

**THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR DEVELOPMENT**

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Contribution by

United States of America

**2012 Global Innovation Summit
Invitation Letter**

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GLOBAL INNOVATION SUMMIT

Cultivating Innovation Ecosystems
July 16-18, 2012 – Silicon Valley, Calif.

Dear UNCSTD Delegate:

We are pleased to invite you to attend the Global Innovation Summit.

This invitation-only event is a gathering of hundreds of “thoughtful, iconoclastic doers” from around the world who share a common interest in practical solutions for sustainable development through global innovation. We will focus exclusively on one of the most important development challenges of our time: **how do we create innovation ecosystems worldwide?** Our vision is ambitious, which is nothing less than to reshape the entire way we think about economic development and growth. The event will take place in the heart of Silicon Valley on July 16-18. You can read more at www.innosummit.com.

The Global Innovation Summit will be *the first major event in Silicon Valley produced in collaboration with the world’s leading development institutions*. Our partners include the World Bank, the OECD, the African Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and many other organizations. We expect several hundred people from emerging markets to participate, including ministers, entrepreneurs, scientists, and other innovators. Additionally, the event will feature leading companies, venture capital firms, academic institutions, NGOs, and startups from Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the OECD.

Here is what you should expect as an attendee of the Summit:

- **Active participation.** You will be actively engaged as a full participant throughout the entire event. Unlike typical events where most attendees are passive listeners, your active participation at the GIS actually matters to the overall outcome.
- **Join a family.** All invitees to the GIS are like-minded individuals with similar goals, who believe that dynamic innovation ecosystems are the key to generating jobs, income, and economic development sustainably around the world. You will be assigned to a House of 12-15 people at the GIS. Your House becomes your close working group throughout the course of the Summit. Each House will be assigned a student Guide, who will facilitate the event experience for attendees.
- **Open new vistas.** Expand networks, meet partners, open markets, and learn from people with a wide range of backgrounds and experiences. You will learn about more effective programs to cultivate dynamic innovation ecosystems, based on real-life examples of how others have succeeded and/or failed in other places.
- **Solve real problems.** You will participate in hands-on, interactive case study sessions to design real-world solutions to real-world innovation and entrepreneurship challenges in sectors, such as food, health, water, energy, and information technologies. Attendees will gain insights into why traditional innovation programs usually fail to achieve their desired results and how to design more effective programs to foster systemic innovation.

- **Have fun.** You will participate in the world's first *Ecosystem Pitch Contest*, where selected Summit attendees will present their proposed ecosystem solutions to the entire audience, with a live feedback panel comprised of leading global development funders. Plus, there will be numerous surprises during the event.

Please visit our website as soon as possible at www.innosummit.com/register to register your attendance. **Event capacity is limited, so sign up soon.**

We are pleased to be able to extend to you a **complimentary registration** – free of charge – due to our special partnership with the UNCSTD. However, if possible, we kindly request that you cover the direct costs of your meals from your standard per diem, which works out to \$200 for the entire event.

We are delighted to welcome you as a member of this community of doers. It would be our honor and pleasure if you accept this invitation and join us.

We look forward to seeing you in Silicon Valley in July!

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