
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The London School of Economics Launches Global Venture Builder for Longevity Innovation at Web Summit

London, April 17th, 2025 – In response to one of the most urgent and exciting challenges of our time — global aging — LSE today announced the launch of the Long Life Venture Builder, a pioneering international programme designed to accelerate next-generation startups focused on healthy aging, at Web Summit Rio. This first-of-its-kind initiative brings together a global coalition of academic institutions, innovation labs, impact investors, and policy thought leaders, including partners such as Stanford University Transformative Times (Portugal), Católica Lisbon School of Business & Economics, , Ashoka Foundation, and Zumba!

“The future of longevity isn’t a healthcare issue — it’s a systems-level opportunity to reimagine how we live, work, connect, and care across the lifespan,” said LJ Silverman, Head of LSE Generate, at the Web Summit panel *Viva la vida: Innovate for a Healthier, Longer Life*.

“This venture builder is our answer to that opportunity — and our call to global action.”

The Long Life Venture Builder will run in two stages:

- Stage 1: The Long Life Research Lab — a 6-month global foresight and systems mapping project, exploring trends, regulations, technologies, and perceptions shaping the future of aging.
- Stage 2: The Venture Accelerator — a 3-month hybrid builder supporting early-stage teams with funding, mentorship, prototyping support, and direct access to investors and healthcare partners.
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Focused on mental wellbeing, cognitive health, intergenerational infrastructure, and tech-enabled care, the programme will launch in six countries — the UK, Brazil, Portugal, Spain, the Philippines, and the U.S. — with the aim of supporting 10-20 high-potential ventures per year.

Startups will gain access to:

- Tailored mentorship from global experts in health, policy, AI, design, and social innovation.
- Hands-on support through in-person meetups, workshops, and demo days.
- Global research insights and future-mapping tools from the Long Life Research team.

“The question isn’t just ‘how shall we age?’ — it’s ‘how shall we innovate for every age?’” said Silverman.

“We believe the ventures born out of this programme will help shape a more inclusive, connected, and healthy future for all.”

Applications for the first cohort open in August 2025.

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