



SURINAME'S EXPERIENCE

TITLE: Telesur Multimedia Innovation Laboratory



Country: Suriname

Institution: Telecommunication Company Suriname (TELESUR)

Type of Institution: Government owned commercial company

Other institutions involved: Situated on the premises of The Anton de Kom University of Suriname (ADEKUS). University students can also use this facility.

Date: Dec 2011 to present

Webpage: www.tmil.sr

Context

TMIL evolved out of an internal innovation competition held within the company for its employees focusing on new product and services development in the areas of information and edutainment (Education and Entertainment) as well as in the field of cost control or quality improvement within the company. After evaluation of the internal innovation competition the result was that innovation should not be constraint by only employees of the company.

From the start of TMIL a few hundreds of ICT concepts from local people but mostly students in Suriname came in to Telesur Multimedia Innovation Laboratory (TMIL) with the attempt to be accepted for further development in the lab. Participant can be individuals with a good idea as well as student who have to do an internship in a company and these are mainly from technical/ICT educational institutes.

Objectives

To serve as a creative incubator, knowledge center and a laboratory for commercial developments of applications.

Relevance

The lab is on a national level encouraging and facilitating innovators in developing creative ideas into commercially attractive ICT and multimedia applications (e.g. an application for a mobile phone).

From this center recently student entered a regional competition organized by the telecommunications organization CANTO (operators) and they won the first prize in this competition which will be published at the upcoming CANTO conference and trade exhibition in July 2013 in Aruba.

Implementation

Computer bases trainings are available for participants in TMIL and also support by the supporting staff including the manager of TMIL.

Distribution of tasks

Telesur (TMIL) – facilitating the innovators
Entertaining and facilitating all activities regarding ICT and also participating in local conferences to attract potential innovators and young entrepreneurs. Also working closely with educational institutions and organizations of ICT professionals.

Achievements and Results

First Place in the CANTO/Ericsson 3rd Annual i-Create e-Content Competition! (2013)

Experience and Sustainable Results

Yes long-term commitment from stakeholders, who will inevitably have to overcome many challenges along the way.

Capacity to replicate and potential for exchange

leading innovation manager is a top 4 CANTO/Ericsson Annual i-Create e-Content Competition 2010/2011

The counterpart on the mobile application development side (i-Frontier) is top 4 CANTO/Ericsson Annual i-Create e-Content Competition 2011/2012 and 2012/2013

Human, operational and institutional capacities

We have several movies on Youtube on <http://www.youtube.com/user/TelesurMIL>

Modalities to replicate the exchange

- a. Information sharing
- b. Experts visits
- c. Technical tours
- d. Videoconference
- e. Workshops
- f. Peer review

Good practices and concrete lessons

A website for the youth of Suriname built by a 16 year old Teenager from Paramaribo – www.suriyouth.com

A Mobile marketing APP by 19 old teen innovators called “Ideals” www.ideals.sr

Experiences and subjects to learn from other RIAC members

How to Structure competent, innovative, sustainable management for the business incubator and what mechanisms to stimulate entrepreneurship.

Key persons involved in the design, implementation, and evaluation

Management and employees of TELESUR, Suriname youth and engineering and construction companies namely

- Adviesbureau BouwTechniek (ABT N.V.)
- SIJP Construction
- HARSONS
- GTI

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