

# **APEX DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION**

## **Annual Report 2025**

*Building Sustainable Futures Through Global Partnerships*

United Nations ECOSOC Special Consultative Status  
Operating Across 8 Countries

## **Executive Summary**

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The year 2025 marked a transformative period for Apex Development Foundation as we expanded our global reach, deepened strategic partnerships, and demonstrated the power of innovation-driven development. Operating across Tanzania, Malawi, Liberia, Uganda, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, India, and Colombia, we have solidified our position as a trusted partner in advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Under the leadership of Founder and CEO Robert M. Pontrelli, Apex Development Foundation leveraged its UN ECOSOC Special Consultative Status to mobilize resources, forge bipartisan partnerships, and deliver tangible results. From rapid humanitarian response to Hurricane Melissa in Jamaica to planning major global forums at UNGA80, our work continues to demonstrate that effective development requires both local roots and global vision.

## **2025 Highlights**

- Secured over \$40,000 in government funding through bipartisan partnerships with both Republican and Democratic officials
- Mobilized comprehensive Hurricane Melissa relief effort, deploying 1,200+ solar panels and medical equipment to Jamaica
- Confirmed as co-moderator for UNGA80 G-30 Forum, elevating youth voices in global governance
- Launched Apex Global Connect initiative with strategic partner [iamthecode](#) and CEO Lady Mariéme Jamme
- Established vendor relationships with NYC Department of Education and Department of Youth and Community Development
- Coordinated National Youth Dialogue on Integrity and Democracy in the Digital Era (Tanzania, October 2025)

# Organization Overview

## **Mission & Vision**

Apex Development Foundation advances sustainable development, youth empowerment, and civic participation through dialogue and partnerships across civil society. We believe in building sustainable, locally-rooted solutions that leverage technology, education, and clean energy to create lasting change.

## **Strategic Focus Areas**

- Technology Education & Digital Inclusion
- Women's Empowerment & Gender Equality
- Sustainable Development & Clean Energy
- Water Accessibility & Sanitation
- Youth Leadership & Civic Engagement
- Global Partnerships (SDG 17)

## **Governance & Leadership**

**Founder & CEO:** Robert M. Pontrelli

**ECOSOC Status:** Special Consultative Status (granted June 2019)

**UN Geneva Main Representative:** Timo E. Kooren

## **2025 Program Achievements**

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### **Humanitarian Response & Disaster Relief**

#### **Hurricane Melissa Relief Initiative (Jamaica)**

In response to Hurricane Melissa's devastating impact on Jamaica, Apex Development Foundation mobilized a rapid, comprehensive relief effort demonstrating our capacity for emergency response and sustainable recovery solutions.

#### **Key Accomplishments:**

- Coordinated deployment of 1,200+ solar panels through partnership with Good Sun Solar
- Mobilized medical equipment from hospitals across Upstate New York and NYC
- Secured off-grid battery systems and inverters for sustainable energy access
- Established portable clean-water systems powered by solar technology
- Collaborated with Permanent Mission of Jamaica to UN for efficient logistics and delivery

### **Digital Transformation & Youth Engagement**

#### **National Youth Dialogue (Tanzania)**

Partnering with Kijana Initiatives Organization, Global Peace Foundation Tanzania, and Restless Development, Apex co-organized the National Youth Dialogue on Integrity and Democracy in the Digital Era on October 10, 2025. This virtual forum brought together youth leaders, policymakers, and civil society to address critical challenges at the intersection of technology and democratic participation.

#### **Digital@UNGA 2025 Participation**

Apex Development Foundation participated as an Affiliate Session host within the ITU-UNDP Digital@UNGA programme during UN High Level Week 2025, aligning our work with the mission to celebrate the power of digital technologies to connect, uplift, and empower communities worldwide.

# **Strategic Partnerships**

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## **Global Collaborations**

- iamthecode - Strategic partnership with CEO Lady Mariéme Jamme for digital skills training
- HOPE XXL - Youth engagement and global cooperation aligned with SDGs
- Good Sun Solar - Renewable energy deployment and technical expertise
- Candeo College Alumni Network - Educational outreach and capacity building

## **Government Partnerships**

- NYC Department of Education - Vendor relationship for educational programs
- NYC Department of Youth and Community Development - Service delivery partnership
- Government of Malawi - WiFi connectivity initiatives (since 2014)
- Bipartisan U.S. Government Support - Over \$40,000 secured from both parties

## **UN System Engagement**

- ECOSOC NGO Committee - Active participation in consultative processes
- ITU (International Telecommunication Union) - Digital@UNGA collaboration
- UNDP - Partnership on digital transformation initiatives
- UNODC - Youth dialogue on integrity and anti-corruption

## **Financial Highlights**

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### **Revenue & Funding Sources**

Apex Development Foundation's diverse funding model demonstrates our capacity to attract bipartisan government support, corporate partnerships, and philanthropic contributions. Our financial sustainability is built on transparent stewardship and measurable impact.

#### **Key Funding Achievements 2025:**

- Government Grants: Over \$40,000 secured from bipartisan sources
- In-Kind Donations: 1,200+ solar panels valued at \$500,000+
- Medical Equipment Contributions: Estimated value \$200,000+
- NYC Vendor Contracts: Active service delivery agreements

### **Operational Efficiency**

Founded in 2005 with \$1,000 in startup capital, Apex Development Foundation has demonstrated exceptional resource leverage and operational efficiency. Our lean operational model ensures maximum impact per dollar invested, with overhead costs minimized through strategic partnerships and volunteer engagement.

## **Global Impact & Reach**

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### **Countries of Operation**

Apex Development Foundation operates across eight countries, providing direct services to over 200 individuals annually through targeted programs while catalyzing broader systemic change through advocacy and partnership development.

- **Tanzania** - Youth dialogues, digital literacy, civic engagement
- **Malawi** - WiFi connectivity (pioneering 2014 initiative), technology education
- **Liberia** - Women's empowerment, sustainable development programs
- **Uganda** - Community development, water accessibility projects
- **Nigeria** - Youth empowerment, technology training
- **Zimbabwe** - Solar energy deployment, sustainable agriculture
- **India** - Digital skills training, women's economic empowerment
- **Colombia** - Community development, sustainable livelihoods

### **Impact Metrics**

- Direct Beneficiaries: 200+ individuals served annually through targeted programs
- Conferences Hosted: 200-430+ participants per major event
- Organizational Capacity Building: Legal structure established for 11+ other nonprofits
- Global-Initiative 2030: Seven-pillar program aligned with UN SDGs

## **Looking Forward: 2026 Strategic Priorities**

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### **UNGA80 & G-30 Forum Leadership**

Apex Development Foundation will co-moderate the UNGA80 G-30 Forum, positioning youth voices at the center of global governance discussions. This represents a milestone achievement for our organization and validates our approach to youth-led development.

### **Worldwide Digital Revolution Summit**

Planning is underway for a major summit at UN facilities focusing on digital transformation, connectivity, and bridging digital divides in underserved communities. This initiative builds on our WSIS+20 networking success and partnerships with billion-dollar organizations.

### **Apex Global Connect Expansion**

With strategic partner iamthecode and CEO Lady Mariéme Jamme, we will scale our digital skills training programs across our eight operational countries, focusing on women and girls in underserved communities.

### **Mexican Market Entry**

Exploration of Mexican expansion includes:

- Solar panel training programs for Mexican workers
- Potential Civil Association establishment
- Strategic deployment of 350 solar panels currently in storage
- Hybrid revenue model: sales, training, and donations

### **Water Accessibility Scale-Up**

Building on successful water projects in Uganda, Malawi, and Zimbabwe, we will expand community water access initiatives across Africa with comprehensive water quality monitoring and sustainable governance models.

### **European Presence Development**

Exploration of charitable organization establishment in:

- Netherlands
- Switzerland
- Italy

## **Conclusion**

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The achievements of 2025 reflect Apex Development Foundation's maturation as a global development leader. From our founding in 2005 with \$1,000 in startup capital to achieving UN ECOSOC Special Consultative Status in 2019, we have demonstrated that sustainable development requires both local roots and global vision.

Our rapid response to Hurricane Melissa, our leadership in digital transformation dialogues, and our bipartisan funding success all demonstrate our capacity to bridge divides and deliver results. As we prepare for UNGA80 co-moderation and expanded operations in Mexico and Europe, we remain committed to our core mission: advancing sustainable development, youth empowerment, and civic participation through dialogue and partnerships across civil society.

The future is bright for Apex Development Foundation. With strategic partnerships, proven operational capacity, and unwavering commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, we are positioned to create transformative impact in communities worldwide.

## **Contact Information**

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### **Founder & CEO:**

Robert M. Pontrelli

### **UN ECOSOC Status:**

Special Consultative Status

Granted: June 2019

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