



**Global Problem Solvers:
The Series
Season 1: Working Well**

Scripts

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EPISODE 1.1

THE TEAM

PUTRI

Like any job, solving the world's problems requires a certain kind of person. A seeker of the most difficult challenges. A master of innovation. One who cares deeply about the world. A producer of great ideas. My expertise is teambuilding. But can I get this group of extraordinary teens to work together? I know, Huti. I'll stop guessing and start calling. Airship, call that girl climbing up a pole in the desert—the one with the goggles.

TITLE: EASTERN DESERT, JORDAN

TITLE: GLOBAL PROBLEM SOLVERS. EPISODE 1.1: THE TEAM.

TITLE: BEELA. DIGITAL SKILLS.

BEELA

There you go! This whole village is now connected to the Internet. Now they can explore the world, and also do some serious gaming! Hello? You're calling from *that* thing?

TITLE: ADRIEN. CREATIVITY.

TITLE: PARIS, FRANCE

ADRIEN

Madame, plug this device into your GPS. It will tell you where all the open parking spaces are. Uh, you're welcome! Yes? Well let me hover on up and say hello.

TITLE: SATOSHI. CRITICAL THINKING.

TITLE: TOKYO, JAPAN.

SATOSHI

The Kid's Cafeteria provides meals to children who need them. This one is running low on supplies. There it is! I connected their refrigerators to the Internet to order deliveries. I guess these kids love their veggies. Hurry up. I have a meeting up there!

TITLE: KELILE. SOCIAL CONSCIOUSNESS.

TITLE: MAJETE RESERVE, MALAWI

KELILE

This drone shoots video of poachers. It will send the video to security at this reserve and also reserves across Africa. Hey dudes, ready for your close-up? Hello? Wow, I'm just a few clouds over. I'll be right there!

TITLE: RIO BRANCO, BRAZIL

TITLE: CRISTINA. ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT.

CRISTINA

Haven't you heard? Local music draws customers. I've booked bands for you this whole month and now it's all over social media. Sounds great, I'll be right up! Anybody up there want some ice cream?

TITLE: PUTRI. TEAMWORK.

PUTRI

My name is Putri. I'm the one who summoned you all here. We are going to solve some big problems in the world. You guys up for the challenge?

TITLE: TO BE CONTINUED...

EPISODE 1.2

THE PROBLEM

PUTRI

I, Putri, have called together this group of extraordinary teens: Adrien, Beela, Kelile, Cristina, and Satoshi. We are the Global Problem Solvers. So many crises in the world require creativity and teamwork to solve.

TITLE: MALAWI, AFRICA

KELILE

Yeah, like in my home country of Malawi in Africa. Two million people in Malawi don't have access to clean drinking water. 3,000 children die each year as a result. And also, many girls in the village have been missing a lot of school lately. I'm not sure why.

BEELA

Do you think there's a connection?

PUTRI

We have our first challenge. Global Problem Solvers, let's go!

TITLE: ADRIEN. KELILE. BEELA. CRISTINA. SATOSHI.

TITLE: GLOBAL PROBLEM SOLVERS. EPISODE 1.2: THE PROBLEM.

TITLE: MALAWI VILLAGE

VILLAGE ELDER

A technician used to check our well. We haven't seen him for months. Now our pump is broken. The girls of our village have also been missing school. Without education, without water—what will become of our village?

BEELA

This whole well could use maintenance.

VILLAGE ELDER

Kelile, can you fix our well?

KELILE

My team of Global Problem Solvers can fix the well.

CRISTINA

But we need a solution that benefits not just this village, but villages all over Malawi.

BEELA

Something that will last, to serve the wells both now and when they need maintenance again.

KELILE

I promise we will figure out something. Let us first talk to local experts.

ADRIEN

The farmers I've spoken to say shorter rainy seasons and a terrible drought have made working wells a vital necessity in Malawi. Oh and something else: a farmhand said he saw girls from the village walking by the other day with empty water containers.

SATOSHI

I found the missing well technician. He says he's been busy with too many wells to check.

KELILE

The teacher says that several girls have missed school all week. I'm worried.

PUTRI

Let me see what I can do Kelile. Adrien installed an app into the airship's cameras that helps spot movement.

PUTRI

I found some girls from your village! They are on the road to the west of the farms.

KELILE

Why are you girls not in school?

GIRL 1

You know that it falls on the girls of the village to fetch water. When the well is broken we must journey to the nearest working well.

GIRL 2

And for those of us who don't have jetpacks, that can take all day!

KELILE

Those girls should be in school learning, not walking for water.

PUTRI

I know, Kelile. We identified the problem and spoke with local experts.

ADRIEN

What do we do now Putri?

PUTRI

It's time for us to fulfill the mission that brought us together. We create solutions.

TITLE: TO BE CONTINUED...

EPISODE 1.3

THE SOLUTION

PUTRI

Global Problem Solvers, this is our lab. This is where we formulate solutions to the world's problems.

TITLE: GLOBAL PROBLEM SOLVERS. EPISODE 1.3: THE SOLUTION.

SATOSHI

Wow, this is so cool! I play the first video game.

PUTRI

That's not a video game Satoshi. That console connects to the airship's video feed. It allows us to use our past experiences to solve our current problem: fixing the broken wells of Malawi.

SATOSHI

That's OK. I still get the controller!

PUTRI

(Flashback) Solving the world's problems ...

CRISTINA

We need to think about this problem like businesspeople.

(Flashback) Haven't you heard? Local music draws customers.

To build a business, you need some sort of demand.

(Flashback) I booked bands for you this whole month and now it's all over social media.

KELILE

The demand in Malawi is simple, Cristina: clean drinking water.

ADRIEN

And the villagers I spoke to said less rain is increasing that demand. Let's say we build some sort of device: a sensor that can let us know when a well in Malawi needs repair.

BEELA

Great idea Adrien! If you connect those sensors to a network, you can identify the wells that are broken from a central location.

SATOSHI

And from that central location, you can send a technician near the well to fix it! That would certainly help the technicians I spoke to in Malawi to reach the broken wells sooner.

KELILE

Guys, Malawi has 28 districts and 25,000 wells. How could we get sensors into even half those wells?

PUTRI

One step at a time, Kelile. I think we have the basic elements of a solution. Let's return to the ground in Malawi and put them together. Then we'll run a test to see if our solution works. Global Problem Solvers, let's go!

ADRIEN

The sensor is installed. How's the network going Beela?

BEELA

I have connected your sensor to an upconverter to the dish. I'm ready to test the signal, but I'm quickly losing battery on my laptop. I've been solving technical problems for hours, but this one eludes me.

BOY

Uh, miss?

BEELA

Satoshi, have you and the technician received my signal from the well sensor?

SATOSHI

We have received your signal. We are now trying to find the well. However, navigating Malawi's roads is a little challenging.

GPS

You have arrived at your destination.

SATOSHI

Looks like we're here!

CRISTINA

Our team in Malawi has installed sensors in six wells. We know that some of these wells need maintenance.

KELILE

The six sensors have been networked together. For now, they will transmit signals to this airship. Eventually, they will transmit signals to an office that can dispatch well technicians.

PUTRI

I will power up the sensors and the network to see if our solution works. Here we go!

KELILE

It's working!

CRISTINA

Wait, that doesn't seem right.

TITLE: TO BE CONTINUED...

EPISODE 1.4

THE TECHNOLOGY

KELILE

Did you know Lake Malawi is home to more than 700 species of cichlid, a stunning freshwater fish? I have such fond memories of swimming here as a child.

BEELA

Lake Malawi is beautiful, but it's also reflecting frequencies from our network in unpredictable ways. We are losing communication with our well sensors. We need to recalibrate a little.

TITLE: GLOBAL PROBLEM SOLVERS. EPISODE 1.4: THE TECHNOLOGY.

CRISTINA

Kelile, with the lack of water in Malawi, why don't people drink from the lake?

KELILE

People live at higher altitudes than the lake. It's just too costly to pump water from here to where they live. Sadly, energy in Malawi is just as scarce as water.

BEELA

I think I might have fixed the network. Putri, you want to run another test?

PUTRI

Sure Beela. We're now picking up signals from the well sensors without issue. But one of the sensors isn't where it should be. Adrien, is there a problem?

ADRIEN

Well, you could say that.

PUTRI

Adrien, are you calling from a ... landline?

ADRIEN

Yes, I am inside a district water office in Malawi. We filled out all the right paperwork to test the well sensor, except for Form A273B. That's the document that would actually allow us to install a sensor into a well.

TITLE: Form A273B.

PUTRI

Adrien, how could you miss that?

ADRIEN

I was so focused on getting the technology to work, I missed what it takes to get it working in Malawi. I should go. The good news is this sensor here should be sending a signal that it needs repair. Is that happening?

PUTRI

Let me check if the signal went through. Satoshi?

SATOSHI

Yeah, I got the signal. But these well technicians aren't moving.

PUTRI

What? Why not?

SATOSHI

They want training on how to use our well sensors. They need assurance that the sensors will make their lives easier and not take their jobs. Some are even asking...if they can be the ones who install the sensors into the wells.

PUTRI

Well, with 25,000 wells in Malawi, we'll need to recruit a lot more installers. Beela, looks like we have a few more details to work out before we run another test.

BEELA

It still seems there are some complications, Kelile.

KELILE

The Global Problem Solvers are working as a team, but we're not moving forward. How can we create change in my homeland? What's the key to making our solution work? That's it! We need the entire nation of Malawi! Our team can't be the only Global Problem Solvers. Guys, I have an idea!

TITLE: TO BE CONTINUED...

EPISODE 1.5

THE BUSINESS PLAN

IVY

Hello viewers out there. It's me, Ivy Stormcatcher.

TITLE: KANSAS, UNITED STATES

IVY

In today's video, I'm gonna show you how to make your very own tornado. First, get a bottle of water. Next, squirt some soap inside. Add a few pinches of glitter. Turn the bottle upside down. Spin it real fast! Instant tornado. Awesome no?

BEELA

You actually know her?

CRISTINA

That's Ivy. She lived with my family in Brazil as an exchange student. She's obsessed with the weather. She has this insanely popular show on the Internet.

ADRIEN

I wonder if she would know how to weather this storm.

CRISTINA

To get through a storm, she would say you need a plan.

TITLE: GLOBAL PROBLEM SOLVERS. EPISODE 1.5: THE BUSINESS PLAN.

KELILE

Hey guys, remember when I was diving in Lake Malawi? I realized that we need to involve local people in our solution for it to succeed.

PUTRI

That's right Kelile. The people of Malawi know better than anyone how to get something done there.

CRISTINA

Let's come up with a business plan. We need to outline how Malawians can create, sell, and maintain the well sensors ...

KELILE

... and continue to do so even after we're gone.

CRISTINA

We will use this business plan to drum up excitement and investment for our well-sensor project.

SATOSHI

You know in Tokyo, I installed sensors at a Kid's Cafeteria to monitor food supplies. There's a company in Malawi that makes similar sensors. It's called Chembe Technology. Let's visit the factory. Maybe they'd consider investing in well sensors.

PUTRI

You guys better get moving. It's rainy season in Malawi, and it sounds like a storm is almost here.

CHEMBE CEO

Your business plan seems sound. However, my company builds sensors that monitor temperature and amounts of food. We don't have the funds lying around to invest in other products.

KELILE

There's a saying in Malawi: The wise go faster by slowing down.

CHEMBE CEO

My grandfather always said that to me. I'm listening.

SATOSHI

The wiser investment would be your factory. Let's say that in addition to food sensors, you manufactured well sensors.

CHEMBE CEO

I do have the workers and machinery in place.

SATOSHI

25,000 wells in Malawi could use these well sensors. We could share with you whatever money we made from selling them.

KELILE

You'd also be helping Malawi by providing clean drinking water.

CHEMBE CEO

There's another saying in Malawi: It's always the guest who delivers the best idea. I'm in!

KELILE

Yes?

PUTRI

Kelile, the storm is near! A tornado is forming on the lake outside the factory.

CRISTINA

My friend Ivy will know what to do! She's a weather expert. I'm uploading a video of the tornado to her.

IVY

Yeah Cristina, I see it alright. But that's no tornado. In Malawi, that's called nkungo. That's a cloud of flies!

CRISTINA

Flies?

IVY

Yes! During rainy season in Malawi, fly larvae hatch. The flies then create tornado-like formations over the lake. Some Malawians catch the flies, mash 'em up, and cook them into delicious fly burgers.

CRISTINA

Fly burgers?!

CHEMBE CEO

It's official: Chembe Technology will manufacture sensors for the wells of Malawi. Let's celebrate!

PUTRI

Should we tell him?

CRISTINA

Nah, let him enjoy it first.

TITLE: TO BE CONTINUED...

EPISODE 1.6

TEST AND RETEST

TITLE: MALAWI POLYTECHNIC

ADRIEN

Did you record that?

BEELA

I did! Now it's time to find some talent inside. You couldn't wait a few more minutes? I hate rainy season.

TITLE: GLOBAL PROBLEM SOLVERS. EPISODE 1.6: TEST AND RETEST.

ADRIEN

Hey Beela, do you hear that?

MESI

The layered approach is no longer effective for wireless sensor networks.

MALE STUDENT

Why do you say that, Mesi?

MESI

The layers don't share information. You can't guarantee optimization.... Uh, can I help you?

ADRIEN

Sorry to interrupt. We are on a mission to recruit top-level talent.

BEELA

We have built our own wireless sensor network that alerts technicians when a well needs maintenance.

MESI

Wow, that sounds amazing! The village where I'm from has a well pump that breaks all the time. We need that solution.

ADRIEN

Now that solution needs you. We have created and tested it. We need a team of locals who can retest and refine it.

PUTRI

Adrien, we need your help! We are successfully receiving signals from broken wells across our network. But, when the technicians show up, some of these wells are inundated with floodwater.

Even if technicians repair the flooded wells, villagers can't get to them. We are wasting technicians' time by sending them to flooded wells. What do we do?

MESI

Let us help Adrien. This university has a terrific water management department. Let's go to their lab and see if we can modify the well sensor to send an alert when a well is flooded.

ADRIEN

Lead the way, Mesi. I'm starting to think she might be a good fit for our team.

MESI

We have retrofitted your well sensor for rainy season. When a well is too flooded to be accessed, the sensor will emit a new signal. It will indicate that any repair to that well should wait.

BEELA

Technicians can then concentrate on accessible wells where their services are needed more.

ADRIEN

Hi Putri? We modified the sensor, uh, I mean, our new friend Mesi and her team modified the sensor. Their solution is quite ingenious.

PUTRI

Great. Let's get those sensors into wells near flood areas immediately.

ADRIEN

No problem Putri.

BEELA

You know, it would be great to get an idea of the impact our well sensors are having.

MESI

Have you guys considered visiting local communities to find out?

ADRIEN

Hey Putri? Adrien again. Uh, Mesi just had another good idea.

TITLE: TO BE CONTINUED...

EPISODE 1.7

BIRTH OF A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

TITLE: Morning in Malawi

REPORTER

Welcome again to Morning in Malawi. Today I report from high above Africa in the headquarters of the Global Problem Solvers. I am speaking with their team leader Putri. Tell me, tell me about what you've done.

PUTRI

I brought together teens from around the world, each with a special skill that would help solve global problems. The team focused on the need for clean water in Malawi. We researched the problem with local experts. We then devised a solution: a sensor that signals when a well needs repair. We created a business plan to attract investment. We tested and retested the sensor. And now we plan to measure our sensor's impact.

REPORTER

What do you call this kind of project?

PUTRI

It's a social enterprise. That's a business designed to solve a social problem.

REPORTER

You heard it here first, viewers: a social enterprise. We can't wait to see the results! But first, a word from our sponsor.

TITLE: GLOBAL PROBLEM SOLVERS. EPISODE 1.7: BIRTH OF A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE.

KELILE

Hey Putri. Thanks to our well sensors, the classroom is full. No girls are missing school to fetch clean water.

TEACHER

Uh, excuse me, can you quiet down back there?

ADRIEN

This is the third district hospital I've checked. There has been a significant drop in cases of dehydration since we installed our well sensors. Whoa. To avoid the hospital, I should also be more careful.

BEELA

This bakery has plenty of clean well water to bake pastries.

CRISTINA

We should try their chocolate cake. Only then will we have accurately measured the impact of our technology.

PUTRI

The data we've collected indicates that our well sensors have had tremendous benefits for local schools, hospitals, and businesses.

SATOSHI

Now we need to spread the word to villages throughout Malawi.

KELILE

My agogo would be so proud.

SATOSHI

Agogo?

KELILE

That's the Malawi word for grandmother. She would love how much this solution will benefit our people.

PUTRI

What is it Mesi? Is something wrong with the sensors? We'll be right down! Mesi says we're needed at the lake, right away! Global Problem Solvers, let's go!

TITLE: LAKE MALAWI

MESI

Welcome to the Lake of Stars. It's Malawi's biggest music festival. I thought it would be a great way to spread the word about your well sensors. The Global Problem Solvers set out to fix our broken wells. They have in turn provided safe drinking water for our people. We want to thank the Global Problem Solvers with our highest honor, the Malawi Order of National Achievement.

KELILE

That's my agogo—my grandmother!

OLD WOMAN

Putri, Adrien, Beela, Satoshi, Cristina, Kelile. Grandson, you said that your solution needed to fix not just one well, but all the wells of Malawi. And that is what your solution will do. Oh Kelile, Malawi has enough water without your tears. It's time to dance!

TITLE: LATER...

PUTRI

This is Putri. That's terrible. Where'd you say you were? India? Our work is never done. Global Problem Solvers, let's go!

TITLE: TO BE CONTINUED...



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