DEMOCRATISING INNOVATION

Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC) is the State Government's think tank body tasked with promoting innovation in Kerala. In today's social realm of increasing significance of knowledge-based activities, innovation has turned out to be a social driver.
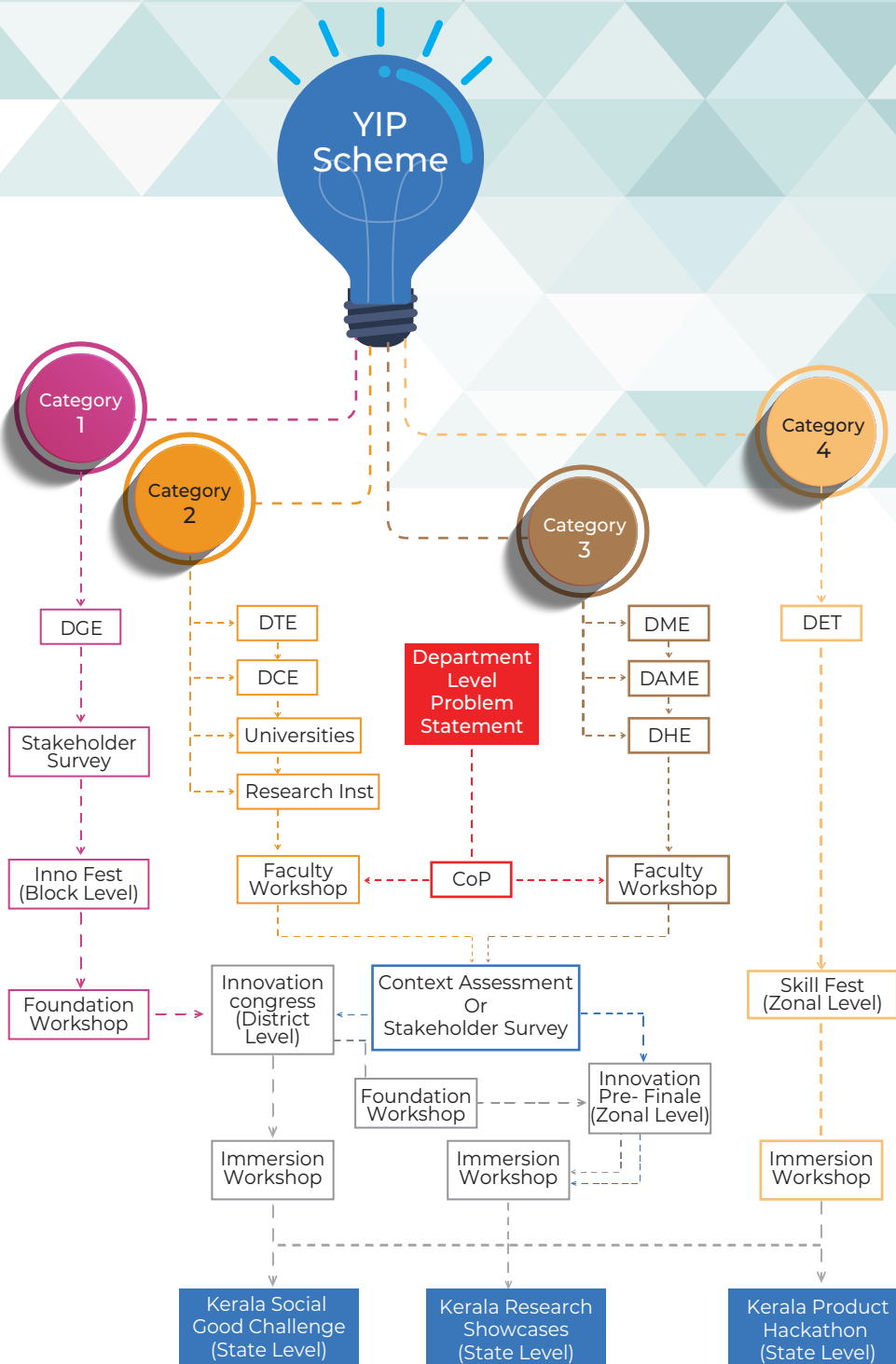
Young Innovators Programme (YIP) is the flagship project of K-DISC designed to transform the vision of a knowledge society in a way that is suited to our State through the promotion of innovations that bring about equitable and sustainable development of Kerala and provide solutions for real-life problems, and which are socially and economically beneficial to the society at large.

Objectives of YIP

- Enhancing identified youth with collaborative, creative problem solving and leadership skills and design thinking.

- Empower youth through immersive programmes to Learn Empathise Accelerate and Disrupt. (LEAD)

- Mentoring them and intensifying networking to build a product or develop a process.

- Tracking the young innovators and linking them to institutions, industries, enterprises, and prospective funding agencies.

- Building a strong pool of mentors to identify, assess and track innovations as well as provide young innovators the necessary academic, domain specific as well as psycho-social support necessary through the process.

- Preparing the next generation of youth in Kerala to apply Industry 4.0 related skills within an overarching framework of Design Thinking for applying acquired Sciences, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) skills to solve open questions, and hard-to-solve "wicked" problems complex challenges, overcome local and hyperlocal developmental issues.

y1p
YOUNG INNOVATORS PROGRAMME

YIP Scheme

Category 1

Category 2

Category 3

Category 4

Category 1	Category 2	Department Level Problem Statement	Category 3	Category 4
DGE	DTE		DME	DET
Stakeholder Survey	DCE		DAME	
Inno Fest (Block Level)	Universities		DHE	Skill Fest (Zonal Level)
Foundation Workshop	Research Inst			
	Faculty Workshop	CoP	Faculty Workshop	

Innovation congress (District Level)

Context Assessment Or Stakeholder Survey

Foundation Workshop

Innovation Pre- Finale (Zonal Level)

Immersion Workshop

Immersion Workshop

Immersion Workshop

Kerala Social Good Challenge (State Level)

Kerala Research Showcases (State Level)

Kerala Product Hackathon (State Level)

Category 1 stream covers students in High Schools, Higher Secondary Schools and Vocational Higher Secondary Schools wherein block-level InnoFests are organised after local-level Voice of the Stakeholder surveys.

Category 2 stream covers students of Arts and Science Colleges, Business School and Engineering Colleges as well as University Departments and young researchers in Research Centres wherein cluster-level faculty exposure workshops on real-life problem solving are attempted leading to Innovation Congresses at the district level.

Category 3 stream covers students in Medical Colleges, Dental Colleges, Homeopathy College, Ayurveda colleges, Pharmacy Colleges, Nursing Colleges and Para-medical Schools. Faculty workshops leading to zonal innovation pre-finale sessions are held here.

Category 4 stream covers Industrial Training Institutes, Kerala State Institute of Design and Indian Institute of Infrastructure and Construction for whom a Skill Fest will be organised at the zonal level and the winners of this event will proceed to the State-level final. VHSE students belonging to Category 1 will be provided an option to participate in this stream.

The culmination of YIP will be the State-level Innovation Finale across all the four categories. This will be organised in three events viz. Product Hackathons, Social Good Challenges and Research Showcases.

Stakeholder Survey

Stakeholder Survey intends to ensure students approach and speak to stakeholders to understand if the ideas they are developing are relevant and useful. This covers Product Development, Social Good and Research verticals. This activity will be preceded by a short self-administered online training module.The surveys have to be documented and submitted by the ideators.

InnoFest

InnoFest is a poster presentation contest for Category 1 students, planned to be held at a block-level. The objective is to enable the students to present their ideas in a simple format and also to understand if they have done the Stakeholder Survey.

Innovation Congress

The Innovation Congress held online at the district level is applicable to Category 12. Students from Category 1 who have cleared the InnoFest and students from Category 2 who have completed the Context Assessment/Stakeholder Survey will be part of this event. Category 2 students taking part in Innovation Congress will pick a problem from the Problem Shelf.

Innovation Prefinale

The Innovation Prefinale is held for shortlisted students from Category 2 and as the primary round for Category 3 students. Category 2 students are expected to incorporate their learning from the previous training.

The Prefinale will be an online event and will be held at a zonal level. The zones shall be as follows.

Thiruvananthapuram
(Thiruvananthapuram and Kollam)

Kottayam
(Kottayam, Pathanamthitta, Alappuzha and Idukki)

Thrissur
(Thrissur, Palakkad and Ernakulam)

Kozhikode
(Kozhikode, Wayanad and Malappuram)

Kannur
(Kannur and Kasaragod)

Skill Fest

Skill Fest is applicable for Category 4 students at district-level to provide a track for them to demonstrate innovation in their skills through product or process based improvements.

Finale

The finale for the YIP will be conducted in three groups viz:

Kerala Product Hackathon

The Product Hackathon is the final round of selection for the candidates. Any product-based idea/solution will be part of this group. As a part of this Hackathon, the students will be given access to: Domain & Technical facilitators who will provide inputs to the students for developing their idea. The outcome of this event will be a Minimum Viable Design with specifications which can be presented to a panel for evaluation. This will be an offline event held at five locations.

Kerala Research Showcase

The Research Showcase aims to evaluate research proposals which are submitted by the students and select the winners. Candidates coming into the Showcase are expected to present a research proposal with appropriate tools and hypothesis which is to be tested. The funding required is also to be outlined. This will be an offline event held at five locations.

Kerala Social Good Challenge

The Social Good challenge aims at evaluating students who have submitted social enterprise ideas. An idea in this category can be a product or a solution, however, it must have a not-for-profit or a self-sustainable model to ensure it can be deployed and sustained. Social Good Challenge will be offline and be held at five locations.

Training

Students undergo these trainings as part of the Finale:

Stakeholder Survey

This is an online self-administered module which aims to educate the students about the importance of talking to stakeholders. Innovators must be able to define and understand stakeholder pain points to solve problems. This will help students who are pursuing research problems to define a clear hypothesis. The module is 20 minutes long and will be available in the app after registration.

Foundation Workshop (Categories 1 and 2)

The foundation workshop will be on Fundamentals of Design Thinking. This helps students to understand the basic tools required to define a problem and identify an appropriate solution for it. Some elements of this course will be defined to help students who are pursuing research problems as well. A workbook will be provided to the students to help translate their learning into ideas.

Immersion Workshop

The immersion workshop will have training in the following elements:

Product & Social Good Track

1. Design Thinking Immersion
2. Intellectual Property Overview
3. Business Plan Development
4. Prototyping Fundamentals

Research Track

1. Fundamentals of Research Methodology
2. Framing of a Research Proposal
3. Intellectual Property Overview

Community of Practice

The Community of Practice (CoP) enables creation of breakthrough ideas, new knowledge and practices through a confluence of knowledge exchange between research institutions, practitioners, industry professionals and domain experts.

Faculty Workshops

The faculty workshops are aimed at enabling the faculty with understanding of the Problem Shelf and cascading them to students in their respective institutions. This will happen cluster-wise and will be led by the Community of Practice members.

Themes of YIP

y1p
YOUNG INNOVATORS PROGRAMME

- Good governance and public service delivery
- Animal Husbandry and Poultry Sciences
- Agriculture and Plant Sciences
- Public Health
- Traditional Industries and Micro Small and Medium Enterprises
- Dairy and Food Technologies
- Complementary and Alternative Medicine – AYUSH
- Problems of Children
- Water conservation and drinking water
- Problems of the Elderly
- Assistive Technologies and Wearables
- Urban Planning, Transport, Port and Harbor Engineering
- Solid, Liquid, and Hazardous Waste Disposal
- Renewables, energy conservation, e-mobility and carbon sequestration
- Climate Change Adaptation, Disaster Management & Environmental Sciences
- Data Sciences and Future Technologies
- Problems of the Marginalised and Backward Regions
- Post-pandemic innovations & Epidemic Management
- Biotechnology, Molecular Biology and Genetics
- Digital, Creative Art Forms, AR/VR & Game Design
- Innovation Collectives and Co-operatives
- Modern Medicine and Biomedical Technology
- Education and skilling
- Fisheries and Ocean Sciences
- Shelter, Heritage & Culture
- Spatial dimensions of development
- Fitness, wellness and youth welfare

Domain Partners

Domain Partners are institutions that associate with us in the themes of YIP.

- Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasaragod
- Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Thiruvananthapuram
- Kerala Agriculture University, Thrissur
- Kerala Veterinary and Animal Science University, Wayanad
- The Bioscience Research and Training Centre, Thiruvananthapuram
- College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy, Thrissur
- College of Dairy Science and Technology, Mannuthy
- National Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Thrissur
- Sahradaya College of Engineering and Technology, Thrissur
- National Institute of Speech and Hearing, Thiruvananthapuram
- National Institute of Technology, Calicut
- SCMS School of Business, Kochi
- Institute of Management in Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
- MS Swaminathan Research Foundation, Wayanad
- Kerala Forest Research Institute, Thrissur
- Vaidhyaratnam P S Varrier's Ayurveda College, Kottakkal, Malappuram
- Vaidhyaratanam Ayurvedha College, Ollur, Thrissur
- Government Ayurveda College, Thiruvananthapuram
- College of Dairy Science & Technology, Idukki
- College for Dairy Science and Technology, Pappanamcode, Thiruvananthapuram
- Energy Management Centre, Thiruvananthapuram
- Calicut Research Centre of Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Calicut
- Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies, Ernakulam
- Government Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram
- Government Medical College, Kannur
- Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology, Thiruvananthapuram
- Institute of Mental Health and Neuroscience, Government Medical College Campus, Calicut
- School of Behavioural Sciences, MG University, Kottayam
- Child Development Centre, Thiruvananthapuram
- Alive, Thiruvananthapuram
- Government Medical College, Thrissur
- Government Engineering College, Kannur
- Government Engineering College, Barton Hill, Thiruvananthapuram
- SCMS College of Engineering and Technology, Kochi
- Uravu Indigenous Science & Technology Study Centre, Wayanad
- National Coir Research and Management Institute, Thiruvananthapuram
- Centre for Water Resources Development and Management, Calicut
- Government Engineering College, Thrissur
- Centre for Water Resources Development and Management, Thiruvananthapuram
- Uralungal Labour Contract Co-operative Society Ltd.
- EMMRC - Calicut University
- Civil Department, NIT Calicut
- Government Medical college, Kottayam
- Cochin University of Science & Technology, Ernakulam
- Centre for Heritage Studies, Ernakulam
- Centre for Socio - Economic & Environmental Studies, Ernakulam
- College of Cooperation, Banking & Management, Vellanikkara
- Loyola College of Social sciences, Thiruvananthapuram
- Habitat, Trivandrum
- Mulearn, Thiruvananthapuram
- TKM College of Engineering, Kollam
- Kerala State Disaster Management Authority, Thiruvananthapuram
- Folklore Academy, Kannur
- Department of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries, University of Kerala

Benefits to participating students

- Opportunity to play a role in solving Kerala's real-life problems.
- Experiential journey in product development lifecycle.
- Technical and monetary support and industry connects.
- Support in executing undergraduate and post-graduate projects.
- Participation in coordinated projects of Universities and Research Institutions.
- Participation in residency programs of KUHS.
- Adding value to undergraduate, post-graduate and research programs.
- Support for patenting and publishing ideas.
- YIP as a launchpad for entrepreneurship.
- A cash price of ₹25,000 will be awarded to District Level winners and ₹50,000 will be awarded to State Level winners.

YIP Hall of Fame

Check out the winners here

https://www.youtube.com/c/KDISCOfficial/videos

K-DISC
Kerala Development and Innovation
Strategic Council

Partners

KERALA STARTUP MISSION

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY OF KERALA
ICTAK

C-DIT
Under Govt. of Kerala

GTECH μLearn

SAMAGRA SHIKSHA KERALA

CMD

KITE
Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education

IdeaRocket

Young Innovators Programme
Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC)
India Heights, Govt. Women's College Road
Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

https://yip.kerala.gov.in/contact-us/