

# TRANSFORMATIVE FIELD-BASED EXPERIENCE

*“It was extremely rewarding to witness the participant’s transformations: community representatives becoming empowered to co-create solutions for their village, PIA members recognizing their biases and challenging their assumptions while gaining a real appreciation for the co-design process.*

*It was a validation for the power of D-Lab’s co-creation methodology, our experiential learning approach and our vision for PIA.”*



**WINTHROP CARTY**  
Executive Director,  
Melton Foundation

## PIA CO-DESIGN SUMMIT 2015, GHANA



Thirty-five participants including PIA members, Ghanaian social entrepreneurs, local innovators, and community representatives came together in Kumasi and New longoro to practice co-design and explore collaborations.

### ENABLING MINDSET



Summit participants practicing deep listening during a Dialog Walk, the first of many activities preparing participants to engage in effective co-design.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



The highlight of the summit was the community meeting where participants listened to community members’ to gain deep insight into the problems the teams were tackling.

### CO-DESIGN TRAINING



The introduction to the co-design cycle included the “orange raise” exercise in which participants collaboratively design a raised orange vessel using only paper.

### EXPLORING PARTNERSHIPS



Through learning more about each other’s work, roles, and organizations, six concrete opportunities for collaboration beyond the summit projects were identified.



Participants from the PIA Co-Design Summit were welcomed by D-Lab founder and co-director Amy Smith into the USAID-funded International Development Innovation Network (IDIN), a growing community of over 600 innovators from around the world.