

[SE18-CCI]

Incubating Tech4Dev and Accelerating Impact

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Brief Bio
Session Leader(s)

Kate Michi Ettinger, Senior Fellow, Center for Health Professions, UCSF, is a social innovation consultant, product designer and health care ethicist with over fifteen years of health-related experience in private, government, academic, non-profit sectors. Kate consults with foundations and incubators that support early stage social impact ventures.

Abstract
Short description, including alignment with conference themes and objectives

We have seen that social technology, such as Tech4Dev, take more time than traditional technology to achieve market impact. Incubators and funders (philanthropic and impact investors) are instrumental in enabling a new technology to reach substantial distribution, and they often work together to respond to the needs of new ventures and to shape an emerging market.

Incubators focus on advancing a business: from concept to pilot or from first market to scale. Increasingly, domain specific incubators have emerged (e.g. health, energy, hardware, BoP). These incubators and their funders leverage sector specific savvy in order to accelerate the impact of their portfolio companies. Working with multiple cohorts of companies, incubators and funders have an unique macro level perspective on critical decisions, barriers overcome, challenges navigated and failures.

Learning from this product/technology driven approach, it has become apparent that systems level change often needs to accompany an enterprise with pioneering social technology. As a result, some incubators and funders have adopted an ecosystem or systems level approach to incubation that may include concurrently supporting policy/regulatory initiatives, supply/distribution chain ventures, or other ventures that engage relevant stakeholders. This panel invites incubators and funders to present insights from these diverse approaches on how to accelerate impact for Tech4Dev ventures.

Description
Proposed discussion focus

This panel will feature incubators, accelerators and/or funders of Tech4Dev initiatives. The discussion will focus on the insights that come from this high level view of the landscape, the learning acquired as facilitators of several cohorts. This panel highlights key learning from incubators and funders' experiences with Tech4Dev ventures. Using specific examples from their portfolios to highlight facilitators of success and common issues that arise as well as insights from failed ventures. Our discussion will focus on identifying the drivers of successful Tech4Dev initiatives. We will consider new models for how best to incubate these Tech4Dev ventures in order to accelerate their impact.

Objectives
Justification and expected impact during and after the conference

The objectives are three fold:

- 1) To learn about new models for incubating Tech4Dev ventures
- 2) To feature key learning on facilitators of success and common barriers for Tech4Dev ventures from a macro level
- 3) To develop a roadmap for how Tech4Dev ventures can achieve impact

Target Audience

This panel is intended for entrepreneurs, consultants, incubators and funders. It will also be valuable for governments and policy makers who seek to foster a technology friendly environment within their markets.

