The third PIA Annual Meeting took place at MIT April 26 to 29 starting with two days of workshops designed to foster networking and enhance collaboration amongst PIA members. Following the meeting, members had an opportunity to connect with the broader MIT ecosystem through the MIT Scaling Development Ventures conference and other events. See a video recap of the event.

OPEN COLLABORATION WORKSHOP
PIA members took part in an open collaboration workshop, where they spent time learning about the projects other members are working on, and offered resources and connections to help arrive at more efficient solutions.

CHANGING BEHAVIOR AT THE BASE OF THE PYRAMID
Led by BoP Innovation Center’s Benjamin van der Hilst, the workshop included practical tips and guidance on catalyzing change in user behavior to maximize social impact. Five cases from attending PIA members and Scale-Ups Fellows served to practice designing behavior change campaigns.

ENGAGING WITH THE MIT COMMUNITY
Some PIA members stayed after the annual meeting to take part of the events celebrating social entrepreneurship and international development at MIT. These included a demo evening hosted by the Legatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship, and the IDEAS Global Challenge Showcase where four PIA members participated as judges.

SCALING DEVELOPMENT VENTURES CONFERENCE
Members also had the opportunity to attend the MIT Scaling Development Ventures conference. The conference featured two keynote speakers (Teju Ravilochan of Unreasonable Institute and Ella Peinovich of Soko), social entrepreneur vision talks, a curated conversation, a showcase of MIT Social Ventures, and six breakout sessions.

Select Conference Sessions:
- Is Your Social Venture Ready for Scale?
- Collective Problem Solving for Development Solutions
- Moving your Product from Lab to Factory
- Ethics of Innovation: Tools for Effective Engagement
- Raising Capital: Paths for Developing World Entrepreneurs
- Unpacking Impact
PIA members formed three working groups in 2017. Throughout the year, PIA members contributed their knowledge and shared their experiences around 24 case studies. Key lessons learned and best practices are being distilled by MIT D-Lab into practical working tools.

## HYBRID PARTNERSHIPS FOR SOCIAL IMPACT

*Explored the barriers and enablers of social impact partnerships involving corporations, iNGOs, social ventures, and government. Developing a gamified conversation guide to foster open and constructive dialogue between different types of organizations during the partnership activation phase.*

**COLLABORATORS:** intellecap & blood orange

**CASE STUDIES:**
3. *Tulaa, Syngenta, and Musoni:* Powering mobile commerce to better link farmers to inputs, finance, and buyers in Kenya.
4. *BRAC and VisionSpring:* Providing village-level access to radically affordable eye glasses in Bangladesh.
5. *Embrace and GE Healthcare:* Distributing low-cost infant warmers in India.
8. *Fenix International and MTN:* Expanding energy access through mobile money payments in Uganda.

## BUSINESS TRAINING AT THE BASE OF THE PYRAMID

*Examined the cases of various business training programs targeting low literacy populations. Documenting lessons learned in a practitioner guide that identifies key curriculum components and compares various delivery mechanisms for business training at the BoP.*

**LEAD MEMBER:** PACT World

**CASE STUDIES:**
2. *Fundación Capital:* Technology and unconventional teaching methods for reaching the ultra poor, Colombia.
3. *Danone (KITEIRAS):* Entrepreneurship training strategies for a low-literacy population, Brazil.
5. *Dare to Innovate:* Hands-on Entrepreneurship Training for Young People to Ignite Social Change, Guinea.
9. *Phosboucraa Foundation:* Entrepreneurship training to spur community development, Morocco.
In an effort to further disseminate D-Lab and PIA learnings through member organizations and the broader industry, PIA is envisioning the concept of the PIA Academy, a collection of online courses designed to equip development practitioners with hands-on working tools. In the fall of 2017, PIA piloted its first online course “Introduction to Participatory Design for Development” a six week self-guided learning experience that provides an introduction to various approaches and uses of participatory design in the context of international development, as well as a practical toolkit of exercises for engaging beneficiaries in the design of development solutions.

Sixty-one learners registered to the course, including 42 from PIA organizations and 22 participants of the 2017 PIA Co-Design Summit. The course evaluation indicated an approximately 33 percent full completion rate and 33 percent partial completion rate. Over 90 percent of respondents said that they were satisfied or very satisfied with the course. Feedback from the first cohort is shaping improvements of the course in its second edition scheduled for the fall of 2018.

**PILOT PIA ONLINE COURSE: INTRODUCTION TO PARTICIPATORY DESIGN FOR DEVELOPMENT**

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PIA CO-DESIGN SUMMIT: NOVEMBER 2017, COLOMBIA

Forty-five participants including PIA members, Colombian social entrepreneurs, and community representatives from Conejio and Colonias came together to practice co-design and explore collaborations. Explore video coverage of the summit here.

OUTCOMES

Practicing Co-Design: With MIT D-Lab’s co-design methodology, participants gained hands-on experience in actively engaging beneficiaries in co-designing development solutions.

Community Empowerment: The 15 community volunteers from Cornejo and Colonias gained new skills and confidence in their own capacity to tackle local problems. They were introduced to the design process through a Creative Capacity Building (CCB) training delivered by C-Innova prior to the co-design summit and are now driving the projects forward with support from World Vision Colombia.

Co-host Capacity Building: For the second year, World Vision co-hosted the PIA Co-Design Summit increasing the organization’s experience with D-Lab’s CCB and Co-design methodologies. Through the summit organization, World Vision Colombia (WVC) developed a close relationship with D-Lab local partner C-Innova, towards a partnership for scaling local innovation programs.

Exploring Partnerships: Participants learned about each other’s work and exchanged ideas, resources, and collaboration opportunities.

FIVE PROJECT TEAMS

Education: Restituting the right to education for the Colonias families

Solid Residues: Transforming plastic waste into building material for affordable housing

Fruit Excess: Turning excess fruit harvest into livelihood opportunities

Water: Expanding affordable access to clean drinking water

Harvest Transportation: Overcoming terrain challenges to bring harvests closer to market

In partnership with the Siemens Stiftung empowering people Network, this year’s Co-Design Summit served as an experiment with the D-Lab co-design methodology to catalyze and improve the outcomes of technology transfer.

For the team working on clean drinking water access, the design process was used to validate the need and the relevance of the technology, as well as to build a common understanding and buy-in into the management system needed for the sustainability of the solution.

At the end of the summit, the Skyhydrant Water Filter was introduced to the community and donated by Siemens Stiftung to World Vision Colombia. World Vision will work with the community to move the technology transfer forward. This experiment was a first step in exploring a broader collaboration between World Vision and Siemens Stiftung to scale access to basic needs technologies in Colombia.

SIEMENS STIFTUNG

EMPOWERING PEOPLE NETWORK /COLOMBIA

Technology Transfer in Action

Technology Transfer in Action