



2013 ANNUAL REPORT



Global Minimum Inc.

Local Input. Global Output.

Our Vision

Global Minimum Inc. envisions to create a generation of dedicated innovators, problem-solvers, and makers who explore, develop and implement effective solutions to problems in their communities.

Our Mission

By providing young innovators with resources, spaces, and opportunities to create, Global Minimum Inc. aims to foster practical skills, self-efficacy, and an innovation mindset in young people throughout the world.

Background

Today, in many countries, the creativity and agency of young people are stifled. The voice of young people is ignored, and the young generations miss the opportunity to test their ideas for improving their societies. Furthermore, and perhaps most troubling, we do not see ourselves as an integral part of the solutions to the problems that face our communities. As a result, this culture of learned helplessness cuts the countries off from generations of good ideas and stunts the growth of creativity in talented young people.

How can we create an ecosystem that enables anyone to feel excited and passionate enough to solve a challenge? How can we not only ignite that spark of innovation but promote it so that young innovators can reach for the stars again?

GMin's solution is to create a set of programs that enable young people to get experience solving actual challenges in their local communities. We provide them with resources, spaces and opportunities to go through rapid prototyping, trial and error and learning through that process. We connect them to mentors to give them feedback and inspiration. We help them on a path to bringing those ideas into the world. We work with other institutions to follow through on this mission at all levels of society. In doing so, GMin wishes to foster practical skills, self-efficacy, and innovation mindset in youth.

Goals

1. Promote self-efficacy in youth
2. Foster role models whose innovation demonstrate the mindset of learning, constant growth, and social impact.
3. Identify, incubate, and scale an innovation framework.
4. Become thought leaders on implementation of social innovation.

Objectives

1. Develop local programs for youth that incorporate design thinking, making and empathy
2. Provide youth with expert mentorship, financial resources, workshops, and physical spaces for learning
3. Build partnerships with local government and other organizations
4. Monitor and evaluate programs and their impact on student learning

Programs

InChallenges

Innovation Challenge (InChallenge) is GMin's flagship program in which high school students work on solutions to problems they have identified in their communities. InChallenge elicits project proposals from high school students and, based on judging by an international and local panel, invites the most promising teams to a GMin Innovation Camp where they can formally present their ideas and receive feedback from judges and their peers. After the camp, InChallenge selects finalists who receive prize money to develop a prototype. The finalists are also paired with mentors who give them feedback and advice on their project.

InChallenge started in Sierra Leone in 2012. The first-of-its-kind competition in the country, Innovate Salone launched in over 30 secondary schools to enable youth with the tools, resources and mentorship needed to transform Sierra Leone into an innovation nation. Its' success has led to the rapid expansion of InChallenge across Africa, running a total of three competitions - Innovate Salone, Innovate Kenya and Innovate the Cape (South Africa) in 2013. Each competition challenges young people to think of creative ways in which they can face issues within their communities related to education, health, transportation, energy and civic engagement. InChallenge gives youth the chance to stand up and take a step toward making their solutions a reality.

New Initiatives

InLabs

In 2014, Global Minimum will launch Innovation Labs (InLabs), a new initiative which aims to foster a culture of creativity among youth. Drawing on the successes and insights from the national high-school InChallenge competitions - in which students entered their ideas and finalist teams were rewarded with capital, mentorship, and access to an innovation summer camp, these InLabs will provide every student in participating school communities the opportunity to learn design principles, collaboration and creative thinking.

Young people constitute more than 50 percent of the population in Sierra Leone, South Africa and Kenya. Supporting their entrepreneurial and creative capacities will promote innovation and economic development, and cultivate a transition from countries largely dependent on foreign aid toward societies where products and solutions are made locally.

Over the next two years, GMin will develop Innovation Labs (InLabs) in four secondary schools in Sierra Leone that have either previously participated in the national innovation challenge or schools that have a mission to enable hands-on learning. This initial investment will be the pilot of a larger project to make InLabs commonplace in every school and community in GMin's countries of operation. As such, these labs will be developed using a replicable and structured approach.

The three core requirements for InLabs are: safe and adequate physical space, technical tools, and mentorship and innovation leadership.

A) *Physical Space*: GMin and school staff will work together to identify a dedicated space for the InLab that will be accessible to all interested students. These spaces will be designed to enable creativity and freedom.

B) *Technical Tools*: GMin will provide technical tools in the form of themed toolkits (e.g., craft, digital media and electronic toolkits) and a curriculum guide for fostering innovation and design thinking that will include practical guidance through relevant case examples.

C) *Mentorship and Innovation Leadership*: Innovation Clubs, open to any interested students, will be formed in each school. Faculty mentors and student leaders of the Innovation Clubs will be responsible for management and administration of InLabs. GMin staff (e.g. InLabs Country Coordinator, Innovation Fellows, Design Squad) will coordinate with leaders of the Innovation Club in each school to organize workshops, hands on learning activities and provide support for equipment and materials.

The InLabs will serve as a haven, symbol, and space for innovation, where students will develop evolving prototypes and experience the creative freedom needed to explore new learning pathways and problem solving techniques.

InLabs is the perfect point of entry for youth who may be intimidated by confronting the challenges that surround them. InLabs can help change mindsets in and equip youth with the confidence and skills they need to start designing solutions to the problems they see in their communities.



Helga Shultz, finalist of Innovate Kenya '13, is demonstrating her team's Paraffin Pressure Burner.

Success Stories from 2013

This year has been one of the most exciting years for Global Minimum Inc. The success of Innovate Salone in 2012 has led to a rapid expansion of innovation competitions in **3 countries** across Africa. **1,200 students** applied with projects that make an impact in their local communities. More than **120 students** were chosen to develop prototypes that tackled challenges in health, education, safety, environment and civic engagement. Nearly **150 volunteers** from all over the world assisted youth as mentors and judges.

Some of the innovative prototypes produced by students this year include:

- An affordable local fire extinguisher made out of citric acid from rotten tomatoes and combining it with limestone to be used in the urban slums
- Paraffin pressure cooker that result in less air pollutants, hotter flame for cooking (i.e. faster cooking) and less use of kerosene to achieve the same heating needs
- Clean and smokeless charcoal briquettes made out of agricultural waste materials

The student projects have been so inspiring that they have been invited to showcase their innovations to over **21,000 people** on global stage. **3 participants** from Sierra Leone showcased their innovations at Google Sci Foo and delivered keynote panel at 2013 Interaction Design and Children conference. **4 student ambassadors** from Sierra Leone, Kenya and South Africa presented their innovations at Rockefeller Foundation's "**Next Century Innovators**"

Awards” in New York where Global Minimum Inc. was recognized out of 1,000 nominees for its work in youth empowerment through innovation.

To expand the organizational capacity, Global Minimum Inc. onboarded **three new directors** and launched a successful fundraising campaign, including **\$90,000 raised** through crowdfunding.



Kelvin Doe, a finalist of Innovate Salone 2012 was the youngest ever Visiting Practitioner at M.I.T.

Outlook for 2014

Drawing on the successes and insights from the innovation competitions, Global Minimum Inc. plans to expand its framework of learning, innovation and youth participation in 2014 with new set of tools to mobilize innovation.

Global Minimum’s highest priority in 2014 is to provide continued support to its existing partners - Innovate Salone, Innovate Kenya and Innovate the Cape - so that they can improve their operational capacities on the ground with wider student reach and deeper engagement with students. To that end, Global Minimum is creating a platform for knowledge sharing and reporting, developing metrics for monitoring and evaluation, and building a global judging and submission platform. Furthermore, Global Minimum is creating an InChallenge Guide based on its experience running innovation competitions in three countries. The purpose of the InChallenge Guide is to enable anyone to host an InChallenge in his or her community. The Guide will offer a step-by-step guide on how to launch an InChallenge from planning and preparation, outreach and awareness campaign, judging and application, to prototyping and scaling student projects. Global Minimum also hopes to work with two additional partners in 2014 who will benefit from the

InChallenge Guide. The prospective partners will undergo rigorous vetting process with Global Minimum Inc. Ultimately, the prospective partners must share the same goal and be commitment to the same vision.

In 2014, Global Minimum Inc. is also committed to piloting at least two InLabs in Sierra Leone as part of the **Clinton Global Initiative's Commitment to Action**. This initial investment will be the pilot of a larger project to make InLabs a commonplace in every secondary school and community in Sierra Leone. As such, these labs will be developed using a replicable and structured approach. The pilot InLabs, falling under the umbrella of Innovate Salone, will run prior to InChallenge in Sierra Leone. Global Minimum Inc. will be onboarding a new program director of InLabs to run a successful pilot InLabs. Together, with the new program director of InLabs, Global Minimum will develop a curriculum for InLabs, as well as metric for monitoring and evaluation in 2014.

In order to expand its operations and programs, Global Minimum is aiming to **raise one million dollars** in grants and corporate sponsorships over 2014.



Team from Kisimu Girls Higschool with their specially designed Rice Husk Stove.

Estimated Operating Budget for 2014

Item		Unit	Monthly Cost (USD)	Annual Budget (USD)
1. Total project activities				70,000
	Curriculum Development (Global)			10,000
	Seed Funding for Existing InChallenges (Local)			30,000
	Seed Funding for New InChallenges (Local)			10,000
	Training (Local)			10,000
	Events / Conference (Global)			10,000
2. Total investment				0
				0
3. Total salaries				171,000
	Directors (Global)	3	3,000	108,000
	Country Directors (Local)	3	1,000	36,000
	Program Managers (Local)	3	500	18,000
	Fellows (Local)	2	250	6,000
	Summer Intern (Local)	8	125	3,000
4. Total (local) administration				93,000
	Rent (Sierra Leone)		250	3,000
	Rent (South Africa)		500	6,000
	Rent (Kenya)		500	6,000
	Rent (New Country A)		500	6,000
	Rent (New Country B)		500	6,000
	Utilities (Sierra Leone)		300	3,600
	Utilities (South Africa)		300	3,600

	Utilities (Kenya)		300	3,600
	Utilities (New Country A)		300	3,600
	Utilities (New Country B)		300	3,600
	Communication (Sierra Leone)		100	1,200
	Communication (South Africa)		100	1,200
	Communication (Kenya)		100	1,200
	Communication (New Country A)		100	1,200
	Communication (New Country B)		100	1,200
	Event (Sierra Leone)		100	1,200
	Event (South Africa)		100	1,200
	Event (Kenya)		100	1,200
	Event (New Country A)		100	1,200
	Event (New Country B)		100	1,200
	Material (Sierra Leone)		100	1,200
	Material (South Africa)		100	1,200
	Material (Kenya)		100	1,200
	Material (New Country A)		100	1,200
	Material (New Country B)		100	1,200
	Equipment (Sierra Leone)		100	1,200
	Equipment (South Africa)		100	1,200
	Equipment (Kenya)		100	1,200
	Equipment (New Country A)		100	1,200
	Equipment (New Country B)		100	1,200
	Travel (Sierra Leone)		400	4,800
	Travel (South Africa)		400	4,800
	Travel (Kenya)		400	4,800
	Travel (New Country A)		400	4,800
	Travel (New Country B)		400	4,800
5. Total M&E				15,000

	Innovation Challenge monitoring			5,000
	Innovation Labs monitoring			5,000
	External evaluation and reviews			5,000
6. Audit				5,000
7. Subtotal 1				354,000
8. Contingency				35,400
9. Subtotal 2				389,400
10. Overhead				27,258
11. Grand Total				416,658

Consolidated Statements of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2013

Amounts in US Dollars

Cash Donations

Amount in USD

Individuals	92,961
Private Foundations	56,000
Private Corporations	10,000
<i>Total Donations</i>	<i>158,961</i>

Cash Expenses

Amount in USD

Innovate Kenya	20,286
Innovate Sierra Leone	33,346
Innovate the Cape	10,000
Innovator visits in the US	5,205
Administrative overhead	915
<i>Total Expenses</i>	<i>69,752</i>

Balance Sheet	Amount in USD
Total Assets January 1st 2013	39,128
Change in Cash Position in 2013	89,209
<i>Total Assets December 31st 2013</i>	<i>128,337</i>
Liabilities January 1st 2013	0
Liabilities December 31st 2013	4,419
Net assets December 31st 2013	123,918
<i>Total Liabilities December 31st 2013</i>	<i>128,337</i>

Notes

Note 1: GMin is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt non-profit incorporated in New Jersey

Note 2: These statements are unaudited.

Note 3: Global Minimum will engage a Certified Public Account in 2014 to audit these statements.

Note 4: Global Minimum's net assets are unrestricted

Note 5: The December 31st liabilities are reimbursements for outlays in connection with Innovator Visits

Note 6: Innovator Visits are trips to the US where finalists from GMin's InChallenges present their work

Note 7: Global Minimum plans to spend its net assets in 2014 as it scales its activities