Young Tunisian Coders Academy

In a world dominated by technology, kids are growing surrounded by hundreds of electronic devices that they interact with in every day of their lives. We aim to establish a coding academy for young people in Tunisia. The main idea is to introduce youngsters to programming skills such as mobile applications development, game industry…Our vision is to raise a generation that will lead the technological revolution in Tunisia and path the way onto the Information Age.

**CATEGORY**
Access to Education

**LOCATION**
Tunisia

**WHAT IS THE CHALLENGE OR NEED YOUR PROJECT WILL ADDRESS AND WHAT INNOVATIVE METHODS WILL YOU EMPLOY?**

Describe the specific need or challenge that your team will address with this project
In a world dominated by technology, kids are growing surrounded by hundreds of electronic devices that they interact with in every day of their lives. We aim to establish a coding academy for young people in Tunisia. The main idea is to introduce youngsters to programming skills such as mobile applications development, game industry…Our vision is to raise a generation that will lead the technological revolution in Tunisia and path the way onto the Information Age.

Briefly describe the specific solution or approach to address the need or challenge and explain why it is innovative
We know that the Hot tech service Sector is the future and most developed countries are aware and already started putting up strategies to take over control on this sector. So our intent is to keep Tunisia in the run through their youth.
A coding academy is a platform for creative and innovative young brains. We are addressing a new idea that has never been considered for kids and outside schools in Tunisia. Our Coding Academy will help the youth and will impact positively on their way to think regardless their field of study. In fact, coding will develop their logic and perspective of things.

How will the project impact your community? What changes (in people, institutions, attitudes, practices) do you think you will see?
Nowadays, our country Tunisia is living a delicate democratic transition. A very sensitive period where the country is counting on its youth to develop new innovative solutions. As alumni, we are committed to contribute to this development by applying what we learnt during our exchange period in the US, a leader country in technology and information systems as president Obama said: “If we want America to stay on the cutting edge, we need young Americans to master the tools and technology that will change the way we do just about everything”
If you make youth love coding, If you make passionate about it, If you show them that it can became their future Job, then you may fill their free hours with education and protect them from the streets (violence, drugs, extremism).
This project will be the spark that will induct the innovative spirit in our youth and also install a new mindset among the kids. It’s not just a programming school, it’s a school of life.

**WHO WILL BE INVOLVED?**

Beneficiaries: who are your target groups (or communities) and how many people will
directly benefit from your project?
We are essentially targeting children aged between 10 and 16. People with disabilities will be encouraged to participate. We estimate to have around 80 youngster from different regions of Tunisia for the first year. The number will increase every year. By 2020, 1000 or more child will directly or indirectly benefit from our program.

Local partners

Ministry of Education & Ministry of Youth: The collaboration with the ministry of education will focus on three different workspaces. First of all, the elaboration of the curriculum and the different levels that will be taught during the training cycle will be done with the help from ministry pedagogic experts. Secondly, we are going to ask the ministry logistics in order to ensure accommodation, teaching spaces, food and transportation. Finally, the implication of the ministry in following and monitoring the progress of the realization phases as well as the evaluation of the project outputs.

IEEE (The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers): The world's largest association of technical professionals with more than 400,000 members in chapters around the world) Tunisia Section: as three members of our team are active members within IEEE association in their home universities would make the potential collaboration efficiency more guaranteed. In fact, The IEEE Tunisia Section is able to offer this project with talented trainers that will ensure the coding training to the kids. Furthermore, the fact that IEEE student branches are located in almost every Tunisian engineering school will ensure tutors with the required technical and soft skills geographically dispersed in all the Tunisian territory.

Young Science Association: This association will have a very important role adding diversity of the educational content by providing workshops and coaching kids while realizing small and simple projects.

LEO CLUB DISTRICT 414 TUNISIA: The role of this association is to animate our events with cultural activities.

Note: The AEIF team will be the major contributor to the project.

Alumni team

Project Implementer (Achraf):
- First responsible of the project progress and legal aspects
- Ensure coordination between project subcommittees and members

Talent Management and Recruitment Team: (Omar, Nidham)
- Recruit and form trainers, set schedules and dates
- Schedule and manage internal communication and team meetings

Technical Support and Logistics Team: (Slim)
- Ensure working spaces, classrooms and needed tools for project members and trainers.
- Provide accommodation, transportation and food

External Relations Team: (Kyane, Abdellatif)
- Negotiate and sign contracts with our partners
- Look for potential financial and logistic resources to the project to main

Media Outreach and Promoting Team: (Faten, Ghazoua)
- Develop and generates promotif tools such as flyers and youtube videos and pictures
- Manage social media accounts and share project updates with our audience

Finance and Accounting: (Fattoum)
- Manage funds and guard project official documents
- Prepare monthly financial monthly reports

Proposed Project Dates: September 01, 2015 - August 31, 2016

HOW AND WHEN WILL YOU IMPLEMENT YOUR PROJECT?
Implementing Plan and Timeline

Phase 0: August-September 2015
Team building, brainstorming and planification.
Task dispatching
Contacting the local authorities and organizations: our external relations team will be holding meetings with the different youth organizations, schools, and officials from the ministry of education.

Phase 1: October-November 2015
Elaborate the pedagogic content of our lectures for the first edition.
Fix the classes’ schedule
Start contacting Youth Centers and schools for teaching spaces and accommodation.
Launch a media promotion campaign (audiovisual, printed, and social media)

Phase 2: November 2015-December 2015
Talent recruitment and Kids’ inscription
Contact and recruit trainers (volunteers).
Drive pre-class survey study about expectations of both trainers and trainees

Phase 3: January 2016 - July 2016
Class begins
Follow up surveys.
Feedback assessment.
Prepare final event and competition

Phase 4: August 2016 (Final Event)
Class ends.
Award outstanding trainers and students.
Invite and honor partners during closing ceremony of the first edition

Communication Plan
Effective communication has a key role in the success of this project. Our team will focus on the use of every possible way to promote the project and its objectives to our stakeholders. First of all, our beneficiaries (kids) will be informed about the project in their schools, essentially via teachers who will receive project from the ministry. Then the team will collect participants’ personal and academic information of the kids as well as their parents in order to provide them with the project updates.

To promote our project, our communication plan is based essentially on social media. This tool is very important especially in Tunisia considering the fact that since the revolution in 2011, Tunisian people have been using social media to promote a new set of values such as patriotism, freedom, women’s rights and gender equality and fighting corruption.

We will address a message to our community via some popular faces in Tunisia such as actors, athletes and politicians like this inspiring message from President Obama to the american people.(Link to the video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6XvmhE1J9PY)
Also our website will be the platform that contains teaching sources, and shares updates and information about the project and also keep the doors open for kids willing to join the academy.
As part of our promotive plan is to maximize our appearances in audiovisual media such as TVs and Radios and print news from kids’ magazines to top rated newspapers. So that we can reach of the maximum of audience.

Evaluation
Pre, In and Post formation surveys and follow ups: kids and their parents will have to fill surveys before going on the training cycle to have a glimpse about their expectations in a first place. Then, we will keep tracking and assessing the content being taught and we will try to improve it.

Interviews: we will interview kids, parents, and we will set up an online scoring system that will allow us to decide who the best performer among our tutors and award him.
Meetings: We will set a schedule of monthly meetings with our trainers to keep them up to date in
case of curriculum change. We will also communicate the feedbacks we had received from our beneficiaries.

-Social Media Statistics: We will make sure that the number of our followers on social media is increasing which reflects the growth of our audience both on a national and an international scale.

-Online Survey and suggestions: We will create a space of interactions with the public to hear about their thoughts and suggestions.

Sustainability
The project implementers will be actively engaged in an ongoing effort to raise funds to continue and expand this work in the future. The astonishing success of the first edition of the project, which is our ultimate goal, will surely attract companies that encourage and support initiatives that have a previous proof of success like our project. New partners will be interested in investing and contributing to the organization financial stability. We will also keep on extending our network of trainers by providing acknowledgeable certificates and awards. It’s a simple reward and recognition system that will ensure the loyalty of our trainers who are mostly volunteers; teachers and students. From a human resources point of view, we will work on extending our team by setting up a strategy to recruit new motivated members.

TOTAL FUNDING REQUESTED

$23,000.00

PROPOSAL DOCUMENT:

Download budget