

2024-2025 Youth Climate Innovation Programme

24th CTCN Advisory Board Meeting

15-20 September 2024

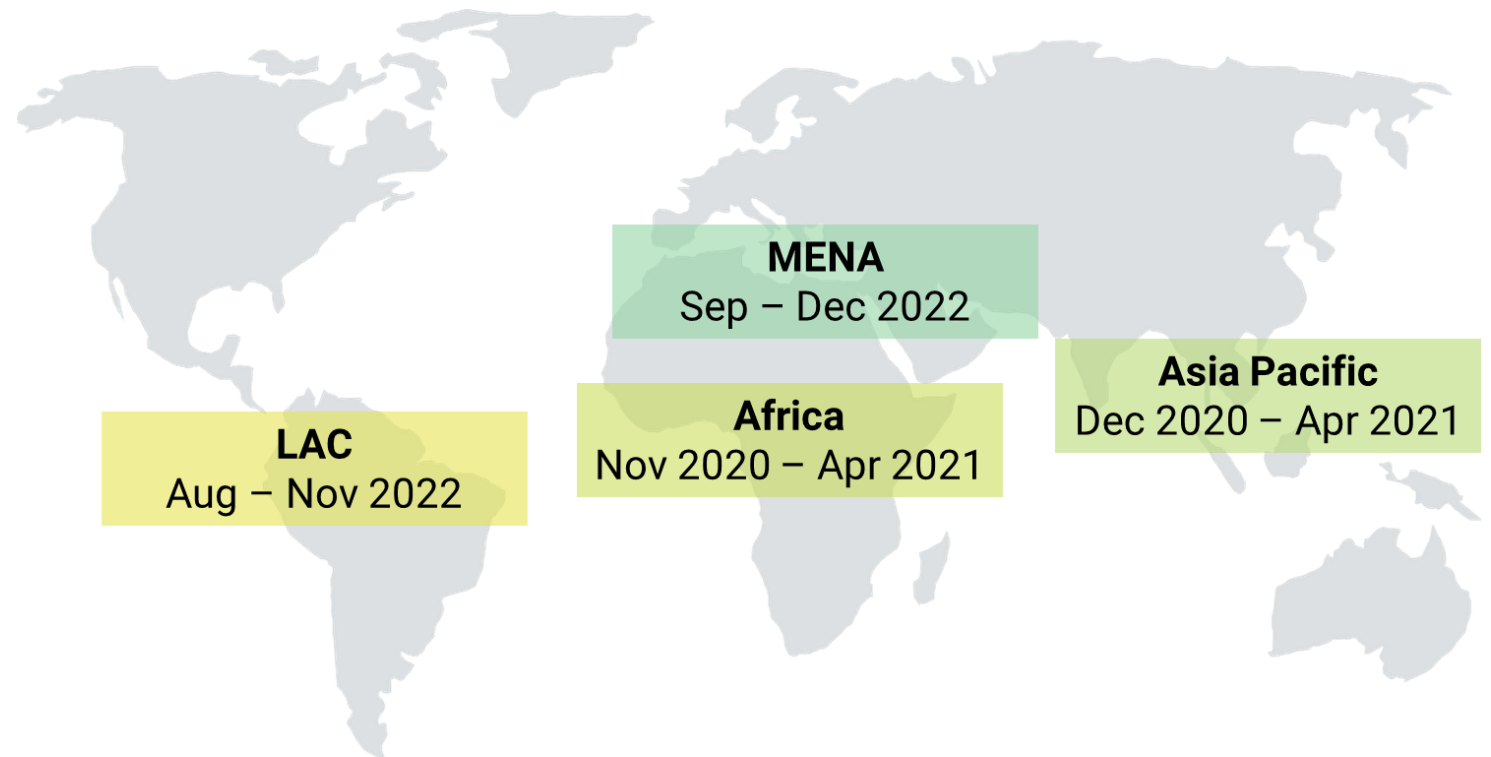
Agenda Item 24.1

Review of the first YCI Programme

The first edition of the Youth Climate Innovation (YCI) Programme consisted of a **Lab** (3-day hackathon) and an **Academy** (6-8 week learning programme).

335 innovators from **72 countries** participated in the Lab and **31 teams completed** the Academy.

Startups with solutions on agricultural cold-chains, urban green wall design, and small-scale biogas systems have since **raised funding, grown a team and onboarded customers.**



New YCI Programme Overview



The 2nd edition of the YCI Programme aims to **support young innovators in developing countries to identify, develop and scale high-impact climate technology solutions.**

The new YCI Programme

- builds on the successes and learnings of the first edition by providing enhanced support on ideation, incubation and acceleration.
- enhances the **YCI Idea Lab** (formerly YCI Lab) by challenging young innovators to ideate climate solutions with design thinking tools during a 7-day online event.
- extends the **YCI Incubator** (formerly YCI Academy) to a 12-week cross-sectoral and cross-regional online incubation cohort.
- introduces a **YCI Accelerator** to support investment- and partnership-readiness
- strengthens a **YCI Community** to share resources and enable networking and peer-to-peer learning

New YCI Programme Programme Design

IDEATION



YCI Idea Lab

7-day online event,
applying design thinking
tools *to ideate on climate
solutions*

80 participants / region

INCUBATION



YCI Incubator

12-week online mentoring
programme *to develop
and test the climate
solution*

8 teams / region

ACCELERATION



YCI Accelerator

4-week hybrid support
programme *to accelerate the
climate solution through
funding and partnerships*

2 teams / region



YCI Community

Online community to share resources and enable networking



New YCI Programme

YCI Idea Lab



The **YCI Idea Lab** is a 7-days online innovation journey. Young innovators will learn about climate challenges, get introduced to design thinking tools that facilitate the problem-solution identification, work on their climate ideas within teams with support from various mentors.

On the last day, teams will pitch their climate ideas to an expert jury and 8 teams will be selected per region for further support through the YCI Incubator.

The YCI Idea Lab will be delivered separately in 4 different regions (Asia-Pacific, Africa, MENA and Latin America and the Caribbean).

1 Sign-up of individual participants and teams through the YCI Programme website

2 Selection of max. 80 participants according to set criteria, and formation of teams

3 7-day YCI Idea Lab during which teams develop their ideas

4 Final idea pitch in front of jury based on which 8 teams will be selected for the YCI Incubator



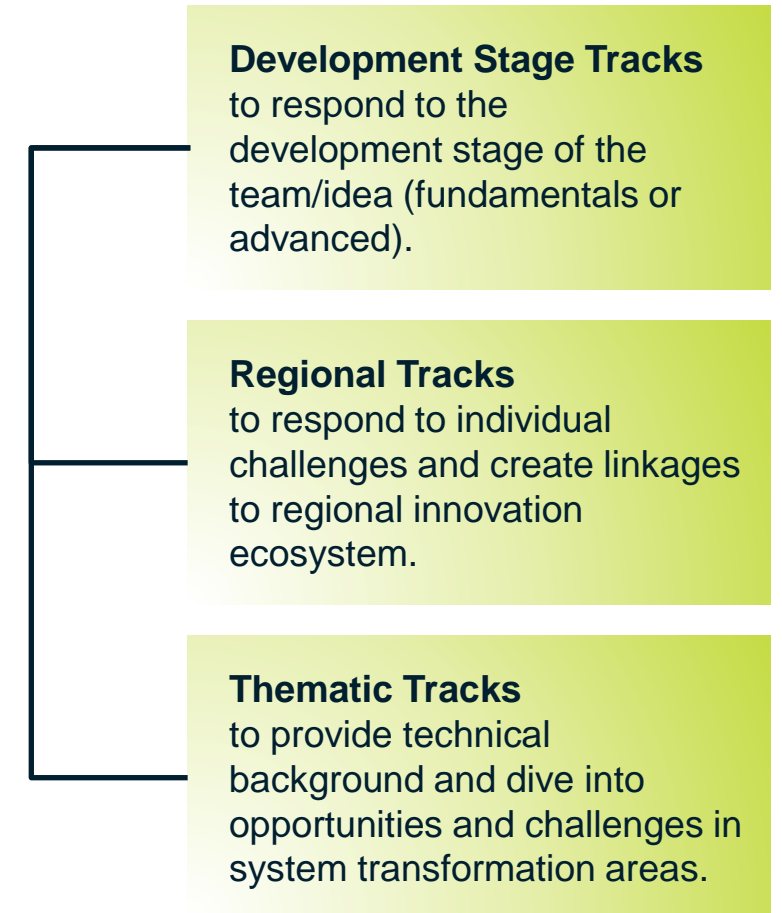
New YCI Programme

YCI Incubator

The **YCI Incubator** is a 12-week incubation programme. The 8 winning teams per region will receive support in solidifying their climate technology ideas and developing them into viable products and services.

The YCI Incubator will run in parallel in all four regions, involving different tracks according to the development stage, region and sector of the team and its idea.

A final pitch day will be organized with an expert jury through which 2 teams per region will be selected for further support through the YCI Accelerator.





New YCI Programme YCI Accelerator



The **YCI Accelerator** is a 4-week intensive acceleration programme to support the investment- and partnership-readiness of the 2 winning teams per region. In this process, teams will receive hands-on support from an Entrepreneur in Residence (EIR).

The teams will also be invited to take part in person at a regional climate change event to network with NDEs, potential partners, investors and other climate ecosystem stakeholders.

Investment-readiness

Investors have stringent due diligence processes for investing into startups.

Teams need a strong business plan, market validation, a solid team, sound financial management, and legal compliance.

**Connection with
Seedstars
investment platform**

Partnership-readiness

Partnerships are essential for fostering innovation, expanding the reach, and securing sustainable growth.

Teams need a clear value proposition, defined goals and objectives, market understanding, and a clear contractual framework.

**Connection with
CTCN network
members and NDEs**



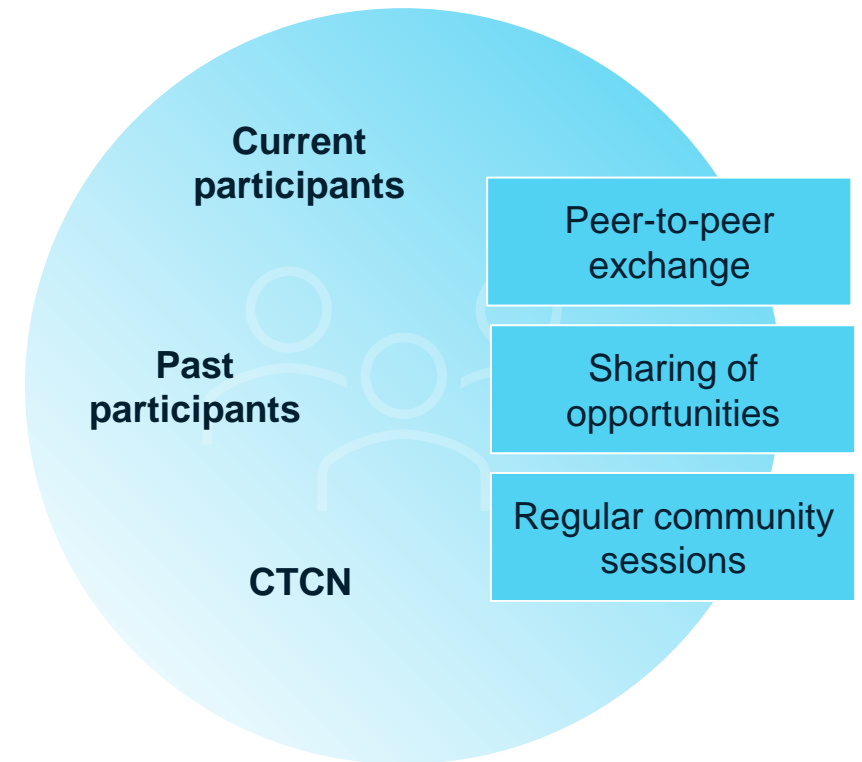
New YCI Programme YCI Community



The **YCI Community** is an online platform that fosters a climate innovation community amongst current and former YCI Incubator and YCI Accelerator participants.

The platform will be regularly moderated and updated with upcoming opportunities, and will allow for peer-to-peer exchange between innovators.

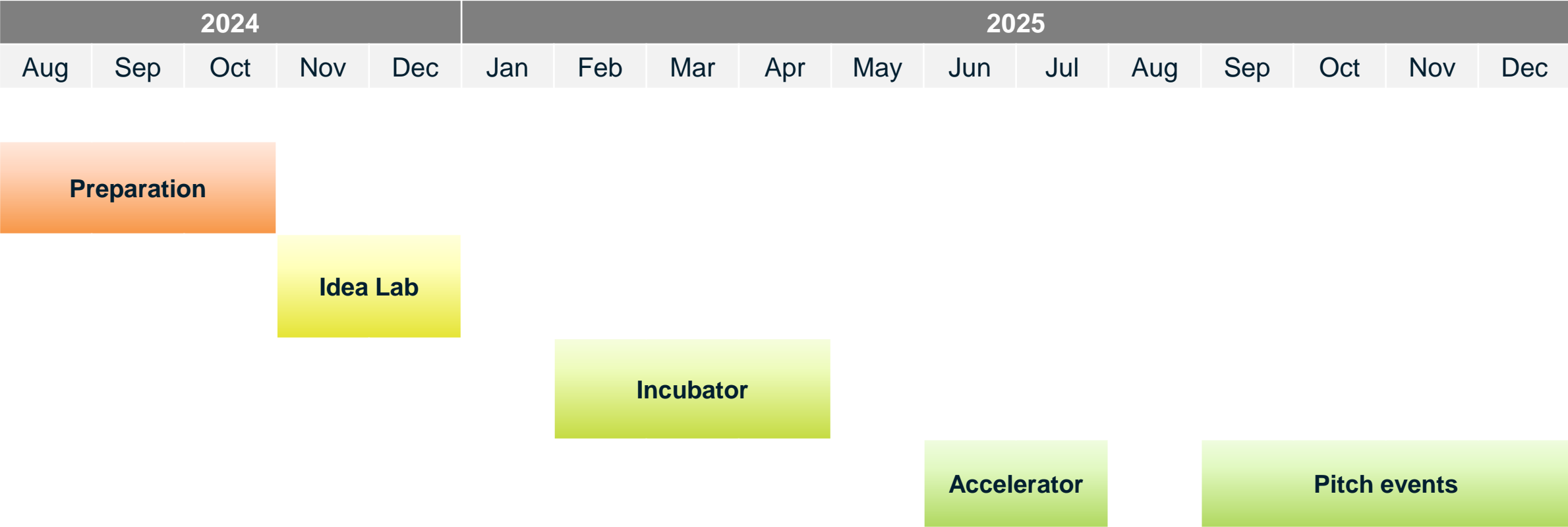
Qualifying companies/organizations can also join the CTCN network.



New YCI Programme Timeline



The YCI Programme will run from **November 2024 to December 2025**.



New YCI Programme

Support the Programme

Invite participants



Invite participants to join the YCI Programme. Registrations are open until 13th October 2024 via the website.

Mobilize mentors



Mobilize mentors with sectoral, regional and entrepreneurship expertise to support the innovators.

Facilitate partnerships



Facilitate partnerships between interested companies / organizations and the startups to support their growth.

Unlock funding



Unlock funding for the startups by introducing investors (e.g. VCs, family offices, foundations, banks).

New YCI Programme

Spread the word





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