PIA WORKING GROUPS 2015

PIA members formed four working groups around themes of common interest. Throughout the year, they contributed their knowledge and experiences through case studies that are being distilled by D-Lab into practical working tools.

WORKING GROUPS BY THE NUMBERS

- 4 working groups formed
- 21 working group members
- 35 case studies shared
- 5 working tools generated
- 2 student engagements

CASE STUDY PRESENTERS

- 8 PIA
- 9 MIT
- 18 Guest

FOSTERING LOCAL INNOVATION AND CO-CREATION

Lead PIA member: Melton Foundation

- Developed a common definition of co-creation.
- Identified a collection of tools and techniques to foster the enabling mindset for effective co-creation.

MOBILE PHONES & BEHAVIOR CHANGE

Lead PIA member: Grameen Foundation

- Documenting best practices for designing appropriate and scalable mobile platforms for behavior change.
- Designed a challenge for MIT students to innovate scalable mobile solutions for positive behavior change.

GLOBAL FOOD LOSS AND WASTE

Lead member: GREIF Corporation

- Designed and conducted a research study to understand the barriers to farmers adoption of productivity improvements in Zambia. An MIT senior was engaged in the multiweek field study in Zambia.

SHARED LEARNING COLLABORATIVE ACTION

“Sharing World Vision’s experiences in the working groups not only gave us the opportunity to highlight our work, but also provided a platform to prompt questions and exchange learnings for deeper engagement among members.”

JEAN CAPILLI
Innovation Specialist, Global Office of Strategy, Collaboration, & Innovation World Vision International

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CONNECTING WITH MIT

“PIA is a unique blend of amazing people and authentic passion. At the annual meeting, Grameen Foundation gave an impressive example of their behavior change program and that alone was worth the trip to Boston.”

THIERRY DELEPOULE
Director, Growth Too
Danone

ANNUAL MEETING AT MIT

PIA members convened for their first meeting at D-Lab, got hands-on experience in the workshop, met D-Lab Scale-Ups fellows, and set the direction for their working groups.

SKILL-BUILDING IN THE WORKSHOP

PIA members in the D-Lab workshop creating symbols of their contributions to PIA using lost-foam casting. (l-r) Winthrop Carty, Melton Foundation; Lisa Hawkes, Unilever; Alana Libow, Danone; Clif Emmons, Medtronic.

INTroducing SCALE-UPS FELLOWS

Zehra Ali (standing, center) one of 23 D-Lab Scale-Ups fellows, gives PIA members an overview of Ghonsla, her social venture in Pakistan. Ghonsla creates insulation tiles from recycled materials.

SCALING DEVELOPMENT VENTURES CONFERENCE

PIA members engaged with the MIT community at the 2015 SDV conference where they connected with MIT students, developing world innovators, and social entrepreneurs.

PANELS & BREAKOUT SESSIONS

PIA member Greg Van Kirk (left) of Community Enterprise Solutions and MIT alumna Shanti Kleiman (right) of Mercy Corps participate on a panel on BoP distribution models for energy products.

IDEAS GLOBAL CHALLENGE

MIT PhD student Amit Gandhi presenting his innovation in cookstove sensing at the MIT IDEAS Global Challenge Showcase.

KEVIN STARR KEYNOTE

Kevin Starr, director of the Mulago Foundation, gave a pragmatic keynote address on his approach to evaluating the potential success and traction of early stage social ventures.

NETWORKING

Connecting with social entrepreneurs, developing world innovators and thought leaders was a highlight of the conference.
PIA CO-DESIGN SUMMIT 2015, GHANA

Thirty-five participants including PIA members, Ghanaian social entrepreneurs, local innovators, and community representatives came together in Kumasi and New Longororo to practice co-design and explore collaborations.

ENABLING MINDSET

Summit participants practicing deep listening during a Dialog Walk, the first of many activities preparing participants to engage in effective co-design.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The highlight of the summit was the community meeting where participants listened to community members’ to gain deep insight into the problems the teams were tackling.

CO-DESIGN TRAINING

The introduction to the co-design cycle included the “orange raise” exercise in which participants collaboratively design a raised orange vessel using only paper.

EXPLORING PARTNERSHIPS

Through learning more about each other’s work, roles, and organizations, six concrete opportunities for collaboration beyond the summit projects were identified.

Participants from the PIA Co-Design Summit were welcomed by D-Lab founder and co-director Amy Smith into the USAID-funded International Development Innovation Network (IDIN), a growing community of over 600 innovators from around the world.

“It was extremely rewarding to witness the participant’s transformations: community representatives becoming empowered to co-create solutions for their village, PIA members recognizing their biases and challenging their assumptions while gaining a real appreciation for the co-design process. It was a validation for the power of D-Lab’s co-creation methodology, our experiential learning approach and our vision for PIA.”

WINTHROP CARTY
Executive Director, Melton Foundation

TRANSFORMATIVE FIELD-BASED EXPERIENCE

2015 Members