



INFORMATION ON THE MAKERFEST WORKSHOP

11-13 October 2017

*Knua Juventude Fila-Liman (KJFL), Pateo
Dili, Timor-Leste*

Conducted by:



*In Collaboration with MIT
Sloan School of Management*

What do the Timorese youth need to create and innovate?

"Students can only realized that they have great potentials inside to create and innovate until they are given the opportunity to discover by doing", Professor Rajesh Nair, Team Leader of ASB Facilitator.

The first-ever Makerfest Workshop held in Dili, from 11 to 13 October 2017m, attended by 40 Students. This '3-Days' workshop, which is organized by Knua Juventude Fila-Liman (KJFL) in cooperation with Asia School of Business (ASB), and sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Timor-Leste, aims to influence innovation and entrepreneurship attitudes of young students through hands-on exposure to art, technology, and ideation & fabrication processes.

"Youth is an important pillar for development of a nation", said Mr. Paulo Alves Director General of the Secretary of State for Youth and Employment (SSYE). The government of Timor-Leste is committed to continue to invest in youth through various auto-employment programs in support of development partners. "The youth must take every golden opportunity to learn, and should be able to create their own jobs and tackle unemployment issue in the country which is now 11% high," Mr. Alves added while appreciated UNDP's initiative to organize and sponsor the training. Director Executive of SERVE Mr. Florêncio Sanches noted that Timor-Leste is in the need of strong small and medium enterprises (SMEs) because it can employ 5 to 30 people and thus absorb jobless citizen.

UNDP Country Director, Mr. Claudio Providas started in his opening remarks by saying "I come from a poor country but rich people, not a rich country but poor people" reflecting on the question on how to start creating and innovating in Dili. He underlined that establishment of

Knua Juventude Fila-Liman (KJFL), in partnership with public and private sectors, is nothing else than empowering youth to develop their own businesses and raise their voices.

The 48 Hour MakerFest is the first of a series of sessions planned for building an innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem in Dili. The first step is to build self-confidence in students to make them realize that what they thought was beyond their capability is in fact reachable. In the next phases of training students are trained to identify needs in their society, develop solutions, and launch startups in different fields such as agriculture and tourism. This whole program is a yearlong series of sessions on Making, Design Thinking, Entrepreneurship, and Mentoring.

This pilot program has attracted more a hundred Timorese students. However, sits only available for 40 students selected from universities, Catalpa and EWB, including 8 Women. The workshop was facilitated by three facilitators from Asia School of Business (ASB), Malaysia led by Prof. Rajesh Nair, Senior Lecturer and Director of Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center.

During the sessions, participants work on ideation process where the participants can develop a product idea for

"Youth should learn to do business and create jobs for themselves and for others" H.E. Dr. Rui Maria de Araujo, former Prime Minister speech during the opening of KJFL.

solving a problem. The Makers were trained on fabrication of multiple prototypes, and involved a product demonstration and pitching session. Overall, products developed here will support the downstream industries, particularly tourism and agriculture sector, which are areas of development focus and need in Timor-Leste.



On the last day of training, H.E. Mr Nívio Magalhães – Secretary of State for Youth and Employment made a short tour to see the products made students in the workshop. The Secretary of State also congratulated the students and underlined that **“the government is committed to continue assist Timorese youth through programs that will enable youth to enter employment market with solid knowledge and specialized skills”**. Present at the public demonstration and closing ceremony were Ambassador of Malaysia, EU Head of Cooperation, Representative from Korea and KOICA, UN Resident Coordinator in Timor-Leste and other partners including EWB, Catalpa, INOVAR4 and Field Ready.

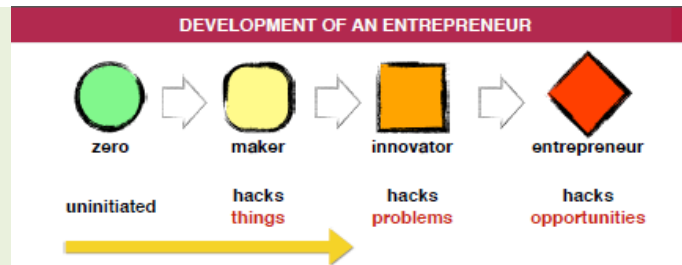


Utilizing SketchUp and Arduino software, the Makerfest program has 4 steps in order to enable students become an entrepreneur, and what has happened at Knua Juventude Fila-Liman is an important introductory step to pave the pathways from zero to ‘maker’ level. **It is planned that UNDP, in support of other public and private sectors, need to undertake further steps by establishing a makerfest lab and create more trainings reaching up to 300-500 university students.** Hence, the 3-days workshop was intended to (i) create ‘Change Agents’ in the community that can catalyze innovation and entrepreneurship, (ii) establish an ‘Innovation Center’ a place where the community can meet, create, and learn, & (iii) Learn to identify and provide solution to ‘Unmet Needs’ in the community through Design Thinking process.

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What Went Well: (i) Despite the strong resistance in Day 1, possibly due to language barrier, fear, uncomfortable speaking in a crowd, the participants shown significant changes at the end of the programme, (ii) Each one of them presented and play as a team, (iii) The shared learning experience between the students and engineers without borders was important to stimulate a real working environment, (iv) The participants really enjoyed themselves and would like to have this programme run on a yearly basis, (v) Due to a small language barrier, it will be good to co-facilitated with a local trainer, & (vi) Participants would like this programme to be a 1 week programmes as 3 Days is not enough.



Opportunities for Improvement:

- Due to a small language barrier, it will be good to co-facilitated with a local trainer.
- Participants would like this programme to be a 1 week programmes as 3 Days is not enough.

About Knua Juventude Fila-Liman (KJFL): Established in August 2017 by UNDP, in partnership with SEPFOPE, IADE, SERVE, BNCTL and Telemor, KJFL is a one-stop shop for youth employment, entrepreneurship and voices. The main objective of this centre is for youth to access information and engage in various empowerment activities mainly social business camp, training, mentoring, business incubation, virtual dialogue as well as technical and advisory support to be provided by UNDP and other above-mentioned partners. UNDP continues to explore more partnership opportunity to better assist the youth.

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