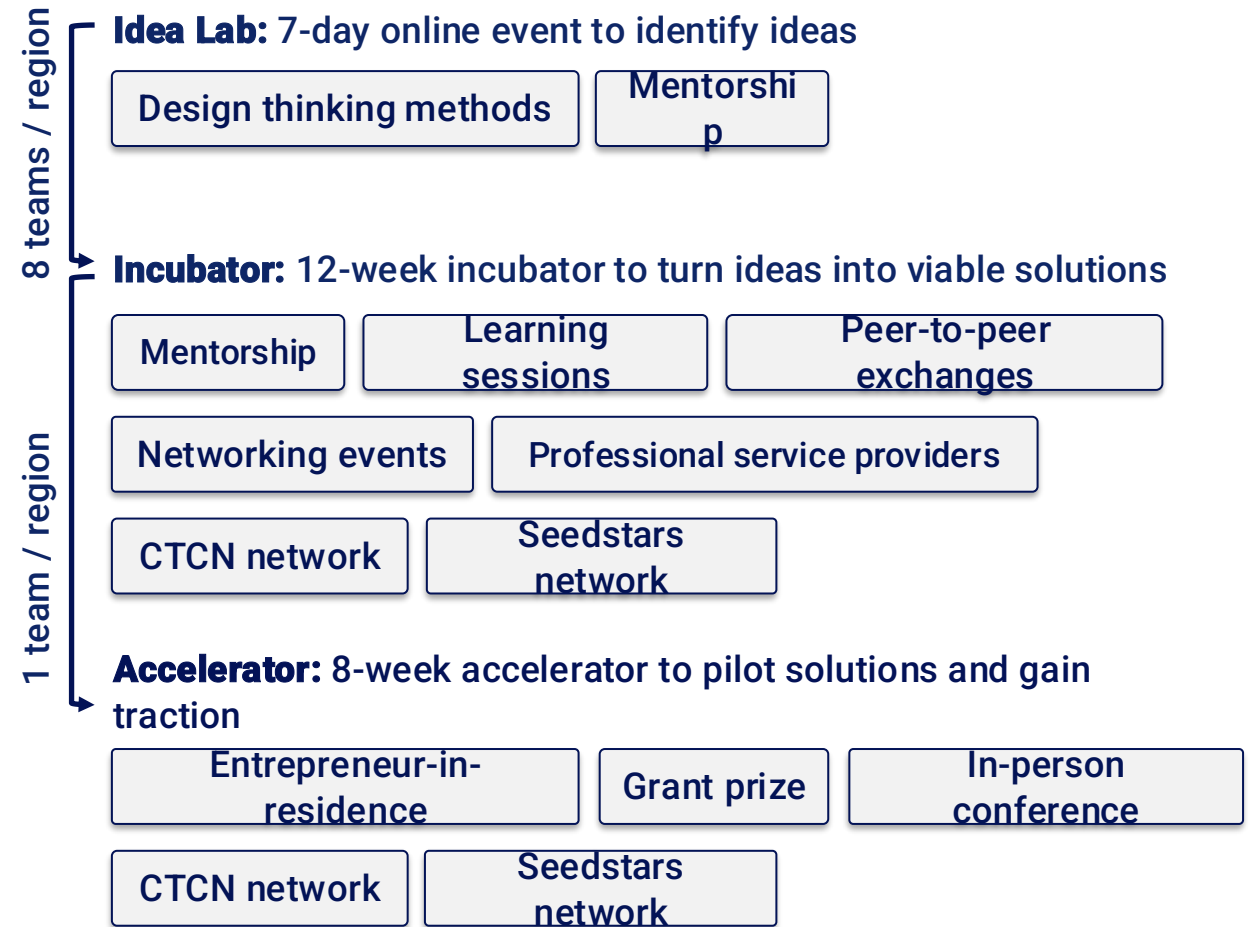


Youth Climate Innovation Programme 2024-25

27th Advisory Board Meeting
CTCN Secretariat
Agenda item 17.1
20 April 2026

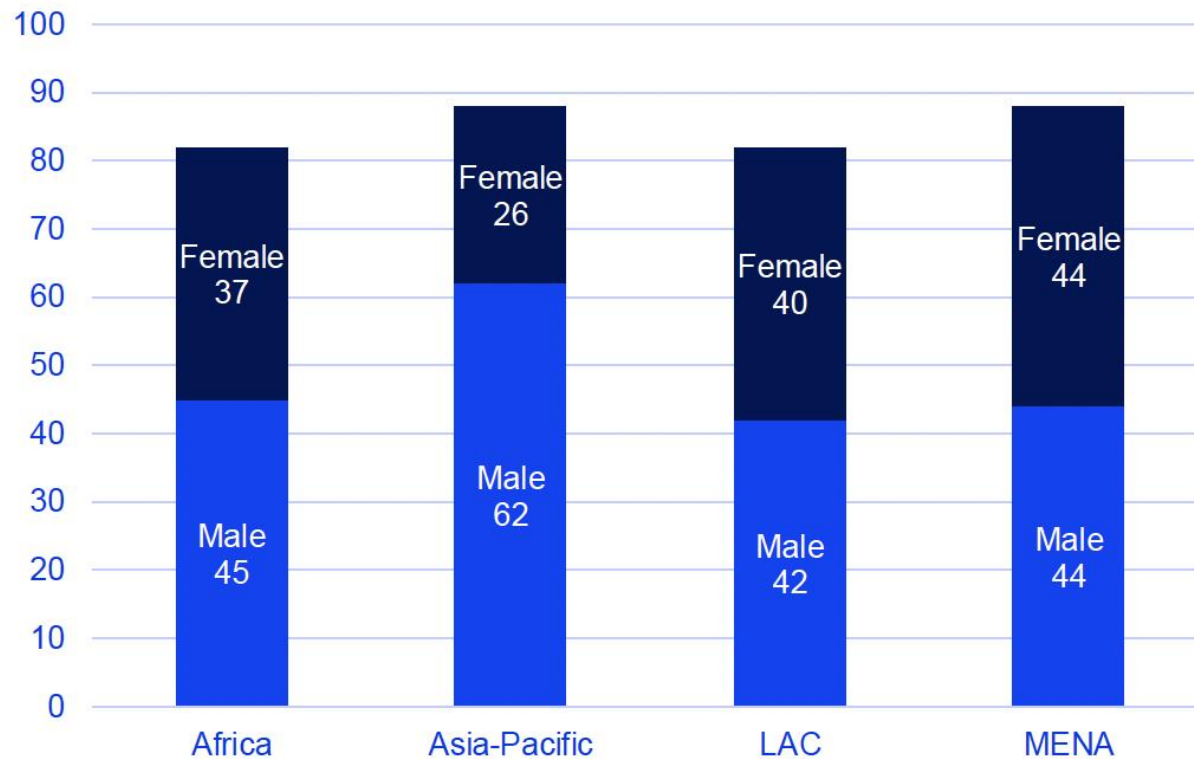


The Programme implementation across four regions Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), Middle East and North Africa (MENA), and Sub-Saharan Africa.



YCI Idea Lab Overview of Participants

339 Participants (57% Male, 43% Female)



62 countries represented

65% members of a grassroots organization

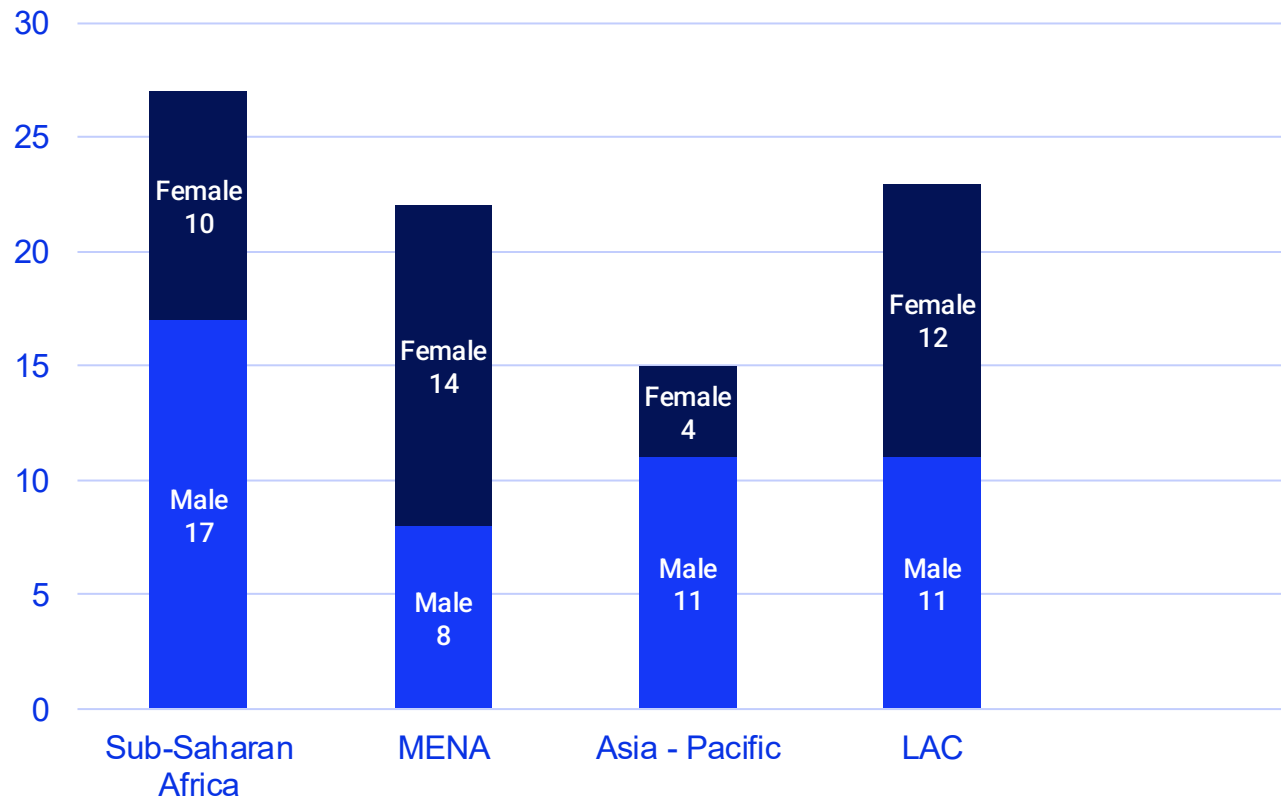
24% members of an underrepresented, marginalized or indigenous group

YCI Incubator Overview of Teams

	Asia-Pacific	LAC	MENA	Sub-Saharan Africa
Water-Energy-Food Nexus				
Energy Systems				
Sustainable Mobility				
Business and Industry				
Buildings and Infrastructure				
Cross-cutting				

YCI Incubator Statistics of Participants

88 Participants (54% Male, 46% Female)



39 countries represented

68% members of a grassroots organization

17% members of an underrepresented, marginalized or indigenous group

YCI Accelerator Finalists

GreenBond

GreenBond



Ghana

Buildings & Infrastructure

1 female + 2 male founders

Exist.
Team

GreenBond helps builders deliver affordable, climate-friendly housing faster using advanced geopolymers concrete, with less cost and construction waste.

Key achievements:

- Material tested by Ghana Standards Authority
- 25 Lols received
- Strong outreach to building developers



YCI Accelerator Finalists



Sharee

 Laos

Water-Energy-Food Nexus

2 male founders

Exist.
Team

Sharee connects smallholder farmers to climate-smart solutions, finance, and markets, making agriculture scalable, bankable, and climate-positive.

Key achievements:

- Built mobile application for farmers and buyer web-app
- Partnerships with agri and financial cooperatives
- 500+ farmer pilots



YCI Accelerator Finalists



Cacao Circular

 Ecuador / Peru

Business & Industry

1 female + 1 male founder

New Team

Cacao Circular transforms cacao waste into biomaterials like bio-leather, cutting emissions while creating climate-resilient income for farming communities.

Key achievements:

- Sustainable material pilots
- Partnership with ACOPAGRO Cooperative
- Potential collaborations (e.g. Camper) identified



YCI Accelerator Finalists



SolarEye

📍 UAE / Jordan

Energy Systems

4 female founders

New Team

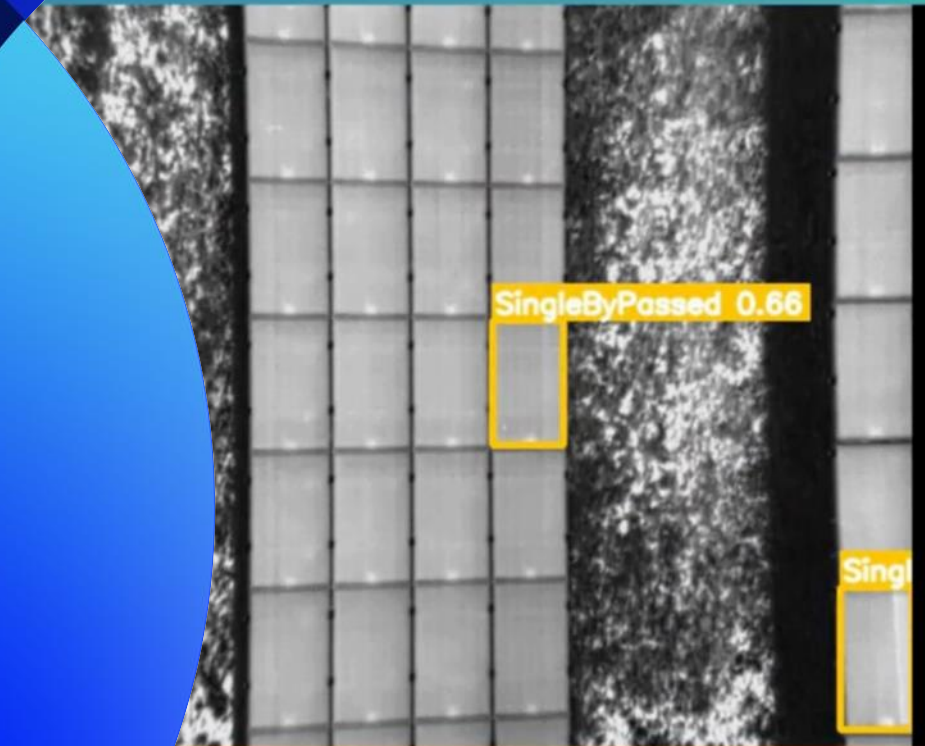
SolarEye uses AI-powered drones to detect and diagnose solar panel issues, enabling faster maintenance and maximizing energy production.

Key achievements:

- Market validation completed
- Built thermal imaging dataset
- Completed initial AI training for fault detection
- Designed monitoring dashboard

SS

Good — Minor Issues Detected



riority

Medium Priority

0

YCI Accelerator changeNOW Summit

Participation of the 4 global finalist startups of the YCI Programme at **changeNOW Summit** in Paris (30 March – 1 April), a leading global gathering accelerating solutions for the planet.

Key highlights:

The teams pitched their solutions to a global audience of 30+ stakeholders from the innovation ecosystem (ESOs, FIs, etc.)

3 days of intensive networking at changeNOW Summit and UNEP office to identify linkages and shape partnerships

Sharee was nominated to receive a dedicated startup booth in the "Land & Agriculture" area



Out of 32 teams, we received answers

20 teams to the Impact Survey that was conducted between March – April 2026.

Impact Metrics - YCI Programme

The purpose of this survey is to better understand your progress following the Incubation phase of the YCI Programme. Your responses will help us capture key outcomes, measure impact, and continue improving the support we provide to climate ventures like yours.

Name and Last Name *

Email Address

What is the name of your project/company you participated in the YCI Incubator with? *

+ Add

Have you worked on the project/company already before participating at the YCI Incubator? *

Impact Company Status

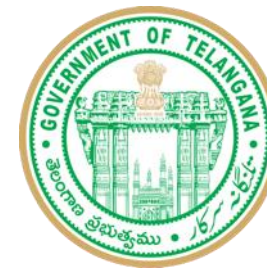
All teams are still actively operating more than 8 months after the YCI Programme.



Impact Funding

192,950 USD of total funding has been received from different sources (grants and equity investment) by **11 teams** during and after the YCI Programme.

I-Venture @ ISB



AGROECOLOGY FUND



Implemented by
giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



Microsoft for Startups

Impact Technology Pilots

11 teams are actively piloting their solutions already with **421** pilot users, including first paying customers that create initial revenue for teams to be self-sustainable.



Impact New Partnerships

14 teams have established relevant partnerships to develop and implement their solutions whilst and after participating in the YCI Programme.



COPRAGO Community, Chitete Farmer Community, Lao Association of Savings and Credit Unions, and many more ...

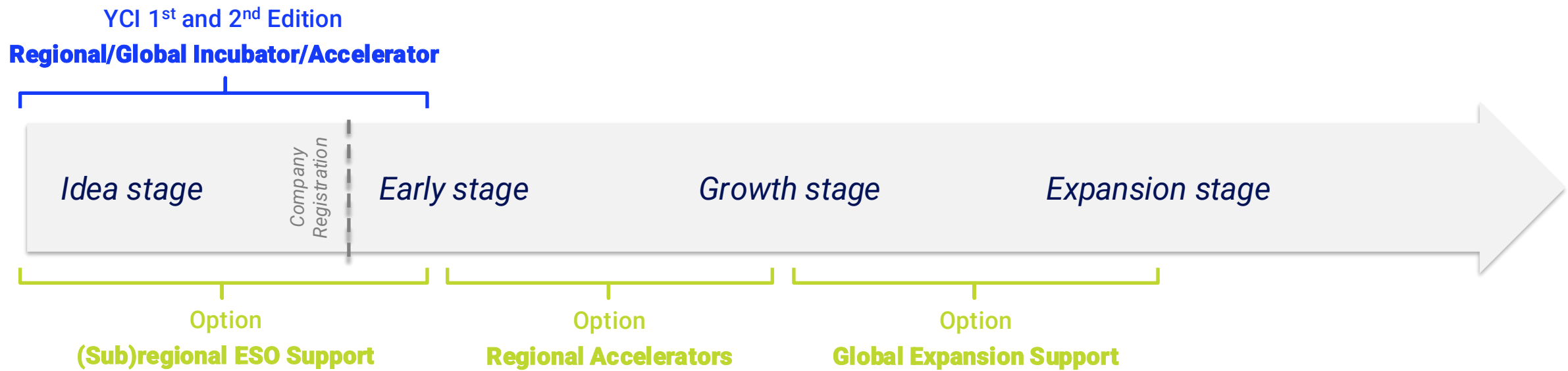
Impact Support of other ESOs

16 teams have benefited from the support of other Entrepreneurship Support Organizations (ESO) after participating in the YCI Programme.



Some of the learnings and considerations for the next YCI Programme include:

- Shape support more to the needs of startups at specific development stages
- Strengthen capacities of existing stakeholders in the innovation ecosystem to create long-lasting impact
- Improve embeddedness with CTCN core activities (technical assistances, network engagement, etc.)
- Harness strategic partnership opportunities (e.g. ICC, ITC)





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