

Why

Afric'innov

Innovation centers designed to support entrepreneurship such as incubators technopoles, are flourishing all over Africa.

These structures, which are valuable and necessary relays of development, enable African innovators to considerably reinforce their chances of success in creating sustainable and job-creating businesses.

These structures, generally quite young and with different levels of professionalism, can be isolated and lack the appropriate resources to grow. Financing these structures, like the start-ups they accompany, remains a major difficulty and represent a constraint on innovation.

Banks and private investors shun from financing the risky first steps of an entrepreneurial journey, whereas public policies are too often ill-adapted to the realities of these innovators.

Faced with this observation, the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and a consortium of African incubators and French structures involved in innovation have launched Afric'innov.

The program's objective is to help professionalize support to structures for entrepreneurship in Africa, through capacity building and networking.

During 3 years, this project will test different support services for innovation hubs and new seed funding mechanisms.

Make African innovation centers stronger



Afric'Innov

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Program's components

Professionalizing innovation centers...



A LABEL for innovation centers

The Afric'innov label will enable start-ups and investors to identify and valorize innovation centers which work efficiently to support innovative entrepreneurship within the African ecosystems.



AN ONLINE RESOURCE CENTER dedicated to business development

With different levels of access, this collaborative „toolbox“ for innovation centers will provide access to structured and organized content, to help them be more efficient.



A SOFTWARE for the monitoring of incubated startups

Assisting project managers requires the use of diverse and not always appropriate tools. Afric'innov's software package will provide innovation centers with a complete monitoring tool for incubated companies.



A TRAINING PROGRAM for the teams in charge of coaching entrepreneurs

Professionalizing these structures requires training the teams in charge of coaching and assisting entrepreneurs daily. Afric'innov responds to this need by organizing blended-learning training sessions.

...for a greater impact of their support to entrepreneurs



A WEB PLATFORM for innovation centers

Africinnov.com aims to be the sole professional network of business incubators in Africa. Amongst other things, it will enable users to access a mediacenter, a mapping of different structures, a qualified directory of the incubated startups, information on ecosystems, etc.



A SEED FUND for the incubated startups

Afric'innov will grant repayable advances at a 0% interest rate to member incubators. These advances are destined to finance or reflow each innovation center's local seed funding arrangements.

*Structure d'accompagnement à l'Entrepreneuriat Innovant

