



IDIN network members during the 2014 International Development Design Summit in Orkolili, Tanzania where they designed and co-created a small-scale hay baler and innovation curriculum for local secondary schools.

IDIN's FOUR PILLARS

- » **The Network** A diverse, vibrant group of local innovators supported by IDIN through programs and resources
- » **Design Summits** Hands-on global design experiences in co-creating low-cost technologies that alleviate poverty
- » **Innovation Centers** Maker spaces connecting innovators to resources and training they need to develop technology solutions
- » **Research** Generating knowledge on local innovation and the role it plays in sustainable community and regional development

IDIN ON CAMPUS & BEYOND

- » **Student Participation** Student-driven projects, research, field visits, and technology development that contributes to IDIN's impact

"[We seek] to change the paradigm of development that sees people living in poverty as needy and vulnerable to one that sees them as capable and creative innovators able to develop the technologies that will improve their lives and livelihoods."

AMY SMITH, Director of IDIN, Founder of MIT D-Lab

WHAT IS IDIN?

A GLOBAL NETWORK OF LOCAL INNOVATORS USING DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY TO ADDRESS POVERTY

The International Development Innovation Network (IDIN) empowers a diverse, global network of innovators to design, develop, and disseminate low-cost technologies to alleviate poverty.

A consortium led by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology D-Lab and funded by USAID's U.S. Global Development Lab, IDIN fosters and supports its network through design summits, local innovation centers, a research program, and student participation. Consortium members work together to implement activities that are coordinated by IDIN headquarters.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT DESIGN SUMMITS

First organized by MIT in 2007, International Development Design Summits (IDDS) are hands-on design experiences in creating low-cost, practical technologies that alleviate poverty.

Summits emphasize the importance of "co-creation," the idea that working *with* communities is more powerful than designing solutions for them. During a summit, participants work in teams with community members from developing countries, learn the design cycle, identify problems and solutions, and develop and test prototypes.

Design summits can last two weeks or a full month. Two-week summits delve into a specific topic such as maternal health or waste, while month-long summits address broad topics like agriculture, health, and education.

After the summit is over, IDIN helps projects and communities move forward with funding, technical assistance, and the support of student teams. IDDS participants become a part of the growing IDIN network. Some continue to work on projects from the summit while others pursue their own local innovation projects in a range of fields.



Design summit participants get feedback on their avocado oil press from community members in Leguruki, Tanzania in August 2014.

IDIN ACADEMIC PARTNERS

- » D-Lab
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- » Affordable Design & Entrepreneurship
Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering
- » Global Social & Sustainable Enterprise
Colorado State University
- » Program for International Energy Technologies
University of California, Davis
- » Singapore Polytechnic University
Singapore, Singapore
- » Technology Transfer Centre
*Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology
Kumasi, Ghana*

IDIN LOCAL PARTNERS

- » National Technology Business Centre
Lusaka, Zambia
- » ECHO East Africa Impact Center
Arusha, Tanzania



International
Development
Innovation
Network



U.S. GLOBAL
DEVELOPMENT
LAB
Powered by USAID

THE NETWORK

The IDIN Network is made up of more than 400 innovators from over 50 countries worldwide. IDIN network members are men and women who represent a wide range of occupations, nationalities, levels of formal education, and ages.

IDIN offers access to targeted mentoring and partnerships, training, scholarships, and project funding to network members so they can prototype low-cost technologies, move promising solutions forward, and build ventures that succeed on a wider market.

IDIN also supports the organization of local chapters, a grassroots opportunity for IDIN network members and other innovators to host events, support each other's work, and promote local innovation. There are currently IDIN local chapters in Brazil, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, and Zambia

INNOVATION CENTERS

IDIN innovation centers are maker spaces for innovators looking to make a social impact on their community and beyond. Innovation centers connect our network members to resources and training to develop low-cost, practical technologies to alleviate poverty.

Innovation centers offer access to workshop space and tools, educational programs, and a marketplace for buying, selling, and trading technologies created by local innovators. Centers are up and running in Brazil, Tanzania, and Uganda, with smaller workshops being established in Zambia, India, Kenya, Sierra Leone, and Nepal.

RESEARCH

IDIN is building a rigorous, interdisciplinary research program to increase understanding of local innovation and how it contributes to community wellbeing and sustainable development.

IDIN research will generate recommendations to help development organizations, donors, and governments make better decisions when approaching the major development challenges of our time.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION

IDIN engages undergraduate and graduate students both in the United States and in the developing countries in which it works, providing opportunities for student-driven projects, research, field visits, and technology development that supports local innovation and impact.

Located at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), IDIN is a five-year cooperative agreement with the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) US Global Development Lab.

For More Information

Tricia Matthews
Program Manager
triciam@mit.edu | 617.324.7706

www.idin.org

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