



## #AFRICA4FUTURE: AIRBUS TO FOSTER NEW AEROSPACE BUSINESS MODELS WITH AFRICAN STARTUPS

News / Manufacturer



**Airbus BizLab launches a new call for African startups to rethink how their technology could interact with aerospace**

Airbus announced the launch of its second edition of #Africa4Future, a joint accelerator program between Airbus' global aerospace accelerator BizLab and Make-IT in Africa, a programme by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit German (GIZ), the German agency for International Cooperation.

First launched in 2017, the #Africa4Future initiative was created by Airbus BizLab with the objective to encourage and support entrepreneurship in Africa. The continent's young and increasingly techno-savvy population is likely to be the driving force behind Africa's socio-economic development. Setting up an entrepreneurship eco-system requires investment and collaboration. Through #Africa4future, Airbus seeks to build bridges between the aerospace industry and the different players in Africa.

**For this second edition, Airbus calls for African tech start-ups that are actively working on solutions related to unmanned logistics and remote sensing technology, including automation and drones, electrification, blockchain, artificial intelligence, data analytics and material composites and manufacturing.**

**The joint program will be implemented by the MEST and Innocircle consortium—two organizations with a significant presence and deep knowledge of entrepreneurial ecosystems in Africa.**

Startups can submit applications for the program, from today until 30th November, 2018 via <https://www.airbus-bizlab.com/africa4future>. Following review, ten applicants will be chosen for to receive the opportunity to join #Africa4Future, a six-month acceleration program, starting on 7th January, 2019.

The call for startups took place during the release of *The Great Enabler: Aerospace in Africa – a White Paper* on the role of aerospace technologies and their impact on socio-economic development in Africa. The extensive report looks at how different segments of the industry can address a core set of challenges on the continent by increasing access to healthcare; by making African agriculture more competitive and sustainable; promoting education, training and innovation; empowering businesses with innovative products and solutions; and breaking down barriers to the movement of people and goods across Africa.

The White Paper: 'The Great Enabler: Aerospace in Africa' can be downloaded at: <http://www.airbus.com/company/worldwide-presence/africa-middle-east.html>

## **About Airbus BizLab**

Airbus BizLab is a global aerospace accelerator, where startups and Airbus intrapreneurs speed up the transformation of innovative ideas into valuable businesses. For more information about #Africa4Future, please find us at [www.airbus-bizlab.com/africa4future](http://www.airbus-bizlab.com/africa4future)

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