

「AfCFTA Startup Partnership Program」 Startup Application Notice

1 Introduction

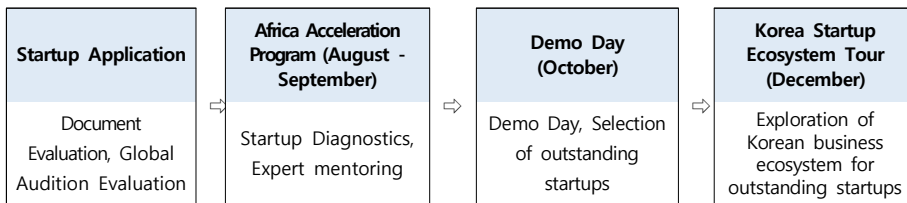
□ Objectives

- o In line with the implementation goals of the AfCFTA, this acceleration program operates targeting approximately 30 African local startups in relevant sectors to strengthen their business capacities.
- o The program aims to provide outstanding startups with opportunities to explore entry into the Korean Market, offer customized commercialization support, and promote economic cooperation between Korea and Africa.

□ Expected Results

- o Establishing cooperative models between African and Korean startup- related organizations to strengthen Korea - Africa economic cooperation, and providing opportunities for startups to closely collaborate in areas such as technology, distribution, and commercialization, thereby increasing mutual benefits.

□ Key Program Components



□ Eligibility

- o Startups operating in sectors related to Africa, including but not limited to: Fintech, E-commerce, Logistics, Agri-tech, Manufacturing, Digital platforms
 - * Excluded sectors include businesses prohibited by law, speculative industries, and business items with antisocial or environmentally harmful characteristics
- o African startups with innovative business models focused on Korean and global markets

2 Participation Benefits

□ Africa Acceleration Program (Online)

- o Corporate diagnostics through collaboration with accelerators
- o Korea - Africa startup business webinar
- o Expert mentoring and business model enhancement

□ Demo Day (Online)

- o Outstanding startups will be selected through online Demo Day IR pitching
 - * Approximately 15 startups will be invited to Korea for an on-site startup ecosystem program

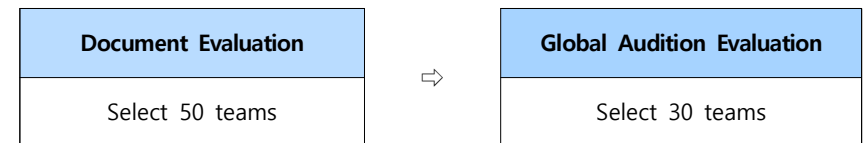
□ Korea Startup Ecosystem Tour (Top 15 Startups / In Korea)

- o Attendance at the COMEUP Global Startup Festival in Korea
- o Visits to major Korean startup hubs such as Pangyo Techno Valley and Startup Hub etc.
- o Business matching with Korean companies and institutions
 - * Korea Startup Ecosystem Tour provides round-trip airfare for one participant , as well as accommodation in Korea for the duration of the program

3 Evaluation Process and Criteria

□ Selection Process

- o Selection Procedure: 2-Step Evaluation (documents, global audition)
- o Evaluation committees will be composed of AfCFTA Secretariat, Korea-Africa Foundation and experts on related matters



- * Selection may be cancelled in case of confirmed (occurring) disqualification even after the final selection, or not able to obtain a visa to enter Korea within the schedule
- * Applicant Teams with the highest scores from document and global audition evaluations will be selected accordingly with scores
- * Audition evaluation will be conducted via online: instructions will be given in due course

Evaluation Criteria (Document and Audition Evaluation)

Evaluation Category	Evaluation Criteria	Points
Project Relevance & Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Alignment with program objectives •Intention to export to Korea and willingness to participate in program •Contribution to Korea–Africa business partnership building •Ability to convey ideas •English proficiency and communication skills 	30
Business Model & Global Expansion Capability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Differentiation and competitiveness of the business item •Appropriateness of market, customer, and competitor analysis •Clarity and level of MVP and revenue model •Korean and Overseas Partnership and Revenue Status & Strategy •Clarity and feasibility of revenue model and growth potential •Product–market fit (PMF) and differentiation •Specificity and feasibility of participation plans •Entrepreneurial and global expansion experience 	40
Innovation & Social Impact in AfCFTA Priority Industries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Innovative solutions in key AfCFTA industries (logistics, e-commerce, agri-tech, fintech, climate tech, manufacturing, etc.) •Positive social and environmental impact (job creation, economic inclusion, sustainability, resource efficiency) 	30
Total		100
<small>※ Score criteria(A(Excellent): 21~25 / B(Good): 16~20 / C(Fair): 11~15 / D(Poor): 6~10 / E(Very Poor): 1~5) ※ Bonus points awarded if the team includes African residents in Korea or presents ESG-related ideas.</small>		

5 Notice

Notice

- o All participating startups and teams have the obligation to participate in the entire AfCFTA Startup Partnership Program in good faith
- o All participating startups and teams have the responsibility to familiarize themselves with 「Guideline for the AfCFTA Startup Partnership Program」
- o All participating startups and teams must actively cooperate with information requests for business performance analysis and business growth trends to AfCFTA and KAF during and after the program
- o In case of disqualification, cancellation of participation may be taken into action even after the confirmation of participation is finalized
- o The applicant is responsible for any disadvantages caused by being unfamiliar with relevant laws and regulations in regards to support of AfCFTA Startup Partnership Program and program participation
- o Application details and/or schedule are subject to change in case of natural disaster, emergency, contagious diseases (COVID-19), etc.
- o Program and schedule are subject to change based on operational circumstances.

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4 Application and Schedule

How to Apply

- o Refer to AfCFTA website and submit your application according to the instructions provided.
- Application deadline: **Sunday, 14 June 2026 (Ghana Time)**
- *We advise to complete the application 2-3 days before the deadline due to possible network congestion (Only the applications completed within the deadline will be accepted)

Important Dates

- o Application Deadline: 14 June 2026
- o Announcement of Document Evaluation Results: 25 June 2026
- o Audition Evaluation: Scheduled July 2026
- o Final Result Announcement: Early July 2026
- * The schedule is subject to change