



Nurul win AUD 1,000 from Spark* Acceleration Program for Farmers' Hub Business

In partnership with Build Bangladesh, Spark* finds and enables local, emerging impact entrepreneurs with training, support and funding. Spark* selected Md. Nurul Islam from hundreds of applications they received from various innovative entrepreneurs applied to participate startup acceleration program. Mr. Nurul was selected because of the innovative and social impact creating business model called *Farmers Hub* developed by Syngenta Foundation Bangladesh. After passing the selection process, Nurul participated live-in week-long program where he striped the business model right back to its basics to determine whether he has strong foundation to move forward with. Spark* team gave a hands-on training on strengthen the business strategy, direction, tests and challenges to overcome. They also provided training in a whole range of areas to help for growing the business including pitching, raising funds and investment, how to lead and manage the team, acquire customers and build the brand. At the end of the week, like other 13 participants Mr. Nurul pitched his idea to the room full of investors, partners, philanthropists and potential clients. The Farmers' Hub Business Model idea was well appreciated their and Mr. Nurul got the Second Price for this business innovation creating impact to alleviate poverty. He took the price money AUD 1,000 from Australia's High Commissioner to Bangladesh Ms. Julia Niblett and others respectable guest present there.

Beyond the Accelerator, he supposed to get 12 months of support from Spark* to prove this model and scale the venture. This includes regular business and strategy support from the Spark* team, access to free graphic and web designers, pro-bono legal support, assistance with tracking impact, and multiple injections of small funding to encourage innovation and growth.

*This was fourth Social Entrepreneurship Accelerator programme announced by Spark*Bangladesh and organized during 14-19 October 2017.*

Business Profile	
Business Name	: Don Enterprise (A franchisor of Farmers Hub Business)
Proprietor	: Md. Nurul Islam
Address	: Sonar More Sridharpur Boro Horishpur Natore Sadar Narote, Bangladesh.
Client	: 15 Farmers Hubs 500 Famers (direct) 7000 Farmers (indirect) 05 Buyers
Yearly Turnover:	USD 20,000
Business Service:	Agri-inputs Agri-technology Agri-output (buying & selling)
Market	: Local, Regional