



THE 'SOCIAL & INCLUSIVE BUSINESS CAMP 2020' ACCELERATION PROGRAMME OPENS A CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR HIGH-IMPACT AFRICAN STARTUPS

This year, EMERGING Valley is ramping up its efforts to support and boost African start-ups by co-producing the Social & Inclusive Business Camp (SIBC). Brainchild of the French Development Agency and first launched in 2017, this acceleration programme has supported nearly 150 entrepreneurs which strive to better African society. This year, the winners will embark on an intensive 4-month programme with the aim of participating in the EMERGING Valley International Summit in Marseille on December 7 and 8 – a unique opportunity for visibility and networking with investors from around the world.

The Covid-19 crisis has pressed upon us how urgent it is for our societies to take responsibility when facing challenges related to social inclusion and the environment. Now more than ever, the SIBC aims to help arm Mediterranean and African entrepreneurs with tools to stand up to such unprecedented economic and health crises. This fourth year of the SIBC programme is dedicated to social innovations and will highlight environmental responsibility (particularly biodiversity), how technical innovation benefits vulnerable groups thanks to e-health or edtech, and territorial resilience.

THE SIBC – A HYBRID SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR AFRICAN AND MEDITERRANEAN SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS

Since the scheme started in 2017, the SIBC has helped scale up the operations of nearly 150 entrepreneurs which have a strong impact on African society. Its ambition is twofold: fostering the growth of innovators which yield a beneficial impact in Africa and drawing inspiration from their vitality by bringing out new models of resilience for dynamic and inclusive entrepreneurship.

To prepare these entrepreneurs for future fundraising efforts and to get their business on the international stage, the programme consists of:

- **4 months of remote coaching on a dedicated online platform which alternates between educational modules and interactive virtual classes supervised by international mentors**
- **A tailor-made mentoring programme for every entrepreneur**
- **An intensive week-long boot camp in Marseille before the EMERGING Valley Summit from 7 to 8 December 2020**
- **Joining an active and ambitious international community**

To be eligible for the SIBC's call for applications, companies must:

- Be a legally registered social enterprise that generates a turnover and has been operating for at least 3 years
- Have a positive impact on society in Africa and an innovative approach
- Have a balanced economic model or a medium-term profitability objective
- Present a scale-up strategy which includes careful consideration about its governance and leadership



Applications must be submitted on the [Digital Africa](#) platform by Wednesday 15 July 2020. You can find further information about the SIBC programme on the [website](#).

Furthermore, the Med'Innovant Africa competition is also launching a call for applications for African startups which develop innovative solutions to make the cities of tomorrow more sustainable and resilient. African nuggets and project leaders can submit their applications from July 1st to August 31st on the [Euromediterrannée.fr](#) website.

About EMERGING Valley: EMERGING Valley (EV) is the international summit which attracts investors, startups and African and emerging digital ecosystems to Provence – the hub of emerging innovations between Europe and Africa. These stakeholders want to bolster their international image, develop business opportunities and accelerate their impact around the world. EV was created in Aix-Marseille in 2017 by Samir ABDELKRIM (author of 'Startup Lions, au cœur de l'African Tech'), and placed under the patronage of the President of the Republic Emmanuel MACRON in 2018.

EV is a free and all-inclusive summit which had 1350 participants from 45 countries and over 130 speakers and 140 startups in 2019. This year, the summit is all about 4 central topics: 1) Territorial resilience 2) e-Health after COVID-19 3) Biodiversity & Agritech and 4) Cultural and Creative Industries.

Check out www.emergingvalley.co for more information

EMERGING VALLEY 2020

7 - 8 December 2020

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