Innovation Labs 2015

Herat- February 17-18, 2014 | Kabul- March 23-24, 2015

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Overview:
We are now accepting applications to our 3rd Innovation Labs through our secure submission site— http://ilabs.technation.af. Please apply under the "Participate" section on our website, if you are interested in joining the Innovation Labs.

Innovation Labs (iLabs) is a social innovation program covering a series of meetings of about 200 social and technology experts and activists in Afghanistan. Participants discuss social and environmental problems, in areas such as healthcare, education, agriculture, poverty, governance, justice, women and human rights, natural disasters and recovery, and identify and develop technology solutions to address the problems.

The program includes two pre-Labs, which are preparatory information sessions where participants identify social problems and possible technology solutions, and two main-Labs, where participants will need to create *Prototypes on Paper* that can address the social problems identified in the pre-Labs. Two best prototypes will be selected by Judges and transformed into software apps in two to three months. These software apps, once developed, would be made available for the participating NGOs to use in their work.

The pre-Lab in Herat will be held on February 14, and main-Lab on February 17 and 18, 2015. The pre-Lab in Kabul, however, will be held on March 15, and main-Lab in Kabul is scheduled for March 23 and 24, 2015.

Who can participate?
The iLabs participants can be either social workers or technology experts. Social workers and entrepreneurs who are involved in civic service and understand social problems and software developers and geeks who can code; user interface and graphic designers, who have experience in creating elegant designs; system analysts who can identify software system requirements; business and marketing professionals, who have a great sense of user psychology; and mentors and facilitators who can lead and guide various sessions at the iLabs.

Timeline:
- Herat Labs:
    - Application deadline for Herat iLabs: February 6, 2015
    - Shortlisting candidates for Herat iLabs: February 10, 2015
    - Pre-Lab in Herat: February 14, 2015

- ○ Main-Lab in Herat: February 17 and 18, 2015

- ● Kabul Labs
  - ○ Application deadline for Kabul iLabs: March 6, 2015
  - ○ Shortlisting candidates for Kabul iLabs: March 10, 2015
  - ○ Pre-Lab in Kabul: March 15, 2015
  - ○ Main-Lab in Kabul: March 23 and 24, 2015

- ● Closing & Awards and Social Evening: March 26, 2015

About Innovation Labs:

The Innovation Lab project was launched, as Kabul Innovation Lab, in 2012 by Internews with the support of USAID. In 2015 Internews is partnering with TechNation, a Kabul-based technology and consulting firm, to organize the event in Herat and Kabul. iLabs help create a vibrant social entrepreneurial community of men and women in Afghanistan. It promotes communication, learning and sharing experiences, developing new technologies for social good and establishing contact with the wider world.

Innovation Labs 2015 is managed by TechNation together with Herat Host and TechWomen Afghanistan.

Questions:
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at anytime via email or phone:
Tel: +93 788 161 862
Email: ilabs@technation.af
Web: http://ilabs.technation.af

The iLabs is an activity of the Afghan Civic Engagement Program; co-implemented by Counterpart International and Internews; supported by USAID.