



The first Trans-continental Networking Academy for African and European Digital Innovation Hubs.

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Unleashing Innovation: AfriConEU Workshops, Webinars & Masterclasses

During the last few months, we hosted a series of workshops, webinars, and masterclasses to equip participants with the necessary skills to succeed in the digital innovation ecosystem. The events aimed to provide insights and knowledge on various topics, highlighting the importance of business planning, funding sources, startup creation, financial management, impact monitoring, data-driven innovation, business strategy development, lessons from European startups, building a theory of change, financing digital innovation hubs and more.

Hybrid Workshops:

On January 19th, 2023, Outbox Hub held a hybrid workshop called "[Bootstrapping, Revenue Models, and Managerial Accounting](#)" in collaboration with Startup Uganda, NSSF Hi Innovator, and Mastercard Foundation Young Africa Works. The workshop aimed to teach the fundamentals of financial control and revenue models and provide an overview of the bootstrapping method of funding a project or business.

On January 24th, 2023, Outbox Hub held another hybrid workshop titled "[Preparing Projects for Investment and Investor Relationships](#)" in partnership with Startup Uganda, NSSF Hi Innovator, and Mastercard Foundation Young Africa Works. The workshop aimed for participants to learn how to effectively prepare their projects for investment and build successful investor relationships. On January 26th, Emerging Communities Africa hosted "[Building a Network of Funding Sources](#)," a workshop that covered various funding options, including incubation, acceleration, scouting, pitch and demo events, and boot camps. The workshop also focused on strategies for building and maintaining relationships with funders and tips and best practices for maximizing the impact of funding opportunities. Additionally, the importance of diversifying funding sources to mitigate risk was discussed.

On February 16th, Buni Hub hosted a hybrid workshop, "[Applying Gender Lens to Science, Technology & Innovation](#)." The workshop aimed to stress the current state of gender perspectives, scrutinize opportunities for gender responsiveness, and highlight best practices to retain women in Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI). On March 31st, Emerging Communities Africa held "[The Technology Transfer Process](#)," a workshop that explored the concept of technology transfer (IoT, AI, Big data, etc.), its benefits, and the legal framework to protect the technology transfer. Participants learned about the technology transfer process, its benefits, and motivations.

Online Webinars:

On December 6th, 2022, ITC - Innovation Technology Cluster hosted an online webinar about "[Building a Business Plan](#)" to highlight the importance of business planning and building a business plan interactively, along with the participants. On December 14th, 2022, ATBN hosted an online



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webinar on "[Alternative Funding Sources for Digital Innovation.](#)" The webinar highlighted non-traditional funding sources available to digital innovators in Africa because access to funds has been a significant challenge.

On January 18th, 2023, Porto Business School hosted an online webinar on "[Leveraging Startup Creation from Innovative Technologies](#)" to highlight the importance of innovation and the journey required for startup creation. On January 25th, 2023, ATBN hosted the online webinar "[Valuations of Projects, Financial Management, and Projections.](#)" The event aimed to explore various valuation methods for innovative projects, including discounted cash flow, scorecards, and benchmarking. The webinar also delved into critical aspects of financial reporting, such as income and cash flow metrics, market size, and growth rates.

On February 22nd, ATBN hosted an online webinar about "[Impact Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning.](#)" The webinar aimed to provide participants with a basic understanding of the best practices for impact monitoring, evaluation, and learning to better contribute to the success of their programs. On March 23rd, Porto Business School hosted an online webinar on "[Data-driven Innovation](#)" to highlight how a data ecosystem can be created and the core tools to capacitate Data Professionals and SMEs. On March 29th, ATBN conducted an online webinar titled "[Impact Investing and Subsidized Finance.](#)" The session aimed to introduce the participants to the basics of impact investing and subsidized finance and familiarize them with the prominent players and funders operating within the impact investment and finance sector.

Online Masterclasses

On December 8th, 2022, ITC – Innovation Technology Cluster hosted an online masterclass about building a [business strategy development](#). The webinar aimed to highlight the importance of business growth and build a business strategy interactively with the participants. On February 1st, Porto Business School held an online masterclass on "[Lessons from European Startups.](#)" This masterclass aimed to provide insights and knowledge about European startups' successful strategies and practices.

On February 9th, Stimmuli for Social Change hosted its first online masterclass, "[Building a Theory of Change.](#)" The masterclass aimed to advise on assessing the impact that allows managers, investors, policy-makers, and implementers to make better-informed decisions to enhance and strengthen their programs. On February 28th, ITC hosted an online masterclass about "[Financing Digital Innovation Hubs and other entities.](#)" This masterclass aimed to share experience, knowledge, tips, and tricks of effective financial management as it's crucial for the success of Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs) operating in a dynamic and rapidly evolving environment.



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Vidcast series "Digital Innovation Talks"

We continued exploring different topics related to the EU-African Digital Innovation Hubs and Startup Ecosystems. In [Episode 9](#), Ana Aleixo from INOVA+ and Lawrence Afere from Springboard discussed "The role of cooperatives in empowering smallholder farmers in Africa." In [Episode 10](#), Gideon Brefo from hapaSpace and Dr. Eleanor T. Khonje from Business School Lausanne discussed "Cultivating Inclusive Innovation Ecosystems."

AfriConEU is proud to have hosted these successful events, bringing together experts, professionals, and enthusiasts to explore the latest trends and insights in the EU-African digital innovation landscape. The project remains committed to fostering collaboration and knowledge-sharing between Africa and Europe to drive innovation and economic growth.

You can follow the future developments of AfriConEU on its website or simply by subscribing to the [Newsletter](#) and you can also check the deliverables of the project so far on the [website](#). Suppose you are a Digital Innovation Hub, an Entrepreneur, an Investor, an Institution in digital skills, or any other Stakeholder interested in participating at some stage of the project. In that case, you can [contact](#) our team at africoneu@inova.business.

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