



BusyInternet Incubator, Ghana

Incubators in Africa say that

"Being part of the incubator enhances credibility in the market, and helps in dealing with large businesses and government. They know that behind the incubatee is a prestigious and credible institution."

"The idea is to unleash the power of entrepreneurship, community, and capital by bringing people and business together."

"Being hosted in the incubator provides a close follow-up of activities, which is the missing part of necessary non-financial support services."

The iDisc website is a crucial tool to facilitate the knowledge sharing process for AIN, as well as other regional networks. More information can be found on www.iDisc.net/africa.

Business Incubation in Sub-Saharan Africa

infoDev's Business Incubator Initiative

The Incubator Initiative has supported more than 60 business incubators in countries worldwide, leading to the establishment of five regional networks in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Middle East and Northern Africa. *infoDev* services include:

- Financial and technical assistance
- Knowledge-sharing and networking
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Research on challenges and opportunities



African Incubator Network

Initiated at the 1st Global Forum on Business Incubation in 2004, the African Incubator Network (AIN) is an informal association of incubators in Africa currently comprising over 100 participants from all over Sub-Saharan Africa. The AIN will work to support incubation and other innovative small enterprise development activities in Africa through knowledge sharing, workshops, study visits, and collective advocacy of the need for greater support to small enterprise development.

infoDev provides support to business incubator projects in ten African countries, and works in close partnership with the growing African Incubator Network to which it also provides financial support. A list of countries and projects can be found on the flipside.

The *infoDev* Incubator Initiative in Africa is coordinated by the Regional Facilitator for Africa, Mr. Steve Giddings, who is based in Johannesburg. His experience includes rural development, incubation, private sector business development and numerous consultancies to government, private sector and donor organizations. He can be reached by e-mail at sgiddings@worldbank.org.

How to get involved

- ✓ Get to know about activities on www.infoDev.org/businessincubation
- ✓ Directory for the Global Network of Business Incubators, the Incubator 'how to' Toolkit, and event updates on www.iDisc.net
- ✓ Regional network and developments, e-mail the *infoDev* team at infodev@worldbank.org and Mr. Steve Giddings, Africa Regional Facilitator for *infoDev*, at sgiddings@worldbank.org

Country	Incubator and Mission	Contact information
Angola	<i>National Institute for Employment & Vocational Training (INEFOP)</i> Within the INEFOP Angola Enterprise Program, a capacity building grant for a national consensus, vision and strategy for micro and small business development.	Ms. Corina Jardim, INFOP, e-mail: corinajardim@hotmail.com Website: http://mirror.undp.org/angola
Ghana	<i>Busy Internet Ghana Limited</i> Capacity building grant to support private sector company in providing combination of physical infrastructure and social environment experts for businesses and organization to execute their competencies and enhance their skills.	Ms. Estelle Akofio-Sowah, Managing Director, e-mail: Estelle@busyinternet.com Website: www.busyinternet.com
Kenya	<i>Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT)</i> Planning grant for creating the JKUAT Center for Business Incubation, which will be a hybrid incubator in that it will provide membership for government, private sector funding and other resources, with the primary purpose of sustained economic development and job creation.	Dr. Atieno Ndede-Amandi, Associate Professor of IT, e-mail: ceo@jkuat-cbi.co.ke Website: www.jkuat-cbi.co.ke/index.php
Mauritius	<i>National Computer Board (NCB)</i> Capacity building grant to assess existing facilities and services offered to technology start-ups, devise business plans, and strengthen existing networking facilities between local and international institutions.	Mr. Kemraz Mohee, Executive Director, NCB, e-mail: ncb01@ncb.intnet.mu Website: http://ncb.intnet.mu
Namibia	<i>Information Technology in African Business (IT@AB) Network Namibia</i> Planning grant to create a Namibian incubator with a view to incubating selected SMEs by delivering effective training in business skills and by enabling them to leverage the benefits of ICT, resulting in replicable and sustainable development across the country.	Mr. Tom Mukaiwa, ITAB Interim Chairman, e-mail: tom.mukaiwa@bits.com.na
Rwanda	<i>Kigali Institute of Science, Technology and Management (KIST)</i> Capacity building grant for establishment of KIST Technology and Business Incubation Facility to further develop entrepreneurship and promote the private sector, as laid out in the "Vision 2020" framework developed by the Government of Rwanda.	Mr Rajeev Aggarwal, e-mail: rajeevagggarwal_2000@yahoo.com Website: www.kist.ac.rw
Senegal	<i>International Development Center of the National Council of Negro Women/International Division Senegal Office</i> Planning grant for implementing the "Creating an Enabling Space for Young Entrepreneurs" and plan the development of a business incubator that provides services to new and existing enterprises, especially female-owned/operated business, and to use ICT to develop businesses and penetrate global markets.	Ms. Cynthia Ferguson Colas, IDC Director, e-mail: ccolas@ncnw.org Website: www.ncnw.org
South Africa	<i>Kwa-Zulu-Natal Innovation Support Center (KZNISC), Voxel Technologies</i> Operational grant to use ICT to enhance the current capacities of the existing high technology incubators in South Africa, and to use ICT to transfer this knowledge and learning to other incubators. <i>Bodibeng Technology Incubator (BTI)</i> Capacity building grant to develop a collaborative network of African incubators and other business development service providers and to facilitate provision of appropriate knowledge to support development of innovative, small enterprises	Mr. Colin Thakur, Board Representative, e-mail: thakur@dut.ac.za Ms. Leon Lourens, CEO, e-mail: leon@sbti.co.za Website : www.sbti.co.za
Tanzania	<i>World Ahead Consulting Network</i> Planning grant to gather data on overall business incubation environment, conduct a feasibility study for sustainable ICT-enables business incubation, and develop an implementation and business plan.	Mr. Simbo Ntiro, Management Consultant, e-mail: sntiro@world-ahead.com Website: www.world-ahead.com
Uganda	<i>Uganda Industrial Research Institute (UIRI)</i> Capacity building grant to promote rural industrialization especially in small-scale meat processing enterprises, by improving communication, trade, performance and efficiency of six small partner centers in upcountry towns that were originally established under UIRI.	Mr. Charles G. Kwesiga, Executive Manager, e-mail: kwesiga@msn.com Website: www.uiri.org