

2017 UNECE Ideas for Change for the SDGs

It's time to take action for people and planet. We need your ideas!

Join us for the 2nd Startup's event at the UN in Geneva.

About



The 2017 UNECE call for Ideas4Change for the SDGs is now in its final stage. About 100 ideas were received from 22 different countries in our region, proposing innovative solutions for a better world.

The five startups that made it to the final are: Catalytic Innovations (USA), Debatelier (Italy), ECOOS (Israel), Impregnation (Uzbekistan), Inspecto (Israel).

Their ideas will be assessed by a jury composed of highly recognized international experts coming from different backgrounds, including business, finance, investment, and policy making.

The Startups' Event

Finalists will pitch their ideas at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, during the UNECE Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (25 April) and the 67th Commission Session (26-27 April), a high-level inter-governmental gathering, where delegates of the 56 UNECE Member States, will commit to actions to advance the 2030 Sustainable Development agenda in the years to come.

An Expert Jury Vote and a Popular Vote at the UNECE Session on 14 April will determine the competition winners.

Winners will get a chance to receive a stipend with MassChallenge, one of the most renowned startups accelerators around the world, in Jerusalem.

The 2nd UNECE Ideas4Change is organized with support from the Permanent Missions of Israel and of the Russian Federation to the United Nations in Geneva.

[MassChallenge](#) is the most globally connected accelerator in Israel. No equity and not-for-profit, they are obsessed with helping entrepreneurs across all industries. MassChallenge™ startups have double the chances of success, according to an MIT study. Through global network of accelerators in Boston, the UK, Switzerland, and Mexico and unrivalled access to our corporate partners, they can have a massive impact -- driving growth and creating value the world over. To date, our 1,211 alumni have raised \$1.8 billion, generated \$700 million in revenue, and created over 60,000 jobs.





Events Programme

Join us on 25 and 26 April for the 2nd Startups Event at the Palais des Nations in Geneva!

25 April 2017

Startups Expo

10:00 to 18:00 Salle XVII - Exhibition Space – Building E, Palais des Nations

Startups Pitch & Policy Dialogue on Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals

13:30 to 14:45 - Room XXI - Building E, Palais des Nations

Chair Andrey Vasilyev – Deputy Executive Secretary UNECE

Moderator Buke Cuhadar – Vice President of the Global Entrepreneurship Network (GEN)

Opening Remarks – H.E. Ms. Aviva Raz Shechter, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations Office and other international organisations in Geneva

Startups

Pitch of ideas by the 5 Finalists

Pannelists

Isabelle Andrieu – Co-founder of Translated.net and Pi Campus

Sharon Kedmi – Managing Director of ALSTOM Israel, Chair of the UNECE Committee on Innovation

Olga Larionova – International Business Lawyer at Wilk Auslander LLP

Wendy Singer – Executive Director of Start-up Nation Central

Linda Grieder – Lawyer and founder of RethinkResource

Charles Vaslet – Partner with Emerald Technology Ventures

Selection of Winners

8:30 to 12:30 – Meeting of Startups with Expert Jury - Room E1006 – Building E, Palais des Nations

10 :00 to 16 :00 - Popular Vote by participants of the Regional Sustainable Development Forum - Startups Expo - Exhibition Space – Building E, Palais des Nations

Award Ceremony

18:00 to 18:30 UNECE Regional Forum on Sustainable Development –Room XVII – Building E, Palais des Nations

Announcement of Competition Winners by

Christian Friis Bach Executive Secretary of UNECE

Laurence Monnoyer-Smith Chair of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

Prize Experts Jury

Prize Popular Jury





26 April 2017

14:30 to 14:00 UNECE Commission Session – Short Startups Pitch - Room XVII – Building E, Palais des Nations

