



Building Bridges between Ethiopia and Somalia

ONLINE EVENT

30 September 2021

10:00 am – 12:00 pm (EAT)

9:00 am – 11:00 am (CET)

Register via this [Link](#)



BIC Africa is funded by
the European Union.



Delegations of the
European Union to Ethiopia and Somalia

Building bridges between Ethiopia and Somalia: Featuring the EU Programme ‘Support to Entrepreneurship and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) creation (Business incubators)’

Please register to join before 29 September 2021, 6pm CET via this [Zoom Link](#)

About the event

An **introduction to the Ethiopia and Somalia Country Projects and the BIC Africa project**, the three of them under the framework of the EU Programme ‘Support to Entrepreneurship and MSME creation (Business incubators)’, in order to present incubators, chambers of commerce and industry associations, universities, entrepreneurship centres and support structures for business development, the opportunities that these initiatives will provide for them in terms of support, networking, exchange of good practices, and also connections between the two countries and with European organisations.

The event will also showcase some success stories of other initiatives that have built bridges between Ethiopian and Somali organisations.

Ethiopia and Somalia Country Projects

The Ethiopia and Somalia Country Projects under the above-mentioned EU Programme, will support the sustainable and inclusive development of business incubators and the overall entrepreneurial ecosystem by promoting the business enabling environment for innovation, economic diversification, and entrepreneurship.

BIC Africa

BIC Africa will establish a Regional Network to provide incubators in Angola, Ethiopia, Madagascar and Somalia with dedicated capacity building and networking support, while providing softer networking services to the wider incubation ecosystem in the region.

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ON ZOOM

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Agenda

10:00 – 10:10 Welcoming and presentation

Vincent de Boer, Head of Section the Delegation of the European Union in Somalia.
Representative of the Delegation of the European Union in Ethiopia.

10:10 – 10:35 EU opportunities in Ethiopia, in Somalia and in the region: The Country Projects

- Eduin Matta Castillo, Directorate-General for International Partnerships of the European Commission.
- Mercedes Marín-Nortés, Delegation of the European Union in Ethiopia.
- Representative of SEQUA, Implementing Partner of the Ethiopia Country Project.
- Benoît Larielle, Delegation of the European Union in Somalia.

10:35 – 10:45 BIC Africa

Robert Sanders, Senior Advisor for International Projects at the European Business and Innovation Centre Network (EBN) and Team Leader of BIC Africa.

10:45 – 11:00 Building Bridges between Ethiopia and Somalia: the Berbera Corridor

Sharmarke Jama, Expert in Trade and Investment.

11:00 – 11:40 Other Opportunities in Ethiopia and Somalia

- *Overcoming the daily challenges for African Business Support Organisations*
Markos Lemma, iceaddis.
- *Acceleration programmes for start-ups in Africa*
Anne Lawi, Pangea Accelerator.
- *University collaboration between Ethiopia & Somalia facilitating innovative business creation and exchanges*
Dr. Abdi Mohamed Muhemed, Jigjiga University College of Business and Economics.

11:40 – 11:55 Questions and answers

11:55 – 12:00 Conclusions

Mercedes Marín-Nortés, Delegation of the European Union in Ethiopia.
Benoît Larielle, Delegation of the European Union in Somalia.

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