



Stanford eCorner

Startup America Partnership & DC2VC

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Aneesh Chopra, Chief Technology Officer of the United States, describes the benefits of two current public/private partnership programs supporting entrepreneurs: the Startup America Partnership and DC2VC. The Startup America Partnership provides mentorship, training and support systems to help entrepreneurs succeed. The DC2VC program works to understand how government policies affect entrepreneurs' abilities to grow and scale.



Transcript

And here I'd like to highlight on an issue of the President rolled out in January called, "Startup America", and more specifically a symbiotic relationship between the public sector and the private sector. The Startup America program begins with a nonprofit organization called the, "Startup America Partnership" led by the chairman of the board Steve Case and a recent recruit to serve as the inaugural CEO Scott Case, no relation, who had served as one of the founders of Price Line out here in the valley. And the Startup America Partnership has emphasized new programming to fill the void when it comes to helping entrepreneurs in the various stages that they're in. Whether be in identifying a new idea, getting that idea into a formal business, early growth in that enterprise, and then what they call the "speed up phase" where those organizations tend to hit their cycle and many of us would find that to be very exciting opportunity, but it requires a different approach. Startup America Partnership has been cultivating privately financed or nonprofit organized and delivered mentorship programs, training and education initiatives, and other support systems so that entrepreneurs at various stages of life and growth have the resources they need to be more successful. In addition this external partnership, the nonprofit Startup America Partnership is encouraging larger corporations, we might call this a big quo to new quo relationship, to open up their supply chains that invite startups in. And you can see if you visit startupamericapartnership.org, just the sheer number of companies that have pledged to expand their relationship with startups. And if you go down the roster, it's the names you know; it's IBM, it's HP, it's Microsoft, Google and all the rest. And as an example of this concept of cultivating privately financed, privately organized initiatives under the banner of Startup America. Not too long ago in the Research Triangle Park community outside of Duke in UNC Chapel Hill, BlackStone entrepreneur network, put up \$3.5 million to higher "master entrepreneurs, to coach young folks in those communities in and around the Research Triangle Park, to deliver over five years and estimated 17,000 new jobs".

Again, not a nickel of tax payer dollars but inspired by the President's call to promote and celebrate entrepreneurship organized by these external nonprofit. But it's also about us doing our jobs in Washington. There are two components of the Startup America program that are relevant to the discussion. One is the inventorying the regulatory burdens that have been a hindrance to startups in all fields. President signed an executive order earlier this year, allowing for regulatory flexibility for small businesses and we conducted a road show around the country and a website, reducingbarriersthatideasscaled.com where entrepreneurs fed us information about where they found barriers so that we might address them in the coming months. But it's also the part that I care the most about, the part that I'm responsible for in Startup America, and that is to find ways in which the policy makers at Washington might actually open up new markets. Unleash new market opportunities. I was actually here on the Stanford campus in March. That's that picture. I brought the inaugural director of ARPA-E, which is a research and development arm for breakthroughs and clean energy.

You'll hear about that in a minute. And we came to visit Stanford and had a town hall meeting, to hear from entrepreneurs

directly how are our policies impacting the real world; are they working, are they not, what more can we do? And these programs we formalized under the banner of VC to DC coined by Morganthaler Ventures, I take no credit for the branding of this initiative. Morganthaler did this in the area of health care in the fall and we've scaled it to energy and education.