

# FROM THE FOUNDATION

February 2015

## THIS MONTH:

### Preview of New Projects in 2015:

- WorldSkills Digital Challenge
- Community Plumbing Challenge
- Youth Hearing Protection
- A New Look at Skills

## WORLDSKILLS DIGITAL CHALLENGE

**Have you ever walked past an IT related skill competition and wondered what they were doing and what they were truly capable of? At WorldSkills São Paulo 2015, you will be able to witness, in a fun and engaging way, the power of IT skills to change the world!**

To show how skill competitions can be more engaging and creative for both visitors and Competitors, we will be staging the first WorldSkills Digital Challenge in São Paulo alongside the Competition. What's more, we will invite back our WorldSkills Champions to work with the local IT community in São Paulo to create solutions, which will have a social impact well beyond the Competition.

Combining skills such as Web Design, Graphic Design Technology, IT Software Solutions for Business, Mechanical Engineering Design – CAD, Print Media Technology, and IT Network Systems Administration, all participants will work in multinational teams to create solutions to challenges posed by local companies and organizations which address real needs in the community. The participating teams will deliver prototypes, mobile applications, landing pages, and proof-of-concept software for the selected project ideas.

WorldSkills Champion and project manager of the Challenge Natã Barbosa says, "I hope this project will lead to an exciting event with lots of opportunities for Champions, Competitors and the São Paulo community."

Working together with another WorldSkills Champion from Brazil, Carla de Bona, Natã believes that the Digital Challenge will address the desire for past Competitors to engage with WorldSkills beyond the Competition and give them the chance to work with their peers from other countries and regions on projects that help make a difference.

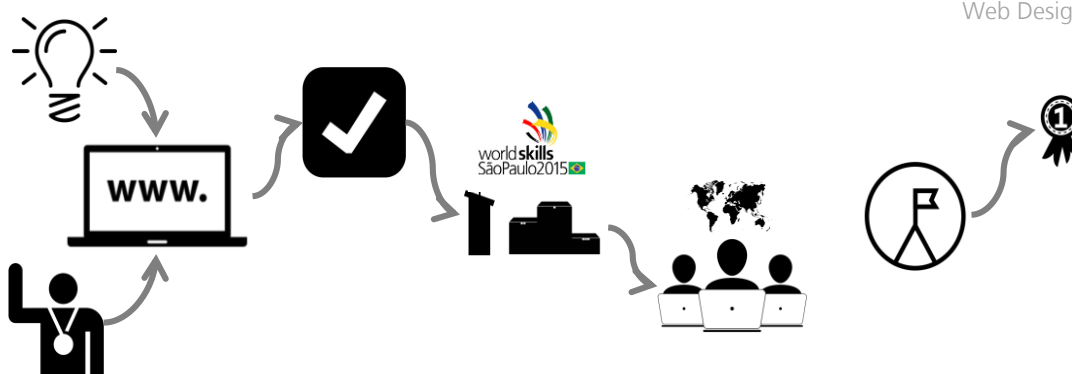
We will keep you updated with more details about how to join in the upcoming months!



Natã Barbosa  
WorldSkills Champion -  
Web Design 2011



Carla de Bona  
WorldSkills Champion –  
Web Design 2007



## COMMUNITY PLUMBING CHALLENGE

The water crisis is the number one global risk to society. As there are 750 million people who lack access to clean water in the world, making water and sanitation improvements is a top priority in many developing countries. WorldSkills Experts and Champions have been on the front line to help, but we need more like-minded people to join our initiatives – this time, in India.

After the success of our Water Innovation Challenge 2014 in Singapore, we are taking the Challenge to Nashik (north-west of Mumbai), India and raising the bar by asking the participants to deliver their solutions onsite in order to interact closely with the local community for skills and knowledge transfer, during a three-day international team-based workshop in November 2015.

Though Nashik has reasonably good sanitation coverage, open defecation and lack of sanitation knowledge are still major concerns, especially among the most in need. Supported by the World Plumbing Council (WPC) and the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO), the participating teams will work on upgrading school toilets and sanitation facilities in Nashik. Working in collaboration with local authorities, the solutions created by the participating teams will be then disseminated to the wider community.

The Challenge will focus on training and knowledge exchange, especially on maintenance and sustainability. The teams will also involve local school children in the Challenge in order to raise their awareness of the importance of sanitation and general hygiene.

Participants will see their skills impact critical issues that are far removed from their own living circumstances: a chance to make a real difference. If your organization is interested in taking part in the Community Plumbing Challenge, please contact [info@worldskillsfoundation.org](mailto:info@worldskillsfoundation.org) for more information.



Left to right: Seán Kearney (WSF) and Grant Stewart (IAPMO) visited India in Jan to scope the project.



Left to right: during a visit to a local school in Nashik, a message (out of shot) – “please do not urinate here” is daubed on the exterior school wall.

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## YOUTH HEARING PROTECTION – AN INITIATIVE WITH 3M

**360 million people worldwide suffer from hearing loss - the number one sensory disability in the world, noise induced hearing loss is 100% preventable, but also irreversible. Yet young people, who are the most at risk, remain largely unaware of the need to protect themselves both at work and at play.**

Noise induced hearing loss can happen anywhere – working in a noisy environment, being at nightclubs or concerts, wearing headphones or earphones for long periods. WorldSkills will be promoting the importance of hearing protection at WorldSkills São Paulo 2015 happening in August this year.

Together with 3M, and with the support of the Competition Organizer SENAI, we are launching a special onsite audio and visual experience to promote hearing protection during the Competition. A unique WorldSkills packaged earplug will be distributed to the Competitors in São Paulo along with useful information about hearing protection. All the project design work will be carried out by a WorldSkills Champion from Brazil.

We welcome WorldSkills Champions, Experts and Competitors to share your experiences with hearing protection with us to support the communications of this initiative. If young people care about their hearing at work, we believe they are more likely to pay attention to this issue in their social life as well.

**Video:** 3M Hearing Solutions – Have you Heard?: <http://youtu.be/4wJbd4SWoE0>

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## ‘A NEW LOOK AT SKILLS’ AT WORLDSKILLS SÃO PAULO 2015

**If you have already witnessed or experienced the power of 3D technology to explain skills in a more engaging way, imagine the impact of this technology if it was implemented across all the skill competitions in São Paulo!**

In collaboration with Autodesk, we focused on 3D animations for six Skills at The Skills Show in 2014 in Birmingham, United Kingdom. They were Bricklaying, Cabinetmaking, Carpentry, CNC Machining, Mechanical Engineering Design – CAD, and Stonemasonry. Since the success of this initiative, carried out by UK CAD Champions, there have been increasing demands from Members and the Competition Organizer in Brazil to introduce 3D animation to more skills and to a much wider audience.

Up to 50 different skills will be equipped with this valuable visualization tool to achieve better understanding among the visitors at WorldSkills São Paulo 2015 in August. Joined by WorldSkills Experts, and as part of nationwide SENAI programme, Autodesk’s Student Expert teams will deliver high quality 3D animations and interactive applications, which will benefit the Competition and leave a long lasting legacy for subsequent Competition events.

Another aim of the project is to create an open library of 3D skills communication resources, which will be available to WorldSkills Members to use and adapt for educational purposes or at their own national events. The 3D resources will help explain and illustrate the inner workings of any given Skill area, showing the standard and technical specifications at WorldSkills level, and indicating practical applications of the Skill in the real world.

A content and training workshop is being planned with Autodesk and SENAI in March to kick off the project. We look forward to giving you further updates in the lead up to the Competition!

**More info:** A New Look at Skills at The Skills Show 2014: <https://www.worldskills.org/anewlook>