



LET YOUR START-UP GROW FOR AFRICA'S FUTURE

AGTECH

BIOTECH

MINING TECH

MATERIALS SCIENCE & NANOTECH

Developed in partnership with:

Supported by:







www.impulse.ma



SPARK INNOVATION, DESIGN THE FUTURE

Impulse is a unique accelerator program developed by Mohammed VI Polytechnic University in partnership with MassChallenge. The program is supported by OCP Group and its subsidiary OCP Africa.

This 12-week program targets innovative startups operating in various scientific and industrial fields, such as Agritech, BioTech, Mining Technologies and Materials Science and Nanotechnology. Impulse's main objective is to support the rapid growth of startups and help them forge profitable and lasting partnership with the OCP Group, the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (UM6P) and their ecosystems.

This initiative is part of the university's Innovation & Entrepreneurship effort, which endeavors to promote and support a global community of researchers and visionary entrepreneurs committed to the development of the African continent. This platform federates several actors of an ecosystem, working together to provide startups with access to various resources to develop their business: training, workshops, Fablabs, Living Labs, incubation and accelerator programs etc. The Impulse accelerator program is a notable example.

Impulse is also designed to be a springboard to a game-changing African accelerator, industry agnostic, based in Morocco, operated with MassChallenge and involving multiple corporate and institutional partners.



All start-ups participating in the Impulse program will benefit from numerous advantages to strengthen their innovative projects:

- Mentoring and coaching offered by a network of OCP experts, UM6P professors and doctoral students and mentors of the MassChallenge network and the entrepreneurial ecosystem
- Access to business opportunities via the OCP Group network, OCP Africa and UM6P
- A cash prize of up to \$ 250,000
- Access to UM6P amenities: Fablab, experimental laboratories and living laboratories equipped with state-of-the-art equipment enabling startups to develop and test prototypes of their products and services

- Study trips to the ecosystems of Boston and Lausanne
- Access to a 431 m² coworking space, equipped with the necessary facilities and equipment to enable startups to work on their business
- Access to financing through a set of national and international investment funds and business angels.





The Impulse program targets startups operating in areas related to the OCP Group value chain. There are four main areas to note:



The program is aimed at startups offering innovative solutions to improve the productivity of the agricultural sector in a sustainable way:

- Precision farming and predictive data analysis: data management platforms, robotics and drones, animal data, analysis tools for agricultural and agro-industrial markets, operational management of new generation farms ...
- Agricultural technologies for arid and semi-arid environments
- Solutions to improve the productivity of small farmers in developing countries
- Collective intelligence, transparency and traceability throughout the agri-food value chain

Biotechnology

The program is intended for startups offering innovative solutions in the following specializations:

- Physiology and genetic improvement of plant cultures: understanding the physiological mechanisms of plants subjected to unfavorable environmental constraints (nutritional deficiency, drought, high temperatures, salinity ...).
- Bio-processes: development of innovative bio-processes to recover waste and industrial co-products for the production of biofertilizers, bioenergy, wastewater treatment from an eco-design and circular bio-economy perspective.
- Soil microbiology: search for micro-organisms of interest (biostimulants, biofertilizers and biopesticides ...).



Mining technologies

The program targets startups offering innovative solutions to the challenges faced by mining companies throughout the mining development process, namely:

- Exploration and feasibility study
- Planning and construction
- The exploitation of the mine
- Closure and restoration

Materials Science and Nanotechnology

The program is designed for startups offering innovative solutions in the following areas:

- By-products of phosphates
- Battery materials
- Polymers and composites
- Surface treatments

PROGRAM KEY DATES



to arrange a telephone interview or

videoconference. Only 10 startups will

be selected for the accelerator program.



Startups selected for our accelerator program will have access to all of our testing and research facilities, prototyping spaces and living labs to develop and test their products and services.



Fablab

The Innovation Lab for Operations (ILO) develops and manages infrastructures, demonstrators and other test tools focused on the industrial digitization.

The ILO offers two areas of development: The first area concerns the study and the realization of projects in advanced engineering and research and the second area involves the provision of a FABLAB open to the whole of the UM6P ecosystem for the realization of prototypes of different natures.



Living Laboratories

The Mohammed VI Polytechnic University has implemented an innovative teaching and research model focused on experimentation. To that end, the university's sites are equipped with «Living Labs» dedicated to applied research. These laboratories are actual full-scale platforms (mining installations, farms, factories, cities ...) in which students and academics can conduct their research work.

Green Energy Park

The Green Energy Park is a solar energy testing, research and training platform located in the green city of Benguerir. It is a unique platform that creates synergies and shared infrastructures for the acquisition of knowledge and the development of solutions that are adapted to the African continent.

Experimental Farms

The Agri-Tech platforms established in Morocco and soon in several African countries are experimental farms where researchers develop models and techniques of rotation and use of innovative fertilizers as well as plantation testings in different mineral and biological environments.

Experimental Mine

OCP Benguerir mine is a full-scale living lab dedicated to the experimentation and the development of new technologies for the mining industry. This living lab arose from OCP Group and UM6P's shared vision to promote open innovation and to create R&D-Innovation-Entrepreneurship ecosystems.

Safi Platform

The Safi complex includes sulfuric and phosphoric acid plants, fertilizer and phosphate salt production plants, water and gas treatment plants, maintenance workshops, a power plant and many other chemical engineering installations.

OUR SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

OCP Group

OCP Group contributes to feeding a growing global population by providing essential elements for soil fertility and plant growth. With nearly a century of expertise and a turnover of \$ 5.95 billion in 2018, OCP Group is the world leader in the phosphate market and the world's largest producer of phosphate fertilizers. It offers a wide range of adapted fertilizer products.

Thanks to its large-scale integrated industrial development strategy, OCP is present throughout the phosphate value chain and operates in all its businesses offering its 21,000 employees an excellent development path. Based in Morocco, OCP Group works in close partnership with more than 160 clients on 5 continents.

Committed to better serve Africa's development, OCP puts innovation at the heart of its strategy, particularly, in the establishment of sustainable and prosperous agriculture on the continent.



Mohammed VI Polytechnic University

Inaugurated by His Majesty King Mohammed VI on January 12, 2017, the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University aims to meet the challenges of research, innovation and training in Morocco and Africa in terms of industrialization, food security and sustainable development. The University shares with its students and researchers the values of social responsibility and sustainable development with the objective of giving birth to a new generation of competent leaders that are concerned about their environment and equipped to address the issues of today and tomorrow.

The University is moving towards applied research and innovation with a focus on Africa. It aspires to become one of the world's leading universities in these fields.







Established in 2016, OCP Africa works hand-in-hand with farmers to help sustain the continent's vast agricultural potential by producing solutions that are adapted to local conditions and crop needs. The company works in partnership with a network of partners—governments, non-profit organizations and businesses—to bring all the resources necessary for the success of farmers.

OCP Africa is proud to be a diverse and multicultural African society. It operates in 16 African countries where associates from 17 different nationalities work tirelessly to focus on one actor: the small-scale African farmer.

MassChallenge

Headquartered in the United States with locations across the world, MassChallenge is committed to strengthening the global innovation ecosystem by accelerating high-potential startups across all industries, from anywhere in the world.

Each year, MassChallenge accelerates the most innovative startups in the world through our zero-equity, competition-based model. Our selective four-month program connects participants to:

- Up to \$3M USD globally in cash prizes
- An established international community of startups
- World-class mentoring from industry experts
- Tailored programming
- Unrivaled access to corporate partners

Since 2010, MassChallenge has accelerated 1,975 startups that have raised more than \$4.3 billion in funding, generated more than \$2.5 billion in revenue, and created more than 121,000 total jobs.







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