

# Call for applications

## Autumn School for Sustainable Entrepreneurship 2019

### E-Waste and the Circular Economy

**1 – 5 November 2019, Accra (Ghana)**

The Autumn School is an annual program for young social entrepreneurs from African countries and Germany. Driven by the vision of a transition towards a sustainable global economy it enables young entrepreneurs to learn more about sustainable business, consider how to maximize their social impact, share their locally acquired best practices with each other and become part of an international network of young people sharing the same spirit of sustainability.

The Autumn School is organized by the African-German Youth Initiative (AGYI) and was launched in Berlin in 2016. This year's event is organized and implemented in close cooperation with Impact Hub Accra, a leading social entrepreneurship and innovation center in Ghana, currently running an e-waste project.

**Our vision: To create a network of sustainable entrepreneurs who think and learn globally**

Sustainable Entrepreneurship addresses social or ecological challenges through entrepreneurial efforts. Many of these challenges are highly complex and of a global nature. They require integrated responses, based on resources and know-how from different regional actors. By creating a common understanding of sustainable entrepreneurship in the global context the Autumn School wants to facilitate a dialogue and the implementation of sustainability projects across continents.

**This year's theme: E-Waste and the Circular Economy**

The theme is especially suited to demonstrate the global dimension of political, environmental and social issues, and it touches upon the core need of our societies to transform in a holistic way. This year's Autumn School for Sustainable Entrepreneurship is putting emphasis on innovative initiatives that focus on e-waste and the circular economy with the aim of strengthening, showcasing and connecting young African and German changemakers.

**This year's format: A unique combination of training, field visits and public events with an exciting blend of stakeholders from politics, business and research**

This Autumn School 2019 will be organized by AGYI and Impact Hub Accra. It combines the organizations' unique expertise in the field of global learning and intercultural exchange on one hand, and of social entrepreneurship on the other. Participants will benefit from Impact Hub Accra's first class programs in fostering young social entrepreneurs at an international level and from the two organization's extended partner networks of mentors, stakeholders and resources in the area of sustainable business.

The Autumn School date allows for participation at [WACEE](#) - West African Clean Energy & Environment Trade Fair & Conference 2019 taking place from 6-8 November in Accra with one day dedicated to the issue of circular economy.

## Application criteria

The Autumn School is aimed at entrepreneurs guided by social and ecological principles. This year's focus lies on innovative ideas that address issues of e-waste and the circular economy. The format is particularly suited for entrepreneurs who are in the early implementation phase of their project and who aim to maximize their social impact.

You can apply for the Autumn School for Sustainable Entrepreneurship if...

- you are aged 21-35
- you are fluent in English
- you are a resident of an African country or Germany
- your project aims to tackle a relevant challenge in the area of e-waste or the circular economy and related waste management issues
- your project uses an innovative product design
- you are an early stage entrepreneur
- you are strongly motivated to think and learn globally and to act as a multiplier for sustainable business in your home country.

A complete application must include:

- a filled-in application form including 2 relevant references showing your experience in the field of sustainable entrepreneurship.

## Fact Sheet

### Target group

The Autumn School is aimed at entrepreneurs guided by social and ecological principles and with a considerable interest in maximizing their social impact.

### Benefits

The participants of the Autumn School will...

- get to know more about the life and work of other young changemakers from African countries and Germany;
- benefit from Impact Hub Accra's in-depth expertise regarding maximizing social impact;
- be able to tackle local challenges more efficiently by discussing sustainability issues in a global setting;
- exchange resources and experiences and prepare the ground for long-term virtual or regional exchange;
- be part of the Autumn School and AGYI extended alumni and partner network.

### Contents of the Autumn School

- Three-month virtual **preparatory phase** where participants are supported by mentors to strengthen / scale their business models and maximize their social impact;
- inspiring **expert inputs and discussions** on sustainable business and sustainability issues;
- **peer-to-peer sessions** where participants convene and learn from each other and invited international guests;
- **meetings with Strategic Partners** where participants can critically discuss their scaling plans;
- **field visit** to selected projects in Accra;
- **networking event on sustainable business** for participants and external guests featuring workshops, pitches, market place...

## Organisation and Application

**Date and venue:** The Autumn School will take place from 1-5 November at Impact Hub Accra.

**Costs:** The participation in the Autumn School is free of charge. AGYI will bear the expenses for travel and accommodation for all selected participants. Participants will furthermore be assisted with the organization of their travel and accommodation and with their visa application process.

**Application:** The **deadline for applications** for the Autumn School for Sustainable Entrepreneurship is 24 July 2019. The number of participants is limited to 25. A confirmation letter for those accepted will be sent out in the end of July. Only complete applications will be accepted.

## Application form

Please fill in the application form (in English!) **at the latest** 24 July 2019:

<https://www.engagement-global.de/autumn-school-for-sustainable-entrepreneurship-2019.html>

## Contact

For questions please contact:

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## More information

More information can be found online:

Autumn School: <https://asa.engagement-global.de/autumn-school-for-sustainable-entrepreneurship.html>

AGYI: [News - African-German Youth Initiative \(AGYI\)](#)

Impact Hub Accra: [Impact Hub Accra](#)

