



SAIS 2

RE:innovation

CHALLENGE PROJECTS

EDPRENEURS: NETWORKING AND EMPOWERING EDUCATION ENTREPRENEURS TOWARDS A RESILIENT EDTECH ECOSYSTEM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA



“Exploring available digital platforms, create new ways on how to build a resilient EdTech ecosystems, and also serve as the learning prospects for other role players, edupreneurs in particular.”

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The purpose of this project is to develop a digital business ecosystem in Southern Africa able to leverage the EdTech infrastructure and education software development in the region. Such an ecosystem would help to solve challenges that arise due to the lack of digital infrastructure and personnel with digital competencies, a challenge that has been exacerbated by the restrictions imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Although there are a few relevant EdTech solutions across Southern Africa, such initiatives remain isolated, decreasing the potential of consolidating successes at the regional level.

The project's approach aims to build a strong network between its stakeholders through participatory design and deeper collaboration. For the initial stage of building up the ecosystem, the consortium members will guide all the project stakeholders through a participatory design and co-creation methodology to think collectively about the project's three final objectives. Together, these objectives solve current problems in the Southern African startup ecosystem as they help to provide the digital infrastructure for business networking, capacity building for empowering stakeholders, and knowledge transfer for broader scalability. In addition, the project consortium will ensure that all the project stakeholders will establish and maintain functioning cooperation and communication connections with each other so that the ecosystem becomes sustainable.

KEY OBJECTIVES

- To build a digital platform for strategic partnership. The project will provide the necessary digital infrastructure for entrepreneurs to collect and process data about potential customers across the region, to network with relevant stakeholders (B2B and B2C), and to promote their services and products.
- To increase beneficiaries' digital and business competence through capacity building. The project will empower education stakeholders, software developers, and entrepreneurs on digitising processes and innovating businesses towards sustainable economic growth and resilience in challenging times.
- To publish a policy paper on building up a resilient business ecosystem. The project will integrate practical experience with knowledge creation, resulting in a policy paper that can support Southern African governments in consolidating resilient startup ecosystems in sectors other than the EdTech field.



Project Partners

eduix, Finland
Glowdom, Namibia

eduix **Glowdom**



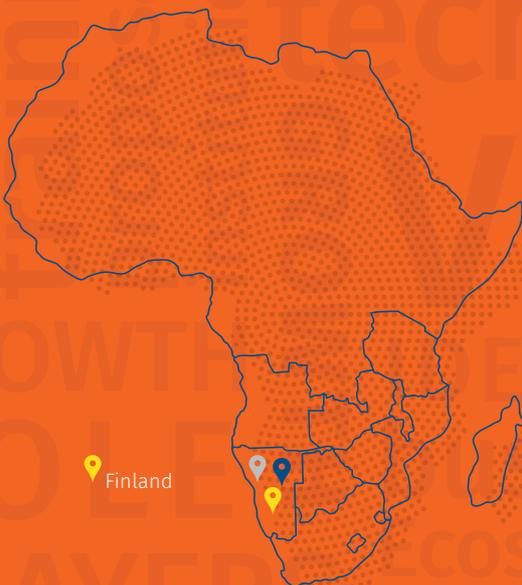
Project Coordinator

Namibia Business Innovation
Institute (NBII)



Implementing Country

Namibia



Finland