



  
**Hub**

# IYBA SEED

Investing in **Young Businesses** in **Africa**  
 Supporting **Entrepreneurial Ecosystems** Development



Implemented by:

## IYBA TEAM EUROPE INITIATIVE

### Investing in young businesses in Africa for more resilient and inclusive economies

The rate of job creation in Africa is not keeping pace with demographic growth. According to World Bank forecasts, Africa's working-age population is set to increase by 450 million by 2035, while the continent's economies are expected to produce just 100 million new jobs.

While the entrepreneurial spirit is omnipresent in Africa today - one African in 5 sets up his or her own business - the continent's young businesses and entrepreneurs encounter a number of obstacles in their entrepreneurial adventure, all of which challenge the development of their project and the creation of jobs: financing, support, cultural or social barriers, particularly for women, regulations and public policies that are more or less encouraging to business creation, etc.

**It is against this backdrop that the EU has launched the TEI IYBA *Team Europe Initiative Investing in Young Businesses in Africa* to combine resources and expertise of various actors for more effectiveness and greater impact with the objective to support start-ups and young entrepreneurs to launch and develop sustainable, inclusive and job-creating businesses.**

IYBA-SEED programme was initiated in the framework of the TEI IYBA, as a result of one of its working groups.

## IYBA-SEED PROGRAMME

### Supporting the development of entrepreneurial ecosystems

IYBA-SEED is a European multi-partner programme that mobilises resources and expertise for greater efficiency and impact. IYBA-SEED is funded by the European Union and the French, German and Slovak governments, and implemented by five agencies: Expertise France, Enabel (Belgium), GIZ (Germany), SAIDC (Slovakia) and SNV (Netherlands).

**It contributes to building resilient economies and creating decent jobs for young people and women, by strengthening entrepreneurial ecosystems and improving access to development services for businesses in the (pre)seed phase, in promising sectors such as the agriculture and agribusiness, tourism, mobility, digital, finance, creative and cultural industries, green and circular economy.**

**IYBA-SEED works in partnership with 5 countries: Benin, Kenya, Senegal, South Africa and Togo.**

The team in each country implements a tailor-made programme, with activities specific to their ecosystem, while ensuring regional consistency between the other countries involved. International cross-cutting activities are planned for this purpose.

In each country, teams composed of experts from different EU agencies jointly implement the action, drawing on their different specific areas of expertise and strategic presence, and with one agency functioning as the "Country-Lead".

## COUNTRY MANAGER CONTACTS

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## 4 COMPLEMENTARY AREAS OF ACTIVITY



### Capacity Development and Networks

Strengthening and connecting entrepreneurship ecosystems



### Business Environment

Contributing to conducive rules, regulations and policies



### Entrepreneurial Culture

Promoting entrepreneurial culture



### Ecosystem Mapping and Knowledge Sharing

Compile and disseminate knowledge, lessons learned, and best practices

## EXAMPLES OF ACTIVITIES

- Support for training and awareness-raising initiatives on entrepreneurship in academic curricula
- Strengthening networks to promote entrepreneurship
- Capacity building for entrepreneurship support structures
- Support for improving access to information on entrepreneurship and financing
- Improving the legal and policy framework for entrepreneurship
- Support for entrepreneurs' organisations and public-private dialogue
- Creation and dissemination of knowledge products
- Construction of partnerships between actors of the entrepreneurial ecosystems

### Targets

Different actors of the entrepreneurial ecosystems of the partner countries: support structures, funding players, institutional partners, public agencies, innovation clusters, incubators and accelerators, academic networks, foundations, civil society players, etc. Young people and women are the indirect beneficiaries of the project.

## KEY FIGURES

Duration: **2023 - 2026**

Budget: **22.8 M€**

EU: **19.65 M€**

Germany: **2 M€ (GIZ)** in Kenya and South Africa

France: **1 M€ (Expertise France)** in Benin, Senegal and Togo

Slovakia: **200 k€ (SAIDC)** in Kenya and South Africa

**1** HUB IYBA-SEED, a knowledge-sharing platform



**Enabel** is the Belgian development agency with a mission to implement and coordinate the Belgian international development policy. Enabel is a public agency, which manages development projects for the account of the Belgian Government and other donors. This way, Enabel actively contributes to the global efforts for sustainable development. Enabel primarily implement projects in the 14 Belgian priority countries - which are located on the African continent and the Middle East Region. Enabel wants to contribute with its experience and expertise in five specific domains: peace and security, climate change and the environment, social and economic inequality, urbanisation, and human mobility.

[www.enabel.be](http://www.enabel.be)



**Expertise France** - A public agency, Expertise France is an interministerial player in international technical cooperation and a subsidiary of the French Development Agency (AFD Group). The second largest agency in Europe, it designs and implements projects that sustainably strengthen public policies in developing and emerging countries. Governance, security, climate, health and education are all key areas in which AFD is involved, working alongside its partners to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). #For a world in common.

[www.expertisefrance.fr](http://www.expertisefrance.fr)



**The Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation (SAIDC)** is a public body founded by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic. It contributes to achieving the goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. SAIDC implements development cooperation and humanitarian aid by building capacity, sharing experience, sending volunteers and experts, and supporting the business environment in accordance with the Slovak Republic's development cooperation strategy for 2024 (followed by the 2025-2030 strategy).

[www.slovakaid.sk](http://www.slovakaid.sk)



**The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH** is a global service provider in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development and international education work, with over 25,000 employees. GIZ has over 50 years of experience in a wide variety of areas, including economic development and employment, energy and the environment, and peace and security. Our business volume is around 4 billion euros. As a public-benefit federal enterprise, GIZ supports the German Government - in particular the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) - and many public and private sector clients in around 120 countries in achieving their objectives in international cooperation. With this aim, GIZ works together with its partners to develop effective solutions that offer people better prospects and sustainably improve their living conditions.

[www.giz.de](http://www.giz.de)



**SNV** is a global development partner guided by the vision of a better world: a world where, in every society, all people live in dignity and have equal opportunities to prosper in a sustainable way. SNV aims to make this vision a reality through its mission to build capacity and catalyse partnerships in the 20 countries where its staff are based. SNV works to transform systems and build capacity for sustainable impact beyond project finalisation. For example, SNV aims to strengthen institutions, markets and efficient governance in the areas of agri-food, nutrition, water and sanitation and access to energy, to reduce gender inequalities and barriers to social inclusion, and to enable adaptation to and mitigation of climate and biodiversity crises.

[www.snv.org](http://www.snv.org)

