



SKILLS FOR INNOVATORS

by Dr. Kumar S. Nochur

Skills for Innovators imparts the soft skills - i.e. the cognitive, personal and interpersonal skills at the individual, team/project and business levels - that are needed to move an idea from the concept stage to an innovation that meets the needs of some group of users. The material in this course is mainly based on management research on the practices of successful innovators and entrepreneurs. These skills are generic, so they apply to all kinds of innovations. They are also equally useful to both innovators (who are focussed on developing and validating a new idea) and entrepreneurs (who are driven to turn an innovation into a viable business).



Skills for Innovators will present the following materials in four 90 minute sessions:

- Concepts and definitions to talk about creativity, R&D and innovation. The innovation process and the critical roles associated with greater success. A survey of the soft skills needed for effective innovation and entrepreneurship.
- Evaluating and improving the Value Proposition of your innovation to make it more likely to succeed. Presenting ideas in appealing ways to gather resources and support.
- Identifying key stakeholders users, investors, influencers, etc. and addressing their concerns. Using influence tactics skilfully to promote your innovation and to deal with resistance to change.
- Team, project and cultural factors that drive innovation success.
 Best practices and lessons for innovation success. Action planning and review. Sharing knowledge with other participants. Forming a local support group for innovators and entrepreneurs.

The main pre-requisite for the course is that participants must have a specific idea/ concept/ product/ technology that they wish to develop as an innovator and/or commercialize as an entrepreneur. To enable action learning by doing, they will be asked to apply the concepts and skills presented in each session to their chosen idea.

- Session Dates
 16, 18, 23 and 25 Feb 2021
- Session Duration
 4 Online Sessions 90 minutes each to be conducted in the evenings.
- · Number of participants will be limited
- No Registration/Participation charges
- Last date for online application:
 05 February 2021
- Announcement of selection:
 11 February 2021
- To apply click on the below link https://forms.gle/LHXZCYbNvuXdLPhv6



ABOUT THE PRESENTER

Dr. Kumar S. Nochur, who has been an innovation consultant and educator for over 35 years, working with companies such as 3M, AT&T (Bell Labs), National Semiconductors, GE and P&G.

Kumar has a Ph. D. in the Management of Innovation from MIT's Sloan School, prior to which he got an MBA and BS (in physics and mathematics) from the University of Mumbai. He is the author of the Harvard Business School book Executing Innovation and the mentor of their online course Implementing Innovation. Kumar holds a US patent which he developed and commercialized into a successful software product. He lives in the Boston area and is an angel/venture investor in US startups directly and through syndicates. He can be reached at knochur@icloud.com.

This course of lectures is a part of the Capacity Building Programme of PKC. A number of such courses will be conducted for young researchers and professionals by PKC to expose them to the latest developments in science and technology. The lectures will be delivered by experts from the academia, R&D institutions and industry and will have elements of interactivity and hands-on sessions wherever possible. The courses will seek to expose participants to employment opportunities in the industry. Courses at the undergraduate and post-graduate levels will also be conducted to improve the skill sets and employability of the participants.

