



A limited amount of accommodation can be arranged for such parents/ guardians/ teachers at the same accommodation facility (SLIDA) on 'first come - first serve' basis. **Please note that the accommodation facility, SLIDA institute, will charge a concessionary rate for the accommodation and meals for such parents/ guardians/ teachers.**

Will transport be provided?

Official Transport will be provided on 7th morning (at 8.00am) from Accommodation facility to the training facility - Dialog Axiata Auditorium, and return in the same evening

SPARK organizers will NOT provide transport from the contestant's place of residence to the accommodation or training facility, or return. Any costs related to such travel will also not be reimbursed

Participants utilising the accommodation facility are required to arrange their own / public transport means of travel to SLIDA (Accommodation facility), and our required to be at the facility on 6th. Participants arriving to the training facility Dialog Axiata Auditorium on 7th August, should be present at the venue by 8.30am.

What do I need to bring for the bootcamp?

- Every contestant/group should bring:
- ▶ a printed copy of the applications (business idea and detailed business plan)
 - ▶ National Identity Card or if NIC is not available, the Birth Certificate
 - ▶ Personal clothing (sufficient for 2 days and 2 nights). Dress code will be smart casual.
 - ▶ Medicine (if needed)
 - ▶ All personal belongings (including soap, towel, toothbrush & toothpaste, etc).

What language will the bootcamp be conducted in?

- ▶ The bootcamp will be conducted in all 3 languages (Sinhala, Tamil and English).
- ▶ Sessions will be conducted in English, while the contestants will be facilitated with concurrent translations to Sinhala & Tamil by a panel of experienced trainers/mentors.
- ▶ Contestants are allowed to speak in any of the 3 languages (English, Sinhala, Tamil)

Can I participate in only one-day of the bootcamp?

No, All participants are required to attend both days of the bootcamp, 07th and 08th August, and participate in all session mentioned in Agenda.

Non-participation at this bootcamp will be considered as a disqualification to move forward in the **SPARK** Competition. (Exceptional cases with valid reasons would be considered, however the final decision is with the SPARK Organizers.)

Who do we reach out to for additional information, clarification?

Please contact:
Ms. Upeksha (0740880485) - English/Sinhala medium
Mr. Ravi (0773395295) - English/Tamil medium

Training Facility:
Dialog Axiata Auditorium,
Union Place, Colombo 07

Accommodation Facility:
Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA), Malalasekara
Mawatha, Colombo 07.
(Near BMICH)

What is the importance of SPARK?

Less than 30% of Sri Lankan youth consider entrepreneurship as an ideal career. The results of which is an entrepreneurial culture characterized by 'push' factors, with individuals forced to turn towards entrepreneurship out of necessity, rather than the motivation to take advantage of an opportunity.

Through strategic interventions such as **SPARK**, under the SALE Programme, the ILO aims to boost young people's transition into the entrepreneurial world and create a shift in the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Extending beyond job creation and potential for decent work opportunities, entrepreneurship disrupts the status-quo, injecting new thinking, pre-empting solutions, and paving the way for constant change. These are especially important, as Sri Lanka explores a pathways to accelerate economic growth. When combined with the creativity, drive, and skills of young people, it creates a formidable force that can pave the way for reaching the ambitions of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.



▶ Congratulations! You have been selected as one of our 30 contestants for the SPARK Bootcamp 2023, from over 400 plus applicants. SPARK provides support to get your game-changing idea, going forward. Here's everything you need to know about the **SPARK** competition, and the upcoming bootcamp.

What is Spark?

▶ **SPARK** is the national competition for Sri Lanka's next generation of entrepreneurs! It welcomes youth innovators, disruptors, thinkers, problem-solvers, and creators aged 15- 24 years, to pitch their innovative ideas and entrepreneurial solutions to the most pressing challenges of our time. SPARK is centered on inspiring youth to consider entrepreneurship as a viable career choice and help take that next step in their entrepreneurship journey.

Who is SPARK organized by?

▶ **SPARK** is an initiative of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, under the aegis of the International Labour Organization's **South Asia Leadership in Entrepreneurship (SALE) Programme**. SALE is implemented with financial assistance from the United States Department of State. Several leading institutions have partnered with this national competition, including UNDP Citralab, Dialog ideamart, IMED, CurveUp, SquareHub, AIESEC and CDEA

What awaits Participants and Winners?

- ▶ Learning bootcamps and mentorship to hone your skills
- ▶ One-on-one sessions with business champions
- ▶ Opportunities to connect with potential investors and partners
- ▶ Recognition as winner of the **Youth Entrepreneurship SPARK Award 2023**
- ▶ Winners receive an exposure visit abroad

What is the SPARK Bootcamp?

▶ The 2-day residential bootcamp provides our 30 shortlisted contestants with a great learning environment and the opportunity to gain extensive training, under the guidance of experienced trainers and mentors, to improve your entrepreneurial, leadership, and communication skills.

Goals of the SPARK Bootcamp

- ▶ Inspire, motivate, and empower contestants
- ▶ Strengthen contestants' skills to pitch ideas, and deliver stronger entrepreneurship propositions
 - ▶ Provide opportunity to enhance communications, presentation, teambuilding, critical thinking, and time-management skills
 - ▶ Provide a learning opportunity to meet mentors, industry-leading entrepreneurs, and SPARK partners

▶ On completion of this Bootcamp, contestants will be empowered with the skills and confidence to participate in the virtual pitch stage towards identifying the final 10 for the **SPARK** Grand Finale. You will have the chance to connect with like-minded entrepreneurs, mentors, share and exchange ideas, as well as gain guidance on how to move forward in your entrepreneurship journey.

What is the agenda for the 2-day bootcamp?

Start Time	End Time	Session/ Activity
06th August 2023		
05:00 PM	07:00 PM	Arrival of Contestants to SLIDA
07:00 PM	08:00 PM	Dinner
08:00 PM	09:00 PM	Culture Event
	09:00 PM	Close of Day Program
07th August 2023		
07:00 AM	08:00 AM	Breakfast (at SLIDA)
08:10 AM		Departure from SLIDA
	08:30 AM	Arrival at Dialog Head Quarters
08:30 AM	09:00 AM	Welcome and Registration
09:00 AM	09:45 AM	Inauguration Ceremony
09:45 AM	10:30 AM	Bootcamp (part 01)
10:30 AM	10:45 AM	Morning Tea Break
10:45 AM	11:15 AM	Inspirational Speech 01
11:15 AM	12:45 PM	Bootcamp (part 02)
12:45 PM	01:45 PM	Lunch Break
01:45 PM	04:15 PM	Bootcamp (part 03)
04:15 PM	04:30 PM	Evening Tea Break
04:30 PM	07:00 PM	Bootcamp (part 04)
07:00 PM		Departure from Dialog HQ
	07:15 PM	Arrival at SLIDA
07:30 PM	08:30 PM	Dinner
	09:00 PM	Close of Day Program
Day 02		
07:00 AM	08:00 AM	Breakfast (at SLIDA)
08:00 AM	10:30 AM	Bootcamp (part 05) (at SLIDA)
10:30 AM	10:45 AM	Morning Tea Break
10:45 AM	11:15 AM	Bootcamp (part 06)
11:15 AM	11:45 AM	Inspirational Speech 02
11:45 AM	12:45 PM	Mentoring Clinic
12:45 PM	01:45 PM	Lunch Break
01:45 PM	03:00 PM	Pitch Craft Coaching
03:00 PM	04:00 PM	Closing Ceremony

Further information, and Accommodation and other Logistic Arrangements

Where will the bootcamp take place?

- ▶ The 2-day residential bootcamp will take place in Colombo.
- ▶ Day 01 (07th August): venue – Dialog Axiata Auditorium
- ▶ Day 02 (08th August): venue – Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) Auditorium

Will accommodation and meals be provided?

▶ Accommodation will be provided free of charge on 6th and 7th for the contestants who will attend the bootcamp from long distances (based on their requests). **Those who require accommodation facility should apply, on or before 4th August 2023, by contacting:**
Ms. Upeksha (0740880485) - English/Sinhala
Mr. Ravi (0773395295) - English/Tamil

Contestants who are living close to the training venue are kindly advised to NOT apply for the accommodation facility to allow most deserving other contestants to receive this benefit. Meals and refreshments will be provided from 6th August (dinner), until 8th August (4pm).

Can a parent / teacher accompany contestants?

▶ Yes. Each contestant (under age 18 years) or a group (of more than 1 contestant) is allowed to bring ONE parent/guardian. School student groups can be accompanied by one parent OR one teacher.