

The background is a solid blue color. Overlaid on this are several white wireframe cubes. These cubes are arranged in two main horizontal bands. The upper band consists of a series of cubes that appear to recede into the distance, creating a sense of perspective. The lower band also features cubes, some of which are more prominent and closer to the viewer. The overall effect is a modern, architectural, and geometric design.

2025 GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP NETWORK

IMPACT REPORT



GLOBAL
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
NETWORK

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A WORLD OF IMPACT

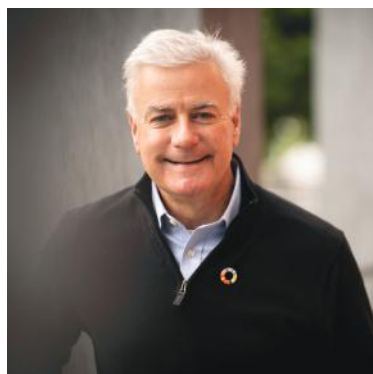
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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

DISRUPTION AND THE NEW VISION FOR 2035



Jonathan Ortman

In a year marked by profound disruption, we reflect on the evolving role of entrepreneurship in a world where the only constant has always been change. As the tectonic plates of geopolitics and artificial intelligence shift beneath our feet, our mission at GEN has never been more important.

The underlying theme of our work this year could not be more appropriate for the mindset required to navigate this new and more uncertain world unfolding in 2025. When the rules change, builders see not trouble but opportunity. “The Bold Change the World,” is not a call to arms for the entrepreneurial mindset. It is a call to action. To lead. To disrupt. To build.

We know that while disruption is uncomfortable, it is not destruction. It is the alchemy of turning uncertainty into opportunity. Amid a global decline of 25% in ecosystem value in 2024, entrepreneurs did not retreat, but reinvented. From AI-driven agritech in Nairobi to quantum computing labs in Bangalore, we witnessed disruption as the oxygen of progress.

And this revolutionary spirit is not confined to Silicon Valley or Shenzhen. It thrives in the favelas of Rio, the townships of Cape Town, and any place that humans set out to fix the seemingly unfixable. Disruption has now been democratized.

It is the migrant founder coding in a co-working space, the policymaker challenging budgets and dismantling red tape, the investor backing big new ideas.

In the global entrepreneurship ecosystem, this spirit of constructive rebellion is not just healthy—it is essential. Just as storms clear the air and renew the land, moments of disruption and challenge in our entrepreneurial communities force us to re-examine old assumptions, break free from complacency, and push the boundaries of what is possible. And it is not so bad. As Thomas Jefferson wrote so long ago, “I hold it that a little rebellion now and then is a good thing, and as necessary in the political world as storms in the physical.”

Entrepreneurs are, at their core, the rebels of today’s economic world. They question the status quo, challenge outdated models, and refuse to accept that the way things have always been is the way they must remain. It is this willingness to disrupt, to occasionally stir up turbulence, that keeps our ecosystems vibrant and our societies progressing. Without these acts of creative rebellion—without founders willing to risk failure for the sake of a better solution—we would stagnate.

It was this spirit that inspired the work of the amazing staff and volunteers at GEN over the past couple of years. In 2024, GEN teams worked directly with 8,460 entrepreneurs from 131 countries, connected 598 founders to mentors from 42 countries, and hosted seven international scaleup missions to four continents. We supported another 19,745 entrepreneurs (up from 17,178 in 2023) through our front-line programs, and reached 2.94 million entrepreneurs from 970 communities (up from 2.24 million in 2023). This report tells this story through the lens of our four departments, our national operations, our global flagship programs and resources, and our grantmaking.

Throughout history, we see that periods of upheaval, whether economic, technological, or social, often spark the most profound innovations and lasting change. In a world marked by disruptive geopolitical currents, GEN is embracing, not fearing, the entrepreneurial “storms” upon us. They are the medicine necessary for the sound health of our economies and our communities, ensuring that opportunity is refreshed, barriers are questioned, and the next generation of bold thinkers is empowered to build what comes next.

Looking ahead, GEN will continue to pursue its current vision of a world where there are more people experimenting, testing ideas and building companies. We will continue to support policymakers with the best research and models for increasing

rates of new firm formation. And we will continue to find new ways to ensure no one who wants to try is left out.

But the new landscape makes it imperative that we do more. In light of these new challenges, in 2025 GEN has kicked off new initiatives to build and protect global trust along with efforts to drive better performance from the global entrepreneurial ecosystem. As such, we are encouraging “little rebellions” that drive us to reimagine industries, reinvent solutions, and adopt a bolder commitment to drive a more efficient, inclusive and impactful global entrepreneurial ecosystem driving new jobs, global social impact and economic growth.

We begin by addressing strained global connectivity and trust. The geopolitical trends towards nationalism and sovereignty are presenting challenges for entrepreneurs wishing to innovate, collaborate and build across national boundaries. With the world entering a period of increased friction among national governments, there is a new imperative for bold leadership from entrepreneurs who thrive on uncertainty, take risks, innovate, birth the new and build. When governments and society change the rules, new opportunities reveal themselves. Our partners in this effort are the “new diplomats” – individual founders, corporations and celebrities with recognized global brands who can help us maintain trust across national boundaries.

Over the next 10 years, GEN will be expanding its work to fuel this global connectivity. At the GEC in June 2025, we launched Ecosystem Connect, a new cross-border program to “connect our connectors”. Local ecosystem leaders can learn from and support each other across national boundaries, whether for example shedding the spotlight on soft landing packages or sharing opportunities for startups to engage in non-local markets.

Second, we will drive greater efficiency and expect better performance from our world’s entrepreneurial support organizations. If we are to avoid waste and ensure excellence, we must commit to measuring what matters. Robust performance frameworks—like those used to evaluate business incubators or track ecosystem vitality—give us the tools to make informed decisions, allocate resources wisely, and hold ourselves accountable to the outcomes we promise. This is not about ticking boxes or chasing vanity metrics. It is about understanding the determinants of entrepreneurial performance, tracking the real impacts on job creation, innovation, and inclusion, and using this data to continually refine our approach.

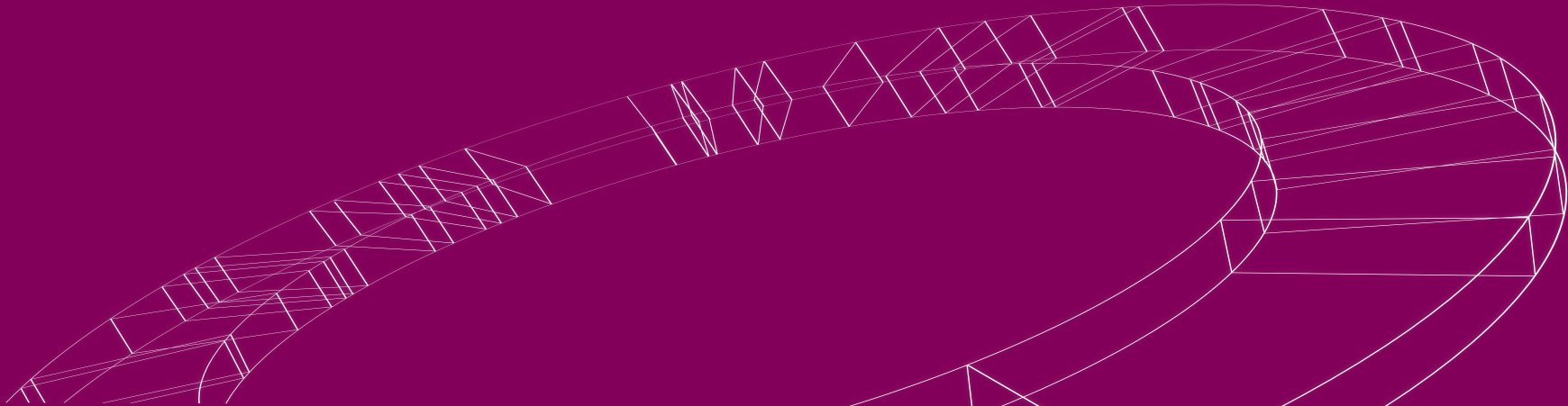
Over the next few years, GEN will relentlessly pursue better outcomes from local ecosystems and their enabling organizations ensuring we are all constantly asking, “Is this necessary?” A thriving global entrepreneurial ecosystem requires robust education, assessment, and support structures that can evolve with emerging technologies and economic shifts. Ecosystem support organizations must adapt to new realities of the post-AI era, evolving investment landscapes, and shifting educational models. GEN will engage its leaders to provide more effective, data-driven and scalable support, focusing on improving program and policy effectiveness and fostering deeper accountability in entrepreneurship mechanisms.

While the future always lies in uncertainty, at GEN we live immediately. Amid tightening budgets, loftier performance expectations and the oncoming of uncharted deep tech, we meet the future with the same weapons of reason, benevolence and kindness which empower us in the present. We hope you will join us on this grand adventure.



Jonathan Ortman

Founder + President



GEN BOARD

The GEN board works to provide leadership and guidance to GEN's mission to create one global entrepreneurial ecosystem.



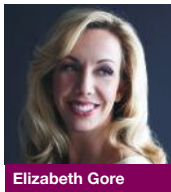
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Chairman of the Board
Global Entrepreneurship
Network



Neil Dhillon

Global Communications
Specialist



Elizabeth Gore

Co-Founder + President
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Erik Pages

President
EntreWorks Consulting



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Donna Harris

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Rebeca Hwang

Managing Director
Kalei Ventures



Cris Turner

Global Head of Knowledge
+ Information Products,
Government Affairs +
Public Policy
Google



Jonathan Ortman

Founder + President
Global Entrepreneurship
Network

ABOUT GEN

BUILDING ONE GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP ECOSYSTEM

The Global Entrepreneurship Network operates in 200 countries with a mission to make it easier for anyone, anywhere, to start and scale a business.

By fostering deeper cross-border collaboration between founders, investors, policymakers, ecosystem builders and others, GEN fuels healthier and more efficient local and national entrepreneurship ecosystems. Network members collaborate to democratize opportunity, drive economic mobility, create new jobs and grow economies while developing the conditions for entrepreneurs to solve the world's toughest challenges.

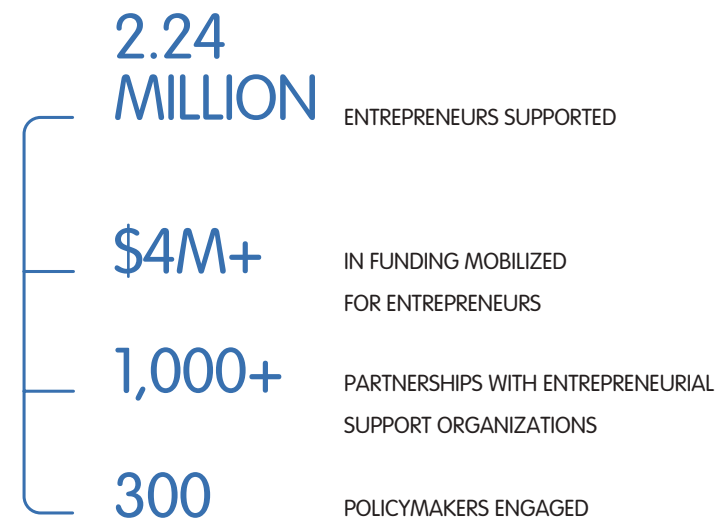
No matter what one's role is in the ecosystem, GEN works to help everyone succeed. GEN connects entrepreneurs with opportunities to learn, start and scale. It matches investors with up-and-coming founders primed to disrupt industries and change the world as we know it. It shares the best and brightest policies among governments seeking to grow their economies. And, GEN brings ecosystem builders and experts together to benchmark, track and share innovative programs.

GEN's work spans four core pillars:

- GEN Founders: Helping bold, disruptive innovators reach their full potential;
- GEN Invest: Getting the right capital in the right hands at the right time;
- GEN Policy: Sharing evidence-based ideas for smart policy design to help entrepreneurs thrive; and
- GEN Ecosystems: Building stronger and more globally-connected entrepreneurial ecosystems.

To learn more about GEN programs and to get involved, please visit www.genglobal.org.

ANNUAL IMPACT



LEADERSHIP AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

The Global Entrepreneurship Network champions the concept of one global entrepreneurial ecosystem, organizing its operations across national boundaries by the communities it serves under four major pillars: GEN Founders, GEN Invest, GEN Ecosystems and GEN Policy.

However, in expanding its footprint over the past 15 years to nearly every country around the world, it has been important for GEN to establish national leadership teams and advisors to ensure engagement is consistent with each economy's unique circumstances and culture.

In some nations, GEN has appointed an ambassador to represent GEN and provide leadership in aligning its programs, partners and communities. In others, GEN has been establishing its own leadership teams made up of organizations and individuals who, by GEN's assessment, are driving the most impactful programs in that country. In the remaining 40 economies, GEN has gone further and either opened an office or invited a board of directors to form and oversee a local legal entity operating as GEN under the GEN brand.

Below are recent examples that show how GEN is delivering strong and committed national leadership to make it possible for anyone, anywhere, to join in creating new value for their communities and the world.

GEN National Ambassadors

In countries where GEN does not yet have an office, an affiliate or other leadership, GEN appoints a national ambassador who works to build a foundation upon which to increase GEN's impact.

GEN has appointed 15 national ambassadors – **Jorge Lawson** in Argentina, **Cardelle Fergusson** in Barbados, **Seun Richards** in Canada, **Steven Rodriguez** in Colombia,

Peter Kofler in Denmark, **Camilo Pinzon** in Ecuador, **Samuel Salazar** in El Salvador, **Boris Lemus** in Guatemala, **Patrik Kovacs** in Hungary, **Juscelina Guirengane** in Mozambique, **Jorge Burgos** in Panama, **Anthony Smare** in Papua New Guinea, **Albert Colomer** in Spain, **Suresh de Mel** in Sri Lanka and **Hikmat Abdurahmanov** in Uzbekistan – who are actively building awareness in their countries of the effectiveness of GEN's programs.

“The possibility to coordinate GEN in Canada and bring GEN initiatives and resources such as GEN Policy and its Atlas portal, Startup Huddle, the Entrepreneurship World Cup, and other programs, presents exciting opportunities to foster entrepreneurship in Canada,” said Richards. “Together we will forge a formidable ecosystem and build a thriving GEN community here in the Great White North.”

By raising awareness of Global Entrepreneurship Week, Entrepreneurship World Cup, and other GEN programs, and by connecting GEN with ecosystem leaders in their countries, national ambassadors are instrumental in creating a strong foundation of outreach, partnerships and activities upon which to launch a GEN office in the future.

GEN's National Kitchen Cabinet Leadership and Ecosystem Connect

In 2025, to supplement current operations, GEN began developing groups of trusted advisors who provide guidance and support in each nation. Referred to as GEN's national “kitchen cabinets,” these ecosystem leaders are becoming the central reference point for decisions and operations in each country to ensure GEN's engagement is impactful and complementary to other local efforts.

Aligned with the emergence of these teams of advisors and GEN's strategic role fueling entrepreneurs and their backers as the new diplomats is Ecosystem Connect – a program to “connect the connectors” across national borders. Learn more about Ecosystem Connect on page 97.

GEN National Affiliate Operations

In some countries, GEN's operations are established enough to open operations. In these markets, GEN either opens an office or establishes an affiliated but independent legal entity under local leadership to scale initiatives and achieve sustainable impact in local ecosystems. GEN national affiliates are developing at differing paces, as each achieves a critical mass of programs and activities under the GEN brand. Using an internal tracking portal, GEN measures the growth of affiliates by monitoring the relationships, partnerships, programs, revenue and, most importantly, impact of their work. Here are a few examples:



Azerbaijan

Led by **Seymur Huseynov**, GEN Azerbaijan has built strong partnerships with the ecosystem's leading organizations, including, for example, ASAN Innovation Centre, the Confederation of Entrepreneurs, the Innovation Agency, which is part of Ministry of Transport and Digital Development, KOBIA, Azerbaijan's small and medium business agency, the Ministry of Culture, and Sabah Hub.

With the Ministry of Culture, GEN Azerbaijan is delivering a program for founders in creative industries on business and marketing planning through a 10-seminar course. The program includes support for the development of a training manual. The initial cohort kicked off in 2024 with 40 entrepreneurs, who ranged from first time entrepreneurs to those with more than 30 years of experience in the sector.

In partnership with KOBIA, GEN Azerbaijan is implementing two funded programs. The first involves surveying Azerbaijan's entrepreneurship stakeholders to develop a digital ecosystem map. The live, interactive map is housed on a KOBIA portal and is linked to the GEN Azerbaijan website on the GEN platform. It is currently only available in Azeri, but follow-on program plans include developing an English language version for international users.

GEN Azerbaijan also supported COP29, hosted on the eve of Global Entrepreneurship Week in Baku, where GEN President Jonathan Ortmans addressed the international gathering with a positive message about the progress being made by green tech startups across the planet in combating climate change.



Bangladesh

GEN Bangladesh, led by **Dr. Sabur Khan** and **KM Hasan Ripon**, is supporting the transformation of the country's entrepreneurship ecosystem through a wide variety of initiatives. In 2024, GEN Bangladesh opened GEN Campus Dhaka, a 10,000 sq. ft. startup hub featuring flexible co-working spaces, state-of-the-art innovation labs, multi-purpose event zones, meeting rooms with video conferencing capabilities, and dedicated areas for startup showcases and collaborative networking. GEN Bangladesh also regularly uses the space to host ecosystem leaders for stakeholder roundtable discussions. Aimed at fostering coordination and collaboration around

efforts to strengthen the ecosystem, GEN Bangladesh has successfully leveraged these relationships to catalyze Global Entrepreneurship Week events. The 2024 campaign included more than 500 events across the country organized by over 50 partners with 105,000 people directly engaged.

In addition to running chapters of GEN's Startup Huddle program, GEN Bangladesh also operates entrepreneur training and support programs. In 2024, its Smart Accelerator program supported seven cohorts of 30 participants each, across early-stage, growth-stage and women-led startups.

"Joining the Smart Accelerator helped us structure our business model and prepare investor-ready pitches," said Rasel Sheikh, the founder of Tylo, a fashion startup. "We gained access to incredible mentors who helped us go from concept to pilot phase within four months," Sheikh added.

Alid Hasan Akash, the founder of Robust Research and Development Ltd., said, "GEN Bangladesh's accelerator opened new doors for me. From legal compliance to marketing strategy, the hands-on support enabled me to scale faster than I ever imagined."

In addition, GEN Bangladesh delivered specialized training programs on IT and Artificial Intelligence to over 50 aspiring entrepreneurs. Further, in partnership with the Bangladesh Venture Capital Limited and KnowledgeVale, GEN Bangladesh hosted a Young Entrepreneurship Summit and Expo, bringing together 205 startups to showcase their innovations and connect with ecosystem stakeholders.

In the Entrepreneurship World Cup (EWC), GEN Bangladesh provided year-round mentoring and preparatory sessions to national competitors. Although no Bangladeshi startups qualified for the global top 100 in 2024, the program significantly strengthened the capacity of local entrepreneurs and positioned them for future international opportunities.

On the policy front, GEN Bangladesh is a consistent advocate for integrating entrepreneurship into national development strategies. In collaboration with policymakers, it has conducted policy dialogues, submitted position papers, and organized roundtables involving key government agencies, including the Dhaka Chamber and Bangladesh Bank. A major milestone in 2024 was the Development Dialogue on Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Strengthening, hosted jointly with the Chittagong Women Chamber of Commerce and Industries and Daffodil International University, engaging policymakers, educators, and private sector leaders to shape an inclusive entrepreneurial roadmap for Bangladesh.



Benin

In 2024, the national government commissioned GEN Benin, led by **Olusegun Charles Vidjannagni**, to map Benin's ecosystems leaders and stakeholders, assess how well government programs address the needs of entrepreneurs, analyze the impact of ecosystem events and offer feedback and policy recommendations. After its initial surveys and analysis, GEN Benin sees that many programs do not address critical challenges entrepreneurs face and, therefore, are not propelling the entrepreneurial ecosystem forward.

GEN Benin continued its monthly outdoor Cup of Cop program for founders with support from FORAM Initiatives, a regional non-governmental organization. The dynamic, engaging and interactive program is centered around a set of team sports that facilitates networking and collaboration. In addition, GEN Benin introduced an innovative program for startup teams during Global Entrepreneurship Week that uses chess as a means for building teamwork, problem-solving, and analytical skills. Also during the week, GEN Benin brought dozens of entrepreneurs back to their secondary schools to talk about their experiences and encourage the next generation to build a better future.



Burkina Faso

Through a multi-year program supported by the Embassy of Netherlands, GEN Burkina Faso is impacting the ecosystem by informing the legislature's development of a new startup act. Under the leadership of managing director **Issa Traote**, the multi-step program involves building a detailed map of the ecosystem, convening and surveying stakeholders, and analyzing the business environment. After it compiles the results of its research and analysis into an initial set of policy recommendations, GEN Burkina Faso will share it with key stakeholders and organize a series of workshops to discuss and refine its findings. When it finalizes its recommendations, GEN Burkina Faso and key stakeholders will hold a press conference and deliver presentations during parliamentary hearings.

GEN Burkina Faso also delivers an introduction to entrepreneurship course for secondary school and university students and conducts a business development program during which students found and operate a micro enterprise. To provide a space for entrepreneurs to exhibit their products and services, GEN Burkina Faso organizes an annual startup fair with support from the ecosystem's leading investors.



Cambodia

GEN Cambodia, led by **Molika Veng**, is a critical hub of the national ecosystem. Recently, it organized the Kirirom Global Forum, an international entrepreneurship event, to discuss pivotal themes shaping Cambodia's startup community. Prominent entrepreneurs, business leaders, and policymakers focused on supporting startups developing cutting-edge technologies, accessing international investments and markets, and increasing public/private partnerships.

GEN Cambodia also operates an investors club and provides equity investor training, capacity building and mentorship. It supplies guidance and support to startups as they move from idea stage to formal operations, and promotes business registration reform, leveraging GEN's Global Enterprise Registration program within GEN Policy, by providing information and international experience to policymakers.

To make it easier for ecosystem leaders and policymakers to assess the startup sector, GEN Cambodia is building a combined database by connecting various datasets into an easy to navigate dashboard. In addition, to help Cambodia's entrepreneurs access international markets, GEN Cambodia has organized trips for founders to Singapore – in partnership with GEN Singapore – to meet investors, and experts on entering new markets.



Japan

Under Naohiro Nishiguchi's leadership, GEN Japan is guiding the development of entrepreneurial communities that are globally connected to leading edge research, innovative programs, and renowned experts to deliver high impact entrepreneurial performance. Supported by a board of successful entrepreneurs and ecosystem builders, GEN Japan is serving as a collaboration platform for sharing best-in-class programming, new knowledge sourced from around the world, monitoring and assessing the ecosystem's performance, and leading key stakeholders in collective action.

In addition, GEN Japan is leading programs for existing corporations in aerospace, automobile machinery, and manufacturing sectors, on mainlining innovation by engaging and supporting Japan's startup communities. As part of its outreach, GEN Japan served as the secretariat of SusHi Tech 2024, which became one of Asia's

largest startup gatherings in its second year. During the conference, GEN Japan led sessions on entrepreneurship and sustainability that featured GEN president Jonathan Ortman.

GEN Japan partnered with Sophia University to kick off Global Entrepreneurship Week with a series of events designed to foster entrepreneurship. One connected students and idea-stage founders to alums for direct dialogue and advice. Another featured the former president of Sony who spoke about the critical role entrepreneurship plays in fostering innovation and growth.



Indonesia

Led by **Ivan Sandjaja**, GEN Indonesia is focused on developing entrepreneurship education programming and curriculum, mindset transformation and empowering new startup communities. With support from the Blue Bird Group, the Ciputra Group, Dailysocial.id and Paragon Corporation, GEN Indonesia designs and delivers capacity-building courses for BINUS University, Kalbis Institute of Business, Pembangunan Jaya University, and the Swiss-German University.

“This initiative serves as a platform for shaping impactful contributions of educational institutions, such as universities, colleges, high schools, and vocational schools,” said Sandjaja. “It allows us to broaden learning opportunities and inspire people to discover entrepreneurship.”

In designing the course, GEN Indonesia has focused on structuring an entrepreneurship-based curriculum that instills creativity and innovation, fosters creativity among educators by empowering them to act as enablers of entrepreneurship, measures mindset development with new tools that assess entrepreneurial thinking, harnesses technical knowledge by leveraging current technologies, and builds entrepreneurial character by nurturing entrepreneurship among students from non-entrepreneurial family backgrounds. For example, new business ideation units have been focusing on validation through data-driven customer development processes and business management units focus on tech-enabled finance, marketing, and operations.

GEN Indonesia brings together high-profile stakeholders – including founders, investors, and entrepreneur support organization leaders – throughout the country into an engaged and energetic national network. This strong foundation integrates the strength and resources of the global network, benefiting local stakeholders and catalyzing impactful next-level synergies.



Israel

In one of the world’s most innovative ecosystems, GEN Israel, led by **Ayla Matalon**, contributes to the advancement of entrepreneurship with programming aimed at supporting women founders and entrepreneurs from Arab communities within Israel. In partnership with SHEvyon, and with the support of Google for Startups, IBI Investment House (a capital market company) Poalim Bank, and US Embassy in Israel, GEN Israel organized events for women founders focused on investment and management led by many of Israel’s most prominent women entrepreneurs and business leaders.

In addition, GEN Israel, in collaboration with the Herzliya Gymnasium, the Ort global education network, and the Shimon Peres High School, brings entrepreneurship to life through its programming and workshops. For example, the Back to Roots program, connects today’s founders with tomorrow’s entrepreneurs. This national program brings successful entrepreneurs back to their schools and community centers to mentor the next generation of entrepreneurs. Through real-world management strategy discussions from relatable role models with similar backgrounds, the shared background among speakers and students creates a powerful “like me” effect, which enhances identification and inspiration among the audience. The program has positively impacted students’ self-confidence, practical entrepreneurial skills, and increased access to entrepreneurial opportunities.

“At GEN Israel, we believe that entrepreneurship is a powerful force for positive change, capable of addressing complex problems,” said Ayla Matalon, GEN Israel’s managing director. “Our vision is to facilitate problem-solving and technological advancement by promoting cross-cultural collaboration and bringing innovative new programs to Israel.”

GEN Israel continues to partner each November with the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange to open Global Entrepreneurship Week. The 2024 event highlighted the impact of GEN Israel's programs: The opening was led by entrepreneurs from Israel's minority communities, and two teenage entrepreneurs who launched their startups in high school.



New Zealand

With a membership base of more than 250 ecosystem leaders, Dave Moskovitz has built GEN New Zealand into the country's central hub for connecting and convening entrepreneurs, investors, policymakers, researchers, and other key leaders. Its monthly member gatherings feature leaders sharing news, information and experience, providing critical feedback and driving progress. For example, an April 2025 meeting featured Ashley Lake-Johns, the founder of Qippay, a fintech startup reshaping the future of payments, who described the early days of searching for product-market fit and the solutions he discovered along the way. Another 2025 meeting featured policymakers from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) who discussed new government support programs, how entrepreneur support organizations can access new grants, and elicited feedback from those on the call.

GEN New Zealand also conducts an annual member survey that reports how the ecosystem can better serve entrepreneurs by connecting them to the people and resources they need to thrive. Its monthly newsletter provides information about ecosystem developments, changes to government policy, highlights from GEN NZ's event calendar, and ESO announcements and updates. Its weekly Startup Digest, curated by GEN New Zealand board member Pauli Sosa, and long-time member and contributor Paul Spence, is a compendium of news and upcoming events.

An advocate for sound startup policy, GEN New Zealand organized a call to action around a proposed government policy shift that would have prioritized research-based startups (e.g., university spinouts) over entrepreneurial startups (founder-led startups). After holding a series of stakeholder workshops, GEN New Zealand provided its members with policy briefs, including a list of 56 key points, finding that innovation follows research and the overwhelming majority of economic wealth generated by new businesses has been from entrepreneurial startups. Because

entrepreneurship is a critical part of economic development, GEN New Zealand advised the government that it should continue to prioritize entrepreneurial startups.



Nigeria

In a fast growing and dynamic ecosystem, fueled by a young, tech savvy population, GEN Nigeria's programs harmonize the various pockets of entrepreneurial activities in the country while instituting national enterprise programs and competitions. Under the leadership of **Olawale Anifowase**, its policy research focuses on highlighting specific reforms that would reduce barriers for emerging Nigerian startups. In addition, GEN Nigeria provides a platform for founders to gain access to global opportunities for Nigerian entrepreneurs. GEN Nigeria is supported by the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry and the Small and Medium Enterprise Development Agency (SMEDAN) and operates in partnership with the Enterprise Development Centre (EDC) of Pan Atlantic University. Most recently, at the global level, GEN has supported its interface with government ministers with visits to both Abuja and Lagos by GEN President Jonathan Ortman.

GEN Nigeria's Venture Builder Program assists startups in the agritech, AI, big data, ed-tech, fintech, and creative sectors improve their innovations to market level and gain access to finance. The program includes business mentoring, lab days, demo days, and collaboration with technical partners. GEN Nigeria's Entrepreneurs Lounge is a dynamic hub for entrepreneurs to network, collaborate, and access resources. Its programming fosters innovation, facilitates knowledge exchange, matches founders with mentors and connects entrepreneurs with investors and industry experts.



Pakistan

Guided by **Kashif Khan**, GEN Pakistan has forged strategic partnerships with leading entrepreneurship support organizations including Arfa Karim Foundation (AKF), Ashreitech, EjadLabs, the Higher Education Commission, and Punjab Small Industries Corporation (PSIC). With AKF's support, GEN Pakistan will promote entrepreneurship among young people in rural areas through skills building training seminars.

Ashreitech is a leading technology-training provider that specializes in equipping entrepreneurs and businesses with the latest IT skills and knowledge. Combining expertise and resources, Ashreitech and GEN Pakistan work together to provide emerging entrepreneurs with the skills they need to drive innovation and success in today's digital age. "This partnership aligns with our mission to empower entrepreneurs and startups in Pakistan through cutting-edge IT training and resources," said Mr. Sohail Zindani, the CEO of Ashreitech.

To promote a sustainable tech ecosystem that is creating new opportunities for the country's youth and diverse industries, GEN Pakistan partnered with EjadLabs, Pakistan's leading innovation and ecosystem-building platform. Together, the organizations are nurturing tech startups through industry-specific training and platform support in order to bridge gaps between talent and opportunities and create pathways for established industries to adopt and integrate cutting-edge technological advancements.

GEN Pakistan's partnership with PSIC paves the way for policy dialogues, entrepreneurship awareness campaigns, incubation programs, and international linkages for Punjab's startups. The initiative enables GEN Pakistan to onboard organizations from diversified industries and bridge gaps between public sector support and private sector innovation. "As the world increasingly looks to entrepreneurship as a solution to job creation, innovation, and inclusive growth," said Khan, "this partnership will play a vital role in putting Pakistan on the global entrepreneurial map."

GEN Pakistan's cornerstone National Internship Program (NIP), supported by the Higher Education Commission, unites multiple sectors—government, non-profits, and private—around a common goal: providing valuable internship opportunities for young people. The program seeks to bridge the gap between these sectors and engage youth in a practical learning environment. "Providing young people with internship placements that offer practical experience and recognition better equip them for future careers in entrepreneurship," said Khan.

"GEN's global brand recognition," he added, "is opening doors for our team and partners to collaborate with Pakistan's leading organizations, and those in other key markets for our entrepreneurs around the world."



Philippines

In a transitioning economy with high rates of entrepreneurship, GEN Philippines is the growing ecosystem's central hub. "Our goal," says longtime managing director **Henry Ong**, "is to unleash the potential of Filipino entrepreneurs and position the Philippines as a hub for innovation and enterprise."

By providing access to resources, fostering collaboration, and facilitating connections among stakeholders in the entrepreneurial community, GEN Philippines supports and connects the entrepreneurial community. Its programming includes weekly business management workshops on webinars featuring national experts, entrepreneurship bootcamps, an incubation program, a mentor and investor match program, networking events, startup competitions, and an international exchange program for Filipino founders.

Educational business management workshops and webinars cover a wide range of topics relevant to entrepreneurship, innovation, and business growth. These sessions provide valuable insights and practical advice from industry experts.

"GEN Philippines' weekly workshops gave me clarity on things I used to struggle with—like pricing, customer segmentation, and even managing burnout," said Isabelle Reyes, co-founder of LocalHarvest PH. "Each session is packed with real, practical advice I can apply right away."

The incubator program provides early-stage startups with access to tailored mentorship, expert-led strategy sessions, and essential business resources, helping them navigate the challenges of building a successful business. Startups receive support in refining their business model, building a go-to-market strategy, and preparing for fundraising.

"The GEN Philippines incubator gave us structure and accountability. We came in with a product idea—and left with a clear roadmap, traction from pilot customers, and even our first angel investor conversation," explained Ryan del Rosario, founder of EduTrain.

A mentor match program pairs aspiring entrepreneurs with experienced mentors who provide guidance, advice, and insight from the wisdom they gained building successful ventures. An investor match program guides fundraising strategies and pitch preparation, and connects founders with angel investors and venture capital firms. The International Exchange Program leverages GEN to help Filipino entrepreneurs connect with global entrepreneurship hubs. Through learning visits, pitch events, and market immersion, founders gain insights into international scaling, building cross-border networks, and exploring global market entry strategies.



Suriname

Officially launched in 2024 by **Moreno Jackson**, the managing director, and Jalis Eduards, Eurwin Daans, Leanda Zeldenrust, Priscilla Abhilakh Missier, and Rajiv Hieralal, GEN Suriname operates the Entrepreneurship World Cup, Global Entrepreneurship Week, Startup Huddle and Innovate Suriname.

With support from the Act Now Foundation, Leduc Academy, Ministry of Economic Affairs, and the US Embassy, Startup Huddle Paramaribo has developed into an integral component of the ecosystem, bringing together entrepreneurs and the wider community on a routine basis. Local entrepreneur Gregory Kolf said, “Participating in Startup Huddle was a turning point for my company. The feedback I received after my pitch was a game-changer. It not only spurred immense growth but also reinforced my belief in the power of community and constructive feedback.”

GEN Suriname’s national Global Entrepreneurship Week campaign touched every corner of the country through its local partners. **Rishma Kuldipsingh**, the Minister of Economic Affairs, Entrepreneurship and Technical Innovation is a big supporter of the Entrepreneurship World Cup, saying that it is “a real catalyst in helping entrepreneurs become more successful in pitching their business model to both local and international markets.”



Uganda

Led by **Mary Odongo**, GEN Uganda supports and connects entrepreneurs, and those who support them, through year-round programming. It maintains a database of Uganda’s more than 200 entrepreneur support organizations, and, with support from the US Embassy, organized roundtables for entrepreneur support organizations to foster greater coordination and collaboration. GEN Uganda workshops help entrepreneurs to be investor ready and its seminars provide instruction on banking, finance, and taxation.

To improve access to finance, GEN Uganda is coordinating the establishment of an angel investor network. It also facilitates the Entrepreneurship World Cup, which provides Uganda’s entrepreneurs the opportunity to compete on the world stage. Through its annual Global Entrepreneurship Week campaign, GEN Uganda celebrates entrepreneurs and engages policymakers and other key stakeholders. Opened by the Honorable Henry Musasizi, the Minister of State, and Mr. Joseph Enyimu, the Commissioner of the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, the kickoff conference included more than 1,200 participants.



Zambia

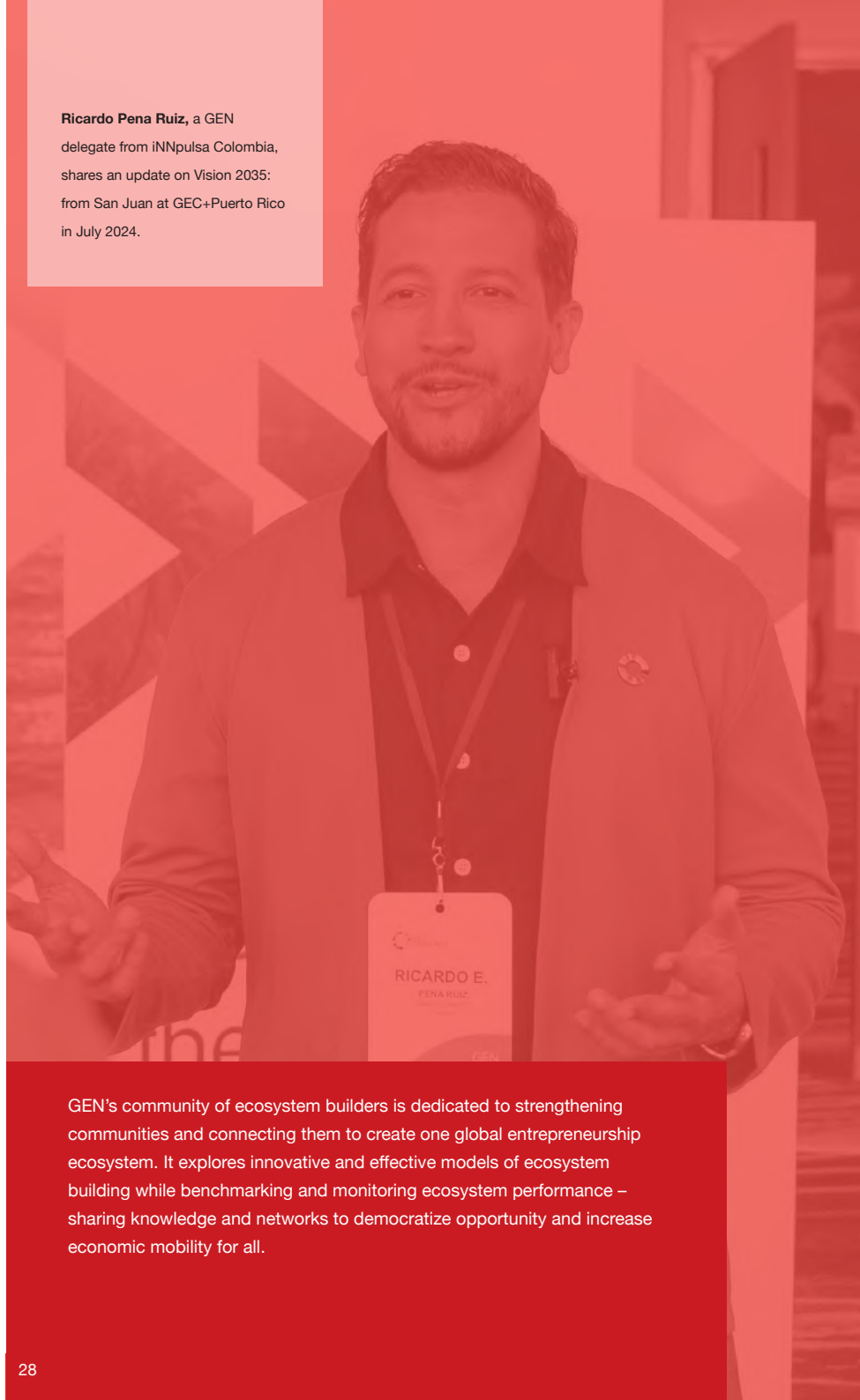
Edwin Zulu is developing GEN Zambia into the central hub of the national ecosystem. With partners including Nasla Halaal Beef Company and the Senanga District and Provincial government, GEN Zambia offers a variety of bespoke business development support services. Its innovative sustainability business model is aimed at generating sustainable financing for its national Global Entrepreneurship Week campaign, ensuring that Zambia’s ecosystem leaders and emerging entrepreneurs are able to participate in the Global Entrepreneurship Congress and GEC+, and supporting Zambia’s founders as they prepare to compete in the Entrepreneurship World Cup.



A WORLD OF IMPACT ACROSS THE GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP NETWORK

Andy Stoll, founding executive director of ESHIP Alliance, facilitates a conversation with GEN ecosystem leaders **Jorge Burgos** of Panama, **Kizito Okechukwu** of South Africa and **Pascale Hyboud-Peron** of New Zealand.

Ricardo Pena Ruiz, a GEN delegate from iNNpulsa Colombia, shares an update on Vision 2035: from San Juan at GEC+Puerto Rico in July 2024.



GEN's community of ecosystem builders is dedicated to strengthening communities and connecting them to create one global entrepreneurship ecosystem. It explores innovative and effective models of ecosystem building while benchmarking and monitoring ecosystem performance – sharing knowledge and networks to democratize opportunity and increase economic mobility for all.

GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP CONGRESS

BUILDING ONE GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP ECOSYSTEM

The Global Entrepreneurship Congress (GEC) is a rare place where founders, policymakers, investors, and support organizations from economies of all sizes are in the same room, collaborating to bring ideas to life, drive economic growth, and expand human welfare. Hosted by the Global Entrepreneurship Network in a different rising entrepreneurial city each year, the Congress gathers thousands of delegates from 200 countries to strengthen innovative approaches to empowering entrepreneurs everywhere. In between GEC events, GEN convenes GEC+ events with similar goals focused on a specific region or issue.

GEC 2025: The Bold Change the World

The Global Entrepreneurship Congress returned to the United States for the first time since 2009. Co-hosted by GEN and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, GEC 2025 convened thousands of investors, founders, ecosystem builders, and policymakers in Indiana – an up-and-coming startup ecosystem and one of the country's top states to do business.

In response to the new world order of 2025, an era dominated by AI and other deep technological advancements and new complex global challenges, the GEC convened under the theme The Bold Change the World, with delegates from most nations in the world renewing their commitment to collaborate and lead boldly with some institutions and governments facing new roadblocks to global action.

GEC 2025 was headlined by two trailblazers who embody this: disruptive

entrepreneur, investor, philanthropist, and TV personality **Mark Cuban**, and renowned entrepreneur, mentor, community builder, and author Brad Feld.

Cuban, known as one of reality TV's most popular and toughest investors, took GEC attendees behind the scenes on some of the boldest moves he's made and continues to make in his many roles within the ecosystem. His insights ranged from conquering the local magazine sales market at 16 to investing in hundreds of companies – including on the Emmy Award-winning show Shark Tank – to disrupting markets with his latest venture, Cost Plus Drugs.

Brad Feld, an architect of the modern startup community movement in the United States, took the stage at GEC 2025 to launch his newest book, Give First: The Power of Mentorship. In this exclusive first look, Feld shared a clear-eyed, practical guide to showing up for others and building lasting impact in business and life.

Feld is known for his Boulder Thesis, which has become a cornerstone of ecosystem growth strategies across the globe. He's also the co-founder of Techstars, a global accelerator that has supported over 10,000 founders, and of Foundry VC, a venture capital firm that manages over \$3 billion and has invested in dozens of companies.

“As a long-time believer in the potential of the global democratization of entrepreneurship, I'm excited to participate in the Global Entrepreneurship Congress and unveil my new book, Give First: The Power of Mentorship,” said Feld. In between headliners, the GEC 2025 program featured specialized tracks to help founders, investors, researchers, ecosystem builders, and policymakers reach their goals.

GEN continues to enjoy support at the GEC from dozens of universities, investor communities, multilateral government organizations such as the OECD, and a wide array of entrepreneurial ecosystem organizations. This year, GEN secured the support and participation of multiple philanthropies including the Kauffman Foundation, Wells Fargo, Allan Gray Philanthropies, Eli Lilly School of Philanthropy, Don Wood Foundation, Entrepreneurship Funders Network, and Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth. Corporate engagement with GEN at GEC also widened to include Google, FedEx, Verizon, PayPal and Alibaba.

A diverse collection of government leaders and policy advisors from across the

development spectrum attended the Startup Nations Ministerial to prioritize bold visions – how governments can think bigger in formulating innovative strategies and policies; focused delivery – the art of implementing complex public policies; and measured performance – tools and approaches for evaluating programs, policies and ecosystems. Sub-ministerial events allowed ministers to engage in smaller group discussions with experts on key topics.

The program also featured the GEN Global Assembly, where experts rolled up their sleeves in immersive workshops aimed at acquiring new skills and insights for developing a more effective global ecosystem. Investors and startups connected through investor matchmaking, and the Compass Awards honored those making a difference in helping entrepreneurs start and scale around the world.

GEC+Africa: Uniting Africa's Entrepreneurship Ecosystems

Six years after the GEC was held in Johannesburg, South Africa, the nation was once again the convening point for 2,000 delegates from 70 countries to strengthen and advance the continent's entrepreneurial ecosystem. GEC+Africa, held in Cape Town in March 2024, was part of a call to action by President Cyril Ramaphosa when he spoke at the GEC in 2017 – calling for a stronger presence by GEN in South Africa and follow up events.

GEC+Africa, co-hosted by GEN Africa and the Department of Small Business Development, had five key objectives: support the development of innovative startups in Africa and ensure their scalability; create an enabling environment for African startups to create jobs; create market linkages between corporations and African startups; support the development of a credible global investor pipeline that invests in African startups; and establish a strong GEN chapter in each African country thereby building and strengthening GEN's work across the continent.

GEC+Africa unpacked essential insights for reaching these goals, emphasizing strategic partnerships and a unified network to bolster startups. It highlighted the need for a supportive environment, backed by global investors, to spur job creation and growth. The focus was on clear, accessible business processes and shared governance to create a favorable business climate. The event also pointed to the critical role of technology education, particularly in AI, to keep African entrepreneurs at the cutting edge of innovation. These insights underscore a commitment to an

inclusive, robust entrepreneurial ecosystem, driving towards a collaborative and thriving future for African businesses.

The event made headlines with the announcement of the Entrepreneurship World Cup regional finalists, the launch of Africa's first entrepreneurial ecosystem index, new commitments by government ministers to strengthen cross-border startup sectors, and new investment initiatives.

In his keynote address, South Africa's Deputy President Shipokus Paulis Mashatile said: "GEC+Africa is timely and extremely important given the current global economic situation, especially the African continent's continued efforts to reinvent itself as a more influential actor in shaping the global agenda."

This sentiment was later echoed by Minister of Small Business Development Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams who said the collaboration at GEC+ "is the kind of collective impact we are looking for from the ecosystem, and as a government will do what we need to do to enable this."

The event contributed an estimated economic impact of R25 Million for South Africa. The next GEC+Africa will be held in Cape Town September 16 – 17, 2026.

GEC+Puerto Rico: Unlocking Entrepreneurial Potential and Bolstering Economic Growth Across Latin America and the Caribbean

Following GEC+Africa, founders and startup champions came together in San Juan, Puerto Rico to explore an ambitious roadmap for a more vibrant and thriving economy across Latin American and Caribbean communities by 2035. The program, punctuated by talks from founders, investors, ecosystem builders and policymakers, explored frontier technologies driving new industries, forward-thinking initiatives bringing historically underrepresented communities into the entrepreneurial economy, and actionable steps that every player in the ecosystem can take immediately.

After more than 50 sessions and in collaboration with delegates across the region, GEN released a roadmap for entrepreneurial success with seven targets and 35 recommendations in support of policies and programs that leverage entrepreneurship to boost economic growth and job creation. The recommendations focus on maximizing the availability and impact of new technologies across the region and encourage policymakers to prioritize four high-potential sectors: deep tech,

generative AI, cleantech and agritech.

Ministers and other policy leaders from eight countries participated in a regional Startup Nations Ministerial hosted by the U.S. Small Business Administration in partnership with GEN. Attendees shared their experiences and policy approaches to encouraging entrepreneurial growth – including on topics of digital government and the digital economy, access to finance, trade and resource attraction, and inclusion and outreach to underserved markets.

At the GEN Invest Executive Meeting, 18 members of the investor community signed on to join the newly-created GEN Invest LatAm Council. This council will address challenges within the early-stage investment ecosystem in the region and have a direct impact on it while helping to generate success cases for both investors and entrepreneurs.

The council will support the sharing of deal flow, co-investment, best practices and learnings. The council includes angel investors, VCs, family offices, private equity associations, finance institutions and government finance initiatives, among others from across the region.

GEC+Puerto Rico also featured the national finals competition for the Entrepreneurship World Cup USA, peer-to-peer investor discussions and fireside chats with Grammy-nominated entrepreneurs and unicorn founders like Fernando Garibay and Juan Pablo Ortega. The event was co-hosted by GEN and the Puerto Rico Convention District Authority in partnership with leading entrepreneur support organizations from across the region.

Jeff Hoffman, chair of the GEN Board of Directors, delivers keynote remarks at the opening ceremony for Global Entrepreneurship Week China in Shanghai.

GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK

10 MILLION PEOPLE. 40,000 EVENTS. 200 COUNTRIES. ONE WEEK.
REMOVING BARRIERS + EMPOWERING ALL.

02 - GEN ECOSYSTEMS

10 million people. 40,000 events. 200 countries. One week. Removing barriers + empowering all.

Global Entrepreneurship Week is a campaign to celebrate and empower entrepreneurs in every country and community around the world – especially those who face structural barriers or may have never considered the idea of launching a startup. Each November, 10 million people take part in tens of thousands of activities, competitions and events that inspire them to act and provide them with the knowledge, experience and connections they need to succeed.

Global Entrepreneurship Week – Where Entrepreneurship is for Everyone

For 17 years, Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) has inspired and empowered millions of people to unleash their ideas through events, activities, and competitions. At GEW in November 2024, under the theme ‘Entrepreneurship is for Everyone,’ more than 11,000 partners around the world organized 38,000 activities. Featured events included **COP29** in Baku, Azerbaijan, the launch of the inaugural **APEXE Nations Report** at the G20 Social Summit in Brazil (pg. 77 – see GEN Research), the **Entrepreneurship World Cup Global Finals** in Saudi Arabia (pg. 84), and the launch of **GEN Campus Cape Town** in South Africa (pg. 43).

Corporate and philanthropic collaborations helped new entrepreneurs begin their startup journey, political leaders voiced their support for founders and expressed gratitude to the ecosystem builders behind the campaign, and national hosts in 123 countries catalyzed impactful national movements that are making it easier for newcomers to entrepreneurship to test ideas and grow companies.

Corporate and Philanthropic Collaborations Help New Entrepreneurs Begin Their Startup Journey

Globally, the campaign is organized by GEN and powered by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation with support from strategic partners that are invested in helping to address global challenges through entrepreneurial solutions.

FedEx collaborated with GEN to spotlight founders making a difference and initiatives available to support them. “FedEx is thrilled to have the opportunity to help people from all geographies, economies, backgrounds and ability levels explore the transformative power of entrepreneurship,” said **Jenny Robertson**, Senior Vice President of Global Brand and Communications.

Alibaba.com joined the growing list of recognizable brands engaged in the campaign, leveraging the opportunity to launch a new AI-powered B2B search engine designed for entrepreneurs to access the global marketplace. During the campaign, GEN and Alibaba.com offered early access to the tool and shared stories of entrepreneurs who have transformed their businesses with it.

“Alibaba.com and GEN are demonstrating that success in global trade is within reach for all, providing innovative tools that empower entrepreneurs to thrive,” said **Alex Tsai**, head of strategic partnerships and growth at Alibaba.com.

Virgin StartUp founder and long-time Global Entrepreneurship Week supporter Richard Branson once again offered wisdom to budding founders throughout the campaign.

“A good mentor can be a guiding light on your business journey, helping you to spot new opportunities and navigate difficult decisions,” he shared. “If you don’t already have a mentor, make Global Entrepreneurship Week the time to start your search.”

Government Leaders Voice Support During Global Entrepreneurship Week

High-ranking government officials in several countries added their voices to the campaign – from Algeria to the United Kingdom, Denmark to Paraguay, Jamaica to Sierra Leone, Germany to Uganda, and beyond.

“Entrepreneurs are the engine of Canada’s economy – they turn good ideas into great businesses, connect Canada to global markets, and create good, well-paying jobs across our communities,” said then-**Prime Minister Justin Trudeau**.

London, UK **Mayor Sadiq Khan** endorsed the campaign ahead of the opening launch day. “London welcomes all entrepreneurs, and the fantastic businesses they create in the capital are the backbone of our economy, delivering the services and products we all use in our daily lives, as we work towards a better and more prosperous London for everyone,” he said.

“Starting a business requires courage, perseverance, and is fraught with uncertainty,” said **Michael Kellner**, Germany’s Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate Action. “Our mission is to provide founders with the best possible support, as we do during the Global Entrepreneurship Week Germany, with advisory services and networking opportunities.”

Across the Atlantic Ocean in Sierra Leone, **Minister of Communications, Tech and Innovation, Salima Monorma Bah** thanked organizers, describing the campaign as “a vital platform for promoting collaboration and progress in Sierra Leone’s startup ecosystem.”

National Hosts Catalyze Impactful Campaigns in 123 Countries

In 123 countries, national Global Entrepreneurship campaigns are catalyzed by national host organizations. Campaigns in Algeria, Bermuda, Brazil, Germany, Jordan, Sri Lanka, St. Lucia, Pakistan, and Paraguay are consistently among the top 10 worldwide for their scale, creativity, engagement of influential brands and VIPs, positive impact and inclusion of non-traditional and under-represented communities.

Global Entrepreneurship Week Germany Unites the National Ecosystem

In Europe, Germany hosts one of the most impressive Global Entrepreneurship Week campaigns year-over-year with 1,600 events supported by 1,200 partners across the country. The national campaign, locally known as Gründungswoche Deutschland, is led by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action and the RWK Competence Center. More than 600 events focused on supporting female founders and 450 were aimed at youth. Business succession planning – and encouraging aspiring entrepreneurs to consider injecting their ideas into existing businesses – was another key topic.

Stephanie Kropf, head of Global Entrepreneurship Week Germany, credits the campaign’s success to two important factors: the government’s leadership and a strong network of partners. She emphasized that the government’s backing lends credibility to the campaign, encourages partner involvement, and signals to those working in the entrepreneurship sector that their efforts are recognized and valued.

Initiative Selbständiger Immigrantinnen is one of the partner organizations that has benefited from being part of the movement.

“When I think of Global Entrepreneurship Week Germany, I think of networking and the opportunity for us to be part of this large network,” said **Cristina Cipolletta**, project manager at Initiative Selbständiger Immigrantinnen. “For us, [GEW] is an important platform for exchange, learning, and advancement.”

RWK Competence Center and Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate

Action have recently expanded its efforts to give back to its partners and find new ways to support them, launching a new event series called GEW Germany Word Cafés that connect partners and give them a platform to share their challenges, opportunities, and experiences.

“Many partners told us that before joining the campaign, they didn’t know about other support organizations in their areas,” said Kropf. “They found out about them from our partner list, connected during the World Cafés and now many regions are now creating events together. In this way, Global Entrepreneurship Week Germany not only inspires and supports thousands of people on their entrepreneurial journey, but has also become one of the largest and strongest networks for entrepreneurship ecosystems in Germany.”

Government Entities Take Lead Partnership Role in Algeria

In Algeria, Global Entrepreneurship Week – hosted nationally by **GEN Algeria** – reached 245,000 participants including students, entrepreneurs, investors, policymakers and industry leaders. More than 6,000 events were organized with support from 844 partners – 80% of which are government entities – across 58 cities.

“Global Entrepreneurship Week has been a driving force in fostering entrepreneurship, innovation, and economic development,” said **Wafae Harrir**, program director at GEN Algeria. “It is a cornerstone event that empowers aspiring entrepreneurs, connects key ecosystem players, and supports policy initiatives to enhance the startup landscape.”

Tech entrepreneur Salem Hamdi, agrees: “GEW Algeria not only gave visibility to our startups but also created meaningful connections across the ecosystem. We’ve engaged with policymakers, inspired youth across regions, and scaled ideas that matter.”

Over the years, GEW Algeria has grown exponentially, both in scope and influence. Events range from high-impact panel discussions and pitch competitions to mentorship sessions and policy roundtables that drive tangible change.

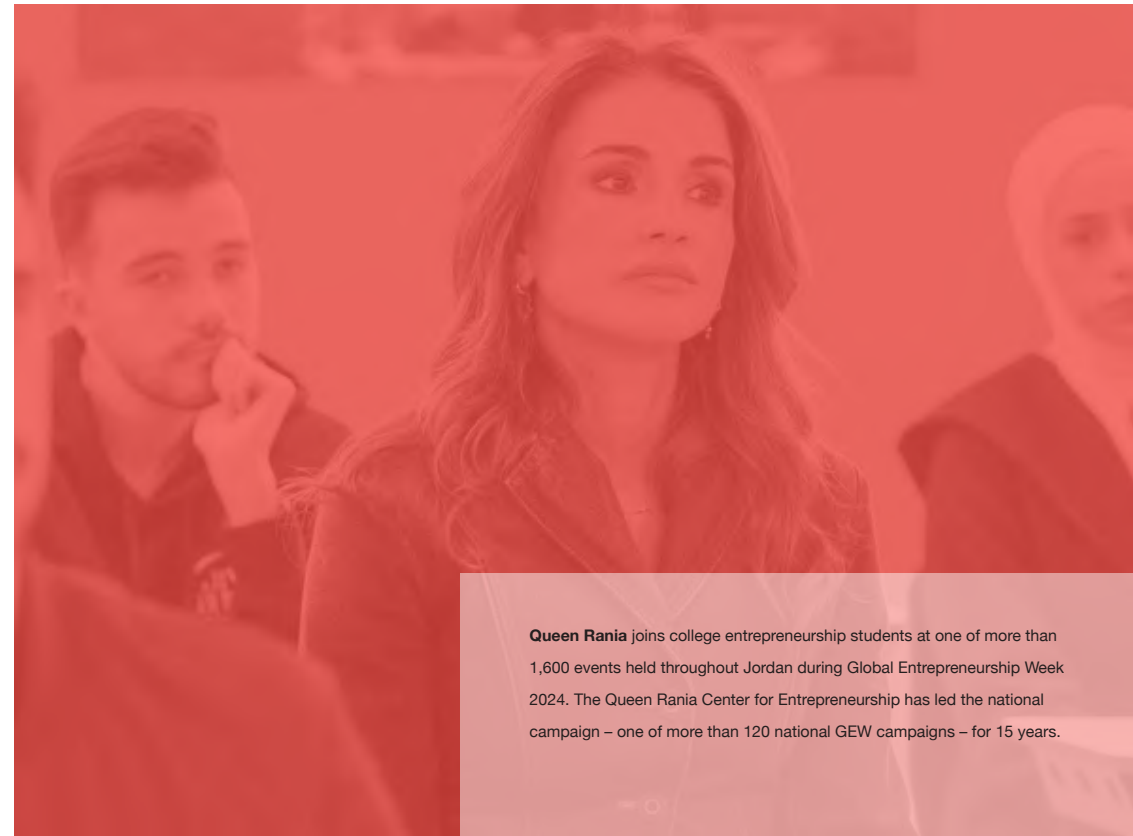
In 2024, GEN Algeria secured the official patronage of the Ministry of the Economy, Knowledge, Startups, and Micro Enterprises. This recognition underscores the importance of its work in shaping national entrepreneurship policies. Additionally, partners have fostered cross-sector collaborations by engaging leading universities, incubators, and corporate partners to provide hands-on support for entrepreneurs.

GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK EXPANDS OPPORTUNITIES IN JORDAN

Nearly 2,000 miles east of Algeria, in Jordan, Global Entrepreneurship Week is hosted annually by the **Queen Rania Center for Entrepreneurship (QRCE)**. In 2024, 50,000 people participated in 1,200 events across the country – including in rural and underrepresented regions. Its extensive reach is made possible with support from more than 250 partners including with Zain, a national telecom provider, 16 media partners and 20 university partners.

The campaign engaged national influencers including Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah, who visited students at the King Hussein School of Computing Sciences at the Princess Sumaya University for Technology.

According to **Mohammad Obaidat**, Executive Director of QRCE, Global Entrepreneurship Week has had a significant impact on the growth of the national



Queen Rania joins college entrepreneurship students at one of more than 1,600 events held throughout Jordan during Global Entrepreneurship Week 2024. The Queen Rania Center for Entrepreneurship has led the national campaign – one of more than 120 national GEW campaigns – for 15 years.

entrepreneurship ecosystem and founder pipeline in Jordan over its 15-year history. More people have been invited to explore entrepreneurial opportunities, and those who have launched companies have connected with key growth opportunities. Non-profit organizations have also emerged, collaborations with universities have become more mature, aspiring founders have connected with key contacts and new opportunities, and the entrepreneurship movement has moved beyond major cities to rural regions.

“During Global Entrepreneurship Week, we see startups announcing that they are expanding to new countries and hear from others who have connected with investors and partners,” said Obaidat. “They come to us months later and tell us: ‘we signed the deal’ or ‘we expanded to new markets’ or ‘we’re planning to go overseas to visit new partners.’”

Monther Fadel, founder of DARBCO, an innovative robotics solar cleaning company, is one such entrepreneur. He participated in the Touchdown Program, an initiative that launched during Global Entrepreneurship Week and is funded by the U.S. Embassy and run by QRCE and iPARK.

“It offered us a rare opportunity to explore the U.S. market firsthand, connect with industry leaders, and validate our value proposition on a global stage,” said Fadel. “The strategic insights, mentorship, and exposure we gained have been instrumental in shaping our international expansion strategy.”

Campaign Opens Doors for Diverse Founders in Sri Lanka

In South Asia, the Information Communication Technology Agency (ICTA) of Sri Lanka ensured the campaign covered all 25 districts of the country with more than 220 events supported by over 100 ecosystem partners. More than 20 Sri Lankan universities and schools participated, providing thousands of students with guidance to pursue entrepreneurial ventures. Collaboration with government institutions including the Ministry of Technology, Ministry of Industries, Ministry of Science and Technology, and the National Enterprise Development Authority, facilitated institutional support for entrepreneurs across several regions. The campaign reached more than 20,000 participants across Sri Lanka, including students, women and rural innovators.

“GEW has created an inclusive platform where every voice matters, every idea is welcomed, and new opportunities are born,” said **Abith Latiff**, Global Entrepreneurship Week lead at ICTA Sri Lanka. “It doesn’t just connect people - it

inspires a wave of hope, collaboration, and momentum that continues to grow.”

Nevindaree Premarathne, founder and CEO of STEM education company The Makers Global, has supported Global Entrepreneurship Week by organizing events in Sri Lanka for three years.

“[It] has consistently provided a powerful platform to amplify voices that often go unheard, especially women and youth in STEM,” she said. “GEW has helped us reach hundreds of young women across schools and universities, encouraging them to dream bigger and step confidently into the world of entrepreneurship. This is more than a week — it’s a movement that continues to shape the future of entrepreneurship in Sri Lanka.”

Indiana Tops USA National Leaderboard

Across the United States more than 94,000 people participated in 756 events in 169 communities. **The U.S. Small Business Administration** ramped up to Global Entrepreneurship Week with its summit connecting incubators and labs to universities, accelerators, economic developers and investors to increase access to capital and resources. 2025 Global Entrepreneurship Congress host Indiana was the most active state, where activities supported both emerging and seasoned founders.

University student **Eli Serrano**, also the founder of financial services company **Epoch**, said: “Throughout the week I wished I could be in three places at once with so many high energy and impactful events all happening around me. The gravity that came with [GEW] enabled countless business connections and pushed me forward as an entrepreneur.”



GEN CAMPUS

ENABLING STARTUP SPACES + COMMUNITY. PROMOTING
CONNECTIVITY, DENSITY, DIVERSITY + FLUIDITY.

Healthy entrepreneurial ecosystems benefit from the concentration of startups within a given geographic area – making it easy for entrepreneurs to connect and access resources. GEN Campus develops physical locations in places facing a lack of centralized locations for ecosystem leaders and startups.

GEN Campus is now serving startup ecosystems in four cities across three continents: Johannesburg (South Africa), Cape Town (South Africa), Denizli (Turkey), and Dhaka (Bangladesh). Over its seven-year history, the initiative has grown to directly support over 1,000 founders annually and provides connections between thousands more across the entrepreneurship ecosystem. With two new locations launched in 2024, its reach and impact continues to rise.

GEN CAMPUS EXPANDS REACH AND OFFERINGS TO SECOND LOCATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

GEN Campus first broke ground in Johannesburg, South Africa in 2017 with a 3,000-square-meter facility providing coworking desks, meeting and event space, and

Jonathan Ortmans, founder and president of GEN (left), officially launches the newest GEN Campus with **James Vos**, the City of Cape Town's Mayoral Committee Member for Economic Growth and **Kizito Okechukwu**, executive head of 22 on Sloane.

entrepreneur-support programming. The local hub, dubbed 22 on Sloane, has helped over 1,100 entrepreneurs generate more than R500 million in revenue and create over 2,200 jobs since 2017. In 2024-2025 alone, it supported 815 startups and small businesses and expanded its offerings to include a second location in Cape Town and a game development studio in Johannesburg.

The Cape Town hub is set within 1,100 m² of prime real estate overlooking Table Mountain, the Atlantic Ocean and the cityscape of Green Point - offering entrepreneurs an inspiring environment to grow companies. Local dignitaries, ecosystem champions, founders and investors celebrated the opening during Global Entrepreneurship Week.

“The launch of the Cape Town hub is a key step in our journey to support even more entrepreneurs, creating a broader ecosystem for startups in Africa,” said **Kizito Okechukwu**, Executive Head at 22 On Sloane.

The launch event, a cornerstone of the region's Global Entrepreneurship Week activities, was supported by African Bank, the South African Future Trust, the Wholesale and Retail Sector Education and Training Authority, and Allan & Gill Gray Philanthropies. The launch was attended by entrepreneurs, investors, ecosystem builders and policymakers representing the Western Cape Provincial Government and the City of Cape Town.

George Sibusiso Sindane is the director of Sandton-based technology company Galattica Technologies and a resident of the 22 on Sloane Johannesburg campus. He attended the launch and credited it with helping him make new connections with potential stakeholders.

“I interacted with private sector key decision-makers like the CTO of Microsoft South Africa and a few stakeholders from African Bank, both based in Cape Town and Johannesburg. I have already had positive meetings with some of the stakeholders mentioned above and am looking forward to a fruitful outcome.”

22 ON SLOANE LAUNCHES NEW GAMING STUDIO IN JOHANNESBURG

In partnership with the Eskom Development Foundation, 22 on Sloane launched its Game Development Studio in Johannesburg to empower startups, entrepreneurs, and gaming enthusiasts by providing resources, including a gaming section, a VR station, and a podcast studio.

The Game Development Studio enables learning, development, prototyping, and experimentation of new gaming solutions and products. It allows developers to leverage new technologies and resources to develop and launch commercially appealing games. The program offers a comprehensive range of resources, tools, and opportunities tailored to foster growth, innovation, and collaboration within the gaming industry.

22 ON SLOANE SHOWCASES SOUTH AFRICAN STARTUPS IN LONDON, UK

South Africa's High Commission to the United Kingdom appointed 22 On Sloane to coordinate the selection of 30 small, medium and micro-enterprises that joined a high-level South African delegation, which included South Africa's Deputy President Paulus Shupoko Mashatile, government officials, private and public stakeholders, and investors, to the Business Showcase in London as part of a working visit.

The Business Showcase served as a platform that sought to foster collaboration and build bridges between the South African and UK entrepreneurship ecosystems. Entrepreneurs and tech startups connected with both South African and UK big businesses and investors for market access and funding opportunities. This also presented an opportunity for entrepreneurs within the GEN Campus community to learn, meet peers, and gain valuable insights on best practices for scaling and trading beyond their borders.

GEN CAMPUS DENIZLI EXPANDS SUPPORT FOR BUDDING ENTREPRENEURS IN TURKEY

In the southwestern Turkish city of Denizli, GEN Campus is building momentum in its pursuit to strengthen the local entrepreneurship ecosystem through its space, partnerships, and programming.

Since launching in 2022, the Campus has directly supported more than 108 startups in collaboration with Pamukkale Technopark, Pamukkale University, and the Denizli Entrepreneurial Businesspeople Association [DEGIAD].

GEN Campus Denizli has also impacted more than 2,000 young people through training programs and workshops, and reports a marked increase in student interest in entrepreneurship.

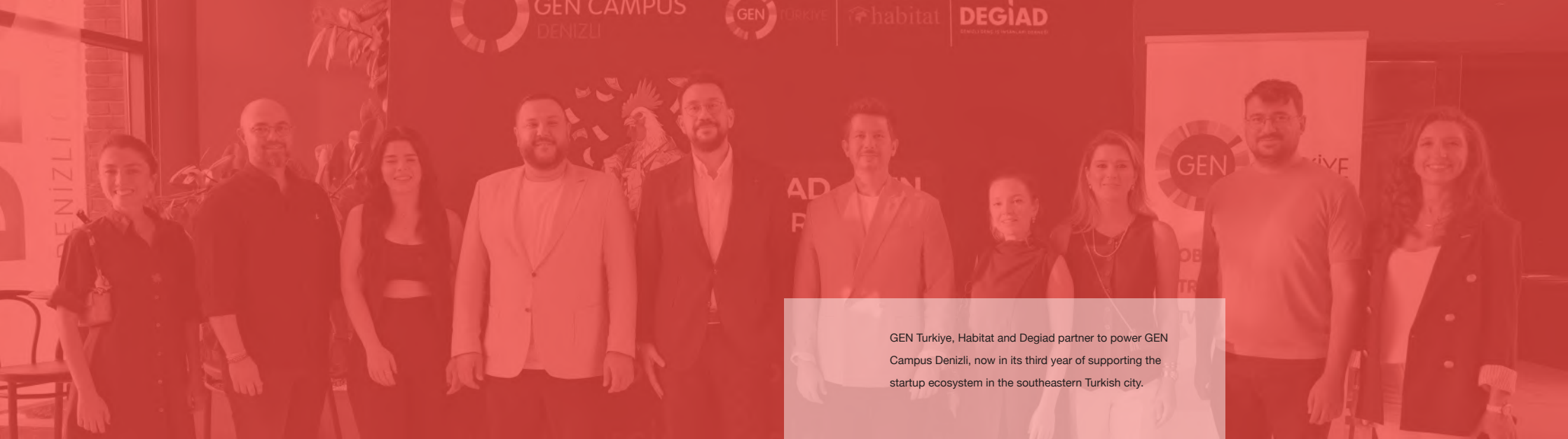
Students at the local Ticaret Technical Anatolian High School have also benefited from GEN Campus Denizli programming. GEN Campus provided Entrepreneurship 101 and Design Thinking workshops to students with support from trainers in the GEN Turkey network.

“The presence of GEN Campus Denizli provides our students with the opportunity to receive entrepreneurship-focused training,” said school principal Sahin Taskin. “Having one-on-one conversations with entrepreneurs in the field is an invaluable and enriching experience for them.”

“We hope this valuable journey continues and would like to emphasize how beneficial and productive our students find these opportunities.”

In addition to providing space and programming, GEN Campus Denizli is fostering new connections and business opportunities for local startups. For example, the local Web3 development startup Polyverse connected with DEGIAD through GEN Campus programming and fostered a relationship that led to the creation of a DEGIAD Token NFT, a collaboration that the startup acknowledges as a catalyst for future partnerships.

Recent programming encompasses a diverse array of offerings, including opportunities to leverage AI, connections between startups and investors, regular entrepreneurship training and design thinking sessions, and connections between university students and founders to explore entrepreneurial opportunities.



GEN Türkiye, Habitat and Degiad partner to power GEN Campus Denizli, now in its third year of supporting the startup ecosystem in the southeastern Turkish city.

These initiatives underscore GEN Campus Denizli's commitment to fostering innovation and entrepreneurial growth in the region.

FIRST GEN CAMPUS LOCATION IN BANGLADESH OPENS IN BETA MODE

In the heart of central Dhaka's Dhanmondi neighborhood, a new 10,000 sq. ft. GEN Campus location is operating in its startup beta phase. Scheduled to formally launch in March 2026, GEN Campus Dhaka represents a transformative step forward in strengthening Bangladesh's entrepreneurial ecosystem. This initiative is led by Dr. Md. Sabur Khan, Chair of GEN Bangladesh, and is made possible through support from Daffodil International University.

Alid Hasan Akash, founder of Robust Research and Development LTD, one of the city's leading tech startups, says the support received from GEN Campus Dhaka has already been "truly invaluable."

"Their resources, mentorship, and collaborative environment have helped me shape and grow my startup with confidence. GEN Campus provided not just space, but a strong community that nurtures innovation and early-stage ideas. I'm grateful for their continued guidance on this journey."

The space offers a vibrant hub for fostering innovation, collaboration, and entrepreneurial growth. With joint backing from the Department of Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Daffodil International University and Bangladesh Venture

Capital Limited (BVCL), the campus is designed to serve as a launchpad for aspiring founders and creative minds.

It offers flexible co-working spaces, state-of-the-art innovation labs, multi-purpose event zones, meeting rooms with video conferencing capabilities, and dedicated areas for startup showcases and collaborative networking. A fully equipped cafeteria, lounge areas, and informal gathering spaces will help foster a strong sense of community among entrepreneurs, mentors, investors, and partners. These amenities support every phase of the entrepreneurial journey — from ideation and prototyping to market entry and scale-up.

In partnership with prominent ecosystem enablers such as the FBCCI Innovation and Research Center, Industrial Innovation Center (IIC), BVCL, Bangladesh Skill Development Institute, and KnowledgeVale, GEN Campus Dhaka will also offer customized training programs, mentorship opportunities, access to funding, and incubation support.

The campus is set to become a cornerstone of innovation in Bangladesh — a place where entrepreneurs not only build impactful businesses but also contribute to shaping a resilient and inclusive startup ecosystem for the future.

STARTUP HUDDLE

Building startup ecosystems, one entrepreneur at a time. Where communities connect + founders flourish.

Startup Huddle builds local startup communities while crowd-sourcing advice and support, one entrepreneur at a time. Run by the Global Entrepreneurship Network, chapters composed of community and entrepreneurship ecosystem leaders gather regularly at the same time and place to listen to and help startups form and scale.

From community centers and town halls to university campuses and co-working spaces, Startup Huddle is building startup communities around the world through collective action in support of entrepreneurs.

GEN research shows that startup communities with greater levels of local connectivity translate to an increased number of startups – and that founders with high levels of connectivity grow their revenue twice as fast as those with lower levels.

Startup Huddle fills this need in 60 cities across 54 countries. Recent expansions across Canada and South Africa, along with new chapters in Mexico, Chile, and Lesotho, speak to the proven model.

BANGLADESH: FILLING CONNECTIVITY AND COLLABORATION GAPS

In Southeast Asia, for example, Startup Huddle has chapters in several cities, including two in Bangladesh – Chittagong and Dhaka. In the country's second-largest city, the startup community and others gather each month in a non-profit community space to learn about challenges facing two entrepreneurs. Led by **Somen Kanungo**, an entrepreneur committed to giving back to his community, Startup Huddle Chittagong fills a collaboration gap.

"Many startups in Chittagong struggle to scale their ideas because of a lack of infrastructure and mentorship," said Kanungo. "Since launching Startup Huddle, we've fostered innovation by consistently hosting monthly huddles where entrepreneurs share their ideas, challenges, and solutions – creating a platform to connect with mentors and peers."

Founder challenges are compounded by limited access to funding and global markets, which Kanungo has also facilitated through GEN.

"We've organized cross-border huddles, such as a recent one with Nigeria, to bring together diverse perspectives and solutions from international founders. This ongoing exchange of ideas – and connecting them with industry experts and investors – has helped us build a more dynamic and innovative ecosystem."

Amit Das, founder and CEO of electric bicycle manufacturer P&A Motor Company, is one entrepreneur who has benefited from Startup Huddle Chittagong, naming it a "pivotal experience". Das presented his company's vision and challenges to a diverse group of entrepreneurs, mentors, and industry leaders who provided invaluable insights and strategic connections.

"The constructive feedback helped us refine our approach, while the networking opportunities facilitated meaningful collaborations that have directly contributed to our business growth and market expansion," said Das.

"This platform has been instrumental in accelerating our journey toward establishing P&A Motor Company as a leader in Bangladesh's electric vehicle industry. I highly recommend Startup Huddle to entrepreneurs seeking to enhance their business strategy, connect with industry experts, and explore new market opportunities."

BARBADOS: STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY AND A PEER SUPPORT GROUP

On the easternmost island in the Caribbean, Startup Huddle Barbados is fostering connectivity amongst entrepreneurs who face challenges ranging from a small local market and growing their customer base to accessing financing and adopting new technologies.

Led by ecosystem builder **Cardelle Ferguson** and supported locally by the Barbados Youth Business Trust, Startup Huddle Barbados has convened the community in the island's capital of Bridgetown on a monthly basis since launching in 2021.

"We wanted to create an opportunity for entrepreneurs to learn from each other and participate in a peer support group," said Ferguson. "Startup Huddle filled the gap while allowing for subject experts and industry players to offer input as well."

In the years since, hundreds of entrepreneurs have participated in the program, including Adora Hoyte, founder of Onway Apparel.

“Participating in Startup Huddle turned out to be one of the best decisions I’ve made for my business.”

“I received valuable feedback and fresh perspectives that I hadn’t considered before. The community helped me identify strategies to better reach my target market and explore funding options, including collaborations that I had briefly thought about but never seriously pursued.”

Ajani Batson, founder of Arcadia Farms, echoed this sentiment.

“Startup Huddle was a game changer for me and my business. I shared my biggest challenges balancing my time as an entrepreneur, student, father, and community leader. Through the feedback and support I received, I was able to restructure my approach, focus on my specialty products, and improve my business operations.”

“I implemented strategies like optimizing my pricing, allocating dedicated service hours, and exploring partnerships. Now, I am successfully supplying garden centers, hardware stores, and businesses, and I feel more in control of my time and growth.”

As the local entrepreneurship ecosystem evolves, Ferguson hopes Barbadians will be more proactive in creating solutions that develop the region, boldly express new ideas, and have access to a sustainable support model that empowers founders throughout the business lifecycle – goals in which Startup Huddle will play a key role.

UNITED KINGDOM: BREAKING SILOS AND STRENGTHENING A FAST-GROWING COMMUNITY

In the historic university city of Oxford, United Kingdom, Startup Huddle has become a cornerstone of the region’s entrepreneurship ecosystem. It is among the fastest-growing Startup Huddle chapters – having started in 2022 with an attendance of 20 and now attracting 150 attendees at every meet, with some driving considerable distances to participate.

Led by ecosystem builder **Ryan Johnson** and supported locally by the Business and IP Centre Oxfordshire, Startup Huddle Oxford has a three-year track record of meeting on the third Thursday of every month with no exceptions.

According to Johnson, this consistency has been key to the success and inclusive growth of Startup Huddle Oxford, which regularly welcomes everyone from mothers with newborns to retired seniors.

“For some, the motivation of getting a business going is to put extra food on the table. But that person could be sitting next to someone who’s exited their first company for £10 million. There’s a real collision of individuals who can learn from one another and support each other and bring different perspectives, which makes it a very warm place.”

Participants agree that Startup Huddle Oxford provides a welcoming environment to test ideas and get feedback.

“My social enterprise, helping young people at risk of exploitation, was conceived with the Startup Huddle community, who feel a bit like family,” said Tim Parkhouse, founder of Get Fed CI, a barista and business training company for young people at risk of exclusion and exploitation.

With participation from across the ecosystem – including local support organizations, government agencies, and investors in regular attendance – Johnson says Startup Huddle is also helping to address one of the community’s greatest challenges: a siloed ecosystem.

“People may be working on similar innovations that may support one another, but they aren’t aware of each other. Startup Huddle has been a great opportunity to bring that exposure and those individuals together.”

GEN ECOSYSTEM COMMUNITIES

STARTUP HUDDLE ORGANIZERS

Startup Huddle organizers connect regularly to exchange ideas, celebrate wins, and collaborate on solutions to common challenges in managing their Startup Huddle chapters. Together, they form a supportive global community dedicated to building startup communities, one entrepreneur at a time.

- Featured Members



Cardelle Ferguson

General Manager,
Barbados Youth Trust +
Organizer, Startup Huddle
Barbados



Somen Kanungo

CEO, Neptune Ships and
Logistics + Organizer,
Startup Huddle Chittagong



Ryan Johnson

Manager, Business and
Intellectual Property
Centre + Organizer,
Startup Huddle Oxford

GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK HOSTS

Representatives from host organizations leading national Global Entrepreneurship Week campaigns from 120+ countries meet online regularly throughout the year to exchange creative ideas for building stronger campaigns including catalyzing impactful partnerships, developing resources and crowd-sourcing solutions to other common needs and challenges. This community fosters peer learning, mutual support, and global connectivity amongst the organizations that are the backbone of the Global Entrepreneurship Week movement.

- Featured Members



Stephanie Kropf

Head of the Nationwide
Coordination Office for Global
Entrepreneurship Week Germany
GEW Germany



Mohammad Obaidat

Executive Director of
Queen Rania Center for
Entrepreneurship
GEW Jordan



Wafae Harrir

Program Director, GEN
Algeria GEW Algeria

GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK USA STATE COORDINATORS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZERS

The national Global Entrepreneurship Week campaign in the United States is made possible by community organizers who connect regularly throughout the year to exchange ideas on catalyzing impactful partnerships, brainstorm fresh ideas to engage their communities in reaching the public, and crowd-sourcing solutions to challenges. This nation-wide community covers 100+ cities and fosters peer learning, mutual support, and connectivity amongst the individuals and organizations who are the backbone of the Global Entrepreneurship Week movement in the United States.

- Featured Members



Aidan Battista

Entrepreneurial Ecosystem
Manager, Indiana
Economic Development
Council



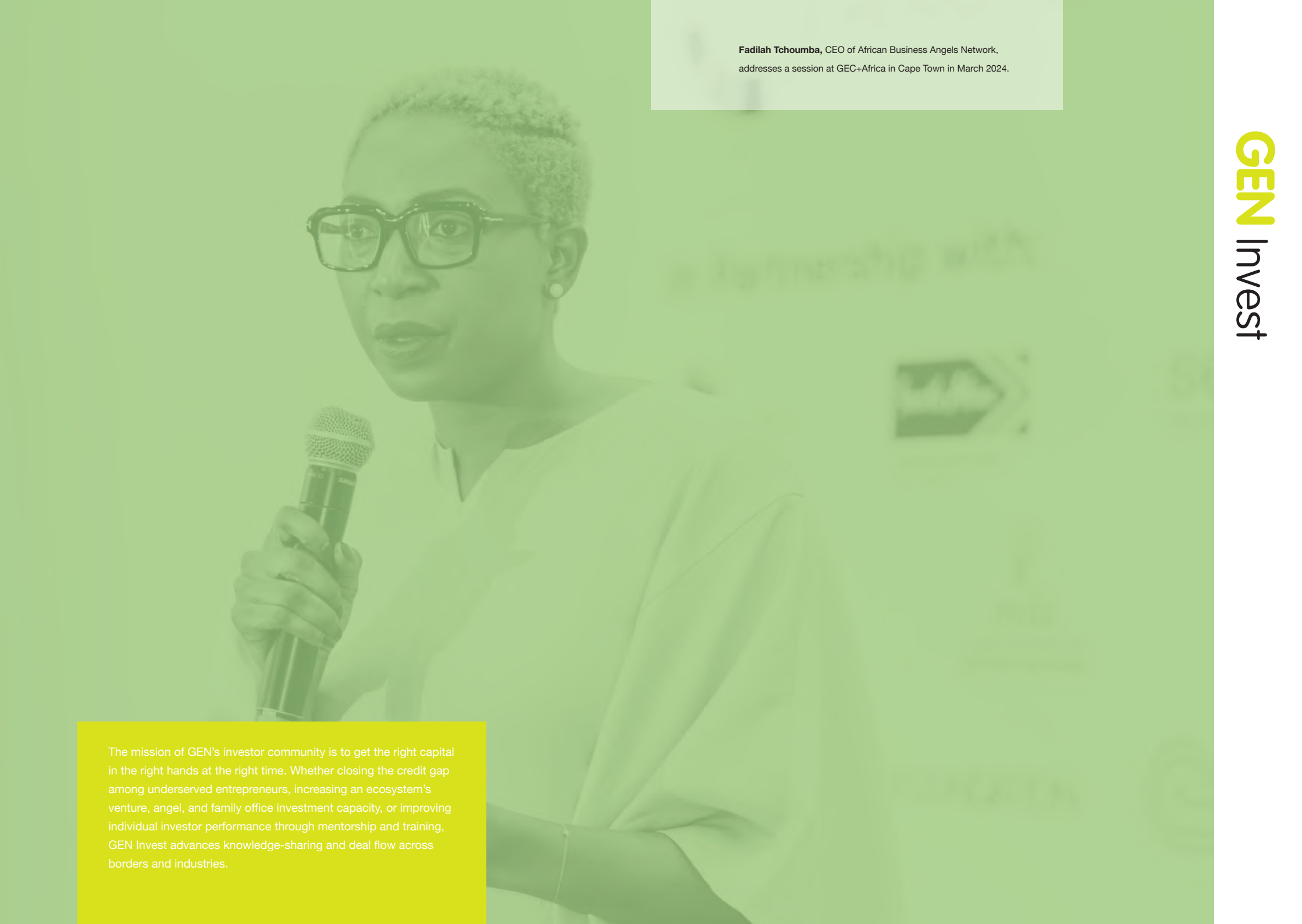
Becca Castro

Senior Director,
KCSOURCELINK



Darlisa Diltz

Chief Entrepreneurship
Strategist, Foundations
Entrepreneur Development
Company

A woman with short, curly hair and glasses is speaking into a microphone. She is wearing a light-colored top. The background is blurred, showing some text and a logo. The entire image has a green tint.

Fadilah Tchoumba, CEO of African Business Angels Network, addresses a session at GEC+Africa in Cape Town in March 2024.

The mission of GEN's investor community is to get the right capital in the right hands at the right time. Whether closing the credit gap among underserved entrepreneurs, increasing an ecosystem's venture, angel, and family office investment capacity, or improving individual investor performance through mentorship and training, GEN Invest advances knowledge-sharing and deal flow across borders and industries.

SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS PROGRAM

Providing direct financial support to founders around the world during their times of need.

With support from more than a dozen foundations, the Small Business Grants Program (SBGP) provides direct financial support to founders around the world during their times of need. GEN launched this program in 2020 in response to the challenges faced by entrepreneurs during the COVID-19 pandemic and has since issued nearly \$30 million in grants. In the years since its inception, the program has evolved from helping founders navigate the darkest days of the pandemic crisis to more widely supporting entrepreneurs – especially those from historically underrepresented communities – as they seek to overcome ongoing challenges and scale their businesses.

NEARLY \$30 MILLION AWARDED TO ENTREPRENEURS IN 2020-2025

From 2020 to 2025, GEN issued 2,045 grants, with entrepreneurs receiving a total of \$29,924,804 thanks to partners including Hello Alice, Allstate, Etsy, FedEx, Antares Capital, Tiger Global, BGE, KKR, DoorDash, Sonoma County Alliance, Venmo, Progressive, Mastercard, Toast.org and Verizon. Approximately 70% of these grants have reached women founders, and 59% have reached BIPOC founders. The program's newest partners, including All State Insurance and Toast.org will help expand the reach and impact of the program in 2025 and beyond.



Lisa Van Wormer

838 ENTREPRENEURS SUPPORTED BY BGE SMALL BUSINESS ENERGIZING GRANT

Lisa Van Wormer, CEO and owner of Maryland-based Abrado Analytics, is one of more than 830 entrepreneurs to receive a grant through the BGE Small Business Energizing Grant, which prioritizes businesses operated by historically underrepresented groups often challenged by limited access to capital.

Van Wormer, an army veteran, and her company, support federal and state projects for at-risk and underrepresented communities and military missions in high-risk environments.

The company's core challenge is acquiring customers due to the lengthy federal and state contracting processes, which can take anywhere from 90 days to a few years. To address this, the company is developing sustainable funding resources and diversifying efforts to bid more competitively and break into more diversified markets.

"This grant will fuel the capital needed to bring two of our new ideas to market quickly and help [the company] build out our new line of business ideas while continuing to bid on new opportunities in our existing niche areas," said Van Wormer. "This grant will allow us to build the know-how and talent base to amplify our new ideas and rapidly grow."

Ninety BGE Small Business Energizing Grants were distributed in 2024, 63 of which were awarded to women founders.



Amber Ivey

\$500,000 IN DIRECT FINANCIAL SUPPORT PROVIDED THROUGH ETSY'S CREATIVE BUSINESS BOOST INITIATIVE

Amber Ivey is the founder of AiDigiTales and one of 100 founders empowered by the Creative Business Boost Initiative, designed for entrepreneurs contributing to the creative economy. Presented by GEN and Hello Alice with support from Etsy's Uplift Fund, the initiative provided 100 entrepreneurs with a \$5,000 grant and access to an exclusive Boost Camp

coaching program, helping them access capital and resources to foster growth and success.

Ivey's Washington, D.C.-based edutainment company is making AI fun, accessible, and safe for kids and their families. Ivey credited the program with helping her adapt to rapidly evolving changes in her industry.

"The Boost program helped me refine our offerings and focus on providing value in a changing climate," she said, emphasizing how the Boost Camp's focus on innovation gave her a fresh perspective on aligning her creative offerings with market needs.

Through the 12-week Boost Camp, participants gained valuable tools to strengthen their businesses, leading to a 13% improvement in overall business health. As a result, 90% of participants reported feeling more confident about their business growth potential, and many used the grant to improve visibility, attract customers, and invest in sustainable growth strategies.

In addition to financial support, the program's educational resources have had a lasting impact. Ninety-three percent of participants shared that they feel more equipped to navigate challenges and opportunities in their industries after completing the program. The initiative also fostered a strong sense of community, connecting creative entrepreneurs to peers facing similar challenges.

RESTAURANT DISASTER RELIEF FUND PROVIDES CRITICAL AID TO ENTREPRENEURS FOLLOWING EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS

Jawah Scott, founder and CEO of Birchwood Coffee in Yellowknife, Canada, is a recipient of the Restaurant Disaster Relief Fund established by GEN and DoorDash to support restaurant owners impacted by natural disasters such as earthquakes, wildfires, floods and hurricanes.

The grant helped Scott recover from a devastating wildfire season – during which the business was impacted by a nearly three-week evacuation that left no incoming revenue to cover rent, payroll, maintenance, and other costs.

"The grant provided stability at a time when sales had decreased and costs had escalated due to inflation," said Scott. "It provided a critical cushion as margins were decreasing."

Scott is one of the overwhelming majority of recipients who expressed that the grant was crucial in helping their businesses recover from disaster impacts. The grants not only supported immediate recovery but also played a significant role in funding future growth and stability for the majority of businesses.

Most businesses are on a positive trajectory after receiving the grant, with many experiencing growth and stability. Fifty-six percent of entrepreneurs report their business is doing better than ever post-grant, while 33% are still facing challenges but are on the path to recovery.

Following a spring flood that damaged his store and impeded deliveries and customer traffic, Adbur Rahim, founder and CEO of Bubble Wave in Winkler, Manitoba, was forced to replace equipment and repair floors and walls. Rahim used the funds to renovate and improve service to customers.

"This grant saved our business," said Rahim. "Thank you, Door Dash and GEN for all your support."

Through six funding rounds, the fund has distributed \$250,000 USD to help restaurant entrepreneurs in Australia, Canada and New Zealand recover in times of critical need.

FEDEX ENTREPRENEUR FUND AND BOOST CAMP IMPROVES FINANCIAL FITNESS

Taylor Rednose-Uko, founder of The Backdrop Room, a creative space in Texas, is a recipient of the FedEx Entrepreneur Fund, a collaboration between FedEx, GEN and Hello Alice that offers funding, resources, and networks to enhance entrepreneurial success. The fund awards \$300,000 in total grants annually to entrepreneurs in the United States who have a connection to the military and/or entrepreneurs with disabilities.

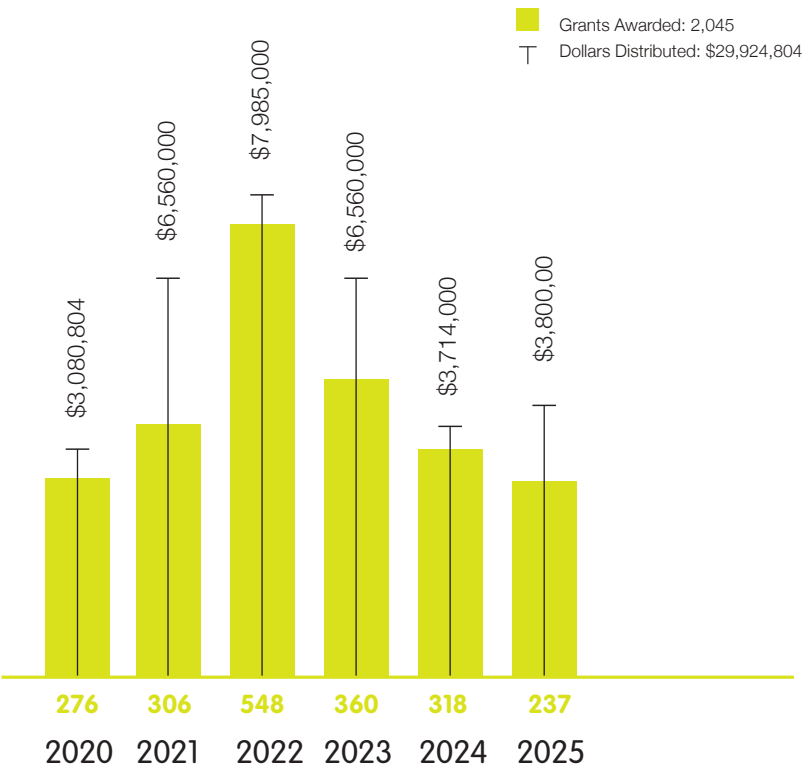
In 2024, the program expanded to combine grant money with a high-touch small business accelerator (the FedEx Boost Camp) focused on helping businesses improve their financial fitness and optimize plans for growth. Over six months, participants like Rednose-Uko received access to expert-led sessions and mentorship in addition to a peer support network.

Rednose-Uko said her experience with the program was “truly life-changing,” noting that wins are hard to come by when starting a business, and each win makes a huge impact.

“The FedEx® Entrepreneur Fund made it easy by compiling all necessary information in one place. As someone who is technologically in tune, the fact that all these resources are virtual and are laid out for me, there is no easier way to go about it. It truly is so accessible, and everything has been clear and concise.”

A key component of the Boost Camp program, the Business Health Score™, has helped participants understand the financial health of their businesses and provided tailored recommendations for growth. Seventy-five percent of recipients who retook their health scores saw an increase in their health score. Ninety-five percent of program participants feel more equipped to navigate challenges and opportunities in their industry after participating in the program.

TOTAL PROGRAM IMPACT



EQUITABLE ACCESS PROGRAM

UNLOCKING CREDIT AS A GATEWAY TO FINANCIAL HEALTH.

Luis Gonzalez (right), vice president for Philanthropy and Community Impact at Wells Fargo, along with **Jonathan Ortman**s, founder and president of GEN, and **Carolyn Rodz**, co-founder of Hello Alice, discuss the Equitable Access Program and efforts to close the credit gap through financial education and credit-building skills for small business owners.

The Equitable Access Program provides financial health technical assistance, education, and increased access to credit for high-potential but credit-challenged entrepreneurs. The program includes a Business Health Score tool, an Equitable Access Fund, financial education and technical assistance, a small business event series, digital accelerators, and small business advocacy.

The credit gap is a trillion-dollar problem in the United States alone, where annually there is an estimated \$40 billion worth of unmet financing demand from entrepreneurs in underserved communities, and an estimated \$1 trillion in unmet financing demand from all small businesses nationally.

To address this challenge, GEN created the Equitable Access Program in 2023 in partnership with fintech company Hello Alice, the Kauffman Foundation and Mastercard. The initiative launched to provide financial health technical assistance, education, and increased access to credit for high-potential but credit-challenged small business owners in the United States through initiatives including a Business Health Score.

The Equitable Access Fund followed in 2024, launched with initial funding from Wells

Fargo. The funding is being deployed over the next five years to improve equitable access to credit and capital amongst small business owners. The fund provides credit enhancements, including guarantees, loan loss reserves, and cash collateral deposits to financing partners to enable them to reasonably increase their risk tolerance to help unlock credit access for underserved high-potential but credit-challenged small business owners.

While the program currently focuses on the United States credit system, GEN believes the outcomes of this work will also serve as a case study for other nations to learn from and adapt to support underserved entrepreneurs within their jurisdictions.

BUSINESS HEALTH SCORE OFFERS EDUCATIONAL EMPOWERMENT FOR FINANCIAL HEALTH

Since the program's inception, the Business Health Score has empowered 95,470 entrepreneurs – far surpassing the initial goal of supporting 30,000 entrepreneurs – by providing them with the tools to assess and improve their financial health. These entrepreneurs have gained valuable insights and access to tailored resources that support their financial growth.

“The business health score was an eye-opener,” said Darlene Paquette, founder of Front Door Housekeeping. “Now we have additional goals: increase our ‘rainy day’ funds, double our annual sales, and get our business plan together.”

The tool is leveraged by a diverse set of users, with women representing the significant majority at 40.8%. Engagement with the tool has led to significant improvements, with personal credit scores increasing by an average of 27.6% and business credit scores rising by 17%.

VIRTUAL ACCELERATOR DELIVERS FINANCIAL SKILLS BOOST

Users of the Business Health Score were invited to apply for the Wells Fargo Equitable Access Boost Camp, which equipped small business owners with the knowledge, tools, and financial education needed to strengthen their businesses through a 12-week virtual accelerator program. The program provided structured learning experiences, interactive sessions, and expert-led discussions focused on business health, credit-building strategies, and capital access.

The program was divided into two cohorts, each engaging in a series of curated educational guides, workshops, and mentorship opportunities. The program saw a strong correlation between increased engagement and improvements in financial decision-making among business owners.

“One financial tip that has been invaluable for my business is creating a detailed budget tailored to our specific mission,” said the founder of Tiny Genius Prep Academy, an early childhood education business and Boost Camp participant. “Since we focus on phonics-based curriculum to address literacy challenges, we ensure a significant portion of our funds is allocated to educator training, curriculum development, and technology upgrades.”

ADVOCACY AND EVENTS LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR EVIDENCE-BASED SOLUTIONS

As part of the Equitable Access Program’s commitment to small business advocacy, GEN convened experts to assess policies and programs fostering entrepreneurship, identify gaps, and lay the groundwork for evidence-based solutions. The session, which took place in San Juan, Puerto Rico during GEC+Puerto Rico, uniquely focused on Latino and Hispanic entrepreneurs.

“We are excited about the work we’re doing, the innovation behind the work, and more importantly, the opportunity to get capital in the hands of small businesses and entrepreneurs,” said **Luis Gonzalez**, Vice President of Strategy and Operations at Wells Fargo.

“It’s great to have this type of event that allows us to think outside the box, to meet and have discussions with folks that are like-minded in terms of working to make a difference in our communities and to see the entrepreneurial spirit alive and well, not just in the United States but across the world,” Gonzalez added. “It’s amazing that GEN can do that and bring everyone together in one place to make that happen.”

Throughout 2024, the Equitable Access Program also hosted four impactful small business events designed to foster dialogue, empower entrepreneurs, and strengthen community-driven support. The year kicked off with the Small Business Summit in Dallas, Texas, followed by the Enterprise Roundtable in Los Angeles, California, bringing together thought leaders and business owners to discuss capital access and sustainable growth. The program continued with Listening Tour stops in Chicago, Illinois, and New York, New York, offering intimate, entrepreneur-focused gatherings that addressed the challenges and opportunities facing small business owners. These events have played a crucial role in gathering valuable insights into the evolving needs of entrepreneurs, allowing the program to be refined and expanded to enhance its impact.

Looking ahead to 2025, GEN and its partners remain committed to expanding access to capital, financial education, and business support for entrepreneurs. The Equitable Access Program has already transformed thousands of businesses and will continue this momentum—providing even more entrepreneurs with the tools they need to grow, thrive, and achieve long-term success.

GEN INVEST COMMUNITIES

GLOBAL BUSINESS ANGELS NETWORK

The Global Business Angels Network (GBAN) is a community of national angel investor networks that provides mentorship, training, and a platform for the exchange of global market insights, investment opportunities, real-life experiences, and best practices. Membership spans 66 countries.

- FEATURED MEMBERS



Linda Smith

Chair Emeritus of the
Angel Capital Association



Marcel Dridje

President Emeritus,
Sophia Business Angels +
EBAN Board Member



Fadilah Tchoumba

CEO of the African
Business Angel Network

GEN INVEST LATAM COUNCIL

The GEN Invest LatAm Council models angel, venture capitalist, and corporate collaboration to address early-stage investment challenges in the region. It facilitates deal flow, co-investment, best practices, and learning among angel investors, VCs, family offices, finance institutions, and government initiatives. Membership spans 16 countries across the region.

- FEATURED MEMBERS



Israel Pons

CEO and Co-Founding
Partner of Angels Nest
LATAM




Liliana Reyes

CEO, AMEXCAP



Carlos S. Baradello

Founder of Alaya Capital

A man and a woman are shaking hands in front of several flags. The man is on the left, wearing a dark suit and tie, smiling. The woman is on the right, wearing a dark blazer over a light-colored top, also smiling. The background features several flags, including the Algerian flag and the South African flag. The image has a semi-transparent pink overlay.

Yacine Oualid, then-Algerian Minister of Knowledge Economy, Start-ups and Micro-enterprises, with South African Minister **Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams** at GEC+Africa in Cape Town in March 2024.

GEN's policy community identifies, shares, and advises governments on innovative public policies and programs for entrepreneur-led job creation and economic growth. It sources evidence-based ideas for smart policy design and implementation, and brings policymakers together for knowledge-sharing and collaboration at all stages of public policy and program life cycles.

GEN POLICY

Connecting government leaders + policy experts to high-performing startup policies + programs. Amplifying the voices of entrepreneurs. Solving persistent policy barriers.

GEN Policy identifies, shares and advises governments on innovative public policies and programs for entrepreneur-led job creation and economic growth. Run by the Global Entrepreneurship Network and serving a community of partners and experts, it sources evidence-based ideas for smart policy design and implementation. It brings policymakers, founder and entrepreneurial support organizations together for knowledge sharing and collaboration at all stages of public policy and program life cycles.

STARTUP NATIONS COMMUNITY

At the heart of GEN Policy is Startup Nations, a global community of government ministers, officials, advisors and heads of public sector agencies focused on unearthing the most effective ways that local and national governments can empower entrepreneurs in their economies and increase rates of new firm formation. Startup Nations members test and share local experiences in implementing programs, enacting regulatory changes, and using other policy levers to unleash growth entrepreneurship.

With a record number of elections in 2024, the Startup Nations community welcomed many new ministers and officials from existing member organizations into the community in 2025, as well as individuals from new member organizations from countries including Croatia, Syria, Ukraine and Suriname.

'Field Calls' provide members with a regular opportunity to present new policies, share updates, request support, and collaborate as teams or through bi-lateral efforts with each other. GEN Exchanges – online best practice events hosted in partnership with GEN Knowledge Partners – also provide valuable opportunities for Startup Nations members to discuss new research and insights with report authors. Recently, GEN Exchanges have included: discussing the evaluation of accelerators with the OECD; launching the Youth Entrepreneurship Policy Framework with Youth Business International; and releasing the inaugural APEXE Nations report with Startup Genome.

STARTUP NATIONS COMMUNITY RECONVENES AT GEC+PUERTO RICO AND GEC INDIANA

The Startup Nations community has convened several times over the course of 2024-2025, including at GEC+Africa, GEC+Puerto Rico, and GEC Indiana. The flagship activity at each of these events is the Startup Nations Ministerial, which convenes both junior and senior government ministers responsible for advancing small business, technology, innovation and entrepreneurship throughout their economies. Participating governments from across the development spectrum engage in dialogue around their experience and policy approach to encouraging entrepreneurial growth.

At GEC+Africa in Cape Town, the Startup Nations Ministerial focused on the importance of coordination and collaboration among African nations. In Puerto Rico, the Ministerial centered around GEN's 'Vision 2035', a roadmap that set out targets and recommendations to unleash entrepreneur-led economic growth and job creation across Latin America and the Caribbean.

At GEC 2025 in Indiana, the Ministerial convened under the wider conference theme, **'The BOLD Change the World'**. Within this, the Startup Nations Ministerial and Policy Track focused on three key areas:

1. **BOLD Visions** – How governments can think bigger in formulating innovative strategies and policy.
2. **Focused Delivery** – The art of implementing complex public policies.
3. **Measured Performance** – Tools and approaches for evaluating programs, policies, and ecosystems.

SUPPORTING ADVOCATES, CATALYSTS AND PARTNERS

GEN Policy is proud to work closely with a range of multilateral organizations, international networks and other global communities to help shape the entrepreneurship policy agenda and enhance knowledge exchange and collaboration.

GEN continues to support the development of Startup20, the G20 engagement group launched under India's G20 Presidency in 2023. In 2025, GEN and GEN's South African affiliate GEN Africa at 22 On Sloane was appointed by the Government of South Africa as Secretariat for Startup20. In this role, the 22 On Sloane and the GEN Policy teams deliver the Startup20 program under South Africa's G20 Presidency, which includes the startup strand of the inaugural ITC SME Ministerial in July and a standalone Startup20 summit in October.

Global Enterprise Registration, GEN's joint initiative with the United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD), continues to help governments simplify and automate administrative procedures impacting entrepreneurs. In September 2024, the GEN team joined UNCTAD colleagues in Geneva for a series of implementation workshops to help the Government of Lesotho digitalize its business registration process. The digital platform aims to go live in 2025.

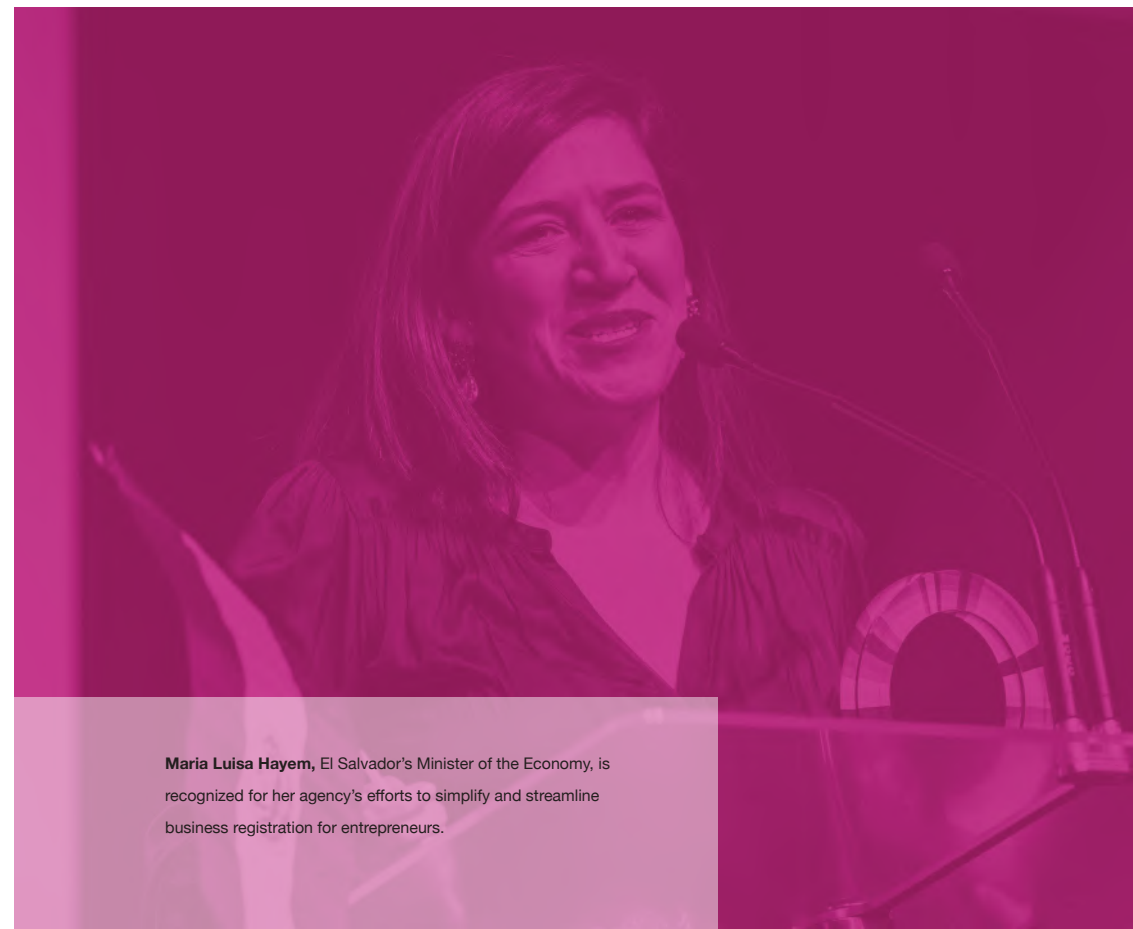
One of the longest-term GEN Knowledge Partners is the OECD Development Centre, led by Annalisa Primi. This ongoing partnership has led to numerous joint events, participation and chairing of each other's Ministerials, and most recently, the launch of the OECD Development Centre's 'Startup Asia' book, which documents entrepreneurial policy approaches of India, Indonesia, Vietnam and Thailand. The research project started with GEN-facilitated ministerial meetings at GEC 2022 and the book launched at GEC 2025. GEN is proud to work with Annalisa and her team as they look to implement their 'startup for development' tool in other regions.

GEN is also a long-term partner of the European Commission, particularly relating to its SME Assembly which is held annually during Global Entrepreneurship Week (and which aligned with the Startup Nations Summit in Estonia in 2017). In November 2024, the GEN Policy team participated in the SME Assembly in Budapest and met with the Hungarian State Secretary for SMEs.

Another long-time GEN Knowledge Partner is Right to Start, led by ex-Kauffman Foundation Vice President Victor Hwang. Victor has built an impressive nationwide grassroots campaign seeking to drive civic change and expand entrepreneurial opportunity for all. At GEC 2025, GEN partnered with Right to Start, among other US-focused policy and advocacy organizations, to convene a 'State and Local Policy

Forum' to bring together state economic development centers, state legislators, executive branch leadership, and other policy leads from across the United States.

Some of the greatest advocates for knowledge exchange and collaboration among policymakers are government ministers. Algeria's inaugural Minister of Startups (now promoted to Minister for Vocational Education), Yacine Oualid, stands out as one of the new generation of entrepreneurs-turned-ministers who are bringing a startup mentality into government. GEN has partnered with and participated in all three of Yacine's African Startup Conferences that convene entrepreneurs, investors, and government ministers from across the continent. At the third annual conference in December 2024, GEN partnered on an innovative new initiative, 'Pitch on the Boat', a 'reverse-pitch' which saw ministers pitching their policies to entrepreneurs. Despite the rolling sea leading to unsteady feet, the format was a great success and GEN will be shipping it out to other Ministerial meetings.



Maria Luisa Hayem, El Salvador's Minister of the Economy, is recognized for her agency's efforts to simplify and streamline business registration for entrepreneurs.

Ted Zoller, professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship at the UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School, leads the GEN Research Summit in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in July 2024.

GEN RESEARCH

Crowd-sourcing data + methodologies.
Improving entrepreneurship ecosystem
performance through actionable insights.

GEN Research drives knowledge creation, helping translate entrepreneurship research into relevant and useful evidence-based policies and programs. Run by the Global Entrepreneurship Network and backed by a community of economists, institutions and experts, GEN Research identifies actionable insights for developing more robust, sustainable and equitable startup ecosystems and helping entrepreneurial support organizations increase their impact.

WORLD-CLASS ACADEMICS DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP RESEARCH

The GEN Research Summit at GEC Indiana convened both world-renowned and emerging academics, journal editors, policymakers, grant-making foundations, and other stakeholders to advance entrepreneurship research and ecosystem development. This invitation-only event was designed to provide a global platform that bridges national-level networks and conferences, allowing academics to connect and exchange with counterparts working on the same challenges in countries across the development spectrum.

The summit builds on the efforts of GEN Research to translate academic research into actionable policies and programs. By fostering critical conversations around the future of entrepreneurship research, GEN's research summits provide an opportunity for the research community to exchange ideas with world leaders in the study of entrepreneurship and develop a plan to address the major shared challenges facing the discipline.

In 2025, the summit attracted globally recognized names in academia including Erik Stam, David Audretsch, Sami Desai, David Hsu, Josh Lerner, Scott Shane, Don Kuratko, Jeff Hornsby, and Rebecca White.

GEC+Africa and GEC+Puerto Rico provided GEN Research with opportunities to strengthen regional entrepreneurship communities in Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean. These events served as platforms for engaging policymakers, researchers, and ecosystem builders to address region-specific challenges and identify gaps in entrepreneurship research and data collection. In Africa, sessions focused on the development of tools like the Africa Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Index (AEEI), which evaluates systemic conditions across 29 countries, highlighting areas such as governance, infrastructure, and market access. Similarly, in Latin America and the Caribbean, discussions centered on leveraging GEN Atlas case studies and frameworks to address barriers such as limited access to finance and entrepreneurial training.

TRACKING DEVELOPMENTS IN ECOSYSTEM PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

Measuring the performance of entrepreneurial ecosystems is crucial to help policymakers, ecosystem builders, and others identify and prioritize areas to improve. GEN supported the launch of several innovative new ecosystem indices, including the APEXE Nations Report from GEN and Startup Genome and the African Entrepreneurial Ecosystems Index.

The Africa Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Index (AEEI) represents a transformative step in advancing entrepreneurship across the African continent. Led by the Allan Gray Centre for Africa Entrepreneurship (AGCAE) and Utrecht University and supported by partners including Innovation for Policy Foundation and GEN, the AEEI provides policymakers and ecosystem builders with critical data and insights to strengthen entrepreneurial ecosystems.

At GEC 2025, GEN convened the authors of these indices alongside other research experts in a session that explored these new tools, compared their methodologies and reflected on knowledge gaps in ecosystem performance measurement.

EXPANDING THE WORLD'S LARGEST ENTREPRENEURSHIP POLICY COMPENDIUM

The GEN Atlas is now the world's largest entrepreneurship policy compendium. Conceived in 2021, it serves as a free toolkit for policymakers, researchers, and ecosystem leaders looking for examples of innovative public sector policies and programs that solve common barriers to entrepreneurship.

GEN Atlas facilitates a continuous knowledge creation cycle by writing, commissioning and welcoming guest contributions on a wide range of entrepreneurship policy themes from around the world. The GEN team publishes policy spotlights — deep-diving into countries and policy themes to examine innovative public policies and programs. Topics covered include expanding the entrepreneurial pipeline, employee share schemes and an overview of finance policy tools. The GEN Atlas portal now offers 420+ policy case studies across 87 countries — including 71 new entries and 60 recently updated entries with plans to continue its expansion in 2026 and beyond.

50 POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UNLEASHING YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP

With support from Youth Business International (YBI), GEN developed the Youth Entrepreneurship Framework, an initiative aimed at empowering young entrepreneurs and fostering inclusive economic growth. This framework serves as a strategic guide for policymakers and entrepreneur support organizations, equipping them with actionable insights to address barriers and capitalize on emerging opportunities in youth entrepreneurship.

“This groundbreaking report enables our members, governments and policy makers to harness the potential of young people and propel youth entrepreneurship globally,” said **Anita Tiessen**, CEO of Youth Business International.

The framework identifies four key areas where young people are being held back from reaching their entrepreneurial potential: skills development, business environment, access to finance, and youth-appropriate support services. To address these challenges, the framework offers 50 targeted policy recommendations tied to real-world examples from GEN's Atlas. These recommendations span all stages of the entrepreneurial journey, ensuring comprehensive support for youth-led businesses.

Developed through extensive research and expert interviews involving organizations such as UNCTAD, Orange Corners, and the World YMCA, the framework builds upon

UNCTAD's 2015 Policy Guide on Youth Entrepreneurship. It reflects GEN's commitment to leveraging international expertise and fostering collaboration across 200 countries and territories.

GSER 2024: MAPPING THE FUTURE OF GLOBAL STARTUP ECOSYSTEMS

GEN continued its partnership with Startup Genome around the Global Startup Ecosystem Report (GSER). Both the 2024 and 2025 reports provide a definitive analysis of the world's leading startup ecosystems, building on over a decade of research, offering unparalleled insights into global innovation trends, challenges, and opportunities.

As a tool for public and private leaders, the GSER provides actionable recommendations to foster thriving startup communities. It emphasizes:

1. **Strategic Focus:** Identifying competitive advantages within regional ecosystems.
2. **Policy Coordination:** Aligning government strategies with industry needs to stimulate innovation.
3. **Performance Measurement:** Leveraging data-driven tools to evaluate ecosystem growth effectively.

With data from over 4.5 million startups across 300 ecosystems worldwide, the GSER serves as an essential resource for entrepreneurs, investors, and policymakers. By showcasing success stories and emerging trends, it empowers stakeholders to navigate challenges while accelerating innovation-driven economic growth globally. For additional details on the 2024 and 2025 report, visit: www.genglobal.org/research.

NEW ECOSYSTEM RANKING LAUNCHED WITH STARTUP GENOME

The APEXE Nations Report, developed by Startup Genome and the Global Entrepreneurship Network in collaboration with ABStartups and Startup20, introduces a pioneering new framework for evaluating startup ecosystems at the national level. Pre-released as part of Global Entrepreneurship Week at the G20 Social Summit in Brazil, with the full report launched at the 2025 Global Entrepreneurship Congress, the APEXE Nations Report provides deeper insights into global trends, offering a strategic guide for policymakers seeking to drive exponential entrepreneurship.

APEXE establishes a standardized methodology for assessing how effectively countries convert their innovation potential into startup ecosystem performance. The report introduces groundbreaking metrics, such as Lab-to-Startup Conversion which is a unique measure evaluating how well countries transform research and development into tangible startup outcomes, normalized to GDP and population.

“The National Entrepreneurship Index will underline the importance for global collaboration and we call on national representatives to work with us in creating this invaluable resource,” shared Marc Penzel, founder and president of Startup Genome.

UNLOCKING GLOBAL INSIGHTS FOR DYNAMIC AND GREEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Index of Dynamic Entrepreneurship (IDE), developed by Argentinian research institute PRODEM in collaboration with GEN, offers policymakers and ecosystem developers a diagnostic tool to evaluate systemic conditions for dynamic entrepreneurship. Its sixth edition in 2024 provided actionable insights into global entrepreneurial trends, with a special focus on green entrepreneurship and pathways to success.

“In an increasingly complex and turbulent global environment, this index serves as a clear compass to guide ecosystems in fostering dynamic entrepreneurship as a cornerstone for sustainable and inclusive economic development,” said **Hugo Kantis**, Director of Prodem.

The most recent report introduces complementary analyses, including:

- Pathways to Success: Investigating whether top-performing ecosystems share a single systemic configuration or if multiple pathways can lead to high performance.
- Green Entrepreneurship: Exploring how sustainable entrepreneurs drive transformative efforts toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The IDE helps policymakers with evidence-based insights to build balanced entrepreneurial ecosystems that support innovation-driven growth. By fostering critical conversations around shared data, it enables governments to identify gaps, strengthen systemic conditions, and empower entrepreneurs — particularly those advancing sustainability initiatives.

NEW RESEARCH LIBRARY EMPOWERS ECOSYSTEM BUILDERS WITH GLOBAL INSIGHTS

The newly launched GEN Research Library is a directory that offers researchers, policymakers, and entrepreneur support organizations easy access to the most relevant entrepreneurship research knowledge and insight. The resources include the latest research strategies, frameworks, reports, data sets, and more.

With 51 entries added at its launch, the library offers a carefully curated repository of materials covering topics about:

- Entrepreneurship policy frameworks and tools.
- Ecosystem performance metrics and evaluations.
- Emerging trends such as green entrepreneurship and youth-led ventures.

The library draws on contributions from GEN's global network of academics, international organizations, and government agencies, ensuring its content reflects diverse perspectives and best practices.

CELEBRATING PARTNERSHIPS

In 2014, GEN and the Kauffman Foundation gathered funders of entrepreneurship research for the first time in Moscow to find ways to address a problem: academic research on entrepreneurship was not keeping pace with the explosion of interest in entrepreneurial activity as a strategy for job creation, innovation, and economic growth. The Global Entrepreneurship Research Network was launched to solve this disconnect and to facilitate greater collaboration among academics.

Encouraging and facilitating research partnerships remains a core function of GEN Research and this was recognized in this year's brand-new GEN Compass Research Partnership award.

Those shortlisted include:

1. **Startup Genome** – for their long-standing partnerships with GEN, Dealroom, and Crunchbase in relation to the Global Startup Ecosystem Report and newer reports, including APEXE Nations and the Scaleup Report.
2. **Allan & Gill Gray Philanthropies** – for research and program funding partnerships that are fostering entrepreneurship across Africa.
3. **The Inter-American Development Bank** – for its research advancing deep tech ecosystems in Latin America through its partnership with AIR Capital
4. **AfriLabs** – for advancing AI innovation across Africa through its partnership with the Gates Foundation.
5. **Johns Hopkins University** – for its partnership with Enterprise Uganda through the SEE Change Initiative to improve entrepreneurial support programs across Uganda.

STARTUP STATE

The Startup State is a weekly bulletin from the GEN Policy and Research team highlighting key entrepreneurship news, reports, commentary, and features from around the world. It is distributed to all of GEN's policy and research community members and is available to anyone who signs up on the GEN website.

In the past 12 months, the Startup State has expanded readership across 130 countries, including presidents, princes, prime ministers, and European commissioners, alongside many other entrepreneurs, academics, and ecosystem builders.

GEN POLICY COMMUNITIES

STARTUP NATIONS

Startup Nations is an invitation-only global peer community of government officials and policy advisors, launched by GEN in 2012. Ministers, staff, and advisors meet in person at either the Startup Nations Summit or ministerial meetings of the Global Entrepreneurship Congress to establish a prioritized agenda for action.

- FEATURED MEMBERS



Hon. Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams

Minister of Small Business Development
South Africa



H.E. Yacine Oualid

Minister of Vocational Training and Education
Algeria



H.E. Dr. KAN Channmeta

Secretary of State
Ministry of Industry,
Science, Technology &
Innovation Cambodia



Dr. Phumlani Nkontwana

Founding Director, Allan Gray Centre for African Entrepreneurship



Annalisa Primi

Head of Economic Transformation and Development Division,
OECD



Dr. Chris Haley

Head of Research, Startup Genome

GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP RESEARCH NETWORK (GERN)

GEN Research's community is known as the Global Entrepreneurship Research Network (GERN). It serves as a highly-connected, trust-based community of research stakeholders who share knowledge and findings, help each other improve the quality of research undertaken, and, ultimately, advance a better understanding of entrepreneurship ecosystems globally. Researchers meet in person for closed sessions at GEN's Global Entrepreneurship Congress.

- FEATURED MEMBERS

One of the top 100 startups pitches from the main stage of the Entrepreneurship World Cup Global Finals in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in November 2024.

Founders and co-founders are GEN's North Star as it guides the emergence of more effective and dynamic ecosystems to support their development. From idea stage through exit, GEN provides entrepreneurs with access to tailored training, events, mentors, investors, peer networks and leaders of the innovation ecosystems to help them reach their full potential – no matter where they are in the world.

Jayren Teo (right), co-founder and CEO of Codesurance, and **Israel Pons**, board member of the Global Business Angel Network, serve on the panel of judges at the global finals of the Entrepreneurship World Cup in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in November 2024.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORLD CUP

More than a pitch competition. Any entrepreneur. All stages. Everywhere.

Every year, tens of thousands of entrepreneurs from 200 countries compete for up to US \$1.5 million in non-dilutive cash prizes alongside millions more worth of investment, support and publicity through national pitch competitions, bootcamps and a global finals event attended by leading investors.

The Entrepreneurship World Cup – one of the largest and most diverse pitch competitions and support programs of its kind – supports applicant founders at every step, regardless of their success in the evaluation process. Each one joins a global community of fellow founders, investors and mentors – and takes home benefits that extend well beyond prizes.

Since launching in 2019, the competition has attracted more than 430,000 registrations from 200 countries and connected founders with over US \$5M in cash prizes and another US \$266M worth of free support and services. Initially developed and launched

by GEN and the Misk Foundation, the competition is now co-hosted by GEN and Saudi Arabia's Small and Medium Enterprises General Authority, Monsha'at, and supported by more than 50 partners worldwide.

14 COMPANIES EXCEL AT ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORLD CUP 2024

Three innovative companies emerged as champions of the 2024 Entrepreneurship World Cup with an additional 11 receiving recognition following stand-out performances pitching bold ideas and companies. Each winner received a share of US \$1 million in cash prizes for their respective categories.

In the growth stage category, **MisMar** (Saudi Arabia), an automotive tech startup reshaping the car after-sale market, won the \$200,000 prize.

Yumari (Mexico), a cross-border on-demand platform connecting global businesses with Latin American producers and manufacturers, received a \$100,000 first-place prize in the early-stage category.

The idea stage champion, **Nomiq** (Armenia) won \$50,000 to take their company to the next level. The company offers an AI-driven, low-code platform that leverages domain-driven design (DDD) principles to revolutionize software development.

The champions competed in five days of intense competition, which showcased the

top 100 companies from 52 countries selected to participate in the Global Finals following months of competition in national regional qualifiers, global pool selections, and a bootcamp for the top 250 companies.

The Global Finals, an attraction of Biban24 (the largest start-up, SME, and entrepreneurship conference in Saudi Arabia), concluded on the eve of Global Entrepreneurship Week.

“The Entrepreneurship World Cup has been an amazing learning experience for Yumari,” said Andres Diaz Bedolla, founder and CEO of Yumari. “Every finalist was outstanding, so being recognized with the first place [in the early-stage category] is an immense honor and responsibility to keep building and growing.”

Beyond the cash prizes and recognition, the Entrepreneurship World Cup offers participants a new global community to engage with long after the finals, as well as a platform to get bold ideas off the ground.

Tatevik Avagyan, co-founder and CEO of Nomiq, said the competition helped her secure meetings with investors, expand awareness in her home market of Armenia while also exploring new markets like Saudi Arabia, and implement valuable feedback from the EWC community.

“Connecting with peers and mentors, and getting feedback are among some of the most valuable benefits of this experience,” said Tatevik Avagyan, CEO of Nomiq.

Ifthakaar Shaik, founder of Vitruvian MD, a South Africa-based company revolutionizing fertility with the world’s first AI that selects the best quality sperm for IVF, echoed these sentiments.

“The Entrepreneurship World Cup provides very intense interactions with a lot of different startup founders over a short space of time, and you learn so much from them.

He added the competition also allowed him to explore new markets in the Middle East, where his company is now deploying its technology thanks to connections made during the competition.

In 2025, the Entrepreneurship World Cup offers a \$1.5M prize pot with new prize categories including a specialized track for space startups. It will once again take place at Biban in November.




To learn more, visit www.entrepreneurshipworldcup.com.

TOP 100 COMPANIES INVESTOR-READY AND POISED TO SCALE






The top 100 companies in the 2024 Entrepreneurship World Cup hail from 52 countries and territories - and are operating on every continent. These companies are ready to change the world with innovative solutions across more than 16 industries, with the highest representation in the human health and social work activities category. 84% of companies intend to raise funds in 2025. Nineteen percent entered the competition seeking their first investment.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORLD CUP 2024 RESULTS



GROWTH STAGE CATEGORY

-  **Growth Stage Champion (\$200,000):** MisMar (Saudi Arabia)
-  **2nd Place (\$140,000):** N&E Innovations (Singapore)
-  **3rd Place (\$70,000):** Sommalife (Ghana)





EARLY STAGE CATEGORY

-  **Early Stage Champion (\$100,000):** Yumari (Mexico)
-  **2nd place (\$75,000):** Encapsulate (United States)
-  **3rd place (\$60,000 prize):** amplifAI Health (Saudi Arabia)
-  **4th place (\$45,000 prize):** MyoGene Bio (United States)
-  **5th place (\$35,000 prize):** Hormona, (United Kingdom)

IDEA STAGE CATEGORY

-  **1st place (\$50,000):** Nomiq (Armenia)
-  **2nd place (\$25,000):** Audiomatic (United Arab Emirates)

SECTOR CATEGORY

-  **Health + Wellness: (\$50,000):** VitruvianMD (South Africa)
-  **Economies of the Future: (\$50,000):** Salutes Space (Germany)
-  **Energy + Industrial Leadership (\$50,000):** EnergyX (South Korea)
-  **Sustainable Environment + Supply of Essential Needs (\$50,000)**
Marine Innovation Co (South Korea)

GEN SPACE

Enabling Ventures In All Industries.
Leveraging Lower Earth Orbit Access.

GEN Space catalyzes the growing volume of companies accelerating their growth through cheap access to zero-gravity conditions. By providing a robust platform, GEN Space stimulates the creation and scaling of startups and scale-ups focused on entrepreneurial opportunities through space. It connects a global community of policymakers, experts and new space entrepreneurs with key stakeholders, including government agencies, corporate leaders, and new investors. GEN Space drives awareness of opportunities to accelerate entrepreneurship through lower earth orbit access among all industries and enhances the commercial viability of space-related ventures.

ENABLING THE NEW SPACE ENTREPRENEURSHIP ECOSYSTEM

2024 marked a transformative period for space entrepreneurship, characterized by groundbreaking milestones and a surge in private-sector leadership. Simultaneously, the shift toward commercial space stations accelerated. Companies such as Blue Origin, and Sierra Space collaborated on Orbital Reef, a privately funded space station intended to replace the aging International Space Station (ISS) by 2030. Axiom Space continued working on its commercial Space Station and successfully launched its international commercial astronauts to the ISS. These projects, backed by NASA's Commercial Low Earth Orbit (LEO) Destinations program, exemplify the growing reliance on private enterprises to sustain human presence in space. Other advancements included breakthroughs in propulsion systems, satellite miniaturization, and in-orbit manufacturing, with private firms and public agencies testing innovative theories for space exploration, Earth observation, and adjacent fields like telecommunications and climate monitoring.

These developments signal an era of unprecedented opportunity for entrepreneurs. GEN Space remains at the forefront, empowering innovators to capitalize on this momentum. Directed

a network of over 4,000 companies worldwide, collectively employing tens of thousands of astropreneurs. These ventures focus on three core areas:

- 1. Technologies and capabilities in space**, such as satellite constellations and in-orbit services;
- 2. Earth-based capabilities leveraging space resources or technologies**, including precision agriculture and disaster response systems; and
- 3. Earth-based solutions enabled by space**, such as global broadband connectivity and geospatial analytics

These companies drive innovation across critical subsectors:

- **Space systems services:** infrastructure like space stations and orbital platforms;
- **Upstream:** launch services and satellite data collection;
- **Downstream:** data downlink, processing, and analytics;
- **Beyond Earth:** space exploration and resource extraction (e.g., lunar mining);
- **Space-for-Earth:** communications, security, and environmental monitoring; and
- **Space-for-Space:** In-space manufacturing, mining, and servicing platforms.

Through tailored mentorship, high-impact events, and specialized training programs, astropreneurs in the GEN Space network gain access to a roster of industry experts and advisors on every continent. Representing more than 90 countries, these astropreneurs have collectively secured over US \$62 billion in investments across

1,600 funding rounds since GEN Space's inception, with 2024 alone seeing a 15% increase in funding activity compared to the previous year.

HELPING ESTABLISH A GLOBAL SPACE ENABLERS NETWORK (GSEN)

At the 75th International Astronautical Congress (IAC 2024) in Milan, Italy, GEN Space presented a seminal paper titled "Building a Global Space Enablers Network: Initial Findings and Future Directions." The paper detailed efforts to survey over 50 established space community builders — ranging from accelerators to trade associations - across 30 countries. The survey identified unmet needs (e.g., access to capital for early-stage ventures), persistent challenges (e.g., regulatory fragmentation), and untapped opportunities (e.g., cross-border collaboration). IAC 2024 drew a record-breaking 11,200 delegates from 120 countries, surpassing previous attendance figures by 20 per cent, and welcomed an additional 3,000 participants via livestream. This diversity underscored the event's role as a global nexus for space stakeholders, amplifying GEN Space's call for a coordinated network.

The proposed Global Space Enablers Network (GSEN) aims to unify these efforts by:

- Facilitating knowledge sharing through a centralized digital platform;
- Optimizing resource allocation via pooled funding and expertise;
- Reducing duplicative efforts by mapping existing initiatives; and
- Driving priority initiatives identified at biannual convenings, starting with a planned GSEN Summit in 2025.

SUPPORTING SPACE ENTREPRENEURSHIP ACROSS LATIN AMERICA

GEN Space expanded its footprint in Latin America through strategic engagements at GEC+ Puerto Rico, held in San Juan. GEN Space hosted three targeted sessions:

1. **Entrepreneur Session:** discussion on business model validation and market entry;
2. **Investor Session:** tips on how to fund and approach funding sources; and
3. **Space Agency Session:** dialogues with spaceport agencies and the Puerto Rico Space Foundation on public-private partnerships.

Concurrently, GEN Space partnered with the Puerto Rico Space Foundation to host a Space Business Plan Hackathon at the same venue. Five early-stage companies participated, developing pitches over 48 hours for solutions ranging from satellite-based

disaster monitoring to space tourism logistics. The event culminated in presentations to a judging panel of local angel investors and GEN Space board members. Outcomes included media exposure, with three companies featured on a local radio talk show and one appearing on a televised segment on Puerto Rico Hoy, boosting their profiles and attracting follow-on interest.

SUPPORTING SPACE ENTREPRENEURSHIP ACROSS AFRICA

GEN Space deepened its commitment to Africa, focusing on downstream opportunities in Earth observation - a sector projected to grow by 12% annually through 2030 due to climate and agricultural data demand. In collaboration with the Africa Earth Observation Challenge (AEOC), GEN Space supported 10 finalists in 2024, selected from a competitive pool of 20 startups across nine countries, including Kenya, Ghana, and South Africa. Over a four-month investment readiness program, GEN Space mentors provided coaching on financial modeling, customer acquisition, and pitch refinement. Building on three years of involvement, GEN Space enhanced the South Africa-based accelerator by offering bespoke prizes for the top three winners: private mentorship along with access to its global investor network.

In Nigeria, GEN Space partnered with NigComSat, a government agency under the Federal Ministry of Communications, Innovation and Digital Economy, to launch the country's first space accelerator in March 2024. The six-month program supported 20 startups addressing challenges in agriculture (e.g., crop yield prediction), climate tech (e.g., flood mapping), healthcare (e.g., telemedicine via satellite), and education (e.g., remote learning platforms). GEN Space's Nigeria-based Oluseye Soyode-Johnson co-managed the end-to-end process-from selecting finalists from 1,500 applicants to supporting the curriculum design, securing global mentors, and preparing startups for the investor demo day in Abuja. In September 2024, eight startups secured seed funding totaling \$2.3 million, and a second cohort of 25 startups launched in May 2025, with GEN Space expanding its mentorship pool.

GEN Space also spearheaded NigComSat's Grassroots Space Connectivity and Space Hackathon initiative, starting with a pilot in Adamawa State in December 2024. This effort aims to bridge the digital divide in rural Nigeria by deploying satellite-enabled internet hubs, with plans to scale to 10 states by 2026. Additionally, GEN Space is collaborating with World Space Week to design an astropreneurship program, targeting 500 students and young professionals with workshops on space business fundamentals, scheduled for rollout in Q3 2025.

PROMOTING SPACE ENTREPRENEURSHIP GLOBALLY

GEN Space championed the space category at the Entrepreneurship World Cup (EWC), a global competition spanning 100+ countries. In 2024, three space companies made it to the top 100 companies, with GEN Space mentors guiding them as they refined their final pitches. Salutes Space, a company mentored by GEN Space, delivered a stand-out pitch performance to secure the Economies of the Future prize.

“GEN Space has been a game-changer in my entrepreneurial journey,” said founder and CEO Mohamed Sobhy Fouda. “From mentorship to the inspiration drawn from GEN leaders, GEN has been an invaluable force in my success. The global network, resources, and competitions like the Entrepreneurship World Cup have propelled my startup to new heights, and I’m honored to be part of this thriving community. Reaching the Top 14 in 2024 was just the beginning—we’re coming back even stronger for the championship!”

PROVIDING SPACE MENTORSHIP AND CONNECTIONS

GEN Space’s mission to create borderless space business opportunities drove extensive mentorship and networking efforts. The team connected numerous new space startups with investment advice and commercial partnerships across emerging markets in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. A notable collaboration with Rhodium Scientific, a U.S.-based biotech firm, bolstered space research capabilities in Latin America and Africa.

GEN Space also advanced in the #Space18SDG coalition, advocating for “SDG 18 – SPACE FOR ALL” to augment the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. In 2024, the coalition grew to 45 partner organizations, hosted 10 global webinars, and submitted a proposal to the UN General Assembly for consideration in 2026.

PROVIDING GLOBAL SPACE EXPERTISE

GEN Space members are frequently invited to present and participate as speakers on industry panels at prominent global space events, addressing critical topics such as the development of the space entrepreneurial ecosystem, the societal and economic impact of space activities, and best practices in space investment. These engagements have included high-profile gatherings such as Global Entrepreneurship Week, where over 900 astropreneurs received mentorship across 18 events worldwide; Paris Space Week; the International Astronautical Congress in Milan;

the International Space University; World Space Week; SpaceCom; the NASA Space Apps Challenge; Spaceport America’s Pathway series; the Open Geospatial Consortium General Assembly in Rome; ASCEND in Houston; and the Technology Forum Ambrosetti in Milan. During the Beyond Earth Symposium in Washington, DC., GEN Space moderated a compelling panel with an industry-leading space economist and a space entrepreneur innovating mining Helium-3 on the Moon.

GEN Space engaged directly with numerous pre-seed and seed-stage U.S. space founders across such states as Washington, Colorado, Minnesota, and Virginia. Projects ranged from space-based solar power arrays to tunable artificial gravity platforms for orbital R+D. Over six months, GEN Space advisors conducted numerous hours of workshops, helping founders validate markets (e.g., \$10 billion orbital research sector), refine business models, and secure early funding from angel investors and government contracts. Through a new partnership with NATO DIANA, GEN Space also connected European space tech founders with U.S. markets, facilitating \$3 million in cross-border investments in March 2025.

GEN Space taught in a 12-week online graduate lecture series for the European Institute of Innovation for Sustainability’s Masters of Space Entrepreneurship Program. The curriculum, delivered to 12 undergraduates and 15 graduate students, covered advanced topics like space law, venture financing, and in-orbit economics. Eighty percent of participants launched Space-related ventures within six months.

LOOKING AHEAD: 2025 AND BEYOND

As the space economy expands, GEN Space remains committed to empowering astropreneurs, fostering innovation, and strengthening global space ecosystems. With a growing network, impactful initiatives, and strategic partnerships, GEN Space is helping to pave the way for the next generation of space entrepreneurs.

GEN FOUNDER COMMUNITIES

GEN FOUNDER COMMUNITY

The GEN Founder Community includes roughly 250,000 entrepreneurs from 200 countries who have participated in one or more GEN programs. Among them, 32% have companies in the idea stage, 46% are in the early stage and 22% are in the growth stage. The majority — 79% — have raised less than \$100,000 in funding. Fifteen percent have raised between \$100,000 and \$1 million, 4% have raised between \$1 million and \$5 million, and 2% have raised more than \$5 million.

Members represent sectors including big data and artificial intelligence, SaaS and enterprise software, internet of things, health and wellness, food tech and agtech, clean tech, energy and sustainability, mobility and transportation, mobile and fintech, virtual reality, augmented reality, robotics, edtech and more.

- FEATURED MEMBERS



Ifthakaar Shaik

CEO and Co-Founder,
Vitruvian MD



Erika Gutierrez

CEO + Founder,
Lateral



Idicula Mathew

CEO and Co-Founder,
Hera Health Solutions

GEN RESOURCES

GEN offers several digital resources and tools to facilitate connectivity across the global entrepreneurship ecosystem. Whether you are looking for proven public sector policies, research, mentors to learn from, investors to connect with, startups to support, or ecosystems to give back to, these tools can help.

GEN Atlas

GEN Atlas is a compendium of public sector policies and programs that serves as a tool for policymakers and opinion leaders to learn about policy models, entrepreneurship strategies and public-sector-supported programs.

Access the tool at www.genglobal.org/atlas

GEN Research Library

The GEN Research Library is a directory that allows researchers, policymakers and ESOs easy access to relevant entrepreneurship research knowledge and insight. The resources include the latest research frameworks, reports, data sets, and more.

Access the tool at www.genglobal.org/research/library

GEN Speakers Bureau

The GEN Speakers Bureau is a directory of self-identified experts within the network, offering event organizers access to thought leaders in entrepreneurship, ecosystem building, investing, and policymaking who are open to speaking opportunities. Some speakers are self-selected, and some are certified or endorsed by GEN Global.

Access the tool at www.genglobal.org/speakers-bureau

Mentor Connect

Mentor Connect is a directory of experienced business leaders, entrepreneurs, investors, and other leaders within the Global Entrepreneurship Network who provide mentorship to help individuals start and scale new businesses. Some mentors are self-selected, and some are certified or endorsed by GEN Global.

Connect with mentors at www.genglobal.org/mentor-connect

Investor Connect

Investor Connect is a directory of angel investors, venture capitalists, corporate investors and others in the Global Entrepreneurship Network who actively support startups – putting the right capital in the right hands at the right time. This tool enables startups to find investors who are seeking growth capital in their entrepreneurial journey. Some investors are self-selected, and some are certified or endorsed by GEN Global.

Connect with investors at www.genglobal.org/investor-connect

Founder Connect

Founder Connect is a directory of founders — idea stage, early stage, and growth stage — who have participated directly in Global Entrepreneurship Network programs. This tool connects these startups to the wider global entrepreneurship ecosystem – to mentors looking for mentees, investors scouting for startups to add to their portfolio, and ecosystem builders looking to connect with local startup leaders to strengthen the community. Some mentors are self-selected, and some are certified or endorsed by GEN Global.

Connect with founders at www.genglobal.org/founder-connect

Ecosystem Connect

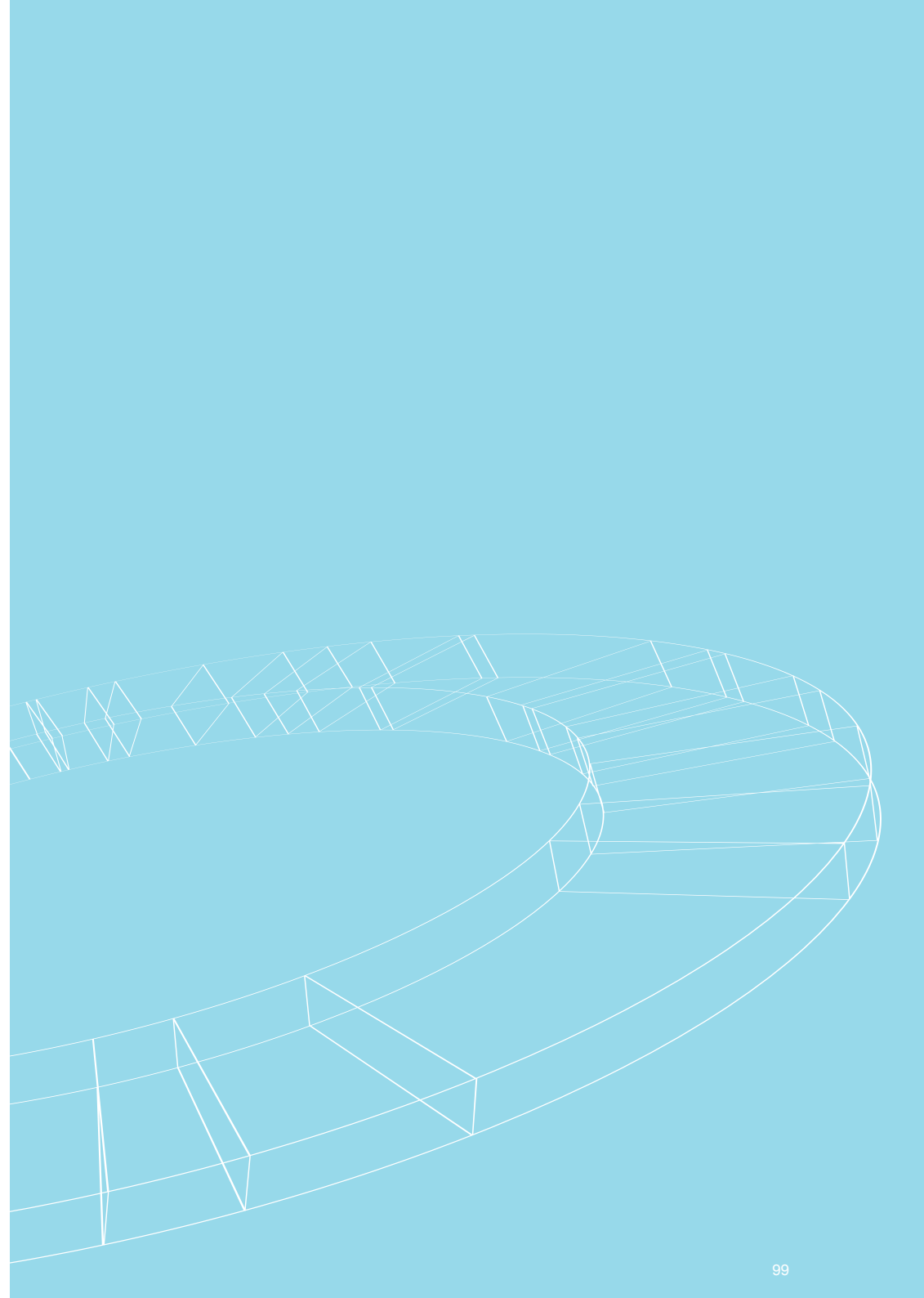
Ecosystem Connect is a directory of ecosystem leaders seeking collaborations and engagement with their counterparts in other economies. This tool connects ecosystem leaders – whether educators, accelerators, investor networks, policymakers, public programs, or other enabling organizations outside their markets. Some ecosystem leaders are self-selected, and some are certified or endorsed by GEN Global.

Connect with ecosystem builders at www.genglobal.org/ecosystem-connect

GLOBAL PARTNERS

Our friends around the world

GEN engages with a wide variety of partner organizations around the world that contribute considerable expertise, experience, resources and energy through various programs and events.



PLATINUM



GOLD



SILVER



BRONZE

1200VC	Builders+Backers	Founder Institute	Martlet	Sierra Angels	Thunderbird School of Global Management
AACLA	Bunker Labs	GCEC	Meridian	Small Enterprise Development Agency	UEDA
African Business Angel Network	Center for American Entrepreneurship	Geekulcha	Misk Foundation	Small Enterprise Finance Agency	UNCTAD
Agile Policy	CIPE	GEIAL	National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship	SourceLink	USASBE
Allan & Gill Gray Philanthropies	CleanTechHub	Humans2Venus Foundation	National PR Chamber of Commerce	South Africa Dept of Small Business Development	USPTO
Allan Gray Orbis Foundation	Co.Starters	InBIA	National Space Foundation	South Africa National Convention Bureau	UVU Africa
Allied for Startups	Colmena66	IncubadorasLAT	National Youth Development Agency	Space Foundation	Vets in Tech
America's SBDC	DECA	Indian Angel Network	OECD	Space Nation	Virgin
AmexCAP	dx5	Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa	Parallel18	Space18SDG	WelInvest
Angel Capital Association	EcoMap	Innovation for Policy Foundation	PECAP	Spaceport America	Women in Tech
Angeles Investors	Endeavor Global	Institute for Justice	Peruvian Venture Capital Association	Start Us Up	World Bank
Angels Nest	Endeavor Puerto Rico	International Economic Development Council	Pista8	StartOut	Youth Entrepreneurship Education System
Argidius	Entrepreneurs' Organization	InvestPR	Prodem	Startup Champions Network	
Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs	Established	Junior Achievement / JA Worldwide	Prospera	Startup Club ZA	
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