MIT make in India

A Hands-On Program to Learn Innovation, Fabrication & Entrepreneurship for Social Impact in India

Learn to:
- Identify and evaluate real problems in rural Indian communities
- Design, fabricate and validate solutions and products in the field
- Learn to launch ventures with local partners for real social impact

MIT-India announces a unique program at the TechTop Center in the coastal village of Chirayinkiil, in Kerala, India this summer. The center has a maker-space fully equipped with 3D printers, electronic fabrication facilities and access to local partners for metal and woodworking. Participants will stay in an adjoining compound with 24x7 access to the maker space. The program is based on a curriculum developed at the MIT-Tata Center to catalyze innovators and entrepreneurs in rural India. The tentative schedule is as follows:

Week 1: June 20-26
- Attend TechTop Innovation Workshop in Trivandrum with students from across India
- Field visits to identify problems, ideation of strategies and fabrication.
- Presenting prototypes on final day

Week 2: June 27-July 4
- Hands-on training in digital fabrication
- Mechanical design (3D CAD and printing)
- Electronic design (Arduino, sensors, actuators, and circuit fabrication)
- Product system design & design thinking
- Business fundamentals
- Field trip to local communities to identify opportunities for social impact
- Stakeholder analysis and ideation of strategy/solution
- Fabrication of solution product prototype

Week 3: July 5- July 11
- First field validation of solution
- Introduction to entrepreneurship
- Financial and business modeling
- Business plan development and pitching
- Final demo and pitch to public and media

Week 4: (Optional continuation of project)
- Forming local teams
- Connecting with NGOs and governmental agencies for perusal of project
- Launching project

Instructor
Rajesh Nair is a graduate of MIT System Design and Management program. He is the Director of the Innovation & Entrepreneurship Center at the Asia School of Business, Kuala Lumpur. He is also a Visiting Scholar at MIT-Tata Center. He is a product designer, serial entrepreneur, and last company he founded, Degree Controls Inc. has been operating for 17 years. He is the founder of TechTop Trust, a NGO focused on promoting young innovators and entrepreneurs in India. He has conducted several innovation workshops in India and mentored startups at MIT and in India. He also founded EnCube Labs, a firm specializing in entrepreneurship training.

How to Apply: May 4th Deadline! All current MIT students are welcome to apply by sending a letter of motivation and a current resume to MIT-India@mit.edu with a subject header titled “Make in India Application”. For more information on this or any other MIT-India program, please visit misti.mit.edu/mit-india-program. Instructors and mentors will conduct the first three weeks. The fourth week is optional and is left to the student teams to pursue on their own. All project-related travel, accommodations, and food at the center are included.