



A Message from the RISE President

Dear Friends of RISE,

When you think about the possibilities for Egypt's future, we ask you to forget about the news for one minute and consider the stories of our first class of RISE fellows. These entrepreneurs are tackling some of the country's deepest challenges with a dogged commitment and resilience in the face of what is, let's face it, a complicated situation. They are smart, agile, and innovative, and the work they are doing with limited resources will knock your socks off. At RISE, we believe it is our responsibility (and our honor) as a global community to support these men and women. They are some of Egypt's best hope.

In this newsletter, we share with you progress from our first global accelerator, where the 5 teams in our fellowship program engaged in an intensive program of workshops, events, and meetings with global advisors and learning partners over a course of 3 weeks in 8 cities across the Americas (DC, NY, Boston, Seattle, SF, Lawrence/Kansas, Las Vegas, and Bogota/Columbia!).

This was the first of several global accelerators that we will run throughout our 2 year program (we are 6 months into our first fellowship cycle currently), and we are pleased to report that it was a resounding success. Below, you will find highlights from our time together as a group as well as for each team.

We want to especially thank all of the volunteer professionals and companies/organizations who gave of their time to work with us in making our first global accelerator such a tremendous success.

We look forward to expanding our engagement with all of you over the coming year.

Wa Eid Sa3eed.

On Behalf of the RISE Team,

Mona Mowafi, ScD, MHS
Co-founder & President, RISE Egypt
Visiting Scientist, Harvard University

Highlights from the June 2015 RISE Global Accelerator

KICK OFF SYMPOSIUM: On June 5, 2015, RISE kicked off our core week in Washington, D.C. with a symposium co-sponsored by the Middle East Institute entitled "Social Enterprise in Egypt: Start-ups with Staying Power."



**Investment
Panel**



**Education
Panel**



Lunchtime Chat



**Environment
Panel**

JOZOUR's Co-founders Mahmoud Sherif and Karim Negm meet with Professor Lance Rake in Lawrence, Kansas, a leading designer in bamboo (and maker of the bamboo bike!) who is working with them on how to test palm midribs (and the boards that Jozour makes from them) to hone in on the best product design choices using this material.



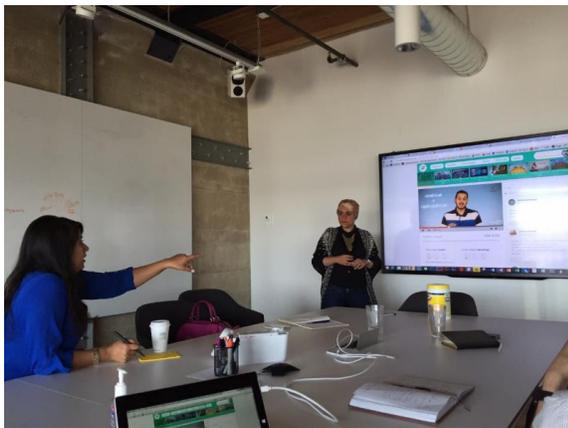
EDUCATE ME's Founder Yasmin Helal, EM's Monitoring & Evaluation Manager Christine Safwat, and RISE Egypt's Research Manager Eman El-Hadary visit Aeiotu in Bogota, Columbia, an organization utilizing a similar early childhood education model in Columbia as EM, whereby they have effectively scaled to served tens of thousands of children across the country and have effectively linked to national and regional educational development strategy using an evidence-based, innovative framework for child-centered learning using the Reggio Emilia model. Watch Yasmin and Christine's video reflections of their trip recorded in the airport back from Bogota (below)!



RECYCLOBEKIA's Co-founder & Marketing Manager, Metwaly Magdy, attended one of the largest expositions for waste and recycling in the world, Waste Expo, in Las Vegas, where he was able to meet potential business partners and learn about the latest technologies in their field of e-waste and solid waste recycling.



TAHRIR ACADEMY's CEO Seif Abouzaid & Learner's Experience Manager Alyaa Said, met with a leading design firm based in Seattle to think through how to improve the user experience and design of their online learner's platform. They also met with top global experts in education innovation and blended learning to discuss the latest applications in the field and how to apply them in Egypt and the Middle East region.



HELM EGYPT's Co-founders & Co-Directors Amena El-Saie and Ramez Maher, attended a leading conference on accessibility and enabling technologies for person's with disabilities, the m-enabling conference, in Washington DC. They additionally met with global leaders in the field of accessibility and employment training for persons with disabilities.



THE RISE FELLOWS also collectively attended workshops on corporate and nonprofit strategy, governance, design thinking, branding, and adaptive leadership during the core accelerator week in Washington DC. Some teams additionally attended research trainings at Harvard and MIT in Boston, MA. There was also time to relax together, deepening the bonds of our community along the way.



Support Us

We are kicking off a drive to raise \$50K to support the RISE Fellows in the second year of the fellowship program.

By supporting the RISE Fellowship Program, you will ensure that leading Egyptian social entrepreneurs in Egypt gain access to top global resources to help them make the greatest impact possible in Egypt.

RISE Egypt is a 501c3 tax-deductible nonprofit organization.

Please consider becoming a donor by giving \$100, \$50, or \$25 per month which will go directly toward supporting the RISE Fellowship Program.

**Donate
Now**



www.riseegypt.org