

Global Development Commons Forum

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Session Objectives

1. Technology and IYF's global 70+ partners/practitioners
2. Thoughts on working with new Millennial generation
3. Contemplating a Commons: Some cautions and wishes

- \$20-30 million annual budget
- 75+ staff globally
- Global partner network in 70 countries
- Partners work in network or directly with youth
- YouthActionNet: Young changemakers

Global Partner Network

- Both learners and teachers
- Rich community of practice
- Time/resource starved
- Often language bound
- Regional/theme collaboration
- Pockets of innovation/adoption

Technology as Asset

- Access (often hard to reach) youth
- Key to work life, lifestyle (employability, healthy lifestyles)
- Key to scale
- Key to innovation, cost reduction, dynamic/organic collaboration
- Best resources are targeted

Technology as Impediment

- Not a panacea
- Still exclusive/inaccessible to bottom of the pyramid
- Full impact is broadband dependent
- Promise of Web 3.0 not yet realized (content still unfocused, untargeted, inaccessible, poorly organized)

Millennial Generation Snapshot

- Digital “natives”...live their lives online
- Changing the way global business/politics is done
- Blur lines between business and philanthropy
- Created venture philanthropy/venture philanthropreneurs
- Intolerant of status quo, like shaking things up (mashing)
- Risk takers, invincibility, entrepreneurial
- Believe most problems have a web-based solution
- Solutions often hinge on social networking
- Strong values (environment, community, ethics)
- Engaged global citizens

GDC Wishes & Cautions

Wishes:

- Inclusive (including stakeholders & beneficiaries)
- Visual (navigable, organized)
- Targeted (themed)
- Interactive (learn and share)
- Collaborative (open vs. closed)

Cautions:

- Over-reaching
- Role of U.S. (as convener vs. leader)
- Recreating wheel
- Closed systems
- Timeline and redundancy