



GIST WOMEN'S VILLAGE WORKSHOP

Networking for Science & Technology Entrepreneurs

Workshop in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

- Up to 25 participants will be selected
- A three-day workshop from 24-26 February 2016 (full-day commitment each day)
- Applications due 24 January 2016 by e-mail to GISTVillage@gistnetwork.org
- Travel support available for selected participants from outside of Abidjan

Successful entrepreneurship ecosystems require full participation from society: inventors and entrepreneurs, partners and investors, multinational companies and small enterprises. To capture this, the workshop will admit a diverse group of participants including established tech entrepreneurs running small and medium enterprises, inventors with new ideas to bring to market, and advanced entrepreneurial professionals working in large technology corporations.

This workshop will provide Science and Technology (S&T) entrepreneurs with advanced networking resources and strategies to expand their entrepreneurship network and support their current or future business ventures. The workshop will incorporate presentation, discussion, hands-on exercises, and analysis of real world entrepreneur success stories to enable participants to:

- Adopt advanced strategies to develop an expanded entrepreneurship networking action plan;
- Launch their networking action plan to accelerate their entrepreneurship through new partnership, mentoring, market development, and investment from network members;
- Act as leaders and mentors within the Côte d'Ivoire entrepreneurship community;
- Apply new networking and entrepreneurship strategies to build ties and augment resources from outside of Côte d'Ivoire; and
- Plan their own workshops to pass on knowledge gained.

Entrepreneurship Networking Action Plan

Participants will develop their own networking action plan to implement after the workshop. Using this plan, all participants will be challenged to reach "60 in 6": each participant will aim to bring 60 new people into their entrepreneurship network within 6 months. The participant who creates the largest network within 6 months will receive a reward.

Apply for the Workshop

Interested entrepreneurs should e-mail the Expression of Interest Form to GISTVillage@gistnetwork.org by January 24th 2016. To be eligible to participate, a person must be

- A citizen and resident of Côte d'Ivoire;
- Currently engaged in technology innovation or a tech-based business; and
- Be able to fully attend each workshop day from February 24th – 26th 2016 in Abidjan

GIST Villages

The GIST Women's Village Workshops are a program of the Global Innovation through Science and Technology (GIST) Initiative. The GIST Initiative consists of programs aimed to empower young innovators through networking, skills building, mentoring, and access to financing to develop startup solutions that address economic and development challenges. The GIST Women's Village Workshops series will be held throughout Africa to provide Science and Technology entrepreneurs with networking skills to create vibrant entrepreneurship networks and accelerate their entrepreneurship. These workshops are an initiative from the U.S. Department of State and are organized by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).



The GIST initiative is led by the U.S Department of State, and the GIST Women's Village Workshop is implemented by AAAS.





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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The workshop can accommodate up to 25 participants. We will accept a diverse and experienced group of science and technology entrepreneurs who can benefit from the workshop and who have rich knowledge to share with each other.

By submitting your Expression of Interest, you affirm that you are able to attend the workshop in Abidjan from 24-26 February 2016, and are ready to accept the “60 in 6” challenge to bring 60 new people into your entrepreneurship network within 6 months using the knowledge gained from this workshop. If selected, participants from outside of Abidjan may receive support for travel, meals, and lodging.

Name:		<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Citizenship:		
Country of Residence:		
City of Residence:		
Phone number (best number to be reached at):		
E-mail address:		
Mailing address:		
Do you own a business?	Yes / No (please circle one)	
Employer/Business Name:		
Position/Job Title:		
Other employment (if any):		
Technology/Business Sector:		
Highest degree earned:		
Field of degree:		
Travel support needed?*	Yes / No (please circle one)	
*If you live outside of Abidjan and would request travel support to attend the conference (e.g. lodging, transportation, meals) please circle “Yes” If would not need this support, please circle “No”		

1) **What description best represents your stage of entrepreneurship?** Please select one.

- a. I have an innovation to commercialize, and I want to start a company
- b. I work in a large, tech-based corporation, and I am interested in entrepreneurship
- c. I work at/own a startup enterprise, we are developing a prototype and have no sales yet
- d. I work at/own a small to medium tech-based company , and we have sales
- e. None of the above. *(Please describe your stage of entrepreneurship in the space below)*

2) **Please list professional societies, universities, or organizations related to technology entrepreneurship that you are a member of:**

3) **What do you hope to gain from this workshop?**



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4) What forms of communication do you currently use to conduct or promote your work/business?

Please select the box that best matches how often you use this form of communication.

Communication	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Rarely	Never
E-mail					
Face-to-face individual or small group meetings					
Large events (conferences, etc.)					
Standard phone (land line)					
Mobile phone (traditional)					
Smartphone (mobile phone with apps)					
SMS (text messages)					
WhatsApp or similar messaging service					
Internet voice calling (Skype, Viber, etc.)					
Video calling (Skype, Google Video, etc.)					
Blog or business website					
Facebook					
LinkedIn					
Twitter					
Other: Please indicate _____					

5) Please list any internet or social media account names that we can share with other workshop participants to keep in touch with you (e.g. e-mail, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Blog or website, etc.):

6) Please describe your current entrepreneurship network:

Type of Network members	Number currently in network	More desired? (X if yes)	% of them that I work with face-to-face	% of them that I work with online*	% who are in the country	% who are outside the country
Friends and family who assist your business						
Business partners/Co-workers						
S&T collaborators/advisers						
Business advisers/mentors						
Volunteers						
Investors						
Creditors						
Service Providers						
Clients/Customers						
Lawyers						
Paid Consultants						

*Online can be via e-mail, via Facebook, via Skype, etc.



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