CALL-FOR ACTION

STRATEGIC UNIVERSITY ALLIANCES

BY: Krestine Mougaard, Project Manager DTU Skylab (kmou@dtu.dk)
Virtual Innovation Sprint

Let’s Re-open a Sustainable Society

The universities have a great opportunity to be a front runner in acting first on the momentum and societal awareness directed towards not only the COVID-19 CRISIS but also the CLIMATE CRISIS. Engaging various students, researchers and ecosystem collaborators in a VIRTUAL SPRINT will not just be yet another good story, it will be the right move. **Building on the momentum created to reach the SDGs by 2030 and climate neutrality in 2050.** Moving forward with this proposal will support the universities DIGITALIZATION in connection to new blended learning concepts and hybrid innovation models. **AIM:** Accelerating efforts for country specific green & sustainable transitions within local organizations and companies. Building partnerships and projects for long-term perspectives. Apart from the experience of the innovation sprint, participants will broaden their network and relations, expand virtual state-of-the-art experience and learnings and gain project proposals to integrate in future endeavors.
How to engage in the initiative

1. Invite students
   - Invite one
   - Invite selected study lines or communities
   - Invite all...

2. Engage mentors
   - Invite a couple of mentors from research and/or innovation communities
   - Support one challenge track with selected mentors
   - Support all five challenge track with selected mentors

3. Support Challenge tracks
   - Send a lead...
   - Coordinate a challenge track by identifying local companies/organizations
   - Support all tracks with identifying and engaging local companies/organizations

4. Support design of the virtual platform
   - Nominate a sparring partner
   - Select a university representative to coordinate
   - Join with a university digitalization team

5. Join as partner
   - Listen-in back-stage to learn
   - Active decision-making and co-creation of program
   - Main lead on selected program areas

Contact: Krestine Mougaard KMOU@DTU.DK
Nominate & invite a member for the **Innovation & Sustainability Board**

Role: Direct sparring to project group (8 seats)
Let’s Re-open a Sustainable Society

VIRTUAL INNOVATION SPRINT

BY: Krestine Mougaard, Project Manager DTU Skylab (kmou@dtu.dk)
Innovation SPRINT for a Sustainable Future Today

Contact: Krestine Mougaard KMU@DTU.DK

Sustainability in a post COVID-19 Society // Version 3: 29.05.2020

COVID-19 CRISIS an OPPORTUNITY

A new beginning… As university we have a great opportunity to be front runner in acting first on the momentum and societal awareness directed towards not only the COVID-19 CRISIS but also the CLIMATE CRISIS. Consensus and first stepping-stones are created to exit the COVID-19 crises by accelerating a change towards a more sustainable society, hereby taking advantages of combining the two. Leap-frog competitors to create an economic win, and lead by example for new societal and city structures.

STORYTELLING

NEW STORIES AND REAL IMPACT: Many universities are already making headlines by supporting the need for COVID-19 research in various labs etc. Engaging various students, researchers and ecosystem collaborators in a VIRTUAL SPRINT will not just be yet another good story, it will be the right move. Building on the momentum created to reach the SDGs by 2030 and climate neutrality in 2050.

ADVANTAGES

Speed up experience and competence building in virtual co-lab spaces for teamwork. Moving forward with this proposal supports a DIGITALIZATION in connection to new blended learning concepts and hybrid innovation models. By collaborating across universities we can gain a collective approach for speeding up the learning.

The need for CONNECTEDNESS and the feel of purpose can be meet by an initiative like this. Let’s bring people together and create new concepts for a NEW BEGINNING and a sustainable society.

TOPICS AND THEMES

Main theme: COVID-19 & Climate change

A SCENARIO: Topics to include/Challenge tracks: T1 GREEN TRANSITION in companies and organizations (value chain reconstruction & local production: stock safety and environmental soundness) T2 Changed behavior and CONSUMPTION PATTERNS (new products and changed products) T3 NEW CITIES and neighborhoods; City public-spaces and new modes of transport. T4 Re-organizing WORK take advantage of the learnings during the crises: Virtual and physical work-environment. T5 WILDCARD: Allowing all COVID-19 related solutions to be taken into account event though it falls out of the SDG scope above.

Main FOCUS WILL BE DEFINED. A SCENARIO opportunities within: Circular economy, design for inclusion, digitalization & Food.

FUTURE WORK

The challenge tracks will be basis for many future events and activities. If possible some can be transformed into Blue Dot projects. The point here being that its NOT JUST ANOTHER HACK: The themes and final solutions and project proposals should be the starting point for long-term development and new development communities

HOW TO STAND OUT…

THE PEOPLE: Strong community and volunteers, Inspirational speakers, keynotes and mentors and judges. Along with the committed academic staff from the universities. Which all needs to be ready prior to recruitment. THE VIRTUAL CO-LAB SPACE: The platforms and tools we select to integrate. Hint: Let’s aim high here. THE TOPIC: Well put together challenge tracks and committed and engaged partners.

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

NEW USE OF RESOURCES many planned activities for strengthening collaboration between our strategic partners universities; has been canceled, but the need is still present. Let’s continue the efforts planned but with use of new virtual mechanisms. COMMUNITY BUILDING events are planned to continue the development of the projects and initiatives from this program. INCUBATION PACKAGES will be developed with accelerated partners and offers. The strategic university alliances could use a collaborative project like this to strengthen the relations across the INNOVATION ECO-SYSTEM, but indeed also to share progress within digitalization and new offers to the students replacing for example exchange visits and travels etc.

ORGANISERS & COLLABORATORS

DTU as LEAD ORGANISER: DTU Skylab (main lead), plus various close DTU unit as project partners, plus selected relevant DTU academic departments for mentoring, challenge tracks and inspirational talks.

COLLABORATION PARTNERS: Universities for mentoring and recruitment. Companies and organizations to form and lead the challenge tracks and conduct mentoring. INTERNATIONAL: strategic partner universities for scaling-up as partner or supporter, by mirroring above collaboration model or parts hereof.

VOLUNTEERS: Existing communities and establishment of new.

TIMING & PLANNING

Planning and preparation May-August Execution: End of August (finals Medio September) Follow-up: September Community events: October

FORMAT AND EVENT CONCEPT

The format will be designed based on experiences gained from participation in previous virtual COVID-19 hacks and innovation programs and sprints (Oi-X, NextGen, UNLEASH, EU vs. Virus, GlobalHack) A SCENARIO: An INNOVATION SPRINT format over a period of approx.10-15 days. 3-5 intense sprint days followed by 5-10 days of maturing and acceleration via online mentoring. Last day holds the finals where the winning teams are selected and incubation packages offered. Post events, COMMUNITY building takes place with a set of online and physical meet-ups and activities.

OUTCOMES & RESULTS

All solutions are uploaded online. Key solutions for each challenge tracks are divided into topics like: A SCENARIO: 1) NEW ready to scale solutions, 2) GREEN tech business models and policy, 3) Tech OPPORTUNITY identification, 4) COMMUNITY for continuation, 5) RESEARCH needed. Proposal participants GAINS: New network and relations, Virtual state-of-the art experience and learnings, Project proposals to integrate in studies.

PARTICIPANTS

250+ PARTICIPANTS: Developers can be Students, PhDs, Postdocs from all higher educational institutions. Including also start-ups with minimum one student on the team. Sign-up takes place via uploading a motivational statement or video which will be shared online. Participants from other programs and courses with existing projects can join with their team or their project, forming a new team. RECRUITMENT: Direct recruitment will take place from course collaboration, study-lines, or and main university channels.
Benefits of engaging

- **Engaging students** as change-makers in relevant societal challenges, bridging the real world with academia by enabling students to engage in extracurricular activities, simultaneously providing a feeling of connectedness and purposefulness.
- **Boosting research activities** by inviting mentors/challenge owners accordingly
- **Digitalization** - Gaining much needed experience with state-of-the-art blended learning and hybrid innovation models
- **Accelerating** efforts for country specific green transitions within local organizations and companies. Building partnerships and projects for long-term perspectives.
- **Strengthening collaboration** with the university alliance partners. Possibilities for new research-partnerships. Diverse student teams across universities.
- A channel and platform to **shout-out** to key stakeholders for important messages related to opening and creating a **sustainable** society post COVID-19.
Community-driven initiative

- **What is unique with this initiative from a university-perspective:** It aims to engage a large community of students to co-create the initiative from day-one.
- **Transparent leadership:** Based on learnings from previous initiatives we will strive to conduct a transparent project-style building trust and engagements.
- **Call-for actions:** Partners and volunteer campaigns will be executed already week 22. We will from day one onboard the relevant communities, partners and participants. This is why you have received this invitation.
Timeline (draft)

**Final Commitment of**
- Direct partners
- Stakeholders
- Volunteers

**31st JULY**
Onboarding

**Deadline for**
- Lead Participants Sign up
- Selecting Challenge Owners cases

**1st AUG**
Onboarding

**Opening**
- Call for Participation
- Call for Mentors

**MID AUG**
Team formation

**Opening**
- Sign up with project
- Find team members
- Mentor - Team Match Making

**END AUG**
Innovation Sprint

**Sprint**
- Development
- Upload Final Idea
- Jury selecting finalists

**MID SEPT**
Finals

**Contributing to**
- Finalists Pitch Sessions
- Award Ceremony
- Multi-hub events

**OCT**
Acceleration

**Events and community**
- Post Hack collaboration
- 1-1 mentor sessions
The European Green Deal must be at the heart of the COVID-19 recovery
https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/05/the-european-green-deal-must-be-at-the-heart-of-the-covid-19-recovery

World cannot return to ‘business as usual’ after Covid-19, say mayors

Countries should seize the moment to flatten the climate curve
https://www.economist.com/leaders/2020/05/21/countries-should-seize-the-moment-to-flatten-the-climate-curve

The European Green Deal must be at the heart of the COVID-19 recovery
https://www.economist.com/leaders/2020/05/21/countries-should-seize-the-moment-to-flatten-the-climate-curve

Why innovative manufacturing and circularity are key for a resilient manufacturing industry post-COVID-19

The Covid-19 recovery requires a resilient circular economy

Danmark skal sætte sig i spidsen for grøn genstart af Europa
https://concito.dk/nyheder/danmark-skal-satte-sig-i-spidsen-for-gron-genstart-af-europa

Climate Targets and Industry Participation in the Recovery
https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/climate-targets-for-the-pandemic-recovery-by-henrik-poulsen-et-al-2020-05?

We can’t go back to normal: how will coronavirus change the world?
https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/31/how-will-the-world-emerge-from-the-coronavirus-crisis?fbclid=IwAR1_seBGWCvTAddW0EUyDSHKyUsz882tCGQWz7jihbZ-2lg9ttm35Wghjw

The Guardian
If you are just slightly curious…

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Or feel free to reach out to your nearest university relation you already know to pass-on the invitation and roll-the-snow-ball 😊