
Piriyasaki Kailayapillai	J/Jaffna College
Abishaalini Piratheepan	J/Jaffna College
Uthayan Kisaanth	J/Jaffna College
Ampihapahan Akshyan	J/Vaddu Hindu College
Mohamed Muheeth Shukri Ahamed	Mn/Sithyvinayakar Hindu College
Dudley Darmikan	V/Vavuniya Tamil Madhya Maha Vidyalayam
Lenin Arivalakan Mathurshan	V/Vavuniya Tamil Madhya Maha Vidyalayam
Jeyakandeevan Sabeedshan	V/Vavuniya Tamil Madhya Maha Vidyalayam
Thirukeswaran Umaibala	J/Kokuvil Hindu College
Sutherland Aniruththen	J/Kokuvil Hindu College
Kugavashini Sivakumar	J/Vembadi Girls' High School
Sivakumar Adchayan	J/Jaffna Hindu College
Selvarasan Janusthiga	J/Vembadi Girls' High School
Rajasekaran Kanindran	J/St. Patrick's College
Paramanatham Nekesan	J/Jaffna Hindu College
Manivannan Akash	J/St. John's College
Arulanatham Tharanikan	J/Jaffna Hindu College
Senthooran Sathursan	J/Kokuvil Hindu College
Surethirakumar Abinaban	J/Jaffna Hindu College
Nimalan Kurushangar	J/St. John's College
Karunaharan Ramilan	J/Jaffna Hindu College
Sasikumar Pavisan	J/Jaffna Hindu College
Janarthanan Sajeewan	J/Jaffna Hindu College
Anurakhanthan Vishvakhanthan	J/Hartley College
Sivanesan Shinoajhan	J/Hartley College
Camilus Kavinvalan	J/Hartley College
Nithilawarnan Kirujan	J/Hartley College
Krishnakumar Kishanth	J/Hartley College

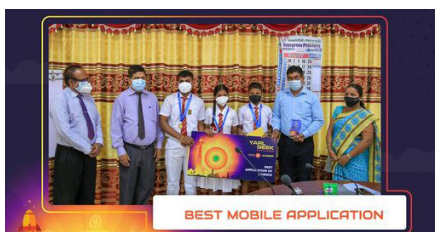
www.yarlithub.org/ygc | event@yarlithub.org | www.fb.com/yarlithub | 0767673158

A total of 31 teams were chosen to participate in the finale, which took place on July 10th and 11th, 2021. The panel of judges for the final evaluation consisted of 7 distinguished experts from various fields within the realm of science and technology. During the event, the students presented their ideas across categories such as Web, Mobile, Hardware, Innovation, and Application of Science. Winners were chosen for each category during the finale. Moreover, the judging panel also extended special mentions to acknowledge outstanding work accomplished by select teams.

Furthermore, in the year 2021, YGC organized sessions for introducing the YGC program and facilitated alumni of YGC juniors to share their experiences.

The YARL IT Hub, in collaboration with the Northern Province Education Department, organized a training program for teachers specializing in IT across the Northern Province. The aim was to enhance their IT knowledge. The training covered various categories, including web application development, mobile application development, hardware application (Arduino) development, cyber security, and other trending topics. The program attracted over 500 participants in total. Each development program had more than 100 participants, and the duration ranged from 5 to 10 hours. The training sessions were conducted both in physical and virtual formats.

### Winners of Yarl Geek Challenge Season 10 – Junior



**Best Mobile Application Winners:** Dudley Dharmikan, Shobana Dudley, and Dudley Shathosikan from Vavuniya Tamil Maha Vidhyalayam. They built an app that helps pre-school children to make their selves familiar with Tamil alphabets, the words, and their pronunciations.





**Best Application of Science Winners:** Sivanesan Shinoajhan and Mohan Arjun from Hartley College. They made a vacuum cleaner with things that are easily available at home. Their idea was to recycle the plastic bottle and make a vacuum cleaner on their own instead of buying one.



**Best Innovation Winner:** Rajasekaran Kanindran from St.Patrick's College. He created a low-cost Jeep model. He added that he got this idea to produce low-cost Jeeps locally as a replacement for high-cost imported Jeeps.



**Best Hardware Winner:** Anurakhanthan Vishvakhanthan, Aravindan Venukan, and Sutharan Arudkumaran from Hartley College. They created a smart glass. Like smartwatches, they wanted to add a display to the spectacles which can be directly connected to the mobile and can display mobile notifications just in front of eyes.



**Best Web Application Winners:** Nimalan Kurushangar, Sriharan Abisan, and Cubert Collins Romeshion from St. John College. They created a website to connect software companies to software engineers. With a special focus on remote job opportunities for software engineers. The pandemic is the reason which made them think and host a website to list remote job opportunities.

The awards ceremony for Yarl Geek Challenge Season 9 and 10 - Juniors took place on August 3rd, 2021, in the auditorium of the Ministry of Education, Jaffna. The event was graced by the presence of esteemed guests, including the Secretary of Education, Cultural Affairs, Sports, and Youth Affairs of the Northern Province, Provincial Director of Education for the Northern Province, Deputy Director of Education for the Northern Province, Additional Provincial Director of Education for the Northern Province, school principals, and teachers. This occasion served as a platform to showcase the innovative projects of the young aspiring innovators, receiving appreciation from all attendees present on August 3rd, 2021.

The YGC 10 Juniors Showcase Event was organized by YARL IT HUB on August 22, 2021. The event proved to be a remarkable platform to unveil and explore the innovative creations developed by the participating students.

# Yarl Geek Challenge Season 10 – Senior & 2021



45 Applications



250+ Participants



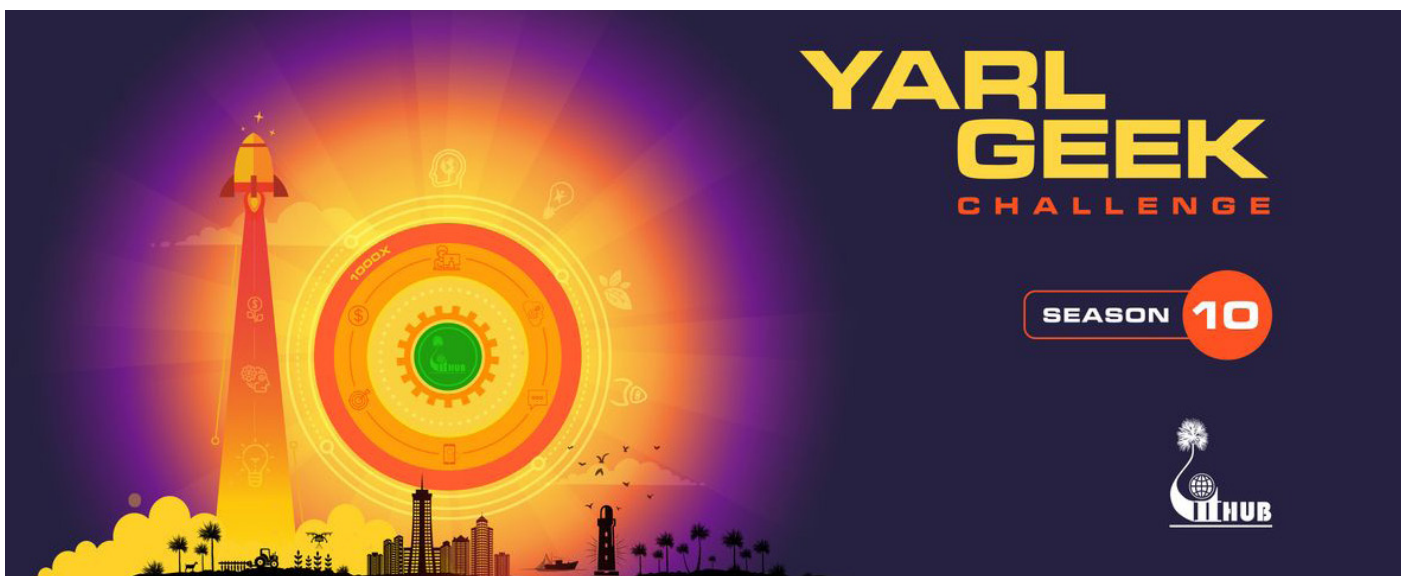
80+ Volunteers



10 Online mentoring sessions



12 Finalists



The 'Yarl Geek Challenge Senior' is a prestigious entrepreneurship competition that welcomes participation from young individuals across the board. The primary goal of this competition is to foster and cultivate entrepreneurship, business acumen, technological proficiency, innovation, and creative thinking. The 10th edition of the Yarl Geek Challenge Senior took place this year, with the same overarching objective of nurturing entrepreneurship, business skills, technological skills, innovation, and creativity. In response to the ongoing pandemic, this year's YGC was conducted in an online format.

This year, the YGC initiative commenced by inviting applications. During the application period, a remarkable 75+ submissions were received for the 10th season of YGC Senior.

The subsequent stage involved providing personalized mentoring sessions for all 48 qualifying teams, aimed at refining their business concepts, models, and presentation skills. Notably, for this edition, a total of 12 mentors generously volunteered from countries such as the USA, Canada, and Australia to guide these emerging entrepreneurs. Following this mentoring phase, a qualifier round was conducted to identify the top 10 teams who subsequently presented their innovative ideas at the grand finale of YGC 10.

On November 7, 2021, Yar! IT Hub orchestrated the grand finale of Yar! Geek Challenge Senior Season 10 through Zoom, attracting a diverse and extensive audience spanning the globe. The event culminated with the much-anticipated revelation of the victors.

The accolades unfolded as follows: 'Mood for Code' secured the 2nd runner-up position, while 'EPR Groupers' clinched the title of 1st runner-up. Emerging triumphant and claiming the crown of Yar! Geek Challenge Season 10 Senior was the 'EDUS Online' Institute team.

The grand finale reached its climax with the unveiling of the winners. The 'Trash for Trade' project was bestowed with the Audience Choice Award, and in an extraordinary achievement, 'Ceylance' and 'Trash for Trade' were jointly honored as recipients of the Impact Award.

## Winners of the Yar! Geek Challenge Senior 10



**Title Winner:** 'EDUS Online' Institute provides Online Group classes via Zoom with the best teachers from around the island, for all the subjects in English and Tamil medium from Grade 4 to G.C.E A/L.

**1st runner up:** 'EPR Groupers' presented their product work with and build with, which are applications that connect skilled workers with those who need to get the work done and construction companies with people who are looking for one.

**2nd runner-up:** 'MoodforCode' presented a smart POS which would empower Small & Medium Scale Retailers with Technology.

**Audience Choice Award:** 'Trash for Trade' is a social enterprise that has created a Centralized Plastic Waste Management System.

**Impact Award:** 'Ceylance' is a social enterprise that is trying to make Sri Lanka a better and trusted place to hire top talented freelance developers, designers, and digital marketers. 'Trash for Trade' is a social enterprise that has created a Centralized Plastic Waste Management System.

# YGC Accelerator & 2021



The Accelerator program is designed to span a duration of 6 months and will be conducted twice a year, catering to a carefully chosen cohort of early-stage startups. Throughout this half-year period, the selected startups will be provided with comprehensive training, valuable mentorship, essential seed funding, and beneficial networking avenues. The overarching aim of the accelerator is to empower these entrepreneurs by aiding them in generating effective marketing strategies, honing the necessary skills for startup creation, broadening their professional networks, and ultimately preparing them to attract potential investors.

In Cohort 2, we received more than 20 applications. Following an initial screening process, the shortlisted startups underwent interviews. Eventually, 7 startups were selected to join the 2nd cohort of the Accelerator program.

Moving on to Cohort 3, we received over 30 applications. After careful consideration, 5 startups were chosen to participate in the 3rd cohort.

Cohort 2 concluded in June, and Cohort 3 wrapped up on December 19th, 2021. The anticipated demo day is scheduled to take place in February 2022.

## YGC Accelerator – Cohort 2 Shortlisted companies



### Tasty Cashew

Tasty Cashew is an online platform through which they sell cashew produced by the local producers in the Northern Province.

### Electroleaf

Farmers cultivate turmeric in open fields and care for the plants manually for ten months before harvesting. Using our solution of Vertical Farming Drip Irrigation, we can produce more than tenfold in the same land with full automation which means less human intervention. The other benefit is off-season production and this does not require agricultural land.





### **Mullai Thean**

Mullai Thean is a platform through which they sell pure medicinal honey extracted from the forest to a wider market.

### **Podi meals**

Podi meals is a centralized kitchen model. The food is prepared at a centralized kitchen and delivered to the outlets. Currently, it is operating from the main kitchen.



### **Uram**

An online platform to sell organic fertilizers so that anyone can buy from anywhere and start a healthy lifestyle from the root.

### **Price for Plastic**

Price ur Plastic has gamified the plastic waste collection process, thus preventing plastic from entering the ocean, landfills, and being burned. On a mission for a closed supply chain while making plastic waste collection fun and exciting.



### **Trakee**

Trakee is a software as a service that promotes operational transparency. Trakee Management is online software that helps businesses to show their customers the work they have been doing for them

## YGC Accelerator – Cohort 3 Shortlisted companies



### MoodforCode Pvt Ltd

This is a service-based company that does web app development, mobile app development, UI/UX designing, and Strategic digital marketing solutions. They already have a decent client base.

### Organo Feeds

Organo produces livestock feeds out of 100% organic wastes collected from local factories. Currently, they source raw material from the Organic waste collected from the Cargills Kist Jam factory in Kilinochchi & other local factories. They are operating for about the last two years.



### E.P.R Groupers

They are a service company that connects people who want to build a building with construction companies. They also undertake to manage and monitor the building process on behalf of their clients.

### Vesloo designer

This is a company that stitches dresses employing people who already make dresses on a small scale. Initially, they started this as a B2B company where they only sold for shops. However, now they are also focusing on B2C. They too have few customers already.



### DelftJKS

They pen up opportunities for the tourism industry with its scenic beaches by getting more and more tourists to the Island to have a unique experience of voyage in the sea and real experience of Island living by providing them the facilities such as camping tents, BBQ facilities, tree hut accommodation, guest house accommodation and arrange visits around the island. They have already started their operations.

## Aki & 2021



Aki was founded in 2018, building upon the positive efforts initiated by SERVE foundation in the realm of secondary education content development. In 2019, Aki took a significant step forward by introducing an e-learning platform, [www.aki.coach](http://www.aki.coach).

Aki has successfully developed and provided access to over 4000 quizzes designed for students in grades 6 to 11.

These quizzes cover every chapter within subjects such as Maths, Tamil, Science, English, ICT, and History. This initiative serves to enhance the learning experience and academic progress of students.

Aki has made available an extensive collection of over 100 online course materials catering to Advanced Level students. These courses encompass subjects like Biology, Chemistry, ICT, E-Tech, Mathematics, Biosystem Technology, Science for Technology, Physics, Business Studies, Accounting, Agriculture, and Economics.

Currently, Aki's study materials have garnered an impressive enrollment of over 9360 users, who are actively and productively engaging with the provided resources and courses. Aki facilitates self-evaluation exams for students ranging from Grade 6 to Advanced Level, allowing them to assess their progress and performance.

In addition to its role in supporting student learning, Aki also serves as a platform for Yarl IT Hub to distribute materials and coursework related to their educational programs.

Moreover, Aki collaborates with Yarl IT Hub to offer courses designed for teachers who seek to enhance their skills and knowledge through professional development opportunities.

- Web Application Development course (10 Hours)
- Mobile Application Development (10 Hours)
- Hardware Application (Arduino) Development (10 Hours)
- Cyber Security and other trending topics

Simultaneously, the team is diligently working on developing a content box solution. This innovative solution aims to provide students in schools with intermittent internet access the ability to access Aki's content via an offline mode. This content box will synchronize with Aki's cloud infrastructure once internet connectivity is restored. This initiative reflects Aki's commitment to ensuring that students can continue to benefit from their educational materials regardless of internet availability.

## Hatch Kalam & 2021



Hatch Kalam serves as a collaborative co-working space and maker space located in Jaffna. This dynamic initiative is the result of a joint effort involving GIZ, Hatch, and Yarl IT Hub. Within this vibrant setting, a variety of tech-related workshops are organized in the maker space. Notably, the co-working space has experienced a consistent increase in daily occupancy, signaling a promising trajectory for the times ahead.

Moreover, Hatch Kalam has emerged as a central venue for numerous Yarl IT Hub events, encompassing community meetups, workshops, and training sessions. This multifaceted space plays an integral role in fostering technological engagement and community growth within the region.

In addition to Yarl IT Hub's activities, Hatch Kalam has been rented out to various other organizations for hosting their events during weekends. These events encompass a diverse range of activities, including Awarding Ceremonies, Workshops, Tech Events, Digital Storytelling Events, Community Meetups, and Annual Events. However, due to the prevailing pandemic situation in 2021, the majority of these events were conducted virtually. As a consequence, external events on-site were limited throughout the year, yet Hatch Kalam continues to provide a conducive environment that promotes networking, knowledge-sharing, and collaborative endeavors among technologists and entrepreneurs in the Jaffna area.



## Thulir & 2021



Thulir serves as the social innovation center within Yarl IT Hub, and its inception dates back to 2018. This initiative aligns with Yarl IT Hub's strategic objective of catalyzing the establishment of 100 startups and SMEs by the year 2022. The Thulir team comprises dedicated full-time researchers who are tasked with generating reports, devising business models, and developing technological solutions. These outputs are intended for community adoption, allowing them to harness the provided resources to generate economic prospects and employment opportunities at the grassroots level.

In 2021, Thulir has experienced notable productivity, with the engagement of a full-time researcher and a research associate dedicated to its initiatives.

Over the year,

1. The business model for the Herbal Porridge stall has been meticulously developed through various research and evaluations. This comprehensive model is now available for aspiring entrepreneurs interested in establishing, promoting, and operating their own small-scale businesses. It caters to a wide range of age groups within the community who prioritize their health.
2. In parallel, an accelerator program has been tailored specifically for digital content creators within the Northern Province.
3. Furthermore, our team has been actively involved in a sprint to prototype a mobile app catering to deaf students at Kaithadi Nuffield School. This app aims to enhance their learning experiences and is being developed in partnership with LIRNE asia.
4. Another significant research initiative has been undertaken by our researchers, focusing on promoting project and problem-based learning among school students. The goal is to bolster student participation in the Yarl Geek Challenge Junior. We are excited to share that this ideation has materialized and is set to be implemented across schools and students throughout the Northern Province in early 2022.

## Sudar & 2021



Sudar stands as another noteworthy initiative within Yarl IT Hub, conceived with the objective of empowering and championing women's involvement in technology and entrepreneurship. Sudar has successfully orchestrated various activities including talk shows, workshops tailored for school students, mentor meet-ups, and mastermind groups, all geared towards fostering the growth and participation of women in these domains.

These activities represent only the initial steps for Sudar. As time progresses, Sudar aims to provide sustained support for women already engaged or aspiring to be part of the technology and entrepreneurship sectors.

Founded in 2018, Sudar has been actively organizing and conducting programs and talks. It continues to evolve, expand, and make a profound impact on the lives of many, particularly women at the grassroots level.

The global COVID-19 pandemic has presented significant challenges for entrepreneurs worldwide. Its adverse effects have been particularly pronounced among women entrepreneurs. Many have experienced income loss, while some have been forced to close their businesses. The pandemic has disrupted normalcy on a global scale, including in Sri Lanka, affecting local entrepreneurs as well. In response, Sudar has directed its efforts toward supporting women-led Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the northern region. The goal is to assist these enterprises in establishing a digital presence and connecting with a broader audience. At the initial stages, Sudar's team is focused on coordinating the entire process, from customer onboarding to utilizing various channels and facilitating delivery through trusted intermediaries. The team will also provide training to the entrepreneurs to ensure their success in this endeavor.

- On October 1st, 2021, Cudar unveiled its official website along with a fresh new logo. The Cudar team has set its sights on establishing a robust digital presence to cater to the needs of small and medium women entrepreneurs.
- Cudar Talks, now in its second season, has been introduced under the theme "Nadanthu varum pathai" (The Path of Progression). This initiative aims to continue providing insightful discussions and conversations.
- Furthermore, in collaboration with Aki, Cudar has launched a Data Science course titled "Upskill with Data Science & Analytics with R" designed specifically for individuals seeking to transition their careers into the field of Data Science. This effort reflects Cudar's commitment to facilitating professional growth and development within the technology sector.

# Workshops, Meetups & 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic presented us with a significant opportunity to conduct numerous online courses across various sectors. Additionally, we continued to offer select offline courses. Throughout the year, the following events and short courses were successfully conducted:

## Kanavu Meippada Vendum (கனவு மெய்ப்படவேண்டும்) - 4 Session Workshop

YIT organized a comprehensive 4-session online workshop aimed at guiding and empowering young individuals to realize their aspirations and enhance their personal development.

Perfecting Your CV, Writing an Impressive Cover Letter, Maintaining Your LinkedIn Profile, Mastering Interview Techniques.


Through this workshop series, YIT aimed to empower participants to not only achieve their dreams but also enhance their overall personal growth and development.


**கனவு மெய்ப்படவேண்டும்**  
பயிற்சிப் பட்டறைத் தொடர்


சர்வதேசக் கம்பனிகளிலுள்ள வேலை வாப்புகளுக்காக உங்கள் சுயவிபரப் பக்கத்தை எவ்வாறு தயாரிக்கவேண்டும்?

📅 ஜனவரி 9ஆம் திகதி 2021  
🕒 காலை 10.00  
📍 ZOOM இணைப்புகள் நடைபெறும்

பதிவுசெய்யவதற்கு  
<https://tinyurl.com/yit-career-ws-01>  
ஜனவரி 07ஆம் திகதிக்கு முன் பதிவுசெய்ய

 Anantharajah Ananthakumar  
Senior Technical Product Manager, Groupson

 Gasthini Sivayoganathan  
Senior Operations Program Manager, Apple

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**கனவு மெய்ப்படவேண்டும்**  
பயிற்சிப் பட்டறைத் தொடர்

📧 இலிருந்துக் கடிதத்தை (cover letter) எவ்வாறு எழுதலாம் மற்றும் லிண்டினை சுயவிபரப் பக்கத்தை (linkedin profile) எவ்வாறு உருவாக்கலாம் ஆகிய விடயங்கள் இந்த சமீரலில் கலந்துரையாடப்படும்.

📅 ஜனவரி 23ஆம் திகதி 2021  
🕒 காலை 10.00  
📍 ZOOM இணைப்புகள் நடைபெறும்

பதிவுசெய்யவதற்கு  
<https://tinyurl.com/yit-career-ws-02>  
ஜனவரி 22ஆம் திகதிக்கு முன் பதிவுசெய்ய

 Anantharajah Ananthakumar  
Senior Technical Product Manager, Groupson

 Gasthini Sivayoganathan  
Senior Operations Program Manager, Apple

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**கனவு மெய்ப்படவேண்டும்**  
பயிற்சிப் பட்டறைத் தொடர்

🗣️ நேர்முக தேர்வை (interview) எவ்வாறு எதிர் கொள்வது என்பது பற்றி இந்த சமீரலில் கலந்துரையாடப்படும்.

📅 பெப்ரவரி 07ஆம் திகதி 2021  
🕒 காலை 10.00  
📍 ZOOM இணைப்புகள் நடைபெறும்

பதிவுசெய்யவதற்கு  
<https://tinyurl.com/yit-career-ws-03>  
பெப்ரவரி 06ஆம் திகதிக்கு முன் பதிவுசெய்ய

 Anantharajah Ananthakumar  
Senior Technical Product Manager, Groupson

 Gasthini Sivayoganathan  
Senior Operations Program Manager, Apple

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## Create Your First Responsive Website



**Create Your First Responsive Website**  
with Bootstrap

வயதுப் பிரிவு : 11 முதல் 14 வரை  
பாடநெறிக்க காலம் : 10 நாட்கள் (15 மணித்தியாலங்கள்)

ஜனவரி 27ஆம் திகதி முதல் திங்கள், புதன் மற்றும் வெள்ளிக்கிழமைகளில் மாலை 3.00 மணிக்கு நடைபெறும்.

பாடநெறியை பின்பற்றுவதற்கு இணைய வசதியுடன் கூடிய கணினி அவசியமாகும்

விண்ணப்பிப்பதற்கு  
<https://tinyurl.com/yit-pro-kids-01>

ஜனவரி 24ஆம் திகதிக்கு முன் விண்ணப்பிக்கவும்

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YIT hosted a 15-hour workshop for children aged 11 to 14, introducing them to web development using the Bootstrap framework.

## Introduction to Web Development



**Introduction to Web Development**

கா.பொ.த சாதாரண தரம் (O/L) எழுதிய மாணவர்களுக்கானது

கற்ககநெறிக்க காலம் : 10 வாரம் (கிழமை நாட்களில்) ஏப்ரல் மாதம் 6 ஆம் திகதி ஆரம்பமாகும்

விண்ணப்படிவம்  
<https://tinyurl.com/yit-2021-web>

மார்ச் மாதம் 30 ஆம் திகதிக்கு முன் விண்ணப்பிக்க

\* கற்ககநெறியை பின்பற்றுவதற்கு இணைய வசதியுடன் கூடிய கணினி அவசியமாகும்

YIT conducted a 10-week session tailored for OL students, teaching them the essentials of website development.

## Create an e-commerce website



**YARL GEEK CHALLENGE SEASON 10 - JUNIOR**  
பயிற்சிப் பட்டறைகள்

**Create an e-commerce website**  
with WordPress & WooCommerce

பாடசாலை மாணவர்களுக்கானது கற்ககநெறிக்க காலம் : 10 மணித்தியாலங்கள் ஏப்ரல் மாதம் 19 ஆம் திகதி ஆரம்பமாகும்

விண்ணப்படிவம்  
<https://tinyurl.com/ygic10-ws-1>

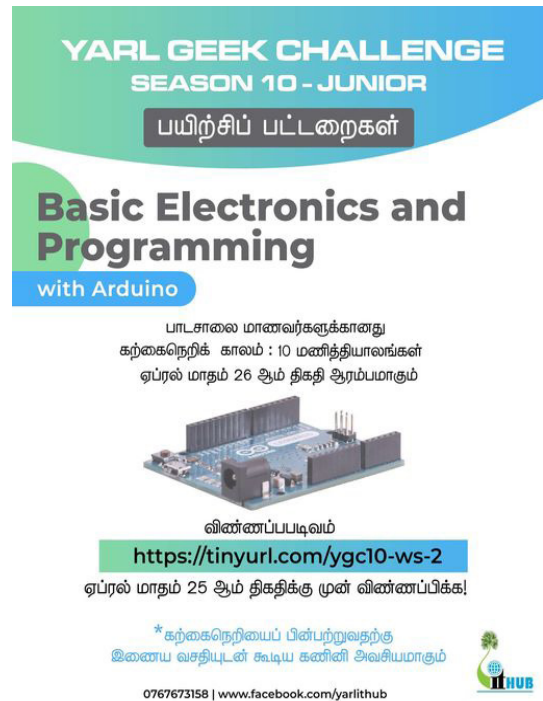
ஏப்ரல் மாதம் 18 ஆம் திகதிக்கு முன் விண்ணப்பிக்க!

\* கற்ககநெறியைப் பின்பற்றுவதற்கு இணைய வசதியுடன் கூடிய கணினி அவசியமாகும்

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YIT organized a 10-hour workshop for school students, guiding them through the process of creating a shopping website using WordPress.

## Basic Electronics and Programming



**YARL GEEK CHALLENGE SEASON 10 - JUNIOR**  
பயிற்சிப் பட்டறைகள்

**Basic Electronics and Programming**  
with Arduino

பாடசாலை மாணவர்களுக்கானது கற்ககநெறிக்க காலம் : 10 மணித்தியாலங்கள் ஏப்ரல் மாதம் 26 ஆம் திகதி ஆரம்பமாகும்

விண்ணப்படிவம்  
<https://tinyurl.com/ygic10-ws-2>

ஏப்ரல் மாதம் 25 ஆம் திகதிக்கு முன் விண்ணப்பிக்க!

\* கற்ககநெறியைப் பின்பற்றுவதற்கு இணைய வசதியுடன் கூடிய கணினி அவசியமாகும்

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YIT hosted a 10-hour online workshop for school students, instructing them on creating small electronic projects using Arduino.

## Mobile Application Development

**YARL GEEK CHALLENGE**  
SEASON 10 - JUNIOR  
பயிற்சிப் பட்டறைகள்

**Mobile Application Development**  
with React Native

பாடசாலை மாணவர்களுக்கானது  
கற்கைநெறிக் காலம் : 10 மணித்தியாலங்கள்  
மே மாதம் 01 ஆம் திகதி ஆரம்பமாகும்



விண்ணப்படிவம்  
<https://tinyurl.com/ygc10-ws-3>

ஏப்ரல் மாதம் 30 ஆம் திகதிக்கு முன் விண்ணப்பிக்க!

\* கற்கைநெறியைப் பின்பற்றுவதற்கு இணைய வசதியுடன் கூடிய கணினி மற்றும் ஸ்மார்ட் போன் அவசியமாகும்

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YIT conducted a 10-hour workshop for school students, focusing on the development of a basic mobile application using React Native.

## Basic Robotics with Arduino

**Basic Robotics**  
with Arduino

பாடசாலை மாணவர்களுக்கானது

கற்கைநெறிக் காலம்: 10 மணித்தியாலங்கள்

டிசம்பர் 28 ஆம் திகதி பிற்பகல் 3:00 க்கு ஆரம்பமாகும்

விண்ணப்பப் படிவம்

<https://tinyurl.com/kids-ws21-robotics>

டிசம்பர் 26 ஆம் திகதிக்கு முன் விண்ணப்பிக்கவும்

கற்கைநெறியை பின்பற்றுவதற்கு இணையவசதியுடன் கூடிய கணினி அவசியமாகும்.

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YIT organized a 10-hour workshop for school students, providing them with a foundational understanding of Arduino and robotics concepts.

## YGC 10 - Explore

In the 10th edition of YIT, a novel addition was made with the introduction of the “Explore” webinar series. Named ‘YGC Explore’, this series comprises live webinars featuring experts from diverse fields and industries. The webinars delve deep into discussions about the potential opportunities that startups and innovation can harness within their respective domains. Topics such as FinTech (financial technology), AgriTech, Social Enterprise, EdTech, and MedTech (technology in medicine) were explored, shedding light on the existing challenges and issues in these fields. This initiative served to enlighten prospective participants about various problem areas, enabling them to select and focus on specific challenges as they embark on their entrepreneurial journeys.

**YGC 10 - EXPLORE**  
LET'S EXPLORE THE OPPORTUNITIES IN DIFFERENT FIELDS

**AGRI-TECH**

 **SIVAM KRISH**  
CEO GOMICRO

**REGISTER NOW**  
<https://tinyurl.com/ygc10-explore-agri-tech>

Exploring the opportunities in Agri-Tech which will be conducted by Sivam Krish, CEO - GoMicro.

**YGC 10 - EXPLORE**  
LET'S EXPLORE THE OPPORTUNITIES IN DIFFERENT FIELDS

**GREEN-TECH**

 **RAMESH BALACHANDRAN**  
ENGINEER, SLT  
ECO-ENTHUSIAST

 **MILLER ALEXANDER RAJENDRAN**  
CEO, SENZAGRO  
CLIMATE AMBASSADOR (SRI LANKA)  
THE WORLD BANK GROUP

**REGISTER NOW**  
<https://tinyurl.com/ygc10-explore-green-tech>

Exploring the opportunities in Green-Tech which will be conducted by Ramesh Balachandran, Engineer, SLT, and Eco-Enthusiast, and Miller Alexander Rajendran CEO, SenzAgro, Climate Ambassador (Sri Lanka) The World Bank Group.

**YGC 10 - EXPLORE**  
LET'S EXPLORE THE OPPORTUNITIES IN DIFFERENT FIELDS

**ED-TECH**

 **TRAVIS RATNAM**  
CO-FOUNDER & CEO,  
KNOWLEDGHOOK INC.

**REGISTER NOW**  
<https://tinyurl.com/ygc10-explore-ed-tech>

Exploring the opportunities in Ed-Tech which will be conducted by Travis Ratnam Co-Founder & CEO, Knowledgehook Inc.

**YGC 10 - EXPLORE**  
LET'S EXPLORE THE OPPORTUNITIES IN DIFFERENT FIELDS

**ELECTRONIC**

 **RUBAN KANAPATHIPPILLAI**  
ENTREPRENEUR,  
FOUNDER OF TWO SILICON VALLEY STARTUPS,  
DIRECTOR OF SALES ENGINEERING, WESTERN DIGITAL,  
AUTHOR & MENTOR

**REGISTER NOW**  
<https://tinyurl.com/ygc10-explore-electronic>

Exploring the opportunities in electronic which will be conducted by Ruban Kanapathippillai Entrepreneur, Founder of two Silicon Valley startups, Director of Sales Engineering at Western Digital, Author & Mentor.

**YGC 10 - EXPLORE**  
LET'S EXPLORE THE OPPORTUNITIES IN DIFFERENT FIELDS

**BLOCKCHAIN**

 **THARMAKULASINGAM MUKUNTHAN**  
PHD STUDENT,  
UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

**REGISTER NOW**  
<https://tinyurl.com/ygc10-explore-blockchain>

Exploring the opportunities in Blockchain which will be conducted by Tharmakulasingham Mukunthan, PhD Student, University of Surrey

**YGC 10 - EXPLORE**  
LET'S EXPLORE THE OPPORTUNITIES IN DIFFERENT FIELDS

**MED-TECH**

 **INDRAN INDRAKRISHNAN MD**  
FRCP(LONDON), FRCP(FACAPAC)  
CLINICAL PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE,  
DUBLINER, QUEEN'S COLLEGE,  
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE,  
DUBLIN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

 **JAYAKRISHNAN RAJAGOPALASARMA**  
CEO & CO-FOUNDER,  
AROGYA LIFE SYSTEMS INC.

**REGISTER NOW**  
<https://tinyurl.com/ygc10-explore-medtech>

Exploring the opportunities in Food-Tech which will be conducted by Indran Indrakrishnan MD, FRCP(London); FRCP(C);FACP;FACG I Clinical Professor of Medicine and Jayakrishnan Rajagopalasarma, CEO & Co-Founder, Arogya Life Systems Inc.

**YGC 10 - EXPLORE**  
LET'S EXPLORE THE OPPORTUNITIES IN DIFFERENT FIELDS

**SOCIAL ENTERPRISE**

 **HEMINDA JAYAWEERA**  
SERIAL INNOVATOR &  
ENTREPRENEUR

**REGISTER NOW**  
<https://tinyurl.com/ygc10-explore-soc-ent>

Exploring the opportunities in Social Enterprise which will be conducted by Heminda Jayaweera, Serial Innovator & Entrepreneur

**YGC 10 - EXPLORE**  
LET'S EXPLORE THE OPPORTUNITIES IN DIFFERENT FIELDS

**FIN-TECH**

 **SAI DHARMAYOGAN**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
INSTINET INCORPORATED

**REGISTER NOW**  
<https://tinyurl.com/ygc10-explore-fintech>

Exploring the opportunities in Fin-Tech which will be conducted by Sai Dharmayogan, Executive Director Instinet Incorporated

## YIT Overall Impacts on Community

Startups	45+
Employments	300+
YGC Juniors	120+
YGC Seniors	220+
UKI Course	02
UKI Students	60+
Workshops	10+
YGC Companies	12+

# YIT Parents and Sponsors

PLATINUM PARTNER			GOLD PARTNER		
					
PIONEER PARTNER		PLATINUM SPONSOR		GOLD SPONSOR	
					
SILVER SPONSOR		GREEN TECH PARTNER		ACCOUNTING PARTNER	
					



## Media Release and Articles

Several articles on the initiatives of Yarl IT Hub were published in online media in 2021.

- The Yarl Geek Challenge Accelerator: Empowering Startups with a Pathway to Growth – Articulate  
(<https://arteculate.asia/yarl-geek-challenge-accelerator>)
- Yarl Geek Challenge developing products, developing services, developing people by Jekhan Aruliah  
(<https://www.lankabusinessonline.com/yarl-geek-challenge-developing-products-developing-services-developing-people>)
- More youth in north turn to innovative startups – Dailyfit  
(<https://www.ft.lk/front-page/More-youth-in-north-turn-to-innovative-startups/44-712808>)
- The Hackathon COVID Couldn't Stop – Ceylontoday.lk  
(<https://ceylontoday.lk/news/the-hackathon-covid-couldn-t-stop>)
- The Hackathon COVID Couldn't Stop – Ceylontoday.lk  
(<https://ceylontoday.lk/news/the-hackathon-covid-couldn-t-stop>)
- A Garden of Opportunity: Yarl IT Hub by Jay Cousins  
(<https://medium.com/@jaycousins/a-garden-of-opportunity-yarl-it-hub-cf190899fee3>)
- From Zero To A Thousand: How Jaffna Is Conquering The Digital Divide – Roar Media  
(<https://roar.media/english/tech/startups/from-zero-to-thousand-how-jaffna-is-conquering-the-digital-divide>)