

Dr. Paulo Bento, Ph.D.

Social Scientist | Street Photographer

Paulo Bento is a researcher, consultant, entrepreneur, and international speaker working at the intersection of social entrepreneurship, innovation, social capital, and poverty reduction. His work combines academic research with practical field experience, focusing on sustainable development, quality of life, social innovation, and human-centered development strategies across diverse international contexts.

Over the years, he has developed a multidisciplinary profile connecting research, entrepreneurship, strategic thinking, and real-world implementation. His work explores how innovation, collaboration, and social capital can contribute to more resilient communities, stronger institutions, and sustainable social impact.

Paulo Bento has participated in leading international conferences and academic initiatives on entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship across the five continents, both as author and peer reviewer. His research and professional activities have taken place in countries including Argentina, Canada, India, Namibia, New Zealand, Mexico, Portugal, the Republic of Ireland, South Africa, Switzerland, the United Arab Emirates, and the United States.

Among other distinguished academic events, he presented research at conferences and initiatives organized by institutions such as University of Oxford, Tsinghua University, Toronto Metropolitan University, University of British Columbia, and New York University Stern School of Business. He has also collaborated as peer reviewer and referee for conferences and academic journals dedicated to entrepreneurship, sustainability, and development.

Beyond academia, Paulo Bento has acted as entrepreneur, business developer, consultant, trainer, and speaker, supporting more than 3 000 participants from over 200 organizations and companies across industrial, commercial, and service sectors. He has also contributed to more than 100 studies, projects, and field reports in areas related to organizational development, innovation, entrepreneurship, and sustainability.

His main research interests include social entrepreneurship, innovation, migration, social capital, quality of life and happiness, poverty reduction, and sustainable development. His work frequently seeks to bridge academic knowledge and practical application, combining analytical thinking with implementation-oriented approaches.

Paulo Bento holds a Ph.D. in Social Sustainability and Development from the Open University of Portugal, Lisbon, with the thesis *Innovation and Social Capital in Social Entrepreneurship for Poverty Reduction*. He also holds a magna cum laude MBA in Entrepreneurship from Jones International University, Colorado, and a degree in Organization and Business Management, with majors in Marketing and International Business, from ISCTE Business School | University Institute of Lisbon.

He has been featured in publications such as Who's Who in the World, received several awards, and has been nominated by internationally recognized publications and organizations.

Outside his professional activities, Paulo Bento maintains a strong interest in photography, architecture, fine art, reading, music, and visual culture, interests that continue to influence his broader perspective on creativity, aesthetics, and human experience.