

USIU-AFRICA INCUBATION AND INNOVATION CENTER (I²C)

People, planet and profit

Background

The Incubation and Innovation Center (I²C) formerly known as the New Economy Venture Accelerator (NEVA) was started in 2012 as a Kshs.24 million (USD240,000) joint initiative between USIU-Africa and Colorado State University in partnership with USAID and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Vision: Generate socially conscious change-maker innovative entrepreneurs across Africa.

Mission: To provide students and alumni a unique collaboration space designed to foster practical innovation, ethical organizational leadership and social entrepreneurship in applied learning setting.

The four-tier approach:

- i. Social business pre-incubation and incubation
- ii. Entrepreneurship training and coaching
- iii. Entrepreneurship in classes
- iv. Fostering broad innovative thinking in USIU-Africa

Partnerships

The university has partnered with IBM, Africa Starting, Global Peace Initiative, KEPISA, Dutch Embassy, French Investors and ASHOKA Foundation, iHub, NaiLab and mLab among others to provide entrepreneurship and innovation training, networking, linkages, workshops, speakers, work space and mentoring.

Impact of Innovation and Incubation Center (I²C)

Since the I²C has trained more than 1000 students and alumni focusing them on how to serve a social mission utilizing business to solve grater societal problems of people, planet and profit.

Invest and partner in the I²C to provide:

- i. Technology equipment: 3D printers, Raspberry PI (Educational Tool) and projectors
- ii. Seed capital/funding for Innovative Startup businesses
- iii. Faculty training in innovation, entrepreneurship and emerging technology trends
- iv. Research funding on entrepreneurial success factors in East Africa
- v. Industry linkages and mentors

Contacts

For partnership enquiries please contact:

Prof. Paul T. Zeleza, Vice Chancellor, pzeleza@usiu.ac.ke or +254 730 116 411

Mr. James Ogolla, Director, University Advancement, ogollaj@usiu.ac.ke or +254 730 116 409