

Breaking down barriers by celebrating diversity

with

Dr Najma Taqi, Dr Safia Barikzai and Thomas Empson

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Facilitators



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Arab Open University

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Arab Open University, Bahrain Branch



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Arab Open University, Bahrain

1996: Official Opening

HRH Prince Talal Bin Abdulaziz President of the Arab Gulf Development Programme (AGFUND) – Non profit organisation

2002: AOU strategic partnership with Open University, United Kingdom

Quick Facts:

Branches: AOU GCC countries, Jordan, Lebanon, Sudan and Egypt.

Headquarter: Kuwait

23000 students

12,000 graduates



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London South Bank University



- Winner of 2016 Entrepreneurial University of the Year
- Clarence Centre for Enterprise and Innovation
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation Institute
- Cross University Enterprise Champions

Nathu Puri Institute for Engineering and Enterprise

- Established in 2013 with the primary objective of facilitating innovation in engineering education and practice.
- We are engaged in research and scholarship, in partnership with industry, other HEI's and learned societies in the UK and Overseas.

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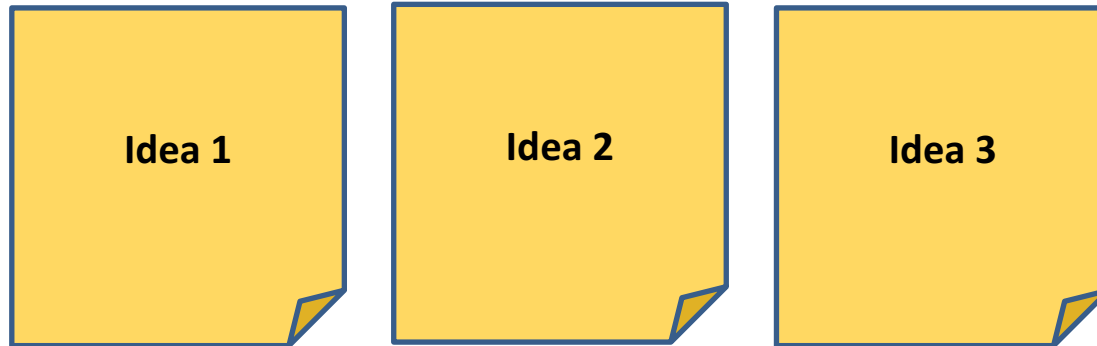


**Women in Enterprise
& Entrepreneurship Research**

Today's Challenge/Hackathon

This year the IEEC topic is *Enabling Enterprise for All*. With this shared agenda we are asking you to capture ideas as they flow on inclusion, equity and equality within your organisation enterprise strategy.

Capture each idea on a post-it and we will tell you what to do with them at the end.



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Sharing stories from UK & Bahrain

LSBU

Funded research by Enterprise Educators UK (EEUK)
Dr Safia Barikzai in conjunction with LSBU's Student Enterprise Services.

AOU

PhD research conducted by Dr Najma Taqi, Arab Open University in Bahrain

both studies identified
lack of confidence
in being engaged in entrepreneurial activities

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Celebration of Diversity Campaign

Bahrain Research

- The study was conducted in AOU Bahrain regarding why students do not think to start a business rather than searching about a job.
- Interview was conducted with 23 students in Business and IT School.
- **Research findings:** Lack of confidence, not risk taker, no entrepreneurial skills, student diversity (level outcome), challenges, no personal aspiration
- Recommendations change the Students Mind set through the campaign, workshops, seminars and Internship program

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Celebration of Diversity Campaign



- Entrepreneurship awareness campaign in AOU collaborating with LSBU
- Inviting all IT and Business students, Bahrain SME's Society, Injaz al-Bahrain and success Entrepreneurs as a model

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CONFIDENCE

Context – long term goals of the student

Opportunities – role models and work experience

Nurture – train the trainer and inspire to lead

Fun – learning by laughing

Inclusion & Diversity – equity

Develop – contacts and build confidence

Engagement & Collaboration

Networks – bridge and bond

Co-Creation - inter-disciplinary, extra-curricular

Experience – failure and learn from it

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LSBU Celebrating Diversity in Engineering



Ada Lovelace Day, 2015, 2016, 2017, ...
Diverse Engineering Expert Panel



Student IT Consultancy



International Women's Day
Student Perspectives
#BeBoldForChange



#Girls4STEM Annual Hackathon



RoboGals Chapter soon to be launched



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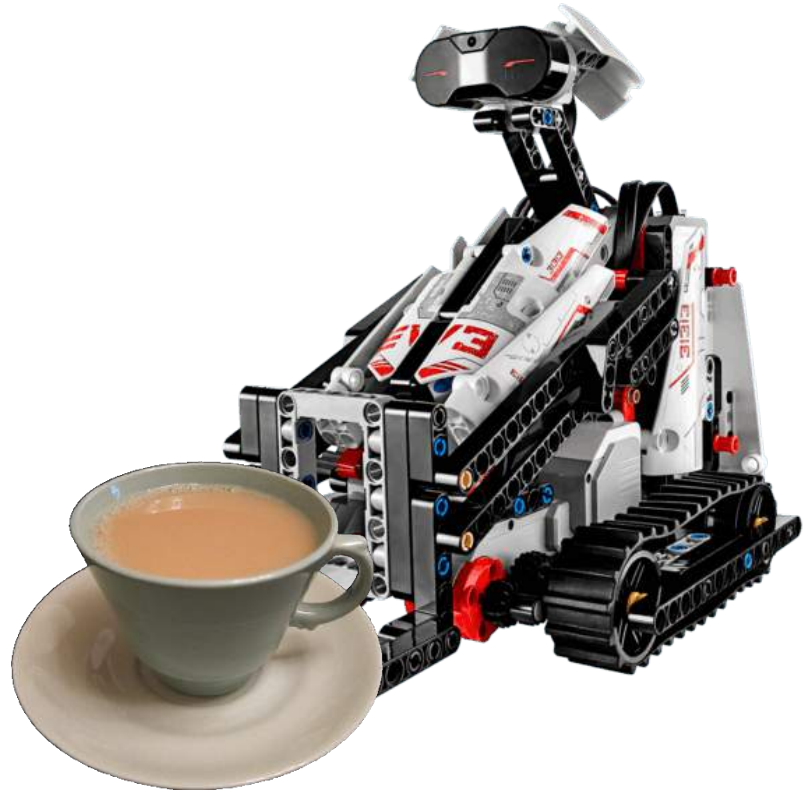


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How are we doing this??

Lego Robot - Mindstorm



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Hear from our Student Enterprise Champions



Today's Challenge/Hackathon

Please gather in groups of 4-6 people.

These should **not** be your colleagues but new acquaintances are just fine.

Idea 1

Idea 2

Idea 3

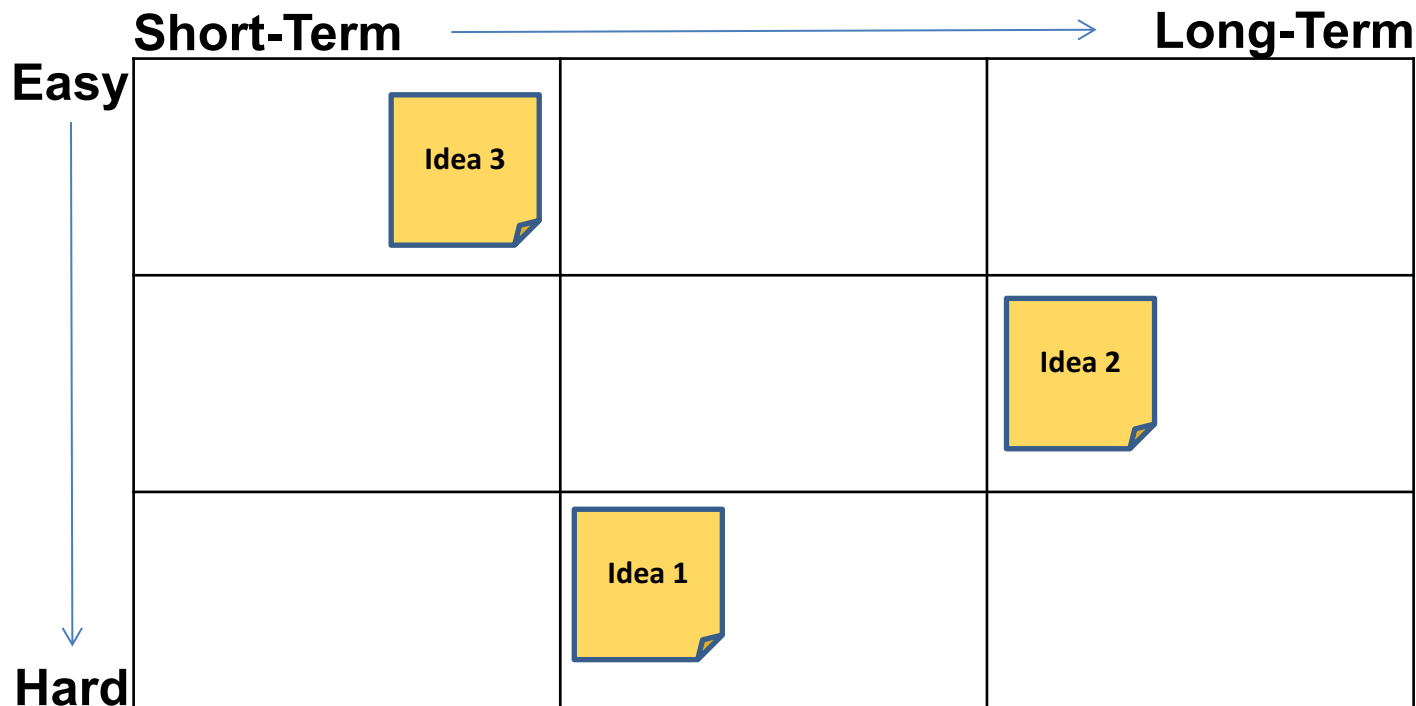
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Plot your *Enabling Enterprise for All* ideas for strategic and operational consideration.



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Things to consider

- Who are the stakeholders?
- Who needs to be involve?
- Who will approve and sign-off and budget?
- What is the measure of success?
- How can you generate interest?

Idea 1

Idea 2

Idea 3

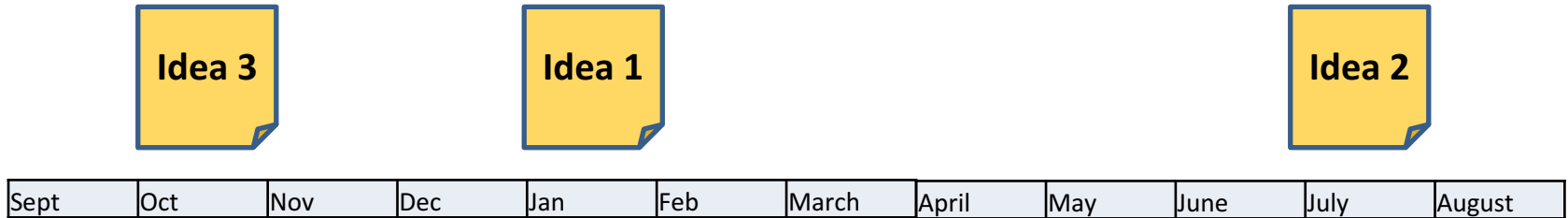
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Develop a timeline



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