British Council in Hong Kong

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SPARK

SPARK Talks: Where great ideas come to life

CONCEPT

- A platform for short presentations using layperson's terms and language on a discipline, topic or concept that is aligned to the theme of the festival and delivered by paired-up younger researchers from Hong Kong and the UK.

- Disciplines can be wide-ranging from economics, sciences, social sciences, science communications to humanities, education, language, arts and culture etc.,

- These will differ from SPARK panel discussions and other formats such as FameLab, 3MT, or lectures and business pitches through **'SPARK Talks'** emphasis on communication skills to explain difficult-to-grasp topics in simple ways, highlighting key learning points, provoking ideas, debates and dialogues. The intention is to attract wider, non-specialist audiences to learn and understand a new topic, with the young inspiring the young.

OBJECTIVES

- **Develop, inspire and exchange ideas** that could change people's lives through appreciating and participating in dialogue

- **Share knowledge and experience** between different communities that contributes mutual learning

- **Connect and build networks** of expertise and like-minded audiences to engage in dialogues on topics close to the SPARK theme

SPEAKERS AND AUDIENCES

- Speakers will be young researchers including Early Career Researchers (ECRs) from Hong Kong and the UK

- Audiences will be SPARK participants interested in the topic areas, who are ready to learn from and engage in dialogue and exchange with the speakers

PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK

Each SPARK Talks session will include a light, accessible three-minute presentation on Microsoft TEAMS by each of two speakers, one from Hong Kong, another from the UK. There will be specific limitations and instructions on the use of visual aids. The two speakers should discuss, set questions or polls and invite audience members to respond, critique or comment to spur an engaging dialogue. There will be a moderator for the session suggested by the British Council. Each session should be no longer than 30 minutes. The SPARK festival aims to conduct three to four SPARK TALKS.