

In this Update:

Entrepreneurial Hotspots

China: Chengdu
Ghana: Accra
NEW: Poland: Olsztyn
NEW Germany: Dortmund
Germany: Berlin, Dresden, Hamburg, Heidelberg

New on SPICA World Map

New country: Myanmar
 and new profiles from Angola, Chile, China, Germany, Ghana, Malawi, Malaysia, Serbia, South Korea, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, USA

Reports from

Australia, Brazil, Chile, Estonia, France, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lebanon, Malawi, Malaysia, Morocco, Myanmar, Poland, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates

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 **EU SME: € 3 billion for 7,500 SMEs**
 **Linking Northern Europe and the Mediterranean**

APJIE calls for Papers for Volume 11, No 3



More details are available on page 2 of this newsletter

The wrong Kind of Entrepreneurship?

Building entrepreneurship ecosystem and promotion of startups are key components of economic development strategies.

An [article](#) in Harvard Business Review recently raised the question if America is encouraging the wrong kind of entrepreneurship. Referring to the economist William Baumol, in this article



photo: © peshkova, Fotolia


Robert L. Litan looks at the development of economic activity in the US that "has shifted into low-productivity services like "health care and education whose continued low productivity has weighed down U.S. productivity growth overall." Another development is the accelerated decline in the rate of new firm formation since 2000 across almost all states and metropolitan areas and in each broad industrial sector. By 2009 the rate of business closures exceeded the rate of business births for the first time

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The Best Way for Supporting Sustainable Startups in the "Full World"

The **Borderstep Institute**, a private and independent research institute in Berlin, celebrated its tenth anniversary with an Impact Forum on May 15, 2017. The anniversary was celebrated with



 Borderstep Institute for Innovation and Sustainability

some delay; the institute meanwhile is working almost eleven years doing research in innovation and sustainability as an independent think tank focused on entrepreneurial solutions to global challenges is aiming to contribute to a fundamental global transformation towards a green and sustainable economy.

..... continued on page 3 ...

Key to Success - Co-working Spaces, Business Incubators or Accelerators?

Separate associations and networks for business incubators, co-working spaces, and accelerators – not to forget those for science / technology parks have developed. Just a few of those have taken a

different approach For example, the German association BVIZ that from the very beginning (named ADT) in the early 1980ies has been integrating the



... continued on page 4

Coming up for the Calendar

OPEN Ecosystems for Innovation

The Annual Congress of EBN will be held July 5 – 7 in Enghien les Bains near Paris under the title "OPEN Ecosystems for Innovation". More details on EBN [website](#)



TOA Tech Open Air Berlin

July 11-14: TOA conference connects entrepreneurs, artists and scientists to explore the city at [satellite events](#) More on TOA [website](#)



Startup Night Berlin

Sep 8: The Fifth Startup Night Berlin will bring together 5.000 attendees for a conference and exhibition More on page 27 and [website](#)



BVIZ Annual Conference

Sep 17-19 UniTransfer-Klinik and TZ Lübeck will host the annual BVIZ conference 2017 More on page 27 and [website](#)



27th ANPROTECH Conference

Held in Rio de Janeiro Oct 23-26, 2017 this conference will celebrate The 30th anniversary of the Brazilian Incubation Association More on page 27 and [website](#)



Nordic Baltic Dynamics 2017

Oct 26-27: The NBD conference in Stockholm is the continuation of the "Baltic Dynamics" that were held for 21 years. More on page 7 and on [website](#)



1776 Challenge Cup Festival 2017

Nov 13-17, in New York, USA: global competition Grande Final More on page 27 and [website](#)



More on the [SPICE Events page](#)

Around the Globe

South Korea invites 50 Startups to a 4-month Accelerator Program

The first K-Startup Grand Challenge in 2016 experienced strong interest world-wide. It counted 2439 applicants from 124 countries and now is open for the next round.



Countries around the world are working to build globally competitive startups and to develop networks across the globe in search for a larger market and better investment opportunities. Asia, being a large market containing 60 percent of the world's population and the home fast-growing developing countries, is an attractive market for startups around the world. In 2016 the challenge selected 80 teams from the 2439 applicants from 124 countries. These teams attended a bootcamp and 40 of them finally could benefit from the program in Pangyo Valley. The Korean Ministry of Science, ICT, and Future Planning and the National IT Industry Promotion Agency, are responding to the globally fast growing interest to build

competitive startups, develop networks that extend across the globe in search for a larger market, and better investment opportunities. The **K-Startup Grand Challenge 2017**, aimed at contributing to develop a global startup hub in Asia now is open for applications; looking for global tech startups keen on accessing the Asian market. 50 startups will be selected and invited to stay in Korea as they participate in a **four-month accelerator program**. The startups will be able to interact with the program's partner companies through conferences and workshops, have one-on-one mentors, have access to administrative, regulatory, and logistics support, and will be provided with workspace, equipment, testbeds, and an incubating infrastructure at the startup campus of the **Pangyo Techno Valley**.

Information and application on [website](#)
Contact: for Europe & Asia: Sonia Park [email](#), Headquarter Team [email](#).
For contacts in the various regions visit [website](#)
SDO Profile [Pangyo Techno Valley](#)

The Impact of Blockchain on Entrepreneurship Development

The conference “**Blockchain on Business and Entrepreneurship (BoBE) 2017**” will be held **July 20-21, 2017** at the Cha University Conference Hall in Pangyo, Korea.

Blockchain (or Distributed Ledger Technology, DLT) is seen as one of the foundational technologies in the industrial revolution. This is the background for the special conference to discuss the impact of DLT on the ecosystem of business and entrepreneurship. Particularly, invited are business entrepreneurs, scientists, engineers, and researchers to discuss “practical” aspects of the changes in business landscape. The conference will cover topics like, for example, Landscape Changes of Entrepreneurship and Business by DLT, DLT in Capital Markets and Entrepreneurship, Digital Identity and its Management, Digital Currencies and their Implications, De-

centralized Automated Organizations (DAO) and Business Implications, Challenges for Entrepreneurs. The papers presented at the conference will be published in the special issue of the



Asia Pacific Journal of Innovation Entrepreneurship, in December 2017.
More about APJIE on [website](#)
Contact: Bong Jin Cho [email](#)

APJIE calls for Papers for Volume 11, No 3

APJIE (Asia Pacific Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship) announced a Call for Papers for the **Volume 11, No.3** that will be published in **December 2017**.

The deadline for sending manuscripts is **August 12, 2017**.
Proposals should be sent by [email](#)
More about APJIE on [website](#)
Contact: Bong Jin Cho [email](#)



First Tech Accelerator in Myanmar - Second Cohort

The Phandeeяр Accelerator in Yangon, Myanmar is open for applications for its second cohort. Accepted applicants



will receive an investment of US\$25K and six months of accelerator support. Besides office rooms to work in, coaching, networking and access to a network of investors, participants can take advantage of services from Phandeeяр partners worth up to US\$200K.

Applications for this first tech accelerator in the country are open until July 31, 2017. The program will begin in September 2017 and end with an investor event in March 2018.

Startups which are accepted into Phandeeяр receive US\$25,000 in seed investment, six months of coaching from over 40 local and international mentors, as well as access to a network of investors. Additional-eligible for more than US\$200,000 worth of services from its strategic partners. From the first cohort of the accelerator four startups graduated:

[Chate Sat](#), an app linking freelancers with projects, [White Merak](#), a comics reader application, [EzStay](#), a platform to find accommodation when travelling, [GoP](#), a website for booking tours in Myanmar
Contact: Jes Kaliebe Petersen [email](#)
SDO Profile [Phandeeяр Accelerator](#)

Rio de Janeiro – to celebrate the 30th Anniversary at the ANPROTEC Conference 2017

Held annually by Anprotec and Sebrae, and organized by the Technology Park at UFRJ, the ANPROTEC Conference on Entrepreneurship and Areas of Innovation



this year also will celebrate the 30th anniversary of Brazil's national business incubation association. The conference is the largest event on the subject in Latin America. The 27th edition will be held in Rio de Janeiro, **October 23 – 25, 2017** under the

Innovation Hub for Minority Groups opened in Cairns – the first in Australia

The first hub for minority groups in Australia was officially opened in Cairns on May 3, 2017 by Aboriginal entrepreneurs Leigh Harris and Julie-Ann Lambourne.

Established as a Digital Social Impact Venture DHIVE will bring together Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, refugees, new immigrants and people living with a disability to provide opportunities to actively participate in the growing digital and innovation economies. This startup hub aims to support founders, innovators and creators of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, people with a disability and those living in disadvantage. The engagement of new and aspiring entrepreneurs with local community organizations, government and corporates is aimed to help the “whole society”. DHIVE, in collaboration with partners, will organize workshops and startup programs as well as mentoring for students

title “**Innovation and Entrepreneurship transforming Cities**”. The conference will mobilize the players involved in innovative entrepreneurship in Brazil and around the world through productive debates that lead to proposals for enabling the environment of innovation to contribute to social and economic development.

The event will focus on presenting trends and relevant content through workshops, courses, plenary and technical sessions.

The 30th anniversary of Anprotec celebration will include sharing challenges, achievements and stories of innovative Brazilian entrepreneurship.

More details on conference [website](#)

Contact: Aksara Somchinda, [email](#) or TP UFRJ Team [email](#)

SDO Profile [Anprotec](#), [Techpark at UFRJ](#)

and entrepreneurs living across far north Queensland “to co-create new opportunities for regional and remote Australians”.



[DHIVE](#) is making a positive statement in reshaping the discussion around digital, technological and startup inclusion to activate supporters in getting involved.

Contact: Julie-Ann Lambourne, [email](#)

Women Entrepreneurs invited to join Generation 6

The S-Factory is a pre-acceleration program of the Chilean Government for female-led startups from around the World.

This program started in 2015 and is part of Startup Chile that was initiated in 2010 and meanwhile has a portfolio 1,400 startups and 4,000 entrepreneurs from 79 countries. Each year S-Factory receives ca. 250 applications for two rounds of 20-30 startups. The actual call invites applications from female-led startups and offers to selected applicants ca. USD15,000 equity free and 4 month acceleration including courses, mentorship and pitch training to accelerate their ideas. Founders from outside of Chile

receive a one-year working visa.

To qualify for selection, startups must be in the concept or prototype stage with less than 6 months of development and must be led by a female founder.

For successful participants Startup Chile offers follow-up opportunities:

Seed: 6 months acceleration for startups with a functional prototype; around USD\$ 30,000 equity free investment. Open for 2 rounds a year of 80-100 companies each.

Scale, the follow-on fund for startups

Free Co-Working Space – Mentorship included

GoodShift in St. Leonards, Australia offers two months of free co-working with mentorship and use of all facilities. Eligible startups should be “focused on good”. GoodShift is a space for “positively focused” startups - through diversity, social benefit, or charity. The fees include use of all facilities, and events and mentoring.

The co-working community is supported by a network of international mentors and experts in residence to provide guidance and advice. This mentoring is shared freely to all resident co-workers through



regular events, open forums, and one-on-one sessions. Access to free co-working (for two months) by [application](#).

Contact: Kelsie Nabben, [email](#)

SDO Profile [GoodShift](#)

EUROMED Invest links Northern Europe and the Mediterranean Region

Business Roadshows organized by EUROMED Invest recently brought together participants the southern Mediterranean with local entrepreneurs from Warsaw, Riga and Helsinki eager to learn more about business and investment opportunities in the renewables and green technologies sectors in the Mediterranean. Panels focused on company cases, practical and success stories.

More information see [link](#)



incorporated in Chile, looking to scale in LATAM and globally. In two rounds a year 15 companies each selected companies receive around USD\$90,000 equity free. At least one of the founders has to settle in Chile and give back to the Chilean society through social impact program.

More information on S-Factory [website](#)

Applications submitted through the [website](#) open until **June 27, 2017**

Contact: S-Factory team [email](#) **SDO Profile** [S-Factory](#)

€ 3 billion for 7,500 SMEs

The SME Instrument of EU's Horizon 2020 reports on impacts reached during recent three years: 31,000 applications and provided € 883 million funding to around 2,500 small companies.



Part of the EU Horizon 2020 research and innovation program is an SME instrument that will support market-creating innovation in small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) with significant growth potential and global ambitions. A total of € 3 billion is in the budget for supporting about 7,500 SMEs in coming three years (until 2020). The program offers finance in two phases: Phase 1 offers a lump-sum and funding of €50,000 to carry out a concept and feasibility assessment. Phase 2 invests between €0.5 and 2.5 million (up to €5 million in health-related topics) in innovation, activities such as demonstration, testing, proto-

Funded SMEs
2,457 SMEs from 36 countries

Top 5 acceptance rates:

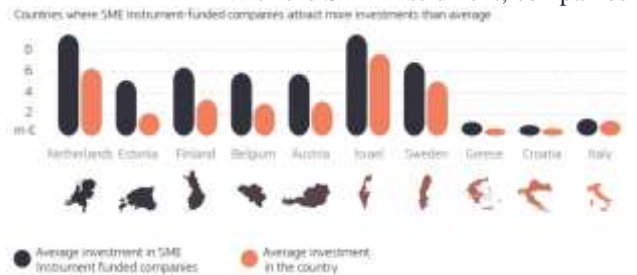
- Iceland (20%)
- Austria (13%)
- Denmark (13%)
- Ireland (13%)
- Sweden (12%)



typing pilot lines, scale-up studies and market replication. In addition to the finance, companies get three days of coaching by experienced entrepreneurs and investors – three days in Phase I and further twelve days in Phase 2.

During recent three years the program received more than 31,000 applications and provided € 883 million funding to around 2,500 small companies. In 2016, the SME Instrument celebrated its companies' first successes: first IPOs,

major contract signatures, important private investments, precious awards and plenty of innovative entries on the market. Funded companies in some countries attract more private investment than their compatriots. This is the case especially in the



raise higher investment rounds (€ 4.3 million on average) than before (€2.8million). Each euro invested generated one euro of private investment.

- Participating companies experienced a 250% increase in turn-over and an employment growth of 122%.

The full report is available for download from [website](#)

Contact: EASME, [email](#)

Illustrations from EU Impact report

Key to Success - Co-working Spaces, Business Incubators or Accelerators?

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approaches of incubators and science parks. Another example is the US association InBIA that started as a network for business incubators and recently adapted its approach under the headline of “business” and actively opened for co-working and acceleration.

It is estimated that about 8,500 co-working spaces are working globally, 3,000 of them in Europe. The number of incubators world-wide possibly is about the same. The website of the “Coworking Europe” conference (see [Coworking Europe2017](#)) states that “the total of coworking spaces has overtaken, for instance, the total of incubators and innovation centers operating in Europe”.

But, such numbers are to be taken with care. Firstly, there is no reason why “co-working” and “incubation” should be understood as separate kinds of initiatives. The concept of “business incubation” from the very beginning included the component of community and synergy and “co-

working” may include incubation components, for example, mentoring. Furthermore, anybody can name a place “co-working”. There is no clear borderline between mere office rentals and co-working facilities offering the set of services and community required. To go further, the borderline between co-working and business incubation is not drawn clearly – not to speak about accelerators that are in the game as well. And, finally, the scene is dynamic. As “business incubators” for different reasons “de-graded” to become plain real-estate operations, co-working initiatives took the same path (or from the beginning were nothing but office rentals). Other initiatives develop in the opposite direction.

Obviously there is a global trend towards increased mobility and working together, breaking the isolation of working alone from the kitchen or garage at home and taking the opportunities of exchanging with other creative minds. Co-working has



lowered the threshold for people not yet sure that entrepreneurship is an option to find communities of like-minded individuals as well as information, advice, support, and contacts to active networks.

It may be the time to change the perspective and not ask any more if a place is “co-working”, “incubation”, or “acceleration”. From the users' point of view anyhow the important matter is if the services needed are offered efficiently and effectively and from the perspective of economic development and innovation all tools are needed – not an either or. It is time for talking about common ground and goals instead of focusing on differences; it is time for taking an integrative and user-focused approach.

Contact: Heinz Fiedler [email](#)

Common good to Measure Economic Success, Cocoa, and University Access

The ZEIT WISSEN-Award for Sustainability was celebrated in Hamburg

The winners of the ZEIT-Knowledge Award 2017 were presented at the Sustainability Convention on March 28, 2017 in Hamburg. In each of the three categories KNOWLEDGE, ACT and START the jury selected the winners from three nominees. The winners are

Category KNOWLEDGE: The award went to the **social economy movement** developed by Christian Felber (Austria).

The alternative economic model is supported by more than 2,200 companies. The aim is to measure entrepreneurial success not by monetary gain, but by the contribution of a company to the common good.

Category ACT: The award went to the **Alliance Forum for Sustainable Cocoa.**

The multi-stakeholder initiative, made up of actors from the cocoa and chocolate industry, the food trade, civil society and the federal government, aims to improve the situation of the cocoa farmers in the cultivating countries and to promote a sustainable cultivation of the cocoa beans.

Category START: The award went to the start-up **Kiron Open Higher Education** that was honored for enabling more than



ZEIT WISSEN-Preis
MUT ZUR NACHHALTIGKEIT

2,000 refugees to take up a course of studies through digital teaching and learning formats without bureaucracy. The education platform, funded by crowdfunding, thus provides an uncomplicated university entrance. In the debate on the future of the environment and society the award winners show in an outstanding way how the gap between knowledge and action can be bridged. The award comes with prize money of 10,000 each and is sponsored by the initiative "Courage for Sustainability", the magazine ZEITWISSEN by ZEIT Publishing House and the entrepreneur Dr. August Oetker.

information on [website](#)

Contact: ZEIT Award Team, [email](#)

Incubating Justice – Call for Applications

The HiiL Justice Accelerator in The Hague, Netherlands finds and supports the best justice entrepreneurs to create access to justice for all.

HiiL has recent and valuable data about justice needs in [Netherlands](#), [Tunisia](#), [Ukraine](#), and [Uganda](#), and therefore particularly encourages applications that tackle



the most prevalent justice needs identified in these countries. For project examples, visit [website](#).

In Africa and the Middle East but also across the world, through local partners HiiL identifies **justice entrepreneurs** to add them to an "Innovation Database." Through a series of local training events as well as the yearly Justice Entrepreneurship School in The Hague, justice entrepreneurs receive **training** to manage and lead their innovations. Seed funding, access to potential future follow-on funding, and business services complete the offer.

The **Acceleration Track** for selected applicants consist of the **Justice Entrepreneurship School**, a one-week training crash course for justice entrepreneurs resulting in an **Acceleration Plan** consisting of key actions and targets for the innovation's operations, including financial, social impact, marketing, and team development KPIs.

On this basis a **Grant Agreement** is signed between HiiL and the innovation, a **local business mentor or incubation space** is engaged and participants have access to the **HiiL Justice Accelerator Mentor Network**, an international network of experts across tech, marketing, business, and many more areas.

[Applications](#) for the **Innovating Justice Challenge 2017** are currently open until **June 30, 2017**.

Contact: Wilfried de Wever, [email](#)

SDO Profile [HiiL Accelerator](#)

Finally, HiiL offers **acceleration and**

Linking Startup Ecosystems Hungarian Startups presented in Berlin

The Startup Campus Roadshow, a program of Enterprise Hungary is organized in co-operation with the Hungarian Embassy in Berlin. On the June 19, 2017 Hungarian Startups pitched at an event in the Hungarian Embassy in Berlin. The main objective of Startup Campus Berlin is boosting the communication and strengthening the relationship between the German and Hungarian startup communities. Besides leaning about startups in Hungary participants will gain insight into the Hungarian, innovation policy, subject



related governmental incentive programs and their achievements. Furthermore, cooperation possibilities and potentials between the startup ecosystems of Budapest and Berlin will be presented.

More information see [website](#)



Enterprise Hungary

is a non-profit organization aimed at developing the Hungarian innovation ecosystem (startups and spin-offs), and to encourage young people in becoming entrepreneurs. The goal is to catalyze the new generation of startups. EH pays special attention to increasing the willingness of young people to establish their own enterprises, supporting the development of enterprises from innovative ideas born in higher education and developing already established enterprises.

Contact Startups Campus team [email](#)

SDO Profile [Enterprise Hungary](#)



Startup Campus

is a program of Enterprise Hungary that offers a solution to the most relevant issue of local start-up ecosystems, the need for the recruitment of new start-ups. The program is capable of preparing start-ups for investments with its support services:

Innovation: Mentoring and events at universities and research centers

Team: Support of university teams with business potential.

Knowledge: Establishment of university knowledge transfer models

The program is available at 5 locations Budapest, Debrecen, Győr, Kecskemét and London.

Borderstep Impact Forum in Berlin

Report continued from page 1

Borderstep director Klaus Fichter in his introductions presented the hypothesis that a change of paradigm is necessary for supporting entrepreneurship and startups – changing from today’s criteria exclusively based on economic factors to a sustainability oriented set. Learning from experience and the complexity of economy and society in the actual and coming world demand this change.

The forum workshops were titled “New Approaches of sustainable Startup Promotion”, “Innovation Communities for the Energy Transition”, “Innovation Alliances in Green Computing”, “Smart Impact: Diffusion of Sustainability Innovations”, and “Impact Investment for Green Startups– Mobilization of Sustainable Business Angels”.

During the workshop on sustainable Startup Promotion the status of green startups in Germany (now 17 per cent of all startups) was discussed and Bertram Dressel, President of the German [BVIZ](#) informed that about 20 % of the incubators in the country have a focus on green technology enterprises. Concrete examples

from rural Germany were provided by Andreas Jonas, managing director of the business incubator in Strausberg, [STIC](#). He especially referred to comprehensive approach needed for effective startup



including not only economic, but also aspects of sustainability by all means.

The concluding panel with the startup entrepreneur Julia Römer (Coolar), the co-president of the Club of Rome. Prof. Dr. Ernst Ulrich von Weizäcker, the State Secretaries Rita Schwarzelühr-Sutter (Environment Ministry) and Dirk Wiese (Economy Ministry) discussed the general topic moderated by Prof. Dr. Klaus Fichter. The political statements referred only to known agreements and programs, for example, the “Paris Agreement” (Cli-

mate Change), and enter into discussing new perspectives deeply – possibly in view of the results of the just held elections in the State of Nordrhein-Westfalen and in Germany. However, in view of the national upcoming elections Prof. von Weizäcker made a clear statement regarding the need for change and referred to the

fact that we should not seek to meet the challenges of a “full world” with the technologies that have been successful in an “empty world”. And Julia Römer clearly called for initiatives for integrating “sustainability” into all parts of business

concept development. The lively discussion following the panel once more could not provide enough time for discussing the questions and comments from the audience.

But the reception to celebrate Borderstep’s anniversary gave more room for discussing issues of developing business concepts and business support taking sustainability criteria into account.

More information see Borderstep [website](#) Contact: Prof. Dr. Klaus Fichter, [email](#) [SDO Profile](#) [Borderstep](#), [BVIZ](#), [STIC](#)

Winners of the German ICT Startup 2017 Award


The German national startup competition “Young ICT” this year was held for the 20th time and announced the four winners at a one-day event in Berlin on June 8, 2017.

Held in “Kosmos Berlin” the event, hosted by the German Federal Ministry for Economy (BMWi) offered sessions discussing a variety of topics:


- The **Digital Hub Initiative** of the BMWi that establishes 12 digital tech hubs, each one in a different city and for a specific technology area.
- Under the headline “**Digital, Successful, Female**” female startups were presented as an important factor for economic development
- The session “**The State as Investor?**” presented and discussed the government’s activities to support access to Finance for startups
- Models of **cooperation** between startups and established business were discussed with the accelerators [Airbus BizLab](#), [sizzle](#) - Schleicher Zoom Zone, the [Axel Springer Plug & Play](#) and the [TechQuartier](#) Frankfurt “Fucked Up!” - experienced entrepreneurs made with their failures

Brigitte Zypries, Minister for Economy handed the prizes of the **ICT Startup of the Year Award** to the winners:



 **TOPOSENS** The **First Prize** went to [Toposens](#) with their [sensor](#)

based on the principles of the echolocation of a bat, which can see tiny objects by emitting ultrasound signals and receiving their reflections. The Toposens 3D sensor enables machines and robots to better perceive their surroundings without the disadvantages of optical systems. Since September 2016 Toposens is working in The ESA BIC Accelerator Bavaria.


 The **Second Prize** was won by [Telo-](#)
[cate](#) offering precise

localization by smartphone using acoustic time measurement by the world’s smallest 9-axis inertial measuring system. The IMU



features a 868 MHz radio transceiver and integrated power supply. This system is by far more precise than existing solutions for smartphone localization in buildings.

The **Third Prize** went to two startups:

 **FOVEA** from Uslar: innovative software for the forest industry using intelligent measurement technologies to gather woodpile data. Taking a photo of a woodpile is enough to get information about the amount of wood harvested.

 **OKINLAB** from Saarbrücken is

Offering software allowing customers to “[free-form](#)” design their furniture. The system provides the data needed for directly producing the designed furniture.

The **exhibition** area around the seating block for the conference allowed insight into the offers of more than 70 ICT startups and the parallel **pitch sessions** presented the plans of startups in areas like healthcare, lifestyle, entertainment, knowledge, and education.

More information on [website](#) **Contact:** JICT2017 Team [email](#)

PostVenture – Swiss Post prepares for the Future

Swiss Post is looking for fresh ideas to help drive forward its range of products and services. The PostVenture program already for the third time invites the promising applicants to present before an expert jury



of Swiss Post and, in cooperation with ZHAW (School of Management & Law, Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship), identify promising business ideas. Swiss Post focuses on seven strategic business areas: Cross-channel communication, BPO / shared services, Digital solutions, Digital Trust, E-commerce, and Mobility. If both sides are interested in cooperation, participants are invited to a six months program for developing their idea further and create a prototype (the IP remains with the external participants). During this phase participants already can collect the first valuable customer feedback and adapt their product or service accordingly. PostVenture supports the teams with up to CHF 50,000 in financial resources, visitor workplace, access to post-expertise and the post-internet network, an internal mentor, and monitoring by the project team.

More information on PostVenture [website](#)

Contact: Roland Keller, PostVenture Project Manager, [email](#); **SDO Profile** [ZHAW](#)



17,500 attendees, 2300 startups, 1,100 investors, and 600 journalists were counted at Slush 2016 in Helsinki. The next opportunity to meet with a global startup community is **Slush 2017** that will take place in **Helsinki Nov 30 – Dec 1, 2017**.

What began with a 300 person assembly has developed to a world-renowned event, now being held not only in Helsinki, but also in Tokyo, Shanghai, and Singapore. However, the philosophy behind Slush has remained the same: to help the next generation of great, world-conquering companies forward.

More information and ticket on [website](#):

Contact: SLUSH Team [email](#)

“Baltic Dynamics” become “Nordic Baltic Dynamics”

The “Baltic Dynamics” conference widens its scope to the entire Nordic region and will be held in Stockholm, October 26 -27, 2017

After 21 annual “Baltic Dynamics” conferences held in turns in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, the 2017 edition will be held as “**Nordic-Baltic Dynamics**” and will be held October 26 -27, 2017 in Stockholm, organized jointly by Tehnopol, Estonia and Swedish Incubators & Science Parks (SISP), Sweden. First time the conference will be held outside the Baltic States. The conference organizers describe this move as “a major step in jointly developing and intensifying cooperation in the Baltic Sea region, including common innovation activities of the countries surrounding it.”

Also the conference scheme has gone



through a makeover to offer more opportunities for interaction, international group work and practical problem solving in addition to conference keynote speeches – with “a touch of surprise added to turn this event into a highly satisfying experience.”

“**Building Resilience for a Stronger**

The wrong Kind of Entrepreneurship?

...continued from page 1 ...

in three-decades-plus. Also slowing down is activity of high-growth firms that create most of the net job gains.

However, according to Baumol’s economic theory, more than numbers, the “mix” is important: innovative, productive firms versus “unproductive “rent-seeking” companies that “exploit relationships with the government to construct regulatory moats, secure public spending for their own benefit, or bend specific rules to their will.” Rising profits earned by the largest businesses, and increasing efforts to shape the rules of the game indicate that the “unproductive” part of economy is on the rise.

Litan concludes that the US will have to find ways to encourage would-be entrepreneurs to start innovative, productive businesses, rather than dedicating their efforts to co-opting government.

Looking at the startup sector in Germany (and elsewhere) indeed, it could be asked if all that is “productive”. Besides the fact that the number of newly started firms is declining since a number of years, there are too many “me too” startups copying what already is available. Even in the



Tomorrow” is the title of this conference.

The impact of the world economy on the environment and people is in focus. The sharing economy, growing emergence of startups, and global sociopolitical stability cannot be taken for granted. On this background higher resilience gives a valuable competitive edge to any stakeholder in the innovation ecosystem. The conference organizers invite science/technology parks innovation and research centers, entrepreneurship promoters, incubators/accelerators, policy makers and other innovators to contribute and learn about what can be done to become more resilient.

Registration will open at the end of June through [website](#)

Contact: Jaak Raie, CEO of Tallinn Science Park Tehnopol, [email](#) and Magnus Lundin, CEO of Swedish Incubators & Science Parks, [email](#)

SDO Profile [Tehnopol](#) and [SISP](#)

group of “very successful” startups, the portion of those really based on an innovation very limited. It seems to be important how much capital can be invested in marketing rather than technology and product development. The capital available is spent like in a “casino where a lot of money is thrown” as the journalist Steven Hill said talking about the Silicon Valley at a discussion at the [republica](#) Berlin in May 2017. In his book “The Startup Illusion” he describes challenges coming with the development of the digital economy. For example, the fact that the digital economy mostly creates relatively low-paid jobs without social security. Like, for example, in logistics to handle the ever growing number of packages for online purchases or by outsourcing even qualified work to freelancers.

Clearly, politics have to find answers to the challenges of the digital economy. It should be discussed, what “entrepreneurship” means – single purpose financial profit maximization or the answer of an entrepreneur to the complex needs of society and environment.

Malaysia



Blue Ocean Strategy to transform Malaysia into an advanced Nation

Malaysia intends to become an advanced nation by 2020. With this aim in mind the government has adopted the Blue Ocean Strategy in its strategic planning and operations to deliver programs and services to the public that are high impact, low cost, and rapidly executed. With a budget of over USD70 billion the actual five-year strategic development of the government will provide high-impact, low-cost national strategies tools and frameworks. The eight areas for such actions will be public services, community transformation, women, your & family, safety & security, entrepreneurship, and education.

BOET is an initiative to strengthen and further complement the national entrepreneurship ecosystem through the National Blue Ocean Strategy (NBOS).

A practical application of the strategy is “Borneo 744”, Malaysia’s first entrepreneur and arts district that started its soft opening process in February 2017. This initiative is intended to become “a single hub for generating employment, developing new growth businesses as well as enrich communities through encouragement of a wider range of community-led creative and artistic that can translate into commercially viable endeavors.”

More about the Blue Ocean Strategy see [website](#). **Contact:** NBOS Team [email](#)



SDO Profile [MaGIC](#)

For more details about MaGIC see [website](#)

Borneo 744 – the first BOET of Malaysia launched

An area of ca. 4 ha with five buildings offering providing approx.. 11,150 m² of space “Borneo 744” has started its soft launch in February 2016.

This first “entrepreneur and arts district in the country” that is developed under the “Blue Ocean Strategy” of the Malaysian government is located at the Sawarak river ca. 11 km from the city center of Kuching with a university college, the Borneo Convention Center, hotels and sport facilities nearby.

Each of the five buildings is earmarked to become a center for a specific purpose like business incubation, co-location, mentoring, networking and collaborations for all entrepreneur types, providing space for small manufacturing, F&B and retail startups as well as affordable and accessible spaces for trainings, festivals, exhibitions, recreational activities, productions and performances targeting both the community, entrepreneurs, creatives and visitors. Borneo744 is to become the country’s first Blue Ocean Entrepreneurs’ Township (BOET) and has been initiated with the vision to become “a center for aspiring entrepreneurs and creative talents Sarawak to nurture a winning vibrant community.”

Borneo744 was set up for creating and providing an eco-system where start-ups can network and get the needed assistance regardless of which stage of product development stage they are at. Co-working spaces, fast internet access will be provided as well as seminars and workshops



geared toward entrepreneurship development, arts and crafts, etc. and events will be made available to members of the public. The project will be managed by “Borneo744 Berhad (B744B)” that is on its way to being incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee.

The soft launch event happened on May 19, 2017 with YBhg Tan Sri Dr Mohd Irwan Serigar Abdullah, Treasury Secretary General of Ministry of Finance Malaysia. The event was open to the public and offered action including a grand VIP launch ceremony, a cultural culinary experience with MakanMakan Sarawak bazaar, an art exhibition by UNIMAS, a vibrant Kuching Youth Jam Session, workshops by the best debaters in Sarawak, a fun web development workshop by Rails Girls, and Lil' Nice Cat Book Sale by HAUS KCH

SDO Profile: [Borneo 744](#)

Contact BOET Team [email](#)

MaGIC offers co-working Facilities at Borneo 944

100 free days of co-working for the first 100 Applicants at the new Borneo 744, the first Blue Ocean Entrepreneurs’ Township

MaGIC, the Malaysian Global Innovation & Creativity Centre works to position Malaysia as the startup capital of Asia.

With this aim, MaGIC brings together partners and communities to develop sustainable, high growth entrepreneurs creating positive impact at a regional and global scale.

In conjunction with the recent soft launch of Borneo 744, MaGIC offers **100 free days** of co-working in the **MaGIC Sarawak Co-Working Space** that will provide a one-stop space for entrepreneurs to

work, learn, and play. This offer is aimed at contributing to foster a vibrant Sarawak entrepreneurs’ community The Co-Working Space. The first 100 applicants can take advantage of this offer if registering before **August 30, 2017**.

For taking advantage of this offer contact the MaGIC Team at [email](#)

MaGIC also offers **Grill or Chill (GoC)**, a platform for startups to showcase their product, get valuable feedback from experts and network in the startup ecosystem More information / registration on [website](#)

Discovering Chengdu China And Its Entrepreneurship Ecosystem

Barbara Harley

Here are some impressions of six days in Chengdu, China on the occasion of attending three events at the same time: 2017 Chengdu Global Innovation and Entrepreneurship Fair, the 2017 Global Business Incubation Summit, and the 30th Anniversary Celebration of China's Science and Technology Business Incubators held May 10-11, 2017.



These were among the most effectively staged and run fairs and conferences I have ever attended. Each venue was large, creatively designed, and recently built. The dozens and dozens of young Guides (mostly university students or graduates) were outstandingly helpful.

Much of the pleasure for me was to meet up with many long-time Chinese business incubation colleagues and friends and then to meet for the first time some fascinating new friends; also to join in the celebration of China's 30th Anniversary of the beginning of its business incubation program

Keynote Speakers and Roundtable Participants.

This photo shows many of the Keynote Speakers at the events and several of us who were part of an International



Roundtable. Second gentlemen to my right is Phillip Kemp, Executive Director, Business Foundations, Inc., Western Australia, a multi-site activity that has included a famous prison site as a Perth incubator. The second gentleman from my left is Dr. Rajendra Jagdale, President of Indian STEPs & Business Incubators' Association as well as Director General of the Pune Science and Technology Park, and a partner in several investment funds.

During private conversations with a few of the accelerator-based investors who spoke, Phillip and I suggested they were what misinformed about the quality and scope of services of business incubators. This seems to be a recurring problem at con-

ferences I attend and often leads to their condemnation of incubation, or, at least, to what Americans call "condemning with faint praise." Phillip gave a survey talk about incubation in Australia in which he brought up the issues around the fact that one style of support does not fit all innovative entrepreneurs.

Foreign Entrepreneurs



On our tour of several incubators, Roy Yan and I were introduced to several startups that were headed by foreign entrepreneurs. Chengdu Science Park has many resources and experts available to guide the Chinese and foreign entrepreneurs through startup, relocation, and growth. I counted at least 20 separate first floor booths in the Science Park buildings where resource staff answer questions and connect the companies to professionals. My first question had been, "Where are the IP lawyers"? I was immediately shown the resource person who helped connect the entrepreneurs to lawyers and other legal services.

People



Ulrich Sandler from Munich gave a fascinating keynote address in which he described the 4th Industrial Revolution that would find every manufactured product would be part of the Internet of Things. He gave examples of new manufacturing developments at Siemens, ABB, and Bosch, and contrasted Europe as the leader in hardware manufacturing with the U.S. which had mostly outsourced hardware while it became the leader in software, Internet, computing, and data. ...continued on next page ...

Chengdu

The City of Chengdu is even more amazing now than it was when I previously visited it in 2002. This 2000-year-old city is now an immense modern home to 16 million people. It has become a major international tourist destination because of all those Giant Pandas, cultural and historic buildings, neighborhoods, and parks, and its new museums and amenities. Most importantly, Chengdu now brands itself as The City for Entrepreneurship with multiple science parks, business incubators and accelerators, investors, and innovative startups, both Chinese and foreign.

The Incubation History Book

While on a tour of the Chengdu Hi-Tech Science Park, we came across a large banner announcing the publication of a new book available at the Summit.

The photo in front of the banner shows **GAO Chao**, General Manager of Chengdu Thinkzone Incubation Investment Group



On the photo: GAO Chao, Barbara, YAN Zhenjun (Roy)

and its Tianfu Xingu Incubator, who guided us on a tour of the impressive Chengdu Science Park.

His spirited advocacy for the Chengdu Hi-Tech Zone, the Science Park Thinkzone, and Tianfu Xingu Incubator was clear even through a translator. On my left, **YAN Zhenjun (Roy)** one of the authors and managers of the impressive new history book: **30 Years of Start-Up Incubation in China (1987-2017)**, which was published in Chinese... (with as yet only a few pages in English).

... continued from previous page ... One of his key points was that products in this 4th Industrial Revolution will become part of a System of Systems with apps and services being the connectors.



Rustam Lalkaka

Many of us remember the late Rustam Lalkaka as a pioneer in creating business incubator

pilot projects when he was a member of the UNDP staff some 30 years ago.

The Chinese especially honor him for his helping them begin their Torch Program and incubators with UNDP funds and his useful guidance. As part of the 30th anniversary events, his son, Dinyar Lalkaka was presented with a commemorative plaque to express their continued gratefulness.

Although, he does not consult on business incubation projects as his father had done, Dinyar is a frequent advisor in China on economic development and strategic planning programs.



Roy Yan is the incoming Vice President and Secretary General of the China Association of Technology Entrepreneurs, CATE. He is

well known to his many science park and incubation colleagues around the world for his activities on behalf of IASP in China, and for his activities on behalf of Beijing Business Incubator and Tsinghua University Science Park.

Xi Hua University

After the conference ended and many of the visitors were on their way back home I



was taken to a 57 year old university which was holding a celebration

for its new College of Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Like many of Chengdu's colleges and universities, Xi Hua has dedicated part of its activities to teaching

Entrepreneurship Support in Chengdu

Chengdu has a large number of incubators and accelerators – some counts say there are 200 such organizations. Some are set up together with international partners.

Here just two examples: The **AMCHIS Accelerator** is an Israeli-Chinese company that works together with the Chengdu government in order to develop the city into the vibrant, dynamic and strong financial and technological center of China. The

Chinese to groups of foreign students.

However, it has also focused on being an entrepreneurial university. It has 40,000 students, 22 colleges, 83 undergrad majors and 75 masters programs.. At the celebration and after short talks by many speakers, including me (and my translator), there was a signing of a commitment by a very successful local entrepreneur to provide additional funding to the new College.

This was followed by agreements that several of us would provide mentoring to the College and to its students.

Final Thoughts

China's long-term investment in incubation and in the encouragement and support of entrepreneurs (what I call 'patient money' of which I see very little in the U.S.) is paying off for their governments and their innovative products. Technologies in specific areas are advancing quickly, especially in AI.

China's rules regarding an official retirement age of 60 are producing unique dividends to the long-time incubation and science park leaders, some of whom have now evolved into effective investors in the types of startups they incubated in the past. In addition, I met several investor groups and accelerator organizations that have opened offices in cities in North America and Europe, such as Hanhai International and SBC (Startup Boot Camp).

China's dirty air, which is a major problem in Beijing, is at least a small problem in Chengdu. On only three of the six days I was there was the sky completely clear. China's ban on Google Search and gmail complicated my stay. Rightly or wrongly, I felt very disadvantaged. The Chinese *WeChat* is a robust connector of phones-to-phones, but it does not seem to be a fully useful research engine.

And, finally, Chengdu has delicious foods that I enjoyed in staff dining rooms, in buffets, and in banquets.

For more information contact the author:

Barbara Harley, [email](#)

Startupbootcamp and Thinkzone join for Health Accelerator

Thinkzone started to be built in 1994 in the central area of Tianfu new city in Chengdu Hi-Tech Zone. In 2005, as the first private incubator it was state-ranked to be the national technology and business service center. Thinkzone has an incubating area of 370,000 m², accommodating over 500 enterprises working in the fields of software R&D, digital media, electronic



information, new material and others. Besides quality services for companies under incubation, Thinkzone sets up VC funds, attracts financial institutions and jointly initiates China's first angel fund.

Startupbootcamp, founded in 2010 in Copenhagen, is a global network of industry focused accelerator programs and announced their expansion to the Chinese market partnering with Thinkzone to launch the Startupbootcamp Digital Health Accelerator. Chengdu was chosen for its support for entrepreneurial initiatives from the city's local government and healthcare industry. The region is also known for having some of the best hospitals and medical research institutions in China.

According Carsten Kølbeek Co-founder of Startupbootcamp, Chengdu is the perfect gateway into other Chinese regions and the big demand for better health services by the fast growing middle-class together with the liberation of the private insurance market offers great opportunities for scaling fast.

Startupbootcamp's Digital Health program will select high-potential startups from working to improve access to quality healthcare in the areas such as digital medical devices, diagnostics, genomics, wearable devices, and remote health monitoring.

The 10 selected startups will receive RMB 100K (Euro 13K) in seed funding, free office space, mentoring from 100+ industry specialist introductions to local partners and investors as well as access to Startupbootcamp's large international network.

Contact: Christina Christiansen, [email](#)
SDO Profile [Digital Health Accelerator](#)

Latvian Startup Ecosystem



A booklet “**Start in Latvia**” published by startin.LV, the Latvia Startup Association provides an overview of the system to support new companies in the country. The

association was founded in February 2016 by the Latvian start-up community.

Jekaterina Novicka, chairperson of Startin.LV describes the vision that by 2020 Latvia’s start-up ecosystem provides a favorable mix of reasonable start-up costs, access to international entrepreneurial talent and capital, start-up friendly regulation and excellent connections.

The brochure provides insight into the situation of the Latvian entrepreneurship ecosystem including the Startup Law, the #StartinLatvia Welcome Pack, and information about main players and events.

Download [link](#) Contact: [email](#)

HansaMatRIX

New Hardware Accelerator

HansaMatrix, a Latvian product development and engineering company successfully operating since more than 15 years, prepares to open its newest facility “**HansaMatRIX**” to become the largest Hardware Accelerator in Baltic and Nordic countries. This project is aimed at building a hi-tech business park at a site at the Riga Airport (RIX). In May 2016 “Zinatnes Parks, SIA”, a subsidiary of HansaMatRIX signed an agreement to buy the site. The concept for the new accelerator includes product development teams of HansaMatRIX in the areas of Internet of Things, 3D Imaging Technologies and Precise Robotics areas as well as a “**laboratory hotel**” for visiting product developers. Creation new products by joint engineering and industrialization teams will be supported by the rapid first article fabrication facility to create a fast-track to market path even for complex products.

More **information** on [website](#)

Startup Slalom ventures out to Ventspils

Startup Slalom is a hackathon brand created by the Latvian Startup Association.

After successful events in Latvia’s Capital, Startup Slalom now left Riga for the first time to bring together technology enthusiasts in Ventspils (see article below). This activity was made possible by support provided by the Investment and Development Agency of Latvia.

At the end of the hackathon seven teams presented their concepts:

- **s’COOL** – a tool to improve the education process by making the learning process interactive and interesting using smartphones.
- **Project Pigeon** – a tool using AI to process customer feedback to prioritize responses so that urgent ones could be dealt with first
- **Fuffy** – financial planning tool to calculate the monthly cost for a loan.
- **Samay** – a one button watch with large digits that can use any music tune as alarm clock
- **PYI Chat** – private chat application for companies
- **Fit & Soc** – app to coordinate training process between fitness coaches



and their clients to keep track of their progress and share their achievement

- **PerFormEat** –app that creates different menus depending on the person’s job and working conditions, and needed nutrients

The **winner** of the hackathon was **s’COOL**, taking home the main prize of EUR 1,000 provided by the main sponsor of the event, the technology company [Hansa Matrix](#). **Project Pigeon** was placed second; the entire team could attend the Tech Open Air (TOA) in Berlin. **Fuffy** team with the third prize won the right to use the [TechHub Riga](#) co-working space for one month, free of charge.

Startup Slalom [website](#)

Contact: StartupSlalom Team [email](#)

SDO Profile [Latvian Startup Association](#)

SDO Profile [Tech Hub Riga](#)

Ventspils

From Oil and Gas Exports to Hightech City



Ventspils, a city at the Baltic Sea with 40,000 inhabitants was the first in Latvia introducing a strategy for ICT sector development. The city still is known as a logistics hub with a port (important for Russian oil and gas exports), warehouses, and fishery. But, this image is changing rapidly towards modern technology.

This is based on successful activities of the city focused on developing ICT skills of the citizens. Workshops and seminars for kids and adults offered by Ventspils Digital center and study programs for IT spe-

cialists and engineers provides by Ventspils technicum and Ventspils University contribute to the change. For startups and small business the “ICT pilot program” helps to reduce costs and motivates to hire locals with ICT qualifications.

The [Ventspils High Technology Park](#) and its [Business Incubator](#) are supporting high-tech startups and companies, especially those in information technologies, telecommunications, electronics, engineering, industrial automation, computer-aided design and space technologies. Besides providing the necessary office facilities these organizations offer office services as well as mentoring and business development, financing and organization.

The city does not only provide a positive business environment, but also is a place of interest for other activities. The beaches are just a ten minutes’ walk for the historic city center with a castle that dates back to the 13th century.

Photo: fololia

Strengthening Innovation and Internationalization in Polish Companies

28th Annual Conference of the Polish Innovation Center Association in Olsztyn, North-Eastern Poland elected new Board of Directors



Commercialization of knowledge and technology, both in respect for the scientific and business community, and development and internationalization of technology companies with the support of the innovation centers was one of the conference topics, including examples good practices from other countries. Participants representing scientific community, government institutions and local government as well as private companies took part in the discussions.

Prof. **Jacek Guliński** (president of the Adam Mickiewicz University Foundation / [Science & Technology Park Poznan](#)) gave a presentation about the history of Centers of Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Poland, and **Daniel Kulig**, Director of the [Science and Technology Park Elk](#) introduced to the three parks in Warmia and Mazury voivodeship.

Organized in cooperation with the University Warmińsko-Mazurskie, the 28th Annual Conference of PBICA, Polish Association of Innovation and Incubation Centers "Aspects of effectively implementing innovation and stimulating internationalization Polish technology companies" convened May 22 – 24, 2017 in Olsztyn, 112 participants included 45 representatives of the technology parks and incubators, technology transfer centers and other institutions business support institutions as well as representatives of the embassies of the Republic of Italy and Austria and representatives of 15 Government and self-government institutions from all over Poland. 30% of the participants came from higher education institutions.

The XXV General Assembly of the association elected the new governing board for the years 2017-2020: **Marzena Mażewska** - President of the Management Board; **Anna Tórz** - Vice-President; **Dariusz Trzmielak** - Vice-President; **Barbara Kostyra** - Treasurer of the Board; and **Lukasz Sztern** – Secretary.

Contact: Marzena Mażewska, [email](#)
SDO Profile [Polish Business and Innovation Centers Association](#)

Startup Support in Olsztyn – City of Copernicus

Olsztyn has ca. 145.000 inhabitants. Just 100 km from Kaliningrad and 140 km to Gdansk and surrounded by a landscape with lakes and forests, the city was founded in 1353 under the name *Allensteyn*, at that time under the rule of Prussia. 1516 - 1519 Olsztyn castle was home of Nicolaus Copernicus who in 1521 became administrator of the region. Olsztyn also is the birthplace of the world-famous architect Erich Mendelsohn (1887-1953), pioneer of Art Deco. After World War II the city became part of Poland and developed into a center of commerce. Merging three higher education institu-



Photo Olsztyn [Andrzej Otrebski](#)

tions in Olsztyn, the Academy of Agriculture and Technology, the Higher School of Pedagogy, and Warmian Theological Institute, the **University of Warmia and Mazury** in Olsztyn (UWM) was founded in 1999 and now has about 27,000 students.

Olsztyn supporting Innovation and Startups

Since Nov 6, 2013 the **Olsztyn Science and Technology Park**

(OPN-T) is open as a perfect location for startups and innovative companies in a modern complex of office and laboratory buildings located nearby Skanda Lake. OPN-T consists the **Technology Park** for companies with established market position, the **Business Incubator** for newly established, innovative companies and the **Technology Transfer Center** for implementation of scientific research. The investment realized by the Olsztyn Commune includes the development of 6 office and laboratory buildings covering over 11 000 m².

SDO Profile [Olsztyn S&T Park](#)

The **Business Incubator** is part of the Olsztyn Science and Technology Park created for new, mainly technology start-ups and people who plan to start their own business activities (including students, graduate level science sector employees). The Business Incubator is a "good address" for business, with its modern and friendly environment for conducting business, with preferential rental costs of furnished and equipped office space, and the benefits of co-operation "door to door", to promote the company and a wide range of associated support of business with the stimulating innovation potential of young associated companies and the transfer of technology and expertise to enterprises.

SDO Profile [Business Incubator Olsztyn](#)

InQbe is a fund concentrating efforts on new technologies, the Internet and telecommunication.

Currently, with support of the

European Union, InQbe is working is providing counseling, technological infrastructure, office space, the necessary services as well as training on selected issues to support innovative ideas - new businesses and is supplying them with capital (up to EUR 200,000 per project).

SDO Profile [INQBE Business Incubator](#)



Social Entrepreneurs from MENA and Europe got a Boost

56 entrepreneurs from 15 EU countries and 3 Maghreb countries during recent three years were brought together through the SEED EURO-MED program

The **SEED EURO-MED** now officially came to an end. Supporting social entrepreneurs in North Africa and Europe was the aim of the EU-funded program that organized 28 exchanges and 3 social



entrepreneurship bootcamps for entrepreneurs (in Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco). These events were involving 75 New Entrepreneurs from North Africa, 7 experienced European entrepreneurs from 5 countries, and 17 local and international experts.

These activities resulted in cross-border partnerships between entrepreneurs are being developed, business set up together by bootcamp participants, and new entrepreneurs that are developing business plans after completing their exchanges.

The project SEED EURO-MED was carried out by **INCO** (France), a social enterprise that contributes to the emergence of a collaborative, circular, social, digital

economy that combines wealth creation and positive social and environmental impact, partnering with **DSF, Développement sans Frontières** (Tunisia), subsidiary of DSF France, implementing the **LAB'ESS** project, dedicated to strengthening the capacities of Tunisian civil society organizations and promoters of social entrepreneurship, the **Euclid Network** (United Kingdom), a European network to empower social entrepreneurship, **Young Leaders Morocco**, a Moroccan, non-profit initiative that works in socio-economic and sustainable development, and **Medafco** (Algeria), a consulting company active in the Maghreb countries. SEED EURO-MED was part of the EU New Euro-Mediterranean Initiative for Youth Employment Promotion and helped developing strong, sustainable and inclusive growth and jobs in the Mediterranean region and Europe through entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship.

More information on project [website](#) (in French), **Contact** [email](#) **SDO Profile** [Young Leaders Morocco](#)

Casablanca Smart City Expo 2017

The second edition of the Smart City Expo Casablanca was held May 17 -28, 2017 at the Hyatt Regency hotel to discuss the development of Smart Cities in Africa.

Morocco Numeric Cluster at the event and Intelligent mobility), **Urban and Technological Innovation** (Entrepreneurship and Startups / Visualization / Data-based innovation / Knowledge ec



and innovation / Big & Open Data), **Resilience and Climate Change** (Efficient urban services / Renewable energies / Climate change / Pollution / Smart architecture), **Collaborative Company** (Governance/ Citizen Engagement //Public Services / Fab cities / Laboratories / Social Innovation), and **Attractive Cities** (Territorial marketing / Tourism / Competitiveness / quality of life).

More information on [website](#) **Contact:** fmghoghi@iecgroupp.org **SDO Profile:** [Maroc Numeric Cluster](#)

Better Access to Finance for MSMEs in Tunisia

CFE Tunisie, the Financial Center for Entrepreneurs is a pioneer in the sector of



micro and small business finance in Tunisia. CFE provides microfinance to increase the accessibility of financial services for MSEs to contribute to sustainable improvement of conditions of life.

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) is helping CFE Tunisia to improve access to finance for very small enterprises as part of an effort to boost economic growth and job creation.

In Tunisia, about 2.5 million people live at or near the poverty line and unemployment rates are persistently high. Yet only 370,000 individuals are served by the micro microfinance sector. IFC will advise CFE on how to scale up its lending and and develop products tailored to local MSEs and to better manage risks, allowing it to extend crucial financing to entrepreneurs.

Contact: CFE Team, [email](#) **SDO Profile** [CFE Tunisia](#)

Digital Investments in MENA

Arabnet has published its 2013-2016 Report on Digital Investments in the MENA Region. Some findings:

- \$900 million was invested in tech startups in 2016, more than 2013-2015 combined
- 64% of all funding institutions are concentrated in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Lebanon
- 82% of all deals are transactional, media and SaaS business models



The report provides a detailed overview of the equity-based investments in digital businesses in MENA. It is the most comprehensive research on investors and investments in technology startups in MENA to date, featuring 150 institutional investors in startups and 760 transactions. Report download at [website](#)

Digital Health – Opportunity for Tunisian Startups

The Merck eHealth Meetup Series came to Tunisia for the first time. Development of the Tunisian economy after the “Arab Spring” in 2011 has been slow. 15% of Tunisians are unemployed and about 30 per cent of university graduates do not find employment while a raising inflation rate makes investors hesitate. But there are positive signs.



Many Tunisians are launching their own startups; the startup scene has expanded with technological advancements making use faster internet access. Business incubators or accelerators have greatly contributed to the success of young companies through early seed capital and training; industry is investing in this sector.

For example, the international pharmaceutical company Merck that operates accelerators in Germany and Kenya will launch a digital health start-up incubator in Tunisia by 2019. Merck has started its e-health meetups in April 2016 in Nairobi, continued in November 2016 in Johannesburg, and in April 2017 held the **first eHealth Meetup in Tunisia**. Prominent entrepreneurs, investors and business representatives attended the event in Soukra Valley and selected the pitch of a startup from Uganda as winner: Matibatu with a non-invasive malaria diagnosis kit.

Contact: Dr. Karim Bendhaou, [email](#) Merck Accelerator Program [website](#) **SDO Profile** [Merck Accelerator](#) Kenya

Nucleus of UKLTH selected six new Companies

At a special event on the rooftop of Beirut Digital District BDD Nucleus, the 6 companies selected for the 3-month accelerator program **Nucleus** were announced.

The program is part of the **UK Lebanon Tech Hub (UKLTH)**, started by Banque Du Liban and the UK Government; a two year program with several activities to



support entrepreneurship in Lebanon, increase GDP and create jobs.

From 176 applications in a first step 20 companies were selected to attend a one-week workshop. From this group finally 6 startups were selected. Nucleus provides an investment of US\$20,000 in cash and US\$30,000 in services, in return for a 5% equity stake. The **6 selected startups** are: **Dox** is offering an app that monitors battery performance in real-time whilst

providing predictive key metrics. Dox has benefitted from [hardware.co](#) in Berlin.

Handiss a platform for freelancing in construction for engineers and architects.

ImagineMe, an online publishing company offering personalized children's books - children become star of their own stories.

Jaleesa is offering a platform that connects families with trusted babysitters.

LGALX - a platform service using AI and blockchain for access to legal answers

Notifer, app creating actionable reminders.

The Chairman of the UKLTH, H.E Nicolas Sehnaoui at the event, announced that the Central Bank of Lebanon is matching the funding from the UK Embassy so that UKLTH now has a total funding of \$6.4 million.

Contact: Dimitri Papadimitriou [email](#)

Alessio Bortone [email](#)

SDO Profile [UK Lebanon Tech Hub](#)

Dubai Smart City Accelerator is starting

Application for the new Smart City Accelerator in Dubai (run by Startupbootcamp) is open until September 15, 2017 at [website](#)

The Dubai Silicon Oasis Authority (DSOA) facilitating solutions to create a “smart” city now has launched **Dubai Smart City Accelerator**, the first of its kind MENA. The accelerator was set-up with Dh18.4 million (€4,5 million) investments from six strategic partners. Target group of the program are startups developing solutions to help make cities smarter and overcome challenges due to congestion, waste and energy.

The accelerator at **Dtec**, Dubai Technology Entrepreneur



Centre and operated by [Startupbootcamp](#). The 3-year program expects a total of 40 startups that receive Startupbootcamp's 3+3 months acceleration with \$20,000 for a 6 per cent equity stake in the venture.

Contact: Pelin Gonul Sahin , [email](#)

SDO Profile [Startupbootcamp](#)

Youth and Employability in MENA



Youth employment in the southern Mediterranean region will be the focus of a two-day conference in Cairo on July 9-10, 2017. Organised by the [Centre for Mediterranean Integration](#), the event aims to leverage research to identify the main constraints affecting youth employment in MENA, and explore the role of business climate, labour and education policies in mitigating those challenges.

The conference – titled ‘Youth and Employability in MENA: better skills, more jobs’ – will focus on international good practices related to the design and implementation of policies to bring together theory with practice that can help youth connect to jobs or start a new business. Target groups for the event are both, policy makers and technical experts from MENA governments and agencies, international organisations, private sector and civil society. The event is open to the public and attendance is free of charge.

For more **information** see [download](#); **registration** is open at [website](#)

Contact: CMI Team [email](#)

€40 million EBRD loan for SMEs in Tunisia

A financial package of a €40 million loan for on-lending to small and medium-sized enterprises

(SMEs) and a US\$10 million trade finance line have been



provided by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) to Union Internationale de Banques (UIB) in Tunisia. UIB, a subsidiary of Société Générale with this finance over the next three years will be able to double its contribution to strengthening the competitiveness of local enterprises in Tunisia and their integration in wider markets. The credit line will also support UIB that just opened a branch in Sousse in expanding its business outside the capital Tunis, which will help to address regional disparities.

More information see EU [press release](#)

10th South Africa Innovation Summit in Cape Town Competitions still open

The 10th Innovation Summit through workshops and master classes will provide you with new insights, skills and direction

Speakers from around the globe will present and the CEO Panel will take participants on a journey with insights from business leaders. Two of the SA competitions Summit now are open – both closing on July 9, 2017:



Pitching Den Competition:

The Pitching Den competition will recognize and honor entrepreneurs and companies whose innovative tech-enabled solutions will have a significant impact on the growth of the African continent. High growth and startup (emerging) companies from around the world and across all industries will pitch their business. This competition category aims to encourage companies with growth potential to become market leaders, and to inspire future entrepreneurs and start-ups. Application: [Pitching Den](#)

Inventors Garage Competition:

All South African innovators and inventors – from kitchen and garage inventors, to seasoned innovators and engineering students with a demo, prototype or product from proven concept to early commercial-stage are called to enter, compete and showcase their inventions at the Inventors Garage All entries will be seen on public platforms. Application [Inventors Garage](#) Finalists of the competitions will participate in the Summit on **Sep and 7, 2017 in Cape Town** with tickets to attend the Summit (travel and accommodation is not included).

Youth Incubator InCUBE8 in Malawi starts Co-working Space

Since early 2016 the business incubator InCUBE8, a [Tony Elumelu Entrepreneurship Program](#) Alumni 2016, is working on youth unemployment and startup failure.

The aim is to create an ecosystem supporting innovative entrepreneurs to grow into the next generation of business leaders.



The Youth Entrepreneurship Program of InCUBE8 works with innovative youth led startups with high growth and impact potential. The selected members get mentorship, technical and financial support.

InCUBE8 has run a trial of its incubation program and is intending to launch a formalized program later on in the year targeted at Malawian citizens aged between 18 and 35. Arthur Muyepa, managing director of InCUBE8, was selected to join the Tony Elumelu Entrepreneurship Program (TEEP) that provided assistance in developing a curriculum. Additionally, TEEP provided financial support to build a workspace for the program participants allowing efficient business development services, mentorship, and training. Selected startups receive US\$1,000 in seed funding, in return for a 10 % equity stake. Co-working space access is open to all people interested.

Contact: Arthur Muyepa, [email](#)
SDO Profile: [InCUBE8](#), [TE Foundation](#)

Afrobytes and the first African Unicorn

To provide visibility, partnership, and financial empowerment to African technology is one of the goals of [Afrobytes](#), a technology conference for Africa held in Paris in early June this year for the second time. This is to contribute to changing the image the continent still has in the eyes of “Westerners: Promoting a culture of business instead of the old culture of aid for Africa.

There are good reasons for such a change.

The continent in February this year got its first \$1 billion startup unicorn with the investments of Goldman Sachs and AXA Insurance in [MallforAfrica](#), a Nigeria based startup



with an online shopping platform that partners with e-bay for Nigeria and Kenya that is planned to be rolled out in 11 more countries soon. According [TechCrunch](#)

the partnership with e-bay is about finance, marketing, and logistics only—eBay has not taken any equity stake in MallforAfrica. Through the new app African customers can buy products via e-Bay and use the logistics and payment channels MallforAfrica has implemented already. Although this example more looks like an initiative to open the African consumer market for Western products it could be a start for more. After all Nigerians have successfully started MallforAfrica.

Africa meanwhile has a large number of initiatives supporting entrepreneurship and helping startups to grow. These hubs, incubators, accelerators, and co-working spaces all over the continent are seedbeds for new businesses started by Africans. Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, and Senegal are prominent examples for successes in this field. Events like Afrobytes certainly can contribute to raise awareness for the development of technology based business in Africa.



The First Enterprise Africa Summit found much Interest

23 countries across Sub Saharan Africa were represented at British Council's First Enterprise Africa Summit in Accra, Ghana.

End of March 2017 the Summit brought together 558 delegates, 45 exhibitors and 92 speakers for this groundbreaking gathering of governments, academia, policy-makers, development partners, civil society groups, investors, and entrepreneurs exploring innovative pathways in connecting entrepreneurship to resilient development in Africa.

30 sessions, including 12 Enterprise clinics, 8 master classes and 6 policy forums covered a wide range of topics including Africa's competitiveness in the Global Digital space, Building on Africa's Creative Arts Economy for a global market, Transformational Entrepreneurship Education and Policy-making for impactful African enterprises. The Summit found an enormous positive feedback.

The British Council announced to remain committed to supporting African entrepreneurs, especially social entrepreneurship towards building sustainable businesses and may be organizing

further summits. A wide range of organizations supported British Council with organizing the summit, including KPMG, [KOS-MOS Innovation Center](#), [Premium Bank](#), Association of Ghana Industries, Social



[Enterprise Ghana](#), Coventry University, Ministry of Trade and Industry in Ghana, [Invest in Africa](#), [MBC Africa](#), Multimedia Group, Pop Up Africa, TEDx Accra, [Inno-Hub](#), [Reach4Change](#), [ServLed Africa](#), [Impact Hub Accra](#), [Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs](#) Africa Fashion Guide and Hatch Africa.

More information on [website](#)

Contact: BC Office Ghana, [email](#)

Illustration / photo: British Council

New Co-Working Offers in Accra

Since SPICE Update published a special Accra page new co-working activities started in the city:

Especially for young business people is the offer of **Workshed**. Here users can work in the community in an aesthetically pleasing collaborative environment for innovators and start-ups. By not asking for rent advance and with flexible payment terms, Workshed aims to lower the startup barriers.



Contact: Richard Bempong, [email](#) **SDO Profile** [Workshed](#)

Another new co-working space in SPICA Directory is **Outpost**, a shared office space for innovative free-lancers and small teams offering monthly and yearly rates for fully furnished office space with internet access.



Contact: Outpost Team, [email](#)

SDO Profile [Outpost](#)

Second Edition of the Ghana Startup of the Year Award started in May

The Ghana Startup Award was launched in 2016 by the African Network of Entrepreneurs (TANOE) and this year has invited for its second edition

Launched in 2016 Ghana Startup Awards have entered the second year of celebrating ambitious and indigenous start-up businesses making impact, contributing



to economic growth, meeting social needs and putting Ghana on the global economic map. Winners of the award "Startup of the Year 2016" was the creative marketing agency, **EchoHouse**

Ghana Limited and the software company **Soronko Solutions** that spearheaded Tech Need Girls, a girls empowerment program towards bridging the gender gap in the technology industry won the Social Enterprise of the Year award. Other award winners include **Startup GH** (Startup Support Organization of the Year), **Purple Trendz GH** (Student Startup of the Year), **Incas Diagnostics** (Health Startup of the Year), **Ameyaw Debrah Media** (Media Startup of the Year), the Fashion Startup of the Year went to **Heel the World**, **Wanjo Foods** (Food Processing Startup of the Year),

Kantanka Automobile (Manufacturing Startup of the Year), the Technology and Banking & Finance Startup of the Year went to **McAbe Solutions** and **Mpower Payments** respectively, **eCampus LLC**



Education Startup of the Year), **Farmerline** (Agribusiness Startup of the Year) and the Non-Ghanaian Startup of the Year Award was won by **Tonaton**.

Nomination for the 2017 Award issued in partnership the African Network of Entrepreneurs (TANOE) and Premium Bank closed May, 12, 2017.

Categories for nomination included the same categories as in recent year.

Winners of the Awards will receive various kinds of business support from Premium Bank through its HelpStation initiative – all shortlisted startups will be signed into the bank's HelpStation program aimed at enhancing businesses to make them resilient and globally competitive

More details on [website](#)

Contact: TANOE Team [email](#), Premier Bank Team [email](#)

SDO Profiles [Premium Bank](#), [TANOE](#)

Germany

Volkswagen began to support Startups

After other car producers in Germany already engage with startup support and acceleration activities, now also Volkswagen is entering this arena.

Mobility, especially car-sharing, fleet management, navigation and parking services will be the focus areas of the new startup support initiative the German car



maker Volkswagen will establish in Dresden partnering with the city's economic promotion agency.

The initiative was announced at the Cebit in Hanover giving startups just four weeks time to apply for the first batch of 10 startups. However, application for the next batch are possible by registering on the

Digital Hub Bonn - Startup Accelerator took off

The new Digital Hub Bonn has kicked off activities of its accelerator program with 16 startups on board

The Startup Accelerator Bonn started officially with 16 startups on May 10, 2017 with a barbeque and beer. The companies are [MyWoofi](#) (health app for dogs), [Cryptomator](#) (free encryption software), [immo-naut](#) (apartment and home finder), [Wertewandel](#) (bonus program for fair trade products), [Agenturen im Netz](#) (platform for insurance, finance and real estate services), [trackle](#) (birth control app), [CodeIntelligence](#) (software analytics), [GreenSynergy](#) (monitoring of photovoltaic systems), [EduApes](#) (tools for education in green tech), [MapTailor](#) (remote sensing and geographical information system (GIS) technology), [Vectornator](#) (vector-based mobile app to easily create sensational graphics), [StartupZoom](#) (startup analytics for corporates), [Cnncd](#) (digital content management) und [Escarda](#) (laser-

Ideation Hub [website](#).

The support provided includes mentoring, premises and finance of EUR 15,000 per start-up. The selected startups will get the opportunity to work directly in the factory for the production of the e-Golf1. Parts of this factory have been rebuilt to accommodate the startups in redesigned rooms to benefit from a unique feature – direct access to the software interfaces relevant for Volkswagen's e-models so that they can test their ideas directly.

The new accelerator in Dresden is not the only startup activity of Volkswagen. The **Ideation Hub** in Berlin already serves as a contact point" for startups to get access to options for access to networks, cooperation, and incubation in the new facilities "in the "Gläserne Fabrik" (Transparent Factory) in Dresden.

Contact: The website of Ideation Hub does not provide a direct email contact for the hub or incubator. But, you may try to contact Volkswagen via [email](#)

Photo: Volkswagen

SDO Profile [Ideation Hub](#) and [Incubator](#)

based weeding) and Platr.

The accelerator is part of the Digital Hub Bonn (DHB) that has been established to promote the digital change in economy in



cooperation between startups and established businesses. Part of DHB are the accelerator and the Innovation Factory that offers the programs Digital Academy, Digital Incubation and Digital Community

Contact: Markus Zink, [email](#)
SDO Profile [Digital Hub Bonn](#)

12,930 Startups supported by German Business and Innovation Centers

The actual survey of BVITZ, German Federal Association of Innovation, Technology and Startup Centers, found 360 Business Incubators working in Germany



in 2016. These centers supported 12,930 startups, thereof 4,660 businesses were newly founded during 2016. 95,230 jobs were provided by the client firms of the German centers.

This actual data shows that business incubators continue to play an important role in innovation based economic development on local, regional and international levels.

More information on BVIZ [website](#)

Contact: Andrea Glaser, [email](#)

SDO profile: [BVIZ](#)

StartupCon 2017 in Cologne

The StartupCon to be held in Cologne on Oct 11, 2017 is a start-up conference, a highly concentrated mecca for start-ups and innovators and the ultimate hotspot for the contact and dialogue with investors, decision makers from the industry and opinion-makers from the press and media. Impression of StartupCon 2016 on [website](#). Deadline for **early bird tickets**: June 30.

More information on [website](#)

Contact: [StartupCon Team](#) [email](#)



Bustling City, green Countryside and fresh Sea-Breeze

Three co-working spaces from very different locations have joint for a program to exchange experiences and build networks with impact

The Green Workshop Wendland in rural Germany is a project, platform and prototype in one. The initiators are artists, entrepreneurs, merchants, citizens, representatives of the district administration and



economic promotion agency of Lüchow-Dannenberg. The Green Workshop is located in Lüchow, a town existing since the year 1158 with today about 10,000 inhabitants.

The region Lüchow-Dannenberg has a network of innovative small and medium-sized enterprises (see [Wendland Startups](#)) and a strong base of local initiatives and associations, but no universities or colleges that bring know-how and young talents into joint research and development projects. Therefore, establishing university – business collaborations to create and link ideas, designs, products and services, is an important goal of all networking activities of Green Workshop Wendland. Other

activities are the annual **Wendland Camp** with practical, interdisciplinary cooperation and the **Green Workshop Wendland**, organized together with universities and companies. These formats bring together theory and practice, innovation and sustainability, technology and design, and are combined in a result-oriented manner with a new focus each year. The topical spectrum ranges from mechanical engineering, food and interior to retail and public facilities. The Creative Lab **Old Post Office** serves as a hub and a place for networking and researching new working methods. It is open for creatives freelancers, and start-ups, who come together to develop ideas, create new networks or work on their own projects in a creative environment.

Part of the activities is the **network City – Countryside – Sea** that provides access to co-working facilities and communities in very different environments: the countryside ([Green Workshop](#), Lüchow), in the Capital city ([Agora](#), Berlin), and at the see ([StarterKitchen](#), Kiel).

More on Stadt-Land-Meer [Website](#)
Contact: OpenCampus Team [email](#)

New digital Incubator for the Ingolstadt started

Ingolstadt has opened a new business incubator in the center of the city. The final location will be a historic site

brigg, the new digital start-up center of the Ingolstadt region started May 16, 2017 to become “a starting point, a central meeting place and home for entrepreneurs, innovators, creative minds, Digital nomads and founders. This initiative aims to become *the* place for the start-up scene in Ingolstadt and to sustainably strengthen the economy of the region and to help them deal with the challenges of digitization.

Dr. Franz Glatz, Managing Director of brigg defines the task as “to support the founders and their teams in their development and at the same time to network them with various business partners and organizations. Only when both sides cooperate closely a functioning ecosystem will arise.”

For the time being brigg is located in the



“Kobold” block in the center of Ingolstadt, and finally in will move to 2021 its final location in the historic buildings of “Cavallier Dallwig”.

Franz Glatz, building up the new initiative can draw on his experiences, for example from managing the Garching Technology and Founder Center and most recently developing “gate” as well as managing an incubator in WERK1 – today a 4,000 m² incubator, co-working space / event location in Munich founded by the State of Bavaria

Contact: Franz Glatz, [email](#)
SDO Profile: [brigg](#)

First Waterkant #startupSH Festival

Waterkant was held June 15+16, 2017 in Kiel – it was the “freshest” Startup Festival



in northern Germany. This unconventional, interactive event attracted participants from startups, small businesses, creators, mentors, employers, investors, freelancers and students.

The themes startups and companies discussed were focused around Augmented and Virtual Reality Co-working, Robots, „Hack your Education“, Science Communication. Women’s Entrepreneurship, Fintech & blockchain, and Gaming, Workshops on topics not to be found everywhere enriched the program. For example, “Startup in the country-side”, organized by the Heinrich Böll Foundation, discussed rural co-working initiatives with the “Green Workshop Wendland “ contributing practical insights. The festival was organized by [Opencampus.sh](#) and [starterkitchen](#), Kiel

More information on [website](#)

Citizen Entrepreneurship - Summit 2017 in Berlin

The Entrepreneurship Summit 2017 “**Citizen Entrepreneurship**” will be held Oct 21 - 22 in Berlin on the campus of the Free University of Berlin. The program will cover all areas of Entrepreneurship and will provide everything needed for a start-up concept. Key-

notes by Gregor Gysi, Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker and Thomas Sattelberger will introduce the 1.500+ attendees to the topics. Plenary session, impulse Groups and workshops offer opportunities for learning and exchanging views.

The Summit also will feature competitions: [Gründen Live](#) (Founding Live) “More Head than Capital - Intelligent Economy” and the international [Youth Citizen Entrepreneurship Competition](#).

More Summit I formation on [website](#) for tickets use [link](#)



Technical University Dortmund opens TU> startup center

The Technical University Dortmund (TU) supports entrepreneurship to make startups and technology transfer even more suc-



cessful. With this aim in the “**tu> startup - Center for Entrepreneurship & Transfer**” bundles the university's measures of entrepreneurship research and qualification, promotion of start-ups and young firms as well as the tech transfer. April 26, 2017 was the day for opening the center ceremoniously. Promotion of the founding culture and exploitation of research results for the region are the tasks of this center. Andreas Liening, Professor of Entrepre-

neurship and Economic Education and Head of the Entrepreneurship School, stressed that "With the establishment of the center project successful project work could be anchored at the TU Dortmund and thus an important foundation laid for the initiation, continuation and promotion of further projects and partnerships in Dortmund and the region."

The center is structured in two sections: The **Entrepreneurship School** with research and education offers interdisciplinary awareness raising, education, and training programs for founders. The **start-up consultancy** also is managing the "tu> startup Foundation" to coordinate the technology transfer.

Contact Andreas Liening, [email](#)
Sebastian Hanny [email](#)
SDO Profile [TU>startup](#)

Startup Exhibition-Conference reaches regional Impact

Die Initiale“ is the annual exhibition-conference for the startups in Dortmund. Last year’s event held on November 19, 2016 attracted 1,200 visitors during just one day.

56 exhibitors and more than 40 presentations at specialized workshops provided information, knowledge and networking opportunities. The event attracted founders and other interested people not only from Dortmund, but also from the surrounding area as well as other cities. Initiale” is a joint venture of the main organizer “Messe Westfalenhallen Dortmund” in cooperation with renown institutions and initiative like the [TechnologieZentrumDortmund](#), Gründerwoche Deutschland, IHK Dortmund, [tu>startup](#), Kongresszentrum Westfalenhallen, TU Dortmund, “Economic Promoti-



tion Agency”, “[start2grow](#), and [garage](#). “Die INITIALE 2017” will be held Nov 18, 2017, again in the Gold Hall More information on DIE INITIALE [website](#)
Contact: Andreas Weber [email](#)
SDO Profile [TZ Dortmund](#)

New CSR-Competence Center Ruhr

The Ministry for Economy of the State North-Rhine Westphalia called for applications to establish competence centers for responsible corporate management. One of the two winners of the competition is the Regional CSR Competence Center Ruhr, part of the nationwide CSR network [UPJ](#) with the Economic Promotion Dortmund, the Economic Promotion Ennepe-Ruhr,

the Center for Citizenship Engagement in Mülheim an der Ruhr and the TechnologieZentrumDortmund (TZDO). The consortium now can apply for funding from the European Regional Development Fund and the State of NRW in order to further strengthen CSR in Dortmund and the region.

... continues on following page...



Gamification & Innovation: Summer Fest in e-port Dortmund

The 89th edition of the “3rd Wednesday” in e-port Dortmund on July 19, 2017 will bring together the startup community of the city under the theme Gamification & Innovation. Prof. Tim Bruysten introduce to the topic and inform how to lead employees and customers playfully into an innovative future: “How to Play the Future Playfully”. Tim Bruysten is professor and faculty leader of Gamedesign at the [MD.H](#), Mediadesign University, Düsseldorf (with campuses also in Berlin and, Munich) and owner of the [richtwert GmbH](#), a company that guides businesses into a digital world. He is known for his expertise in future thinking, creation of business concepts and communication strategies. This will give impulses for discussion – also during the Summer Fest with a barbecue buffet.

Contact: Simone Herrmann [email](#)
SDO Profile [e-port Dortmund](#)
Contact: Tim Bruysten [email](#)

Start2Grow Pitch & Party

The 37th start2Grow competition received 66 business plan applications. At the end of the assessment phase, the jury decision on the award will be announced on July 12, 2017 at the start2grow-Pitch and Party 20 selected applications will pitch at this event and the winner will be awarded.



Applications for the next competition are possible at any time.

Contact and registration for the event through [email](#);
SDO Profile [start2Grow](#)

New CSR-Competence Center Ruhr

... continued from previous page...

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) stands for an entrepreneurial strategy in which the benefits for the company and the benefits for society are complementary and promoted. It is about entrepreneurship, which, in dialogue with society, balances economic, ecological and social corporate goals. This understanding „entrepreneurship“, has been a cornerstone of the concept for a long time. However, it seems during recent decades the promotion for the single-goal concept of maximizing only financial profit, the idea of social responsibility has been on the way to be forgotten.

Thomas Westphal, Managing Director of

the Dortmund Economic Development Agency, informed that the agency, together with the ministry and the partners, will now agree on the concept for further development and present it to the companies and the public in the second half of the year.



For more information about Corporate Social Responsibility in the State of NRW see the recently published book “[CSR in NRW](#)“ (in

German) or visit [website](#)

Contact: Simone Herrmann [email](#)

SDO Profile: [TechnoZentrumDortmund](#)

StartUP.InnoLab

Regional Cooperation to Promote Startups

In late summer this year StartUP.InnoLab is scheduled to open. This innovation laboratory is coordinated by the Center for Entrepreneurship of the Technical University Dortmund ([tu>startup](#), project coordinator Sebastian Hanny) and builds on support from The Universities of Applied Science in Dortmund and Hamm-Lippstadt, the Economic Promotion Agency Dortmund and the TechnologieZentrumDortmund. Further 14 regional ecosystem partners also support this initiative: Tech5plus (the regional technology centers), The Chamber of Trade and Commerce Dortmund, the



High-Tech Gründerfonds, and the NRW Bank. The Federal State of NRW and the European Fund for Regional Development provide financial support of €1 million that is complemented by further €300k from the cooperating partners. The actual initiative can build on experiences from the first StartUP.InnoLab and the TU Dortmund that has supported 43 startups successful during the period from 2011 to 2015. With the new initiative such labs will be made available throughout the State of NRW.

Contact: Sebastian Hanny, [email](#)

SDO Profile: [tu>startup](#)

Work Digital – new Accelerator Program in Dortmund

The new accelerator program in Dortmund is Work Digital. It will accept not only applications from Dortmund, but is open to all startups from North Rhine Westphalia (NRW) and includes SMEs.

The start is planned

for July 2017. 5 startup teams will be accepted and spaces the work will be provided by [Work Inn](#), a co-working space offering services at four locations in Dortmund. The goals of the accelerator are to promote fresh ideas, strengthen the economy in the Ruhr area and throughout NRW and accompany interesting projects. WorkDigital is intended to be an economically



sustainable project. For startups the program is for free incl. the space to work and a mentor for each participating team. Supporters are invited to join the initiative with their membership, by providing finance and as mentors.

For the target groups Work Digital has set different agendas:

For startups: Learn about the sales structure, increase market entry, find partners and customers, learn from other startups.

For SMEs: Learn how to work with startups in a protected space, try things out, gain knowledge of digital business models, strengthen entrepreneurial action, identify partners and suppliers.

Contact: Dennis Arntjen, [email](#)

SDO Profile: [Work Digital](#)

10 Years of STARTERCENTER

In Dortmund

The STARTERCENTER NRW often is the first point of reference for would-be founders. The spectrum of clients is wide and includes people intending to start an innovative, technology startup as well as unemployed, immigrants, or those who want to start the business “besides” their actual job. Responding to these needs STARTERCENTER offers access to a wide range of experiences.

Over the last ten years the center’s consultants successfully advised more than 5,000 clients. And the spectrum of successful founders is very wide including, for example, a freelance architect, individual or online retailer, veterinary practitioner, digital startup or event agency.

In the Federal State of North Rhine Westphalia 78 STARTERCENTERS help finding the right answers to founders’ questions – from finding the right location for the startup to finance and funding. The center in Dortmund even provides support in administrative matters like acquiring the needed certificates and permits.

Contact: Martina Johnen, [email](#)

SDO Profile [STARTERCENTER](#)

tu>startup:

Summer School 2017

The Technical University Dortmund again offers a **Summer School 2017** for those interested in starting their own business: One week program with topics important



for entrepreneurship. In compact blocks, first insights into selected topics are given, for example, basics of management, business model canvas, design thinking, and patents. Founders’ experiences complete the program. In addition, participants take part in week-long planning game in which the lessons learned are practically applied. The Summer School will take place September 11 – 15, 2017.

Registration contact M.Schimanski [email](#)

SDO Profile [TU>startup](#)

Volkswagen supports Startups

After Volkswagen started its Ideation Hub in Berlin last year, now the company's "Gläserne Fabrik" in Dresden got incubation facilities.

Mobility, especially car-sharing, fleet management, navigation and parking will be the focus areas of the new startup support initiative Volkswagen will establish



in Dresden. The initiative was announced at the Cebit in Hanover giving startups just a few weeks' time to apply for the first batch of 10 startups. Applications for the next batch are on Ideation Hub [website](#).

Selected startups will get support including mentoring, premises and finance of EUR 15,000 and the opportunity to work directly in the factory for the production of the e-Golf1. Parts of this factory have been rebuilt to accommodate the startups with direct access to the software interfaces for Volkswagen's e-models.

The new accelerator is not the only startup activity of Volkswagen. The **Ideation Hub** in Berlin already serves as a "contact point" to get access to options for access to networks, cooperation, and incubation in the new facilities in the "Gläserne Fa-

brik (Transparent Factory) in Dresden. **SDO Profile** Ideaton [Hub](#) and [Incubator](#)



Premiere in Dresden: the first 5th Floor Pitch in The Shire

New in the center of Dresden, "On top of the roofs in the heart of Dresden" as the website describes it is "The Shire". As the name indicates, this a stylish place, more targeted at established companies looking for additional or temporary space, for Example, those wanting to set up a branch. However, The Shire also sees itself as an incubator and investor. Startups can apply and, if accepted, in addition to co-working services get support with finding investors and establishing new networks.

On August 18, 2017 The Shire celebrates a



premiere: the first **5th Floor Pitch**. At this event, five startups will present their concepts in five minutes each to convince attending entrepreneurs and investors.

Information registration at [link](#)

Contact: Matin Knopf, [email](#)

SDO Profile [The Shire](#)

9 Teams succeeded at DeltaHochDrei

The three-months incubation program of dresden | exists: Success for nine teams.

Working intensively with support, advice, and mentoring the teams developed their business models and products. At the concluding PitchDay, they presented first mockups and MVPs and the associated business models to of experienced ICT entrepreneurs and financiers. All received feedback after 1: 1 meetings and got an ideas assessment as well as recommendations for the next steps. The teams were

[polylith](#) - outsourcing platform for small programming tasks to be done by students.

In Harmony - software for hearing aids from tinnitus sufferers

[Sales app](#) - for B2B sales employees of financial companies.

[Nahy](#) - nutritional app for conscious nutritional decisions in own language (Arabic)

[Afeefa](#) - platform to support civil society engagement through free networking.

Preparing for the futureSAX Innovation Conference

At the 3rd futureSAX Founders Forum 2017, for the first time, not only the "nominees" of the competitions could work on their presentations, but also all interested

parties and potential future founders. The event was hosted by the Impact Hub Dresden.

After an introduction on the futureSAX competition year and the jury sessions in June 2017, the participants could learn about "The Basics of effective Communication", a session by communication trainer André Ottlik. Robert Körner then explained how to give the necessary "thrust" to pitches with skillful gestures.

After the morning with input of theory, in the afternoon the participants were invited to apply the lessons learned to their own projects; groups the participants worked on their presentations. The nominees of the Saxon State Innovation Prize worked on their presentations together with André Ottlik, the top ten of the ideas contest with Robert Körner. For all the others, Julian von Gebhardi was available to advise. The winners of the futureSAX ideas contest will be announced by the Saxon State Minister for Economics, Labor and Transport, Martin Dulig, on **Aug 28, 2017 at the futureSAX Innovation Conference**.

More information on [website](#)

SDO Profile: [futureSAX](#)

Contact: futureSAX Team [email](#)

dresden | exists
WISSEN. GRÜNDEN. UNTERNEHMEN.

MapObjects - development framework for real-time evaluation of position data.

Things - site-specific product search machine for local offers for end customers.

ShoppingNotes - nutritional app, for a healthy diet through dietary suggestions.

Nubivis - framework for semantic knowledge management to organize digital data.

Contact: Alexander Götz, [email](#)

SDO Profile [Dresden exists](#)

Heidelberg Science Park Extension

The extension started with Cornerstone Ceremony for the new Business Development Center Organic Electronics



In SPICE Update #125 we reported on the finance secured for the extension of Technology Park Heidelberg.

According to the project plan now the cornerstone for the new building has been laid on April 24, 2017. Representatives from politics, science and business ceremoniously celebrated the ceremony for the Business Development Center Organic Electronics (BDC OE). This multifunctional office and laboratory building, is being built on a plot on Speyerer Strasse. Besides office spaces, clean rooms and laboratories the building also will offer public areas such as a Conference Center, smaller boardrooms and a cafeteria. After 18 months of construction the first tenants are expected to move in early 2019.

At the cornerstone ceremony, State Secretary Schütz from the Ministry for Economic Affairs, Employment and Housing of the State of Baden-Württemberg handed over the funding grant to the operator,

Technologieförderung Heidelberg GmbH. "With this center, we are expanding the innovation infrastructure for printed organ-



nic electronics in Baden-Württemberg, thereby creating a leading edge of research and development that will strengthen the transfer of research results into the economy and stimulate start-ups", said State Secretary Katrin Schütz in her speech.

"With the new building, we are continuing the successful model of the intensive support of founders and young high technology companies in the technology park. In

addition, we offer a network of experienced mentors and market experts to develop ideas and implement projects. We bring young start-ups together with established companies and investors at home and abroad," says Dr. André Domin, Managing Director of Technologieförderung Heidelberg GmbH.

With the BDC OE, the new **Heidelberg Innovation Park (HIP)** gets a new building. This emerging innovation hotspot is focused on IT, bioinformatics, digital media and design. HIP will provide a colorful, innovative neighborhood promoting exchanges and cooperation beyond technical boundaries and provide premises for all phases of company development. Founders, scientists and established companies benefit from the interdisciplinary network and proximity to the city.

Contact: Andre Domin, [email](#)

SDO Profile: [TP Heidelberg](#)

Photos: Technology Park Heidelberg



"Making it easy - no matter how big the problem seems"

70 participants from IT, science, medicine and businesses worked together on medical challenges at the hackathon "Life Science meets IT" in Heidelberg. .

At the hackathon "Life Science meets IT" held May 19 – 21, 2017 in Heidelberg nine teams developed concepts and prototypes in the shortest possible time. "This weekend you will encounter problems that seem insurmountable," the moderators Thomas Prexl and Raoul Haschke promised the participants at the beginning of the weekend. "But do not hesitate to attack them!"

These words were well received by the 70 attendees the Marsilius Arcades. For two days and nights they wanted to work on IT solutions for 16 challenges faced by industrial companies, PhDs,



scientists and students had gathered in two hospitals. These challenges all were presented - in just 60 seconds each. Subsequently, the participants discussed their challenges. "Working together in interdisciplinary teams is one of the fundamental values of the Marsilius Kolleg," said Thomas Rausch, director and professor at the University of Heidelberg.

"The digitalization of medicine and life sciences has enormous potential for innovation," said André Domin, CEO of Heidelberg Startup Partners and Managing Director of Heidelberger Technologiepark, on the margins of the final event. After the teams presented their results in four minutes pitches, a three-member member jury awarded the achievements in the categories "best technical solution", "best business model" and "strongest patient orientation". In addition, a public

prize was awarded. In addition to a trophy and certificate, the winners received a number of awards, a voucher for the production of a professional pitch video, and an invitation to the regional selection event of the EIT Health Business Plan competition "European Health Catapult"

"Life Science meets IT" is a joint event of EIT Health Germany, the Heidelberg Startup Partners and the University of Heidelberg. The Hackathon was made possible by the main sponsors AbbVie, SAP and Technologiepark Heidelberg and with support from other companies.

Contact: Thomas Prexl, [email](#) or Christine Neumann, [email](#)

Photos: [Heidelberg Documentation](#)



Innovative Food from Hamburg

First time the Hamburg Startups Innovative Food Award will be celebrated

The event combines an exhibition with a specialist audience, invited with support from the network partners foodactive e.V. and DEHOGA Hamburg, will consist of investors, representatives of the individual and wholesale trade, the food industry, the

The event combines an exhibition with a conference and matchmakings. Organized by Hamburg Startups in cooperation with the “Gastgewerbe-Magazin” the **Food Innovation Camp 2017** will take place on **July 17, 2017** in the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce “to present Hamburg as a food and catering location with an innovative character”.



The camp offers innovative and tasty impressions from startups and the conference program sets new trends in food, food technology, logistics and hospitality. Workshops offer knowledge transfer for large and small companies and targeted networking, speed dating and matchmakings offer new contacts between start-ups and representatives of wholesale and retail, investors, cooperation partners and gastronomy. The camp is aimed at innovative start-ups

gastrology / hotel industry and the press. The **Hamburg Startups Food Innovation Award** will be presented in the evening of the event. In cooperation with the Iwan Budnikowski GmbH, der Hamburger Morgenpost, Foodist, the Gastgewerbe-Magazin“, Hamburg Startups will issue this Awards in the categories Newcomer, Best Product, and Best Innovation. Details for application will be made available soon through Hamburg startups website.

African Super Food, Honey and Glass create Jobs and Playground from upcycled Waste

The first **Social Innovation Challenge** in Hamburg was organized June 16 – 18, 2017 by betahaus and the Social Impact Lab.

Technically the Social Innovation Challenge was held similar to a Startup Weekend, but with a focus on social innovations. The aim of the event was to mobilize and inspire citizens of Hamburg to work on



solutions for the most urgent social challenges in Hamburg. The Social Innovation Challenge is embedded in the initiative [Innovative City Hamburg](#) that aims to keep the city worth living and attractive for all citizens and create 100 successful social startups until 2030.

Concepts worked on at the event with 45

participants were Superfood from Africa (sustainable production and fair trade of Moringa from female farmers in Gambia), new job opportunities for disadvantaged through honey (“bee buddies” care about the honey makers) and waste glass (collection from home and companies), a platform for migrants and refugees in Hamburg and for social projects as well as a playground from upcycled waste. Selected projects after the weekend can benefit from free workspace at the Social Social Impact Lab.

The projects are briefly presented (in German) on the Hamburg Startups [blog](#). More information is available through the [link](#)
SDO Profile: [Social Impact Lab](#), [betahaus](#)
Contact: Dannie Quilitzsch: [email](#)

Photo: Innovative City Hamburg

The Crowd decides: Funding for Creative Startups

The Hamburg Kreativgesellschaft (Hamburg Creative Society) and the city magazine SZENE



Hamburg together present **Startnext**, the Nordstarter Crowdfunding Contest for start-ups and projects in the creative sector, Nordstarter offers the possibility to start a crowdfunding campaign to introduce projects and find financial sponsors. The range of possible projects is wide: short films, design products, apps, radio plays, prototype development, studio recordings, art magazines, exhibitions, festivals and more.

The competition offers prize money totaling € 3,000 (1st place: € 1,500, 2nd place: € 1,000 and 3rd place: € 500) and media support by SZENE Hamburg.

The winners will be selected by the crowd. The number of donors decides, not the total sum of funds.

Nordstarter is the regional crowdfunding portal of Hamburg Kreativgesellschaft. All creative projects from Hamburg can find finance. The Hamburg Kreativgesellschaft offers a free-of-charge Nordstarter Crowdfunding Club every month to optimally prepare project initiators for the crowdfunding campaign.

More info on [website](#)

Contact: Nordstarter Team [email](#)

SDO Profile [Nordstarter](#)

Social Innovation in Hamburg

The initiative [Innovative City Hamburg](#), has created a platform promoting social innovations in Hamburg. The “Yellow List” provides short descriptions and a



map. At this time the overview includes 33 initiatives and a feature to add new.

Website: [Yellow List Hamburg](#)

Contact: Next Hamburg, [email](#)

The Road to Success is a long Way

Thanks to the initiative of entrepreneurs the future of the Technology Park Humboldthain in Berlin could be sunny

It was in the last century, exactly in 1983, when the first business incubator of Germany started in Berlin (BIG, Berlin Innovation and Startup Center) and quickly developed towards a technology park (TIB



Technology and Innovation Park Berlin) on state owned land. Meanwhile, the real estate was privatized, BIG and TIB were closed, and the site took the path of commercial real estate projects. Developing the innovative business structure of an area is not the the first and most important goal of a landlord. Additionally, the Fall of the Wall shifted political attention to the “new” eastern part of the city, the BIG/TIB site was not part of that. However, the potential still is there. On the site the TU Berlin still is doing research and educating students, other research institutions have

moved to the place and technology companies (re-) discovered the location and its neighborhood. Nearby co-working spaces have developed with success, for example, “[Ahoy! Berlin](#)”. This is the background for the initiative taken by companies located on the site – some of them rooted in the startups of 1983 and following years. They founded the association “**Technology Park Humboldthain**”, to make better use of the synergy potential. Promoting the location as optimal place for business, technology,

science and research in the center of the German capital also is aim of the initiative. But this is a challenging task. What elsewhere is financed by the local governments and / or income from the real estate and services provided, for the TPH initiative is left to contributions of its members and a small amount of project funding from the Berlin government. This makes it difficult to take advantage of the full potential. The first steps were done by entrepreneurs with a vision.

Contact: Eckart Eysler, [email](#)

SDO Profile: [TPH](#)

Green Alley Award 2017 with special focus Ireland

The first prize to win values €30,000 – all finalists are invited for a one-day learning and networking event in Berlin

[Seedmatch](#), Bethnal Green Ventures, European Recycling Platform Finland as well as H2 Compliance und R2PI have joined Green Alley for the **Green Alley Award**

2017, a Horizon 2020 project. After featuring the startup scenes of Berlin, London and Helsinki, this year the place is Dublin.

The award will honor outstanding sustainable and innovative business projects in circular economy, resource saving, recycling as well as treatment of chemicals. Taking part of the Award helps participating business

ideas to gain visibility in the green and circular economy sector all around Europe. Finalists are invited to a one-day event with workshops and live pitches in



Berlin to meet circular economy meet experts, benefit from networking opportunities and get access to important distribution channels. The Award winner will receive the upcycled award trophy, and the prize valued up to €30,000.

Contact Christina Drechsel, [email](#)

More on Green Alley Award [website](#).

More Safety for Doctors and Patients

Inkulab officially opened in January 2017 (see [Update No 125](#)) at the TU Berlin and provides free services for start-ups with an innovative business idea from the life sciences, green chemistry and nanotechnology. Researchers and graduates starting



a new business here receive intensive support and facilities for one year. Now, after six months in the incubator the first startup graduated and continues to work in the sister incubator IGZ Adlershof that is also part of WISTA. The company, [Smarterials](#) has developed and needs more space than the accelerator can provide.

Smarterials has developed optimized surgical gloves that protect the doctor and patient from infections giving more safety. Improved strength reduces the likelihood of microperforations, providing greater security against infections such as hepatitis B / C and HIV. At the same time, the feeling is retained.

The startup was founded by Dr. Martin Bothe, a physicist and material scientist who has promoted the thermomechanical properties of polymers and has filed a patent for the optimization of medical gloves by the use of shape memory polymers.

The company already received much recognition, for example, Smarterials in 2016 won the First place at the Startup Slam at the Capital Congress Medicine and Health, the second place at “Science to lean startup” of the Humboldt innovation, and was in the Top 10 of the medicine business plan competition of “Startbahn Ruhr”.

Contact: Smarterials Martin Bothe, [email](#);

Inkulab Ralph Langanke [email](#)

SDO Profiles [Inkulab](#) , [IGZ Adlershof](#)

Innovator of the Year 2017

The Young Innovator Award, initiated by the US MIT Technology Review of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is held annually in a number of countries.

Innovator of the Year 2016 is Daniel Wiegand, Lilium Aviation.

Electrics, Growing Heart Valves, or Revolutionary Solar Cells: Technology Review presented the leading innovators under 35,



and awarded the "Innovator of the Year". The Award, one of the most prestigious prizes for young innovators was hosted for the third time by the HEISE Verlag, publisher of the German Technology Review and held in [Spielfeld Digital Hub](#).

The event on **June 28, 2017** presented the winners in person and allowed to network with the innovators venture capital providers, founders and representatives from the research departments of large companies during the subsequent dinner reception. The keynote was presented by Prof. Hans Uszkoreit, scientific director at the German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI).

In next SPICE Update we will report in more detail about this important even.

Contact: HEISE Team [email](#)

More information on [website](#)

SDO Profile: [Spielfeld Digital Hub](#)

The Future of Fashion

As "platform for all the uprising ideas and business models that influence the way fashion is designed, produced, marketed and sold" the

"#FASHIONTECH BERLIN" will be held in Berlin, July 4+5, 2017

Berlin is the place to learn about the "Future of Fashion" at the conference and exhibition #FASHIONTECH BERLIN.

The program offered a wide spectrum of



information and contacts. For example, under the sub-headline "Startups & En-

trepreneurship", attendees could learn about "Lessons from London's hottest Indie Brand on how to 'Digital First'", "How the World's leading Fashion School is dealing with digital", "Everything you need to know about Smart Fabrics", or "AI meets Fashion - Telecom Fashion Fusion Challenge @ Lufthansa Flying Lab"

For tickets see link

Contact: Fashiontech Team [email](#)

Fashion Fusion Challenge – the Future of Fashion and Technology

Fashion Fusion is an ideas competition aimed at encouraging creative minds from fashion and technology to team up, engage and challenge the fashion status quo with groundbreaking concepts.



fashion creations. More than 350 selected guests from the fashion and technology industries joined the event to celebrate the innovations, admire the designs and share

the excitement as the three winning teams were announced.

The twelve finalists of the Fashion Fusion Challenge were invited to attend the Fashion Fusion Lab - a three-month practical

workshop in Berlin, providing the opportunity to collaborate and draw inspiration. Participants had access to cutting-edge technology, such as 3D printers, laser-cutting machines and other high-tech devices required for developing their ideas. Fashion and technology professionals held workshops, shared their knowledge, and coached the teams.

For the Fashion Fusion Challenge 2017/18 **pre-registration** is possible on [website](#)

More on Fashion Fusion [website](#)

Matching Startups and Manufacturing Industry in Berlin Adlershof

The **Industry Matching Day** will be organized in the Science & Technology Park



Berlin Adlershof on **June 29, 2017**.

Business Start-ups and SMEs from the manufacturing sector, especially family owned companies, will be brought together for finding ways to mutually benefit from the specific strengths of participating firms – the innovative unrest of startups with the market experience and access of experienced companies. A focus will be on companies from the Capital region as well as the DACH countries. The target sectors include food, robotics, industrial IT, measuring and controlling, mechanical engineering, optics or laser tech. Another matching day will be held Oct 24, 2017.

More details: Leonhard Ventures [website](#)

Contact Ulf Leonhardt [email](#)

Fifth Startupnight Berlin The real Deal with Corporates

The fifth Startupnight Berlin again expects 5,000 Attendees and 250+ startups to present on **September 8, 2017**.

Participating startups will be from around the world and areas like mobility, energy,



communication, AI, VR, AR, health, and fintech. The conference focus will be on direct exchange between startups and corporates. The event again will offer valuable information, meetings with experienced investors and corporates, and to expand networks - at the exhibition as well as at the conference with workshops, panel discussions, fireside chats and presentations.

Participation for startups is free, and the application process is open on [website](#) Startups night will be held at four locations in the heart of Berlin: Deutsche Telekom Representation, Deutsche Bank Atrium, DRIVE Volkswagen Group Forum and Microsoft Atrium.

Tickets are on sale already on website

Contact: Startupnight email

SPICA Directory is using a minimum “quality standard” for being listed on “SPICA World Map”. This standard does not evaluate the quality of an organization supporting, but only checks if information in the profile is sufficiently complete and actual.

SPICA World Map shows locations of incubators, accelerators, co-working spaces, technology parks, associations, consulting firms as well as support and finance organizations. Different colors and shapes (for the various types of organizations) to ease identification

Ry can be accessed from here. Additionally, the “search” function can be used.

www.spica-directory.net/map



Not yet in SPICA Directory?

You do not need to wait until “somebody” is adding your offer to the directory. You can add information yourself at any time. After you have registered for SPICA Directory (free of charge) just use tab **add a new profile** to insert your profile.

Developing SPICA Directory

We continuously are working to develop SPICA Directory. The directory meanwhile includes accelerators and co- working spaces as well as finance sector organizations, education and training offers as well as research institutions and public organizations supporting entrepreneurship and startups. We work on making use of experiences from directory users.

Under the project title

SPICee Entrepreneurship Ecosystems we are looking for volunteers who are interested in making their “home ecosystem” them” better known and help entrepreneurs and startups getting access to the needed resources Other tasks are developing new We also look for **software developers** who voluntarily help developing the system. Interested? To **join the team** contact us at spicee@spica-directory.net



Malawi: The incubation program **InCUBE8** in **Lilongwe** is specialized in Youth employment and startup failure by creating an ecosystem where innovative entrepreneurs can be nurtured and grow into the next generation of successful business leaders.
SDO Profile: [InCUBE8](#)



South Korea: Pangyo Techno Valley is a R&D complex focusing on IT, BT, CT and Fusion Technology, which was developed by Gyeonggi-do to reinforce the national competitiveness and self-sufficiency function of the Pangyo new town.
SDO Profile: [Pangyo Techno Valley](#)



Ghana: Outpost is a professional shared office space designed for innovative freelancers and small teams. Offering fully furnished office space with a dedicated 2 mb/s internet in a convenient location on the Spintex road for monthly and discounted yearly rates.
SDO Profile: [Outpost](#)



Malaysia: Borneo 744, an area of ca. 4 ha with five building offering providing approx.. 11,150 m² of space , started its soft launch in February 2016 as first “entrepreneur and arts district in the country”
SDO Profile: [Borneo 744](#),



Switzerland: WORKERIA is the Coworking Space at Technopark Winterthur. One of the central tasks is the promotion of entrepreneurship by providing a functional and inspiring environment and community.
SDO profile: [WORKERIA](#)



Angola: Raizcorp Cabina, part of the Raizcorp incubator network in Africa is providing business support for enthusiastic, growth-hungry entrepreneurs, offering them a platform that fosters learning and guidance, which can be translated into business success.
SDO profile: [Raizcorp Cabina](#)



Germany: Rockzipfel Hamburg is part of a network of co-working spaces operating also in Dresden and Leipzig. Here parents meet with their children playing and making first friendships, the parents find free space to work, study, or hobby
SDO profile: [Rockzipfel Hamburg](#)



United Arab Emirates: The Startup Hub Dtec, Dubai Technology Entrepreneurship Center in Dubai offers a full set of entrepreneurship support activities including co-working, incubation and several acceleration programs.
SDO Profile: [Dtec](#)



Myanmar: The first Tech Accelerator of the country started in 2016 and at this time is calling for applications for the second cohort of the program, From the first cohort four startups graduated: [Chate Sat](#), [White Merak](#), [EzStay](#), and [GoP](#),
SDO Profile: [Phandeevar](#)



United Arab Emirates: Dtec, the Dubai Entrepreneurship Center Was designed to accommodate and support the best and brightest in the business, Dtec is a technology, entrepreneurial and innovation hub in the heart of Dubai's Silicon Oasis.
SDO Profile: [Dtec](#)



China: In Chengdu the Health Tech accelerator **Startupbootcamp** in partnership with Thinkzone is supporting and scale 10 digital health startups to increase access to quality health care, and reduce medical costs
SDO Profile: [Startupbootcamp](#).



USA: Powerhouse in Oakland, California since 2013 offers business incubation and acceleration programs focused on solar and solar enabling technologies including storage, demand response, and grid integration. Powerhouse also offers co-working facilities.
SDO profile: [Powerhouse](#)



Serbia: The Mission of **Business Innovation Center Kragujevac** is to support entrepreneurs in the region having innovative products or services with a unique environment which to increase their company's chances for success.
SDO profile: [BIC Kragujevac](#)



Chile: The S Factory is a three-months pre-accelerator for women are passionate leaders with innovative ideas for scalable businesses. The S Factory is a program of Start-Up Chile, the accelerator created by the Chilean.
SDO profile: [S Factory](#)



June 28-29, 2017 in Singapore: Echelon Asia Summit 2017

Echelon, held annually since 2009, is a digital platform engaging over 6,000 industry leaders and professionals from all over Asia that also features a two-day technology and business conference held annually in Singapore.

The Echelon Ecosystem experience provides premium resources from world-class influencers, cross-border business matching and qualified structured networking opportunities, keeping the ecosystem engaged all throughout the year.

More on conference [website](#)

Jun 22-23, 2017 in Berlin, Germany: Third NOAH Berlin Conference

The third **NOAH Berlin** conference will connect leaders from “traditional champions” with their “digital challengers”, such as Trivago and FlixBus, Funding Circle and KIVI-Com. In the section “traditional champion attendees will find speakers from the “who is who” of industry. More on [website](#)



Jul 5 – 7, 2017 in Enghien-les Bains, France: EBN Congress

The Annual Congress of EBN, European Business and Innovation Center Network will be held July 5 – 7 in Enghien-les Bains north of Paris under the title “OPEN Ecosystems for Innovation”.

More details about the program and registration options are available on the EBN [website](#)



July 11 – 14, 2017 TOA, Tech Open Air in Berlin

The **conference** connects with top-tier entrepreneurs, artists, and scientists at a beautiful location. Experience storytelling, panels, knowshops, pillowtalks, art installations, live music. The **satellite events** allow to explore the startup ecosystem of the city.

More on TOA [website](#)



Aug 31, 2017 in Thessaloniki, Greece: ICEIRD 2017

The **ICEIRD 2017: Coproducing Knowledge, Innovation & Growth** will promote knowledge exchange through the participation of academics, commercialization practitioners, policymakers, entrepreneurs, innovators, and companies to enhance university-industry links. More details on [website](#)



Sep 6+7, 2017: 10th SA Innovation Summit 2017 in Cape Town, South Africa

The 10th SA Innovation Summit will be celebrated aims at becoming the place for igniting an innovation revolution for entrepreneurs, the go-to place for inspiration and networking. Competitions, exhibitions, matching events, meetings with investors and sessions with thought leaders. More on [website](#)



September 8, 2017 The Fifth Startup Night Berlin

The 5th Startup Night on Berlin is expected to bring together 5.000 attendees for a conference and a long night of pitches. Selected companies will present at Deutsche Telekom, Deutsche Bank, DRIVE Volkswagen Group Forum and Microsoft Atrium.

Tickets are for sale on [website](#)



Sep 17-19, 2017 in Lübeck, Germany: BVIZ Annual Conference 2017

BVIZ, German association of business and innovation centers, will hold its annual conference in the historic city of Lübeck, Germany under the title **Innovation centers 5.0 – Re-inventing Networking**. The conference will be hosted by the Technikzentrum / UniTransferKlinik Lübeck GmbH. More information will be made available on the association’s [website](#). **SDO Profile** [BVIZ](#) **Contact:** Andrea Glaser [email](#) **SDO Profile host:** [Technikzentrum Lübeck](#) , website host www.unitransferklinik.de **Contact:** Raimund Mildner [email mildner@tzi.de](mailto:mildner@tzi.de)



Sep 26-29, 2017 in Istanbul, Turkey: IASP World Conference 2017

The IASP World conference 2017 under the headline “Science parks and natural innovation ecosystems: Articulating future strategies” with main theme blocks: Innovative funding schemes, Service mechanisms, and Rethinking space. Full details are available on [website](#)



Oct. 11, 2017: StartupCon 2017 in Cologne

The StartupCon is a start-up conference, a highly concentrated mecca for start-ups and innovators and the ultimate hotspot for the contact and dialogue with investors, decision-makers from the industry and opinion-makers from the press and media. More details on [website](#)



Oct 23-26, 2017 ANPROTEC conference in Rio de Janeiro

The biggest event of innovative entrepreneurship in Latin America celebrating Anprotec’s 30th anniversary and carried out together with Sebrae, will be held into Rio de Janeiro (RJ), with local organization of the Technological Park of UFRJ. More information on [website](#)



Oct 26-27, 2017: Nordic Baltic Dynamics in Stockholm, Sweden

After 21 annual “Baltic Dynamics” conferences held in turns in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania this entrepreneurship event is widen its scope by including not only the Baltic States, but also the Nordic region. **Building Resilience for a Stronger Tomorrow**” is the title of the 22nd Nordic Baltic Dynamics conference. The impact of the world economy on the environment and people is in focus. The sharing economy and growing emergence of startups are disrupting traditional industries, and global sociopolitical stability cannot be taken for granted. More information will be available on website and registration will open at the end of June through [webiste](#)

Contact: Jaak Raie, CEO of Tallinn Science Park Tehnopol, [email](#) and Magnus Lundin, CEO of Swedish Incubators & Science Parks, [email](#) **SDO Profile** [Tehnopol](#) and [SISP](#)



Nov 8 – 10, 2017: Coworking Europe in Dublin Ireland

The seventh **Coworking Europe** conference invites the community to meet. The range of topics for the conference is wide including, for example, how the concept of co-working is shaping the patterns mobility management, and entrepreneurship development More details on [website](#) **Contact:** JY Huwart [email](#)



Nov 13 – 27, 2017: The 1776 Challenge Cup Festival 2017 in New York

The Challenge Festival is the Grande Final of the 1776 Global Startup Competition for startups that won regional competitions in Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Dubai, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Greece, Kenya, Ireland, Pakistan, USA, Uganda, Ukraine, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe. More information on page [website](#)



Nov 30 – Dec 1, 2017 SLUSH 2017 in Helsinki

17,500 attendees, 2300 startups, 1,100 investors, and 600 journalists have been counted at Slush 2016 in Helsinki. The next opportunity to meet with a global startup community is **Slush**. This world-renowned event now is held in Helsinki, Tokyo, Shanghai, and Singapore. More information and ticket on [website](#):

Imprint: SPICE Update is the newsletter of SPICE Group. It is published 4 - 6 times per year and regularly is delivered free of charge to members of the network as well as selected partners. Articles for publication are invited and will be published under the name of the author. Although we do our best for making sure that published information is correct we cannot accept responsibility for errors that may occur nor for website links provided.

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