



MEDIA RELEASE

SOUTH AFRICA TO HOST THE STARTUP20 SUMMIT & AWARDS 2025

Johannesburg, South Africa, 13 November 2025

South Africa is proud to host the Startup20 Summit & Awards 2025, taking place from 13–14 November 2025 at Gallagher Estate, Johannesburg.

This landmark gathering marks a historical moment under South Africa's G20 Presidency, where for the first time the G20 is led by an African nation. The Summit will convene global entrepreneurs, policymakers, investors, and ecosystem leaders to advance inclusive entrepreneurship, sustainable innovation, and global startup collaboration.

The two-day Startup20 Summit will feature high-level keynotes, policy dialogues, and taskforce presentations on the five key policy priorities: Finance & Investment, Trade & Market Access, Sustainability & Inclusion, Foundation & Alliance, and Township & Rural Enterprises.

The event will culminate in the Startup20 Awards on 14 November, celebrating enterprises that embody resilience, innovation, and sustainability, driving transformation in South Africa and across the G20 economies.

This year's Startup20 Award categories will honour excellence across five innovation-driven sectors:

- **GreenTech Startup of the Year**
- **AgriTech Startup of the Year**
- **EdTech Startup of the Year**
- **HealthTech Startup of the Year**
- **FinTech Startup of the Year**

Hon. Minister Stella Ndabeni, Minister of Small Business Development, highlighted the importance of this milestone:

“Small businesses and startups remain the heartbeat of our economy. The Startup20 Summit & Awards reflect our commitment to ensuring that entrepreneurs from rural innovators to tech founders have the support and recognition they deserve. This moment is about turning resilience into opportunity and ideas into impact.”



Vuyani Jarana, Chairperson of Startup20 South Africa, said:

“Under South Africa’s G20 Presidency, Startup20 is uniting voices across the world to advance inclusive growth through innovation. This Summit is more than a convening, it is a platform where policy meets practice, and where African entrepreneurship takes its rightful place in shaping global economic transformation.”

Carmen Rudd, Project Lead of the Startup20 Secretariat, added:

“As the Startup20 Secretariat, 22 On Sloane is proud to support this defining moment. The Summit and Awards will not only showcase global best practice but also celebrate entrepreneurs whose bold ideas are driving change in their communities. It’s a proud reflection of Africa’s readiness to lead.”

The outcomes of the Summit, including the Startup20 Communiqué, will be tabled in the G20 Leaders’ Declaration, ensuring that startups and MSMEs are represented at the highest levels of global policymaking.

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