

First BIC Africa Annual Gathering 2022

#BICAfrica22

Connecting African Business Incubators

Thursday 17th November
1:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Radisson Blu Hotel
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



BIC Africa is funded by the European Union.



The EU Programme 'Support to Entrepreneurship and MSME creation (Business Incubators)'

The relative success of incubator initiatives in Africa has prompted the European Union (EU) to explore opportunities to establish and consolidate business incubators in East Africa, Southern Africa, and the Indian Ocean region countries. This has resulted in a programme for '**Support to Entrepreneurship and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) creation (Business incubators)**' financed under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF).

The Programme features two components:

- On the one hand, four **Country Projects** that will establish/consolidate business incubators in Angola, Ethiopia, Madagascar and Somalia.
- On the other hand, it foresees the establishment of a **Regional Network, BIC Africa**, to provide these incubators with dedicated capacity building and networking support, while delivering softer networking services to the wider incubation ecosystem in the region.

The Country Projects

The Country Projects led by different implementing partners will **support the sustainable development of business incubators and the overall ecosystem** by promoting the enabling environment for innovation, economic diversification, and entrepreneurship and by strengthening national incubators.

BIC Africa

The second component of the Programme is the **BIC Africa project**, consisting of the establishment of a Regional Network to provide the incubators in the four target countries with **dedicated capacity building and networking support, while providing softer networking services to the wider incubation ecosystem** in the region. BIC Africa will be implemented by the [European Business and Innovation Centre Network \(EBN\)](#).

Within this context, the First Meeting of the BIC Africa Annual Gathering will take place in Addis Ababa on 17th of November 2022, bringing together a selection of relevant actors of the innovation and entrepreneurship arena in Sub Saharan Africa, with a particular focus on the Ethiopia ecosystem.

Agenda

Thursday 17th November 2022: BIC Africa – Ethiopia Ecosystem Event

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| 1:00 pm – 1:45 pm | Arrival and Registration |
| 1:45 pm – 2:20 pm | Welcome and introduction. Overview of the BIC Africa project Eduin MATTA CASTILLO (DG INTPA EC) Robert SANDERS (EBN – BIC Africa) |
| 2:20 pm – 3:20 pm | Panel 1: The Country Projects in Angola, Ethiopia, Madagascar and Somalia Mercedes MARTÍN-NORTES (EU Delegation to Ethiopia) Oliver PETZOLDT (BIC Ethiopia - Sequa) Eddy DELAUNAY-BELLEVILLE (EU Delegation to Angola) Volatiana RAKOTONDRAZAFY (UNIDO Madagascar) Dina HERINIAINA (UNCDF Madagascar) Benoît LARIELLE (EU Delegation to Somalia) Najib ABDI / Jamila MOHAMED (UNIDO Somalia) Moderated by Robert Sanders |
| 3:20 pm – 3:50 pm | Coffee Break |
| 3:50 pm – 4:30 pm | Panel 2: Supporting the Ecosystem in Ethiopia Biruk YOSEF (GrowthAfrica - Ethiopia) Hailemeleket TEKESTEBERHAN (GIZ Ethiopia PSDE) Raffaele BUOMPANE (EBN - PSDE Ethiopia) Mercedes MARIN-NORTES (EU Delegation to Ethiopia) Moderated by Eduin MATTA CASTILLO |
| 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm | Panel 3: Policies to support MSME creation Addis ALEMAYEHOU (Kazana Group) Bernard LAURENDEAU (Laurendeau & Associates) Lidya WOLDETINSAE (Yehageré) Inkutatash SEID (Synergy Corp.) Selamyhun ADEFRIS (MiNnT Ethiopia) Moderated by Rubén Carrandi |
| 5:30 pm – 5:40 pm | Closing Remarks Eduin MATTA CASTILLO (DG INTPA EC) Robert Sanders (EBN – BIC Africa) |
| 5:40 pm – 7:00 pm | Networking Cocktail |