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**MIT D-Lab, World Vision International, and National Technology Business Centre
to Lead Co-Design Summit in Zambia
Members of Industry, NGOs, Government Agencies,
Zambian Innovators, Social Entrepreneurs, and Community Members
in Kafue and Naboye October 30 – November 5, 2016**

Cambridge, Mass. The MIT Practical Impact Alliance (PIA), an initiative of MIT D-Lab, will co-host the second annual PIA Co-Design Summit with World Vision International and National Technology Business Centre (NTBC) in Zambia, October 30 through November 5. Led by D-Lab Founding Director Amy Smith, the summit will bring together individuals from industry, international nongovernmental organizations, and governmental agencies, as well as Zambian innovators, social entrepreneurs, and members of the Zambian community of Naboye (Kafue District).

The curriculum for the summit, developed by Smith and colleagues from the International Development Innovation Network (IDIN) over the last nine years, emphasizes hands-on activities, collaborative design, and community engagement, all in the context of developing markets. World Vision, a PIA member, has a longstanding relationship with the local community of Naboye, and is engaging with them as part of the organization's Greenfields program, focused on Mother, Newborn and Child Health, Literacy and Economic Development. National Technology Business Centre of Zambia, an IDIN partner, brings to the summit their network of innovators and experience enabling grassroots innovation and technology commercialization throughout Zambia.

PIA Co-Design Summit – Zambia 2016

The annual Co-Design Summit is a cornerstone of PIA activities. Leveraging MIT D-Lab's noted expertise in collaborative design, the PIA Co-Design Summit is modeled after the International Development Innovation Network (IDIN) summits, emphasizing co-creation and community engagement. The summit gives leaders from industry, NGOs, and government hands-on experience engaging base-of-the-pyramid communities in co-designing solutions to local challenges. Select local innovators and social entrepreneurs get an opportunity to engage with this broader network and build strong connections to address local challenges and opportunities. The summit also gives the local community an opportunity to learn and engage in participatory design to impact key issues in their village, with the ultimate goals of effectively engaging a network of individuals and institutions to achieve social impact, creating and replicating grassroots technologies, and improving lives and livelihoods in the community of Naboye and beyond.

During the 2016 Summit in Zambia, participants from the community of Naboye, Zambian innovation ecosystem, and PIA network will be working in teams of six to eight people on projects relevant to the local context. Projects include the following: 1) accessible pest management solutions; 2) addressing barriers to adoption of clean drinking water solutions; 3) improving educational outcomes; 4) improving child nutrition; 5) child-friendly latrines; and 6) gaining value from mangos. The summit will take place in the village of Naboye, the Purview Lodge in Kafue, and the Kafue Innovation Center.

The MIT Practical Impact Alliance

Established by D-Lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 2014, the Practical Impact Alliance (PIA) brings together leaders from diverse organizations with aligned missions to learn, collaborate, and develop best practices in market-based solutions to global poverty issues. Through PIA's suite of activities, member organizations increase their individual and collective impact while leveraging and supporting the work of MIT programs focused on global poverty alleviation. The 2016 members include corporations Ajinomoto, Danone, Johnson & Johnson, Medtronic, Philips Healthcare, S.C. Johnson, and Snow International; NGOs and foundations including the Melton Foundation, Mercy Corps, Phosboucraa Foundation, Siemens Stiftung, and World Vision International; government agency United States Agency for International Development Global Development Lab; and social enterprises GreenLight Planet and Living Goods.

About MIT D-Lab

Founded in 2002 by engineer and humanitarian Amy Smith, MIT D-Lab is working to meaningfully improve the lives of people living in poverty. The program's mission is pursued through interdisciplinary university courses, field and lab research, technology and enterprise development, and community initiatives. D-Lab designers, engineers, researchers, entrepreneurs, students, and others work collaboratively with people living in poverty to assess needs and to design, evaluate, and disseminate technologies in energy, agriculture, health, and water and sanitation. Whether at MIT or in the field, D-Lab emphasizes experiential learning, real-world projects, community-led development, scalability, and impact assessment.

About World Vision International

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the root causes of poverty and injustice. World Vision works in nearly 100 countries around the world, serving all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender. World Vision started working in Zambia in 1981, and now has 39 large scale programs spread across the country.

About National Technology and Business Centre

The National Technology Business Centre (NTBC) is a Zambian government agency that supports the commercialization and transfer of technology. NTBC's primary objective is to link developed and proven technologies from various local and international sources with local technology seekers, i.e. business community and entrepreneurs, for the creation of wealth and employment. NTBC has a mandate to support the development of innovations through the provision of services that are in line with technology transfer, innovation promotion and commercialization of local technologies and products. In an effort to increase the rate at which innovations are generated, the Centre has engaged itself in partnerships that encourage innovation and technology development through various activities such as design summits and creative capacity building.

About the International Development Innovation Network

The International Development Innovation Network (IDIN) is a program led by MIT D-Lab; implemented by a global consortium of academic, institutional, and innovation center partners; and a part of USAID's Higher Education Solutions Network in the U.S. Global Development Lab. The cornerstone program of IDIN is the International Development Design Summit (IDDS), a hands-on design experience that brings together people from all walks of life to create low-cost, practical innovations to improve the lives of people living in poverty. The IDIN network of IDDS alumni includes over 800 innovators from 62 countries. IDIN Innovation Centers have been established in Uganda, Brazil, Tanzania, Botswana, Zambia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, and India.