Welcome to the IASP Inspiring Solutions Programme 2017!

Now in its fourth year, the IASP Inspiring Solutions Programme is both a knowledge sharing initiative and a way to recognise excellence within the world of science parks and areas of innovation. It offers inspiration to others via the great ideas and solutions put in place by IASP members, as well as giving greater visibility to those shortlisted here.

The IASP Inspiring Solutions Programme received a great response this year with more entries than ever before, and ideas addressing a huge range of challenges coming from all over the world. The quality of entries was very high, and judges had a difficult job drawing up this shortlist from such strong contenders.

On the following pages you can read about the 10 best entries who the expert panel have selected as our finalists: we hope they’ll inspire you to innovate and implement new ideas in your organisation.

Don’t forget to vote for your three favourite solutions – winners will be announced on stage at our upcoming World Conference in Istanbul, Turkey, 26th - 29th September!

Check your inbox for a link to vote!

LEARN, GET INSPIRED, AND VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITES!
FROM THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE WORLD...

- Tallinn, Estonia
- Linköping, Sweden
- Edmonton, Canada
- São Leopoldo, Brazil
- Bilbao, Spain
- Pretoria, South Africa
- Poznan, Poland
- Klagenfurt, Austria
- Poznan, Poland
- Angers, France
- Ankara, Turkey
SelanC is a fully operational and practical program focused on detection, assessment and development of innovative projects (new products, new services, access to new markets, etc...) in local industrial SMEs. The name “SelanC” is a wordplay with the french verb “s’élancer” meaning to start, to rush, to jump into innovation!

It’s a program that aims to locate and match companies/institutions from different countries that have potential to cooperate. Bilkent CYBERPARK B2B Matching Methodology is an international business development program designed by Bilkent CYBERPARK to facilitate creation of partnerships at international level. Through this program, companies can reach the right partners.

The initiative “A challenge for the Park” is a pioneer open innovation initiative for identifying ideas which contribute to the improvement of the park and have a positive impact on the professionals and individuals who work in the companies and institutions located in Bizkaia Technology Park.

During early growth stages, companies often need quick advice to move forward. Currently, there is a gap for quick professional advice. Through Biz Clinic, the early stage companies will get free walk-in access to experts in the areas of IP, legal, business, marketing, accounting, finance, taxation, export, compliance and certifications.

The »Educational Lab« is a place for new forms of training and education in STEM fields, entrepreneurship and culture. Imbedded in LSTPs ecosystem laboratories and experimental areas invite curious people of all ages (0-100) to cooperatively discover, experiment, learn, teach, train and innovate: modernizing education to empower the next innovative generation.

Considering that the PSTP brand is still not known enough in a wide market, one of the Park branding strategy tools is science promotion among local community. Science communication activities include the Imagine_Lab centre for science dissemination, the ImaginePicnic, an outdoor scientific event, study visits and open university lectures.

A program to establish environmental parameters and connections between companies located in the Sao Leopoldo Tech Park with different nationalities, customs and practices related to environmental criteria and market segment. The program is developed in a collaborative way and aims to be the first green park in the Americas.

HIV Digital is a need-based innovation process / competition / ideation process / hackathon to boost innovations for people living with HIV, led by Tallinn Science Park Tehnopol in cooperation with GlaxoSmithKline and the Estonian Ministry of Social Affairs. See more from: http://hivdigital.ee/en/

eKasiLab is an Innovation Hub vehicle to promote the culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the township (predominantly black residential area). eKasiLabs are micro innovation centres that focus on supporting new innovative output in communities, in line with Provincial Economic Policies of entrepreneurship development.
In the short term, the company has an answer on the feasibility of its innovative project, and operational answers for the implementation of the project + networking with experts (universities, research labs, technical centres, industrial partners ...). In the medium / long term, the project manager develops new skills on innovative project management. The transfer of know-how and methodology leads to better innovation management in the company. During the last 5 years, 1,800 industrial SMEs have been prospected, 238 SMEs have been visited by Angers Technopole, and 200 projects have been detected. 66 SMEs have been supported by SelanC program and 50% of these projects have become new products or services, or are in development. As a result of SelanC, 17 companies launched innovation programs for a global amount of 4.2 million euros, with 1.8 million euros of support from national or regional innovation funds. 68 project managers graduated, and 70% of them found innovation related work, 1/3 in the company where they worked during the program. 66 research and innovation partnerships have been initiated between the participating SMEs and universities, engineering schools and research centres.

Purpose of the solution

SelanC is a fully operational and practical program focused on detection, assessment and development of innovative projects (new products, new services, access to new markets, etc...) in local industrial SMEs. The name "SelanC" is a wordplay with the french verb “s’élancer” meaning to start, to rush, to jump into innovation!

What is innovative about it

SelanC is an innovative approach for SMEs, related to open innovation, but also a contribution to social innovation in the region. First, it is an opportunity for the SME to really dedicate time on an innovative project. Angers Technopole provides a methodology and tools to detect, assess and develop innovation in companies that are often far from the innovation process. Those SMEs have almost no experience in innovation management, no access to specific resources, no links with engineering schools or universities. SelanC offers a practical solution, on a real project that can generate business in the short term. SelanC is also a social approach to innovation on the ground. It offers an opportunity for jobseekers to find a new job in SMEs. These project managers are often unemployed skilled individuals, who benefit from a training program on innovation management with Angers Technopole during these 15 weeks. The trainees graduate with a degree from a professional organisation, and often find a new job related to innovation.

Main users

The program focuses on two types of users: - Small and medium industrial companies, first-steppers in innovation processes, located around the city of Angers with an average workforce of 54 people (80% less than 50 employees); 42% in the metallurgy sector, 39% other industries, 19% services. - Unemployed skilled professionals, who need to make a career shift and gain new competencies in innovation management, mostly in order to find a job in our region.
By Bilkent Cyberpark, Ankara, Turkey

**The idea in 50 words**

It’s a program that aims to locate and match companies/institutions from different countries that have potential to cooperate. Bilkent CYBERPARK B2B Matching Methodology is an international business development program designed by Bilkent CYBERPARK to facilitate creation of partnerships at international level. Through this program, companies can reach the right partners.

**What is innovative about it**

Most existing trade delegations and matching activities offer direct matches without any analysis of the products/services offered, and have few expectations on any potential cooperation. With a regular matching event, two companies seeking a subcontractor on image processing can be matched and yet leave the meeting without any solid result. If there is a successful match, it depends on the luck of the participants. Thanks to Bilkent CYBERPARK B2B Matching Methodology, participating companies are able to see and select the other participants by examining the profile document of companies that will attend the event from other side, before it takes place. The efficiency of matches is enhanced by the fact that the event has been organized around scope determined during pre committee. All these efforts prevent irrelevant matches that can result in inefficient outcomes.

**Main users**

The main users of the program are high tech SMEs that want to increase their presence in the international arena and open to any cooperation type at any international level.

Run by: Bilkent CYBERPARK is responsible for all related actions. There are some selected partner institutions on the selected partner country to support the activities to move companies’ business to the top.

**Launch date:**
15 February 2015

**Impact**

Bilkent CYBERPARK methodology was first applied at the Ethiopia-Turkey Business forum. Before the event, a pre-committee was organized in Ethiopia and the scope of the event was established. Then, participating companies were matched and B2B meetings held with 45 companies from Turkey holding at least 10 meetings each. There were more than 450 meetings in total. A delegation from Ethiopia subsequently visited Turkish participant firm NetCAD to transform the existing negotiations into an international business alliance. The methodology was also applied at the Malaysia-Turkey Business Forum where a similar pre-committee delegation determined the scope of the event before participating companies were matched. Each participating company carried out more than 15 meetings and over 200 interviews took place. After the event, the participating companies visited Malaysia and the Malaysian companies came to Turkey. Negotiations are continuing intensively to transform negotiations with Malaysian companies into a jointly established international partnership. To sum up, under that program, Bilkent CYBERPARK arranged two international events in Ethiopia and in Malaysia. In total, 58 Turkish companies joined these events and more than 650 B2B meetings took place. As all the meetings are pre-studied and held on a need-demand basis, the percentage of follow up meetings is much higher.

**Purpose of the solution**

Bilkent CYBERPARK is a program that aims to locate and match companies/institutions from different countries that have potential to cooperate. Bilkent CYBERPARK B2B Matching Methodology is an international business development program designed by Bilkent CYBERPARK to facilitate creation of partnerships at international level. Through this program, companies can reach the right partners.

High tech companies sometimes struggle to introduce their companies and solutions to partners, as well as to reach other business and professional groups that they can cooperate with. Well-designed matchmaking activities at international level are of great importance to overcome these challenges. Bilkent CYBERPARK B2B Matching Methodology locates and matches companies/institutions from different countries that have potential to cooperate at the highest level and enhance the global technology-based ecosystem. Even with regular trade delegations or fair visits, it can be difficult for companies to locate the right partners. For the correct match, the company should know about potential partners’ products and capabilities as well as terms of collaboration. As a first step of the B2B Matching Methodology, project executives meet with key institutions and companies to determine the scope of the program. Requests for participation are collected and profile documents completed where companies state their products/services, the sector, and types of collaboration (like tech transfer, distributor search, customer search, etc). All profiles are distributed among key organizations’ networks, and used to match participants.
A CHALLENGE FOR THE PARK

By Bizkaia Science and Technology Park, Zamudio, Spain

The initiative “A challenge for the Park” is a pioneer open innovation initiative for identifying ideas which contribute to the improvement of the park and have a positive impact on the professionals and individuals who work in the companies and institutions located in Bizkaia Technology Park.

What is innovative about it

“A challenge for the Park” is the first open innovation initiative to be launched at Bizkaia Technology Park, and simultaneously at the three technology parks in the Basque Country. In Bizkaia alone, 51 initiatives from professionals from businesses at the Park have been generated. The participation in this initiative of the professionals and businesses at the Park provides knowledge about the requirements of the businesses and professionals, gives voice to the different individuals and generates networking between the participants and businesses taking part in the initiative each year. This is thanks to the organisation of an event to celebrate the different initiatives put forward, including two awards: one for the individual submitting the winning challenge and another for their company. This serves to promote a connection and leadership between professionals and businesses at the Park.

Main users

The main users of the initiative are the professionals and businesses at the Technology Park. The proposals and challenges are put forward by the professionals at the Park and the proposed solution must be innovative and beneficial for both the employees and the companies. The Park may publicise the general features of the proposals received, and in due course, the winning proposal and the names of the developers.

Purpose of the solution

The purpose of the initiative is to improve the Technology Park and its businesses and professionals through an open innovation initiative, which gives voice to and responds to the needs of these professionals. Ideas may refer to the Park, its entities, businesses and centres, including infrastructures, advanced services, projects and new initiatives. It works through projects to promote collaboration, internationalization, open innovation or technology transfer, and initiatives and infrastructures which permit the enhancement of the Park and its businesses. The contest is aimed at the professionals who work at any of the entities located within Bizkaia Technology Park, and who, on behalf of these entities, and individually, wish to put forward ideas which are intended to improve the Park at which they work. The proposals submitted are assessed on the originality of the idea, implementability, and their impact, based on the number of companies which may benefit. The cost/benefit ratio is also considered. The jury responsible for selecting the winning idea is made up of representatives from the entities located in the Park and representatives of the Technology Park.

Impact

In Bizkaia alone, 51 initiatives from professionals from businesses at the Park have been generated. The winner of the first edition was “Tech Language Exchange application” which permitted and enabled the launch of an app for the basque parks, and a section called “Speak & Ikasi” (“Speak and learn”) for managing the exchange of languages in the scientific and technological field. The whole park and its nearly 10,000 professionals will benefit from the new app and the “Speak & Ikasi” section. The second winning idea was “Parke Annual Meeting”, which encourages contact and knowledge among the different businesses and professionals at the Park with an annual meeting which serves as a network and link among the professionals and fosters collaboration among the businesses. Again, the whole Technology Park will benefit from this initiative and after two years of existence, the initiative has consolidated as one of the most challenging and motivating initiatives promoted by the Park.

The idea in 50 words

The initiative “A challenge for the Park” is a pioneer open innovation initiative for identifying ideas which contribute to the improvement of the park and have a positive impact on the professionals and individuals who work in the companies and institutions located in Bizkaia Technology Park.
The Biz Clinic

By Edmonton Research Park, Edmonton, Canada

The idea in 50 words

During early growth stages, companies often need quick advice to move forward. Currently, there is a gap for quick professional advice. Through Biz Clinic, the early stage companies will get free walk-in access to experts in the areas of IP, legal, business, marketing, accounting, finance, taxation, export, compliance and certifications.

What is innovative about it

The Business Clinic concept is new. There are other programs in the City, e.g., TEC Source Advisory Panel which is held twice a month. Only one company can attend at a time and the panel is offered by invitation only. It takes at least one week to set up the panel for an invited company. Recently, a bank has launched Support Desk, however, the service is available once a week and companies are required to travel to the bank’s venue for advice.

Main users

Technology-based resident companies of Edmonton Research Park will be the main users. Currently, there are 53 SMEs in the park who will benefit from the Biz Clinic. Once the program is refined and scaled, it may be offered to non-resident technology-based companies from Edmonton region.

Purpose of the solution

In this knowledge-based economical era, the shelf-life of technology products has reduced significantly. Speed to market is therefore key to success. Growing companies face a plethora of impediments during their growth. If their impediments are not removed quickly, these companies either lose momentum or fail to survive. Further, it is identified that because of the plethora of impediments, growing companies often don’t know what they don’t know. The Biz Clinic will help these companies identify their needs and challenges proactively. The Biz Clinic concept is designed with an intent to provide impetus to growth-stage companies by helping them overcome their impediments in real time and also help them make timely and informed decisions.

Impact

The Biz Clinic is designed to help companies quickly find answers to their questions. The impact of Biz Clinic will be the faster growth and increased survival rate of technology companies. The TEC Source Advisory Panel described in the previous section has a proven impact on the growth and survival of companies. The Biz Clinic being open from Monday to Friday and with the walk-in feature for companies in our incubator will address the gap in the availability of quick professional advice. The learning curve of companies will be shortened and their speed to market will be increased.

Launch date: 01 May 2017

Run by: The program is designed by our team at the Edmonton Research Park. Jenni Salonga is the program lead. Edmonton region’s major service providers were invited to review and critique the program. Based on their inputs, the program has been refined. Most service providers in the region, reputed professional consulting firms, government agencies as well as several successful business leaders have committed their time for the Biz Clinic.
The Educational Lab

By Lakeside Science & Technology Park (LSTP), Klagenfurt, Austria

The idea in 50 words

The “Educational Lab” is a place for new forms of training and education in STEM fields, entrepreneurship and culture. Imbedded in LSTPs ecosystem laboratories and experimental areas invite curious people of all ages (0-100) to cooperatively discover, experiment, learn, teach, train and innovate: modernizing education to empower the next innovative generation.

What is innovative about it

STPs are valuable catalysts of the quadruple helix, and LSTP serves as a platform in the knowledge triangle of enterprises - research - education. Given this social responsibility, the evolving »Educational Lab« is both metaphorically as well as physically “innovation” itself: the morphology inherits all stakeholders from the regional education sector, research and enterprise partners developing new forms of education for the surrounding society empowering visitors to discover, research and innovate themselves. Enabling all parts of the quadruple helix to not only reside, but develop new forms of education and training is crucial for the success of LSTP. Accompanied by participative research from the Alpen-Adria-University Klagenfurt the concept will develop itself continuously. Respective to the Austrian - (and maybe as well European-) area of STPs this project is beyond any doubt outstandingly unique.

Main users

From its foundation eleven years ago, childcare services have been crucial to the success of LSTP. With engagement of the main education institutions we are able to fill the gap between early ages until university and to invite people of all ages, small children to pupils, high school kids to students, young entrepreneurs to settled employees and maybe soon enough...courses for retired people as well!

Run by: The »educational lab« is run by separate institutions, predominantly from the education sector (University of teacher Education Carinthia, Alpen-Adria-University Klagenfurt Carinthian University of Applied Sciences, Carinthian Regional Education Board, local schools and the park’s incubator) yet under the coordination of LSTP.

Launch date: 1 December 2016

Purpose of the solution

Intensifying education in STEM fields and the interconnection between research and economy is a major economic policy goal for the Austrian government. In order to accelerate use and transfer of cutting-edge insights and technologies and to enhance R&D and innovation activities of enterprises it is crucial to tap new measures in education and training, especially in STEM and entrepreneurship. The »Educational Lab« is fundamental for LSTP to become a major innovation center by providing an ecosystem for R&D, education & training and operational development. Its main goal is stimulation of innovation in education and training, through gathering education and training programs for natural sciences and entrepreneurship in a cooperative and self-organizing yet self-inventing way, leveraged through participative research of the nearby Alpen-Adria-University Klagenfurt. The corporate culture presupposes openness and curiosity and tolerance for failure, and it provides space to experiment, equipped with latest gadgets and technology. The »Educational Lab« fosters talent, creating synergy between enterprises and young people via internships, projects and junior positions, facilitating employment for students. It is also beneficial for enterprises opening up their innovation cycle for young, well-trained people.

Impact

The »Educational Lab« tackles the regional shortage of facilities, equipment and training for teaching staff of schools and education institutions. The “BIKO mach MINT” module, an outer-school-laboratory with facilities and gadgets for science experiments, has attracted 8 pilot schools and over 600 pupils in the first year. The "NAWImix" module has trained 150 teachers in experimental natural sciences education who are teaching 800 pupils in total. The next module “INSpire lab” will develop entrepreneurship training for 200 pupils being mentored by startups and academics. The »Educational Lab« contributes to the competitiveness of the region as well as benefitting knowledge-transfer in education and training. In respect to digitization, IoT and automated production this project increases human resources in STEM fields and boosts the region’s development. The »Educational Lab« was inaugurated by Austria’s federal minister for infrastructure, innovation and technology, Carinthia’s governor and vice mayor of Klagenfurt. They emphasised the importance of the project to foster passion for science & technology and entrepreneurship in the next innovative generation.
For the past two years a total of 100 kids had the opportunity to try programming at Coderdojo Summercamp. The spots for the camp runs out in just a few minutes. Coderdojo has an active organization in the region of East Sweden, these meet-ups also run out of places really quickly. By arranging Coderdojo Summercamp we reach more kids and also those who not have participated at the evening events. Right now, we are planning a big camp for next summer there we would like to offer 400-500 kids the possibility to participate, because the demand is much bigger than only 50 places each summer.

What is innovative about it

Coderdojo https://coderdojo.com is an organization that exist it many different countries, usually the groups meet twice a month for a few hours. By arranging a one week camp the kids have a change to work with a bigger project together with other programmers and meet other kids with the same interests. By being in the Science Park during the day, they also have the possibility to visit some of the companies. By meeting companies and their employees and the coaches of the camp, we give them a chance to find a role model and someone who can inspire them. Hopefully this leads to more people wanting to study and work as developers.

Main users

The main users of Coderdojo Summercamp are the companies in Science Park Mjärdevi, both by hosting study visits for the participants but also though the summercamp works for a better labor market in the future. The students at Linköping University are also users, as they have a relevant summer job.
**Purpose of the solution**

The challenge for Poznan Science and Technology Park (PSTP) is to develop and strengthen its status in the local community and become a valuable brand for its clients and city residents. PSTP decided to implement the science communication programme as the CSR tool for targeting a wider audience and to interact with people, making the Park a more open institution. PSTP’s mission is to enhance regional development and there is an identified need to explain this to the general public. As PSTP was founded for public benefit, our CSR policy is based on opening up events and facilities to the public.

These include the Imagine_Lab, the first centre for science dissemination in the region, which performs science experiments, organises workshops, and inspires children to pursue research and innovation careers. There is also the Imagine Picnic, the biggest open-air scientific event in Poznan, offering families the opportunity to participate in experiments. PSTP also organises study visits which familiarize students with labs and the activities of innovative companies, and university lectures in the Poznan Castle Culture Centre, a project which aims to promote research. PSTP also participates in events promoting and popularizing science organised by other institutions: e.g. Poznan Science and Art Festival, EU Funds Open Days, Global Entrepreneurship Week, the Researchers’ Night, International Science Centre Day and Science on Stage.

**Impact**

PSTP science communication programme is increasingly popular among Wielkopolska citizens, institutions and media. The Imagine Lab located in PSTP has over 20,000 visitors every year (approx. 16000 students and teachers and 4100 individual visitors). Imagine Picnic is increasingly well-known in Poznan and the surrounding area with more than 5000 participants in 2016. The project generates positive publicity and media opportunities due to media interest in science communication activities, enhancing PSTP brand. 15 study visits are organized every year (250 participants including students, professors, regional and local authorities, companies). Open university lectures attract about 300 participants every year. Open Days of EU Funds attract 150 visitors every year. The Festival of Arts and Sciences co-organized by the Imagine Lab in 2016 saw 250 visitors. New collaborations regarding knowledge popularization started with Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan University of Life Sciences, Poznan University of Economics, local authorities, local communities. The project is open for new ideas and initiatives, making PSTP a more prestigious place for innovative companies.

**Main users**

Local community: the science communication programme shows the Park mission and activities. School-age children with their parents and teachers: the solution promotes science among youngsters. Students and scientists: the solution promotes the Park brand in academia. Media: the solution gives attractive content for press coverage.

**What is innovative about it**

The PSTP science communication programme is a creative opportunity to fundamentally strengthen PSTP brand and differentiate from other innovation centers while contributing to society at large. It is the most complex knowledge popularization project initiated by a technology park in Poland. Imagine Picnic is the only science oriented event in the region and the Imagine_Lab is the only science centre for children. It helps PSTP to become an important and well known entity, making innovation and entrepreneurship valuable and visible for many citizens of Wielkopolska region. What’s also new is smart partnering with other institutions in the region to popularise knowledge and innovation.

**The idea in 50 words**

Considering that the PSTP brand is still not known enough in a wide market, one of the Park branding strategy tools is science promotion among local community. Science communication activities include the Imagine_Lab centre for science dissemination, the ImaginePicnic, an outdoor scientific event, study visits and open university lectures.

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**The idea in 50 words**

A program to establish environmental parameters and connections between companies located in the Sao Leopoldo Tech Park with different nationalities, customs and practices related to environmental criteria and market segment. The program is developed in a collaborative way and aims to be the first green park in the Americas.

**What is innovative about it**

The Greentech Park program is innovative in proposing its own methodology for continuous improvement. It is structured according to the park’s reality and specifications for environmental protection. It maintains synchrony with certification methodology and management systems in the park and Unisinos itself. The program has a self-implementation and certification plan without any external certification body. Operated by the members of the Tecnosinos group, it follows a replicable method, without adding costs to the participating organizations. It guarantees the environmental policies practiced in the park, which are in accordance with required environmental practices. The program technical committee involves companies and startups in the park of Renewable Energies and Socio-environmental Technologies, Tecnosinos managing team and a sustainability research group from Unisinos in the composition and execution of the work plan.

**Main users**

The whole park community benefits. The companies have a new perspective of the ecosystem of work in relation to practices aimed at preserving the environment. As a result, all employees related to these companies are also made aware of environmental impact reduction practices.

Run by: São Leopoldo Tech Park is fully responsible for the Tecnosinos Talents Program development and management. The Tecnosinos team is responsible for structuring and managing the program activities. Which carries out the scheduling with the schools, with the companies and conducts the entire activity.

**Launch date:**

30 September 2016

**Purpose of the solution**

The need to establish parameters and environmental connections between park companies gave rise to the Greentech Park program. The focus on sustainable production emphasises good practices and ecological alternatives, coupled with a growing market and consumer demand for socio-environmental responsibility, make it fundamental to accept the challenge of integrated production with the environment. The program aims to inspire employees and disseminate environmental initiatives; to improve or maintain environmental quality through reducing energy and material consumption, as well as minimizing the impact of production. It covers the use and disposal of products and services; promotion and dissemination of good practices in processes, products and services; and employee training to understand environmental management in the park. The program promotes sustainability as a way for organizations to add value to their business, respecting the level of entrepreneurship and environmental maturity of each organization, looking for a synergy that helps to reduce the consumption of resources and waste generation of the park as a whole.

**Impact**

The program impact is based on a pilot in which around 50 companies participated for a period of two years, and 10% rose a level from the first year. The program plans to increase the engagement of resident companies in environmental issues, ensuring they respect the ecosystem around them through sustainable practices and consequently reducing their costs, and will train more companies and employees. To support this goal, in 2017 all 80 companies will participate in the program. Tecnosinos has consolidated companies as anchor of the program, such as SAP, which has its LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified buildings. Investments continue to be made in the park’s buildings, such as the one called Partec Green, an ecofriendly building that will also receive LEED certification. This building will increase the new companies’ park capacity and is an example of sustainability standards. Since 2004, the University responsible for the park executive management, has received ISO 14001 certification which certifies that the institution complies with all norms to reduce the impact of its activities on the natural environment. Unisinos is the first university in Latin America to obtain this certificate.
HIV Digital is a competition for digital health solutions to solve the problems and needs of HIV. The goal is to start a discussion about innovation opportunities in HIV, inspire disruptive innovations and support the development process from the best ideas to usable and useful solutions. Its main purpose is to bring to the market at least one new innovative solution to have a considerable impact for people living with HIV. We also aim to facilitate collaboration with all HIV stakeholders in Estonia, including patients, and testing the value-based innovation process to create a new application in a chosen domain. Tallinn Science Park Tehnopol aims to achieve new startups for its incubation programme, provide a top quality service for its large client company, GlaxoSmithKline, and develop relationships with the Estonian Ministry of Social Affairs. GlaxoSmithKline aimed to get solutions that would make progress to achieve 90/90/90 goal in Estonia: 90% of people with HIV get diagnosed, 90% of diagnosed people get treatment, and 90% of those get treated so well that they do not transmit the disease further.

HIV Digital is a need-based innovation process / competition / ideation process / hackathon to boost innovations for people living with HIV, led by Tallinn Science Park Tehnopol in cooperation with GlaxoSmithKline and the Estonian Ministry of Social Affairs. See more from: http://hivdigital.ee/en/

Science parks have been offering startup services through their incubation programmes for a long time but for multinationals, who are most attractive tenant companies, it has not been easy to offer more value. The problems we tried to overcome are that there are still too many technology push solutions vs need and value based solutions, and hackathons to start new ideas are fun events, but do not create real new international startups. HIV Digital combines different elements used in innovation to achieve long term results for all stakeholders: patient personas, service design, stakeholder involvement, deep insight into the challenges for technology and business developers, hackathon with access to the stakeholders, incubation process, grants and access to the stakeholders to validate and develop the solutions.

HIV Digital has started the dialogue between all HIV stakeholders in Estonia on how services can be improved through effective cooperation. Through patient and stakeholder interviews and a brainstorming event, we mapped the main HIV challenges in Estonia, and got 17 new innovative solutions proposed to solve them. A 48-hour hackathon with 60+ business and technology developers, designers and health care specialists resulted in 7 strong solutions, with 1st validation already during the hackathon. 4 of these were given a three month grant and accepted into the Tehnopol incubation programme. The evaluation board chose the two best ones for a further grant to develop their product for the market by summer 2017 and also the incubation service is continuing. By now, March 2017, the two new startups are in the final phase of development with their MVP and will start testing with real users in April. The products should be on the Estonian market by June 2017. From the other teams 3 have also decided to continue with the solutions. For Tehnopol it has resulted in 5 new startups and proven process to boost innovation. GlaxoSmithKline Estonia has achieved great publicity inside their global organisation.
**eKasiLabs Programme**

By The Innovation Hub, Pretoria, South Africa

**The idea in 50 words**

eKasiLab is an Innovation Hub vehicle to promote the culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the township (predominantly black residential area). eKasiLabs are micro innovation centres that focus on supporting new innovative output in communities, in line with Provincial Economic Policies of entrepreneurship development.

**What is innovative about it**

eKasiLabs Programme is an innovative approach of providing support to underprivileged communities. To play an active role in the innovation ecosystem and economic space, the programme comprises a co-creation facility, working spaces, and prototyping platform. The programme is based on transformation of underutilised public infrastructure space in these townships to minimise capital requirements, so that more resources can be channelled into developmental programmes. Secondly, we forge collaboration with local government and private companies to provide resources into the programme; we also collaborate with research and academic institution to provide technical competencies and capabilities required by the entrepreneurs in these townships to accelerate their inventions.

**Main users**

eKasiLab is aimed at support township-based innovators and entrepreneurs, predominantly the youth, who have developed products or solutions that require further development for commercialization or market readiness.

**Purpose of the solution**

The primary purpose of establishing the eKasiLabs Programmes across Gauteng Province in South Africa is to ‘take innovation to the people in townships’. Through design and co-creation of spaces in the townships where local communities are able to access the core services and facilities that are offered at The Innovation Hub Campus in the city of Pretoria. eKasiLabs comprise co-creation space, working spaces, and prototyping facilities, and the prototyping facilities include a FabLab to assist entrepreneurs that want to be part of Gauteng’s reindustrialisation and mobile applications development factory. Various training and entrepreneurial interventions such as Start-up Weekends and boot camps are undertaken at the Centres, which boast free wifi for the entrepreneurs. eKasiLabs will comprise The Innovation Hub Management Company satellite offices in collaboration with various municipalities in response to the need for inclusive innovation and in particular township economy revitalisation. It will be key to building a culture of innovation-driven entrepreneurship in townships, the development of innovations and technology, which are vital for modernizing the economy, and enhancing the sustainability of township-based innovation businesses.

**Impact**

eKasiLabs has increased participation of young entrepreneurs from townships in the main stream of innovation ecosystem in Gauteng and South Africa. The programme has also increased entrepreneurship activities and outputs of innovation products / solutions in these communities. Evident impact is visible in facilitation of market linkages and access to funding for entrepreneurs in these communities. These township-based-innovation centres (eKasiLabs) have fast-tracked the establishment of sustainable and innovative enterprises to stimulate growth and competitiveness in township economies, and contributed to job creation. In addition, they serve as a platform to provide township communities, especially the youth, with opportunities to have a meaningful participation in the conceptualization and development of solutions that can contribute in transforming the townships’ economic landscape.

Since inception, these seven eKasiLabs have incubated 170 startups and trained more than 250 young entrepreneurs in townships.

Run by: Special Projects in The office of the CEO of The Innovation Hub Management company.

Launch date: 03 August 2015
End date: 31 March 2020
We hope these solutions will inspire you to innovate and implement new ideas in your organisation.

(and keep an eye on your inbox for the link to vote for your three favourites!)