

# Cafe Conversation and Panel Session Summaries



# REGION - Europe

## STEM

**Title** - Girls and Technology

**Lead Partner** - NHO

**Presenter** - Tone Standal Vesterhus

### Summary

Girls and Technology was founded in 2003. A partnership consisting of a number of social partners and the University of Agder came together to improve the recruitment of girls to the university's technology study programmes. Through events with female role models, they were able to inspire and inform girls about the possibilities within technology education. The share of women in technology studies in Norway remains low<sup>[1]</sup>. In light of this, the Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise (NHO) decided to upscale the project to a national level in 2016. With funding from the Ministry of Children and Equality the project has now been carried out for two years, and continues on in 2018. The overarching goal for Girls and Technology is to increase the share of women in technology studies, and primarily targets girls between 13-18 years. In 2017 over 5000 girls attended Girls and Technology events, and almost 90 female role models were on stage to inspire and inform.

**Title** - StarT Program

**Lead Partner** - LUMA Centre Finland

**Presenter/s** - Maija Aksela and Professor Jan Lundell

### **Summary**

Novel ways to promote Math, Science and Technology education through international StarT together with different partners.

In the international StarT operating model (<https://start.luma.fi/en/>) students from early childhood education to upper secondary school, their teachers and partners around the world learn through sharing. The projects created by children and youths in schools, kindergartens and extracurricular activity groups allow science, mathematics, and/or technology to be naturally incorporated with any subject. A free material bank for supporting teachers and instructors have been built.

There are two levels on which StarT can be implemented:

1. National level:

StarT projects are carried out in kindergartens, primary schools, middle schools, high schools, and extracurricular activity (e.g. virtual science clubs) groups. StarT-Days: young people get to share their work with their own local community (e.g. parents, companies). StarT-Fests: regional science festivals where young people get to share their work with an even wider audience. In addition to Finland, also a few other countries have started organizing StarT-Fests.

2. International level: we share project work carried out around the world in an annual international public voting and award the best projects and best educational practices annually at the International LUMA StarT Gala.

# Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Skills

**Title** - Pikkuyrittäjät (Little Entrepreneurs)

**Lead Partner** - Nuori Yrittäjyys ry - Pikkuyrittäjät

**Presenters** - Virpi Utriainen and Tomi Rytönen

## Summary

We will share Pikkuyrittäjät story and involve participants to do some actions and activities with us. We will talk about attitude, transversal skills and learning process of the future makers with positive way.

Pikkuyrittäjät (“Little Entrepreneurs”) is an entrepreneurship education program for 10-12 years old kids in primary schools. During a nine-week (18 lessons) period, student starts their own a mini-companies. The students from groups of 2-4, come up with a business idea, and to develop it further, with the assistance of the teacher. Each group comes up with their own company name, logo, slogan, elevator pitch, marketing materials and makes a website for their company.

The business idea is developed throughout the program through the various themes that can be also played with Pikkuyrittäjät mobile game launched 2/2018 for iOS and Android phones.

In the end, finished ideas will be presented at the climax of the program, an event where the kids sell their own products and services to the real customers paying with real money.

# REGION - North America

## Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Skills

**Title** - Out of the Box Business Optimization

**Lead Partner/s** - Out of the Box Business Optimization and Ottawa-Carleton District School Board

**Presenter/s** - Jennifer Regnier and Lydia Hamilton

### Summary

During the 2017-2018 school year, the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board and Out of the Box Business Optimization worked in partnership to develop and implement Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship (ICE) training for Specialist High Skills Major students in Grade 11-12. ICE training is one of three mandatory Sector Partner Contextualized Experience components recently introduced by the Ministry of Education. ICE training is an experience in which students use a process-called the 3 Gears (developed by the Rothman School of Management at the University of Toronto, similar to Design Thinking) to solve real-world challenges developed by a sector specific Industry Partner. Over the course of 2 days, students learned about entrepreneurship by creating a business of their own and sitting with Sector Mentors who share their professional and entrepreneurial journey. This element truly connected students to their sector as they learned from professionals and entrepreneurs that shared valuable life lessons and personal learnings. 200 students participated across 8 sectors. The feedback received from Educators reflected 100% that the training 'sparked an entrepreneurial curiosity in students' and provided an opportunity to learn and apply employability skills. Students not only gained transferable employability skills but also skills in taking smart risks, resilience, collaboration, imagination, problem solving, critical thinking, embracing feedback and comfort in ambiguity.



**Title** - Young Entrepreneur Program

**Lead Partner/s** - Enactus MCH

**Presenter/s** - Darren Howes and Jordan Pomrenke

### **Summary**

The Young Entrepreneurship Project (YEP) was initially created to help youth in the community of Medicine Hat stop the downward cycle of poverty by teaching students skills in entrepreneurship. The project initially began in an elementary school in the lowest socio economic part of our community. The project has since grown to over 7 schools and has students from K - 12. Students are taught how to create a business, production, marketing, and sales with the program culminating in a trade show for students to sell their products. Enactus MHC has loaned over \$10,000 to help students start their projects and learn entrepreneurial skills.



**Title** - The Spark Zone

**Lead Partner/s** - St Marys University

**Presenter/s** - Jason Turner

**Summary**

The Spark Zone exists to break down silos between otherwise competitive post-secondary institutions while providing access for both students and community-based entrepreneurs (including faculty and staff, newcomers to Canada, at-risk youth, individuals with disabilities and school-aged children) to infrastructure and services. Through coaching sessions, seminars and training opportunities, access to funding, competitions, project support and individualized program tailored to specific populations we ensure that students interested in developing their entrepreneurial mindset have opportunities to do so.

# Innovative and Creative Partnerships

**Title** - My Generation

**Lead Partner/s** - Enactus MHC with Redi Enterprises

**Presenter** - Darren Howes and Jordan Pomrenke



## Summary

Project My Generation is a partnership between Enactus MHC and Redi Enterprises. Enactus MHC partnered with Hudson (a grade 2 student at the time) to help protect the Brown bat population. The project grew to Enactus MHC partnering with local businesses to design a bat box that could be assembled by individuals from Redi Enterprises. We will talk about the project and its impact on the community, the numerous community partners that enabled the project to get off the ground, and the future of the project.

# Youth Employability Skills

**Title** - Access Ability Program

**Lead Partner/s** -Sobey Business School

**Presenter/s** - Monique Boudreau and Leslie Gates

## Summary

Through a partnership with the Saint Mary's University Entrepreneurship Centre (SMUEC), Service Canada, and Enactus Saint Mary's, Access Ability provides meaningful employability opportunities, coaching, training, and one-on-one mentorship to youth living with disabilities. The three main objectives for the youth completing this program are to be gainfully employed, to return to school, and/or to start their own business. Access-Ability increases the conceptual and practical employability skills of youth participants by providing them with opportunities to expand their personal and professional skills. We work closely with the business community in the Atlantic Region to provide unique work placements for these youth. Partnerships with over 40 small and medium sized businesses in our community have been created, which are chosen based on the needs of participants. To date, the program has completed two cohorts, with the most recent group having 36 youth living with disabilities participate. The most recent program had a 90% success rate (success identified as being employed, self-employed, or returned to school, as measured by their twelve-week post-program status).

**Title** - Youth Career Connect Partnership (YCC)

**Lead Partner/s** - Youth Career Connect of East San Gabriel Valley

**Presenter/s** - Stacy Arrieta, Debi Colunga and Laurel Adler

**Summary**

The Youth Career Connect Partnership (YCC) provides training and support to over 1540 students living in high-poverty communities within the Los Angeles area. The Partnership goal is to provide employability education and assistance to students for up to 4 years and beyond. 587 participants have already graduated from secondary, and 491 YCC graduates have already entered post secondary (university).953 of the YCC students have received work-based learning/internships.

# Partnerships which Build Learning Communities

**Title** - Bridging the Gap

**Lead Partner/s** - Longfield-Davidson Heights High School and Sprott School of Business

**Presenter/s** - Cathy Belanger



## Summary

The Conference Board of Canada has an Employability Skills Toolkit that identifies the top soft skills requested by employers in Canada . Soft skills need to be developed in students as young as possible. Unfortunately the Ontario Ministry of Education has curriculum that is so content heavy that these skills are addressed in a very limited capacity from K-12 .

In an effort to address the soft skills gap, a partnership was formed between Sprott School of Business (Carleton University) and Gr. 12 students in international business, accounting and economics classes at LDHSS to teach them the basics of how to "Crack a Case Study". This is a student-to-student developed skills program. University students designed the workshops, and delivered them to highschool students in the classrooms . A one day Case Study Competition was hosted by the Sprott School of Business and students competed on Campus against other students.

The pilot program that started with one school and 100 students has evolved into a sustainable partnership . To date, university business students from year 1-4 have delivered workshops to over 500+ students in 6 different schools across Ottawa and the program will be delivered to over 1000 students in 2018.

# REGION - Africa

## STEM

**Title** - Western Cape Primary Science Program

**Lead Partner/s** - PrimaryScience Program

**Presenter/s** - Florence February and Nadiema Gamieldien

### Summary

Primary Science Programme (PSP), Joint Mentorship Project (JMP) and Mentorship & Support Project (MSP) PSP set up the Joint Mentorship Project (JMP) as a pioneering model of professional support for newly qualified teachers. Recognising that the most challenging years for a teacher are often those immediately following qualification, the JMP provides ongoing practical support for first-time teachers through mentorship and support during their first few years in the profession.

New teachers are guided with organising children, curriculum implementation, practical classroom teaching and assessments, managing administration, and building good working relationships with children, colleagues and seniors. By helping new teachers become effective members of the school community in a shorter time, the JMP fast-tracks their professional development, at the same time also making a sound contribution to the delivery of quality education in primary schools.

PSP adapted the JMP for a different context, as a Mentorship & Support Project (MSP) in the Eastern Cape. Our work in the MSP stems from our work with teachers and school management teams (SMTs) in the JMP. The MSP provides intensive training to subject advisors and education district officials to train SMTs on mentoring novice teachers so that the newly appointed teachers become strong, confident and knowledgeable, and able to teach science, mathematics and languages effectively from the get-go.



# Innovative and Creative Partnerships

**Title** - Eskom Contractor Academy

**Lead Partner/s** - Eskom SOC

**Presenter/s** - Jo Nel and Adri Williams

## Summary

The Eskom Contractor Academy was established as a specific CSI initiative aimed at developing and empowering emerging contractors with fundamental business and management skills to sustain and grow their businesses. The programme is in full support of government's initiative to address skills development, job creation and poverty alleviation. The programme is in partnership with the University of Limpopo and is administered through Edupark (NPC of the University of Limpopo). The programme runs over an 8-month period where students attend a one-week study school per month. Upon successful completion of the programme, a certificate is awarded by the University of Limpopo. The Academy is a national flagship programme of the Eskom Development Foundation promoting enterprise development.

The Academy's objectives are:

Equipping emerging contractors with financial, legislative, management, leadership and entrepreneurial skills with a view to successfully grow sustainable businesses by developing and implementing:

- Business plans, budgets and interpreting financial statements
- Developing and implementing safety management systems and safety plans
- Project management, planning, execution and close-out
- People management
- Supply chain management and understanding of the new engineering contracts to successfully tender and procure contracts.

To date, 1311 companies have been trained and contracts awarded exceed R3 Billion!



# Partnerships which build Learning Communities

**Title** - The Regional and Local Economic Development Capacity Building Initiative

**Lead Partner/s** - Regional and Local Economic Development Initiative

**Presenter/s** - Simon Taylor and Sanako Mapanza

## Summary

This initial programme was undertaken through a partnership between the then Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA), and the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN). The project is known as the Regional and Local Economic Development Capacity Building Initiative. In 2014 the Initiative won an International Partnership Network Global Best Award for the best partnership in Africa building entrepreneurship and enterprise development skills. After its win the partnership has fostered a number of projects and promoted economic development in a various communities. The approach used was through a coordinated approach to capacity building of Regional and Local Economic and Development (RLED) practitioners, advancement of theoretical and applied research, and the creation on innovative platforms through which small business, entrepreneurial and practitioner talent can be fostered. The main objective of the programme has always been to develop the competency and capacity of Local Economic Development (LED) practitioners, institutions and role players from the business, public and civil society sectors, through an accredited training programme at provincial, district and local municipal levels, to be able to identify, conceptualize and build effective partnerships and implement LED processes and initiatives that promote sustained economic growth in their localities.

# REGION - Asia

## Youth Employability Skills

**Title** - Empowering Youth for Employability

**Lead Partner/s** - BSE Institute

**Presenter/s** - Ambarish Datta

BSE Institute Ltd (BIL) launched the “Empowering Youth for Employability” project. This program perfectly integrates the symbiotic relationship between theory and practice to enable candidates who identify issues effectively, source information and find efficient and practical solutions to complexities of the evolving the banking sector.

Objectives

- Providing employable skills and employment opportunities to the youth
- Providing the right workforce for BFSI Industry and filling voids
- Providing fruitful employment opportunities to graduates from the underprivileged segments of the nation
- Create a “Campus to corporate” readiness program for the underprivileged youth
- Helps youth in developing an actionable framework to delve into key aspects of the investment banking Industry

Empowering Youth for Employability has been a game changer. The Program has a positively impacted the youth and the banking industry. It has opened a new career avenue for fresh graduates in the investment banking back office industry. Providing a pipeline of skilled professionals who are productive from day one. It provides the graduates with domain knowledge, skills and tools for the job while also adding to their credentials, which in turn entitles them for better job opportunities. The students received quality training and a greater assurance of a career. This program has reached out to students belonging to low economic family backgrounds and these job opportunities have helped the students to support their family financially.

On the other hand BFSI employers have got access to high-quality job-ready professionals who are productive from the day they join. Also the program has positively impacted the cost borne by the employers in onboarding fresh talent and training them to come up the curve before they become productive for the organizations.

# REGION - Australia and Oceania

## STEM

**Title** - Education Development Program

**Presenter/s** - Chris Oughton

### Summary

Kwinana Industries Council (KIC) is an incorporated (1992) industry association located in Perth, Western Australia (WA).

The Kwinana Industrial Area is Perth's major heavy industry centre, generating more than \$16Bn into the State economy annually and employing 30,000 direct or indirect workers

To address local high local youth unemployment rates and to meet an identified need of its industry members to source future workers, KIC introduced the Education Development Program (EDP) in 2012. This is a unique partnership involving local industries, local high schools and the tertiary education sector. By bringing the industry and education sectors together, high school curriculums are more attuned to what employers look for in graduating students.

Specific to STEM, programs such as iSCIENCE and Bright Sparx are delivered to Year 9 students from the 17 high schools in the region. These take the form of a practical, industry-based after school program. Year-10 students participate in our iSCIENCE program and interact directly with actual industry-employed scientists and engineers. They spend time on industrial sites, experiencing science and engineering at work, and they hear directly from industry employees how their early university subject choices took them to where they are today. The program is designed to be replicated elsewhere. Go to [www.kic.org.au](http://www.kic.org.au) for more information.



**Title** - Associate Degree in Applied Technologies Pilot project

**Lead Partner/s** - Swinburne University of Technology

**Presenter/s** - Fiona Knowles and Jason Knowles



## Summary

Swinburne University of Technology in partnership with Siemens Australia designed and accredited a course to focus on high level technical skills in engineering, technology and innovation. The catalyst for the development of this course was to prepare students to transition to a new digitalised economy and open up new markets for our nation.

An overview will outline the development of the Associate Degree of Applied Technologies (Industry 4.0) by Swinburne University in collaboration with Siemens Australia. The rationale of combining the best of university and vocational learning models to improve Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) skills. The benefits to students and the objectives of the combined efforts of Swinburne University and Siemens Australia. Outcome of the pilot project, what worked, continuous improvement and the extension of the program with the new intake of students and new industry partners. Current feedback and moving forward for the continued benefit of students, industry and the implementation of Industry 4.0 training within Australia. Where to from here.

# Youth Employability Skills

**Title** - Education Development Program

**Lead Partner/s** - Kwinana Industries Council

**Presenter/s** - Chris Oughton

## Summary

Kwinana Industries Council (KIC) is an incorporated (1992) industry association located in Perth, Western Australia (WA).

The Kwinana Industrial Area is Perth's major heavy industry centre, generating more than \$16Bn into the State economy annually and employing 30,000 direct or indirect workers

Youth unemployment in the Kwinana area is about 20%, nearly three times the WA youth unemployment rate and double the adult unemployment rate.

To address local high local youth unemployment rates and to meet an identified need of its industry members to source future workers, KIC introduced the Education Development Program (EDP) in 2012. This is a unique partnership involving local industries, high schools and the tertiary education sector. By bringing the industry and education sectors together, high school curriculums are more attuned to what employers look for in graduating students. Youth employability is enhanced through two distinct streams; iProjects (Year-10) and Career Pathways (years 11/12)

The programs build student employment aspirations, and they engage with students' parents or guardians. Graduating students are more psychologically ready to engage in the workforce than their peers.

Experiential learning with access to 'real world' industrial sites and personnel is fundamental to the success of the highly valued programs. The program is designed to be replicated elsewhere. Go to [www.kic.org.au](http://www.kic.org.au) for more information.



# Enterprise and Entrepreneurship

**Title** - Entrepreneurs Unearthed (EU)

**Lead Partner/s** - Australian Business and Community Network

**Presenter/s** - Peta Magik

## Summary

The Entrepreneurs Unearthed Program was a pilot program launched in 2017 to build the entrepreneurial capacity and mindset in high school students from low socio-economic backgrounds. Students applied to participate in the program through a competition and successful applicants attended a series of workshops and worked with business mentors to develop their innovative ideas, entrepreneurial skills and capacity to present and pitch their concepts to a panel.

95% of students said they understood the key skills and attributes that entrepreneurs possess after taking part - compared to 20% before the program.

ABCN developed this program in partnership with Ernst & Young (EY) and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA), two innovators in business. All program sessions were held at EY and CBA's offices.

The initial 2017 pilot was held in Melbourne Australia and the program has expanded to Sydney in 2018.

# Multi Regional

**Title** - Global Goals

**Lead Partner/s** - Sandvika vgs High School and Lidenhurst High School

**Presenter/s** - Anne S Michaelson



## Summary

In alliance with the United Nations, during the 2017-18 school year, Lindenhurst and Sandvika High Schools worked with the Global Goals for 2030 by modeling how youth around the world can make a difference on our planet. Each Norwegian student was partnered with an American student to work on one of the 17 goals. Faculty, business owners, and politicians helped mentor each pair as they collaborate on their selected goal.

Some of the aims were to learn about communication, cultural understanding, and empathy that is vital to making their work a reality. The Project resulted in a book published on iBook store and will be used as an example on how a Project can be materialized.