TechCon 2016
Session Catalog

Enabling Innovation and Building Innovation Ecosystems

Measuring Impact and Generating Evidence

Producing Actionable Research

Creating Next Generation Practitioners and Partnerships
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## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2016

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Considering involving a makerspace, innovation center, or fab lab in your institution? Creative community spaces can be extremely effective vehicles for global, personal, and professional development for students, professors, and staff, but implementation is not easy. IDIN’s Innovation Center Partners share success stories and key tips and tricks for Institutional engagement from creative community spaces around the world.

Building on the Development Impact Lab’s annual State of the Lab Conference on the Science of Scaling (September 2016), this panel will address rigorous approaches to better understand the art and science of scaling novel technologies and approaches in developing countries. The panel discussion will not focus on “what” makes development innovations scale, but rather “how” organizations and institutions are reaching scale.
**TIME**

10:45 am-12:30 pm

**SESSIONS/WORKSHOPS**

**SIMULATION: Technology Innovation for International Development**  
*Location - Silverman Skyline*

**Dr. Alexander J. Moseson**, PhD, Managing Director of Global Engineering Programs, Purdue University; **Dr. Anne E. Dare**, PhD, AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow, USAID/Middle East/MERC; **David Fields**, Social Entrepreneur in Residence, National Peace Corps Association (NPCA); **Dr. Khanjan Mehta**, PhD, Founding Director, Humanitarian Engineering and Social Entrepreneurship (HESE) Program; Assistant Professor, Engineering Design; The Pennsylvania State University

From problem statement to award ceremony, BE a development innovator like those you support, teach, or want to become. In this immersive simulation facilitated by experts enjoy the organized chaos, humor, dirty hands, and deep lessons that only experience can impart.

11:45 am-12:30 pm

**Promoting Data-Driven Decisions for Development: Challenges and Lessons Learned**  
*Location - Multipurpose Room*

**Alena Stern**, AidData Senior Program Manager; **Jacob Sims**, AidData Program Manager- Policy Initiatives; **Noah Klugman**, Ph.D candidate in Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Michigan

The development community has invested significantly in the production of open data- but has this investment in the supply of data led to better decisions and outcomes? This session will present new evidence regarding the demand for and use of data by policy-makers in low- and middle-income countries and will discuss lessons learned for promoting greater use of data in decision-making for improved development outcomes.
Applying Innovative Technologies to Address Last Mile Health Supply Chain Challenges
Location - Multipurpose Room

Dieudonné Baributsa, Associate Professor, Purdue University, and Lead, Purdue Improved Crop Storage (PICS); Jim Bagwell, President, ProvisionGard; Johnson Kagoye, Programme Officer, World Food Programme Zero Food Loss Initiative; Greg Olson, Program Operations Division Director, USAID Office of Food For Peace; Bea Rogers, Professor of Economics and Food Policy, Tufts University; Moderator: Jarrod Goentzel, Project Lead, MIT Comprehensive Initiative on Technology Evaluation (CITE)

Private sector and development organizations rarely conduct research while designing and managing operations to reach new markets. Panelists from the private sector, academia, government and non-government organizations will discuss their collaboration to leverage research in the context of scaling adoption of technologies and practices to reduce food loss among smallholder farmers and in food aid operations.

Applying Innovative Technologies to Address Last Mile Health Supply Chain Challenges
Location - Multipurpose Room

Anup Akkihal, CEO, Logistimo; Ashish Gadnis, Co-Founder, BanQu; Andrew Schroeder, Co-Founder, WeRobotics; Doris Youngs, Country Programs Director USAID Global Health Supply Chain Program - Procurement and Supply Management Project; Moderator: Dr. Arnold Maltz, Associate Professor, Supply Chain Management, W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University

This session will present innovative services, products and technologies that are helping to address key challenges in the last mile delivery of health commodities. The discussion will draw from the subject matter expertise of crucial actors and collaborators across the private sector, academia, and development partners.
TIME

2:00 pm-2:45 pm

SESSIONS/WORKSHOPS

Starting From the Local: Relying On the Local Visions For Science And Development
Location - Lecture Hall

Magaly Koch, Research Associate Professor, Boston University, Center for Remote Sensing; Bernhard Peucker-Ehrenbrink, Senior Scientist, Woods Hole Institute; Bram Willems, Project Manager, Centro de Competencias del Agua; Anjali Kumar, Research Advisor, USAID (Moderator)

This interactive panel of PEER’s USG partners (and 1 PEER-funded partner) that will discussing how, research-for-development is accelerated when an in-country partner frames the hypothesis (and helps drive the project) in partnership with USG funded researchers. The panel will inform the audience on: tips and tricks for working with international partners (especially those in low and middle income countries); how they were able to leverage your research grants/students/equipment/etc. to accelerate in-country research priorities; and the importance of doing development-relevant research with an in-country partner who has their own funds.

2:00 pm-2:45 pm

Working Ourselves Out of a Job - Seriously!
Location - Silverman Skyline

Nana Baah Pepra-Ameyaw, BHEARD PhD Student, Michigan State University; Doreen Mutoni, BHEARD PhD Student, University of Missouri; George Acquaah-Mensah, Professor, MCPHS

The next generation of development innovators resides all around the world. Let’s engage around good practices for identifying, nurturing, and supporting local talent.
Why Building Capacity for Local Innovation Matters: Fresh Evidence from the Field

Location - Multipurpose Room

Elizabeth Hoffecker, Researcher at MIT D-Lab and Research Manager for the International Development Innovation Network (IDIN); Boru Douthwaite, Author of Enabling Innovation: A Practical Guide to Understanding and Fostering Technological Change; Sophie Allebone-Webb, Researcher with the Innovation Unit at CIRAD; Lilian Mtasingwa, Lecturer at the Institute of Development Studies, University of Dar es Salaam; Laura Budzyna, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Manager, International Development Innovation Network (IDIN) at MIT

What is local innovation capacity, why does it matter for development, and how can we research it? This session will present findings and methodological lessons learned from a group of international researchers who have been investigating the outcomes associated with building capacity for local innovation in developing economies.

Putting Research into Action: How Can Academia Influence Policy?

Location - Lecture Hall

Ashok Gadgil, Professor of Environmental Engineering and Distinguished Chair of Safe Water and Sanitation, UC Berkeley and Faculty Senior Scientist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory; Mike Tierney, Director, AidData Center for Development Policy at College of William & Mary; Jennifer Potts, Deputy Director of Innovations in Healthcare at Duke University; Vera Zlidar, Senior Health Advisor, USAID; Moderator: Leslie Ruyle, Assistant Director, Center on Conflict and Development at Texas A&M University

In this session, we will explore how universities and their partners can develop actionable research relevant to development agencies and governments. Topics will include what considerations must be in place before conducting research, how must we modify methodologies for relevance, and what techniques result in the greatest uptake of research findings.
**Applying Lean Startup for International Development: Beyond the Business Model Canvas**
*Location - Silverman Skyline*


The Lean Startup methodology is being widely adopted in the for-profit entrepreneurial community to improve the prospects for the successful launch of high tech ventures, but is just starting to be applied in non-profit and international contexts. This session will discuss and illustrate how the approach has worked in several international development projects.

**Your Path in International Development**
*Location - Multipurpose Room*

**Rebecca Hui**, Co-founder of Roots Studio; **Ethan Soergel**, Senior Engineer at Dimagi; **Stephen Fitzpatrick**, USAID foreign service officer

Come hear from panelists from a variety of sectors to learn how you can best apply your skills and interests to a career in international development.
**Finding What Works: Tools for Evaluating Global Development Technologies**  
*Location - Silverman Skyline*

**Daniel Frey,** Faculty Director at D-Lab, MIT Professor of Mechanical Engineering, **Suitability Research Lead for CITE at MIT; Jennifer Green,** Sustainability Research Lead for CITE at MIT, Research Scientist at the MIT Sociotechnical Systems Research Center

With a flood of technologies on the market designed for global development programs and people living in poverty, it’s not always easy to figure out what works. This workshop will demonstrate how practical tools such as Excel, MatLab, sensors, and Google Earth can be used to evaluate products and processes to make data-driven purchasing decisions.

**How Does Innovation Work in Multilateral Development Banks?**  
*Location - Lecture Hall*

**Alisa DiCaprio,** Research Economist, Asian Development Bank Institute; **Santiago Ferrari,** Head of Marketing and Data Analytics, ConnectAmericas, Inter-American Development Bank

What is the process banks go through to scale innovation into region-wide programs? Hear speakers from Asia and Latin America discuss the process.
Successful University – NGO Partnerships: An Interactive Exercise to Build Consensus

**Location - Lecture Hall**

Iain Hunt, Manager, Sustainable Engineering for International Development Initiative, Villanova University; David Leege, Director, University Engagement and Research, Catholic Relief Services; Alice Agogino, Education Director, Blum Center for Developing Economies, University of California at Berkeley; Thomas Woodson, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Technology and Society, Stony Brook University

Participants will share experiences and work toward a consensus opinion around fostering successful university and NGO partnerships. Questions that will be explored include key elements of successful partnerships for relevant training, research, and innovation in field based programs, potential obstacles to successful partnership, and how to overcome these obstacles.

Building True Partnerships: Conventional Wisdom, Unconventional Truth

**Location - Multipurpose Room**

Bishwapriya Sanyal, PI CITE at MIT, Ford International Professor of Urban Development and Planning and Director of the Special Program in Urban and Regional Studies (SPURS)/ Humphrey Fellows Program at MIT; Sanjay Kumar, Director, SEWA Bharat

So you’re looking for a partner…but what are the critical components of a successful global development partnership? Join us to hear candid reflections from two unique sets of partners on what works (and what doesn’t), and come prepared to share your own experiences and lessons learned for developing true partnerships.
Developing Innovation Hubs: The Traits, The Activities, The Opportunities and The Reality

Location - Multipurpose Room

Kurt Richter, Assistant Director, GCFSI; Roy Mayega, Deputy Director, RAN; Emmanuel Kaunda, Deputy Vice Chancellor, LUANAR; Lekan Ayo-Yusuf, Director RAN Southern Africa Resilience Innovation Lab

Workshop participants will take away from this session an understanding of how RAN and GCFSI have worked with their local partners in South Africa (RAN) and Malawi (GCFSI) to establish innovation hubs. Local partners and professors will lead the workshop to explain the process the HESN labs used, to create innovation hubs with specific traits by harnessing local capacity to execute innovation hub activities.

Get Ready! Funding and social impact capital: innovator insights from East Africa, India and Latin America

Location - Lecture Hall

Nick Pearson, Founder and Executive Director, Jacaranda Health (Kenya); Zeena Johar, Founder and former CEO, Sughavazhu, (India); Cathy Clark, Adjunct Professor, Center for the Advancement of Social Entrepreneurship and the Social Entrepreneurship Accelerator at Duke, Fuqua School of Business, Duke University. Moderated by Jennifer Potts, Deputy Director, Innovations in Healthcare / Leadership Team, Social Entrepreneurship Accelerator at Duke, Duke Global Health Institute, Duke University.

This moderated panel session emphasizes innovators’ experiences in getting capital, demonstrating our findings from three regions and a new social impact capital online tool. The audience will learn what innovators need and how to prepare for capital.
When you’re piloting a new product, program or approach, it isn’t always clear what impact it will have - so, how do you know what to measure? In this workshop, you’ll learn strategies for capturing outcomes of projects that are novel, nascent, and in flux.

Join us for an interactive session where you will be introduced to the process of ‘Solutioning’; a practice that connects you to the practitioners who know what works in your field. Rockefeller Foundation and Oxfam, among others, are early adopters of ‘Solutioning’, which you will experience via a rapid prototyping challenge. You’ll walk away with: Solutions to fit your context and a network of conference attendees brought together on our online platform.
TIME
9:30 am-10:15 am

SESSIONS/WORKSHOPS

Design For, By, and With: Perspectives On Why and How to Engage Stakeholders In the Design Process
Location - Lecture Hall

Winthrop Carty, Executive Director of the Melton Foundation; Kendra Leith, Research and Evaluation Manager for MIT D-Lab; Participant from M4ID; Dr. Dorothy Okello, Director of Innovations, ResilientAfrica Network (RAN)

This session will highlight three cases of participatory design. The panelists will discuss who they engaged, how and why and reflect on what worked and what didn’t.

10:45 am-11:30 am

Innovations in Measuring Impact
Location - Multipurpose Room

Sophia van der Bijl, Senior Impact Assessment Advisor, US Global Development Lab; Dr. Brad Parks, Executive Director, AidData

We will introduce several monitoring and evaluation innovations that have the potential to substantially reduce the time and financial costs of generating rigorous evidence about programmatic impacts.
What Are We getting Into?: Building Effective Hybrid Partnerships
Location - Silverman Skyline

Phillip Denny, Program Director, Big Ideas Contest, Blum Center for Developing Economies, UC Berkeley; Deborah Naatujuna, Engagement Manager, RAN Lab, Makerere University; Carey Glenn, Program Manager, AidData

This panel session will be an interactive discussion led by contest and curriculum designers who will cover the pros and cons of university based prize competitions. It will focus on how these contests can be developed as an entrepreneurial pipeline to catalyze and provide continuing support to numerous early-stage social ventures. It will also focus on the impact of these competitions on school environments and innovation ecosystems around the world.

Tips and Tools for Managing A University Social Innovation Contest
Location - Lecture Hall

Phillip Denny, Program Director, Big Ideas Contest, Blum Center for Developing Economies, UC Berkeley; Deborah Naatujuna, Engagement Manager, RAN Lab, Makerere University; Carey Glenn, Program Manager, AidData

Saida Benhayoune, MIT D-Lab Scale-Ups Program Director; Dr. Simone Ahuja, founder of Blood Orange, an Innovation and Strategy Advisory and co-author of international bestseller Jugaad Innovation

Tackling the challenges of initiating and building successful social innovation collaborations among corporations, NGOs, and social ventures, this workshop will employ a newly developed multidimensional framework and tool as a lens to illustrate key principles and practices of effective partnerships through real case studies. Participants will engage with the tool directly in small and large group settings, with the goal of obtaining practical and actionable takeaways relevant to their own work.
From RCTs to “Quick and Dirty” Insights: Role of Research in Crafting Mobile For Development Initiatives

Kristen Roggemann, Principal Mobile Solutions Specialist, DAI; Philip Roessler, Assistant Professor of Government, Director, Center for African Development, College of William and Mary; Jonathan Donner, Senior Director, Research at Caribou Digital; Krista Baptista, ICT Director, DAI

In this session, panelists will discuss how a range of research has informed decision making in mobile for development, from the growth of mobile connectivity and digital financial services in East Africa to social media-based community engagement in Jordan and Honduras. Attendees will learn about how to maximize the impact of research in programming and gain insights from new research on mobiles, youth and social media in Palestine and Indonesia.

Engineering an Ecosystem: Do “Knowledge Platforms” Really Deliver?

Alice Agogino, Roscoe and Elizabeth Hughes Professor of Mechanical Engineering; Robert Hauck, Chief Mechanical Engineer (Retired), GE Healthcare; Iana Aranda, Director of Programs, Engineering for Change

2030 is closer than we think. Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals requires a skilled design and engineering workforce to create and advance promising solutions—and a supportive ecosystem to accelerate this work. This session will debate existing knowledge and resource gaps and discuss current and future initiatives that will propel effective impact-driven products and services.