



Annual Report 2024

Table of Contents

Foreword

01 | Introduction

05 | Key Takeaways

07 | Our Strategic Approach

09 | Our Work: The Work We Tackled

- 09 Accelerating Local Impact
- 11 Advancing equity & inclusion
- 13 Uplifting leaders making bold changes

14 | Our Partners: Building Impact Together

- 14 My First Bitcoin
- 15 Hope House
- 16 bizzNEST by Digital NEST
- 17 Motiv
- 18 Citadels of Hope
- 19 Sports of Light
- 20 Bitcoin School
- 21 Ideas Beyond Borders
- 22 F.R.E.E. Fórum Regional Educação Económica (Regional Forum for Economic Educa-
- 23 Generation Bitcoin

25 | 2024 Budget Snapshot

27 | Challenges & Lessons Learned

28 | Looking Ahead

From vision to reality: Our journey in 2024

Over 40,000 lives transformed. This remarkable milestone marks a pivotal year for **Paystand Inc.**, as our corporate social responsibility strategy has evolved from vision to tangible impact across communities worldwide. Through Paystand.org, we've channeled the best of **Paystand Inc.** to promote financial inclusion and empower underserved groups, reaching individuals and communities who have long stood at the margins of traditional financial systems.

Our strategic investment of **\$209,000** across three continents in 2024 reinforced our conviction that **Bitcoin Circular Economies (BCEs)** are crucial to transforming the financial landscape. These investments support initiatives that build and strengthen BCE ecosystems, creating lasting change by offering communities a path to financial self-reliance independent of traditional institutions.

As we look ahead, our goal is clear: we aim to leverage technology and innovation to drive lasting change and ensure financial inclusion that truly leaves no one behind. This year, we have been inspired by remarkable stories—from small business owners breaking into global markets to young entrepreneurs uplifting their local economies. These big triumphs motivate us to further amplify our impact.



Jeremy Almond
Founder/CEO, Paystand Inc.



Alexandra Navarro
Chief of Staff & Impact, Paystand Inc.

Introduction

The challenge of financial exclusion remains significant, with over [1.4 billion people worldwide lacking access to basic banking services](#). However, transformative changes are emerging in communities that have embraced Bitcoin technology. In El Salvador, small business owners like [Mama Rosa](#) now confidently accept Bitcoin payments at her *pupusas* stand in El Zonte, while [Berlin](#), has created a thriving circular economy where Bitcoin facilitates daily transactions from morning coffee to hotel stays. Similarly, a community in rural Argentina has established its own marketplace using Bitcoin.



These success stories represent more than technological adoption—they demonstrate the transformative power of Bitcoin Circular Economies (BCEs). Since 2020 BCEs have demonstrated their potential to foster financial independence and sustainable economic growth, particularly in areas with limited banking infrastructure. These self-sustaining ecosystems allow communities to conduct business, save, and invest using Bitcoin, bypassing traditional financial intermediaries and addressing the limitations of conventional banking systems.

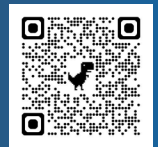
At **Paystand.org**, we advance financial inclusion through the strategic development of BCEs. Our approach integrates three essential pillars: technology adoption, education, and economic empowerment. This framework guides our investments and programs, ensuring sustainable impact in underserved communities. In 2024, we demonstrated our heightened commitment by tripling our funding for initiatives that create economic opportunities in historically underrepresented communities.

This annual report documents our 2024 journey and illustrates how our strategy has fostered resilient financial ecosystems worldwide. Through detailed analysis of our projects—ranging from local grassroots initiatives to global partnerships—we demonstrate how BCEs are transforming financial access for traditionally excluded populations. Each initiative advances our vision of a financial system where economic opportunity knows no boundaries.



Discover how Paystand.org is revolutionizing financial inclusion

From developing Bitcoin Circular Economies (BCEs) to empowering local communities, see how Paystand.org is building the foundation for a more inclusive financial future. Learn about our strategic approach, global partnerships, and the real stories of transformation from the communities we serve.

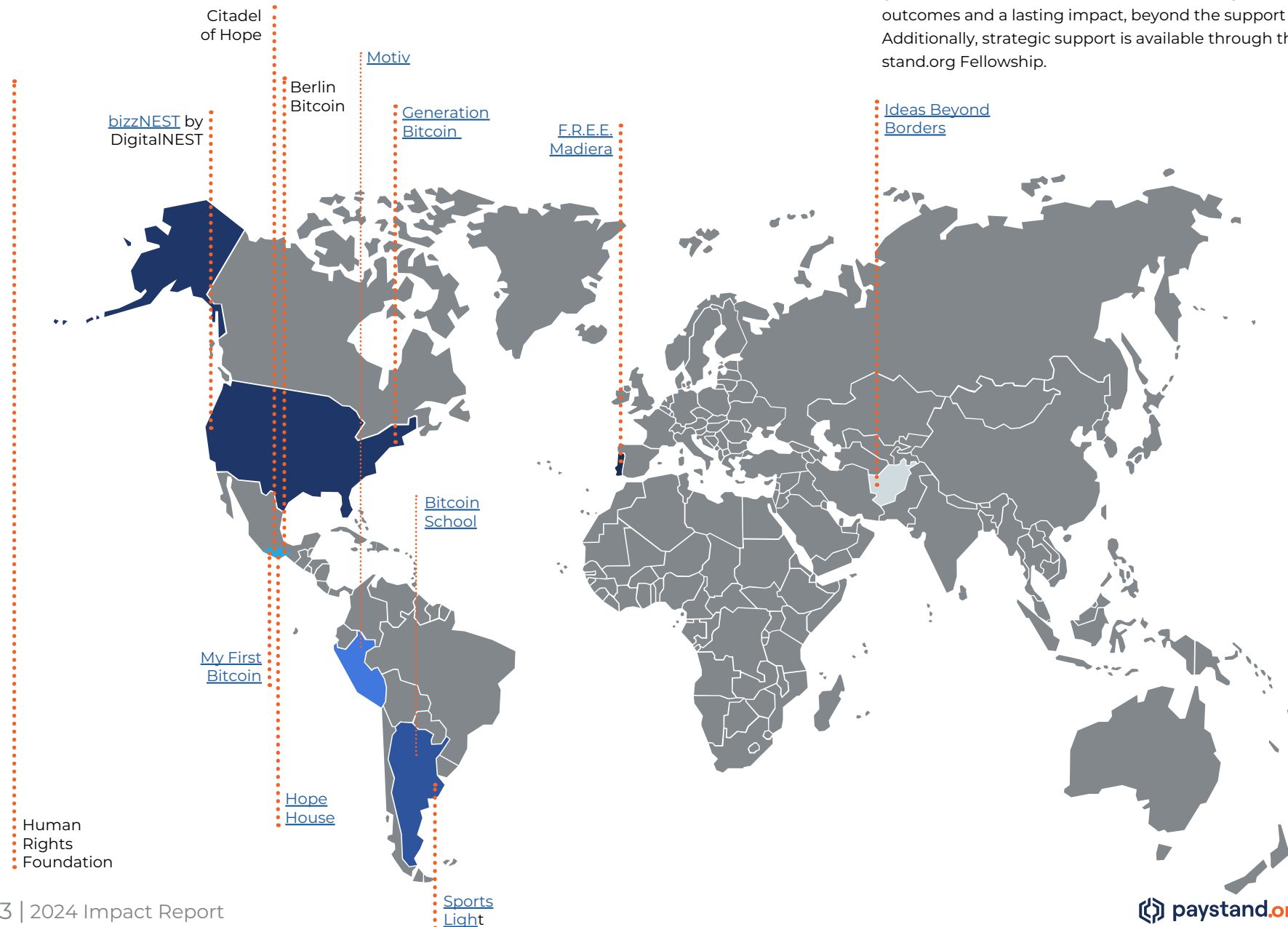


Scan the QR to watch the video

Paystand.org Fund World Map



The Paystand Fund offers selected organizations up to six months of **technical expertise**. This year, we have allocated \$7,000 allocated for external experts in fields like blockchain technology, operations, knowledge management, and strategic development. These external experts work directly with grantees to create tailored solutions, fostering sustainable outcomes and a lasting impact, beyond the support period. Additionally, strategic support is available through the Paystand.org Fellowship.



Human Rights Foundation

Key Takeaways

Investment Impact:

Total Investment:
\$209,000

deployed across multiple initiatives to promote financial inclusion and Bitcoin Circular Economies (BCEs)

Direct Grants:
\$169,500

awarded to nonprofits worldwide, with individual grants ranging from \$3,000 to \$75,000

Strategic Distribution:
56.2% of funds directed to accelerating local impact

13.6% to advancing equity and inclusion

11.1% to uplifting leaders

Major Achievements:

Global Reach:

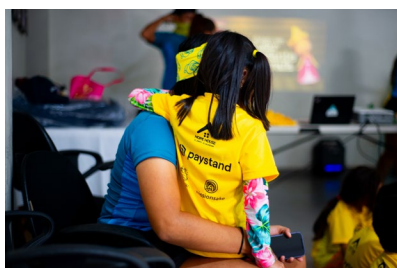
Successfully supported Bitcoin adoption and Financial inclusion across three continents, with notable projects in El Salvador, Argentina, Portugal, and the United States

Educational Impact:

Supported “My First Bitcoin” with **\$84,000** to develop open-source educational materials, making Bitcoin education more accessible globally

Community Development:

Launched initiatives like the Hope House in El Salvador and Citadel of Hope in Punta Mango, creating hubs for community education and BCE development



Strategic Partnerships:

Women of Bitcoin

Invested \$15,000 in networking events and women-led panels to promote inclusivity in the Bitcoin ecosystem

Human Rights Foundation:

Contributed \$17,000 to support the Financial Freedom Program, advancing Bitcoin as a tool for human rights

Innovation in Practice:

Supported grassroots organizations have successfully implemented Bitcoin Circular Economies (BCEs) across diverse contexts, ranging from rural communities to urban centers.

Partner organizations have developed scalable models for Bitcoin education and adoption, paving the way for these initiatives to be replicated in different regions worldwide.

Through collaborative efforts, we have fostered strong partnerships between technical experts and grassroots organizations, ensuring the sustainable and effective implementation of their programs.

New Programs & Future Growth

Paystand.org Volunteer Program:

Initiated a pro bono program matching Paystand employees with nonprofits, supported by an \$18,000 budget

Technical Support:

Allocated \$5,000 for Paystand employees to provide technical expertise to nonprofit partners

Expanded Network:

Selected 11 new grantee organizations for the upcoming year, including strategic partners across Latin America and global Bitcoin initiatives

Key Takeaways



These achievements represent significant progress toward our mission of creating inclusive, sustainable financial ecosystems through Bitcoin technology and education.



Our work in 2024 has laid a strong foundation for continued expansion and impact in the years ahead.

Our Strategic Approach

At **Paystand.org**, our mission to advance financial inclusion through Bitcoin and blockchain technology drives every project we undertake. In 2024, we deepened our commitment to BCEs, refining our approach and increasing investments to expand the reach and effectiveness of our projects.

Paystand.org's distinctive approach centers on nurturing Bitcoin Circular Economies (BCEs)—self-sustaining financial ecosystems that operate through decentralized technology. These BCEs enable communities to conduct daily transactions using Bitcoin, fostering financial independence and local economic growth without traditional banking intermediaries. By supporting these ecosystems, we empower individuals to participate in global markets while maintaining control over their financial futures.



In 2024, we strengthened the foundation impact through our three strategic pillars: technology adoption, economic empowerment, and education. This framework allows us to tackle systemic financial barriers with scalable solutions that promote inclusion, particularly in underserved communities. Our global expansion has created new pathways to economic participation, with targeted programs supporting youth and women who have historically faced financial exclusion.

Through this refined strategic approach, **Paystand.org** has established itself as a leader in utilizing technology to drive long-term, sustainable change.

Our Work: The Projects We Tackled

In 2024, we supported global projects, partnerships, and investments that provide essential assistance to people, grassroots organizations, small businesses, and communities. We focused on driving local impact, promoting equity and inclusion, and empowering leaders.



Accelerating Local Impact

At **Paystand.org**, we know that the best answers often come from those closest to the problem. This year, **Paystand.org** catalyzed these solutions by awarding **\$169,500** in strategic grants to nonprofits worldwide. Our approach combines direct funding with technical expertise to advance financial inclusion in marginalized communities, focusing on developing BCEs.

The **Paystand.org Fund** serves as our primary vehicle for identifying and supporting innovative local initiatives. We provided substantial financial backing—ranging from **\$3,000 to \$75,000 per project**—alongside comprehensive technical assistance through the Paystand.org Fellowship. This dual support structure ensures

**“from
\$3,000
to \$75,000
per project”**



that organizations receive both the funding and expertise needed to create lasting impact in their communities.

In 2024, we invested in ten organizations dedicated to creating transformative economic systems across **technology adoption, economic empowerment, and education**. Our grant-making prioritizes grassroots organizations that resonate with our vision of decentralized, inclusive, and sustainable finance. We focus on projects that utilize Bitcoin for social good and have the potential for global replication.

Each funded initiative—from introducing Bitcoin to local markets to educating youth on financial technologies—demonstrates our dedication to local solutions that enhance broader financial inclusion.

Advancing Equity & Inclusion

We launched our **Corporate Volunteering** program this year with a budget of \$18,000, enabling 12 employees to engage directly with communities in El Salvador. This initiative cultivates meaningful connections between paystanders and impactful causes, promoting remote work opportunities while supporting community projects in partnership with local organizations. By matching employees' skills with the needs of nonprofits, we foster collaboration that drives positive change in these communities.



In 2024, our corporate volunteers allocated time to support the efforts of Hope House in El Zonte, El Salvadvides, used cryptocurrency in daily transactions, and additionally, they delivered food supplies to 15 vulnerable families affected by heavy rains, showcasing their adaptability and dedication to making a difference.organizations. This approach enables us to direct specialized talents where they are most needed,



their adaptability and dedication to making a difference.organizations. This approach enables us to direct specialized talents where they are most needed, creating a collaborative environment that maximizes positive change. We strive to maximize our impact while benefiting our employees, grantees, and the communities we serve.

This year marks an exciting expansion for **Paystand.org** setting our Internship Program off the ground, supported by an allocation of \$13,000. Set to launch in 2025, the program aims to provide valuable hands-on work experience to young people from underserved communities connected to our grantee organizations. This initiative reflects our strong commitment to making a meaningful impact and fosters career development, empowering individuals to thrive in today's digital economy.



Uplifting leaders making bold changes

Supporting those who drive change in their communities is crucial. At Paystand.org, we sponsor networking events and forge partnerships to uplift social innovators and global organizations.

In 2024, we supported **Women in Bitcoin** to demonstrate that Bitcoin truly is for everyone, from accomplished female CEOs to those just starting their journey with this groundbreaking asset. Our contribution of **\$14,000** has facilitated networking events, women-led panels, and engaging discussions, linking hundreds of women within the Bitcoin community. This initiative has fostered a strong network built on meaningful relationships and support.



Take a closer look at the Women in Bitcoin event held in El Salvador on November 14, where 65 attendees gathered to celebrate women's role in shaping the Bitcoin ecosystem. Explore the photos that showcase meaningful networking interactions, inspiring panels, and the vibrant community spirit fostered throughout this gathering.



Additionally, we partnered with the [Human Rights Foundation](#) on its **Financial Freedom** program, committing **\$17,000** to educate activists globally, bring together people from different industries and backgrounds, and provide grants to advance Bitcoin as a tool for human rights. Our partnership spans across the HRF's four strategies: educating the public, providing hands-on training to activists, offering financial support to software developers, and building a global network to advance financial freedom worldwide.

My First Bitcoin



International Bitcoin project with a local focus on providing open source materials for an independent, impartial, community-led, high-quality, Bitcoin-only education.



Impact Area: Education



Objective and Goals:

Mi Primer Bitcoin fosters financial literacy and independence through Bitcoin education. Their mission is to empower individuals, particularly youth, with the tools to navigate and leverage the decentralized financial ecosystem. By making Bitcoin knowledge accessible, the organization seeks to inspire confidence and innovation in emerging economies.



Key Programs:

Their flagship initiative, the Bitcoin Diploma, has reached over 35,000 students and trained 150+ teachers in public schools across El Salvador and globally. Designed for middle and high school students, the program combines theoretical understanding with practical applications of Bitcoin. Mi Primer Bitcoin also manages a decentralized Node Network, supporting over 50 education initiatives worldwide. These programs aim to build a global Bitcoin-savvy community capable of driving economic change.



Impact of Paystand Support:

With a grant from Paystand.org, Mi Primer Bitcoin expanded its reach, delivering the Bitcoin Diploma to 2,500 students and training 400 educators. This effort indirectly impacted 7,000 additional students by incorporating Bitcoin knowledge into school curriculums. The funding also supported innovative educational content, ensuring scalability and sustainability for global adoption.



Hope House



Driving the positive and sustainable transformation of the El Zonte community through technology literacy to create new development opportunities and an educated and broad-minded community.



Impact Area: Economic Empowerment and Technology Adoption



Objective and Goals:

Hope House in El Zonte, El Salvador, is committed to holistic community development through education, recreation, and Bitcoin adoption. They aim to empower individuals by fostering skills and opportunities that enable self-sufficiency and resilience.



Key Programs:

Programs include “English for All,” aimed at improving language skills for youth and adults, and recreational initiatives that promote community bonding and physical well-being. Hope House also integrates Bitcoin education into its curriculum, providing residents with tools to effectively engage in the digital economy.



Impact of Paystand Support:

In 2024, Paystand’s support helped expand Hope House’s English courses, benefiting over 150 individuals. Funding also bolstered recreational programs and facilities maintenance. During an unexpected heavy rainfall, Hope House collaborated with Paystand employees to deliver essential food supplies to 15 vulnerable families, showcasing their agility in addressing immediate community needs.

bizzNEST



bizzNEST interns are hired and paid to work in the Digital NEST digital media agency internship program for up to 1 year.



Impact Area: Technology Adoption and Education



Objective and Goals:

Digital Nest’s bizzNEST program equips youth in underserved U.S. communities with digital and entrepreneurial skills. Their mission is to bridge the skills gap and enable economic opportunities through technology and innovation.



Key Programs:

bizzNEST offers internships in fields such as graphic design, video production, and web development. These programs emphasize hands-on experience, teamwork, and networking, preparing participants for careers in tech-driven industries.



Impact of Paystand Support:

Paystand’s funding enabled bizzNEST to expand its internship program, reaching an additional 50 young adults. This investment also facilitated new partnerships with local businesses, enhancing job placement opportunities for participants.



Motiv



Motiv programs focus on empowering rural communities, reducing dependencies with Bitcoin, and reducing vulnerabilities in the area. Currently, the organisation has activated 16 BCEs nodes in Andean.



Impact Area:
Economic Empowerment and Education



Objective and Goals:

Motiv empowers South American communities through education and economic development, leveraging Bitcoin to address financial challenges.



Key Programs:

Motiv's initiatives include financial literacy workshops and Bitcoin adoption training, with a focus on underserved regions such as Lima and Cusco in Peru.



Impact of Paystand Support:

The grant facilitated over 15 workshops and five community events in 2024, introducing **500 participants** to Bitcoin's potential for economic empowerment. These events focused on providing hands-on training in using Bitcoin wallets and understanding decentralized financial systems. Additionally, Motiv launched a mentorship program to support small entrepreneurs in integrating blockchain solutions into their businesses.

Citadel of Hope



The "Citadel of Hope" resembles the renowned Bitcoin Beach in El Zonte, El Salvador. It is a hub for community education aiming to create BCEs in marginalised areas, driving economic independence by encouraging the use of Bitcoin for everyday transactions and access to services like education and healthcare.



Impact Area:
Economic Empowerment and Technology Adoption



Objective and Goals:

Operating in Punta Mango, El Salvador, Citadel of Hope aims to create a sustainable and inclusive community through education, health, and technology adoption.



Key Programs:

Programs include English education, youth sports leagues, and training in Bitcoin adoption to enhance financial inclusion.



Impact of Paystand Support:

Paystand's contributions funded teachers, program management, and recreational facilities, directly impacting over 100 community members.

In 2024, the organization delivered English language classes, developed a local Bitcoin economy for small businesses, and initiated workshops on sustainable business practices. Citadel of Hope also provided recreational opportunities, fostering a supportive and holistic environment for young participants.



Sports Light



Sports Light promotes holistic athlete development. The organization educates athletes on sports and finance, focusing on cryptocurrencies. They are preparing to launch informational talks about virtual wallets and Bitcoin to equip athletes and their families with modern financial tools, fostering growth on and off the field.



Impact Area: Education



Objective and Goals:

Sports Light integrates sports and financial literacy to support holistic development for athletes in El Salvador.



Key Programs:

Upcoming initiatives include workshops on Bitcoin wallets and financial literacy to complement sports training.



Impact of Paystand Support:

The funding enabled the organization to plan educational sessions, benefiting both athletes and their families in adopting sustainable financial practices. In 2024, the organization launched a series of workshops on using virtual wallets and the benefits of Bitcoin. These sessions were designed to empower athletes and their families to manage finances more effectively while exploring decentralized financial tools. Sports Light also organized community events to demonstrate the practical application of Bitcoin in daily life.

Bitcoin School



Founded in mid-2023, Bitcoin School is Mi Primer Bitcoin's first node in Argentina. Teaching Bitcoin self-custody through in-person workshops and hybrid classes that consist of online sessions and practical workshops in partnership with Universidad Siglo 21.



Impact Area: Education



Objective and Goals:

Bitcoin School in Córdoba, Argentina, is dedicated to free, impartial, community-driven Bitcoin education.



Key Programs:

Initiatives include weekly meetups, workshops, and a co-working space to drive Bitcoin adoption.



Impact of Paystand Support:

Funding supported the establishment of an educational centre complete with state-of-the-art technology to facilitate interactive workshops. Regular meetups and partnerships with organizations like Universidad Siglo 21 extended the program's reach, fostering a growing network of Bitcoin enthusiasts with knowledge and skills for the decentralized economy.



Ideas Beyond Borders



International Bitcoin project with a local focus on providing open source materials for an independent, impartial, community-led, high-quality, Bitcoin-only education.



Impact Area:
Technology Adoption and Education



Objective and Goals:

Ideas Beyond Borders aims to promote knowledge and empowerment in underserved regions by translating educational resources into local languages.



Key Programs:

The organization focuses on creating accessible Bitcoin and financial education materials in multiple languages.



Impact of Paystand Support:

Support from Paystand allowed the organization to expand its library of translated resources, reaching new audiences in the Middle East and beyond. The organization conducted online courses and distributed educational materials focusing on the practical applications of blockchain technology, contributing to increased financial literacy among participants.



F.R.E.E Madeira — Fórum Regional Educação Económica (Regional Forum for Economic Education)

The Madeira Island Bitcoin initiative. F.R.E.E. Madeira focuses on various areas, including financial and technological education, payment systems and foreign exchange, energy, and financial hubs. It also incorporates technological companies and hosts [Bitcoin Atlantis](#). It also advises the Madeiran government and several other institutions on the island, both public and private.



Impact Area:
Economic Empowerment and Education



Objective and Goals:

F.R.E.E Madeira is dedicated to fostering economic education and Bitcoin adoption in Madeira, Portugal. Their mission is to create a financially literate community capable of leveraging Bitcoin for economic growth.



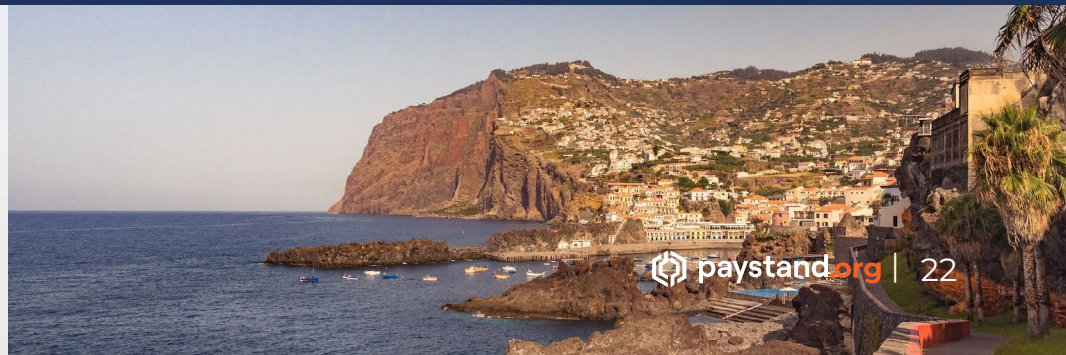
Key Programs:

Workshops, youth education initiatives, and public seminars on blockchain technology form the backbone of their activities.



Impact of Paystand Support:

With Paystand's funding, the program reached over 1,000 participants in 2024, providing them with the tools and knowledge to navigate decentralized financial systems. The program also partnered with local schools to integrate Bitcoin education into their curriculums, ensuring its long-term impact.





2024 Budget Snapshot

Operations
19.1%

Technical expertise

Accerlerating Local Impact
54.6%

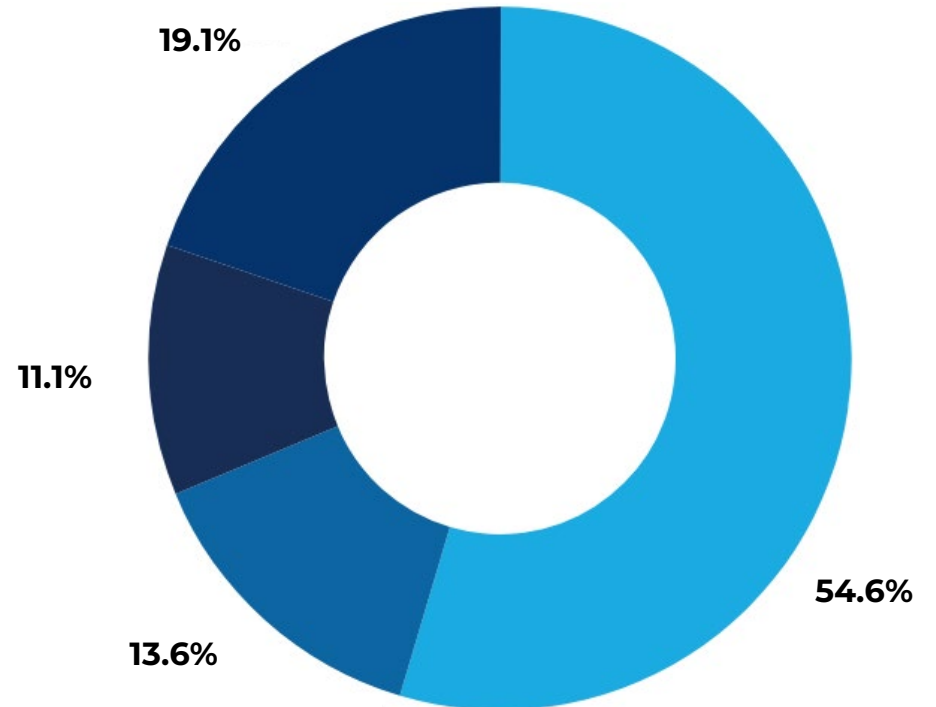
My First Bitcoin
Hope House
bizzNEST by Digital NEST
Citadel of Hope
Technical Expertise
Ideas Beyond Borders
Motiv
Bitcoin School Argentina
Sports Light

Advancing equity and inclusion
13.6%

Fellowship
Internship
Mentorship

Uplifting leaders making bold changes
11.1%

HDR Financial Freedom
Women of Bitcoin



- Accelerating Local Impact
- Advancing equity and inclusion
- Uplifting leaders making bold changes
- Operations

Challenges & Lessons Learned

Navigating Regulatory Landscapes

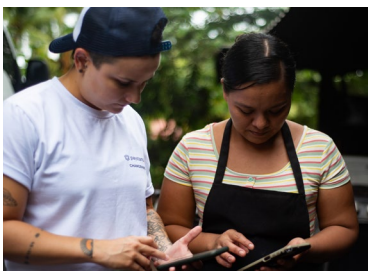
The evolving regulatory environment for cryptocurrencies presented significant challenges in 2024. While some regions embraced BCEs, others maintained restrictive policies.

We learned to:

Develop flexible implementation strategies adaptable to different regulatory frameworks

Build stronger relationships with local regulatory bodies

Create educational resources that address compliance requirements



Technical Infrastructure Barriers

Limited internet connectivity and digital literacy in some target communities initially hindered BCE adoption. Our response included:

Developing offline-first solutions for basic transactions

Creating simplified user interfaces for essential functions

Implementing peer-to-peer training programs

Community Adoption

Initial skepticism about Bitcoin in some communities required us to **adjust our approach**:

Extended the education phase in new projects from 3 to 6 months

Integrated local leaders earlier in the planning process

Developed culturally-specific educational materials

Looking Ahead

Over the past year, our journey has been transformational, characterized by significant growth, learning, and a dedication to pushing boundaries. As we navigated both opportunities and challenges, we've focused on leveraging decentralized finance to create lasting change for underserved communities.

Looking ahead to the coming year, we plan to refine our strategies and launch new initiatives that align with our core focus areas: technology adoption, economic empowerment, and education. Our new Internship Program and Mentorship Scheme will provide valuable, hands-on experiences and help develop leadership skills for young individuals from our partner organizations. These initiatives will strengthen our existing efforts.

Moreover, we aim to broaden the outreach of Bitcoin Circular Economies (BCEs) to ensure that financial access is available to people all over the world. By enhancing our approach and expanding our growing network of BCE, we will continue supporting underserved communities and reflect our mission to foster meaningful change.



We are unwavering in our commitment to creating a future where financial inclusion is not just a goal but a reality for all.

