

10<sup>th</sup> February 2012

On behalf of Startup Malaysia.Org and CRDF Global, we would like to invite you to consider being a judge to review 15-20 executive summaries received for the GIST “I Dare” Business Plan Competition.

Our partner CRDF Global through its initiative, Global Innovation through Science and Technology (GIST), is implementing the “I Dare” Business Plan Competition, targeted at 43 countries in the Middle East, Central & South East Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. GIST came as a response to President Obama’s call (speech in Cairo, 2009) for strengthened partnership with the Muslim world to build mutual understanding and address shared challenges. GIST initiative builds entrepreneurial ecosystems by identifying, coaching and funding promising entrepreneurs through its competitions, start-up acceleration services, online social media platform, and interactive mentorship programs.

This competition is designed to encourage aspiring technology entrepreneurs in ICT, Health, Agriculture, and Energy sectors to launch and grow a successful business through provisional funding, mentorship and networking opportunities. Participants from Central & South East Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa are competing for \$100,000 in total prize amount and will receive mentorship and entrepreneurship training. In addition, the “I Dare” Business Plan competition will coordinate a road-show visit to the U.S. for winners, who will gain direct access to U.S. market and connect with potential investors and partners.

We would appreciate your help in reviewing 10-15 executive summaries (about 15-20 minutes per summary).

Immediate next steps:

- Send us a response regarding your availability by Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012 and an email address we can reach you at, if other than one sent from.
- Upon acceptance, you will receive a link from the GIST team that allows you to access the application database as a judge and evaluation guidelines to review and submit evaluation online.

Timeline:

- Availability Notification Deadline: February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012
- Start Reviewing: February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012
- Evaluation Submission Deadline: February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012

In case you are unable to assist GIST in reviewing executive summaries, we would appreciate your recommendation of a colleague, with appropriate expertise in the field of the submitted proposal.

Please respond at your soonest possible and we look forward to hearing from you.

Thankfully yours,

Ovidiu Bujorean,  
Innovation Program Manager,  
GIST, CRDF Global

Dash Dhakshinamoorthy,  
Founder,  
StartupMalaysia.Org

Startup Malaysia.Org website: [www.startupmalaysia.org](http://www.startupmalaysia.org)  
GIST website: [gist.crdfglobal.org](http://gist.crdfglobal.org)  
CRDF Global website: [www.crdfglobal.org](http://www.crdfglobal.org)