

National Dialogue on Fostering Business Incubators Ecosystem for Youth

CONTEXT

Young people represent a great potential as partners, leaders and innovators in sustainable development and social change. Youth have been responsible for some of the largest shifts in how the world approaches messaging, advocacy, and environmental innovation - Facebook, Twitter all attest to the virtue of engaging youth in driving solutions.

More than 52 million people in Bangladesh are below the age of 30; the population is projected to reach 190 million by 2020, of which 43% will be under the age of 30. In Bangladesh, particularly, the youth demographic has historically been key mobilizers in responding to the challenges which Bangladesh faces. Despite this rich history, Bangladesh's youth presently show much less involvement in governance structures, and face numerous barriers to fully engaging in the economy.

Thus, young people represent a key governance challenge as they form a significant unengaged constituency, and face high un(der)employment which limits their long-term outcomes.

This year, UNDP Bangladesh Youthopia.Bangla, A2i, Ministry of Youth and Sports in partnership with Regional Youth Project on Leadership, Innovation and Entrepreneurship will join forces to bring together young innovators, social entrepreneurs, incubators to create a network that supports youth led initiatives, providing them mentorship and encourage financial mechanisms that fully contribute to Agenda 2030. This includes fostering business incubators, youth participation, and promoting leadership amongst young youth to thrive and flourish as successful innovators.

OBJECTIVE OF THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE

The aim of the National Dialogue leading to Springboard programme will:

- ❖ Inspire and engage young people through innovations and localizing actions for sustainable development goals.
- ❖ Highlighting strengths and weaknesses of existing accelerators/model/ecosystem and establish UNDP to be an aggregator to support structural change.
- ❖ Equip young and promising entrepreneurs with skills that are essential in accelerating and developing businesses.

PARTNERS

The partners section displays logos for UNDP, Youth Co:Lab, Innovation Hub, Youthopia, A2i, Citi Foundation, Citi, Telenor, PreneurLab, Spark, Toru, and Goshti.

MAY- JUNE

Call for applications and project proposals
(outreach and exploring teams through
existing partners)

30 Teams

Ministry of Youth and Sports, Prenuer LAB,
TORU, Spark, Innovation HUB UNDP, Spark,
A2i UNDP, CRI, BYLC

JULY

Results announcement of Young entrepreneurs/innovators (10 Teams)
Panel: Government Counterpart + Youthopia.Bangla Team + Citi
Foundation + Entrepreneur (TORU, SPARK etc)

Workshop and introduction with teams (Mentoring 101, Bootcamp)
(Learning and exchange of knowledge): introduction of mentors, needs
of teams, how to improve business model, Objectives of teams, (we act
as a convener role)

SEPTEMBER

National Dialogue with young entrepreneurs, private sector, Ministry, A2i, other partners
University youth delegates invited to promote youth leadership and inspire to be future
entrepreneurs

Focus Areas	Target Groups:	Programme Output:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change & Environment • Education • Governance and Peacebuilding • Public Health • Cities • Agriculture and Fishery 	<p>People with disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transgender Groups • Young people live in marginalized areas (Outreach and exploration through A2i and Ministry of Youth & Sports) • People with disabilities • Existing Groups with 0-6 month experience to be scaled up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges and bottlenecks of the ecosystem identified • Solutions are showcased • Multi-stakeholder coalition strengthened • Young ecosystem leaders are nurtured

MEETING WITH ENTREPRENEURIAL NETWORKS

DATE: JUNE 05, 2018

VENUE: INNOVATION HUB, UNDP

PROGRAMME FLOW	TIME
Welcome, Introduction and Objective of the Meeting	15:00 to 15:15
Overview on Youth Co Lab - Features of Youth Co Lab: Bootcamp, National Dialogue and Spring Board Programme	15:15 to 15:25
Open Discussion Session	15:25 to 15:45
Opportunities for the Nominations and Networks- BcTA, PS Networking	15:45 to 15:55
Open Discussion Session	15:55 to 16:15
Closure of the meeting	16:15 to 16:20

