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CONFERENCE

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FIRST STEPS VENTURE CENTRE

PLENARY SESSION 4- ROUND TABLE

STP goals and objectives that go above and beyond.
STPs taking on new roles, missions and strategies

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First Steps Venture Centre

“STP goals and objectives that go above and beyond. STPs taking on new roles, mission and strategies”

How STPs and AIs can actually expand their horizons and scope by taking on new roles and incorporating other elements that go above and beyond the traditional objectives and elements of STPs

The Botswana Innovation Hub – Science and Technology Park is incorporated to;

Contribute towards economic development and competitiveness by creating new scientific, technological, and indigenous knowledge based business opportunities,

Add value to existing companies, fostering entrepreneurship and technology transfer, generating knowledge-based jobs,

Attract innovative companies and institutions to Botswana Innovation Hub,

Develop and operate a science and technology Park

A science and technology park is an area where innovation is a key.

If STPs are to lead the innovation agenda, they must lead by example. STPs must live, breath and eat innovation. Offering innovation space is not enough; STPs must be stakeholders in all activities that take place on them, from promoting collaborations between peers members to showcasing advocacy of innovations developed in them.

STPs must INSPIRE innovation and only then can it DEMAND innovation!

For STPs to produce commercially viable innovations, they must be commercially focused themselves.

STPS offer a number of shared resources, such as incubators, programs and collaboration activities, uninterruptible power supply, telecommunications hubs, reception and security, management, offices, restaurants, bank offices, convention center, parking, internal transportation, entertainment and sports facilities, etc. In this way, the park offers considerable advantages to hosted companies.

However, shared resources have become very common in order to facilitate residents to lower their operational costs.

The key differentiator between business parks and STPs is innovation output.

STPs must become custodians of everything innovation! To achieve this STPs must be a one-stop shop for all innovators. STPs must develop services that meet innovators needs.

STPs can no longer sit back as landlords and expect tenants to carryout innovation.

To inspire investment in innovation, STPs must establish innovation funds

To inspire market consumption of innovations, STPs must themselves advocate and consume innovations developed in them.