THE Port Humanitarian Technology Related Hackathon – A Showcase

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Brief Bio Organizer
Ines is a project manager and entrepreneur. Initially she worked in a corporate environment in the area of business management, sales and customer service. In 2014 Ines co-founded THE Port association, a Swiss based association, which runs workshops to foster need driven technology innovation in the humanitarian sector.

Abstract
THE Port association (www.theport.ch) fosters need driven technological innovation in the humanitarian field by bringing together creative minds from CERN, UN, ICRC and other NGOs in interdisciplinary teams to work on humanitarian, technology related topics beneficial to society. During our 60 hours workshops, also known as hackathons, we aim at building tangible prototypes and proof-of-concepts that will allow humanitarian field workers and organizations to reduce the impact on effected people, their workers and their material and helps improving the situation for all of them.

Description
THE Port association would like to showcase the results of their past hackathons in 2014 and 2015. We have been invited to the UN ECOSOC meeting at the Palais des Nations in June 2015, where the results of 2014 have been exhibited and live demo-ed in the market fair during the meeting, please find a picture of the stall here:

For the Tech4Dev Conference we would like to propose a similar set up, where we would like to showcase our hackathon outcome as well as giving some inside on the work we do. We believe, that interdisciplinary collaboration will have a positive impact on our society and will help facilitating the work of humanitarian organizations, but also research laboratories to work more closely together and benefit from a fruitful collaboration.

Objectives
During this year’s hackathon, a team from EPFL and Essential Tech from CODEV (www.globalneonat.org), has proposed a topic for our hackathon, that an interdisciplinary team of hackathon participants has started to work on. The team looks into a new design for baby incubators that shall be used in Cameroon to reduce the child mortality as a priority target of the Millennium Development Goals by UN. Not only the outcome of this topic, but also topics solving pressing humanitarian needs are being worked on during our workshop in early October 2015. We are aiming at giving visibility to the results, that our participants achieved but also to appreciate the openness of IOs and NGOs who proposed their burning issues.

Target Audience
Interested conference visitors during sessions, workshops, breaks, etc.

Proposed Program
To be finalized in January 2016.