



AFRICARENA

THE AFRICAN TECH ECOSYSTEM ACCELERATOR



IMPACT REPORT 2024

Insights on the events of 2024



WHAT IS AFRICARENA?

VISION

Be the premier African platform for connecting tech ecosystems, founders and investors.

MISSION

- **Connect** founders with investors & corporates in a founder-focus series of events
- **Bridge** African tech ecosystems and promote their opportunities
- **Create** an impact-driven investor community
- **Attract** entrepreneurs and investors in Africa

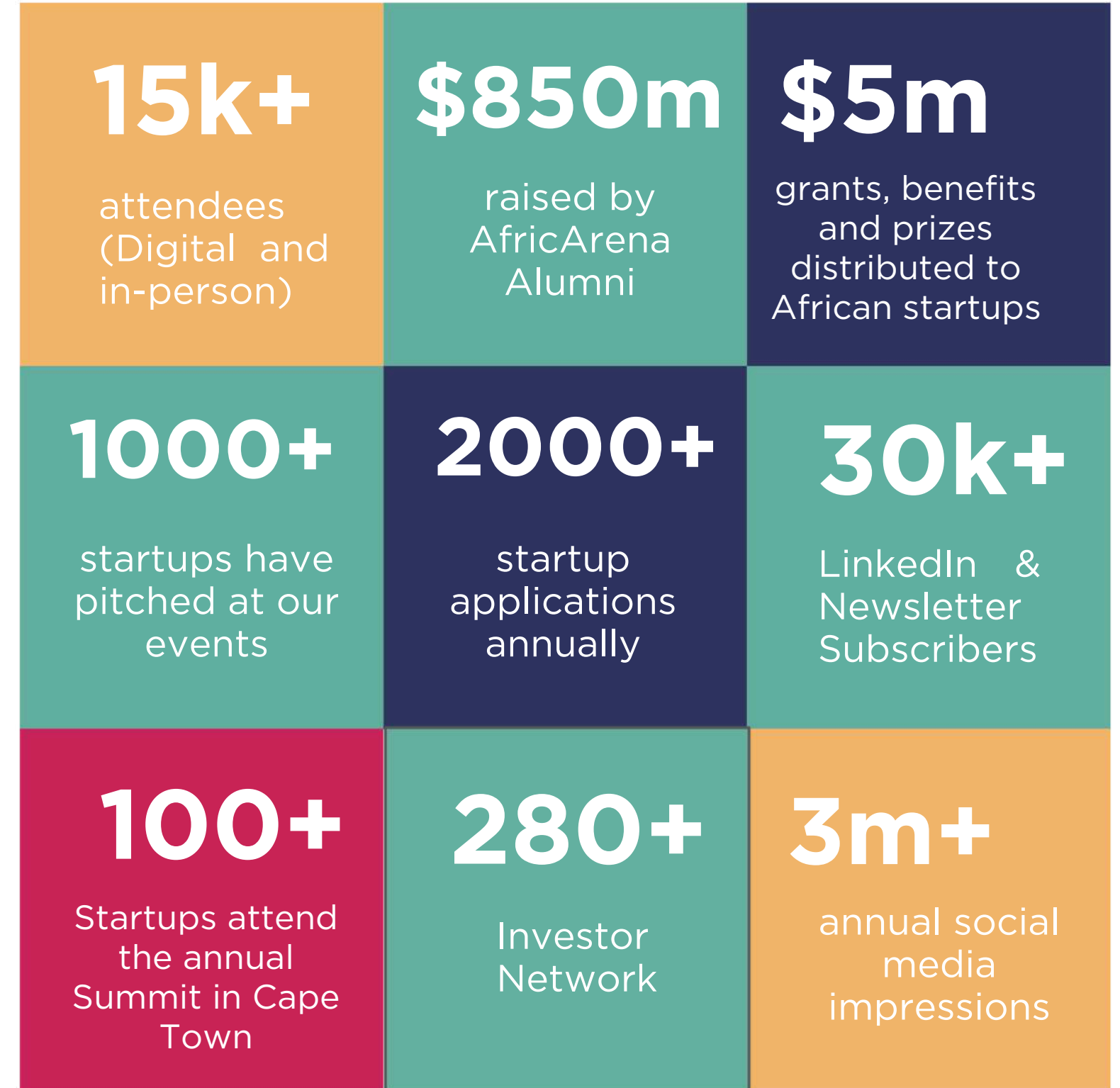
OUR IMPACT SINCE 2017

AfricArena has been, since 2017, a premier dealflow platform for startups, investors, corporates and tech ecosystem players in the continent.

Startups that have showcased at AfricArena have collectively raised over **US\$850 million** to date in capital. **20+ global corporates** have launched **30+ open innovation challenges** across multiple industries, and have attracted **1000+ applications** from startups in **30+ countries**.

230+ of Africa's top investors have attended the Summit, looking for world class talent to partner with.

Learn more: www.africarena.com



OUR ECOSYSTEM DNA

OPEN INNOVATION PROGRAMS

Solve an Investor, Corporate or Public need through innovative thinkers from some of the best minds in Africa



VC UNCONFERENCE

The VC Unconference host over 250 investors annually from Africa, Europe, the US, and Japan each year to collaborate on their main challenges through Digital Collective Africa.



SOFT LANDING AND ECOSYSTEM LEARNING EXPEDITIONS

The LEX is an annual program organized by FSATLabs, which enables international investors and corporates to explore Africa's startup ecosystem and gain insights into key tech topics through Learning Expeditions.



FOUNDERS BOOTCAMP

The Founders' Bootcamp is a brief program that imparts knowledge and skills in key areas overlooked by other incubation and accelerator programs. It can be completed in one or two days.



INVESTOR PORTAL

AfricArena Wired connects our live events, and exclusive knowledge base to African tech founders, investors, corporates, mentors and ecosystem players.

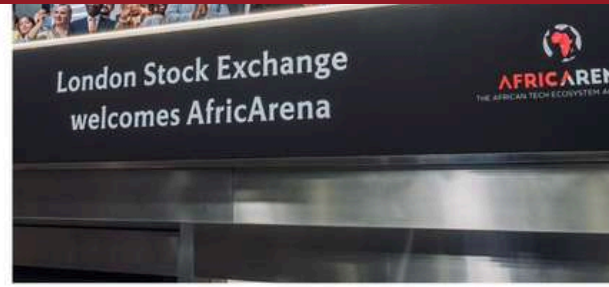


INVESTMENTS

AfricArise Ventures is a frontier pan-African fund, focused on the Seed to Series A bridge funding investment landscape in Africa.



AfricArena Tour



During the **AfricArena Tour**, the team reached out to 5 **regional ecosystems within the African continent** sourcing the best startups for the Ecosystem and Tour Challenges sponsored by AWS Startups, GIZ SAIS, and local partners.

Out of more than **200 local businesses**, we selected 20 of them to come and pitch at the grand finale in Cape Town from the 3rd to 4th of December 2024.

2024 Regional Tour At A Glance

(in-person & digital)



8 Cities

5 Softlanding programs

120+ Pitching Startups

300+ Speakers

2k+ Online viewers

2k+ Attendees

200+ Investors

\$50M Fundraising impact

AfricArena Regional Events 2024 Recap



During an average of 5 full days, the in-person regional events hosted a series of events with 30+ pitching startups from the neighbouring countries, international corporates and investors.

The regional events consisted of:

- VC Unconferences
- Founders' Bootcamps
- Learning Expeditions
- Softlanding programs



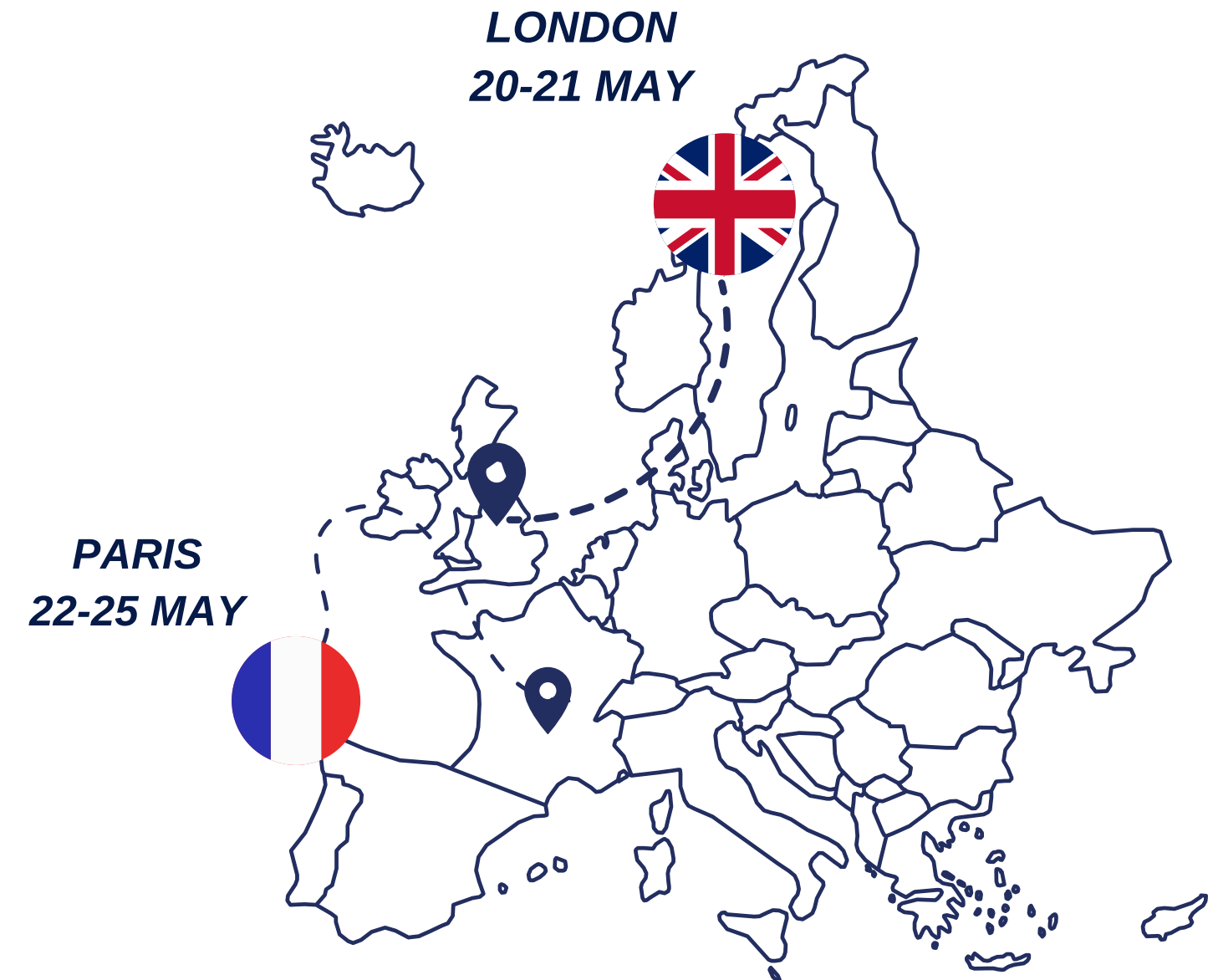


AfricArena International Showcase 2024 Recap

During 3 full days, the in-person international events hosted 20+ pitching startups from african countries, international corporates and investors.

The international showcase events consisted of:

- Learning Expeditions
- 1-day showcase summit



VC Unconference 2024 Recap

By Digital Collective Africa



In 2024 AfricArena hosted 4 VC unconferences throughout the year (Johannesburg, Morocco, Tunis & Cape Town). The mission of the Unconference is to provide an informal participant-driven meeting, giving an opportunity for an unfiltered exchange of innovative ideas and collaboration within the ecosystem all aimed at easing and enhancing the process of investing on the continent.

AfricArena VC Unconference



Key objectives

- Mapping the ecosystem interested in African Tech venture space
- Creating a common knowledge base on core practices and experience
- Establish methodology for co-investment and investment syndication
- Facilitate connections that enable fundraising co-investment deals and overall ecosystem cohesion
- Help investors create links and relationship within other ecosystems
- Connect and establish relationships within the different regions



VC Unconference 2024 Metrics

By Digital Collective Africa



Johannesburg, Morocco, Tunis & Cape Town



200+ investors participating



2024 key themes discussed:

- CVCs within Africa's VC Landscape
- The "Missing Middle": Early Stage Investing in Africa
- Debt and Mezzanine Funding
- New Routes to Exits & Liquidity
- The Challenges for African Tech Startups Scaling



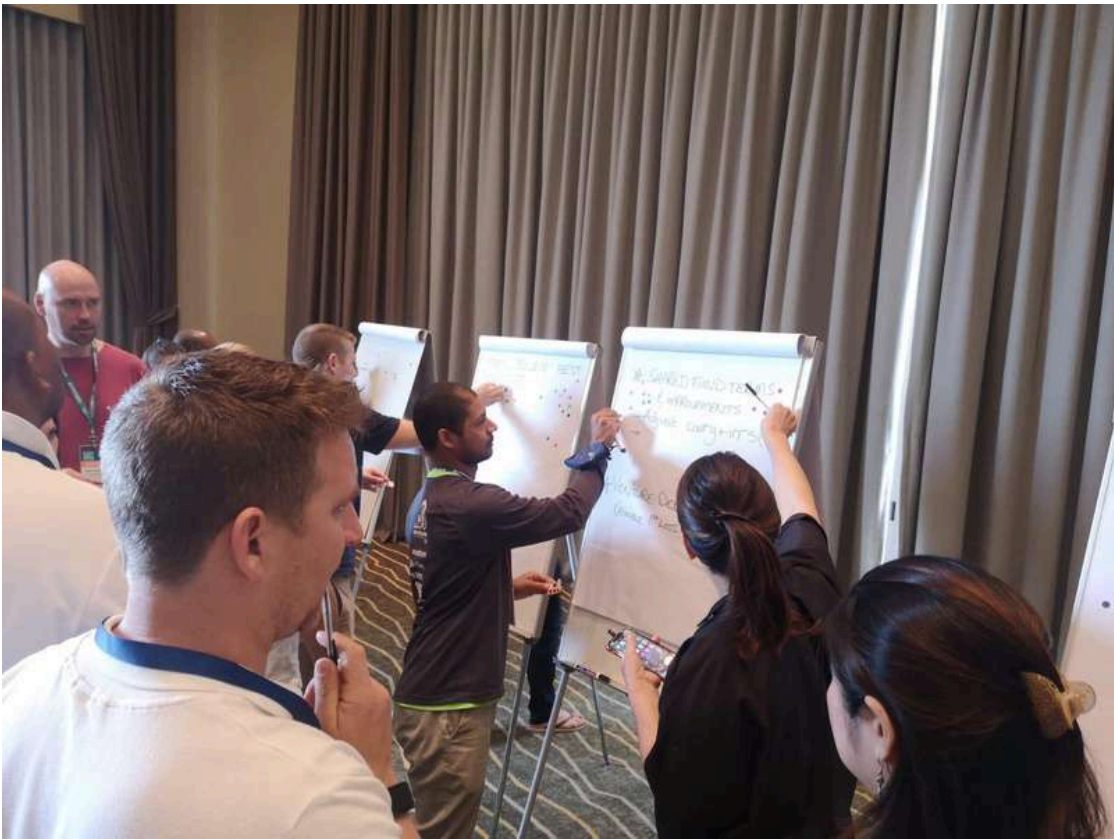
Collaboration sessions



Open discussions



Workshops



VC UNCONFERENCE 2024



Founders' perspective



Sponsored Main Dinner



Future of VC Session

Founders Bootcamp 2024 Recap

By **AfricArise**



This year, AfricArena hosted the AfricArise Founders Bootcamp in five vibrant innovation hubs: Johannesburg, Abidjan, Nairobi, Tunis, and Cape Town. The Bootcamp is a dynamic 2-day program designed to rapidly enhance founder knowledge in key areas often overlooked by traditional incubation programs. Through a blend of expert-led teaching, hands-on workshops, and peer-to-peer networking, the program empowers startups to extract maximum value in a condensed timeframe. Bringing together all the founders selected for the AfricArena edition, the Bootcamp creates a collaborative platform.

Key objectives

- Conduct high-impact sessions within a compact 2-day format, balancing teaching, workshops, and networking activities to maximize learning.
- Develop program modules that address common gaps in traditional incubation programs, ensuring practical applicability for startups at varying stages of growth.
- Create a sense of community among participating founders, positioning AfricArena as a long-term partner in their entrepreneurial journey.
- Leverage the multi-city nature of the bootcamp to enable cross-cultural exchanges and promote knowledge-sharing among diverse ecosystems.

AfricArena Founders Bootcamp



Founders Bootcamp 2024 Metrics

By **AfricArise**



**Johannesburg, Abidjan, Nairobi,
Tunis & Cape Town**



120+ startups



2-days key workshops around:

- Fundraising and Investment Readiness
- How to Create a Sustainable Sales Pipeline
- The art of storytelling
- What indicators should you prepare before meeting investors?
- How to build a strong network; Design thinking;
- How to present to the media as a startup; Pitching the do's and don'ts



Workshops with key experts



Community driven



Team building and cross-cultural exchanges



**Founders' Bootcamp
2024**



Sponsored Main Dinner



Open discussions



Group sessions

Learning Expedition 2024 Recap

By **AfricArise**



In 2024, we organized Learning Expeditions in Johannesburg, Abidjan, London, Paris, and Nairobi, offering international startups an unparalleled opportunity to immerse themselves in thriving startup ecosystems. These expeditions provided a unique lens into the heart of innovation by visiting cutting-edge spaces that drive ecosystem dynamism. Participants connected with local entrepreneurs, investors, and industry experts, gaining invaluable insights and exchanging stories on pivotal topics shaping the tech landscape.

Key objectives

- Facilitate a hands-on experience for international startups to deeply engage with and understand the dynamics of high-growth startup ecosystems in key cities.
- Bridge global and local startup ecosystems by fostering connections between international startups and local entrepreneurs, investors, and industry leaders.
- Provide access to expert insights, success stories, and key strategies that drive innovation within the host ecosystem.
- Enable startups to explore new markets, understand regional business landscapes, and identify potential opportunities for expansion and investment.
- Showcase host cities (e.g., Cape Town, Nairobi, Johannesburg) as leading hubs for innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship, attracting more global attention and investment.

AfricArise
**Learning
Expeditions**



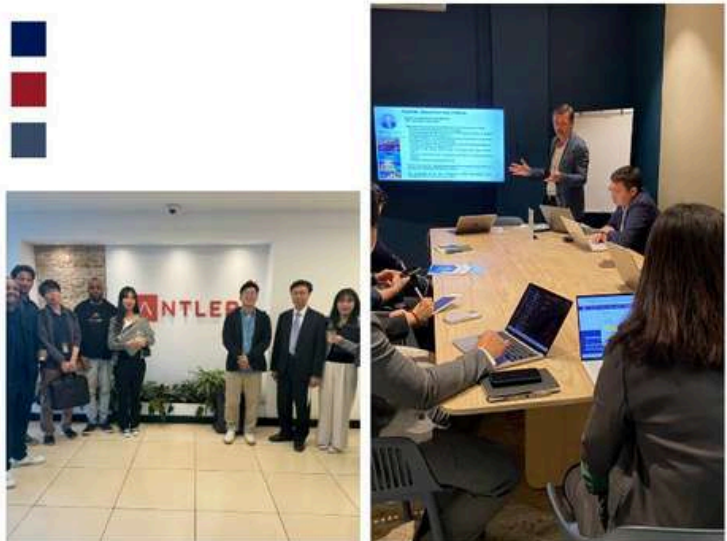
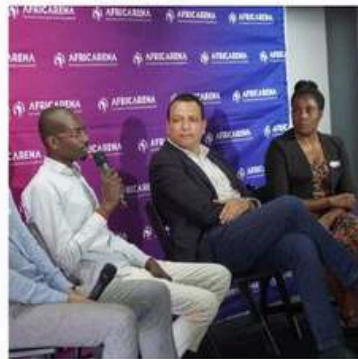
Softlanding Programs 2024 Overview

By **AfricArise**



In partnership with AfricArise, AfricArena successfully organized tailored softlanding programs for the Korea-Africa Foundation, GIZ Togo and SEADE (EU commission) in 2024, focusing on startup ecosystems in Kenya and Cape Town. These 2-3 week immersion programs offered an intensive schedule of curated visits to key ecosystem players, including incubators, accelerators, investors, and corporates, along with structured business matchmaking sessions.

AfricArise **Softlanding Program**




Key objectives

- Provide startups with in-depth knowledge of the local business environment, innovation hubs, and market opportunities to enhance their potential for success in a new ecosystem.
- Foster connections between visiting startups and key players in the local ecosystem, including investors, corporates, and entrepreneurs, to create lasting collaborations and opportunities.
- Facilitate the exchange of best practices, success stories, and cultural insights to help startups navigate and adapt to regional dynamics effectively.
- Support ecosystem development by attracting global startups and fostering cross-border collaborations that drive economic activity and innovation.

LEX & Softlanding Programs Metrics

By AfricArise



 Kenya & South Africa

 10-20 startups per cohort

 2-3 weeks of immersion around:

- Innovation Hubs and Incubators:
- Accelerators and Venture Builders: Prominent accelerators (Antler in Nairobi, Startupbootcamp AfriTech in Cape Town):
- Investor Networks and Venture Capital Firms: Visits of local VC firms or angel investor networks (Kepple Africa Ventures, Knife Capital)
- Corporate Innovation Departments (e.g., Safaricom in Kenya, Naspers in South Africa).
- Government and Policy Bodies visit



MoU ceremonies



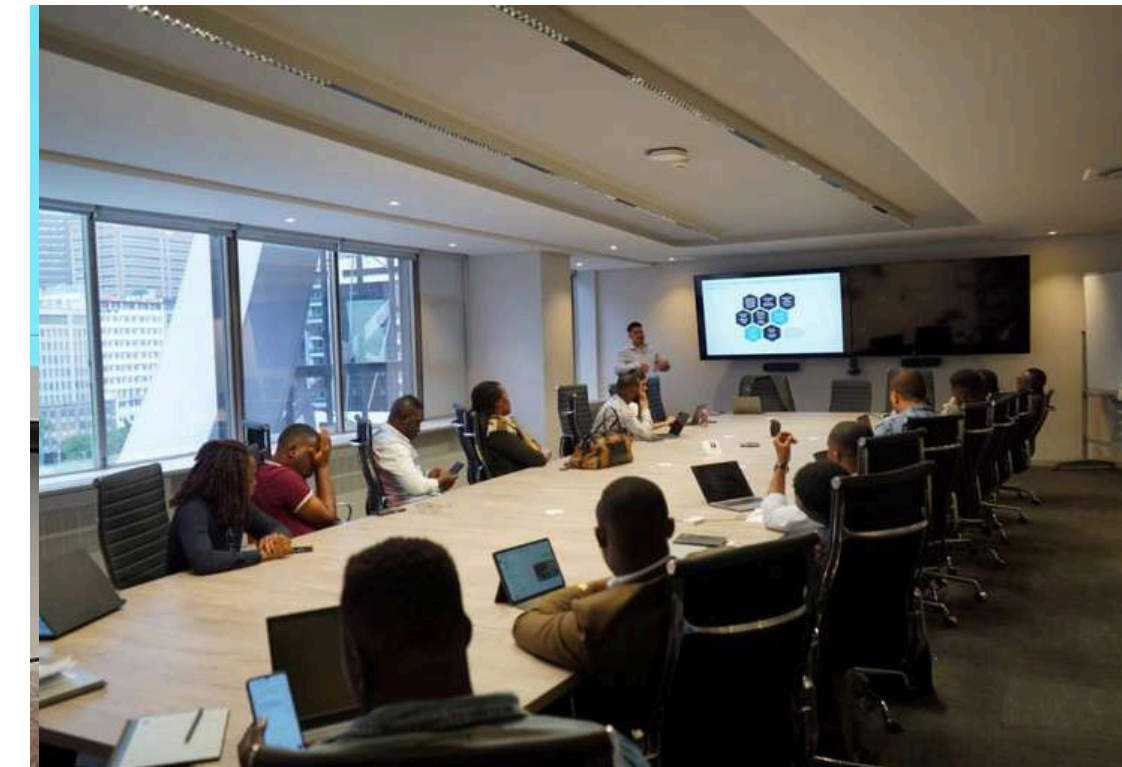
Local Ecosystem
Players Viists



1-on-1 Mentorship &
Business matchins



**LEX & SOFTLANDING
PROGRAMS**



VC & Accelerators Visits

Demo day events

Govnenments visits

METRICS

Regional Tour 2024



Johannesburg Summit

 Johannesburg

 23 April

 Bootcamp, LEX, Summit


 24 startups

 6 winners
qualified for the Grand Summit

 200 attendees

Abidjan Summit

 Dakar

 25–26 June

 Bootcamp, LEX, Summit

 25 startups


 6 winners
qualified for the Grand Summit

 240 attendees

Nairobi Summit

 Nairobi

 3–4 September

 Bootcamp, LEX, Summit, Softlanding Program

 30 startups

 6 winners
qualified for the Grand Summit

 420 attendees

Tunis Summit

 Tunis

 15–16 October

 Bootcamp, Summit

 24 startups

 6 winners
qualified for the Grand Summit

 400 attendees

METRICS

Showcase Tour



London Summit



London



21 May



16 Startups



5 winners



120 attendees

Africa tech Pitch Challenge



Paris (Vivatech)



22-25 May



10 Startups



1 winner



100 attendees

2024 Grand Summit At A Glance (in-person & digital)



150 Participating startups

50 Pitching Startups

31 African countries

represented across the event

8 Winners

600+ Attendees

150+ In-person investors

60+ Speakers

3K+ Live Stream Views

AfricArena Grand Summit

Program Highlights



AfricArena Grand Summit

Side Events



VC NIGHT



FOUNDERS BOOTCAMP



VC UNCONFERENCE WEEKEND



INNOVATION NIGHT

Key Topics



State of Tech in Africa

Building Bridges Between International Ecosystems & Africa

The Future is Now: Scaling Deep Tech & AI Solutions in Africa

The Role of Impact Investing in African Startup Growth

Decarbonizing the Economy: Pathways to a Sustainable Future

Finding the Next Growth Capital for African Tech

Best of Ecosystem Challenge Winners

Best AI & Deep Tech Startup



OkHi
South Africa /
Nigeria

Best Agri Tech Startup



Djoli
Ivory Coast

Best Fintech Startup



Joro Cash
Morrocco

Best Climate Start-Up (sponsored by Katapult Africa)



Gjenge Makers
Kenya

Best of Ecosystem Challenge Winners

Best SaaS Start-Up



Cynoida
Tunisia

Best Seed Start-Up



**Letsoela Agro-
Aviation**
Lesotho

**Most Promising
Entrepreneur**



Solimi
Togo

**Best Startupper
(supported by
TotalEnergies)**



Anda
Angola

**Most Attractive
Investor**



Knife Capital
South Africa

Social Media Impressions for 2024



600K



200k



900k

MEDIA COVERAGE 2024



MEDIA COVERAGE 2024

Online and International Media

Managers



**AfricArena Grand Summit 2024:
une vitrine pour l'innovation
africaine à Cape Town**

3 décembre 2024 Dans Africa Means Business

AfricArena Grand Summit 2024 s'est ouvert aujourd'hui à Cape Town, en Afrique du Sud, réunissant plus de 30 startups opérant à travers le continent. L'événement, qui se poursuit jusqu'à demain, met en avant des solutions innovantes portées par des entreprises en phase Seed, Série A ou Growth. En parallèle, des experts renommés des secteurs des affaires, de la technologie et de l'investissement animent des keynotes et des panels captivants.

Les plus lus

[Read More](#)

ITWeb Africa | ICT and Governance

Elisabeth Moreno, former French Minister for Gender Equality, Diversity, and Equal Opportunities.

With technology and science, the continent can solve over 80% of its problems. This is according to Elisabeth Moreno, former French Minister for Gender Equality, Diversity, and Equal Opportunities

Moreno, who spoke with ITWeb Africa on the sidelines of the on-going **AfricArena Grand Summit 2024** in Cape Town, South Africa, believes technology is the "most global thing we know today."

NUMBER OF THE DAY
Ecobank fintech finalists
40

QUOTE OF THE DAY
Tech skills for Africa
"Our goal is to empower students to become innovators and leaders in the tech space"
Samantha Fuller, Binance's spokesperson.

BEST READ
1 INTERPOL hails Nigeria for tackling cyber-crime

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MEDIA COVERAGE 2024

Online and International Media



Morrocon Fintech, Joro Cash, Takes 'Best Fintech Award' at the 2024 AfricArena Grand Summit

100 tech startups from 31 African countries, including winners of the TotalEnergies Startupper Challenge, participated in the 2024 AfricArena Grand Summit.

DECEMBER 9, 2024 · 2 MIN READ



[Read More](#)

The screenshot shows the iWeb website interface. The main article is titled "Nigeria's OkHi accelerates push to boost financial inclusion" by Samuel Mungadze, Africa editor, dated 18 Dec 2024. The article features a photo of a man in a blue t-shirt speaking into a microphone. The right sidebar contains a "DAILY NEWSLETTER" sign-up form, a "DIGITAL" section with a "NUMBER OF THE DAY" for "Ecobank fintech finalists" at 40, and a "QUOTE OF THE DAY" from Samantha Fuller, Binance's spokesperson, about tech skills for Africa.

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MEDIA COVERAGE 2024

Online and International Media




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Global cities compete to host AfricArena innovation summits in 2025

2 Jan 2025

AfricArena is now inviting ecosystem support organisations, investment funds, accelerators, incubators, startups, cities, and government agencies across Africa and beyond to apply to host one of its five African summits or international showcase summits in North America, Europe, and Asia in 2025.



TRENDING
2 DAYS 7 DAYS 30 DAYS

- 1 Cape Ti up for s Katja Hai
- 2 Shell pi discove Ron Bou
- 3 2025 D. big nan
- 4 David G

[Read More](#)


Brut. Afrique

Brut. Afrique 10,682 followers 2w ·

Kim Tran, fondatrice de Trenderz, et Jansen Durham, créateur de Fixa, sont accompagnés par [Digital Africa](#). À l'AfricArena Grand Summit de Cape Town, ils ont partagé avec Brut les défis et ambitions de leurs start-ups.

En partenariat avec Digital Africa.

Show translation



[Read More](#)

MEDIA COVERAGE 2024

Video



AfricArena 2024 Summit Highlights
[Watch online](#)



AfricArena 2024 - Dinner of the minds
[Watch online](#)

Satisfaction survey 2024

Highlights

In-person
Content



85%

Digital
Content



90%

Overall
Value



95%

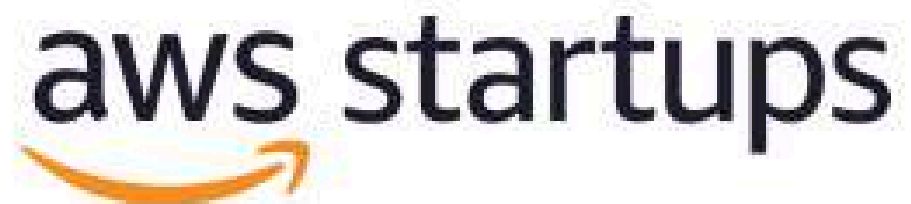
Networking
Value



93%

2024 Sponsors and partners

KEY PARTNERS

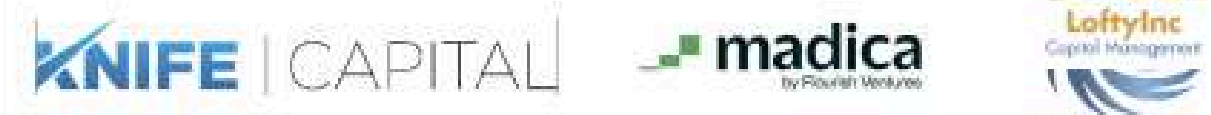


2024 Sponsors and partners

AFRICARENA TOUR PARTNERS



INVESTORS PARTICIPATING



2024 Sponsors and partners

INVESTOR PARTNERS



MEDIA PARTNERS



Managers



Inc.Africa



LesEchos

Forbes



TECHZIM



2024 Sponsors and partners

ECOSYSTEM, ACADEMIC & INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS





Contact us

SPONSORSHIP & EXHIBITION

Christophe Viarnaud

christophe@africarena.com | +27 83 254 8867 | +33 626 4267

EVENT COORDINATOR

Nafisah Abrahams

nafisah@africarena.com | +27 64 419 8643

MEDIA & MARKETING

Jabulile Ngwenya

jngwenya@methys.com | +27 83 866 2620

PROGRAM MANAGER & ECOSYSTEM LEAD

Dan Mabbyalas

dan@africarena.com | +27 69 746 4826