

[FOUNDATION OVERVIEW · 2026]

Engineering solutions for *global* *challenges*

Tech for good across three pillars: wildlife conservation, social impact, and innovation. We're a non-profit foundation working alongside rangers, NGOs and communities worldwide.

10 yrs

SINCE 2016

9+

COUNTRIES

34+

PARTNERS

24+

PROJECTS

Engineering expertise for the field

Hack The Planet was founded in 2016 on a clear conviction: the right technology, in the right hands, can move the needle on the world's biggest problems. We bring engineering expertise to the field — for wildlife, for communities, and for the people who protect them.

Ten years later we've worked across **8+ countries** with **25+ partners**, and in 2025 we became an official Dutch non-profit foundation. The mission has not changed: build technology that helps wildlife, communities and the people who protect them.

Our work is funded by donations, grants and partnerships. Because we are an **ANBI** (Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling), donations from the Netherlands are tax-deductible.

Q42 is our **founding donor** — and has made Hack The Planet possible. From the start they have contributed funding, engineering time and a home to grow from. Hack The Planet now operates as an independent foundation, but Q42 remains a long-term supporter — and the place where it all started.

"Field-proven means: built with rangers, NGOs and communities — and refined every season by the people who actually use it."

LEGAL NAME	STATUS	KVK	IBAN
Stichting Hack The Planet	ANBI-registered	98279238	NL79 TRIO 0321 1304 05

Where our technology makes a difference

Where our technology makes a difference — from wildlife rangers in remote national parks to local communities.

01

Conservation

Anti-poaching, wildlife monitoring and human-wildlife coexistence — built with rangers, NGOs and research partners on the ground.

02

Social impact

Tech serving people — from VR experiences for elderly care to digital interventions tackling youth violence.

03

Innovation

New concepts that prove what's possible — affordable medical devices, autonomous drones, immersive humanitarian training.

01 · Conservation

Most of our conservation work happens in protected areas across the globe — places where rangers patrol thousands of square kilometres without cell coverage, where poachers move silently at night, and where an elephant or a brown bear stepping into a village can change lives in seconds.

We build the hardware and software that ranger teams, NGOs and research institutions rely on in exactly those conditions. Solar-powered, satellite-connected, ruggedized for heat, dust, rain and curious wildlife — and refined every season by the people who actually use it in the field.

The result is a small set of **three field-proven platforms** — and the deployments that prove them.



[OUR PRODUCTS]

Three platforms behind every deployment

Each product gets a dedicated page next — with the canonical deployment that proves it.



Product 01

ScannerEdge

Passive radio-frequency detection that warns rangers about people in places they shouldn't be.

PAGE 04



Product 02

Instant Detect

Protect wildlife faster, smarter, anywhere — AI camera traps that send images via satellite, in near-real-time.

PAGE 05



Product 03

Smart Deterrent

An AI-triggered, non-lethal deterrent that keeps wildlife — and the people sharing their landscape — out of harm's way.

PAGE 06



ScannerEdge

Passive radio-frequency detection that warns rangers about people in places they shouldn't be.

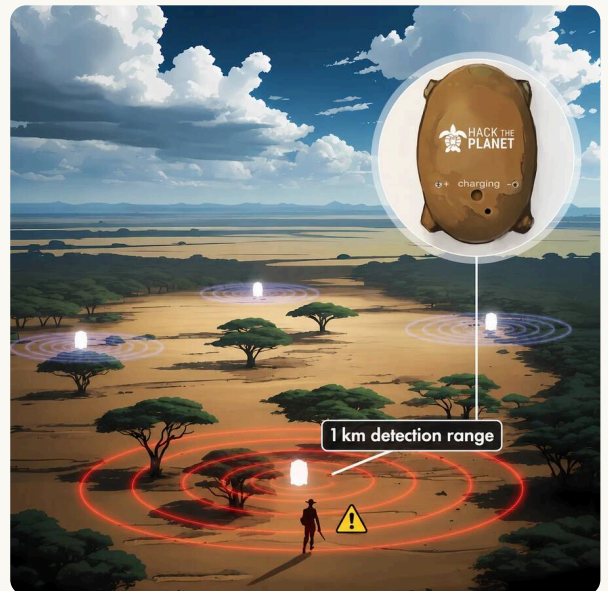
What it does

ScannerEdge is a **passive human-presence detection system** for anti-poaching and conservation operations. Instead of cameras or motion sensors that miss covert activity, it listens for the radio-frequency signals that mobile phones, satellite phones and walkie-talkies unavoidably emit.

When the unit picks up a signal, rangers get an alert — often hours before a poacher would otherwise be detected. The device never decodes the signal or collects personal data, so it works within the bounds of privacy regulations.

Field-built capabilities

- **Passive RF detection** — picks up mobile, satellite and walkie-talkie signals.
- **±1 km coverage**, depending on terrain and vegetation.
- **Real-time alerts** over LoRaWAN or Iridium satellite.
- **Solar-powered**, months of unattended operation.
- **Remote management** — configure every unit from a phone or browser.
- **Rugged enclosure** — built for heat, dust, rain and curious wildlife.
- **Privacy-respecting** — never decodes signals or stores personal data.



HOW IT WORKS · PASSIVE RF DETECTION ACROSS A ±1 KM RADIUS

[FEATURED DEPLOYMENT]



2024 · SOUTH LUANGWA, ZAMBIA

A LoRaWAN-backed anti-poaching network

Deploying ScannerEdge across one of Zambia's most biodiverse and vulnerable wildlife regions.

With Conservation South Luangwa

Read more about ScannerEdge on hack-the-planet.io/products/scanneredge

Instant Detect

Protect wildlife faster, smarter, anywhere — AI camera traps that send images via satellite, in near-real-time.

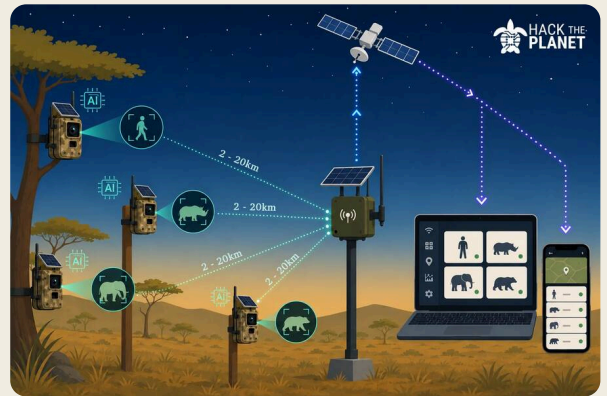
What it does

Instant Detect is a **wildlife, environment and threat monitoring system** for conservationists and rangers. Cameras form a local LoRa radio network and sit **2–20 km from a single Base Station**; that Base Station relays everything to the cloud via Iridium satellite — so images and alerts reach you the same day, even from the most remote places on earth.

Each camera runs **species-recognition AI directly on the device** — so you only see elephants when you ask for elephants, and the satellite link is reserved for what actually matters. Originally developed at **ZSL** over 7 years; stewardship transferred to Hack The Planet in 2025.

Built for the unreachable

- **On-device AI** — species recognition on every camera.
- **Smart filtering** — alerts only for species you care about.
- **LoRa local network** — 2–20 km camera to Base Station.
- **Iridium satellite backhaul** — global coverage.
- **Solar-powered** — no battery swaps, no field visits.
- **Rucksack portable** — no fixed infrastructure needed.
- **Cloud platform** — manage devices from any browser.



HOW IT WORKS · LORA CAMERAS → SATELLITE BASE STATION → CLOUD

[FEATURED DEPLOYMENT]



2026 · ROMANIA

Real-time bear monitoring with WWF Romania

4G cameras with a two-stage AI pipeline that recognise brown bears in real time and push the detections straight into the Sensing Clues platform.

With WWF Romania · Sensing Clues

Read more about Instant Detect on hack-the-planet.io/products/instant-detect

Smart Deterrent

An AI-triggered, non-lethal deterrent that keeps wildlife — and the people sharing their landscape — out of harm's way.

What it does

Across the world, wildlife and people increasingly share landscapes — elephants raiding crops, brown bears entering villages, hippos crossing fishing camps. The result is destroyed livelihoods, injured people and, too often, retaliatory killings.

Smart Deterrent is our answer: an **automated, non-lethal deterrent** that activates light and a varied library of sounds when a paired AI camera detects the target species. The animal is steered away — without harm, without panic, without retaliation.

Designed not to be ignored

- **Varied sound library** — music, human voices, animal calls.
- **Light flash patterns** combined with sound — multi-sensory.
- **AI-triggered** — pairs with Instant Detect or compatible cameras.
- **Solar-powered, autonomous** — runs entirely off-grid.
- **Modular & relocatable** — moves as conflict shifts.
- **Field-validated** — elephants in Zambia, bears in Carpathia.
- **Non-lethal, non-harmful** — no fences, no shots, no chemicals.



SMART DETERRENT IN ACTION · KAFUE NP, ZAMBIA

[FEATURED DEPLOYMENT]



2023 · KAFUE NP, ZAMBIA

Keeping elephants out of villages without harm

Preventing dangerous encounters between elephants and nearby villages with AI detection and non-lethal deterrents.

With Game Rangers International

Read more about Smart Deterrent on hack-the-planet.io/products/smart-deterrent

02 · Social impact

"Tech for good" doesn't always live in a national park. Sometimes it's a teenager carrying a knife on the way to school, a senior who hasn't been outside in months, or a neighbourhood where people who live next door have never spoken.

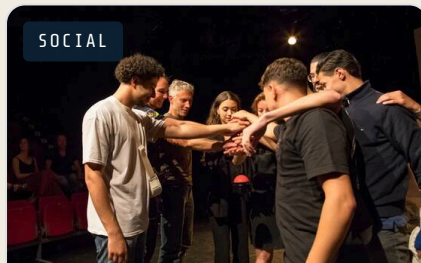
Our social-impact work takes the same engineering rigour we apply in the field — and points it at problems closer to home. We collaborate with municipalities, NGOs and humanitarian organisations on digital experiences that strengthen communities and reach the people who need them most.

From VR experiences in care homes to GPT-powered storytelling that de-escalates youth violence, the projects below show what's possible when narrative, design and technology come together.



[FEATURED PROJECTS]

Three projects that show how this works



SOCIAL

2023 · THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS

Help Maya

A WhatsApp-based interactive experience addressing knife violence among adolescents — co-created with local teens and police.



SOCIAL

2017 · THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS

EldersVR

Combating loneliness with immersive VR experiences for older adults — born from a hackathon, now in care homes.



SOCIAL

2021 · THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS

Know Your Neighbor

An immersive installation that lets visitors step behind real front doors and experience the lives of people in their own community.

03 · Innovation

Some of our work starts with a question nobody has answered yet. "Can an autonomous drone help rangers spot illegal logging from the air?" "Can a 3D-printed laryngoscope be safe enough for a rural hospital that can't afford the commercial one?"

Innovation, for us, means prototyping what doesn't exist yet — and proving it in the field. We help organisations imagine, design and build the first version of something new, then learn fast enough to decide whether to scale it.


It's also where Hack The Planet started. SkyHawq, our very first project in 2016, was an autonomous fixed-wing drone built for Greenpeace — and many of the lessons we learned in the Indonesian rainforest still shape every product we ship today.



[FEATURED PROJECTS]

Three projects that show how this works

INNOVATION



2016 · SUMATRA, INDONESIA

SkyHawq

An autonomous fixed-wing drone supporting conservation teams in the fight against deforestation, poaching and environmental destruction.

INNOVATION

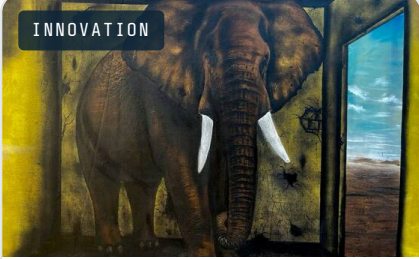


2020 · THE NETHERLANDS

Video laryngoscope

An affordable laryngoscope for resource-limited healthcare settings — engineered with off-the-shelf parts and 3D printing.

INNOVATION



2025 · ZIMBABWE

The Elephant in the Room

An online interactive about human-wildlife coexistence — built around a 3×2 m oil painting by Zambian artist Silvester Mali.

Meet the team

A dedicated team of engineers, supported by a wide network of partners, contributors and volunteers.



Tim van Deursen

Executive Director



Thijs Suijten

Executive Director



Stan Russell

Head of Partnerships & Fundraising



Kevin Witteveen

Electrical Engineer



Richard Hunt

Freelance Electrical & Embedded Engineer



Tommi Lander

Intern, Data Analysis

BOARD



Tim van Diest

Chairman



Jasper Kaizer

Finance Officer



Willemijn van Bekkum

Secretary

Our work is made possible by partners

We are funded by donations, grants and long-term partnerships. The organisations below provide the multi-year support that lets us plan, build and deploy field technology — with the patience real impact requires.



Q42

Hack The Planet was born inside Q42. It started as a hackathon project, with engineers asking what their craft could mean for conservation. Q42 backed the idea with funding, engineering time and a home — and from there we grew into an independent foundation. They are still a long-term supporter today.



Fred Foundation

The Fred Foundation supports projects working towards a harmonious co-existence between people, planet and animals. Their multi-year backing gives us the runway to plan, build and deploy field technology with the patience real impact requires.



Tanka Foundation

Tanka Foundation funds nature-positive work across three themes — Life with Land, Life Below Water and Future Food Systems. That overlaps almost exactly with the terrain we operate in, and their support helps us scale the deployments we already know work.



WWF Netherlands

WWF Netherlands brings a global conservation network and decades of field experience to the table. Their support helps us put anti-poaching and monitoring technology in the places where it changes the most.



Green Safaris

Green Safaris combines low-impact tourism with active conservation in southern Africa. They host Hack The Planet deployments in Zambia and contribute the local knowledge and logistics no remote operation can do without.

Field, science & humanitarian partners

A selection of the rangers, scientists, NGOs and humanitarian organisations we deploy alongside.



Three ways to back what we do

Every euro and partner-hour goes towards hardware, deployment and maintenance in the field. Because we are an **ANBI**, donations from the Netherlands are tax-deductible.

WAY 01

Companies

Tech, finance and impact-driven companies committing engineering time, sponsoring a deployment, or aligning CSR with measurable conservation impact.

Q42 is the proof point: a company that, from day one, gave us **engineering time, funding and a home**. We're looking for more partners who can bring that kind of long-term backing.

- Multi-year corporate sponsorship
- Employee engagement & hackathons
- Co-branded deployments
- Pro-bono engineering time
- In-kind hardware & cloud credits
- CSR / ANBI impact reporting

WAY 02

Family offices & foundations

Family offices, philanthropic family funds and foundations backing conservation, social impact, and the patient R&D real innovation requires.

The **Fred and Tanka Foundation** show what's possible: multi-year backing gives us the runway to plan, build and deploy with the patience real impact requires.

- Multi-year unrestricted grants
- Programme grants per pillar
- Country / project funding
- Capacity-building support
- Co-funded coalitions
- Legacy & named-fund opportunities

WAY 03

Project partners

NGOs, rangers, researchers, government agencies and indigenous-led groups who want our technology working alongside theirs in the field.

The best deployments come from co-design with people on the ground — like **WWF Romania, GRI, CSL, ZSL** and **Foundation Conservation Carpathia**.

- Co-developed field deployments
- Joint grant applications
- Pilot & PoC programmes
- Hardware integration support
- Long-term technical contracts
- Open-source knowledge sharing

Ready to talk?

Whether you want to fund a single deployment, sponsor a multi-year programme, or co-develop technology in the field — we'd love to find the fit.

Stichting Hack The Planet

Triodos Bank · ANBI-registered

IBAN NL79 TRIO 0321 1304 05

info@hack-the-planet.io

[WHERE WE WORK]

Field deployments worldwide

From mountain valleys in Romania to rainforests in Gabon and ranger stations in Zambia — our work runs wherever rangers, NGOs and communities need it.



ROMANIA

GABON

THE NETHERLANDS

ZIMBABWE

ZAMBIA

UGANDA

NAMIBIA

INDONESIA

CANADA

[GET IN TOUCH]

Help us build technology that matters

Donations directly fund hardware, deployment and maintenance of our work in the field. If you're a ranger team, NGO, researcher or partner — we'd love to hear what you're working on.

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Donations from NL are tax-deductible.