

think**FOUND/ATION**

thinkGREEN | thinkSOCIAL | thinkFUTURE



Not For Profit Social Enterprise; Manufacturer & Employment Training Facilitator
Creating Opportunities for At-Risk Youth

Twitter, Instagram @thinkfound / www.thinkfound.co.uk / Workshop East London, Leyton, E10 7QE

Mission statement:

Reduce waste by reusing & recycling materials for furniture production.
Help those furthest from employment pathways achieve social mobility through work.
Increase diversity in the creative and construction industry.

- Produce Sustainable Furniture [think**GREEN**]
- Support At-Risk Youth [think**SOCIAL**]
- Create Employment Pathways [think**FUTURE**]



Reclaimed Wood made to order tables & benches...desks, bedside tables ready in 6-8 working days.
For commercial & individual customers. Future products childrens tables & chairs.



Clients:

Liberty London (Stationary department), Allia (Workspaces), Samaritans HQ (Desks) etc... Restaurants, Deli's, Cafes, Workspaces, Meeting room tables, Properties, Lobbies.

Planters/Seating. Part of the work experience programmes we offer (Future, boards games).





Expired Art Crates = Cabinets & Storage



The problem [thinkGREEN]

Large Waste Stream.

Climate Emergency.

Too expensive or no mechanism for circular activity.

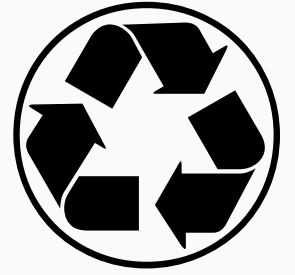
Skills in reusing not prioritised.



A person wearing a grey hoodie and a dark puffer jacket is looking at an open book in a workshop. The book has a red cover and contains text and diagrams. The background shows wooden planks and a metal rod.

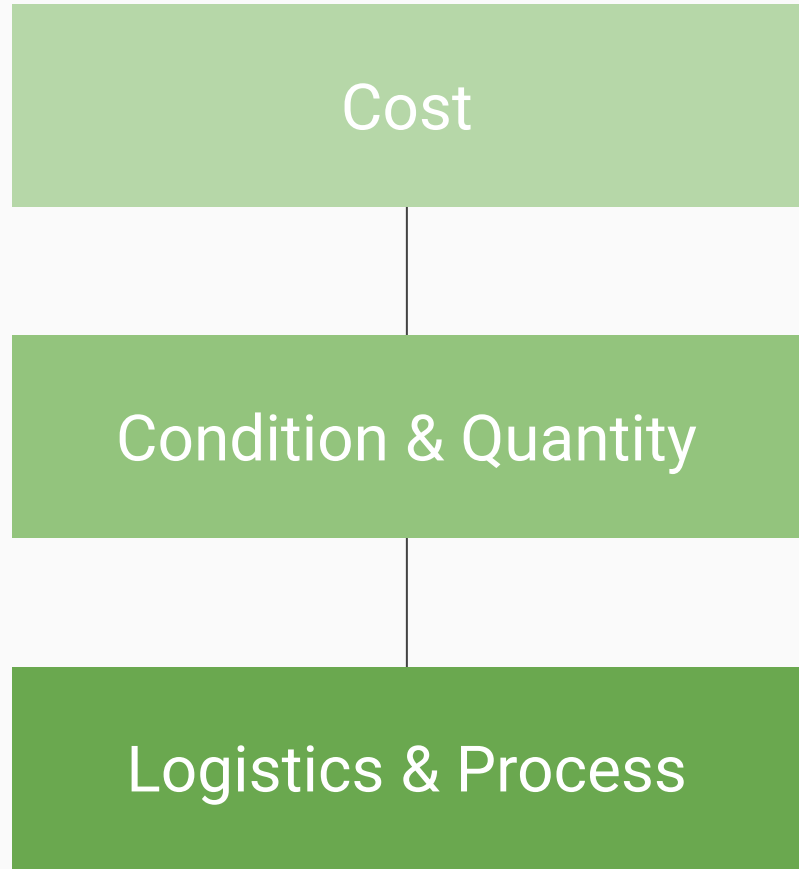
The solution [think**GREEN**]

- Use circular materials to make products & minimise waste.
- Make items built to last.
- Educate and skill up workforce with reusing mentality.
- Make our workshop & process environmentally efficient.



Materials & Sources

- Scaffolding board. Dealer.
- Felled Trees in and around London. Mainly Hardwoods. Saunders Seasoning.
- Laminated Ply, cuts offs from kitchen company nextdoor.
- Projects; Timber from The Mound, Art transportation Crate.
- R&D Bio Concrete/Recycled Plastics/Recycled plasterboard.





Good Waste; [Plasterboard](#)

The problem [thinkSOCIAL]

16-25 years lacking work experience.

Limited & Unsuitable Education.

Opportunities not accessed.

Support system not fit for needs.

Can lead to criminal activity & other social costs & mental health issues.



Our programmes / Employment Pathway

1. Assembling Futures

3-4 week course. 2 ½ days (tailored) with [Project Zero](#).

Taster

2. Step Up To Work


3 months, 3-4 days a week (tailored).

Work
Experience
@thinkFOUND

3. Projects or Placements

Varies; Rolling employment with us or partners (employment ecosystem).

- thinkFOUND
- [PhilCreates](#)
- [Saunders Seasoning](#)
- [Wood Street Walls](#)
- [MFS](#)
- Apprenticeships



The solution [think**SOCIAL**]

- “It takes a village to raise a child”.
- Support, Signpost, Space.
- Timing & Teamwork.
- Experience using tools & machinery.
- Follow on. We keep in touch.

Referrals & Support

Demystify professionalism.
Soft skills & basics.

Assessment (identify needs,
see what stage are they at)
Workbook - Competencies.

Advice, Mentoring &
Network[ing].

CV help, Interview practice &
breakdown.

Project Zero, Care
Leavers, VRP, StreetBase,
Drop in's,

Choose the right
programme

Tailor Offer/Support

The problem [thinkFUTURE]

Skills & Labour Shortage.

Diversity.

Mentality.

Automated META world (VR learning).





The solution [think**FUTURE**]

- Pre Apprenticeship.
- Employment Ecosystem.
- On-site Work.
- Increase Programmes.
- Work closely with Social Value teams in construction industry.

Work Pathways

Skill participants up using industry tools & machines.

Links to local colleges & foundations ↔ [BCC].

Help candidates create own networks.

Link to opportunities; SME's around us [Building BloQs] construction apprenticeships.



Impact

Responsible Consumption and Production

We save emissions, support zero waste and respect the environment in all our choices, including the products we use, our processes, how we manage our workshop along with our suppliers, partners and delivery.

Climate Action

We dramatically cut carbon emissions by repurposing existing materials. Reusing one tonne of wood emits 38.5kg CO₂e, compared to 312kg for a tonne of wood from virgin origin. Plus, we save the emissions it would cost to process the waste in landfill.

Meaningful Work and Economic Growth

thinkFOUND provides access to meaningful work through taster sessions, work experience and pre-apprenticeships. We train and skill up young people along with helping them with creating CVs and practicing interview techniques along with linking them to further education, training and employment opportunities.

Good Health and Well-Being

Our programmes are designed to improve the everyday wellbeing of participants, 85% of our participants have reported increased wellbeing & confidence in our supportive community which includes mentoring and career advice and support along with signposting to relevant service for other issues.

2021 Measurables

58 tonnes of material diverted from landfill and crafted into something new. In over 8 years of operation we have increase this year on year with a total of over **400 tonnes**.

84 tonnes of CO2e saved by using reclaimed rather than virgin material & using Zero Emission Delivery (ZED).

10,920 hours of paid and meaningful work created for young people not in education, employment or training from the local community.

384 hours of training in sustainable woodworking given to our community free of charge.

£3000 worth of discounted and donated items given to local charities & community groups.

Case Studies

Jahvi,
Male, 16
With us 6 months

Assembling Futures & Step Up to Work programme.

Joined after being excluded from secondary school. Had behavioural & learning difficulties. From a single parent low income family.

We helped him back into college/full time education, created a CV for him and taught him transferable skills while giving him work experience.

Now working in construction outside of London.

Rachael,
Female, 20
With us 3 months

Creative Mentor Network Programme with Waltham Forest.

Open to resident from low income families and underrepresented groups in the creative industry.

We mentored Rachael helping build a portfolio and prepare her for university interviews while helping build a career network and present herself professionally..

Went on to Bath University to study interior design.

Jaffar,
Male, 20
With us 6 months

Took him on as a kickstart placement. He helped teach the Assembling futures programme and became apart of our production team.

Jaffar came to us through our partners Project Zero. He had a history of criminal activity and involvement in gangs but was wanting to make a change.

We skilled him up, worked on behaviour issues and guided him to a safer career trajectory coaching him into a new job out of the borough.

Khalid,
22. Waltham Forest.
With us 1-2 months.

Participated in the Assembling Futures programme.

From a single parent low income family, struggling to find work.

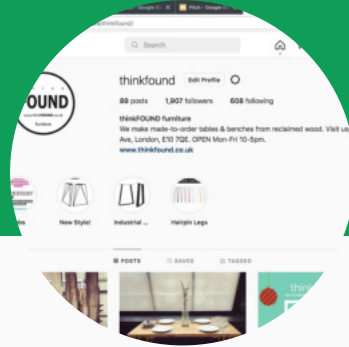
After participating in the AF programme we offer part time paid work then helped him get on a kickstart scheme with L&Q

Thank you for thinkingFOUND

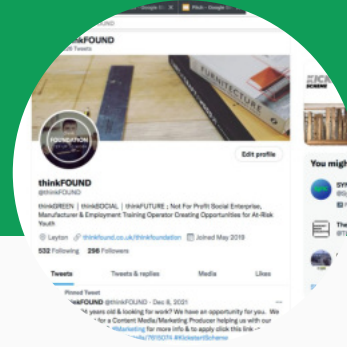


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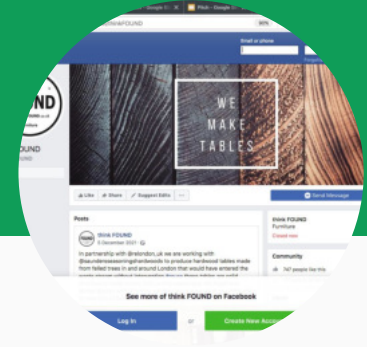
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Presentation by Chris Barrett
Founder & Director
info@thinkfound.co.uk

