

April 16, 2014

Global Enterprise Experience (GEE) 2014 was one of the most awaited journeys for me, as this was my third time on this truly global business adventure. As soon as I got an email from the GEE, I applied for this new edition forming a pair with one of my friends at the university. Since I was already a part of GEE 2012 and 2013, I knew what the beauty of this competition is. So, I was really eager to make new friends worldwide, know their global business ideas and interests on entrepreneurship.

With GEE approaching near, I started checking my dropbox quite frequently. The email saying that bios have been uploaded made me full of excitement. Going through bios of so many amazing people was really great and fun, indeed. This year my objective of joining GEE was not as usual. As I am graduating from university this summer, I want to start my own business. So, I was looking for co-founders and investors among the people at geebiz to kick start my venture, in real.

The real adventure began during the first initial days at GEE, where I went through all of our team member's bios and we added each other on facebook. We also created a facebook group and google group for regular communications and updates. Facebook proved to be a very productive platform for us to work and share. Our team leader Matt knew how to get the most out of people in a group. Initially, he asked us all to share our ideas and we started brainstorming on different ideas as they come by. Matt also made it clear that we will be selecting the ideas through a democratic process, where each idea will be voted by every person and the one with the most number of votes will be worked upon.

I waited for all my team mates to forward their ideas first. During this time, I was doing a preliminary research on my own idea. We were discussing on different ideas on our online group and it was already the first day of second week at GEE. Then, I posted my idea with a detailed description on the 8th day of our journey and asked my friends for their views regarding it, along with comments and criticisms. Now, it was time for us to vote for the better ideas. Here, I was shocked and pleased to know that everyone active in the group liked my idea and voted for it. With this, my idea was ultimately chosen for the business plan preparation and we started discussing on the same.

During this period, working online on limited time to build a feasible business plan with use of limited resources was not that easy. However, with the optimum utilization of whatever we had, our cloud team was able to make it, providing enormous learning opportunities to each other. We really did not want to work it out easy this time. So, we planned to think and work out of the box to build a business incubation center in Nepal. We started exploring the possibilities for partnership with the local organizations with better credibility. We asked for appointments and went out to meet them. We also conducted a survey and a focused group discussion among aspiring entrepreneurs and startups in Nepal

I was lucky to have Sonam, a member in our team from Nepal. Her hard work and commitment during the meeting and research in Nepal is highly commendable. Despite of the problems here like irregular internet connections, long hours of power shedding, my prior commitments and fear of final university papers, we were able to make it successfully. We, as a GEE team are really planning to implement this project 'Startup Machine' in Nepal. Therefore, I am sincerely thankful to the organizers and supporters of Global Enterprise Experience 2014. Looking forward to your next edition.