HAVE AN IDEA? WANT TO TRY PATENTING OR BUSINESS?

Innovation and Entrepreneurship Semester is Coming to your University.
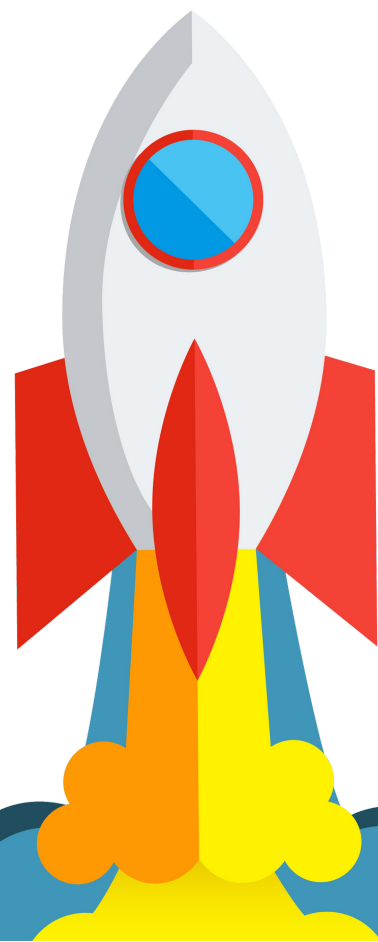
WHY?

Bangladesh aspires to develop a robust innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem for a flourishing economy to keep pace with the dynamics induced by 4IR. Bangladesh High-tech Park Authority [BHTPA] has launched the building of vibrant innovation hubs in 10 universities that will serve as the foundational block for the ecosystem above. The hubs are going to function as epicenters for raising greater awareness of the importance of innovation, nurturing a culture of innovation, inculcating an entrepreneurship mindset, and promoting a collaborative environment, and openness among students, graduates, researchers, and faculty members within and around participating universities. The hub will also strive to break stereotypes, which traditionally block entrepreneurship development processes, especially gender biases.

The graduates of the Swill will be incubated and further nurtured by the BHTPA with a range of support, including physical and soft infrastructure.

WHAT WILL YOU GET FROM THIS PROGRAM?

- Support for discovery of innovation or business ideas.

- Access to Innovation Hub for ideation, design, prototyping, and proof of concept.

- Access to pre-seed and seed funds for converting your idea into a prototype or MVP.

- Opportunities to listen to global and national innovation/startup leaders.

- Access to national and global corporate and startup networks and opportunities for partnership, contributing to bridging industry-academia.

- Learning and support of intellectual property rights [IPR] protection

- Credit for completion of the innovation and entrepreneurship semester*

- Opportunity to enroll in Smart Bangladesh Accelerator [SBA], the largest accelerator program in Bangladesh, for access to bigger funding and market access through partners like Startup Bangladesh Limited, StartupBootCamp, Microsoft and many more.

WHO CAN APPLY?

- A team of 3-5 students, graduates, alumni, and faculty of any discipline.

- A team that does not run only for grades but has a hunger for solving a real-life problem with innovation and forming a startup.

THE PROGRAM REQUIRES YOUR COMMITMENT OF 100 HOURS OVER 5 MONTHS.

BRAINSTORM YOUR IDEA, BUILD YOUR TEAM, AND APPLY NOW!

Teams with female members are highly encouraged to apply.

WHAT IS THE COMPOSITION OF THE PROGRAM?

- Innovation and entrepreneurship lecture series: 4 lectures open to all students till the seats are full.

- Certificate Course on Innovation and Entrepreneurship: 50+ capacity (subject to availability). Duration: 20 hours.

- Product Development at Innovation Hub: 10-15 teams (team size 3-5 members from students, alumni, faculty)

SOME KEY FEATURES OF THE PROGRAM

Number of University-based innovation teams to be nurtured	3000		Duration of the Program	3 Years
Number of Cohorts per University	6		Number of Cohorts per year	2
Number of Innovation teams per cohort	10-15		Gender lens	A minimum 20% of total teams are to be women-led
Number of prototypes of innovation teams to receive pre-seed fund [all universities, 3 years]	300		Number of MVPs of Innovation teams to receive seed fund [all universities, 3 years]	100
Amount of pre-seed fund	BDT 50,000		Amount of seed fund	BDT 100,000
Mentor-hours for prototypes per team	15 hours		Mento-hours for MVP	35 hours

STATE-OF-THE-ART CURRICULUM WITH HANDS-ON PRACTICES.

ITEM	HOURS PER COHORTS
Innovation and Entrepreneurship Lecture Series Lectures from renowned innovators and founders: 4 -5 lectures per semester.	10
Innovation Hub MVP Development The students will be able to go through a series of workshops (in class and on the field) from ideation, customer discovery, and prototyping to business modeling and commercialization. It is a learning by doing modalities of solution design.	70
Certificate Course on Innovation and Entrepreneurship	20
Total hours	100

PHASES AND CONTENT OF INNOVATION HUB CHALLENGE

EXPLORE >	TEST >	PROPEL >
The goal of the first phase is to identify a problem to solve and solve through the engagement of potential groups of customers through the application of design thinking. The output of the first phase is a prototype of proof of concept.	The goal of this stage is to take the prototype/proof of concept to the level of minimum viable product [MVP].	The goal of the phase is to make the innovation teams ready for launching of the potential venture through building an appropriate founding team and preparing for attracting investment. The potential innovation also may take the direction of registering for intellectual property rights (IPR) and offer to potential other startups. Customer acquisition is expected to have a proper shape and real data would give ideas about future direction.
a. Design Thinking b. Ideation c. Lean Canvas d. Market Research e. Designing Customer Surveys and Interviews f. Customer Discovery and Customer Feedback g. Customer Value Proposition h. Prototype or Proof of Concept.	a. Product Development Life Cycle b. Customer Acquisition for Market testing c. Unit Economics d. Minimum Viable Product e. Pitch Deck.	a. Product Development Life Cycle b. Customer Acquisition for Market testing c. Unit Economics d. Minimum Viable Product e. Pitch Deck.

HOW TO JOIN THE PROGRAM?

Students, graduates, alumni and faculty from various disciplines can form a team and submit the idea online.

The idea will be selected through a competitive process.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

For details and the application deadline, scan the QR code or visit **www.smartunibator.org**

HOSTING UNIVERSITIES OF INNOVATION HUBS

- Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman University of Engineering and Technology [BSMRUET]

- Bangladesh Agricultural University [BAU]

- Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology [BUET]

- BRAC University

- Khulna University [KU]

- Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology [RUET]

- Shahjalal University of Science and Technology [SUST]

- United International University [UIU]

- University of Chittagong [CU]

- Varendra University [VU]

CONTACT

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