



*The 26th Issuance of
Asian Association of Business Incubation*

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CONTENT

International Event

XXV ISPIM Innovation Conference	1
NBIA's Eighth Summit for Advanced Incubation Professionals	2
New infoDev Business Incubation Management Training Program	3
Insights into Shanghai Free Trade Zone	4

Member's Event

Launch of Hong Kong Science Park Venture Capital Partnership Programme	5
AFI, US Embassy host summit for ASEAN youth	7
Partnerships between Large Organizations and SMEs Help to Achieve More Business Opportunities	9
ICRISAT fosters 10 years of Agribusiness Incubation	10

XXV ISPIM Innovation Conference

The XXV ISPIM Innovation Conference will be held in Dublin, Ireland on 8-11 June 2014 and will focus on – Innovation for Sustainable Economy & Society. Organised by ISPIM in partnership with Intel Labs Europe and The Innovation Value Institute, this conference will bring together around 500 innovation experts from 50 countries and include:

- Multi-track sessions that mix industry, academia, science, & government,
- Dedicated sessions and communities on innovation challenges for research, business & government,
- Showcases on innovation success in Ireland with presentations, workshops & site visits,
- High-profile networking events each night, ISPIM-style.

KEY THEMES

- Innovation for Sustainable Societies (Focus Theme)
- Innovation for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth (Focus Theme)
- Business Models (SIG), Entrepreneurship, & Financing Innovation
- Collaboration for Innovation (inc. Networks & Clusters)
- Creativity in Innovation (Led by EACI)
- Early-stage Innovation (SIG)
- Green, Public & Social Innovation
- Innovation Training, Teaching & Coaching (SIG)
- Living Labs (SIG)
- Managing I.T. Capabilities for Innovation and Value (Led by IVI)
- Methods & Measurement of Innovation
- Open Innovation 2.0
- Service Innovation (SIG)
- Strategic Foresight, Strategic Agility & Future Orientation (SIG)
- Transferring Knowledge for Innovation (SIG)



NBIA's Eighth Summit for Advanced Incubation Professionals

Feb. 9-11, 2014

Buena Vista Palace Hotel & Spa

Orlando, Fla.

Small, intimate. Very insightful presentations. Time and opportunities to really discuss issues, challenges, practices, programs. – 2013 summit participant

NBIA's Eighth Summit for Advanced Incubation Professionals is a members-only event for experienced incubation leaders (three years or more in the industry). The summit provides a unique forum for veteran leaders to discuss, debate and exchange ideas about innovation, entrepreneurship and business incubation.

Attend the summit to:

- **Learn.** The summit gives you the opportunity to learn from other high-level professionals with proven track records of success. You'll come away from the event with a variety of tools to improve your program.
- **Connect.** The summit lets you network and brainstorm with other industry veterans who share your experience and skill levels. You'll make and solidify relationships that will benefit you throughout your career.
- **Inform.** The strength of this event is its participants who share their extensive expertise in all things incubation and explore the most pressing trends and issues in the field. Past summit attendees say the new ideas they acquired at the event are invaluable. Your innovative ideas will add to that value!
- **Enjoy.** Take a break from winter and enjoy the sunny Florida weather! The Buena Vista Palace Hotel & Spa offers unbeatable amenities to help you relax (when you are not at the summit, of course!). The hotel offers three heated swimming pools (with pool concierge) and a 10,000-square-foot spa and fitness center. The Buena Vista Palace Hotel & Spa also offers access to three Championship golf courses and the nine-hole family friendly Oak Trail walking course at Walt Disney World Resort.



New infoDev Business Incubation Management Training Program

Bahrain Business Incubator Center the subsidiary of Bahrain Development Bank Group in association with the Middle East and North Africa Incubators Network is organizing a new training session on the infoDev Business Incubation Management Training Program in the period from 26th – 29th January 2013, in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The infoDev Business Incubation Management Training Program is the first-of-its-kind, drawing from the lessons, models, and examples in business incubation from across Africa, East Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Central Asia, Latin America & the Caribbean, Middle East & North Africa, and South Asia. More than 30 experts contributed directly to the writing of the training modules, and the materials were tested with more than 300 professionals in developing countries all of whom provided inputs to the final design.

This training program is designed for business incubation managers and other business incubation stakeholders wishing to increase their understanding and know-how of the business incubation process.

➤ This training session will offer the following modules:

Module 1 & 2 – Business Incubation Definitions and Principles and Business Incubator Models, Including Success Factors

Module 3 - Planning an Incubator

Module 6 – Managing the Business Incubator

Module 7 – Monitoring, Evaluating and Benchmarking Business Incubators

➤ The participation fees per module (day) will be as follows:

1- MENAinc Members: USD 350 per participant per module.

2- Non Members: USD 400 per participant.per module.

3- Group rate for groups of 4 people and more is offered at USD 350 per participant per module.

Insights into Shanghai Free Trade Zone

The establishment of the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone (SFTZ) as the first free trade zone in China marks a milestone for China's economic reforms and the strategy of opening up the domestic market.



SFTZ will pilot a new model that will not only open up the local economy, but also reform trade and investment administration systems.

SFTZ will promote the development of new business and trade options available to offshore companies, for example international trade settlement; international bulk commodities transactions; financial leasing; bonded delivery of futures; cross-border e-commerce; and a regional shipping hub.

Over the next three years the Chinese government will keep refining the policies and measures implemented in and, by the end of the third year, the model could be replicated and rolled out to the other parts of the country.

An overall Framework Plan was released in September containing some general measures, with more implementation details being released in the first quarter of 2014, and full implementation scheduled to be carried out later in the year.

Bridging the Investment World and the Innovation and Technology Community

[Hong Kong, 10 December 2013] – Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) announced the official launch of its Hong Kong Science Park Venture Capital Partnership Programme. With a view to providing a unique platform to bridge venture capital firms with investment-ready technology enterprises, this Programme marks another milestone in HKSTPC's effort to reinforce Hong Kong's position as the regional hub of innovation and technology. To celebrate the launch, a ceremony joined by prominent venture capital partners was held on December 6 during HKSTPC's annual flagship conference "InnoAsia" where international thought leaders, government officials and industry heavy weights shared their insights on how to drive for a greener smarter city agenda.

For more than a decade since its establishment, HKSTPC is committed to fostering the innovation and technological growth of Hong Kong, through the provision of state-of-the-art R&D infrastructure, comprehensive Incubation Programmes and supporting services backed by a team of fully-fledged engineers and professionals. Among the all-round support is the investment matching service which HKSTPC has been offering to over 400 companies stationed in Science Park, connecting them to venture capitalists and corporate ventures.

With the launch of this Partnership Programme, venture capitalists and corporate ventures across the globe are welcome to join, and will be presented with an array of technology companies in Science Park developing innovative R&D projects that deliver both economic and social value to our society. On the other hand, entrepreneurs in Science Park, who are ready to take their business to the next level through fund raising, will be connected to potential investors from the Programme. To further support these technology companies and entrepreneurs, HKSTPC also provides consultation service on business plans, presentation skills training and business matching to help these companies scale up. Through this Partnership Programme, HKSTPC will be able to better understand the investment preference of each venture capital firm, and link them up with technology companies that fit their investment criteria, which will eventually increase the hit rate of successful investment matching.

AFI, US Embassy host summit for ASEAN youth

One hundred fifty of the most promising youth leaders from member-states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) gathered in Manila on December 3 to 5 for the “Link. Engage. Activate. Develop. (LEAD) ASEAN Youth” Summit, hosted by Ayala Foundation Inc., in partnership with the United States Embassy in Manila.

No less than US President Barack Obama welcomed the delegates via a prerecorded video message, saying that . Prosperity and peace in the Asia Pacific means more opportunity for us all, including the United States. And he wants to make sure USA is building that future together with ASEAN countries.”

Obama also announced the US government’s latest effort—the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative, which echoed the efforts USA have made to work with ASEAN countries for their youth development in the field of education,so as to enable the youth in ASEAN countries to realize their goals. Ayala Corporation CEO and Ayala Foundation Co-Chairman Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala also presented to the delegates for words of inspiration. JAZA emphasized the importance of establishing empathy for people, regardless of who they are and where they come from. JAZA encouraged the delegates to grasp this opportunity to exchange views and learn from different cultures, which would be a large wealth for the youth in the coming years. Also present to speak to the delegates were David Carden, US ambassador to Southeast Asia; Susan Stevenson, deputy assistant secretary for Public Diplomacy in the US Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs; and, on the third day of the summit, Philip Goldberg, US Ambassador to the Philippines.

The three-day summit featured interactive panel discussions, exposure trips, cultural

exchange activities, and workshops, which served as venues for the young leaders to learn from one another's experiences, learn directly from experts and change agents working in key development fields, and find avenues for continued collaboration. Discussions centered on the following key topics: economic development, environment, education and awareness, and human development

One of the panel discussions, supported by the Ramon Magsaysay Awards Foundation, featured winners of the Ramon Magsaysay Awards—Lahpai Seng Raw (2013), Tri Mumpuni (2011), and Antonio Oposa (2009). Other speakers represented the following organizations and projects: Gawad Kalinga, Kickstart Ventures, Ayala Foundation's Center of Excellence in Public Education (CENTEX), *Rappler*, World Wide Fund for Nature, Philippines Business for the Environment, Asia Society, and Teach Peace Build Peace Foundation.

On the second day of the summit, the delegates were divided into three groups, each visiting one of the following sites: Gawad Kalinga Enchanted Farm; Ayala Museum and the De La Salle College of St. Benilde; Nuvali and Tagaytay City (with WWF Philippines).

On the last day, the participants proposed innovative projects to address challenges confronting their countries, communities, and region, while building a framework to sustain the youth network in the years to come.

The summit gathered 10 delegates per ASEAN country and 60 from the Philippines. Delegates were selected after a competitive application process supervised by Ayala Foundation and the United States Embassies across ASEAN, and are either alumni of U.S. government sponsored international exchange programs or alumni of the Ayala Young Leaders Congress (AYLC).



Partnerships between Large Organizations and SMEs Help to Achieve More Business Opportunities

ST Kinetics, land systems and specialty vehicles provider, upgrades capabilities of its SME suppliers through Partnerships for Capability Transformation (PACT)

ST Kinetics (STK), one of Asia's leading land systems and specialty vehicles companies, has embarked upon a partnership project with 11 SME suppliers to upgrade their capabilities and competencies under the Partnerships for Capability Transformation (PACT) programme. This includes training the suppliers in the Kaizen methodology and coaching them in technology, automation and mechanisation upgrading, to increase their quality, productivity and efficiency levels. Supported by SPRING Singapore, these collaborations are aimed at achieving mutually beneficial relationships, which increase the quality of products, productivity levels and hence competitiveness for both STK and its suppliers. STK expects business volumes of its SME suppliers to increase between five to seven per cent each year for the next three years.

This was shared at the STK Productivity, which was graced by Minister of State for Trade and Industry, Mr Teo Ser Luck. "The Government has been actively supporting SMEs through a series of initiatives ranging from productivity and capability upgrading to technology and innovation. However, some SMEs may still be hesitant or lack the resources to do so. Partnering with and learning from MNCs or large local organizations like STK will provide SMEs with the opportunity for more secured and focused upgrading."

This collaboration between STK and its suppliers is supported by SPRING under the PACT programme, which was enhanced earlier this year as part of a review of the SME development strategies, chaired by Minister of State Mr Teo Ser Luck. The

review focused on boosting existing SME development strategies and proposing new measures to help SMEs transform their businesses and cope in the new operating environment.

One focus area of the review was on helping SMEs access more business opportunities through PACT. The programme, which was introduced in 2010 by the Economic Development Board (EDB), was expanded this year to include additional manufacturing sectors as well as non-manufacturing sectors¹, with respective agencies like SPRING leading PACT for its respective sectors. PACT now supports collaboration projects between large organizations and SMEs in areas that involve partner development, knowledge transfer and co-innovation. Such collaboration projects will help SMEs build a better track record and expand their businesses. SMEs can also gain from valuable, real-time feedback and guidance from their existing customers.

Since the expansion of PACT in April this year, SPRING has supported 20 partnership projects between large organisations and SMEs, with another 12 project applications being processed. From these projects, close to 130 SMEs are expected to benefit through some form of capability upgrading or increased opportunities in developing innovative products and solutions.

Under the PACT programme, SMEs are eligible for up to 70% funding support of qualifying project costs. Large organisations may also consider hiring a PACT manager, dedicated to driving such PACT collaborations, which can be supported under the PACT programme.

"We needed to create a vehicle that could be multi-faceted in harnessing the potential of entrepreneurship for the farming community," Director General, Dr William D. Dar said of



ICRISAT's Agri-Business Incubation (ABI) program. Dr Dar was speaking at the tenth anniversary celebration of ABI on 5 December. Dr Dar added that ICRISAT began the ABI program in 2003 under the Agribusiness and Innovation Platform (AIP), with a focus on accelerating technology exchange by nurturing agriculture-based commercial enterprises.

In ten years of its operations, ABI has become a self-sustaining entity within ICRISAT, an agribusiness incubator model replicated at different locations in India in partnership with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), and scaled-up to a global level, especially in Africa and Asia, through partnership with various R&D agencies.

