

WISE ACCELERATOR 2017-18 COHORT ANNOUNCED

Four Promising EdTech Initiatives from France, Lebanon, and the U.K. Selected by WISE

Doha, Qatar, October 3, 2017 – The World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE), a leading international initiative driving innovation and collaboration in education, has revealed the names of four projects selected to benefit from the 2017-18 WISE Accelerator program.

The selected 2017-18 WISE Accelerator projects are:

CamBioScience (U.K.) – A cloud platform delivering individualized online courses in life science technologies for professionals in academia and industry. Its aim is to respond to the demands of the rapidly advancing fields of science and technology, and an ever-increasing share of jobs requiring a background in STEM.

Doc Academy (U.K.) – An education program aiming to develop critical and independent thinking in young people. Using the power of documentary film as a stimulus for learning and debate, Doc Academy is designed to help teachers and students think about the world, society, and their place in it.

Pixis (France) – An online platform aiming to become the college counselor of the future through the use of artificial intelligence and data science, with the goal of transforming career guidance. Pixis helps students explore and identify meaningful degrees and jobs.

Tabshoura in a Box (Lebanon) – An initiative of Lebanese Alternative Learning that deploys an offline server filled with digital resources. Aligned with the Lebanese school curriculum, the content is designed to fill learning gaps and avoid school dropouts in deprived areas of Lebanon and refugee communities.

Each year, the WISE Accelerator program supports the development of young, innovative EdTech projects with high potential for scalability and positive impact in the field of education. The chosen projects will benefit from a year-long mentorship program tailored to address their specific needs.

WISE Accelerator also serves as an intermediary to connect these projects with an international network that creates opportunities to share knowledge and find support from donors and investors. Stavros N. Yiannouka, CEO, WISE, said: “These four promising initiatives offer smart solutions to pressing education challenges including the need for 21st century skills to prepare for an uncertain future of work, the rapidly advancing field of STEM, and the global refugee crisis. We are pleased to welcome these projects to the WISE Accelerator program, where they will benefit from mentorship and global connections, enabling them to develop and scale for the benefit of the wider community.”

The WISE Accelerator projects will be invited to take part in specific working sessions and will be offered unique networking opportunities. Representatives from each project will also attend the upcoming WISE Summit in Doha, Qatar, taking place from November 14–16, 2017, where they will meet previous WISE Accelerator beneficiaries.

Peter Mousaferiadis, CEO of Cultural Infusion and part of the 2016-2017 WISE Accelerator cohort, said: “Being part of the WISE Accelerator program has provided us with a platform for international visibility

and allowed us to forge new partnerships."

Additionally, Henry Motte-Munoz, CEO of Edukasyon and also part of the 2016-2017 WISE Accelerator cohort, said: "The WISE Accelerator program has proved transformational for Edukasyon.ph. It has exposed us to various education leaders and innovators, clients, potential investors, and, more importantly, to a network of like-minded entrepreneurs who have been incredibly helpful. We couldn't recommend it more highly."

WISE, an initiative of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), launched the WISE Accelerator program in 2014. For more information, please visit www.wise-qatar.org

Photo Caption

Image 1: CamBioScience, one of the selected projects from the 2017-18 WISE Accelerator program.

Image 2: CamBioScience, one of the selected projects from the 2017-18 WISE Accelerator program.

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About the World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE):

The World Innovation Summit for Education was established by Qatar Foundation in 2009 under the leadership of its Chairperson, Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. WISE is an international, multi-sectoral platform for creative, evidence-based thinking, debate, and purposeful action in education. Through the biennial summit, collaborative research and a range of on-going programs, WISE is a global reference in new approaches to education. WISE 2017 will take place in Doha November 14-16 under the theme: "Co-Exist, Co-Create: Learning to Live and Work Together".

For further information about WISE, visit www.wise-qatar.org

About the WISE Accelerator:

The WISE Accelerator is designed to support the development of innovative education initiatives with high potential for scalability and positive impact. Selected projects receive the guidance and expertise of qualified mentors and partners who provide effective strategies and practical support for their further development.

A cohort of projects is selected annually to join the one-year program. Throughout the year they benefit from tailor-made mentorships to address specific needs. The WISE Accelerator helps the selected projects connect with international networks, find support among potential donors and investors, and creates knowledge sharing opportunities.

Find out more: <https://www.wise-qatar.org/wise-accelerator>

About the WISE Accelerator Sponsor:

Santander

Banco Santander, based in Spain, is a leading retail and commercial bank with a meaningful market share in ten core countries in Europe and the Americas. Through Santander Universities, the bank supports the Higher Education sector in such areas as teaching and research, international cooperation, knowledge and technology transfer, entrepreneurship, university modernization, student national and international mobility and innovation, among others. Santander Universities maintains 1,200 collaboration agreements with universities and research centers around the world. Santander tops the Global Fortune 500 List as the company that invests the most in Corporate Social Responsibility in connection with education.