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DST Innovation Lab 2014 - Planning Information

1 Attachment, 4.2 MB

Dear Lab Members,

We hope this finds you all well. We're pleased that the DST Innovation Lab group will reconvene this summer. Thirty of 32 of your colleagues who joined us last summer have committed to return this summer. Our group will also grow with about 10 new participants. A warm welcome to our new members!

The core faculty have met to further outline plans for this summer's Lab. We're excited about the approach that dives more deeply into four thematic areas and the opportunity for innovation as we work with local partner groups. This email addresses the following:

- Lab Design/Pre-Lab Work - your interests in thematic groups is needed. **Please respond by February 4** with your interests in priority (#1-4) sequence.
- Lab schedule
- Travel funding/local logistics

**Lab Design/Pre-Lab Work.** The attached document provides further detail on the four lab themes, client partnerships and the agenda. The planning process brought the four areas into a finer focus and revealed linkages to a 3<sup>rd</sup> party systems change model. The four themes (and change phases) are 1) Complexity Mapping and Visualization (Entry, Analysis and Planning); 2) Resonance Identification and Utilization (Mobilization); 3) Institutionalization (Attitudinal, Behavioral and Structural Change); and 4) Learning and Non-Linear Impact Assessment (Tracking and Assessing). In order to form groups that will dive more deeply into each of these areas, we ask each of you to review the attached document and in a return email to Chris, **identify, in priority sequence, your interests no later than Tuesday, February 4.**

Prior to the lab, each of the groups will be asked to survey literature, training and practice for their area and prepare a summary including challenges to share with all Lab members 2-3 weeks prior to the meeting. At the lab, each group will organize and facilitate experiential sessions and lead the work on innovation in the context of our work with our local partner groups. Work with local partner groups will reflect the commitment of our hosts, The Omidyar Group (TOG), to improving the quality of life for Hawaiians and their belief in the power of a systems approach to sustainable social change. More detailed information on our partners will be distributed well before the start of the Lab in July.

**Lab Schedule/Local Logistics.** Please note that the Lab will start on **Sunday evening, July 20 at 6PM** with dinner followed by introductions, overview of the week, updates on outcomes from Lab 2013, and sign-ups for morning open space-like sessions. We'll finish by mid-day on Friday.

Efforts are underway now to identify the venue in the Honolulu area. Hotel and other local information will be forwarded in the near future. We thank our hosts, The Omidyar Group, for graciously providing lodging and meals for Lab participants from Sunday evening through Friday mid-day.

**Travel funding.** As last year, limited funds are available to support travel costs. For those who have identified a need for support for travel, we ask that reservations to Honolulu be made by **April 1**. Further details will be forthcoming on the procedure to request reimbursement. Chris will individually contact those who identified travel support needs within the next week to reconfirm budgeted amounts.

The Lab support staff will again include Chris Straw at Columbia University. Bridget Brown has been joined by Meg Markle at UWM. Aubrey Yee of the Omidyar Group will also be working with the group. Please contact Meg ([mmarkle@uwm.edu](mailto:mmarkle@uwm.edu)) or Chris ([cs2913@columbia.edu](mailto:cs2913@columbia.edu)) with any questions.

We're looking forward to the group reconvening this summer and again welcome our newest members.

Good wishes for the New Year,

Chris and Meg



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