# TABLE OF CONTENTS

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT 2  
GEN GLOBAL BOARD 4  
WHAT IS GEN? 6  
THE GEN UNIVERSE  
GEN COUNTRY OPERATIONS 10  
22 ON SLOANE  
A WORLD OF IMPACT 18  
CELEBRATE  
CONNECT  
UNDERSTAND  
SUPPORT  
GLOBAL PARTNERS  
OUR NETWORK 52  
WHO WE ARE  
LOOKING AHEAD 64
At GEN, the entrepreneurs and ecosystems we observe have taught us to welcome disruption and focus not on what divides us, but rather what unites us in our common mission to create new value and improve the lives of our fellow citizens anywhere in the world.

In such unpredictable times, it is the fearless optimism of the world’s doers and makers of things that has inspired GEN to take the least trodden path.

When gathering the leaders of entrepreneurial ecosystems for the Global Entrepreneurship Congress each year, we never shy away from the controversial or unknown. We met in Moscow one week after the incursion into the Crimea, in Medellin as guerillas negotiated peace with the government and in Milan following an economic crisis. To have held the 10th GEC in Istanbul could not be more fitting for the times, representing the calm and optimism entrepreneurs bring to a world of economic and geopolitical struggles.

Over the past 10 years, GEN has served as a compass to guide the world’s entrepreneurship communities through this new normal. The entrepreneurs and ecosystems we observe have taught us to welcome disruption and focus not what divides us but rather what unites us in our common mission to create new value and improve the lives of our fellow citizens anywhere in the world.

This past year also marked the 10th anniversary of Global Entrepreneurship Week. Last November, GEW – with nearly 10 million participants in 167 countries – showed how it can help scale engagement inside mature economies as well as inspire hope in troubled economies like Venezuela.

What we inadvertently set in motion 10 years ago was not just a campaign, but a chain reaction that has led to hundreds of decentralized – but connected – communities, all independent but guided by a common Compass. The entrepreneurs and ecosystems we observe have taught us to welcome disruption and focus not on what divides us, but rather what unites us in our common mission to create new value and improve the lives of our fellow citizens anywhere in the world.
We have balanced unpredictability by fostering more stability through curated connectivity and common aspiration – where we let others see what others want, finding comfort and confidence in the fact they want it too.

This year also saw the launch of our first startup campus – 22 On Sloane in South Africa – offering residency for startups and the ecosystem leaders that support them. Launched with Richard Branson, the 10,000 square meter facility is the largest on the continent and offers full service programs and support for Africa’s emerging startups and entrepreneurs. 22 On Sloane represents what can happen when a need is identified, in this case at the GEC in 2017, and an entrepreneur with a dream, Kizito Okechukwu, has the drive and faith to make it happen.

In 2018, GEN also rolled out the Startup Nations Policy Hack Playbook developed in partnership with the Government of Estonia. Using the guide, governments are able to beta test new regulatory policies with their peers across borders while applying the iterative processes entrepreneurs use in testing products and services. Policy hacks which complement regulatory hacking will work side by side with the Startup Nations Atlas of Policies and the annual Startup Nations Summit to help governments across the world be as smart as they can in enabling their nations’ innovators and job creators.

As always, all of GEN’s work in understanding the dynamics of entrepreneurial ecosystems is based on listening to entrepreneurs, ecosystem builders and their support organizations. Gathering and analyzing data informs where our energies and efforts can have the greatest impact.

These last few months have seen an expansion of research efforts at the Global Entrepreneurship Research Network using data gathered from entrepreneurs that has driven new collaborative projects around the entrepreneurial mindset, ecosystem mapping and performance.

And while we never sent a Tesla into orbit, we have launched GEN Space, a new global initiative to help make space entrepreneurship visible to new investors, share best practices among global ecosystems and steer the field towards impactful solutions.

Looking ahead, expect to see more opportunities to engage and connect including live events listed in this report and a new initiative – Ecosystem Connect – where local ecosystem builders and leaders collaborate on projects and share knowledge, networks, and markets for their rising startups.

We are also always developing new GEN programs and projects with partners. Next year, you can expect to see entrepreneurial support initiatives around startup accelerators, scale-up support, the mapping of ecosystems and smarter data collection efforts throughout the GEN communities.

While GEN’s work is made possible through the support of institutions around the world anchored by the Kauffman Foundation, it is the leaders of this movement on the ground who make it possible. Over the past few months, GEN has appointed 76 managing directors of GEN country affiliates and expects to continue on this path in the coming year. We hope you will help them as they use global learning and networks to make it possible for anyone, anywhere to start and scale a new firm.

To learn more be sure to join us online or in person at the next GEC in April 2019 in Bahrain.
The GEN Global Board works to provide leadership and guidance to GEN’s mission to create one global entrepreneurial ecosystem.

**GEN GLOBAL BOARD**

**GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP NETWORK LEADERSHIP**

The GEN Global Board works to provide leadership and guidance to GEN’s mission to create one global entrepreneurial ecosystem.

**NEIL DHILLON**
HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
SAUDI ARAMCO

**DONNA HARRIS**
CO-FOUNDER
1776

**JEFF HOFFMAN**
PARTNER/CO-FOUNDER
COLORJAR

**REBECA HWANG**
MANAGING PARTNERS
RIVET VENTURES

**ERIK PAGES**
PRESIDENT
ENTREWORKS CONSULTING

**TOM SULLIVAN**
VICE PRESIDENT, SMALL BUSINESS POLICY
U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**CRIS TURNER**
MANAGER FOR GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
DELL

**JONATHAN ORTMANS**
PRESIDENT
GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP NETWORK

IMPACT REPORT 2018
WHAT IS GEN?
BUILDING ONE GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEM

The Global Entrepreneurship Network operates a platform of projects and programs in 170 countries aimed at making it easier for anyone, anywhere to start and scale a business.

By fostering deeper cross-border collaboration and initiatives between entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, policymakers and entrepreneurial support organizations, GEN works to fuel healthier start and scale ecosystems that create more jobs, educate individuals, accelerate innovation and strengthen economic growth.

GEN’s extensive footprint of national operations and global verticals in policy, research and programs ensures members have uncommon access to the most relevant knowledge, networks, communities and programs relative to size of economy, maturity of ecosystem, language, culture, geography and more.

GEN helps celebrate, understand, support and connect entrepreneurs and those who champion them.

Celebrate: The world needs entrepreneurs – the doers and makers of things – but not all ecosystems enjoy the entrepreneurial culture that is prevalent in startup hubs like Silicon Valley, Singapore and Sao Paolo. Through Global Entrepreneurship Week, GEN celebrates the successes and impact of entrepreneurs in an effort to help break down cultural barriers and reach new audiences, expanding the number of people who at some point in their life consider trying their hand at birthing the new and becoming an entrepreneur.

Understand: There is increasing demand for evidence-based public policies and programs that accelerate growth. While
GEN’s goal is to have more entrepreneurs, more collaborative ecosystems, born-global founders and a deeper understanding of entrepreneurship.

government, corporate and education institution leaders have become eager startup champions – they have some resources, they require better data, research and analysis about which program interventions and policies that will have the most impact.

Through the Global Entrepreneurship Research Network and Startup Nations policymaker network, GEN helps identify and crowdsource best-in-class policies and public programs that help entrepreneurs thrive.

**Support:** Through programs such as the Global Business Angels Network, Global Enterprise Registration, Startup Huddle, GEN Starters Club and other programs, GEN offers programs and resources intended to help smooth the path to market for founder teams and provide entrepreneurs at all stages with the support necessary to reach the next level.

**Connect:** GEN helps break down siloes and enhance collaboration among entrepreneurs, investors, policymakers, researchers and startup community leaders through its virtual platforms and numerous live events, including its Global Entrepreneurship Congress and GEC+ series, the annual Startup Nations Summit, global annual meetings of its vertical communities and by co-hosting other events across the globe.
GEN GLOBAL
WITH GEN COUNTRY OPERATIONS
AND PROGRAMS IN 170+ COUNTRIES

IMPACT REPORT 2018
Albania
Algeria
Argentina
Australia
Azerbaijan
Bahrain
Belgium
Benin
Bolivia
Bosnia & Herzegovina
Botswana
Burkina Faso
Cambodia
Cameroon
Canada
Chad
Chinese Taipei
Colombia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Ethiopia
France
Georgia
Germany
Ghana
Gibraltar
Greece
Guatemala
Hungary
India
Israel
Italy
Jamaica
Jordan
Kenya
Liberia
Libya
Madagascar
Mauretania
Mexico
Moldova
Morocco
Mozambique
Myanmar
Namibia
Netherlands
New Zealand
Niger
Nigeria
Norway
Pakistan
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Portugal
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
Serbia
Sierra Leone
South Africa
Spain
Sri Lanka
St. Kitts & Nevis
Sudan
Switzerland
Thailand
Togo
Tunisia
Uganda
United Kingdom
United States
Uzbekistan
Venezuela
Vietnam
IMPACT REPORT 2018
While GEN works in a limited capacity in almost all countries with programs like GEW, this past year GEN has been formalizing operations around the world by establishing independent non-profit entities with their own governing boards and plans to better enable healthier national entrepreneurial ecosystems.

Over the past 12 months GEN has appointed more than 76 managing directors who are hard at work listening and analyzing input around what is needed, what works, and what does not in smoothing the path of their nation’s nascent startups and scaling founders.

Each nation has a story. In Europe, Freddy Nurski, GEN Belgium managing director, convinced leaders who usually compete with each other to join the same board and cooperate. GEN Switzerland mastered the art of designing a strategic plan from scratch with some of the most thoughtful national leaders GEN Global has ever seen.

In Asia, Yatin Thakur, GEN India managing director, had to define where in a country of 1.3 billion people GEN could have a positive impact and formed a strong board, partnered with GEN Global to implement the U.S. and Indian Government sponsored Global Entrepreneurship Summit in Hyderabad and is off to a strong start with a special focus on startup policy at the state level.

According to Seymur Huseynov, Azerbaijan’s acting managing director, the drastic and comprehensive economic reforms in the country have opened up new opportunities for entrepreneurs as drivers of the country’s future development. GEN Azerbaijan aims to leverage recent

“GEN Nigeria is positioned to be the positive force to bring actors into the ecosystem for a more deliberate approach at shaping the startup and SME scene in the country.”

- Olawale Anifowose, Managing Director, GEN Nigeria

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economic optimism to help further develop the national startup ecosystem through the alignment of various stakeholders. GEN Azerbaijan is actively focused on educating and mentoring young people as well as celebrating entrepreneurship across the country through GEW.

GEN Australia, led by Allan Connolly, is setting out to empower more cities and local communities to become self-sustaining ecosystems. GEN Australia is working to strengthen the national ecosystem by starting out with a goal of creating 500 new jobs nationwide; better enabling entrepreneurs and intrapreneurs to connect, and transforming Australia into a leading learner and contributor to the global entrepreneurship ecosystem.

In the Americas, Marcus Dantus, GEN Mexico managing director, sent a survey to 268 incubators and accelerators in Mexico to identify the gaps in the ecosystem. According to the responses representing half of the states, the biggest problems identified included aversion to risk; lack of fiscal incentives; lack of cooperation; intolerance to failure; insufficient VC and seed funds; lack of financial exits; lack of government stimuli grants; no bank loans for entrepreneurs and fewer success stories. GEN Mexico will be focusing on these matters with a strong board equipped with backgrounds to address these issues.

GEN Peru’s acting managing director, Romina Diaz, is focused on developing a more vibrant, innovative and accessible ecosystem for all of Peru that makes it easier for entrepreneurs, investors, mentors, researchers, policymakers, professionals and corporations to better help grow and build a better economic future for the country. GEN Peru is focusing on four primary pillars: programs for corporations, global initiatives, building a better Peruvian entrepreneurship ecosystem, and advancing an innovation mindset in more of the country’s people.
Some recent initiatives include the “Univ-Corp” program, the “OPEN innovation” project for corporations and an ecosystem building for national champions.

In Africa, Algeria, Egypt, Madagascar and South Africa have made headway in their respective GEN country operations.

One key element of GEN Algeria’s work in fueling a stronger ecosystem has been the Entrepreneurship, Leadership, and Innovation Program (ELIP), which has leveraged GEN’s Startup Experience and other GEN talent in offering training designed to inspire young people in all regions of Algeria to become innovative change-makers. The first cohort included 1,200 students with the aim to create 40 startups. The results of this program are being shared with public authorities as more evidence as to why entrepreneurship should be a higher priority in Algerian university curriculum.

Recent developments of GEN Egypt, led by Ahmed Osman, GEN Egypt’s managing director, have focused on entrepreneurship as a practical discipline, exposing those connected to GEN Egypt to an extensive network of experienced entrepreneurs, professionals and researchers. The organization’s current focus is to cultivate innovation through promoting viable entrepreneurial businesses through its multi-sector platform.

Prospérin Tsialonina, managing director of GEN Madagascar, has been focusing the organization on being the exchange platform for best practices to support entrepreneurship in the country with an aim to find a unified voice for all entrepreneurial stakeholders. GEN Madagascar’s

“GEN Algeria works for a powerful, dynamic and innovative ecosystem that allows entrepreneurs to grow and prosper by interacting with different actors, including investors, researchers and policymakers.”
- Fatiha Rachedi, Acting Managing Director, GEN Algeria
leadership consists of entrepreneurs, thought leaders in entrepreneurship, as well as policymakers. By leveraging GEN’s resources, GEN Madagascar is working especially hard on mobilizing young people in Madagascar to think global, but bring new ideas to fruition locally.

Following the 2017 Global Entrepreneurship Congress in South Africa, not only did GEN Africa come to life, but GEN national affiliates rolled out across the continent inspired by the leadership of GEN’s new startup campus, 22 On Sloane – a 10,000 square meter center in Johannesburg, for Africa’s entrepreneurs.

GEN’s national managing directors are overcoming the challenges of operating in a considerably more unpredictable time. They must find committed co-founders and board directors; earn the buy in from the major organizations currently operating in their national ecosystem; develop and implement an evidence-based gap analysis and strategic plan; learn how to leverage all GEN Global’s communities, research and programs; and show national impact in terms of outputs and outcomes.
As the Global Entrepreneurship Network continues to launch country affiliates across the globe, GEN South Africa used the momentum from hosting more than 8,000 local and international delegates for the Global Entrepreneurship Congress 2017, to gain support from government officials and to mobilize the country’s entrepreneurship stakeholders.

During Global Entrepreneurship Week 2017, Kizito Okechukwu, managing director of GEN South Africa, took the lead on opening the first brick-and-mortar GEN startup campus. Richard Branson, Virgin Group founder, helped launch the first-ever GEN startup campus in Johannesburg, South Africa, as part of the global kick-off of GEW 2017. The 100,000 square foot campus — offering direct and virtual support services to startups — is the largest known such facility throughout the African continent.

“Every big business in this world was started by an entrepreneur — and small businesses are the ones creating the jobs, innovating and making life better for everybody,” said Branson. “You have to do the hard part first to be able to get into position to make a difference.”

22 on Sloane opened to coincide with Global Entrepreneurship Week and the new facility hosted a full slate of events, including a range of masterclass sessions to support promising young entrepreneurs and pitch sessions for them to claim a six-month residency at the new facility.

The vision for the center as a driver of a collaborative and cohesive ecosystem on the African continent came about in the preparation for the Global Entrepreneurship Congress which was hosted by the City of Johannesburg in March 2017. Kizito Okechukwu, managing director of GEN South Africa, led the project from concept to creation.

“For us the campus is about building a community from all over the African continent,” said Okechukwu. “I believe that 22 on Sloane is for everyone — and anyone.”

As was the case with the Global Entrepreneurship Congress, the new startup campus enjoys strong support from the South African government. At the launch, Small Business Development Minister Lindiwe Zulu stressed the importance of the effort.

“We can’t afford to let this fail because people that need to be serviced by this campus are the most important people in the economic space of South Africa. The improvement of the economy of South Africa will depend very much on your small and medium enterprises.”
A WORLD OF IMPACT
ACROSS THE GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP NETWORK
PLATFORMS WITH IMPACT
INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION TO UNLEASH THEIR IDEAS

CELEBRATE

CONNECT

SUPPORT

UNDERSTAND

INSPIRATION
GLOBAL FORUMS + EVENTS
RESEARCH, POLICY + GOVERNMENT
PROGRAMS + RESOURCES
The world needs more entrepreneurs, but not all ecosystems enjoy the entrepreneurial culture that is prevalent in startup hubs like Silicon Valley, Singapore and Sao Paolo. Celebrating the successes and impact of entrepreneurs can break down cultural barriers and reach new audiences.

Global Entrepreneurship Week board members include:

- **Susan Amat**
  Founder and CEO
  Venture Hive

- **Elmira Bayrasli**
  Co-Founder
  Foreign Policy Interrupted

- **Neil Dhillon**
  Head of International Relations
  Saudi Aramco

- **Kevin Langley**
  Founder and CEO
  Ellis Construction

- **Jonathan Ortmans**
  President
  GEN

Global Entrepreneurship Week

Millions of entrepreneurs, aspiring innovators and the people who support them celebrated entrepreneurship this past November, marking the 10th year for Global Entrepreneurship Week.

Since the first effort in 2008, GEW has helped nearly 50 million people explore their potential to start and grow new businesses. The campaign began with an emphasis on inspiring young people to make their mark and has since evolved into a far-reaching effort that engages all levels of the ecosystem collaborating to advance economic growth and innovation in all different types of economies and cultures.

With more than 39,200 events held around the world, GEW highlights have spanned from individual stories of entrepreneurs who were inspired to take a leap of faith, to government leaders who champion startup policy. The following impact stories barely scrape the surface of the amazing work GEN countries and partners have accomplished during Global Entrepreneurship Week 2017.
Learn more about some of the countries who have been celebrating GEW since the beginning.

SOUTH KOREA
South Korea has participated in Global Entrepreneurship Week since the beginning – with the Korea Entrepreneurship Foundation leading the helm the past few years.

KEF has been able to grow GEW events from just a few hundred participants to several thousand. The foundation faces a unique challenge in South Korea. According to KEF, while 50 percent of parents in Korea view entrepreneurship positively, they often do not approve of their children choosing entrepreneurship. This is why KEF and its GEW campaigns have placed an increased focus on entrepreneurial education.

One event, the Happy Family Entrepreneurship Camp, is a GEW program that encourages teams of families to think in an entrepreneurial way through certain activities and challenges. The goal of the camp is to overcome Korean perceptions of entrepreneurship.

But the camp is not the only GEW event KEF highlights as having a significant impact on entrepreneurship in Korea. The foundation also pointed to the E-Ship Roundtable during the second GEW hosted in the country.

The roundtable brought together embassy officials from Belgium, Finland, Germany, Kenya, Mexico, Spain, Switzerland, the United States, Israel and South Korea. Through the roundtable, the 10 countries talked about policies and support systems that create more collaboration between these countries and the South Korean startup ecosystem.

The impact of GEW and the country’s emphasis on entrepreneurship has had a tangible effect. According to KEF, over the last 10 years, more than a dozen innovation centers have opened, between 20 and 30 startup incubators have launched in Seoul, and KEF said the number is likely higher if co-working spaces in the public and private sector are included. GEW serves as a catalyst in Korea, sparking Korean startup ecosystems and entrepreneurs.

TURKEY
Over the past 10 years, Global Entrepreneurship Week in Turkey has evolved from one week of activities with three partner organizations in Istanbul, to six weeks of activities (starting from the last week of October and extending into the first week of December) with more than 300 partner organizations across more than 75 cities nationwide. GEW is both a driver for entrepreneurship awareness building and agenda setting, as well as a reflection of how the ecosystem is maturing and expanding over time.

In 2008, the first few activities were focused on reaching a handful of curious high school students. But fortunately, entrepreneurship is a very contagious agenda. In a little over a decade, the Turkish entrepreneurship ecosystem has grown from three NGOs and one lone visionary VC fund to include 30+ NGOs, 60+ incubators and accelerators, 40+ angel networks, 20+ VC funds, plus numerous corporate entrepreneurship initiatives.

One of GEW Turkey’s best signature events includes the G3 Summit, hosted by the Federation of Commerce & Industry (TOBB), where more than 1,000 startups attend a speed mentoring morning with 200 VIP mentors, followed by an afternoon
Each year, GEW continues to grow larger, adding new countries, new hosts and new activities to local communities around the world.

Without the help and support of both private and public sponsors, host organizations, and event organizers, GEW would not happen.

Our GEW 2017 host organizations reach out to local partners and supporters to host events across their countries.

With the help from local partners, GEW organizers catalyzed more than $159 million in U.S. Dollars to support entrepreneurship in their communities.

Around the world, more than 8.8 million people celebrated GEW 2017 with events, workshops, keynote lectures and startup competitions.

In the United States alone, more than 818,700 people celebrated Global Entrepreneurship Week across the country, from metropolitan areas to small cities.

For one week each November, GEW hosts and partners mobilize entrepreneurs, investors and industry leaders to celebrate innovation.

Event attendees raise signs in support of Global Entrepreneurship Week in Peru, as part of a social media campaign, an activity led by Romina Diaz, GEN Peru acting managing director and GEW Peru lead.
of keynote speakers and inspirational panel discussions. Another event that has gained a life of its own, initiated by Endeavor Turkey, includes the annual nationwide university screening and discussion of the thought-provoking Alibaba.com documentary, “Crocodile on the Yangtze,” coordinated by university entrepreneurship clubs. And, every year GEW Turkey introduces an entertaining, creative twist to the GEW Turkey ad campaign produced by TBWA.

GEW is a multi-stakeholder platform and there is something in it for everyone, ranging from companies, NGOs, universities and government agencies to students, entrepreneurs and investors. As a civic engagement initiative, GEW Turkey has become the most creative and efficient platform available to encourage awareness building around high impact entrepreneurship. While the GEW events are not the equivalent of a PhD in entrepreneurship, the campaign itself is a critical agenda-setting tool for GEW Turkey.

GERMANY
GEW Germany is made up of thousands of events in different cities around the country, and the celebration is led by host organizations RKW Competence Center, and the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy.

Sonja Alt, managing director of GEN Germany, said when Germany started celebrating GEW, it was a regional initiative with 120 events. With the support of the Federal Ministry, and led by Birgitta Rataazzi-Förster, project leader for RKW, the celebration has grown to now include more than 1,350 partners and approximately 80,000 potential entrepreneurs who attend various events across the country.

“Now, GEW Germany is an established brand widely known in the entrepreneurial scene in Germany,” said Alt. “We get requests year-round from people who want to participate and the events are no longer only limited to the core week in November.”

For the country, access to information and the ability to engage in the rapid evolution of ideas within the national ecosystem have been key factors in how the entrepreneurship ecosystem has changed in the past 10 years from a “rather exclusive approach, to a wide band of collaborative activities and attitude.”

“The evolution has also taken place in the entrepreneurial mindset. Startups turn out to be the creative motor for the economy,” Alt and her team said. “They identify problems and [raise] questions, besides the beaten path of larger companies and develop feasible business models. The entrepreneurial [startup] ecosystem has grown up and plays a pivotal role in the economy.”

Over the past decade, GEW Germany has established a network of 35 supporters—corporate businesses, financial and startup associations, administrative organizations, regional ministries and national chambers—

“If religious holidays are about gratitude and national holidays are about fortitude, then Global Entrepreneurship Week has become a universal holiday celebrating the human potential to innovate and collaborate.”

- Alev Ertem, Endeavor Turkey
that advertise GEW Germany, have helped it flourish and continue to do so.

“People can connect, learn, get helpful information and make the first steps toward their own business in a great variety of events,” she said. “In this way, GEW Germany helps to inspire, encourage and support the next generation of entrepreneurs in Germany.”

KENYA

John Wali, managing director of GEN Kenya, said over the past 10 years, the Global Entrepreneurship Week movement in the country has seen immense growth, and has helped strengthen the country’s entrepreneurship ecosystem, through multiple stakeholder partnerships between public, private and social sectors.

And there have been significant changes to the entrepreneurship ecosystem, Wali said, that have helped support and encourage economic development – and fuel the entrepreneurial spirit within Kenya.

“We have government support to ease the process of setting up and running an enterprise in the country,” he said. “We have also seen a development of innovation hubs, which serve the larger margin of budding entrepreneurs in the startup stage – that serves as a source of information, networking and mentorship.”

Wali said Global Entrepreneurship Week has had a positive impact on the country’s ecosystem change – providing an opportunity for Kenyans to celebrate the country’s hard work.

“GEW is a chance to network, strategize and inspire all the stakeholders in the entrepreneurship space. I believe that through our participation, we inspire others to join the growing movement of entrepreneurs.”

He said GEW has provided an amazing platform that has enabled players within the entrepreneurship ecosystem to collaborate and realize the tremendous value entrepreneurship contributes to economic growth in Kenya.

“Beyond that, GEW Kenya presents an opportunity to celebrate the successes of entrepreneurs in the country. Since the launch of GEW Kenya, the movement has grown to more than 50 partners, and more than 30,000 participants,” Wali said.
In 2015, Kenya hosted the 2015 Global Entrepreneurship Summit, and in 2016, Wali said the country “delivered an entrepreneurship stream during the High Level Meeting on Global Partnerships as a result of GEW, which put Kenya on the global entrepreneurial map.”

One of Wali’s favorite Global Entrepreneurship Week events took place in 2008, when the country launched GEW with Uhuru Kenyatta, the president of Kenya, who was then-minister of finance. He said they started with the goal to unlock the entrepreneurial potential of young people in the country, and to raise awareness of entrepreneurship as a viable career and a pathway to job creation – a passion GEW Kenya still has today.

KANSAS CITY, USA
Submitted by Maria Meyers, lead of the University of Missouri - Kansas City Innovation Center

Thousands of makers, doers and dreamers of all kinds are geared up to participate in Kansas City’s tenth anniversary of Global Entrepreneurship Week in November 2017.

“Global Entrepreneurship Week is a great opportunity to join a worldwide movement to shine the spotlight on the inspiring stories and resources available to entrepreneurs,” says Jenny Miller, who is one of the organizers for GEW Kansas City (#GEWKC) and leads KCSourceLink, the portal to KC entrepreneurship.

Fifteen years ago, Kansas City developed the first infrastructure for entrepreneurship with KCSourceLink. Founded by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, the University of Missouri-Kansas City and the U.S. Small Business Administration, KCSourceLink was launched in 2003 to create a network of entrepreneurial resources and make them visible for entrepreneurs.

These strong roots have helped Kansas City clear that path by building connections that advance entrepreneurship in its region—and make Global Entrepreneurship Week in Kansas City one of the leading cities for GEW events for the past 10 years.

GEWK is truly a community-led event, powered by organizing chairs from KCSourceLink, Kansas City-based
Kauffman Foundation, Mid-Continent Public Library and the Enterprise Center in Johnson County. Each track is led by a track captain, usually a small business owner who has helped recruit headline events and is committed to promoting GEW to broader networks. The 150+ events themselves were crowd-sourced from local entrepreneurs, small businesses, corporations and entrepreneurial service organizations.

In the spirit of removing barriers to entrepreneurship, organizers ensured that events would be accessible to anyone with an idea, a side hustle, a startup or a growing business. More than three-quarters of the events are held at a central location; the rest are held at locations across the KC metro, and most of the events are free.

Crowd-sourced events brought more people into the entrepreneurship conversation that weren’t the usual suspects. And the events themselves join the conventional workshops on startup and growth topics to provide a well-rounded vision of the goals, dreams and possible life-changing outcomes of entrepreneurship.

Featured headline events cover such topics as fostering innovation in established companies, scaling a business, real-time marketing, mastering Facebook as well as a 10-year celebration of GEW with a reunion of the people who have helped Kansas City build its entrepreneurial infrastructure.

UNITED KINGDOM

During Global Entrepreneurship Week 2017, GEN UK launched its efforts to continue strengthening and shaping a unified entrepreneurship ecosystem within the United Kingdom.

Ewan Gaffney, the lead organizer for GEW UK, and the acting managing director of GEN UK, said entrepreneurship ecosystem in the UK has exploded in size and scope.

“From quite a niche pursuit, the idea of startup development, accelerators and incubators have become something that we are all aware of. One crucial change has been a fundamental shift in the UK’s understanding of the role of entrepreneurship support and development as a key tool for macroeconomic policy,” he said.

Accordingly, the GEW campaign has moved forward too, then, when GEW UK began, the focus was on large mass participation and awareness raising events, especially in schools and universities. Today, the GEW campaign is the centrepiece of a sophisticated and comprehensive effort to connect people and resources together to create a new opportunities, called the Global Entrepreneurship Network.

“One of the most profound shifts we have seen is the development of one collective entrepreneurship ecosystem, which is gradually replacing a series of isolated GEW campaigns around the world,” said Gaffney.
Algeria

**Partners:** 759  
**Events:** 9,241  
**Participants:** 424,000

One of the most popular events for GEW Algeria is the youth entrepreneurship caravan, which catered to more than 120,000 attendees. The youth entrepreneurship caravan took place in all 48 states of the country, and was held even in the smallest cities – aiming to encourage young people to invest in the field of entrepreneurship to ensure work opportunities and sources of wealth, and to fight unemployment.

The impact and the results of the youth entrepreneurship caravan were so significant after its launch in November, that GEN Algeria will continue over the next few months to complete coaching and mentorship for the project owners locally. Also through GEW, a business angels network for women will be created and launched in the spring of 2018.

Russia

**Partners:** 150  
**Events:** 210  
**Participants:** 350,000

Global Entrepreneurship Week 2017 in Russia was fueled in part by the launch of Startup Huddle in eight different Russian cities. The eight Startup Huddles are co-organized by the Center for Entrepreneurship. Startup Huddle is a free, monthly program designed to educate, engage and connect entrepreneurs. Every month entrepreneurs come together to pitch their startup, reveal challenges and crowdsource solutions.

Also during GEW, St. Petersburg held activities, programs and events for the full week. Those in attendance of GEW included the Department of Small and Medium Business Development and the Ministry of Economic Development. The Center for Entrepreneurship also hosted a Scale-Up Summit in Moscow, which included representatives from various regions in Russia.

The impact and the results of the youth entrepreneurship caravan were so significant after its launch in November, that GEN Algeria will continue over the next few months to complete coaching and mentorship for the project owners locally. Also through GEW, a business angels network for women will be created and launched in the spring of 2018.

Russia

**Partners:** 150  
**Events:** 210  
**Participants:** 350,000

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Argentina

**Partners:** 45  
**Events:** 75  
**Participants:** 20,000

During GEW, Endeavor Argentina organized an event for 1,200 people featuring Reid Hoffman, LinkedIn co-founder, as well as top entrepreneurs and venture capitalists from Silicon Valley. The Silicon Valley Forum was a great opportunity for entrepreneurs to be inspired and think big. Another event was Experiencia Endeavor, which is a tailor-made event that travels the country during the year. During GEW, Argentina held two of these events in two different cities, with more than 600 people attending.

Mariano Mayer, Secretary for Entrepreneurs and Small and Medium Enterprises, Horacio Rodriguez Larreta, Mayor of City of Buenos Aires, Andy Freire, Minister for modernisation, innovation and technology for the city of Buenos Aires, were a few of the featured guests during GEW Argentina.

Canada

**Partners:** 379  
**Events:** 447  
**Participants:** 11,910

The inaugural Trailblazers event took place in Toronto, Canada, bringing together more than 300 members of the entrepreneurial community to listen to five honest stories of inspiring Canadian entrepreneurs. It was an inspiring evening and resulted in #GEWCanada trending on Twitter across the nation.

GEW Canada also featured its annual “On the Road” campaign, with entrepreneur ambassadors traveling the country, meeting founders and telling the stories of startups across Canada.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau also issued a statement supporting Global Entrepreneurship Week and promoted #GEW2017 and GEW Canada on social media.

Uzbekistan

**Partners:** 50  
**Events:** 50  
**Participants:** 5,000

The business community and government bodies supported GEW in Uzbekistan and provided substantial support for the celebration. Participants from the country, and also those who attended from neighboring areas, positively evaluated the events, and also had the opportunity to meet and interact with local entrepreneurs and startups to discuss challenges and solutions.

Participants noted the importance and necessity in developing a strong entrepreneurship ecosystem in the country, and GEW 2018 has been added to the state program in the country, with an aim to be organized in more cities. The two most popular events were the Day of Business of the Union of Youth in Tashkent, with 700 participants, and Business for Women, that featured several seminars and masterclasses.
While the interest in advancing entrepreneurship continues to gain momentum, there is plenty of room for greater collaboration among the various groups that make up entrepreneurial ecosystems. Connections help break down siloes, whether within one part of the ecosystem or among a cross-section of startup champions.

Through numerous live events, its virtual platform and other programs, GEN connects entrepreneurs, investors, policymakers, researchers, startup community leaders and others across the globe.

Global Entrepreneurship Congress

2017 GEC Held in Johannesburg, South Africa

Delegates from 173 different countries gathered at the Global Entrepreneurship Congress in Johannesburg – a budding startup hub that is both an economic and cultural cornerstone of South Africa – and attended in-depth masterclasses and relevant discussions to foster entrepreneurs to start and scale new businesses.

In its ninth year, more than 8,400 people from around the world registered for the Congress, co-hosted by the Global Entrepreneurship Network, the Kauffman Foundation, SEA Africa and the City of Johannesburg. Other partners included the Industrial Development Corporation, South Africa’s Department of Small Business Development and the Gauteng Province, as well as companies including ABSA, Transnet, Hollard, SAB, Telkom, Microsoft and Johnson and Johnson.

During the four-day long Congress, delegates had the opportunity to make connections, learn about new research, and take home the latest information.
to renew their programs, facilitate policy discussions and mobilize their entrepreneurial community.

Beyond the sessions and discussions, the GEC 2017 left an additional impact on the country and continent, with the launch of the regional GEN affiliate, GEN Africa, and the reaffirmation of GEN South Africa – led by Managing Director Kizito Okechukwu. The Congress brought delegates from around the world to Africa, and GEN Africa will work to innovate and unite the continent’s entrepreneurial ecosystem – bringing Africa to the world.

As well as the emergence of GEN Africa, world government leaders in entrepreneurship, small businesses and innovation, gathered at the GEC for the third Global SME Ministerial. Led by the U.S. Small Business Administration and the South African Ministry of Small Business Development, ministers and policy leaders participated in a dialogue to share best practices, find collaborative solutions and to create a path for promoting entrepreneurship in any economy and community around the world.

The 2017 Congress also included a new, customized track for global investment organizations, as well as for entrepreneurs and startup founders. The customized sessions focused on issues such cross-border investing and the entrepreneur program covered relevant challenges and success stories from global entrepreneurs.

Other highlights from the Congress included pitch corners for entrepreneurs and organizations to pitch their idea on a global stage, entrepreneurship workshops, and in-depth, high-impact sessions that covered many topics, including:

- Digital disruption in a changing economy;
- Analyzing entrepreneurial mindset in South Africa, and creating a replicable study;
- Enhancing early stage investment;
- Catalyzing startup communities;
- Intersection of public and corporate partnerships to enable entrepreneurial growth in communities; and more.

GEC 2018 Marks 10 Years of Connecting Global Ecosystems

The 10th anniversary of the Global Entrepreneurship Congress brought thousands of entrepreneurs, investors, policymakers, researchers and entrepreneurship support organizations to a global startup hub -- featuring in-depth sessions and workshops on the latest developments in entrepreneurship from around the world.

GEC 2018 held in Istanbul, Turkey, took a look at the intersection of mindset, culture and barriers that exist within all entrepreneurship ecosystems. From exponential thinking – exploring how entrepreneurship moves from incremental to truly disruptive innovation – to innovation culture and inclusive entrepreneurship, the Global Entrepreneurship Congress featured sessions on leading-edge topics within the space.
GEC 2018 began with the Startup Nations Ministerial, covering topics including governing with dynamic, growth-oriented businesses in mind, the role of government in entrepreneurship ecosystems and how countries can better harness the potential of digital technologies in their ecosystems.

The two main days of the GEC featured plenary sessions spotlighting a global collection of entrepreneurs, investors and ecosystem supporters amplified by an impressive collection of 128 parallel sessions, covering a wide range of topics, including tracks dedicated to: Empowering Emerging Ecosystems; Global Challenges; Entrepreneurial Learning; Scaling Up; Mobilizing Capital; Women’s Entrepreneurship; Industry Disruption; Corporate Engagement; Fintech Innovations; Digital Economy; Lifestyle Innovations; and Social Entrepreneurship.

GEN and Startup Genome released the newest edition of the Global Startup Ecosystem Report which provides a comprehensive look at how regions foster and sustain vibrant startup ecosystems. The report authors spoke to ecosystem builders and city leaders about how to use the GSER results to improve and strengthen their entrepreneurship ecosystem.

For the first time, the Global Innovation through Science and Technology’s Tech-I startup pitch competition finals were held at the Global Entrepreneurship Congress. The GIST Tech-I top 10 finalists, as well as 10 program alumni mentors attended and participated in a day of intensive workshops to improve their ideas and practice their pitching skills. The Tech-I finalists hail from eight different countries, including Algeria, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Jordan, Lebanon, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Rwanda.

GIST, a U.S. Department of State initiative, empowers young innovators to develop startup solutions that address economic and development challenges.

During the Congress there was also a meet and greet with the winners and organizers of the first Startup Nations Policy Hack, held in Tallinn, Estonia as part of the 2017 Startup Nations Summit. Policy hack organizers gathered to share their experiences identifying teams, judges and topics for the policy hacks, and participants also heard from the winners about their solutions and how they have started to implement them.

There are select sessions and interviews from GEC 2018 online, at gec.co/2018. You can also find photos from the event as well.

**GEN Announces Manama, Bahrain as Host for GEC 2019**

The Global Entrepreneurship Network announced during GEW that it will partner with Tamkeen, the Bahrain Labor Fund, to host the Global Entrepreneurship Congress in the Kingdom of Bahrain’s capital city of Manama in April 2019.

The announcement was made at an event at the United Nations celebrating the 10th anniversary of Global Entrepreneurship Week.

The partnership between GEN and the Kingdom of Bahrain is supported by Tamkeen, a semi-governmental organization that has been working to advance entrepreneurship for more than 10 years. In that time, it has launched more than 200 programs and initiatives focused on areas such as funding and financing, skill and career progression, customized employment schemes, and entrepreneurship exposure, amongst many others.

“We are perfectly placed to host an event...
on entrepreneurship, new business and business innovation,” said Dr. Ebrahim Janahi, CEO of Tamkeen. “We have a history of proactively developing and enacting programs designed to empower Bahrainis and new enterprises. Bahrain has a history of investing in our human resource and the private sector.

“The event will bring together Bahrain’s best and brightest business minds, to provide a platform for thought leadership and greater cooperation between Bahrain and its international partners.”


SNS 2017 Held in Tallinn, Estonia
For the sixth year, the Startup Nations Summit gathered together a network of policymakers and experts from around the world to help better enable high-impact entrepreneurship, through the identification of policy levers and smart public sector driven programs.

The 2017 Startup Nations Summit was held in Tallinn, Estonia, in partnership with Startup Estonia, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, EIT Digital, the European Commission, Dell and the Kauffman Foundation.


At the Startup Nations Summit, GEN honored four individuals for their leadership in implementing innovative public policies and programs to help entrepreneurs start and scale new businesses in their countries and around the world.

The winners were: Jorge Lawson of Argentina for the Startup Nations Award for Local Policy Leadership; Mariano Mayer of Argentina for the Startup Nations Award for National Policy Leadership; the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Team from the World Bank, for the Startup Nations Award for Groundbreaking Policy Thinking and Mikk Vainik of Estonia for the Global

Entrepreneurship Network Award.

Leaders from more than 70 different countries attended the Summit, exploring regulatory changes and policy ideas to help enable high impact entrepreneurship and stimulate entrepreneurial growth around the world.

**SNS 2018 Heads to Surabaya, Indonesia**

During the Startup Nations Summit in Tallinn, Estonia, GEN announced that it would partner with the City of Surabaya to host the next Startup Nations Summit in Indonesia in November 2018.

The announcement was made by Tri Rismaharini, mayor of Surabaya, at the conclusion of Startup Nations Summit 2017 in Tallinn.

Rismaharini, named second runner-up by Fortune Magazine for World’s Best Mayor in 2015, is focused on turning the city of 3.5 million into a thriving hub for entrepreneurs. One of her initiatives, Start Surabaya, is the first city-level tech startup incubator in Indonesia focused on creative entrepreneurs in digital industries.

The announcement comes as GEN expands its efforts to help policymakers navigate a fast-changing environment for public policy and entrepreneurship. One of the primary functions of the Summit is to identify the most promising policy ideas to bring before a gathering of government ministers months later at the Global Entrepreneurship Congress. In addition to those gatherings, GEN has begun to roll out a series of policy panels and policy hackathons at all levels to facilitate broad knowledge sharing.

**GEC+Cape Town and GEC+Bangkok Provide In-Depth Insight Into Local Entrepreneurship Ecosystems**

Over the past 10 years, the interest in the
Global Entrepreneurship Congress has created demand for smaller, follow-on events around the world. GEC+ events, which were developed in 2016 to fill that demand, gather experts from around the world for deep-dives into specific regions or issues.

GEN hosted two GEC+ events in 2017, the first in Cape Town, South Africa, and the second in Bangkok, Thailand. GEC+Cape Town offered an introduction to the city’s vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem. Following on the heels of GEC 2017 in Johannesburg, the event was sponsored by the Allan Gray Orbis Foundation (AGOF) and the Cape Town GEC+ Host Committee, which is made up of the city’s leading entrepreneurship organizations.

In addition to an overview of the local entrepreneurial ecosystem, GEC+Cape Town hosted a member meeting of the Global Entrepreneurship Research Network as well as a deep-dive into innovative new methods for understanding entrepreneurial mindset around the world.

GEC+Bangkok took place in September 2017, as part of the Digital Thailand Big Bang event at the IMPACT Exhibition Convention Center, where entrepreneurs and support organizations gathered for four days to participate in 50+ events that bridged the knowledge of digital innovators, new business support programs, government policies and the media.

The GEC+Bangkok program featured:

- The inaugural meeting of GEN Asia, marking the launch of a collaborative regional effort to plug into a rapidly expanding global entrepreneurial ecosystem
- A regulatory sandbox workshop

where policy stakeholders, including entrepreneurs disrupting traditional industries, explored the “sandbox” format for regulatory dialogue

- An in-depth exploration of the Thailand 4.0 approach to a digital society to identify lessons in how to unleash digital innovations in the private sector, and much more.

GEC+Bangkok was hosted by GEN and the Kingdom of Thailand’s Ministry of Digital Economy & Society, with support from GEN Thailand.

Gen Ecosystem Connect

GEN Aims to Accelerate Growth of Mid-Tier Ecosystems

A movement in the United States led by serial entrepreneur Steve Case is looking beyond Silicon Valley at the growth of startup ecosystems in promising mid-tier cities. As the Global Entrepreneurship Network continues to expand into nearly every country on earth, there is a parallel effort occurring to extend efforts to support entrepreneurial growth outside of the world’s largest startup ecosystems like Berlin, London and Shanghai — where high-growth companies can start and scale anywhere, not just in a few cities.

GEN is unveiling a new program that it will continue to expand in the coming years, Ecosystem Connect, to facilitate collaboration between high-potential entrepreneurship ecosystems in emerging and mid-tier cities to help them grow and mature.

GEN is currently listening to leaders in a select number of ecosystems to identify their motivations and needs, seeking to align them with counterparts who have similar interests, such as increasing cross-border investing or hacking innovative
policies and programs to empower entrepreneurs.

Following a pilot phase, GEN aims to roll out 25 partnerships in 10 ecosystem pairs by the end of 2019.

**Global Entrepreneurship Summit**

**GEN Leads Private Sector Partners in GES 2017**

Global Entrepreneurship Network was again appointed by the U.S. State Department as the lead implementing partner in support of its Global Entrepreneurship Summit, held in Hyderabad, India from November 28-30, 2017.

Amongst other efforts, GEN focused on the participation of entrepreneurs and the integration of private sector partners into the program. The Summit was co-hosted by the United States and India. Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump led the U.S. contingent to the summit, which focused on the theme of “Women First, Prosperity for All” and on supporting women entrepreneurs and fostering economic growth globally.

The Summit, which followed closely on the heels of Global Entrepreneurship Week, was attended by more than 1,500 entrepreneurs and ecosystem builders from countries around the world. The event also highlighted India’s enabling environment for innovation and entrepreneurship. Attendees participated in three days of interactive discussions and workshops with accomplished entrepreneurs and investors who shared their knowledge and experience in how to start and scale a business.
Ivanka Trump joins the launch announcement of GEN India at GES 2017 in Hyderabad.
Parallel to the increasing amount of data that demonstrates the powerful impact of new and young firms on entrepreneurial growth, there is increasing demand from countries for experts who can provide solid, evidence-based counsel in terms of policies and programs that accelerate that growth. The problem is there are still more questions than answers, leaving much for us to better understand.

Through the Global Entrepreneurship Research Network and Startup Nations, GEN is helping increase the quality and quantity of research available to policymakers and startup community leaders to help identify best-in-class programs and policies that help entrepreneurs launch and grow new firms.

**Startup Nations**

**Steering Committee Members Chart Course for Annual Startup Nations Ministerial**

The Startup Nations Ministerial Steering Committee met in Estonia this past November to define the intellectual framework of the Ministerial, held in Istanbul, Turkey during the Global Entrepreneurship Congress.

The Steering Committee drives the Ministerials and guides the overall agenda of the Startup Nations network of policymakers and their advisers. During the initial meeting, held at the Startup Nations Summit in Tallinn, Estonia, committee members began to discuss topics and potential outputs for the ministerial.

The group helps lead GEN’s year-round effort to empower policymakers with information and resources to develop smarter policy instruments to increase the rate of new firm formation in economies around the world. The committee is built upon the experience from three
The Startup Nations Atlas of Policies is an easy to navigate database of policies and programs the public sector is testing around the world.

Pilot ministerials held in Milan (2015), Medellin (2016) and Johannesburg (2017) in partnership with the United States Government and the activities of more than 70 member nations working on entrepreneurship and innovation policy work.

“While government work helping existing SMEs is equally important, having an impact on ensuring more new firms start, scale and exit requires a different mindset, pace, toolbox and strategy within any government,” said Jonathan Ortmans, president of the Global Entrepreneurship Network. “Ministers value knowing their international counterparts when grappling with new policy issues, and the Startup Nations Ministerial offers that platform.”

The planning meeting in Estonia, focusing its agenda to policies that remove barriers for new and young firms, began with a presentation from Ganesh Rasagam, practice manager for the Innovation & Entrepreneurship team with World Bank Group’s Trade and Competitiveness Global Practice. The presentation focused on the World Bank’s High-Growth Entrepreneurship Flagship Study and recent findings, which drove the focus for the meeting. The World Bank serving as the main knowledge partner of the Ministerial in Istanbul.

**GEN Expands Efforts to Shape Entrepreneurship Policy**

The Startup Nations Atlas of Policies provides policymakers and advisers a tool to tap into the collective knowledge of the GEN network to shape their efforts to help entrepreneurs start and scale. The effort is made possible by the Kauffman Foundation, and the information crowdsourced from SNAP contributors reflects intellectual input from the World Bank.

The SNAP online platform allows anyone to easily search and filter policies via a variety of criteria. There are currently more than 190 submissions, and the online platform now has a filter to help users search for the most relevant submissions.

In addition to the online consortium of policy solutions, GEN recently rolled out two additional programs to help local communities and national governments find policy solutions to entrepreneurship barriers and challenges.

Over the past 10 years, a new field has emerged in public policy around smarter ways for governments to enable the founders of new firms to start and scale more quickly in pursuit of economic stability and job creation. As more entrepreneurial societies have taken root, disruptive technologies have been unleashed on traditional industries bringing new, unfamiliar regulatory challenges to governments.

Based on the premise that hands-on policy design, experimentation and knowledge exchange at in-person events should lead to actual implementation, GEN launched the first Startup Nations Policy Hack at the Startup Nations Summit in Tallinn, Estonia.

As part of the 2017 Startup Nations
Summit, entrepreneurs, thought leaders and other startup champions from around the world hacked eight different challenges – and found public policy solutions – through weeks of research and one day of in-person intense discussion, mentoring and live pitches.

The first policy hack culminated with a live pitch competition, and team leader Rasha Tantawy, head of entrepreneurship at the Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center in Egypt, and her team members took first place with their innovative solution addressing how to foster international expansion for agribusiness startups.

Organizers and participants were part of a discussion at the GEC 2018 in Istanbul to discuss how to implement a Startup Nations Policy Hack and its impact.

A national edition of the Startup Nations Policy Hack took place in Johannesburg, South Africa, at 22 On Sloane. The policy hack in South Africa was held in May 2018, and focused on themes identified through collaboration between Industrial Development Corporation, the South African Department of Small Business Development, the World Bank and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. The winners of this and other local editions of the policy hack will now participate in the global Startup Nations Policy Hack to help team leaders refine their policy solutions further with experts from across the world. The next global edition will take place at the Startup Nations Summit in Surabaya, Indonesia.

GEN also recently held its first Startup Nations Policy Dialogue in Washington, D.C., with the Embassy of Italy and the Kauffman Foundation in Washington, D.C. The dialogues provide insights into global entrepreneurship policies from a variety of stakeholders.

The Startup Nations Policy Dialogues are designed to facilitate discussions on local, national and regional levels.
Global Entrepreneurship Research Network

**GERN Announces Priority Research Questions**

The Global Entrepreneurship Research Network announced the research priority questions that emerged from its crowdsourcing activities conducted over the past year.

These new catalytic research areas were distilled by GERN members at their fourth annual meeting in South Africa, based on feedback obtained by bottom-up processes of inquiry. Based on the vast amount of crowdsourced material, GERN members found demand for fresh evidence in the following areas:

1. **Increasing the granularity and usability of data:** How can the data that exist be more useful to entrepreneurship supporters? What types of data that are not yet gathered would be most useful for entrepreneurship supporters? What are meaningful and measurable indicators of success?

2. **Nurturing entrepreneurial mindset:** What personal traits are correlated with entrepreneurial initiative and effectiveness? Which of those traits are most amenable to being taught or developed? How do these traits—particularly those that are relatively malleable—vary among different people and groups? What interventions are most effective in nurturing entrepreneurial mindset?

3. **Building valuable personal connections:** What types of connections are most valuable to entrepreneurs? How can valuable connections be most effectively developed? Is there any way to synthetically create these types of connections? How do we measure connections and connection intensity?

4. **Ensuring the inclusiveness of entrepreneurial ecosystems:** Which groups are best connected to entrepreneurship ecosystems? Where and how are some excluded? In what way does inclusivity of the ecosystem affect outcomes? What can be done to affect inclusivity?

**2018 Global Entrepreneurship Index**

**New Index Shows Increase in Entrepreneurship Could Add $7 Trillion to Global Economy**

As the demand for data-driven research on how to strengthen entrepreneurship support programs increase, the 2018 Global Entrepreneurship Index, which evaluates the health of entrepreneurship in 137 countries, was unveiled at the Global Entrepreneurship Summit in Hyderabad, India.

The 2018 Global Entrepreneurship Index provides key information for policymakers and government leaders worldwide to strengthen their digital ecosystems and promote high-growth, high-impact entrepreneurship. The new report shows the United States remains the country with the most favorable conditions for entrepreneurs to start and scale new businesses – but with a slowly narrowing gap as other countries increase their support.

The authors estimate that the 3 percent improvement of scores globally over the last year could add upwards of $7 trillion to the global economy – as countries work to improve conditions that help entrepreneurs create new companies.
In countries around the world we’re seeing improvements in entrepreneurship ecosystems, most notably in their ability to create innovative products,” said Zoltan Acs, co-author of the report and university professor at the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University. “This is encouraging news, as the conditions that support entrepreneurs tend to have a positive impact across economies.”

The top of the rankings were dominated by countries in the innovation-driven stage of development. The United States topped the rankings again this year, with a GEI score of 83.6 – which is a slight increase of its score of 83.4. It was followed by (in order): Switzerland (80.4), Canada (79.2), United Kingdom (77.8), Australia (75.5), Denmark (74.3), Iceland (74.2), Ireland (73.7), Sweden (73.1) and France (68.5). France moved into the top 10, jumping from 13th to 10th place in this year’s rankings, knocking the Netherlands down to 11th place.

The United Kingdom enjoyed a jump in the rankings, moving from eighth in last year’s report, to fourth in the 2018 standings, increasing its score from 71.3 to 77.8. India (28.4) enjoyed the largest jump in the rankings last year, moving up 29 spots from 2016 to 2017, landing in 69th – and moving up one more spot in 2018 to 68th.

The GEI measures a country’s entrepreneurial ecosystem by combining individual data such as opportunity recognition, startup skills and risk acceptance, with institutional measures, including urbanization, education and economic freedom. These measurements help distinguish self-employment and replicative entrepreneurship from the innovative, productive and rapidly growing entrepreneurial ventures that drive real economic growth.

The report was released by Global Entrepreneurship Network and the GEDI Institute so that findings from the Index can drive policy discussions at events around the world.

Other interesting observations from the report include:

- The big surprise is the rise of the United Kingdom to fourth place from eighth place last year, and both Bulgaria and Iran jumped 13 spots.
- Three of the five Nordic countries, Denmark, Iceland, and Sweden, remained in the top ten,
- Both Israel and Iran saw overall score improvements of more than four points from last year, and are among the top 10 biggest gains in score globally for the 2018 GEI.

Global Startup Ecosystem Report

**Startup Genome, GEN Launch the Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2018**

What technology sub-sectors hold the most promise for economic growth? How much local networking should startup founders do in their ecosystem? Do women and men differ in their entrepreneurial mindset at different points in the startup journey? Which ecosystems are leading the way in Fintech?

Answers to these questions, and countless other insights, are in the new Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2018, released at the Global Entrepreneurship Congress in Istanbul.

Produced by Startup Genome and GEN, the GSER informs public and private decision makers all over the world about what actions they can take to build vibrant startup ecosystems. This year’s report analyzes key
The public tends to have a perception of the lone-wolf entrepreneur – the single genius that is solely responsible for startup success. However, there is overwhelming evidence that dispels that myth and points out the importance of founder teams and support networks to entrepreneurial success.

Through efforts such as the Global Business Angels Network, Global Enterprise Registration, Startup Huddle, GEN Starters Club, Startup Experience, various startup competitions and other programs, GEN offers programs and resources intended to help smooth the path to market for founder teams and provide entrepreneurs at all stages with the support necessary to reach the next level.

**Global Enterprise Registration**

**GER.co: Moving Toward Zero Barriers to Entrepreneurship**

One of GEN’s most interesting – and challenging – projects for 2018 has been an extensive project with the Government of Iraq to mainline its online business administration systems through the Global Enterprise Registration portal.

In economies that have been through natural disaster or war, GEN’s work often can extend beyond simply getting a country’s regulations online, but also working with them to identify and define them. In Baghdad, GEN and its partners are interviewing civil servants to serve as documentation officers as a step toward documenting current regulatory processes and identifying shortcomings to be addressed by the new system.

The Global Enterprise Registration is a partnership of the Global Entrepreneurship Network, the U.S. Department of State, and UNCTAD that operates two online business portals – eRegistration and
Global Enterprise Registration, or GER.co, is working to simplify business registration so that anyone, anywhere, can start their own business.

E-Regulations – that empower governments to move toward zero barriers to entrepreneurship.

E-Registration streamlines business creation and brings the registration process online and has expanded to nearly the whole world. E-Regulations provides detailed and transparent information on administrative procedures relating to business operation. After receiving training and technical support from the principle partners, government agencies in more than 30 countries now manage the system.

Since the partnership was established in June of 2016, GER has worked with governments around the world to: (1) make business registration simple, (2) reduce barriers to compliance by entrepreneurs with laws and regulations, and (3) improve the quality of services that governments provide to facilitate new business formation, development, and growth.

GBAN Promotes Building, Strengthening Angel Networks Around the World

The Global Business Angels Network held its second Annual Meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa at the Global Entrepreneurship Congress. There, GBAN members discussed their goals for 2017 and beyond. Since GBAN was launched in March 2015 at the GEC in Milan, it has grown from 5 founding members to 80 members from more than 60 countries. These members interface year-round with the entrepreneurs, policymakers, other early-stage finance actors and leading entrepreneurial support programs that are a valued part of GEN.

Back in May, John May, co-chair of GBAN, participated the inaugural meeting of the Peruvian Association of Seed and Entrepreneurial Capital (PECAP). This community gathering of five angel groups and other members of the small business world was held at the Swiss Ambassador’s residence in Lima. During his trip to Peru, May was able to visit accelerators and ecosystem members focusing on sharing experiences of more developed angel communities on co-investing techniques, as well as providing an overview of existing angel networks.

Startup Huddle

Startup Huddle Expands Beyond Pilot Cities

Entrepreneurs in a growing number of cities are getting tailored support from their own start and scale ecosystem. Startup Huddle, designed to help one entrepreneur at a time while strengthening the community around them, has expanded to 11 countries during a beta phase of the program.

GEN offers local organizers training and support through a collection of experienced ambassadors – and is now testing a national model through the Center for Entrepreneurship in Russia. Early Startup Huddle locations are underway in Australia, Canada, Georgia, India, Jordan, Malawi, Moldova, Niger, Paraguay, Russia, South Africa, Chinese Taipei and Tunisia.

Global Business Angels Network
In June, GBAN invited Tomi Davies, co-founder of Lagos Angel Network and president of the African Business Angel Network, to lead that month’s Field Report, an ongoing, members-only call series on topics related to angel investing from a global perspective. This Field Report brought GBAN members together to discuss building an angel network. Davies explained how he used the World Bank guidebook, Creating Your Own Angel Investor Group: A Guide for Emerging and Frontier Markets, as a way to help organize and form Lagos Angels Network. Members who participated in the call shared their own experiences in forming angel networks, which served as inspiration for those who joined the call having never founded a network of their own.

In anticipation of Global Entrepreneurship Week in November, Paulo Andrez, GEN Portugal chair and angel investor, visited Paraguay to lead a series of meetings in Asunción with Paraguayan policymakers, investors, and ecosystem stakeholders. During his trip, Andrez explained the significant role that angel investor networks play in increasing economic and social growth. He described in detail how to develop an angel accreditation process to establish standards and build trust, and how advanced training programs can be designed and implemented to share best practices, such as assessing and mitigating risks. Andrez also worked with local investors to set out the steps necessary for establishing and operating an angel network in Paraguay.

GBAN continues to capitalize on its building momentum to increase collaboration between early-stage investors across borders, as well as with other actors in their local ecosystem. This work is made possible through an outstanding founding board that includes John May from the United States, Candace Johnson and Claire Munck from Europe, and Padmaja Rapurel from India.

**GEN Starters Club Welcomes New Members**

Heartstrings, a smart device using artificial technology for screening and
early diagnosis of heart diseases, leads a new group of promising startups plugged into the GEN Starters Club with priority access to a global network of connections, support, visibility and learning opportunities.

Co-founded by brothers Max and Allen Mohammadi, the Swedish startup took first place in the 2017 Startup Open – defeating more than 1,000 startups hailing from 82 different countries. Heartstrings uses artificial intelligence to screen and diagnose heart disease – claiming a process that is 2x more accurate, 10x faster and 49x cheaper than current methods.

Mohammadi was spotlighted at the Global Entrepreneurship Congress in Istanbul along with other startups represented in the next class of GEN Starters, including: AbiliSense (Israel), Clarius (Canada), Diagnose (Cameroon), InitioCell (Turkey), Insight AI (New Zealand), Insolito from (Estonia and Palestine), Leo Aerospace (United States), Monetta Technologies (Canada) and Porous City Network (Thailand).

Entry to the club is by invitation only, selected from a range of partner competitions such as the Creative Business Cup, Get in the Ring, Future Agro Challenge and more. The GEN Starters Club is led by GEN and GEW board members under the guidance of Kevin Langley.

New Program to Advance Space Entrepreneurship

The Global Entrepreneurship Network today announced a new effort to help stimulate the creation of startups and scale-ups focused on entrepreneurial opportunities in space. Stephan Reckie, an entrepreneur and angel investor active in the industry, has been tagged to serve as the executive director of GEN Space.

According to a recent Bank of America report, the space market is approximately $350 billion today but is projected to bypass $2.7 trillion within 30 years.

GEN Space will focus on connecting existing and nascent space entrepreneurs with relevant government agencies, industry sectors and investors to promote collaboration and help increase the viability of space commerce. The program will maintain a market focus on companies that are directly tied to the space industry, those that are space-related, such as power systems or space tourism companies, and those that serve a traditional market today but that could have space applications in the not-too-distant future.

Case Study: Russia

One place where GEN is nurturing entrepreneurial support strategies is in Russia. Smaller Russian cities raise and cultivate young entrepreneurs only to lose them to Moscow – and other global hubs like Berlin and San Francisco – once they scale. One of the questions ecosystem builders have been struggling with is how to create an environment that incubates and attracts entrepreneurs and keeps them in that city.

Although successful entrepreneurial ecosystems take years to develop, Russian cities still lack traction in developing their own ecosystems. Given this new urgency to accelerate efforts, GEN, through its long time partner Center for Entrepreneurship, is implementing a comprehensive plan that identifies the most promising metropolitan entrepreneurial ecosystems and then
provides ecosystem builders within these cities new approaches, programming and best practices. This process includes

1. Identifying key ecosystem builders, whether they are entrepreneurs, investors, accelerator/incubator managers, development agencies, university centers, community builders etc.;

2. Providing these stakeholders with best-in-class programming conducted locally that engages multiple stakeholders and encourages them to break out of their silos; and

3. Measuring outcomes and communicating success, on new company formation, revenue and job growth, new networks formed, and the existence of local role models for policymakers, media, unengaged stakeholders, and the next generation of entrepreneurs.

GEN is now working in 10 Russian cities, including: Kirov, Krasnodar, Moscow, Nizhny Novgorod, Rostov-on-Don, Tomsk, St. Petersburg, Tyumen, Vladimir and Voronezh. On the ground, the program offers ecosystem builders a growing number of programs that they implement locally in order to ensure sustainability, including GEN’s Startup Huddle that builds local community and helps nascent entrepreneurs crowdsource solutions to issues they have in growing their businesses; and of course Global Entrepreneurship Week, where local stakeholders organize and attend events in

The model in Russia is something under consideration to roll out globally. The two of three cohorts created 262 new jobs and more than 62 percent saw revenue growth, including 57 percent with growth of more than 25 percent. As we know, there are many ways to build a healthy local entrepreneurial ecosystem. When some localities develop organically, others are curious and seek to make it happen in their city. It will be interesting to see if this model in Russia to bring together local ecosystem builders, provide them with the right battle tested programs that encourage stakeholder engagement, all the while measuring outcomes and communicating success will become a template for other cities to follow in building their own local entrepreneurial ecosystem.
GEN engages with a wide variety of partner organizations around the world that contribute considerable expertise, experience, resources and energy through various programs and events.
BRONZE

Allan Gray Orbis Foundation
Center for Entrepreneurship
Creative Business Cup
DECA
Embassy of Italy
Endeavor
Endeavor Insight
Future Agro Challenge
The GEDI Institute
Get in the Ring Foundation
Junior Achievement
MaRS
MindCette
Ministry of Digital Economy and Society, Thailand
Nesta
OECD
Startup Genome
Techstars
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
USAID
GEN continues to integrate partner programs and initiatives into its year-long programming in order to better support entrepreneurship ecosystems around the world.

Through Global Entrepreneurship Week and other efforts, GEN is supported by a massive network of more than 17,000 partner organizations in 170+ countries.
WHO WE ARE
GLOBAL STAFF + MEMBERS

Global Staff

Jonathan Ortmans President
Mark Marich Executive Vice President
Alan Simensky Chief Financial Officer
Büke Çuhadar Vice President for Global Operations
Cristina Fernandez Vice President for Policy & Research
Peter Komives Vice President for Strategic Development
Phil Auerswald Chair & Academic Director, Global Entrepreneurship Research Network
Genesis Lodise Director for Digital Products
Yuval Yarden Director for Ecosystem Engagement
Jessica Wray Marketing & Communications Manager
Tomás Harmon Marketing & Communications Associate
Sarolta Borzasi Policy Associate
During one week each November, thousands of events and competitions around the world inspire millions to engage in entrepreneurial activity while connecting them to potential collaborators, mentors and even investors. In eight years, Global Entrepreneurship Week has expanded to 170 countries – building and strengthening entrepreneurial ecosystems around the world. Powered by the Kauffman Foundation, the initiative is supported by dozens of world leaders and a network of more than 17,000 partner organizations.

2017 GEW HOST ORGANIZATIONS

Albania, Protik Innovation Center Albania
Algeria, GEN Algeria
Andorra, Coworking Andorra
Angola, Touch & Talk
Antigua, Gilbert Agriculture & Rural Development Center
Argentina, Endeavor Argentina
Aruba, Fundashon Negoshi Pikina
Armenia, GEW Armenia
Australia, Entrepreneursville
Austria, Initiative for Teaching Entrepreneurship
Azerbaijan, Debate in Civil Society
Bahamas, Business Builders Immersion
Bahrain, Tenmou - The Bahrain Business Angels Holding Company
Bangladesh, Young Entrepreneur & Leaders League
Barbados, Barbados Youth Business Trust
Belarus, BELBIZ Center for Business Communications
Belgium, GEN Belgium
Belize, Institute of Sustainable Livelihoods Leadership and Exchange
Benin, FORAM Initiatives
Bermuda, Bermuda Economic Development Corporation
Bhutan, The Loden Foundation
Bolivia, Red Bolivia Emprendedora
Bonaire, Fundashon Negoshi Pikina
Bosnia and Herzegovina, Association for Promotion of Entrepreneurship START
Botswana, Ngwana Enterprises
Brazil, Endeavor Brasil
Brunei, GEW Brunei Darussalam
Bulgaria, Junior Achievement Bulgaria
Burkina Faso, Association pour la Promotion, le Soutien et le Suivi de l'Investissement Privé
Burundi, Youth Action for Development
Cambodia, Young Entrepreneurs Association of Cambodia (YEAC) / GEN Cambodia
Cameroon, Youth Business Cameroon
Canada, Futurpreneur Canada
Cape Verde, The Young Entrepreneurs Association of Cape Verde (AJEC) / GEW Cabo Verde
Chad, Resau des Jeunes pour le Développement et le Leadership au Chad
Chile, Endeavor Chile
China, Entrepreneurship Foundation for Graduates / GEW China
Chinese Taipei, National Association of Young Entrepreneurs, R.O.C. Association
Colombia, Endeavor Colombia
Congo, Jokkolabs Congo
Democratic Republic of Congo, “YES DRC – Les Jeunes Entrepreneurs”
Costa Rica, Yo Emprendedor
Côte d’Ivoire, Jokkolabs Côte d’Ivoire
Croatia, Croatian Small Business Union
Curaçao, Fundashon Negoshi Pikina
Cyprus, Industry Disruptors - Game Changers / GEN Cyprus
Czech Republic, European Leadership & Academic Institute v.o.s.
Denmark, IVÆKST
Dominica, Dominica Youth Business Trust
Dominican Republic, EMPRENDE
Incubadora de Negocios Tecnologicos

IMPACT REPORT 2018
Ecuador, Fundación Emprender
Egypt, Middle East Council for Small Business and Entrepreneurship
El Salvador, Fundación Salvadoreña Para el Desarrollo Económico y Social (FUSADES)
Ethiopia, Entrepreneurship Development Center
Finland, Small Business Center XAMK
France, Citizen Entrepreneurs
Gabon, Agir Pour Une Jeunesse Autonome
Gambia, American Chamber of Commerce, Gambia
Georgia, Entrepreneurs Association
Germany, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie (BMWi), RKW Kompetenzzentrum
Ghana, GEN Ghana
Greece, Industry Disruptors - Game Changers & OESYNE - Federation of Hellenic Associations of Young Entrepreneurs
Greenland, GEN Greenland
Grenada, Dynamic Youths of Grenada Business Hub
Guatemala, Kirzner Entrepreneurship Center
Haiti, 11th Department
Honduras, Junior Achievement Honduras
Hungary, FIVOSZ
India, GEN India
Indonesia, Ciputra Foundation
Iraq, MyeDream
Iraq, The Kurdistan Economic Development Organization
Ireland, GEN Ireland
Israel, GEN Israel
Italy, GEN Italy
Jamaica, Junior Achievement Jamaica
Japan, Impact Japan, Japan Innovation Network
Jordan, Queen Rania Center for Entrepreneurship (QRCE)
Kazakhstan, Young Entrepreneurs Club MOST
Kenya, GEN Kenya
Kosovo, Innovation Center Kosovo
Kyrgyzstan, Central Asian Free Market Institute, Public Foundation
Latvia, Entrepreneurship Support Centre
Lebanon, Entreprenergy
Liberia, Spark Liberia
Libya, National Board for Technical & Vocational Education
Lithuania, ISM University of Management and Economics
Luxembourg, GENCreo
Macedonia, Youth Entrepreneurial Service Foundation
Madagascar, HABAKA Madagascar
Innovation HUB, GEN Madagascar
Malaysia, Startup Malaysia
Mali, Jokkolobs Mali
Malta, University of Malta
Mauritania, Startup Mauritania / GEN Mauritia
Mauritius, Empretec Mauritius
Mexico, Startup Mexico / JA Mexico
Moldova, GEN Moldova
Monaco, Jeune Chambre Economique de Monaco (JCI Monaco)
Mongolia, Startup Mongolia
Montenegro, Institute for Entrepreneurship and Economic Development
Morocco, Startup Maroc
Mozambique, ideiaLab
Myanmar, GEN Myanmar
Namibia, GEN Namibia
Nepal, Samriddhi, The Prosperity Foundation
Netherlands, GEN Netherlands
New Zealand, Startup New Zealand
Niger, ACCEntrepreneur
Nigeria, Entrepreneurship Development Centre
Norway, GEN Norway
Oman, National Business Center
Pakistan, Alternate Solutions
Palestinian Territories, Growth Development
Panama, Junior Achievement Panama
Paraguay, GEN Paraguay
Peru, Peru Emprende
Philippines, YES Philippines
Poland, GEN Poland Foundation
The Global Entrepreneurship Research Network is a working coalition of institutions funding research as a tool in realizing the full potential of entrepreneurship to create inclusive prosperity on a global scale. Its objectives are to develop a next generation of entrepreneurship research, share lessons and knowledge, and establish open, standardized data resources. Each member organization is a leader in its nation or region in promoting entrepreneurship.

**FUNDER MEMBERS**

- Allan Gray Orbis Foundation
- Argidius Foundation
- Ciputra Foundation
- Kauffman Foundation
- Korea Entrepreneurship Foundation
- NESTA
- OECD
- Omidyar Foundation
- RKW Kompetenzzentrum
- Tony Elumelu Foundation
- UNCTAD

- IMPACT REPORT 2018

- Portugal, GEN Portugal
- Qatar, Qatar Development Bank
- Republic of Korea, Korea Entrepreneurship Foundation
- Russia, Center for Entrepreneurship
- Rwanda, idea4africa
- Saudi Arabia, Qotuf
- Senegal, JOKKOLABS Senegal
- Serbia, GEN Serbia
- Sierra Leone, Innovation Sierra Leone
- Singapore, ACE
- Sint Eustatius, Fundashon Negoshi Pikina
- Sint Maarten, Fundashon Negoshi Pikina
- Slovakia, Young Entrepreneurs Association of Slovakia
- Somalia, Shaqadoon
- South Africa, GEN South Africa
- Spain, GEW Spain / YBI Spain
- Sri Lanka, Young Entrepreneurs Sri Lanka
- St. Kitts & Nevis, Caribbean Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Livelihoods
- St. Lucia, St. Lucia Chamber of Commerce Industry and Agriculture
- St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Youth Business St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- Sudan, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Community
- Swaziland, Junior Achievement Swaziland
- Sweden, Entrepreneurship and Small Business Research Institute
- Switzerland, UNCTAD, BeAdvanced, GEN Switzerland
- Syria, Syrian Economic Forum
- Tajikistan, AmCham Tajikistan
- Tanzania, Zanzibar Association for Youth Education and Empowerment
- Thailand, GEN Thailand
- Togo, GEN Togo
- Trinidad and Tobago, Youth Business Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia, Institut Arabe des Chefs d’Entreprise, GEN Tunisia
- Turkey, Endeavor Turkey / Habitat Turkey
- Uganda, Enterprise Uganda
- Ukraine, Startup Ukraine
- United Kingdom, GEN UK
- United States, Global Entrepreneurship Network
- Uruguay, Endeavor Uruguay
- Venezuela, Ecosistema Nacional de Emprendimiento EneVenezuela
- Vietnam, GEN Vietnam
- Yemen, Rowad Foundation
- Zambia, ELIF Business Solutions, Ltd.
- Zimbabwe, Empretec Zimbabwe
Global Business Angels Network interfaces with entrepreneurs, policymakers, early-stage finance actors and leading entrepreneurial support programs to strengthen the global entrepreneurial ecosystem. Whether helping recruit more investors, expanding geographic investment arenas beyond local markets or amplifying the angel “voice” to regulatory issue discussions, GBAN seeks to provide an inclusive, supportive community of early-stage investors around the world.

**GBAN CO-CHAIRS**
Baybars Altunas, Vice Chair, Business Angels Association Turkey
Tomi Davies, President and Co-Founder, African Business Angels Network
John May, Managing Partner, New Vantage Group
Jonathan Ortmans, President, Global Entrepreneurship Network
Padmaja Ruparel, President, Indian Angel Network

**GBAN MEMBERS**
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African Business Angels Network
Angel Investment Network Indonesia
Angel Resource Institute
Angels Den Funding Ltd.
Angelus Funding
Associação Portuguesa de Business Angels
BAN Vlaanderen
Be Angels, Belgium
Bolivian VC
Boston Harbor Angels
Businessangelsclub.co
Business Angels Europe
Business Angels Fund
Chandigarth Angels Network
ECS Capital Partners and Angels
Entrepreneurial Culture Center
European Business Angels Network
Galata Business Angels
Go Beyond
Gruppo Professionale Bolognini
HABAKA Innovation Hub
USAID
World Bank
Endeavor Brazil
Future Cities Catapult UK
Quatere (Foundry)

**RESEARCH MEMBERS**
Arab Institute for Business Leaders
Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs
Bruegel
Emory University
Endeavor Insight
The GEDI Institute
MaRS
PRODEM
Startup Genome

**PROGRAM MEMBERS**
Center for International Private Enterprise

**RESEARCH MEMBERS**
Arab Institute for Business Leaders
Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs
Bruegel
Emory University
Endeavor Insight
The GEDI Institute
MaRS
PRODEM
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Associação Portuguesa de Business Angels
BAN Vlaanderen
Be Angels, Belgium
Bolivian VC
Boston Harbor Angels
Businessangelsclub.co
Business Angels Europe
Business Angels Fund
Chandigarth Angels Network
ECS Capital Partners and Angels
Entrepreneurial Culture Center
European Business Angels Network
Galata Business Angels
Go Beyond
Gruppo Professionale Bolognini
HABAKA Innovation Hub
USAID
World Bank
Endeavor Brazil
Future Cities Catapult UK
Quatere (Foundry)
Invest2Innovate
Jozi Angels
London Business Angels
Middle East Business Angels Network
MIT Enterprise Forum of Israel
Nordic Female Business Angels Network
Pacific Channel Limited
Réseau des Jeunes pour le Développement et le Leadership au Tchad
Sino Global Capital
South African Business Angels Network
VA Angels
Wild Blue Cohort
VC4Afrika

NATIONAL LEADS
Angel Association New Zealand Incorporated
Angel Capital Association
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Angels Nest Mexico
Austrian Angel Investors Association BAN Netherlands
Belgian Association of Business Angel Networks (BeBAN)
Business Angels Network Catalunya
Business Angels Netzwerk Deutschland e.V.
Business Angels Association Turkey (TBAA)
Business Angels of Slovenia
Business Angel Network Southeast Asia
Business Angels Romania
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Enlaces, Inc
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Italian Business Angels Network
India Angel Network
Kampala Angels Investment Network
Lagos Angel Network
Luxembourg Business Angels Network
Malaysian Business Angel Network (MBAN)
National Angel Capital Organisation
National Business Angels Association
Negocios Digitales
Platinum Foundation
Portuguese Business Angels Federation
Red Nacional de Ángeles Inversionistas
Serbian Business Angel Network (SBAN)
Silicon Cape
UK Business Angels Association
WoMENA
Young Entrepreneurs Association
China Business Angels Association
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Cyprus Business Angels Network (CyBAN)
Montenegro Business Angel Network
VíKtoria Solutions Kenya
Startup Nations is a collection of startup policymakers and program leaders from more than 80 countries on six continents – all focused on exploring different regulatory changes and policy levers to help accelerate new firm formation and unleash high impact entrepreneurship on their economies. It enables informal knowledge sharing among economies focused on leveraging entrepreneurs and their startups.

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Dave Moskovitz, GEN New Zealand
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Sonia Lee, Startup Korea
Carmen Bermejo, Spanish Startups Association, Spain
Ozan Acar, The Union of Chambers & Commodity Exchanges of Turkey
Matthew Smith, StartUp Britain, UK
Caleb Carr, Students for Intellectual Property, United States

GEN Starters Club | genstarters.co

GEN Starters Club is a global community made up of talented founders whose promising startups have been battle-tested through one or more of GEN’s global startup competitions. It provides a global interface — reaching more than 160 countries — with fellow challenge winners, experienced entrepreneurs, startup champions and potential investors for support and continued growth. GEN Starters Club provides insight and advice from GEN Mentors, enhanced exposure, curated networking opportunities at special events around the world and the chance to be part of a like-minded community of passionate and promising entrepreneurs.

Startup Experience | startupexperience.org

Startup Experience offers intensive transformational workshops designed to inspire the next generation of young entrepreneurs. It introduces students to the entrepreneurial mindset and provides hands-on training in high impact-entrepreneurship. Students build creative capacity and entrepreneurial confidence, and learn effective tools to build new ventures.
Startup Huddle is a program designed to educate, engage, and connect entrepreneurs. It is based on the notion that the best way for entrepreneurs to discover solutions to the challenges they face is through purposeful engagement with one another. As an experiential learning opportunity, the Startup Huddle format is consistent in each location: on a given morning, one or two early-stage startup founders give a six-minute presentation of their companies to a diverse audience of peers, mentors, educators, and advisors. Each presentation is followed by a 20-minute question and answer session and feedback via an audience survey.

YouNoodle Compete is a global networking site and competition platform for aspiring entrepreneurs, mentors and advisors to connect with each other and bring potential business ideas to market. The customizable white-label platform has powered hundreds of competitions in more than 125 countries – providing organizers with a simple and efficient tool to manage their competitions and offer emerging startups a chance to hone their skills and make connections that will take them to the next level.

Global Enterprise Registration is an index of web portals around the world allowing online business registration or describing the business registration process. It is intended to promote the use and improvement of business registration services worldwide, by allowing easy access to existing online systems and by facilitating the exchange of experiences and best practices among governments. Global Enterprise Registration is jointly produced by UNCTAD and the Global Entrepreneurship Network.

Ecosystem Connect is an emerging effort from the Global Entrepreneurship Network that is looking beyond Silicon Valley to facilitate collaboration and partnership between startup ecosystems in promising mid-tier cities. The initiative connects local ecosystem builders and leaders around the world so that they can share knowledge, networks and markets to help their rising startups thrive – rather than watching them relocate to massive startup hubs like Berlin, London and Shanghai.
GEN Space provides an ecosystem platform to help stimulate the creation of startups and scale-ups focused on entrepreneurial opportunities in space. Through connecting existing and nascent space entrepreneurs with relevant government agencies, industry sectors and investors, the program promotes collaboration and helps increase the viability of space commerce.

The Global Entrepreneurship Index is an annual index that measures the health of entrepreneurship ecosystems in 130 countries. It collects data on the entrepreneurial attitudes, abilities and aspirations of the local population and then weights these against the prevailing social and economic infrastructure—this includes aspects such as broadband connectivity and transport links to external markets. Overall, it is a compass for identifying initiatives and interventions that target a country’s most critical areas.

The Global Entrepreneurship Congress is a gathering of startup champions from around the world—where entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, thought leaders and policymakers work together to help bring ideas to life, drive economic growth and expand human welfare. The Congress brings together thousands of delegates from 160 countries to discuss economic and policy challenges around growing entrepreneurial ecosystems.

The Startup Nations Summit features startup policy advisors and startup community leaders collaborating on smarter policies and public sector driven programs to better enable high-impact entrepreneurship. GEN cohosts the event each year in late November as the official conclusion to Global Entrepreneurship Week. The summit launched in 2012 in Toronto and has since been held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Seoul, South Korea; and Monterrey, Mexico.

Since it launched in Kansas City, the Global Entrepreneurship Congress has evolved into a large-scale event that brings together thousands of delegates covering diverse elements of startup ecosystems around the world. GEC+ has now emerged to fill a need for more focused and in-depth collaboration—bringing global expertise to bear on a concentrated issue or geographic region—to accelerate new firm formation and strengthen local, national and regional ecosystems.
GEC+Taipei
Chinese Taipei | September 27–29, 2018

Global Entrepreneurship Week
November 12–18, 2018

Startup Nations Summit
Surabaya, Indonesia | November 16–17, 2018

Global Entrepreneurship Congress
Manama, Bahrain | April 15–18, 2019

Global Entrepreneurship Week
November 18–24, 2019
November 16–22, 2020
November 15–21, 2021
November 14–20, 2022
November 13–19, 2023