



## **[Yokohama National University] Students Shortlisted for Prestigious US\$1M Startup Award.**

**MARCH, 27TH, 2021 | TOKYO** — The Hult Prize Foundation announced that Dream Bridge, a startup impact enterprise founded by Kozue Okamoto, Masato Dozono, Yutaro Fukao, and Urara Yasuda has been shortlisted for the 2021 Hult Prize US1M Challenge regional final round. In partnership with the United Nations Office of Partnerships, the Hult Prize Foundation organizes the world's largest startup program aimed at social impact and offers a grand startup prize of US\$1,000,000 awarded by President Bill Clinton at the United Nations Headquarters on an annual basis. Dream Bridge has beat the odds, outperforming a record number of 350,000 program participants who began the journey this past fall. "It's an amazing experience being selected for the next round and we truly believe our idea can and will change the world," said (Dream Bridge Team Leader, Yasuda Urara).

The team is now preparing for the next stage where they will travel to the Hult Impact Summit - Tokyo. This coming spring, where they will pitch for a coveted spot in the Hult Prize Global Accelerator - a best in class program, regularly ranking as the world's number one accelerator for social impact. "It is fascinating to see like-minded young entrepreneurs, representing 121 countries, coming together around the same mission. The Hult Impact Summits will celebrate youth-driven impact and showcase thousands of SDGs aligned businesses addressing the UN-issued Hult Prize Food for Good Challenge." said Hamdi Ben El Elmi, Hult Prize Foundation Global Head of Programs. This year's 2021 Hult Prize Challenge asks entrepreneurs to rethink food and build the foundations of a venture that will create jobs, stimulate economies, reimagine supply chains and improve the overall outcome for 10,000,000 people by 2030. Dream Bridge does that by providing human relationships and nutritious food for everyone using nonconforming vegetables. We think the project will change people's awareness of poverty, by providing them with unknown poverty situations and nutritious food. We hope to become a "Dream Bridge" between food and communities.

Hult Prize Impact Summits have a history of being life changing experiences for attendees and bring together a community of people with an outlook of changing the world through business. Events are open to college and university students, industry professionals, academic leaders, and non-profit / government executives. Planned programming includes professional networking mixers, social events, inspirational keynote speeches, workshops, and the headline activity of the summit - the regional final demo day of the million-dollar Hult Prize Challenge. More than 200 short-listed entrepreneurs will be pitching startups that solve this year's UN issued food challenge. At stake for one lucky team is a golden ticket invitation to attend the award winning Hult Prize Accelerator program getting them one step closer to winning US\$1,000,000 in startup capital.

To learn more about the Hult Prize Foundation and how get involved, visit [hult.org](http://hult.org).

### ***About the Hult Prize Foundation***

The Hult Prize Foundation is the market leader in action-based learning, impact education, and large-scale job creation for youth. Founded in 2009 by impact pioneer, Ahmad Ashkar, the Hult



# HULT PRIZE

Prize Foundation transforms how young people envision their own possibilities as leaders of change in the world around them. With a network of 3,000 university chapters and international headquarters located on five continents, the organization has been a global force supporting youth everywhere who seek to build their capacities in the world of entrepreneurship and to connect to the world of business. Through a flagship one-million-dollar global entrepreneurship prize, the Hult Prize Foundation has helped launch thousands of startups that actively solve UN SDGs and create new jobs across 121 countries. In partnership with the United Nations Office of Partnerships, EF Education First and the Hult International Business School, the Hult Prize has brought impact-focused programs and events to millions of people, creating a pathway for youth everywhere to take action to build a better world.

To learn more about the Hult Prize Foundation and how get involved, visit [www.hultprize.org](http://www.hultprize.org)