

BIC Africa Newsletter Issue 6 - September 2023



BIC Africa Annual Gathering 2023 (#BICAfrica2023) - 26 October, Nairobi Kenya

The BIC Africa Annual Gathering is BIC Africa's flagship event that brings together policymakers, business incubator managers, entrepreneurs, business incubation experts and other stakeholders from the 5 BIC Africa project countries (Angola, Comoros, Ethiopia, Madagascar and Somalia), and also participants from other African countries and the European ecosystem. The gathering aims to connect incubation practitioners, exchange knowledge and discuss how to overcome the challenges faced by the business incubator communities today to support current and future entrepreneurs (with a focus on youth and women).

The BIC Africa Annual Gathering 2023 (#BICAfrica2023) co-hosted by BIC Somali will take place on Thursday 26th October (in-person) in Nairobi, Kenya. The theme for this year's gathering is "Promoting shared learning, Driving innovative startups! ", with a special focus on the Somali ecosystem and will feature relevant actors from Kenya.



BIC Africa Annual Gathering 2023 (#BICAfrica2023)

Movenpick Hotel & Residences, Nairobi, Kenya
Thursday 26th October 2023

AGENDA

- 1:00 pm - Arrival and Registration
- 1:30 pm - Welcome and Introduction to the BIC Africa Project
- 2:00 pm - Panel on the Country Projects Angola, Comoros, Ethiopia
Madagascar and Somalia
- 3:15 pm Coffee Break
- 3:40 pm - Panel on Entrepreneurial and innovation ecosystem in Kenya
- 4:30 pm - The Somali Ecosystem: Challenges and Opportunities
- 5:20 pm - BIC Africa Acceleration Programme for Women Entrepreneurs
- case studies and highlights
- 5:50 pm - Closing Remarks
- 6:30 pm - Networking Cocktail

[Read more](#)

[▶ Watch the BIC Africa Annual Gathering 2022 Recap Video](#)

BIC Africa activities updates and events



A Successful Mentoring Programme Development and Implementation - BIC Africa Ethiopia Boot Camp

BIC Africa Ethiopia Boot Camp successfully held on the 19th and 20th of Sep 2023 in Bishoftu, Ethiopia.

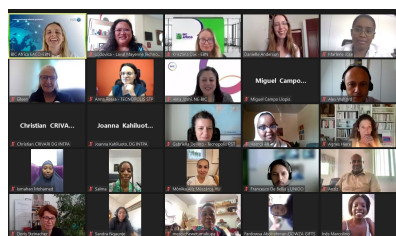
This national boot camp, organised in collaboration with the BIC Ethiopia country project, focused on the theme of mentorship and mentoring startups, a key topic for business incubators in Ethiopia, with the main aim of producing a collaborative and innovative “Guidebook on how to mentor startups” tailored to the local ecosystem, which will be shared with Business Incubators (Bis) in Ethiopia as a reference and living document.

In this national boot camp, BIC Africa brought together 11 participants – representing 4 Business Incubators participating in the Ethiopia country project, 3 startups from these BIs and the Ethiopian Association of Startup Ecosystem (EASE). The participants had the opportunity to re-connect, engage in open discussions and teamwork, and exchange knowledge and experience among themselves as well as with the expert facilitators, the BIC Africa and BIC Ethiopia project team members.

The Ethiopia boot camp was organised by the BIC Africa project team with the support of the BIC Ethiopia team and facilitated by experts from the EU|BIC community, Douglas Thompson from SPI, Arnaud Catinot from ESTIA and Axel Wion from VVA. We extend our sincere gratitude to all participants for their commitment and for sharing their innovative ideas. We appreciate the support of the expert facilitators and the BIC Ethiopia team for their crucial role in ensuring the boot camp’s resounding success.

The boot camp was part of the national boot camps designed specifically to meet the country’s context and country project activities. BIC Africa will organise a boot camp for all 5 country projects, the first edition of which will be held in October 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya.

[Read more](#)



The 2023 Acceleration Programme for Women Entrepreneurs Programme successfully completed

On the 12th of September, we wrapped up the BIC Africa Acceleration programme for women entrepreneurs 3rd cohort with an online event.

Under this year’s cohort, we supported 20 innovative women entrepreneurs from eleven countries out of which 14 entrepreneurs from BIC Africa



enforcing ongoing cooperation: official visit to the Business Incubation and Techno-Entrepreneurship Centre (BiTec)

Our colleague Dawit Dagne paid an official visit to the Business Incubation and Techno-Entrepreneurship Centre (BiTec) located at the Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia on the 17th and 18th of July, to reinforce our ongoing cooperation with one of the largest incubation centres in Ethiopia, through the BIC Ethiopia project. During his time in

target countries (Angola, Comoros, Ethiopia, Madagascar and Somalia) and 6 others from women entrepreneurs Kenya, Nigeria, Malawi, Rwanda, South Africa and Zambia operating in various sectors and at different business stages.

This year's programme kicked off on the 16th of May 2023 and ran for 15 weeks with a combination of tailored 6 online training modules, 4 high-quality coaching sessions, individual exercises, and a peer mentoring programme, to upgrade their business skills.

the Bahir Dar, Dawit held bilateral meetings with Amare Kassaw (PhD), the Director of the Center and with entrepreneurs at the centre to discussed how to further strengthen and accelerate efforts to support the startup ecosystem in the region.

Dawit presented the BIC Africa services including the pilot certification, an important element that will further strengthen our cooperation with the centre on its aspiration to be a centre of excellence in technology, innovation and techno-entrepreneurship for all Ethiopians.

[Read more](#)

[Read more](#)

Resources & Opportunities



IFC Africa
She Wins programme for
women entrepreneurs
across sub-Saharan
Africa

[Learn more](#)



The impact of
commercialisation
strategies and benefits
for SMEs investing in
Africa

[Learn more](#)



GameChangerX
Ecosystem Enablers:
Accelerate your Impact
on Gender Equality

[Learn More](#)

Looking for something else to read or watch?
Go to our resources section for more.

Avenue de Tervuren 168

1150 Brussels, Belgium
hello@bic-africa.eu
<https://bic-africa.eu/>



This email was sent to {{ contact.EMAIL }} You received this email because you are registered with EBN - BIC Africa.

[Unsubscribe here](#)



© 2022 EBN - BIC Africa

BIC Africa is funded by the European Union and Implemented by EBN