

GIST Innovates Bhutan

2021



Take your invention from lab to market!

GIST Innovates Bhutan is a program designed to empower early-stage Bhutanese science and technology startups to build their business skills as they take steps to commercialize their innovation and launch their product.

This accelerated online training program is modeled after the Lean Startup methodology, an approach that has helped startups around the world develop and launch their businesses. You will complete a customer discovery process and identify and evaluate market opportunities for your innovation.

Is your startup eligible?

GIST Innovates Bhutan is ideal for Bhutanese citizens who are developing a science-based innovation or technology.

Your team should include two or three members—an **entrepreneurial lead**, a **technical lead**, and an optional **business mentor**.

- The **entrepreneurial lead** serves as the team spokesperson and leads efforts in business model development and communication with potential customers.
- The **technical lead** offers technological expertise related to your innovation.
- The **business mentor** will help your team develop your business model, connect you with industry experts, and advise you on customer discovery efforts. *While we encourage teams to include a mentor when applying, this member is optional.*

During this 10-week program you will spend time with our dedicated training team, who will mentor and support you as you test your business hypotheses and create an action plan for launching your venture. You will network and share experiences with other startups in your region who are engaged in similar work.

Prior to applying for GIST Innovates Bhutan, we recommend completing the no-cost GIST Virtual Accelerator, a new online program designed to build your entrepreneurial skills. Virtual Accelerator, a self-paced program, can help you strengthen your application for GIST Innovates Bhutan and prepare you for deeper training to help you commercialize your technology and advance your venture.

For more info, please visit: www.gistnetwork.org/gist-innovates-bhutan

GIST Innovates Bhutan is a national-level program; Bhutanese citizens nationwide are encouraged to apply.



Global Innovation through
Science and Technology

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GIST Initiative

The U.S. Department of State's Global Innovation through Science and Technology (GIST) Initiative empowers science and technology innovators in **over 130 emerging economies**.

Through GIST, U.S. experts and businesses have a path to make direct connections with the most promising global entrepreneurs and innovators.

Since 2011, GIST has partnered with American companies such as **Amazon Web Services** and **Microsoft**, to reach over innovation community members globally.

GIST catalyzes startup solutions that address economic and developmental challenges **through networking, skills building, mentoring, and access to financing**.

GIST has provided training for over **15,000 startups** who have gone on to generate over **\$250 million in revenue**.

GIST leverages American business and entrepreneurship experts in a combination of in-country startup trainings, pitch competitions, investor trainings, and interactive online programs to link the best international entrepreneurs to the United States.

130+
Emerging
economies

15,000+
Entrepreneurs
trained

900,000+
Entrepreneurs
in our network