

Georgetown University Global Innovation Lab powered by 3-Day Startup



- 24 graduate students
- 6 mentors
- 5 panelists
- 2 program leaders
- 1 external facilitator
- global need and opportunities for innovation
- 3 days...

What do these combine to form?

Georgetown University's inaugural **Global Innovation Lab**

So what came out of it?

Fueled by great enthusiasm and commitment, diverse teams, top-notch mentors and panelists, good food, and some handstands, the students identified innovation challenges and worked collectively from Friday afternoon until Sunday night to develop solutions.

What did they chose to work on?

- Unemployment of displaced women and food waste in Colombia
 - Innovation solution: *Campotos Hoya*
- Developing a supply chain to the US for sewn garments of traditional Seshoeshoe cloth from Lesotho to enhance livelihoods for women
 - Innovation solution: *Shway*
- Disrupting data collection and analysis in international development assistance
 - Innovation solution: *Apps2Analytics*
- A solution to positive behavior change for youth in refugee camps
 - Innovation solution: *Gamechangers*
- Creating a sustainable system for recycling in Turkey
 - Innovation solution: *Scholastic Plastic*

Global Social Enterprise and Development Fellows from the Global Human Development (GHD) Program, School of Foreign Service and McDonough School of Business, along with graduate students in the GHD Innovation in Action course participated in an intensive design collaborative October 4-6, 2013. Using a model and facilitator from 3-Day Startup adapted to global innovation, the students brainstormed, formed their innovation teams

and ideated, ran surveys, collected data from across the globe, conducted stakeholder interviews, planned and prototyped their solutions -- all over a packed weekend.

Mentors drawn from finance, industry, trade associations and the IT sector worked with the teams and provided critical feedback and additional data, contacts and perspectives. Sunday night pitches to a senior-level panel of experts in innovation, philanthropy, global development and finance capped off the innovation design experience and the Innovation Lab.



Mentors remarked positively on the caliber of the Georgetown students and the quality of their analyses and designs.

Panelists were impressed as well, commenting:

"This is terrific work."

"This team is on to something really important."

"We need to bring this solution to the humanitarian relief donor community!"

Student innovators also found the process and their projects really worthwhile, saying:

"I wish more of my program at Georgetown allowed for this kind of experiential learning. I got so much out of this"

"I was blown away by the quality of projects and presentations. It is amazing what we all did in 3 days."

"I never thought they would pick my idea!"

“This experience far exceeded my expectations.”

Speaking of one of the mentors, *“she took our project and tore it apart and then helped us put it all together again.”*

In reaction to another of the mentors, *“he said we need to narrow it down and focus and when we do and are ready, he is willing to put his cards on the table about funding it. I am overwhelmed”*

“We had nothing on Saturday after all our work and several pivots. So we are starting over completely this morning...And now, after our presentation, I can’t believe it but one of the panelists says she wants to follow up with us to bring this project forward!”



Drawing from Georgetown’s diversity of students, dedication to service and solutions to global challenges, and investment in innovation and social enterprise, the Innovation Lab succeeded in delivering an unprecedented experiential learning experience for participants and some global innovation solutions.