

MEDIA RELEASE

SOLVING TODAY'S CHALLENGES WITH DIGITAL INNOVATION – THE GLOBAL TOP 40

World Summit Awards present a global spectre of change making projects ranging from big data for tourism to organ 3D printing, from a job-platform focusing on female IT talent to empowering smallholder farms – no matter what the technology, it's the unique content that makes these top 40 exceptional.

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It sounds somewhat like something out of a science fiction novel.

Organ as a Service, one of the three WSA Winners 2017 from Germany, is a unique link between biotechnology and software. The team developed Computer-aided design software, which allows the user to create the file of a functional tissue model. To grant worldwide access to the software it is developed as a web-based platform.

Organ as a Service is just one example of the **2017 selection of digital innovation solving today's challenges**. The WSA winners from 23 countries in 6 regions have been selected in a 2 step online expert jury selection process with 70 jurors from over **400 nominations from 180 countries worldwide**. The final jury phase concluded in an on-site three days meeting of 17 international high level experts, deciding in a democratic and transparent process on the most powerful and content rich solutions 2017.

Big Data is the slogan of the hour, not only among the 6 Asian winners. One of the two Malaysian WSA winners is **TravelCompute Travel & Tourism Big Data Platform**, using cutting edge machine learning & artificial intelligence (AI) techniques to collect, mine, process & present the data in an intuitive manner in order to render meaningful insights for the national & local tourism organizations, travel management companies, destination management companies, hoteliers, airlines and other travel related companies.

Among 8 Latin American winners is **Laboratoria** from Chile, which provides an innovative education program that trains low-income young women with the technical and soft skills and subsequently matches them with companies that need tech talent, while still continuing on the job training. More than 600 students have graduated from the program in Peru, Mexico and Chile, with a job placement rate above 75% only three months after graduating.

AgroCenta works to empower small holder farmers in the poorest and most environmentally challenged areas of Ghana. Poor agricultural practices can shift the balance of a farm permanently into crisis and extreme poverty. AgroCenta uses an integrated technology platform that promotes sustainable agriculture, job creation and fair incomes. AgroCenta's solution includes commodities aggregations and a sales platform, truck renting, an informational and a financial inclusion platform.

40 Winners from 23 countries, selected from over 400 nominations from 180 countries.

WSA 2017 once more presents a diameter of digital innovation from Chile to Malaysia, from Nigeria to Finland. Be it a miniature AED machine with diagnostic app, an environmental behaviour training game, or a tiny programmable computer that supports/encourages school children to learn coding, the WSA Winners 2017 offer a vast spectre of digital innovation globally.

The WSA winners 2017 will present their innovations and receive their awards at the WSA Global Congress in Vienna, Austria (March 20-22 2018). The agenda of the WSA Congress will be a compilation of interaction and inspiration, combining workshops, business blind-dates and inspiring keynotes & bringing together the global and multi-stakeholder network of WSA.

WSA promotes and recognizes the uniqueness of digital innovation with impact on society.

"To drive meaningful and relevant digital innovation, you have to serve local needs and compare with global excellence. With the WSA we recognize innovation of tomorrow already today. This

year's winners are an excellent selection of this momentum, matching local solutions to local needs, with global relevance. WSA highlights the diversity and excellence in digital content with impact on society.", [WSA Chairman Peter A. Bruck](#) states.

About the WSA

The World Summit Award is a global initiative within the framework of the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). WSA is the only ICT event worldwide, that reaches the mobile community in over 180 countries.

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