



# Inspiring Solutions

2019



# Welcome to the IASP Inspiring Solutions Programme 2019!

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Now in its sixth year, the IASP Inspiring Solutions Programme is both a knowledge sharing initiative and a way to recognise excellence within the world of science parks and areas of innovation. It offers inspiration to others via the great ideas and solutions put in place by IASP members, as well as giving greater visibility to those shortlisted here.

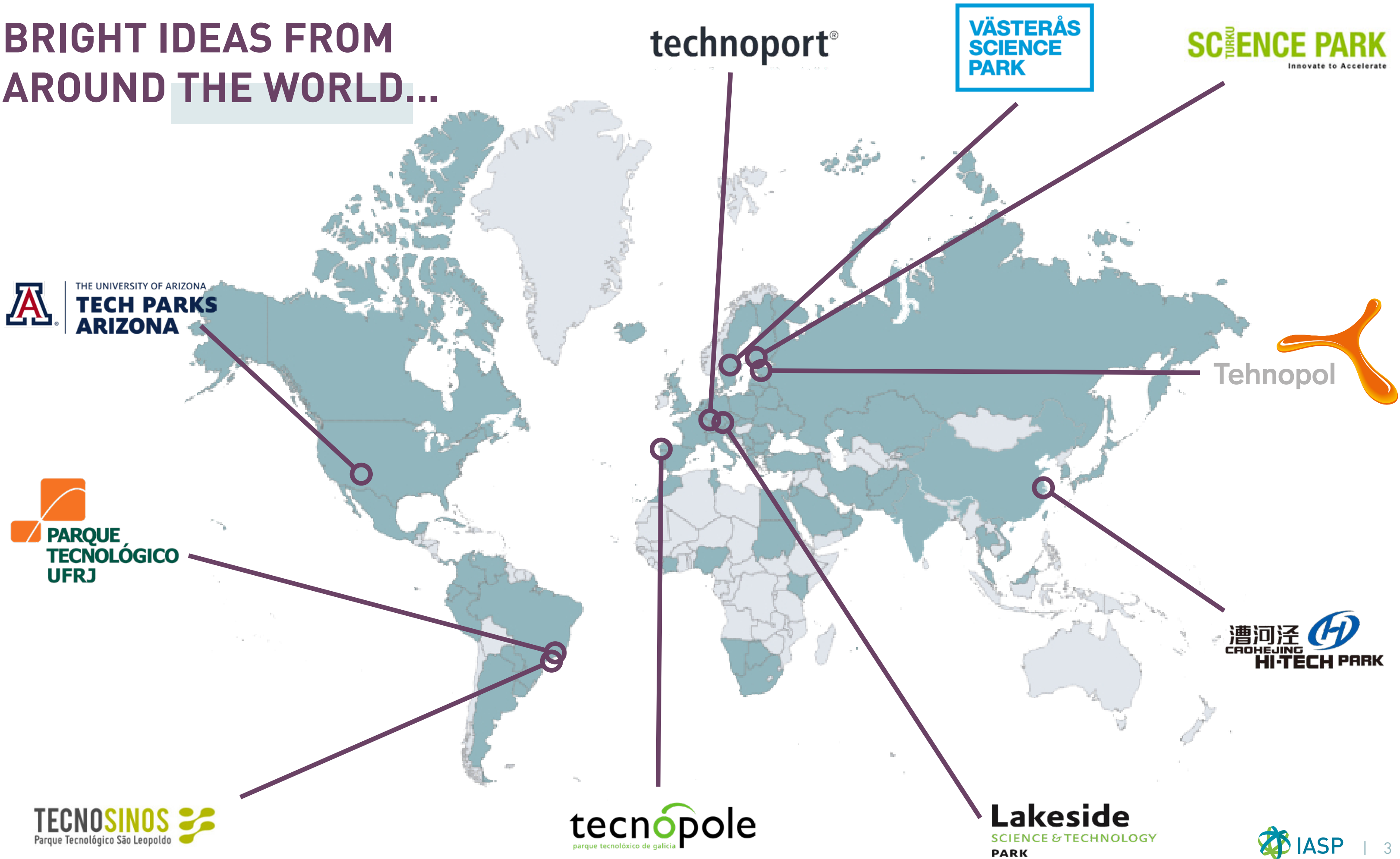
The IASP Inspiring Solutions Programme received a great response this year, with ideas addressing a huge range of challenges submitted from all over the world. The quality of entries was very high, and as always, the judges had a difficult job drawing up this shortlist from such strong contenders.

On the following pages you can read about the 10 best entries who the expert panel have selected as our finalists: we hope they'll inspire you to innovate and implement new ideas in your organisation.

Don't forget to vote for your three favourite solutions – winners will be announced on stage at our upcoming World Conference in Nantes, France, 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019!

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# BRIGHT IDEAS FROM AROUND THE WORLD...



# FINALISTS AT A GLANCE



The Digital Kindergarten is preparing the next generation for challenges and opportunities of the digital era and the correct usage of digital devices via an educational programme, in the ideal surrounding of an STP. The Lakeside IT curriculum starts with kindergarten and runs all the way through to primary school and high school.



The Short Circuit Gallery of Public Art is an initiative taken by the UFRJ Science Park and the School of Fine Arts to transform the Park into a live laboratory for experimenting art that mixes technology and innovation.



Level 11 connects progressive Estonian corporations with Estonian startups to encourage joint innovation initiatives. 80 corporations and 70 start-ups were engaged in resulting in innovation events, 1:1-matchmaking, innovation audits, company visits and an Innovation Leaders' Club.



"Four-get" Shanghai Connectory is an IoT focused co-creation space in the heart of Shanghai, jointly operated by Shanghai Caohejing Innovation Center and Robert Bosch GmbH. The Connectory brings together startups, corporate & university partners, and Bosch project teams focused on digital innovation in supply chain, logistics and data driven technologies.



Tomorrow Street is a joint-venture between Vodafone Procurement Company (VPC) and the technology-oriented business incubator Technoport. It is an innovation center headquartered in Luxembourg that runs an acceleration program for scale-up startups, leveraging growth through Vodafone's strategic worldwide network of partners and resellers.



25 women of The UA Tech Park were celebrated both for National Women's Month and the Park's 25th anniversary, sharing their stories & photographs online & in print. Each face symbolizes the diversity and strength that drives business forward, helping to make the park a supportive environment where people are empowered and thrive.



Galiciencia is the biggest science fair held in Galicia, and aims to disseminate science and technology to society at large. Now in its 14th edition, it consists of a scientific contest and exhibition where students aged from 5 to 17 show their technology and science projects.



"Talents" brings the technology park together with high school students, women and people with special needs through on-site visits that provide interaction with companies, employees, and university professors, awakening participants to the possibilities of work and future careers, with the ultimate goal of filling of job vacancies.



Maritime Accelerator is a programme that brings together fast-moving growth companies and maritime corporations and accelerates cross-company collaboration in order to create concrete business ventures. Together with partner corporations and global growth companies we are building a fertile ecosystem and new concrete business ventures speeding the development of the industry.



In Framtidsverkstad, high school kids work as digital experts. With the help of a unique design methodology they develop digital concepts for companies based on the company challenge and the digital future. The aim is to strengthen cooperation between young people and companies, a prerequisite for social development.



# Lakeside Science and Technology Park, Austria: “Digital Kindergarten - Lakeside IT Curriculum”

## IDEA

The Digital Kindergarten is preparing the next generation for challenges and opportunities of the digital era and the correct usage of digital devices via an educational programme, in the ideal surrounding of an STP. The Lakeside IT curriculum starts with kindergarten and runs all the way through to primary school and high school.

## What is the purpose of your solution?

The pre-school age is an ideal moment for children to take their first steps in the digital world. The park's Montessori kindergarten, the Institute for Informatics Didactics and resident companies worked together to develop a teaching method using digital devices to support children's development. With clear educational goals, children from 3 to 6 years are introduced to digital media, IT devices and the basics of computational thinking.

The digital kindergarten is just the first part of an entire Lakeside IT curriculum, developed by the Institute for Informatics Didactics and tailored the specific requirements of Lakeside STP. It aims to continue education at Lakeside from age 3 to 19, from kindergarten to primary and high schools visiting the Educational Lab.

## What impact has it had?

Around 400 children aged 1-6 visit the five childcare institutions at Lakeside. The STEM-certified Montessori kindergarten launched the digital kindergarten in spring 2019, and research conducted by the Klagenfurt University states significant improvement in precision, as well as critical information selection by 80% out of the 200 children in the kindergarten. Resident company priorIT developed an application of digital literature being read in multiple languages, benefiting usage of digital devices for children significantly.

In a second step the Lakeside IT curriculum will pilot visits from local primary schools to the Educational Lab's STEM laboratory classes, carried out in fall 2019. This will be followed by the curriculum's third step for high schools in the Educational Lab.



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## What is innovative about it?

Lakeside is a catalyst of the quadruple helix for the region of Carinthia/Austria and serves as a platform in the knowledge triangle (enterprises – research – education). Given this social responsibility, the development of the “Lakeside IT curriculum” for (digital) competences is an important socioeconomic innovation. It brings together academia, research, enterprises as well as kindergartens and schools visiting the Educational Lab, developing new forms of education for the community. Children, pupils, students and parents are empowered to discover, research and innovate themselves, enabling all parts of the quadruple helix to not only reside in the STP, but to develop new forms of education and training is crucial for the success of Lakeside.

- Develops new forms of digital education for the community
- Brings all elements of the Quadruple Helix to Lakeside STP
- Prepares the next generation for the challenges and opportunities of the digital era





# Parque UFRJ (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)

## The Short Circuit Gallery of Public Art (Galeria Curto Circuito de Arte Pública)

### IDEA

The Short Circuit Gallery of Public Art is an initiative taken by the UFRJ Science Park and the School of Fine Arts to transform the Park into a live laboratory for experimenting art that mixes technology and innovation.

### What is the purpose of your solution?

UFRJ believes that the Science Park is a meeting point. For the sociologist Mark Granoveter, “the ‘strength’ of an interpersonal tie is a linear combination of the amount of time, the emotional intensity, the intimacy (or mutual confiding), and the reciprocal services which characterize each tie”. Therefore, when one builds trust and creates strong bonds, one can intensify the sharing of challenges, desires and dreams in the construction of a shared future. The “short-circuit” concept comes from the desire to cause lightning bolts, illuminations and sparks, which, as a result, promotes non-obvious interactions. By transforming the Park into a living lab for art experimentation that puts technology and innovation together, we are investing in more humane environments of innovation.

If the Science Park is indeed a meeting point, then it needs to be an inspiring one!

### What impact has it had?

The Gallery is coming to its fourth cycle of exhibitions. Since its inception, it has produced 58 original works and included over 200 professionals. On December 21, 2018, over 1200 professionals worked at the Park and started to attend the laboratories of the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (public health institution). Their contact with the scientists offered several positive short circuits, because there is so much art in science and so much science in the arts! The Gallery has helped to consolidate the idea that an innovative environment needs to foster diversity of ideas and people. The audiences interested in leisure and art who visited the Park have discovered that it is one of the best and largest science parks in Brazil.



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### What is innovative about it?

It is the first time that something like this has been done and it aims at promoting interactions that do not seem obvious at a first glance (art, technology and innovation in an open air space that is also free). This helps to contribute to the evolution of the STEAM concept, to transform research policies that put Art + Design at the heart of STEM, and to promote the integration of Art + Design in education. It also encourages employers to hire artists and designers to work on innovation. The project involves a network of institutions around the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, the NGO Redes da Maré (located in the largest compound of favelas in Latin America) and the university's residential village.

- Transforms the STP into a live laboratory mixing art, technology and innovation
- Brings the wider community closer to the park
- Creates an innovative environment that fosters diverse ideas and people





# Science Park Tallinn Tehnopol (Tallinn, Estonia)

## “Level 11 – New Level in Innovation”

### IDEA

Level 11 connects progressive Estonian corporations with Estonian startups to encourage joint innovation initiatives. 80 corporations and 70 start-ups were engaged in resulting in innovation events, 1:1-matchmaking, innovation audits, company visits and an Innovation Leaders' Club.

### What is the purpose of your solution?

The purpose of Level 11 was to bring the two perceivably opposing sides closer to each other, to help them understand their counterpart better, see collaboration opportunities instead of obstacles, find ways to work for win-win solutions, help translate their needs and solutions to each other and end up in joint development projects.

### What impact has it had?

Level 11 brought together Estonian startups with large corporations (minimum size of 50 employees and 10m Euros), with 500+ attendees from 300+ organisations participating in 25 events over two years. On top of that, 47 facilitated one-on-one matchmaking meetings took place and 8 joint R&D projects were developed and accelerated. Level11 supported companies during the negotiation phase and also helped to put together collaborative frameworks. The Level 11 site provided interesting articles during the project and also launched a marketplace where both large companies and startups were able to upload their offers.

The programme has created a unique community in Estonia, bringing together the innovation leaders of large enterprises, for whom the park organises exciting seminars and opportunities to peek behind the scenes of innovative Estonian enterprises. As some of the programme activities were open to the public, innovation enthusiasts in the wider community could benefit too.

A unique Innovation Leaders' Club was also established in Estonia to provide an opportunity for those responsible for innovation and development in organizations to exchange experiences, develop new knowledge and develop a culture of cooperation with start-ups.



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It helped large companies to examine their processes and rules, and make them more flexible to involve partners as well as think about how to find, validate, and speed up decision-making processes. Startups also learned a lot about the processes and pains of a big company in order to target those problems with their product or technology.

### What is innovative about it?

In Estonia, Level 11 was the only programme of its kind to target startup-corporate cooperation, which had previously been characterised more by confrontation between the traditional companies and startups. Its uniqueness was in providing successful mediation, with Level 11 acting as interpreter to explain the opposing expectations to the other party and find solutions, mixing knowledge sharing and raising awareness, networking, hands-on practical events (workshops, seminars) and mentored acceleration for product testing and development.

- Brings together big companies and startups for innovation initiatives instead of rivalry
- Helps participants to learn from each other and see collaboration opportunities
- Creates unique community bringing together the innovation leaders of large enterprises





# Shanghai Caohejing Hi Tech Park (Shanghai, China)

## “Four-get Co-incubation Program

### — Shanghai Connectory run by CHJ and Bosch”

## IDEA

“Four-get” Shanghai Connectory is an IoT focused co-creation space in the heart of Shanghai, jointly operated by Shanghai Caohejing Innovation Center and Robert Bosch GmbH. The Connectory brings together startups, corporate & university partners, and Bosch project teams focused on digital innovation in supply chain, logistics and data driven technologies.

## What is the purpose of your solution?

“Four-get” refers to “get out of the buildings, get your hands dirty, get wings for success and get things down”. To forget is the headstream of innovation. The key of the “four-get” program is to steer our startup to empty “the cup”, so that it may be refilled. The Shanghai Connectory is a physical place working towards a connected future in an active IoT ecosystem. The idea of creating a space for the IoT players was developed by experienced managers from Bosch and CHJ, who jointly select high-potential startups and keep their survival rate up to 90%. The program offers entrepreneurship seminars to help teams get subsidies from the Chinese policy chain, the opportunity to meet with the superior VC funds and free services such as talent recruitment, equity structure optimization, legal consultancy etc.

## What impact has it had?

The Shanghai Connectory has become the central hub for the Shanghai IoT ecosystem, an active catalyst for innovation and a dedicated source of expertise. It is used by a range of startup companies, providing them greater opportunities for collaboration and knowledge-sharing than possible for small businesses alone while improving open innovation competitiveness for Bosch.

As part of the incubation program, the Bosch team not only manage brilliant startup programs but are also happy to get their own hands dirty to set the most cutting-edge R&D direction.



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## What is innovative about it?

This new ‘IoT’ lab is the first of its kind, with a focus on cutting-edge trends and inspirational in-market solutions, and will build a platform for CHJ, academia and public sector partners to tackle problems faced by residential startups in years to come. CHJ and Bosch support startups to develop a range of smart products and help them identify ways to bring them to market more quickly through open procurement.

CHJ provides its landmark co-working space and a tech-based community manager to help startups test ideas and understand patterns. CHJ hosts seminars and workshops mingling Fortune 500 corporates with startups, to gather real challenges and inspirations from both the mature and the newborn. In return, Bosch dedicates urban mobility professionals to provide technical expertise, guidance and mentoring. Bosch shares Connectory facilities with the selected startups.

- IoT co-creation space bringing together startups, corporate & university partners
- Developed jointly Bosch and CHJ for high-potential startups
- Improves open innovation competitiveness for Bosch and survival rate for startups





# Technoport Luxembourg (Esch-sur-Alzette, Luxembourg) **“Tomorrow Street”**

## IDEA

Tomorrow Street is a joint-venture between Vodafone Procurement Company (VPC) and the technology-oriented business incubator Technoport. It is an innovation center headquartered in Luxembourg that runs an acceleration program for scale-up startups, leveraging growth through Vodafone’s strategic worldwide network of partners and resellers.

## What is the purpose of your solution?

The aim of Tomorrow Street is to support the growth of selected companies by connecting them with a global network of clients and partners and by giving them up-front exposure that they would normally not have without a strategic global partner like Vodafone. Tomorrow Street hosts and supports late-stage startups that have completed Series A funding, generate revenues and have traction on a specific market. The focus is on the most promising companies in the areas of IoT, AI, and Cybersecurity, identified as long-term strategic technologies that can be scaled through Vodafone’s network.

A 50%-50% joint-venture between Vodafone Procurement Company and Technoport SA, Tomorrow Street has a dedicated international team of 13 people with experience across corporate, entrepreneurial, and technical domains.

## What impact has it had?

1.5 years after inauguration, Tomorrow Street has monitored over 3,650 companies worldwide, 335 were filtered in the startup pipeline and 6 have been formally approved and are currently still being accelerated. The impact for the Luxembourgish ecosystem has been the creation of six new technology companies and related employments. Proof-of-concepts and first purchase orders have been successfully passed by these companies. Tomorrow Street has also signed strategic deal flow agreements (>60), some of which with major international VC funds. As a positive related outcome to this program, one further company, that was monitored by their team, entered the Technoport incubator at the end of 2018.

Tomorrow Street is also the organizer of the Arch Summit, a 2-day event in Luxembourg



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for connecting tech startups with corporate decision-makers, with 4000+ attendees, 60+ corporates and 200+ startups from more than 30 countries worldwide. Tomorrow Street is also the organizer of the Arch Summit, a 2-day event in Luxembourg for connecting tech startups with corporate decision-makers, with 4000+ attendees, 60+ corporates and 200+ startups from more than 30 countries worldwide.

## What is innovative about it?

The innovation is threefold. It is an innovative partnership model between a world-renowned incubator, owned by public shareholders, and a global corporate, aiming at filling a market gap in the support of scale-up companies. The operational model of the new Innovation Center aims to scout companies worldwide (with scouts in different continents) and attract them to Luxembourg. The business model of the Innovation Center is solely based on a success fee on sales performances achieved thanks to the program (no equity). This consolidated expertise in the startup ecosystem on one side and an international corporation network of partners and resellers on the other side allows startups to connect with corporate clients and partners worldwide. Another important aspect is that there is no exclusivity for Vodafone thanks to the joint-venture approach.

- Innovative partnership model between public incubator and global corporate
- Supports the growth of international scale-up companies
- Multinational partner Vodafone helps connect startups with global network of clients





## Techparks Arizona (Tucson, USA)

# “Women of the UA Tech Park”

### IDEA

25 women of The UA Tech Park were celebrated both for National Women’s Month and the Park’s 25th anniversary, sharing their stories & photographs online & in print. Each face symbolizes the diversity and strength that drives business forward, helping to make the park a supportive environment where people are empowered and thrive.

### What is the purpose of your solution?

The purpose of the campaign is to highlight and inspire women of all creed, class and color, from the top CEOs to the administrators, as well as continue to build a community within UA Tech Park. It’s not charity or a moral imperative, it’s good business. Diversity and inclusion, when fully optimized and integrated into an organization’s culture, create a competitive advantage that positions all of our companies to offer innovative and relevant experiences for their employees.

### What impact has it had?

The UA Tech Park community became more connected. Social media platforms were great avenues for engaged conversations that don’t always occur, and women uplifted each other like never before. Our Women of the UA Tech Park campaign increased engagement on all our social media accounts: our Facebook account saw a 285% increase in page views, 476% increase in page likes, and a 974% increase in post reach. Our Twitter account saw a 540% increase in impressions, 200% increase in engagement rate, 1,200% increase in retweets, 825% increase in likes. Our LinkedIn account saw a 206% increase in page views, 202% increase in unique followers and a 362% increase in followers. The impact of the Women of UA Tech Park campaign also stretches into the community with a donation drive for clothing, shoes and accessories for YWCA’s Your Sister’s Closet, stocking it with workplace-ready clothing for women in Southern Arizona.



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### What is innovative about it?

It’s not every day we can empower women and their successes. By profiling these 25 women, we are encouraging other women, and organizations to have a more diverse and inclusive workplace. We believe that organizations with inclusive and diverse cultures are better positioned to adapt, grow and thrive in a changing business environment. After all, innovation stems from collaboration and the sharing of unique ideas and different perspectives. Diverse workforces outperform their counterparts. Different perspectives, experiences and insights improve decision-making and lead to superior performance. We have also seen that what’s good for women is good for the entire organization. Best practices designed to support women support everyone, creating greater efficiencies and engagement.

- Celebrating 25 women of the UA Tech Park and their successes
- Increased engagement within the park community
- Supporting diverse workplaces and improving innovation and collaboration





# Tecnopole Parque Tecnológico de Galicia (Ourense, Spain) **“Galiciencia, the biggest Science Fair for Youth”**

## IDEA

Galiciencia is the biggest science fair held in Galicia, and aims to disseminate science and technology to society at large. Now in its 14th edition, it consists of a scientific contest and exhibition where students aged from 5 to 17 show their technology and science projects.

## What is the purpose of your solution?

Tecnopole has been demonstrating for decades its commitment to the dissemination of technology, science and innovation. For that reason, the main objectives and purposes of the Galiciencia are to involve Galician schools and students in research, and to show and publicize that research. It also aims to encourage children to study and pursue careers in science and research, to teach scientific methodologies, and to bring innovation to society by promoting teamwork.

Young people and visitors have the opportunity to participate in themed talks and workshops, challenges and contests, and to display and explain their work at a stand in the exhibition area.

## What impact has it had?

Galiciencia is the biggest scientific fair in Galicia. It has been consolidated over the years, increasing its impact both in local schools and among the general public. The event brings together 250 participating students with 130 projects and more than 3000 visitors over 2.5 days, with the 2019 edition livestreamed to expand the audience in at least 3,000 more people. This event reached more than 130,000 impacts on social networks (Twitter, Facebook, Youtube) and Tecnópole and Galiciencia website visits. Because of that, Galiciencia is also now the national reference point in Spain as the leading science fair for children and young people.



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## What is innovative about it?

The idea of creating a Science Fair made by young students is really innovative inside the Science Parks ecosystem. We decided to invest in young people as a way to seed innovation and science. To focus on its innovative nature, some improvements have been introduced over the years in Galiciencia implementing different technologies: for example, the evaluation of all the projects is done through an application developed by a student who participated in previous editions of Galiciencia, the process of submitting projects is done fully online and video streaming is in place to increase the audience. In addition, new complementary activities are run all the year like robotics, programming and general science workshops for students and a technology summer camp focused on the development of science and technology projects.

- Science fair disseminating research, science and technology to society at large
- Encourages young people to study and pursue careers in STEM
- Brings the local community into contact with the park





# Tecnosinos, (Porto Alegre, Brazil): **“Talents program – Bringing education and society closer together”**

## IDEA

“Talents” brings the technology park together with high school students, women and people with special needs through on-site visits that provide interaction with companies, employees, and university professors, awakening participants to the possibilities of work and future careers, with the ultimate goal of filling of job vacancies.

## What is the purpose of your solution?

The Brazilian market is lacking around 50,000 ICT professionals every year, and short-term actions need to be implemented in order to solve this shortage. This is where the Talents Program comes in: it awakens in young people the desire to study new technologies, in an environment where they will be able to develop them - in companies within the park, which offer jobs of high added value. The park also provides study and work possibilities, since Unisinos offers most of its courses in the evening.

4 hour visits are scheduled throughout the year, offering students the experience of being inside a tech park, and interacting with the companies and startups located there. This introduces the program’s participants to the universe of innovation and future careers.

## What impact has it had?

The program impacts society immediately by filling job vacancies in the park’s companies, but its medium-term impact is the most significant: after being at Tecnosinos, young students begin thinking about their professional future and participating in activities offered in the Park, such as challenges and training programs. The most enterprising students are inspired by successful cases and seek to develop their ideas through pre-incubation or even creating a startup. An equally important impact is the increase in University enrolment in STEM courses at Unisinos. Young women get inspired, and special needs people realize there are opportunities offered at Tecnosinos companies and in the University.

To date, 5,230 students have already been impacted.



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## What is innovative about it?

The program’s innovation is in bringing schools closer to innovation and entrepreneurship, and reaching a diverse audience by consciously considering diversity and inclusion. It also brings awareness to people about opportunities for their professional future, and is an innovative way of acquiring both an immediate and future workforce for the companies in the park. The Talents Program also brings about a change of concepts and even paradigms in families when students share in their homes what they saw and felt in Tecnosinos - a typical example is that of the student who wants to enter the game development sector, which is a career often not supported by parents. When parents become aware of the success stories in the park, and the courses offered in this area, families begin to see this ambition in a positive way.

- Creates a current and future workforce for companies in the park
- Encourages young people to study new technologies
- Supports the development of a diverse workforce





# Turku Business Region (Turku, Finland)

## “Maritime Accelerator”

### IDEA

Maritime Accelerator is a programme that brings together fast-moving growth companies and maritime corporations and accelerates cross-company collaboration in order to create concrete business ventures. Together with partner corporations and global growth companies we are building a fertile ecosystem and new concrete business ventures, speeding up the development of the industry.

### What is the purpose of your solution?

The core of Maritime Accelerator is to create concrete business ventures by bringing together Partner corporations from the Maritime Industry & global growth companies from other industries. For corporate and growth companies, with the Maritime Accelerator generates new businesses and speeds up maritime industry development. It allows easy access for growth companies to the maritime ecosystem, which is considered to be quite conservative. Run by a steering group consisting of participating partners and operated with supporting partner Avanto Ventures Ltd, the programme also enables corporations to find synergies with other partners and therefore increases the value of the ecosystem, generating new business, speeding up heavy industry development and helping Finland becoming a leading European maritime hub.

### What impact has it had?

During Maritime Accelerator 2018, concrete ventures were built out of 490 screened international startups. Startups benefited from a 3-month co-creation period with corporates to help reach new venture clients, gaining access to the global customer base of the accelerator partners, and increasing their visibility in the maritime ecosystem. The 6 most promising ones presented themselves at venture finals (a side-event at Slush & co-operation with Breaking Waves conference).

The programme enabled new, innovative opportunities for partners to promote their own competitiveness and the future of the industry as a whole. It also increased co-operation



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between the partners, and co-operation between last year's finalists and partners still continues after the completion of the first programme. 2019 will be the second edition of the program with Royal Caribbean and Meyer Turku returning as partners, who will this time be involved in choosing participants in the final stages.

### What is innovative about it?

The Maritime Accelerator bring together two really different players - big corporations within the Maritime Industry, and small, flexible, globally-sourced growth companies from other industries. Together they form new or improved products and services in order to speed up the development of Maritime Industry. The focus is in accelerating the co-operation between these two parties, not the growth companies itself. Sectors such as the cruise business have operated along traditional lines, and the Maritime Accelerator helps them to find new innovative approaches to enhance their competitiveness thanks to partners outside the industry.

- Brings together fast-moving growth companies and maritime corporations
- Accelerates cross-company collaboration in order to create concrete business ventures
- Supports innovation in traditional maritime industry



# Västerås Science Park (Västerås, Sweden): “Framtidsverkstad”

## IDEA

In Framtidsverkstad, high school kids work as digital experts. With the help of a unique design methodology they develop digital concepts for companies based on the company challenge and the digital future. The aim is to strengthen cooperation between young people and companies, a prerequisite for social development.

## What is the purpose of your solution?

Companies that work with innovation grow twice as fast, are six times more likely to achieve financial goals and have higher employee engagement. Working with innovation is even more important when companies need to keep up with the digital transformation happening in society. High school students are experts in digital technology: they spend more than 10,000 hours with computers, tablets, computer games and smartphones in their hands. High school students have never experienced a reality that isn't connected. These two groups, companies in need of digitalization and change and high school students, both have knowledge that the other group need and challenges that the other group can solve. Framtidsverkstad brings together companies and high school students to collaborate for three weeks every summer. The students follow a design thinking process to create three concepts for the future based on the company's challenges. By bringing these two groups together, we create a unique platform.

## What impact has it had?

Companies get concepts based on the digital future from their future customers and employees, as well as concepts based on their challenges that they legally own and can choose to implement. The companies also get increased knowledge and understanding about the possibilities of digitalization. High school students get work experience and contacts in different companies, increased self-esteem and understanding that their knowledge is needed in companies. Framtidsverkstad also increases young people's interest in technology



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as an option for future education. Together, companies and high school kids gain experience in design thinking and innovation processes.

Framtidsverkstad is creating a network between project partners, companies and high school students, and its impact in numbers since the project started includes 68 concepts based on the digital future, summer jobs for 108 high school students, and 23 companies with a better understanding of the future involved in choosing participants in the final stages.

## What is innovative about it?

Framtidsverkstad is creating a new way for companies and high school students to collaborate. All parties going through the process are learning how to work with design thinking in a problem-solving way and are also learning how to work with innovation processes. Framtidsverkstad leads to innovative concepts during the project and also creates networks with increased knowledge or how to work together to innovate.

- Creates a new way for companies and high school students to collaborate
- Provides companies with digital insights from their future customers and employees
- Offers work experience and professional contacts to high school students







**We hope these solutions  
will inspire you to innovate  
and implement new ideas  
in your organisation**

