

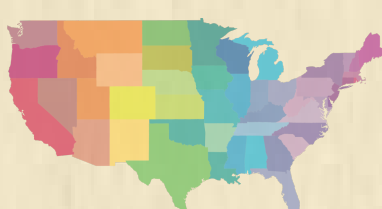
Startup Weekend

November 7-9

- SW was part of InnoWeekend, the largest technological event in Armenia ever with 300+ participants

General Facts:

- the first Startup Weekend (SW) to be held between Armenia and Turkey
- the first SW to be organized between two countries with closed borders and without diplomatic relations
- the first ever Startup Weekend to be organized in Gyumri, second largest city of Armenia
- to date, the delegation to Armenia was largest Turkish technology entrepreneurship delegation to any country



Interesting Statistics



who?

when?

what?

The Weekend was run by two licensed facilitators from Turkey

with coaching support provided by a coordinator from Armenia.

I took part in 10 Startup Weekends and it was the first one with piano entertainment at night!

a facilitator

The event embraced 12 participants from Turkey

an expatriate participant from Estonia (temporarily residing in Armenia)

15 participants from Armenia

a repatriate from Canada (who has permanently moved to Armenia)

The competition had an extra international flavor due to

The participants formed six mixed teams during the kick off in Yerevan!

5 participants were out of 27 total

The youngest participant was 19 years old!

They developed their startup ideas during 24 hours in Gyumri!

Around 15 ideas → 6 teams → a winner team

two honourable mentioned teams

Best Idea Home Planning

Winner Team WeCloud

Best Team and Presentation ChocoLove

a 1000 USD cash award from InnoWeekend

full scholarship for Project Management classes

study trip to Turkey in 2015

WeCloud received

The Startup Weekend judges panel comprised of members of the Turkish delegation and representatives of the Armenian ICT community

A follow-up initiative, i.e. a longer term partnership between startup teams, is currently supported by the US embassy in Armenia

dignitaries to visit the Armenia-Turkey Startup Weekend included:

John Heffern, U.S. Ambassador to Armenia,
Lukas Gasser, Ambassador of Switzerland to Armenia;
Samvel Balasanyan, the Gyumri mayor;
Emil Tarasyan, Deputy Minister of Economy;
delegates from the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation

The event was covered by

Armenian Public Radio, A1+, ArmlInfo, TechCrunch, ArmenPress, Armennewstv, Aravot, Kentron TV, itel.am, 1in.am, geek.am, Arka.am, Arnef.com, Armradio.am, Hürriyet Daily News, Dünya, IRIB, Tsayg TV, 1tv, erit.am

and others...

The organizers, the delegates, the participants and many other stakeholders demonstrated their enthusiasm for the event, regularly posting and sharing on Facebook, tweeting on Twitter, uploading photos on Instagram and short videos on Vine.

facebook, YouTube live streaming was provided during the whole event!, Instagram

#swgyumri used 321 times

ArmTurkExchange used 479 times

ArmTurkStartupWeekend used 19 times

Out of top influences, John Heffern, the US Ambassador to Armenia, live-tweeted and re-tweeted from the event, as well as retweeted an interview after the event

Armenia-Turkey Startup Weekend, along with the Exchange of Entrepreneurs Project, was held by Public Journalism Club (Armenia) and the Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey (Turkey) and funded by the European Union within the framework of the Support to the Armenia-Turkey Normalisation Process Programme

www.armenia-turkey.net