Every day in every city and town throughout our state, nation and world, businesses and innovators are driving the global economy through entrepreneurial thoughts and actions. Our communities and our lives benefit when an idea, thought, approach or better way to do or make something evolves from an idea to reality.

Global Entrepreneurship Month (GEM) is an entire month dedicated to sparking ideas and innovations in young people, budding entrepreneurs, established professionals and entire communities. Leveraging the momentum from Global Entrepreneurship Week, a worldwide celebration in more than 130 countries, GEM recognizes and brings awareness to entrepreneurial activities happening in Washington state throughout the entire month of November.

The Washington State Department of Commerce is highlighting entrepreneurial activities, events and collaborations statewide through the StartUp Washington website: http://bit.ly/wa-gem. The interactive map and listing of events will be promoted statewide during beginning in October and extended through November.

If you have an entrepreneurial idea or activity planned for November, or want to join the GEM movement this year by creating an entrepreneurial event, send the website link connected to the event to Commerce’s Rural Services Manager Susan Joseph Nielsen, susan.nielsen@commerce.wa.gov. It will be added to the statewide GEM information listing on the StartUp Washington website and promoted statewide.

Susan Joseph Nielsen, M.S., EGc, APR
Rural Services Manager | Rural & Marketing Services
Office of Economic Development & Competitiveness
Washington State Department of Commerce – Spokane Office