Biodiversity Hackathon 2019

Date: 20 April 2019

Venue: S201 (subject to change)

Contact: Nophea Sasaki

Brief Background

- Many fauna and flora species on earth play important roles in ecosystem functioning and services but conventional conservation would not achieve the maximum benefits that these species could potentially provide. With opportunities and markets created by the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and impact investments along with increasing available technologies, there are potential solutions for biodiversity conservation but Innovation Solutions are needed to make utmost use of technologies and to generate maximum yet sustainable benefits for biodiversity conservation and local livelihood improvement. Can we do that? Join us on 20 April 2019. We can accept 4 more teams (2-3 members each). Small prizes for the winning teams will be provided.
- Biodiversity Hackathon aims to propose and design innovative solutions for biodiversity conservation. Biodiversity Hackathon is a tool for crowdsourcing ground-up innovation for biodiversity conservation.

Programme

- 8:00: Registration and team formation
- 9:00-9:05: Introduction by Nophea Sasaki
- 9:00-9:15: Judge Introduction by Individual Judges
- 9:15-9:30: Rules and Challenges for Hackathon: Nophea Sasaki
- Hack Part 1: Formulation of problems, development of technology platform
- *Lunch Break: Sandwiches coffees are provided*
- Hack Part 2: Development of tech platform and pitch deck preparation
- 15:30-16:00: Pitch Deck Submission
- 16:00- 17:00: Pitching
- 17:30: Winners Announcement and Prizes!
- 18:00: Closing Remarks by Prof. Rajendra Shrestha, Dean of SERD

Challenges to Hack

1. Increasing impact investment for rural tree planting has created opportunities for forest ecosystem restoration. However, rural population has no connection to financial means, while impact investors want to ensure that their money is used for tree planting by rural people. What is the long-term solution to this problem?
2. City Parks are important for recreational purposes and air pollution control. Parks can also serve as habitats for certain wildlife species. As urbanization expanded, such parks gradually disappear. What is the solution to this problem?
3. Various species maintain ecosystem functions and provide ecosystem services to rural communities but their utilization is not optimized due to lack of market and user connection. What is the solution to this problem?

Team and Rules

- Team members: 2-3 (students taking Biodiversity and Conservation course is required to have 2 classmates)
- Each team is encouraged to use of any technology and publicly available data for biodiversity conservation that benefits both biodiversity and local people in a transparent manner.
- Coding: Coding skills are not required but preferred.
- Pitch must include SDGs, impact investment and technology as part of the solutions
- At minimum, pitch must have a title (product name), problem (s) to be addressed, solutions (technology, platform), benefits, market sizes, target users, scalability
- Pitch duration: 3 minutes + 3 for Q & A (strictly followed)
- Only 8 teams are accepted (only 4 more left)
- Sandwiches and coffee are provided
- Prizes will be announced on 20 April 2019

Judges, Judging Criteria, and Scores

- **Biodiversity Technovation: 20**
- **Creativity: 20**
- **Product design: 20**
- **Team pitching: 20**
- **Execution: 10**
- **Business Model: 10**

Ms. Ladaporn Khunikakorn
Regional Director
Sustainability and Carbon
Business Expert
MS, Chulalongkorn University
South Pole

Dr. Takuji W. Tsusaka
Assistant Professor
Environmental Economics
FMCG business consultant
Physic Champion
Asian Institute of Technology

Dr. Nophea Sasaki
Associate Professor
REDD+ Business Expert
Green Technovator and Marketer
Young Scientist Awardee
Asian Institute of Technology

Organizer and Contact

- Organizer: Natural Resources Management academic program
- Committee: Nophea Sasaki, Takuji W. Tsusaka
- Event Manager: **Manjunatha Venkatappa** (st118772@ait.ac.th)
- Secretary: **Agnes T. Pardilla** (agnes@ait.ac.th)
- Enquiry: nopheas@ait.ac.th

Apply Now before 12:30 PM on 19 April 2019

http://bit.ly/2GmnY4M