

Build academic collaborations slowly over time.

Example: Building Collaborations in Seychelles

- Small Island Nation in Indian Ocean
- High HDI (.801), but low rates of innovation/entrepreneurship
- Economy dominated by tourism, fishing.



First Project in Seychelles – May 2018

- US \$5000 (from US Department of State), two total collaborators
- Taught single workshop in-country.
- In-country travel allowed for introductions and meetings to build on this project.



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Second Project in Seychelles – Mar.-Nov. 2019

- US \$40,000 (from Seychelles Climate Authority), 5 total collaborators
- Taught three educational workshops in country, researched local entrepreneurship ecosystem, created media to inform public of entrepreneurship opportunities.



Third Project in Seychelles – Mar.-Dec. 2020

- US \$83,000 (Seychelles Climate Authority), 12 total collaborators
 - Collaborators include Minister of Education, multiple secondary schools.
- Develop curriculum to be integrated into national educational standards, deliver Training of Trainers for curriculum facilitators.
- Currently exploring MOU between University of Nebraska and University of Seychelles.
- Expanding this project beyond the Seychelles:
 - Received US \$5000 grant to explore similar programming in Mauritius
 - Preliminary conversations with Indian Ocean Rim Association for multi-state programming

Closing Thoughts

- The right project partner is more important than their title/position.
- Find initial partnership that works and can be built upon.



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Thank you!

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