



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

Global Entrepreneurship Centre launches new Call for Solutions with a focus on innovative materials

Meerbusch / Duesseldorf (Germany), 24 April 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 innovation hub and impact investor 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. This time, the focus is on innovative and new materials in the sectors. Applications can be submitted from 24 April to 14 May 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. This time focussing on next generation building materials and circular building technologies.

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: biobased and next generation materials and process innovation for existing materials.

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 material efficiency, e.g. new battery technologies, storage and recycling.



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** material innovation in agriculture processes, e.g. new biological solutions, processes and technologies.

All scouted companies have to go through GEC's selection process and sustainability assessment, which is carefully conducted by the GEC sustainability team. This call for solutions is open for application until 14 May 2023. Please go to the Global Entrepreneurship Centre's application portal on www.gec-scaleup.com/call_for_solutions/

About the Global Entrepreneurship Centre

Global Entrepreneurship Centre (GEC) is an innovation hub and impact investor hub for scaling sustainable technology innovation and entrepreneurship. It addresses the scaling challenges of promising sustechs – deep-tech startups 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>

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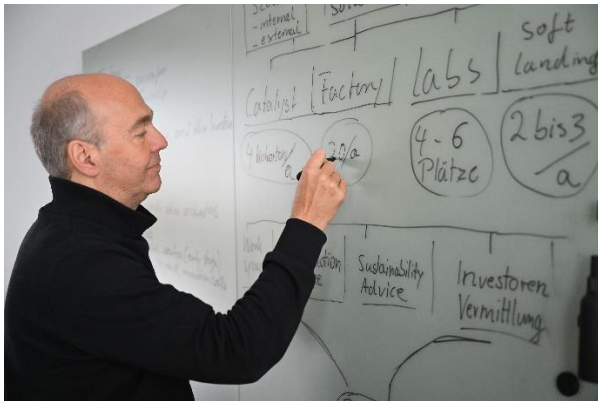
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At the Global Entrepreneurship Centre in Meerbusch, Germany state-of-the art sustech startups are scaled for impact.



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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.