



Apply for a scale-up programme worth up to 200,000 euros

Global Entrepreneurship Centre launches new Call for Solutions from sustainable startups

Meerbusch / Duesseldorf (Germany), 09 January 2023 – *The Global Entrepreneurship Centre (GEC) is looking for pioneers in sustainability providing a new opportunity for emerging companies to scale up. The GEC supports company founders to grow their sustech startups into scalable businesses. The journey begins with the Catalyst programme to strengthen the foundations for scaling. Startups that successfully complete the Catalyst programme can qualify for the Scaling Factory to take their startup to the next level. Key learning modules in both programmes include know-how in sustainability management. The entire GEC scale-up journey includes up to €200,000 (EU de minimis) in convertible loans through in-kind support.*

The transformation hub in Duesseldorf / Meerbusch, Germany is scouting for state-of-the-art sustech innovations, simultaneously in the four sectors of Building & Living, Textiles, Energy and Food & Agriculture. Applications can be submitted from 9 to 29 January via www.gec-scaleup.com/call_for_solutions/

Building & Living: Under the theme “Creating positive and healthy living spaces for people, the environment and the climate” the GEC is calling on startups that are finding solutions to the most urgent problems in the field of building and living. Specifically, the challenges include loss of biodiversity, scarcity of raw materials, and resource and energy inefficiencies. The GEC is looking for startups that address the current sustainability challenges in the construction and housing sector with innovative solutions in the following areas: new materials, circular building technologies, enhancing wellbeing and inclusion, and responsible refurbishment of existing buildings.

Textiles: With the way it currently operates, the textile industry is one of the most polluting industries in the world. Challenges include hazardous and polluting manufacturing processes, unsustainable materials and the huge amounts of textile waste produced each year. Therefore, solutions are required in the following areas: materials innovation, new non-hazardous processing methods, and technologies that enable a circular value chain.

Energy: Innovative technologies are also being sought in the energy sector to address current challenges. These include high greenhouse gas emissions, dependence on fossil fuels, security of supply and grid stability, and increasing demand for certain minerals and metals. The solutions being scouted should address: renewable energy, energy storage, new materials and the use and capture of carbon.



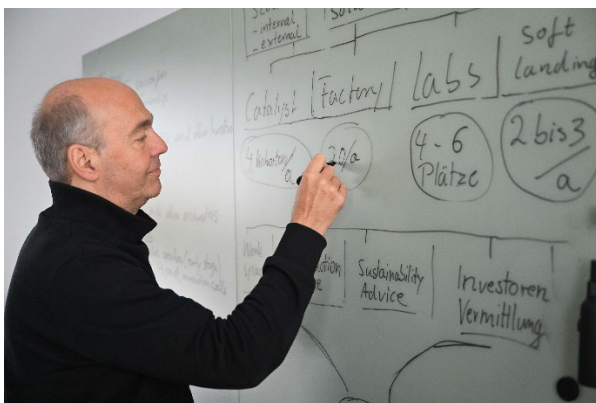
Food & Agriculture: The food sector faces a challenge to transform the industry. Specific problems include high CO₂ emissions, food-related health issues and regional food security. Sustainable innovations qualify from the areas of biotechnology in agriculture, smart agriculture, alternative proteins, fermentation and cell-based protein solutions.

All scouted companies have to go through GEC's rigid selection process and sustainability assessment, which is carefully conducted by the GEC sustainability team. This call for solutions is open for application until 29 January 2023. Please go to the Global Entrepreneurship Centre's application portal on www.gec-scaleup.com/call_for_solutions/



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At the Global Entrepreneurship Centre in Meerbusch, Germany state-of-the art sustech startups are scaled for impact.



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Friedrich Barth, CEO, founded the Global Entrepreneurship Centre in 2021. The Global Entrepreneurship Centre is a transformation hub for scaling sustainable technology innovation and entrepreneurship.

About the Global Entrepreneurship Centre

Global Entrepreneurship Centre (GEC) is a transformation hub for scaling sustainable technology innovation and entrepreneurship. It addresses the scaling challenges of promising sustechs – deep-tech start-ups with a clear sustainability and climate protection focus – from all over the world. The selection process includes a proprietary sustainability assessment, diligently carried out internally by the GEC. The GEC will support up to 20 startups per year in the GEC Factory programme in the sectors



building & living, textiles, mobility & transport, agriculture & nutrition and energy, providing access to venture capital, business development, advisory services, production and lab facilities. In addition, approx. 60 startups p.a. will be scouted for participation in the GEC Catalyst cohorts. The GEC is funded by the Rhineland region's STARK initiative for structural transition of the former coal mining areas and the Rhine County of Neuss. The Global Entrepreneurship Centre is based in Duesseldorf / Meerbusch, Germany.

More information on our homepage at <https://www.gec-scaleup.com>

Media contact:

Global Entrepreneurship Centre
Marina Ćorić
Communication & Marketing Manager
Phone: +49 172 4008458
mcoric@gec-scaleup.com