

More Israeli mentoring at Idea



We had the great pleasure to welcome a very distinguished guest, **Professor Eugene Kandel**, CEO of Start-up Nation Central and a Professor at Hebrew University of Jerusalem. IDEA teams had the opportunity to present their projects to him and benefit



from his vast experience and network. Representatives from the Israeli Embassy in Cyprus also participated, along with representatives of our Cyprus Embassy in Israel and from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus.

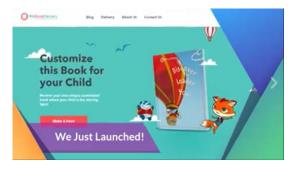
Thank you all for your valuable support to our "young" initiatives!





In his appearances, Professor Kandel brought with him the Israeli wisdom towards creating a more innovative nation. Some of these ingredients are believing in ourselves, being passionate about what we can achieve, embracing and supporting our young people, accepting failure and getting back on our feet again, building on our position in Europe, embedding innovation & entrepreneurship in education, empowering universities so as to become stronger players and carriers of innovation and much more.

Yes, our team MyBookHeroes has launched!



https://www.mybookheroes.com/gr

Congratulations to our team MyBook Heroes who has just launched!

Maria, Sergey, Daniel and Maarja came to IDEA last April, with just an idea and a lot of passion. After a lot of **really hard work** and a lot of nurturing support, they are now a real business, having already sold over 150 books internationally, in just two weeks!

We believe that we should all support this young, enthusiastic Cypriot start-up to grow and to make us all proud! A great chance to order our customized books for the kids that we love, a great gift for the Christmas, a great gift for their birthdays or for any other day of the year!

And remember, their next book for the series is coming out in January 2018!



Start Up Chile with us again! An IDEA – Ministry of Foreign Affairs joint event



Sebastian Diaz, the CMO Start-Up Chile during his presentation "Chile's Billion-Dollar-Making Crazy Experiment" gave us his views on a more advanced Cypriot innovation ecosystem:

"... Cyprus has a great opportunity nowadays, just like Chile 10 years ago.

Cyprus can become one of the best startup hubs in the world, thanks to your strategic location, a bridge between Middle East/Asia and Europe. That moment is now! And you'll achieve that, by connecting all the dots in your ecosystem. **Private** and **public** sector, **universities**, the **media** must be connected in order to have a clear environment for entrepreneurs, along with clear regulations.

In order to become a startup hub, first you need to focus in the **culture**, just like Chile did: **Embrace failure!** This will take a few years, because becoming a startup hub is not from one day to another.

That's why long term vision is a key, especially from the public sector, this must be a **state vision** more than a government vision. Once the Cypriot way of doing business accept the startup culture, you can start focusing in the strategic industries that you have, such as clean tech and not only. You have the talent! I saw it! And they are working in many industries. Now, you have to empower all the entrepreneurs that you already have. In a second stage, you can focus on the development of those strategic industries that will take our ecosystem to the next level."

Welcome Back Nestfold! Tell us all about NASA!



We had the pleasure to have with us at Idea the team Nestfold, upon their return from NASA. We discussed their feelings from their amazing experience from their almost mythical trip, for which IDEA and the Bank of Cyprus assisted in becoming real. The young entrepreneurs are embarking now to more innovative plans.

Well done team, keep up the hard work!

Working Breakfast at Presidential Palace



IDEA was invited at the working Breakfast at the Presidential Palace, to discuss the way forward towards creating a hub for Climate Innovation & Entrepreneurship in Cyprus.

The Minister of Interior Mr. Constantinos Petrides welcomed the guests on behalf of the H.E. the President of the Republic of Cyprus. **Ms Christina Karapataki**, the distinguished Cypriot entrepreneus from Houston, gave her specific suggestions on the road to create a Climate Hub.

The discussion was facilitated by Assistant Professor Alexandros Charalambides.



Round table discussion on Trade Marks & Community Design - Chamber of Commerce of Industry



CCI Nicosia invited IDEA at a round table discussion with the President of the Board of Appeals and members of the European Union Intellectual Property Office along with representatives of other businesses of Cyprus. The aspects affecting startups were brought up and discussed, with regards to the protection system of European Trade Marks and Community Design.



Solving pressing industrial challenges with mathematical modelling - Cyprus Chamber of Commerce &



IDEA participated in an interesting industry-academia workshop at CCCI, organized by the pan-European Mathematics for Industry Network (MI-NET, COST Action TD1409), the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the British High Commission in Cyprus and the Cyprus University of Technology. Companies and researchers were brought together and several successful collaborations between universities and companies were presented by international and local experts. The event concluded with a lively discussion and a networking session that enabled the participants to identify together new industry-academia collaborations.

Contribution from Partners to teams

Strong support was offered to our teams from our valued partners. This month **Leo Burnett** and **Lellos P. Demetriades** worked intensively with the teams on pressing matters, especially on launching.

Special thanks to **Bank of Cyprus** and its **Corporate Affairs Division** for its tangible, business and multifaceted support to our newly launching team, MyBook Heroes. Such support from such a large corporate company is critical to the first steps of a startup.

Thank you all for making this happen!







Innovation / Leo Burner Deloitte.

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What Idea is again?...



IDEA is an Incubator-Accelerator that aspires to boost the entrepreneurial spirit and put Cyprus high on the innovation map, by **changing mindsets...** Its purpose is to promote entrepreneurial activities and support the establishment and growth of viable startup companies, so as to ultimately contribute to job creation for youth at a national level.

With its programme, it hosts startup companies offering them the highest quality of supporting and business services, so as to turn their innovative ideas into viable businesses with a global outlook.

Within all the support offered, we give great emphasis in making the teams understand that the major success factor remains, **themselves**: Their passion, their determination, their sense of urgency, their hard work, their commitment, their willingness to give and take, their aspirations and perseverance. We give great emphasis on the important role of each startup, which is to **become an example** for others and gradually **give back to the ecosystem**, give back to the new startups... **Give, take** and **share** are integral parts of IDEA culture.

Other initiatives – local

Chrysalis LEAP organised a spectacular competition with more than 100 clean-tech start-ups from all over the world presenting their ideas, through inspired keynote speaches and expert workshops.





The Cyprus Space Exploration Organisation introduced a pioneering innovation programme, aiming to give to young people the opportunity to create startups in the industry – Space Startups. The talented youth will receive the necessary training, mentoring and guidance, plus access to space data.

Youth Board of Cyprus introduced "Ideodromio", a venue for gathering ideas, to serve as a tool of ideation, exchange and development of ideas, and creative discussions amongst young people. It will be used by the staff of the Board for the development of new ideas, programs and activities. In addition, young people may visit it to use it in discussing their ideas.





Founder Institute Cyprus organized the event "Startup Legal 101: Advice from top startup lawyers in Cyprus"



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Gravity, a new incubator in Nicosia that provides working space, services and equipment for startups, announced a new call. Gravity's founder is the Cyprus Research and Innovation Center (CyRIC), a certified Cyprus Business Innovation Center (EU|BIC). All the best Gravity!









Women entrepreneurship initiatives









Initiatives abroad - Greece









