

YOUR GUIDE TO IDIN NETWORK OPPORTUNITIES



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MICROGRANTS

Microgrants provide IDIN network members with funding and mentorship support to perform specific tasks that progress the development of their technology or social venture.

Key Features

- Available: twice a year in spring and fall
- Length: 6 months
- Amount: \$500-\$2,000
- Apply for Prototype or Venture Development
- Mentor pairing

Who Is Eligible?

IDIN network members or anyone collaborating with a network member on an IDIN-related project

Guidelines

Funding can be requested to support either an IDDS project or a personal project in line with the IDIN philosophy. Individuals can apply for the prototype or the venture microgrant, but not both at the same time. Each application should detail a critical step to move a project forward; once that step is complete, it is possible to reapply.

Selection Criteria

Motivation, skills and expertise of applicant are a good match for the proposed project. Clarity of overall goals, and whether the step proposed is realistic and achievable in the given timeline.

Questions? Email the microgrant committee at idin-microgrants@mit.edu.

COMMUNITY PICOGRANTS

Picogrants are small grants designed with community input and awarded to IDIN network members or IDDS community members who wish to continue work on prototypes or challenges addressed during a summit.

Key Features

- Available: Only in Zambia and Tanzania
- Length: 3 months
- Amount: \$50-300

Who Is Eligible?

IDIN network members or a community representative (Peace Corps volunteer, local teacher, etc.)

Guidelines

Funding is available for community trainings, public projects, developing technology/infrastructure for collective use. The project must be designed with input from, and provide benefit to the local community. The applicant must demonstrate that benefits are distributed among community members.

Selection Criteria

High level of participation by community; mechanisms in place to ensure benefits are distributed among community members; clear implementation plans; sustainability.

Questions? Email IDIN Network Coordinator Jona Repishti at repishti@mit.edu.

SCALE-UPS FELLOWSHIPS

The D-Lab Scale-Ups Fellowship offers one year of support to social entrepreneurs bringing tech-based, poverty alleviating products and services to market at scale.

Key Features

- Available: Annually
- Length: 12 months
- Amount: \$20,000
- Access to customized mentoring, experts & various skill building resources
- Invitation to attend Scaling Development Ventures conference in Boston

Who is Eligible?

IDIN network members who have reached proof of concept stage, can give an 80% time commitment, have experience in their target market, and have identified key partners and mentors

Selection Criteria

A motivated and organized applicant with an innovative technology that can demonstrate a value proposition, concept validation, and social impact.

Questions? Email Scale-Ups Fellowship Administrator Eric Reynolds at ewr@mit.edu.

COLLABORATE WITH STUDENTS

IDIN can match students (or faculty-led student teams) with IDIN network members working on projects in the field. Students come from backgrounds such as engineering, business, design, and education. Students can support a project virtually or travel to the project location.

Key Features

- Students provide technical and business support for 1-6 months

Eligibility Criteria

- Projects should be challenging, but possible.
- The network member host should have the capacity to provide feedback and guidance to the students
- Network member should have the capacity to organize logistics if the student is traveling during the implementation period

Guidelines

IDIN network members may make a written request to work with students in August or December.

Selection Criteria

We will facilitate the recruitment and advertisement of your opportunity to the IDIN student community; however, we do not guarantee matches because placement depends on student/faculty interest to support the project.

Questions? Email IDIN Network Coordinator Jona Repishti at repishti@mit.edu.

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

IDIN's mentorship program connects network members with experts in the network who can guide projects along the innovation pipeline. IDIN carefully matches mentees with mentors who can leverage their technology or business savvy to help tackle the unique challenge the network member is facing.

Key Features

- Rolling applications
- Duration: at least 6 months of support
- Mentor partnership tailored to your needs
- Mentoring can be done virtually; geography and language are taken into account

Who Is Eligible?

- IDIN network members committed to moving their projects forward
- Self-motivated individual who are open to constructive feedback

Questions? Email IDIN Network Coordinator Jona Repishti at repishti@mit.edu.

CROWDSOURCE A CHALLENGE

Crowdsolver.net connects IDIN innovators to a global network of engineers and business people. Network members can use this web-based platform (developed by MIT alumni) to crowdsource innovative and collaborative solutions to design challenges.

Key Features

- Rolling applications
- Challenges can be technical (e.g. intermediate technologies) or non-technical (e.g. human centered design issues)
- Crowdsolve at different phases: ideation, prototype development, and implementation

Guidelines

IDIN network members provide an overview of the problem, description of local materials, and guidelines for the challenge.

The solution received will depend on the type of design challenge, but it could include a prototype, multimedia materials, or engineering drawings.

Questions? Email Tymor Hamamsy at tymorhamamsy@gmail.com.

INNOVATION CENTERS

IDIN supports community-led innovation centers that connect promising technologies and innovators to the resources and training they need to bring solutions to scale.

These centers can take different forms as maker spaces, demonstration sites, training centers, or retail shops for low-cost technologies. IDIN Innovation Centers are up and running in Brazil, Tanzania, and Uganda, with others being established in Zambia, India, Kenya, Sierra Leone, and Nepal.

Key Features

- Provides ongoing training and resources for IDIN network members who want to create, learn, and grow
- Gives opportunities to IDIN network members to support local innovation by leading workshops, prototyping alongside the community, and supporting community outreach

Who Is Eligible?

- All IDIN network members can use facilities and resources at IDIN innovation centers

Questions? Email IDIN Innovation Center Coordinator Kofi Taha at everyday@mit.edu.

LOCAL MAKER SPACES

IDIN currently supports six maker spaces in five countries: Sierra Leone, Nepal, India, Kenya, and Zambia.

The small grants that support these maker spaces allow IDIN to explore and extend the impact of different maker space models while supporting dynamic inventors, innovators, and social entrepreneurs around the globe.

The funding is intended to complement or expand existing maker space activity or to help maker spaces get started over the next four to six months.

Key Features

- Provides ongoing training and resources for IDIN network members who want to create, learn, and grow
- Gives opportunities to IDIN network members to support local innovation by leading workshops, prototyping alongside the community, and supporting community outreach

Who Is Eligible?

- All IDIN network members can use facilities and resources at IDIN innovation centers

Questions? Email IDIN Innovation Center Coordinator Kofi Taha at everyday@mit.edu.

GLOBAL IDIN WORKSPACES

IDIN-Supported Innovation Centers

Vila Nova Esperança
São Paulo, Brazil

Tet Centre
Pader, Uganda

Twende/AISE!
Arusha, Tanzania

IDIN-Supported Maker Spaces

HIVE InnoSpace
Chennai, India

InLabs
Freetown, Sierra Leone

Ubuni Studios
Nairobi, Kenya

Kafue Maker Space
Kafue, Zambia

Peace Innovation Lab
Lalitpur, Nepal

FACEBOOK

The International Development Innovation Network provides several groups and pages on Facebook for Network members' use.

International Development Innovation Network Page:

www.facebook.com/IDINetwork

International Development Design Summit Page:

www.facebook.com/IDDSummit

You will also gain access to a private group pages after taking part in an International Development Design Summit.

TWITTER

Follow us on Twitter for the latest opportunities, news, stories, and more.

International Development Innovation Network: [@IDINetwork](https://twitter.com/IDINetwork)

International Development Design Summit: [@iddsummit](https://twitter.com/iddsummit)

LINKEDIN

IDIN Network members are encouraged to join the International Development Design Summit (IDDS) Participants group on LinkedIn and to list their participation and experience on their LinkedIn profile.

If you have questions about how to join the IDDS LinkedIn group, please email idincommunications@mit.edu.

NEWSLETTERS

IDIN sends a monthly newsletter to its Network members with opportunities, news, blogs, and more.

We also feature one innovator from our Network each month.

You will be automatically added to our email list when you become part of the IDIN Network.

If you have ideas for items to include or feature in our newsletter, please email idincommunications@mit.edu.

NETWORK DIRECTORY

IDIN recently launched a searchable online Network Directory enabling Network members to build a personal profile, share their work, and connect with one another to move their projects forward.

You will be automatically invited to join the Network Directory via email when you become a part of the IDIN Network after a summit.

Questions? Email idincommunications@mit.edu.

HELP ORGANIZE A SUMMIT

Each International Development Design Summit (IDDS) is as unique as the people who organize it. If you love the IDDS experience, you can apply to join a core group of 15-20 volunteers who take the lead in organizing a summit.

In this role you will work closely with an international team and the summit coordinator to manage every aspect of a summit from planning to implementation and follow-up. You will develop core skills in event logistics, prototyping, community engagement, and curriculum delivery.

Key Features

- A fully-funded trip to the summit
- A personal time commitment of 3-10 hours a week for six months, and a commitment of 20-50 hours a week during the summit.

Eligibility Criteria

- Past attendance at IDDS
- Ability to easily communicate via email/phone and ability to travel to the summit site for duration of the summit
- Previous experience in design curriculum and training, community development, fundraising and partnerships, publicity, public relations, etc.

Selection Criteria

Motivation, skills, and expertise of applicant are a good match for the summit.

Questions? Contact IDIN Summits Coordinator Sher Vogel at vogels@mit.edu.

APPLY TO HOST IDDS

IDIN network members and their local affiliates may apply to receive support from IDIN to design and implement a summit in their own country.

The group must demonstrate commitment, organizational capacity, and be able to identify a lead organizer, instructor, and financial accountant. The estimated time commitment to host a summit ranges from 10-12 months for a shorter, themed summit to 12-18 months for a larger, month-long summit.

Key Features

- 3-5 summit locations selected annually
- Award of \$10,000-\$80,000 to host a summit
- Training for lead organizers and instructors on curriculum development, logistics, budgeting, fundraising, participant selection, and project selection
- Regular contact with summit coordinator and use of "how to host a summit" guide

Guidelines

The summit selection committee will review summit applications, conduct interviews with key organizers, and make selections annually.

Selection Criteria

Based on assessment of the collective skills, experience, and capacity of the applicant team.

Questions? Contact IDIN Summits Coordinator Sher Vogel at vogels@mit.edu.

VOLUNTEER FOR IDIN

IDIN couldn't do its work without volunteers! Since 2007, IDDS has flourished with volunteer support, and as we grow, the opportunities to contribute have expanded with us.

We have a small staff and a global program, so when you share your skills, advice, experience, friendship, leadership and time, you help the IDIN program grow strong.

You can choose to volunteer regularly or just for a few hours when the right opportunity comes along. We welcome all of your help.

Volunteer Opportunities

Would you like to volunteer, but don't know where to start?

Here are a few ways you can help IDIN in-person or virtually:

- Become an IDIN microgrants committee member
- Become a mentor for other IDDS alums
- Help translate material for IDIN
- Support a local innovation center
- Help organize events in your community
- Start a local chapter, etc.

If you want to know more or have an idea for how you can support IDIN's work, contact IDIN Network Coordinator Jona Repishti at repishti@mit.edu.

STARTING A CHAPTER

IDDS is over. Now what?

IDIN supports the growth of local chapters as grassroots opportunities for IDDS alumni and other innovators who want to form their own social networks to support innovation in their home countries and cities.

Local chapters work to identify opportunities for collaboration and resource sharing, and keep IDIN network members engaged with the wider network.

Key Features

Each chapter is unique to fit local demand. Network members decide what they want to do as they answer the question: What can we do to support local innovation in our country?

Why Start A Chapter?

- To support project continuity
- To link up with other IDIN network members/innovators
- To build local capacity to host IDDS or start an innovation center
- To attract partnerships, resources, etc.
- To keep the IDDS spirit alive

Interested In Starting A Chapter?

Email IDIN Network Coordinator Jona Repishti at repishti@mit.edu to receive:

- A "Start your own chapter" toolkit
- A list of names and contact info for IDIN network members near you.

WHAT DOES A CHAPTER DO?

What It Takes To Start a Local Chapter

- 2-3 enthusiastic individuals who are willing to take on and sustain a leadership role
- Interest from a reasonable number of IDIN network members and friends to participate in the activities
- A collective purpose and methods of communication

Menu of Possible Events

Looking to organize a few events to strengthen your local chapter? Here are a few suggestions we have compiled for you. Use these ideas to brainstorm what is a good fit for your group. The possibilities are endless!

- Organize a hack-a-thon
- Organize a maker or build-it day
- Introduce IDDS to local universities
- Adopt a local IDDS project and move it forward
- Do community service projects
- Organize entrepreneurial/networking events for members
- Host monthly dinner series, sports club, hiking, bike trips, book club, etc.

Guidelines

Successful events reflect the interests of your IDIN network group, draw on opportunities in your community, and are goal-driven and exciting for those that attend.

Most importantly, we encourage you to have fun!

IDIN CHAPTER FUNDING

IDIN makes funding available to network members who want to organize events to increase alumni engagement and collaboration in their home countries.

Key Features

- Up to \$500 per event
- Rolling application
- Can apply multiple times a year

Eligibility Criteria

A group of IDIN network members that apply for funding may be members of a local chapter, plan to form a chapter, or wish to engage in occasional events that energize the local IDIN network and other innovators in their community.

Guidelines

Funding is available for the following:

- Activities that advance IDIN network member engagement
- Activities that support innovation in the city/country where network members live
- Events that promote IDDS and IDIN to prospective partners, funders, or future participants

Questions? Email IDIN Network Coordinator Jona Repishti at repishti@mit.edu.