What makes a social innovator?

Empathy - according to award-winning innovator Ken Banks - is the key to successful social innovation. “If any solution is to have a chance of success, there really are no short cuts. Gaining empathy takes time and effort”.

Featuring a foreword from Peter Gabriel and Bill Drayton, Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation is an eclectic collection of innovative solutions to social problems through case studies from Africa, India, the United States and Europe. This book is a practical guide for social entrepreneurs that draws out the lessons learned by innovators including:

- Laura Stachel, Co-founder of WE CARE Solar
- Sharon Terry, President and CEO of Genetic Alliance
- Brij Kothari, President of PlanetRead

Joshua Schuler, Executive Director of the Lemelson-MIT Program, praises Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation, calling it “required reading for any student or anyone interested in technology-based invention to improve peoples’ lives, and social innovation as a potential life path”.

Further commendation from Alex Moen, Vice President of Explorer Programs at National Geographic, “this collection of stories of passion and impact will leave people hungering for more and will inspire more than a few readers to explore their passions and translate them into incremental stories of meaningful change”.

About the author: Ken Banks, founder of global non-profit organization kiwanja.net, devotes himself to the application of mobile technology for positive social and environmental change in the developing world. He is a PopTech Fellow, a Tech Awards Laureate, an Ashoka Fellow and a National Geographic Emerging Explorer. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts in 2012, nominated for the prestigious TED Prize in 2013, and in 2015 was appointed Entrepreneur in Residence at CARE International.

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