

## BIC Africa Newsletter Issue 4 - April 2023



### Developing the Business Incubation Ecosystem in Somalia and Somaliland – Somali Boot Camp

BIC Africa in association with UNIDO Somalia organised the first national boot camp for business incubators from Somalia and Somaliland. The event was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for 9 participants from HarHub, iRise Hub and SIMAD iLab, business incubators from the BIC Somali project.

The boot camp was designed as a part of the national boot camps for Somalia and Somaliland to provide a deep dive into proven models on value propositions and strategies for setting up and running business incubators, and also how to design quality incubation curricula to better support entrepreneurs in their programmes, with a focus on Agribusiness and AgriTech business incubation.

The two days event was held on the 14th and the 15th of March followed by a networking visit to BIC Ethiopia project hubs, 1888EC and Pragma Investment Advisory. The participants had the opportunity to meet, connect and exchange knowledge with the hub's experts and the BIC Ethiopia project presented the business incubation and startup ecosystem in Ethiopia.

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### BIC Africa activities updates and events



The EU, UNIDO and UNCDF join forces to strengthen Madagascar's business

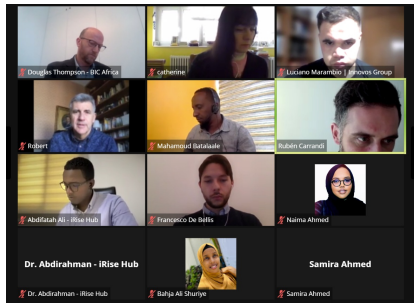
## incubator ecosystem.

The European Union (EU), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) are joining forces to strengthen Madagascar's business incubator ecosystem and further accelerate inclusive economic growth.

The partnership's focus will be the UNIDO-UNCDF-led project called "Incubost" which seeks to strengthen the network of business incubators, stimulate entrepreneurial initiatives and create new economic opportunities, particularly for Madagascar's unemployed and underemployed youth.

"Incubost" is a chapter of BIC Africa, a regional network, powered by the EBN – European Business and Innovation Centre Network, supporting selected business incubators in stimulating entrepreneurship and creating and consolidating new innovative start-ups in Madagascar

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## BIC Africa's online Boot Camp brings together Business Incubators from Somali and Comoros

On Monday 13th and Thursday 16th of February, the BIC Africa online boot camp brought together 20 practitioners from the three Somali business incubators participating in the BIC Somali project and also several business incubators invited from Comoros.

This two-day training event provided the hub managers and staff with the practical knowledge required and best practices to build a strong startup ecosystem.

The boot camp was led by 3 experts from the EBN network – Catherine Delevoye from Technoport, C. César Yammal from Innovos Group S.A., and Douglas Thompson from SPI.

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## Call for Applications: BIC Africa Acceleration Programme for Women Entrepreneurs 2023

### Call for Applications

BIC Africa Acceleration Programme for Women Entrepreneurs 2023  
*Empowering women entrepreneurs. Accelerating impact.*

Are you women entrepreneurs from Angola, Comoros, Ethiopia, Madagascar or Somalia?  
Willing to scale your business while contributing to achieve the SDGs?

**Apply now on: [shorturl.at/hsOW6](https://shorturl.at/hsOW6)**  
**Apply before 14 April 2023 6:30 PM CET**

**CONTACT US**  
For enquiries:  
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BIC Africa is funded by the European Union. Powered by



BIC Africa participated in the Ethiopian Diaspora & Startup workshop held online & in Addis Ababa



Mapping of international and regional public and private donors and initiatives

BIC Africa's Mapping of international and regional public and private donors and initiatives report published.

On the 3rd of February 2023, the Ethiopian Diaspora & Startup Online & Onsite workshop titled “Engaging Ethiopian Diaspora professionals and boosting the Ethiopian startup ecosystem” took place in Addis Ababa. The workshop was organized by the Private Sector Development Ethiopia (PSDE) project, funded by GIZ, and hosted by the Ethiopian Startup Ecosystem Association (EASE) supported by EBN and with the contribution of international expert Sébastien Dagault from LINXEO.

The workshop aimed at highlighting & connecting selected startups & Universities / R&D projects in Ethiopia with diaspora professionals & networks. The experts shared best practices and tools to facilitate diaspora engagement and boost the Ethiopian startup ecosystem (mentoring & business development, funding, training & capacity building).

In order to ensure that BIC Africa will complement the services of existing initiatives in the continent and will serve its purpose of increasing the possibility of collaboration with other relevant stakeholders, this report seeks to provide a mapping and characterisation exercise

It addresses 393 public, private and non-profit initiatives in Africa, 45% of which are located in the four target countries, whose activities are focused on promoting entrepreneurship within the continent, including accelerators, associations/networks, coworking spaces, incubators, incubators-accelerators (combined), investors and access to finance (A2F) organisations, other service providers, programmes/projects, start-up competitions, and university-based incubators.

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