

Innovation week attracts key personalities

Key personalities will lead the crucial discussions around technology and innovation during the Nairobi Innovation Week, slated for August 5 and 7, 2015.

Mr. Saul Singer prolific American-Israeli Journalist and co-author of the best-selling *Start-up Nation* will make the key note presentation. Dr. Fred Matiangi, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of ICT and Mr. Langdon Morris, the co-founder and senior partner, InnovationLabs and leading consultant on innovation will also facilitate at the conference.

Other authorities on technology and innovation will include Prof. Gituro Wainaina, Ag. Director General, Delivery Secretariat for Kenya Vision 2030, Dr. Wilson Asonga, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Industrialization and Enterprise Development, Dr. Manu Chandaria, a leading Kenyan industrialist and businessman and Dr. Ellie Osir, Senior Program Specialist for the Information and Networks programme at the International Development Research Center (IDRC).

The Innovation Week will create a platform for exhibiting and recognizing innovation by researchers, techpreneurs, and industry as well as offer an avenue for presentation of innovation papers, illustrations, and case studies, which are in the form of proceedings, and journals. The initiative seeks to champion discussions on innovation.

The target participants include University of Nairobi innovators (students, startups and staff), other universities, industry (private sector, Government, NGOs), entrepreneurs, investors and venture capitalists, as well as business-tech incubation hubs.

August 3-4, 2015 will set the stage for the Innovation Week with two pre-event workshops dubbed "Innovation Ecosystem Development" and "Innovation Management."

Ultimately, the Nairobi Innovation Week will have achieved, among other key milestones, special engagement with policy makers on the growth and support of innovation ecosystem in Kenya, proper showcase of spectacular innovations and inventions, creation of useful linkages, successful launch of important journals, and increase of innovator, university and partner visibility.