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2024 FEDBACK REPORT

INNOVATIONSUMMIT.CO.ZA



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We're the SA Innovation Summit, dedicated to helping tech startups across Africa thrive. We connect startups with investors, providing funding, skills, and market insights. Our platforms, including the TechTribe Community, TechTribe Accelerator, Pitching Den, and Match & Invest, foster genuine relationships and promote innovative ideas. We celebrate the success stories of startups launching and scaling through our platform, contributing to a vibrant, inclusive tech ecosystem in Africa.



We're all about making deals happen.



Our TechTribe Community and Accelerator offer continuous support to startups.



The Match & Invest platform, helps startups share their ideas with investors.



Our Summit unites **brilliant minds:** global thought leaders, venture capitalists, angel investors, and emerging startups.



OUR VISION

To be the go-to entrepreneurship community on the African continent, facilitating and enabling the growth of tech and tech-enabled start-ups.



Who we are



OUR MISSION

To catalyse economic growth on the African continent by connecting entrepreneurs to capital, skills and markets.





Who is SAIS: Pioneering Innovation in Africa



ORIGINATE



SHOWCASE





Our mission has ignited over a billion Rand in INNOVATION FUNDING, TRANSFORMING VISIONS into IMPACTFUL REALITIES.

We're not just an event; we're a movement.



CAPACITATE

SAIS, at the heart of Africa's innovation journey for 17 years, has been the cradle of entrepreneurial success. Hosting tens of thousands, we've spearheaded the evolution from a premier startup conference to the largest innovation event on the continent.



SAIS: Your Innovation Catalyst

Elevate your engagement across key event experiences

Navigating innovation excellence through strategic acceleration programs



Unleashing the Power of Collaborative Communities



Catalysing Capital: Accelerating Africa's innovation ecosystem

"Catalysing Capital"

MEANS MORE THAN JUST FINANCIAL INVESTMENT -IT INCLUDES MENTORSHIP, SKILL DEVELOPMENT, AND EXPANDING NETWORKS.





Aligning with Our Coals

Our platform is dedicated to nurturing growth and innovation.

Smart Investments

Highlighting innovative ways to channel capital into Africa's tech ventures.

Sustainable Growth

Investments that support long-term growth and stability for the tech ecosystem

Inclusive Opportunities

A diverse range of investors to ensure growth reaches everyone.

Global Partnerships

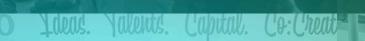
Strategic global partnerships to create international growth opportunities.

Building Resilience

Building a resilient ecosystem to support the sustained success of innovative startups.









FOSTERING INVESTMENT SYNERGIES ACROSS BORDERS This theme focus delves into the importance of cross-border collaborations and partnerships. By fostering investment synergies, we can create a more interconnected and robust innovation ecosystem that transcends geographical boundaries, enabling startups to tap into new markets and opportunities.

This focus area highlights the role of sustainable practices and innovative technologies that support long-term growth from the start. By promoting responsible business models, we aim to ensure that Africa's innovation ecosystem not only thrives but also contributes positively to the environment and society alike.



Catalysing Capital: Accelerating Africa's innovation ecosystem

Focus Areas:

UNLOCKING FINANCIAL PATHWAYS FOR STARTUPS

This theme focuses on the exploration of various strategies and innovative financing solutions specific to the unique needs of African startups. By addressing challenges in accessing capital, we aim to empower entrepreneurs with the resources they need to scale their businesses and drive economic growth across

EMPOWERING SUSTAINABLE GROWTH THROUGH INNOVATION



SAIS'24 Ecosystem Events

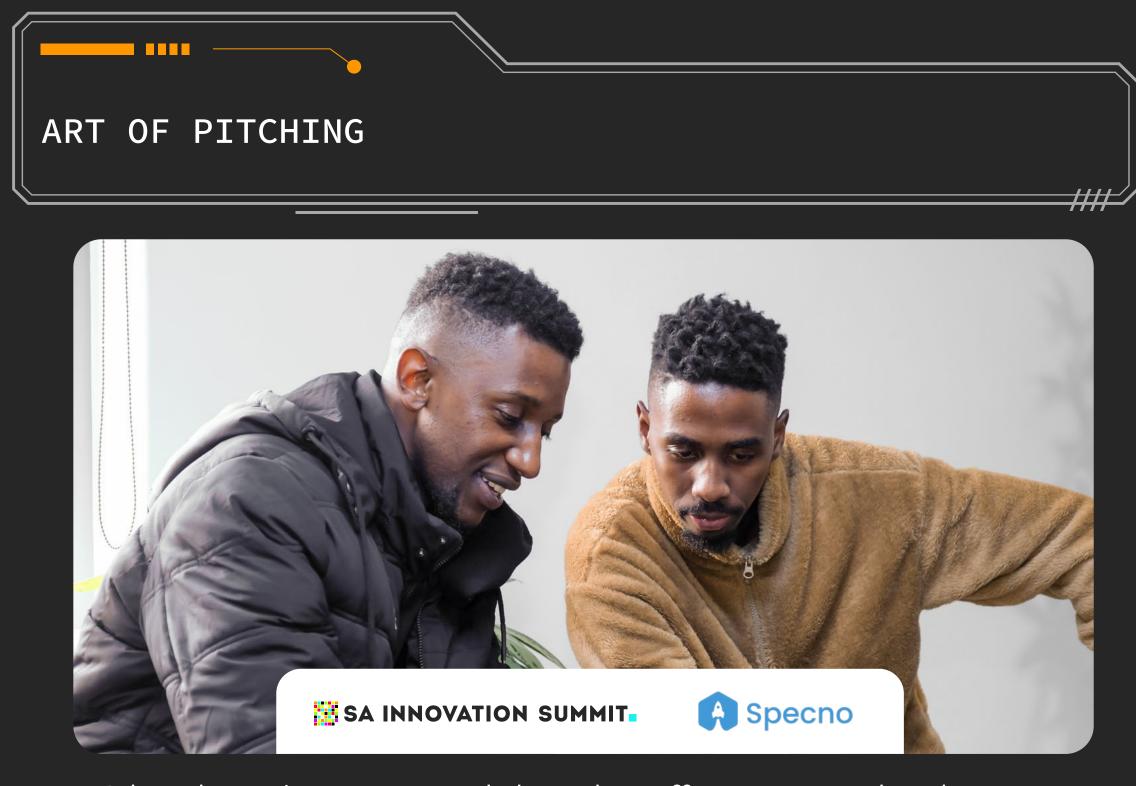
This year investors experienced the dynamic landscape of South African entrepreneurship and innovation. This event was a pivotal opportunity for building connections, discovering investment opportunities, and witnessing the power of startups in driving economic and social change.





A blend of insightful conversations, strategic networking, and the chance to witness firsthand how seasoned investors are planting seeds for the next generation of African startups.





A hands-on, in-person workshop that offers startups the chance to refine their pitches in preparation for meetings with stakeholders.

SAIS'24 Ecosystem Events





A session designed to spark open dialogue and collaboration among startups, technology hubs, and innovators, showcasing the region's potential and opportunities.







session was a platform to stimulate investment flow beyond borders

SAIS'24 Ecosystem Events





SAIS'24: Day 1



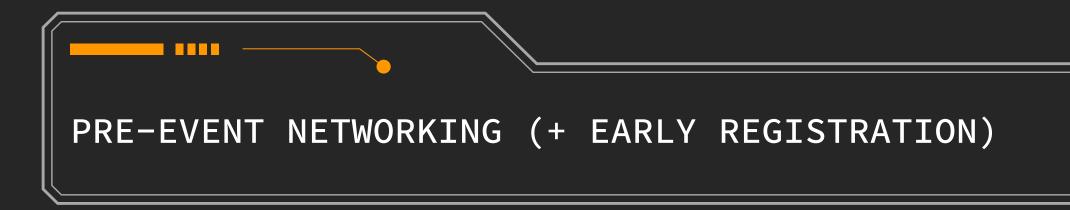




SAIS'24: Day 2



SAIS'24 Ecosystem Events



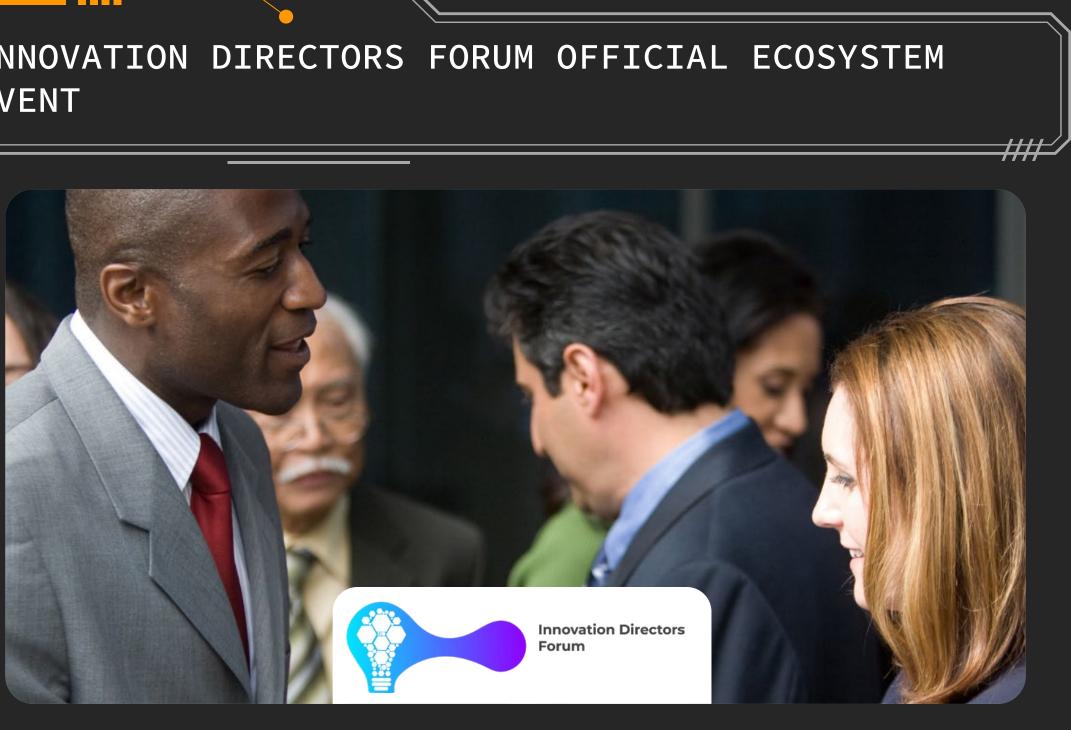


Kick off the SA Innovation Summit in style at our Early Networking Event!





INNOVATION DIRECTORS FORUM OFFICIAL ECOSYSTEM EVENT



In-depth knowledge sharing and showcase of innovative projects, offering strategic insights on driving growth through innovation.



SAIS'24 Ecosystem Events





A celebration of our 'Old Roots, New Vines' week.







Awards ceremony to honour the winners of the competitions.



SAIS'24 Ecosystem Events

CLEANTECH ECOSYSTEM TOUR: A WEEK OF EXPLORING THE FUTURE OF CLEANTECH SOLUTIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA



Empowering green entrepreneurs with market validation, mentorship, and Swiss-European market insights.



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The Summit employed various program formats, including panels, fireside chats, keynote speeches, masterclasses, and lightning talks to explore these areas:



Climate-Tech

Innovative technologies aimed at combating climate change.



Early Investing

The importance of providing financial support to startups in their nascent stages.



Early-stage Investing Sessions



Content: Pillars



DeepTech

Cutting-edge technologies that have the potential to revolutionise industries.

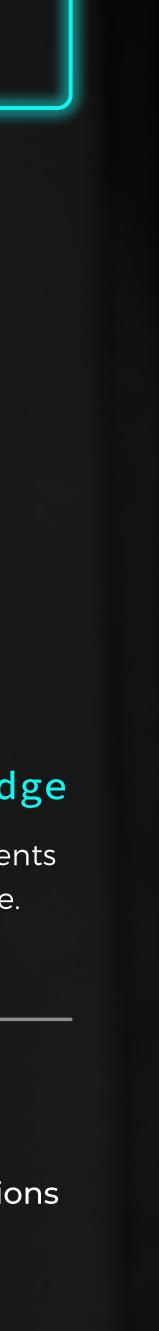




NextGen Digital Edge

The Latest digital advancements that are shaping the future.

NextGen Digital Edge Sessions



Content: Stages & Formats



Main Plenary

Top-notch speakers will deliver talks and have discussions on Deep Tech, Climate Tech, NextGen Digital Edge, and Early-Stage Investing.



Venture Stage

Our official startup stage for competitions, portfolio showcases, and informative lightning talks.



Masterclasses

Panel Discussions





Masterclass Boma

Engagement-based sessions with industry experts inspiring and sharing insights to an intimate audience.



NextStudio

Deep-dive interviews between influencers and our esteemed speakers.



Keynote Addresses



Fireside Chat

=

Lightning Talks



The SA Innovation Summit has established itself as a premier platform for innovation and entrepreneurship, attracting participants and thought leaders from all corners of the globe, making it a truly global event.

The SA innovation Summit is positioned as the landing place to get to know the start-up innovation landscape in South Africa and the rest of the continent.







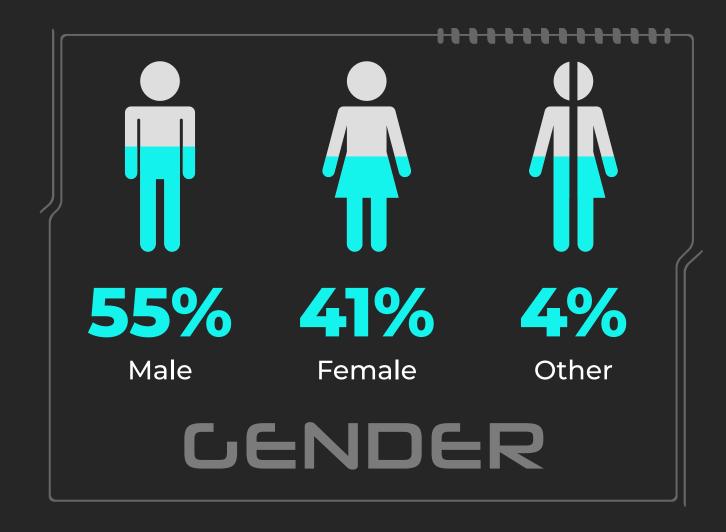




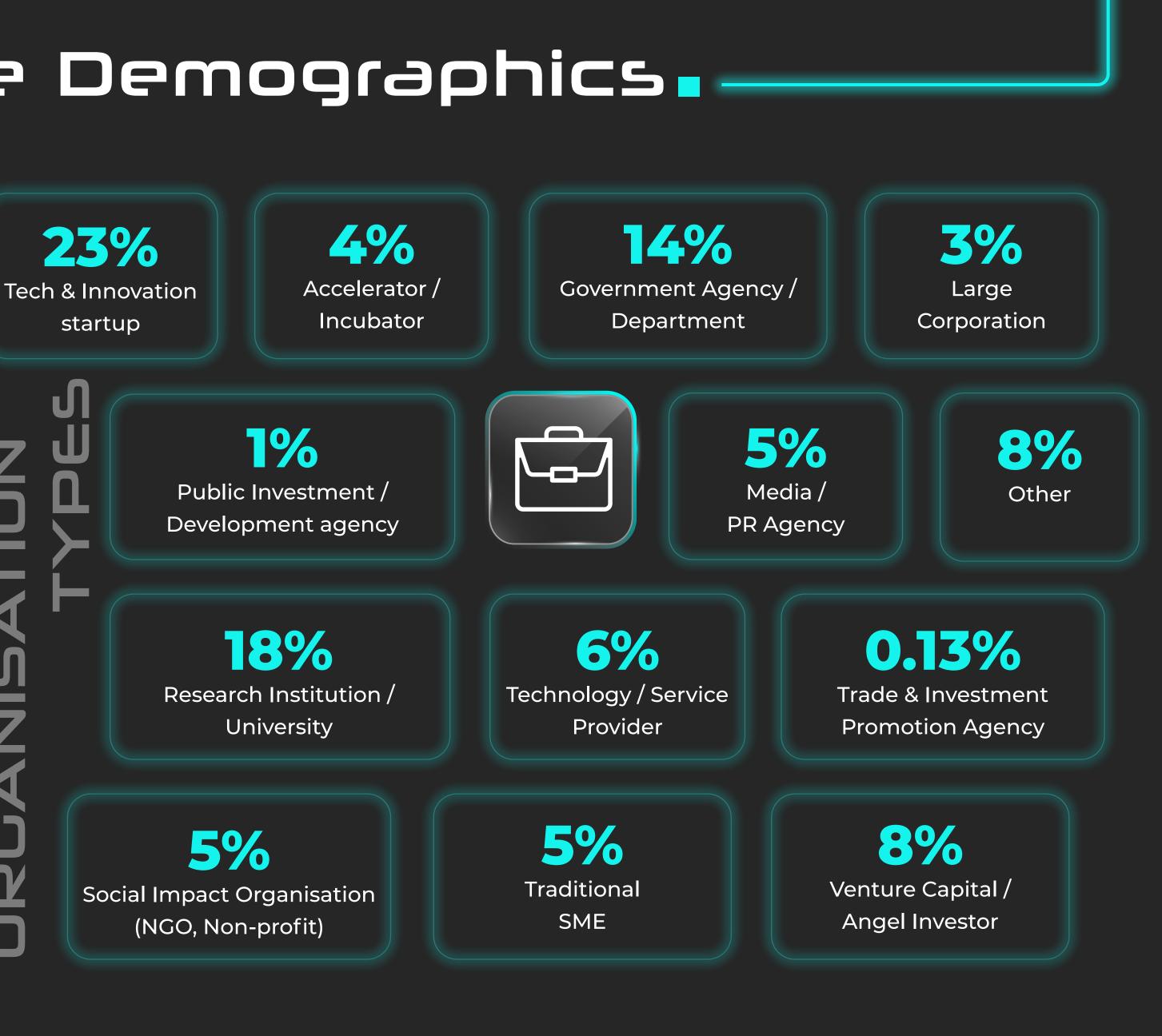


Attendee Demographics









Attendee Demographics

3% 4% 2% \bigcirc **Eco-Innovation Agriculture & E-Commerce** & Sustainable Agri-Tech & Retail Technologies 14% 2% 2% (A) \mathbf{N} Manufacturing & Information Infrastructure-Tech Industrial **Technology &** Real Estate, Mining, Automation Software **Construction** 14% 1% 1% ol@lo 000 \mathbf{O} Travel Tech, Tourism **Telecommunications** Other & Hospitality & Connectivity Innovation







Education & EdTech

5%



Media, Entertainment & Caming 7%



9%



12%



9%



Public Management & Policy **4%**



Healthcare & Biotechnology





Smart Logistics & Supply Chain Tech





TOTAL MEDIA COVERAGE AVE RIM 222





TOTAL MEDIA PR REACH



TOTAL MEDIA CLIPS



MEDIA INTERVIEWS



CONTENT PIECES WRITTEN

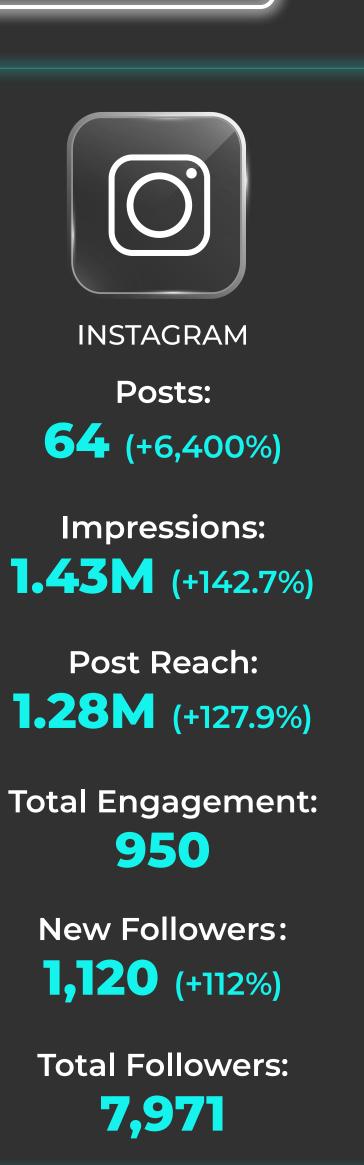




Social Media -

INERATED R120 000 POST GENERATED





The SA Innovation Summit 2024 was a vibrant showcase of innovative ideas and entrepreneurship, highlighting startups from various industries and competition finalists. It served as the SAIS'24 focal point, fostering collaboration, investment, and growth opportunities, helping startups accelerate and expand their impact.

The diversity of startups pitching at SAIS'24 highlighted the global reach of innovation, with founders from various continents showcasing solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges. The audience, representing a broad spectrum of industries, offered fertile ground for startups to forge new partnerships, attract investment, and access global markets.

The judging panel at SAIS'24 featured top professionals, including investors, business leaders, and experts from both public and private sectors. They not only evaluated pitches but also engaged in meaningful discussions with startups, providing insights and challenging them with thought-provoking questions. This collaborative approach supported the summit's goal of nurturing innovation, ensuring all startups received valuable guidance and exposure, beyond just selecting winners.







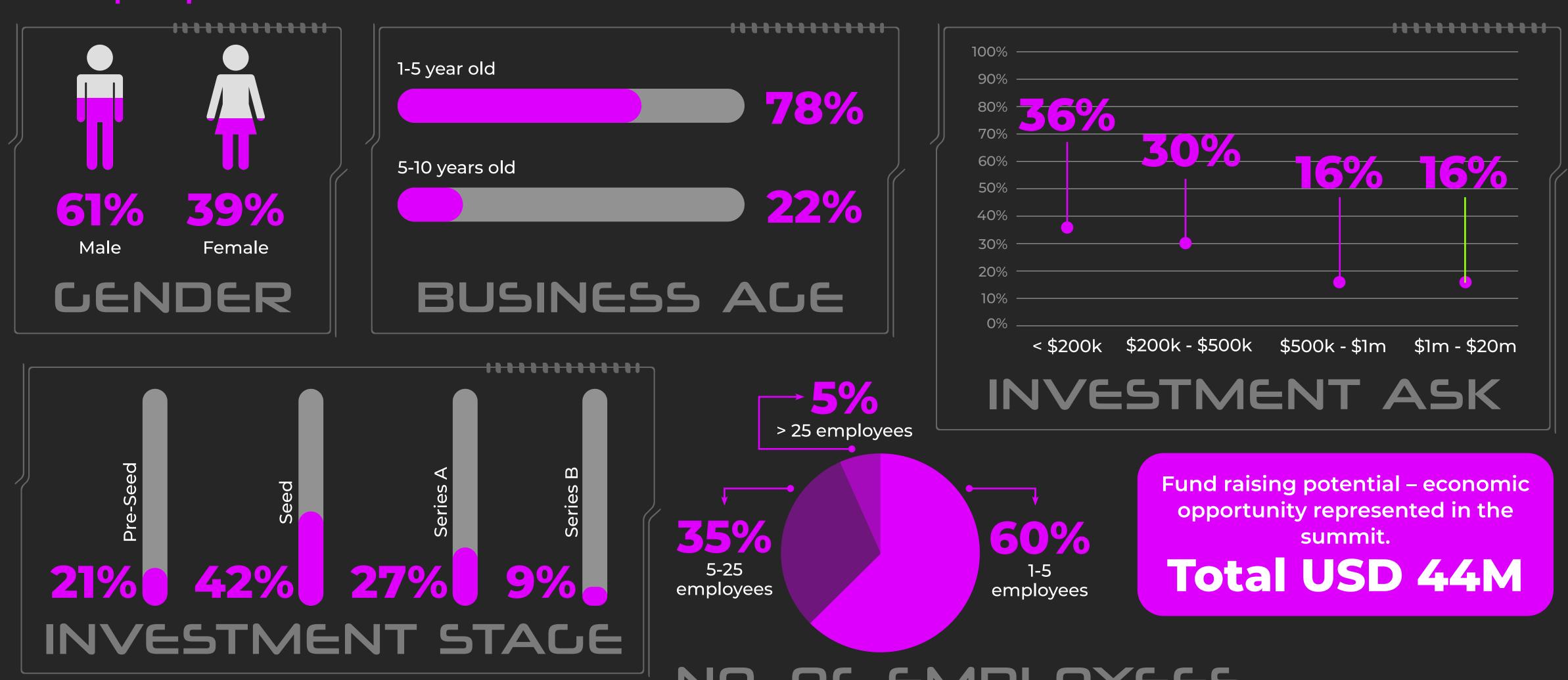
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Startup Pipeline





NO. OF EMPLOYEES



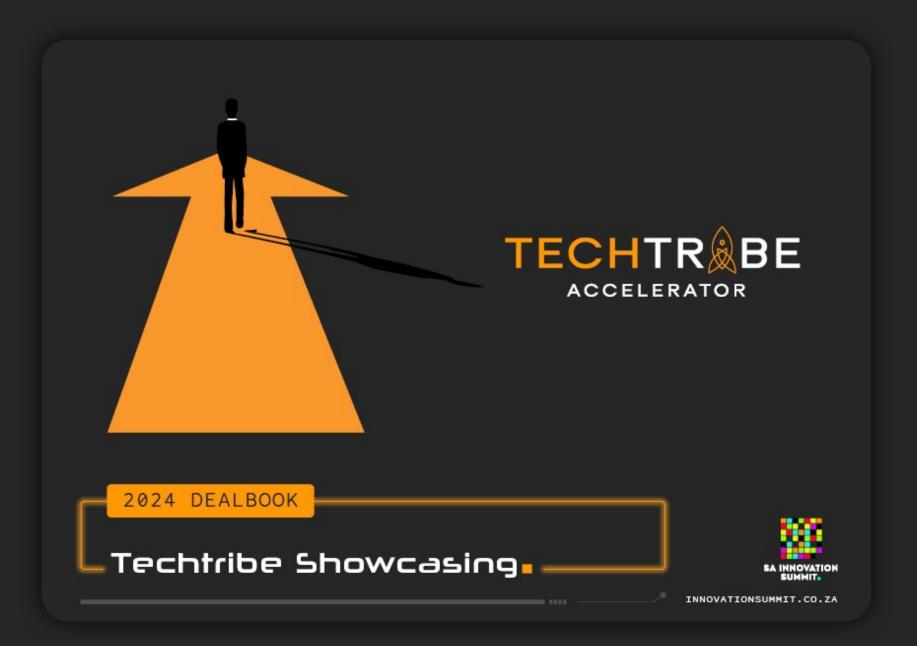
ANZA-TUT Future Tech Challenge Finalists Showcase! Celebrate the innovative spirit and groundbreaking solutions of our top start-ups in Agritech, Digital Tech, and CleanTech.





Discover the forefront of sustainable innovation at the South Africa-Switzerland CleanTech Innovation Challenge 2024, where visionary startups from both South Africa and Switzerland will present breakthrough solutions in clean technology.





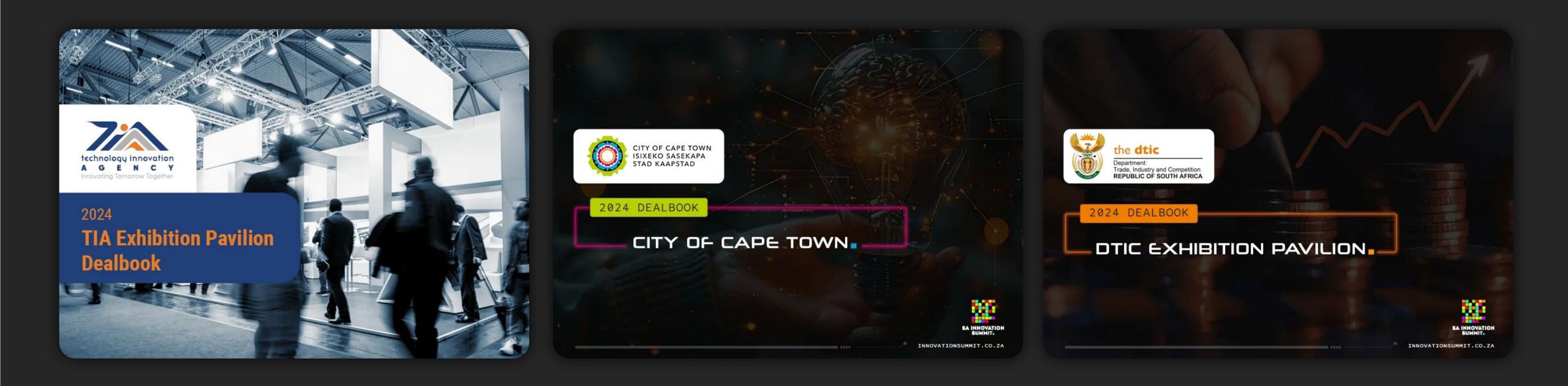
Discover the dynamic cohort of 2024 investment-ready startups that have excelled through the rigorous programs offered by the SA Innovation Summit's TechTribe Accelerator.





The Grindstone Showcasing, where high-growth startups will present their innovative ventures.





Step into the future of innovation at TIA's Pavilion, where startups from diverse industries like Construction & Technology, ICT & Skills Development, and Agro Processing will showcase their cutting-edge solutions.

With a strong commitment to driving economic growth and fostering an inclusive innovation ecosystem, The City of Cape Town has become a hub for forward-thinking enterprises addressing some of Africa's and the world's most pressing challenges.



Uncover innovations at the DTIC Exhibition Pavilion. Experience the creativity and vision driving the future of innovation and economic growth.



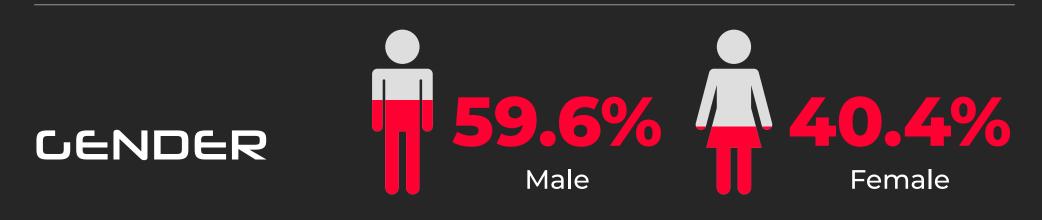
Speakers

SAIS'24 brought together more than 127 global thought leaders and experts, including investors, venture capitalists, their insights and expertise through a range of formats, including keynote addresses, panel discussions, and masterclasses.





WHY SPEAKERS DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE IN SAIS? Network WITH LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE FORM A Strategic Partnerships



SAID: COUNT ME IN FOR SAIS'25





Speakers

ACHIEVEMENT

1 IN 2 Speakers said that they expanded their business networks AND GAINED STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AFTER SASCELL

NETWORKING

of speakers (who filled in the survey) said that they have developed relationships that have or could lead to investment deals/sales or business partnerships.

agreed that they had a valuable networking experience as SAIS'24

agreed that SAIS brings the kind of people and organisations together that they would want to work with



The Match & Invest Platform provided a structured environment where investors, funders, service providers, and corporates could engage in one-on-one meetings with entrepreneurs and startups to foster deal-making and support business growth.



PROFILE DIVERSITY & PARTICIPATION

Our Match and Invest programme successfully brought together a diverse ecosystem of

424 PARTICIPANTS:

- 271 Industry Delegates
- 82 Expert Speakers
- 37 Exhibitors
- 34 **Innovation Partners** (18 Startups & 16 Investors)



KEY SUCCESS METRICS

STRONG MEETING CONVERSION RATE:

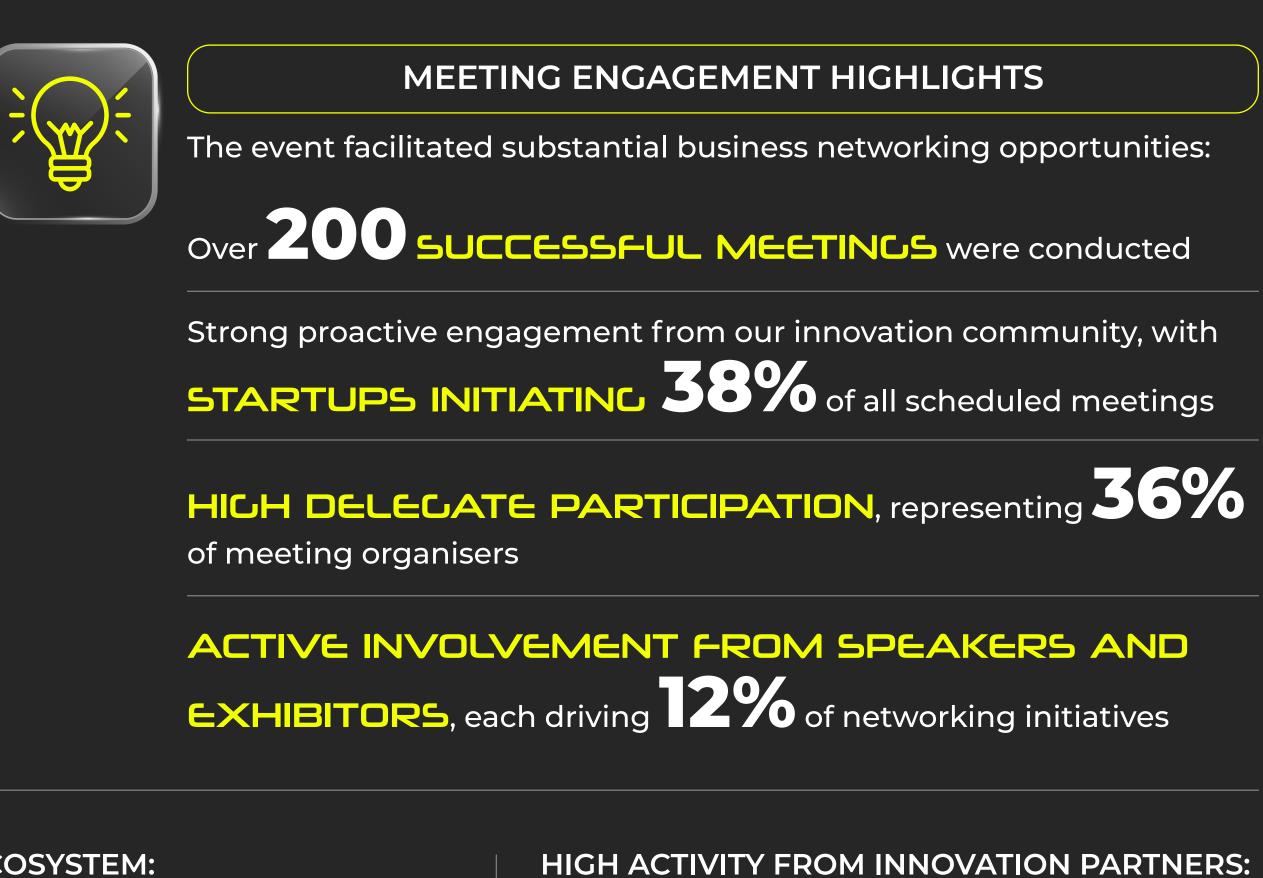
Of 351 scheduled meetings, more than 200 were successfully conducted, demonstrating strong participant engagement.

BALANCED ECOSYSTEM:

The mix of delegates (64%) and innovation partners (startups and investors) created optimal networking opportunities



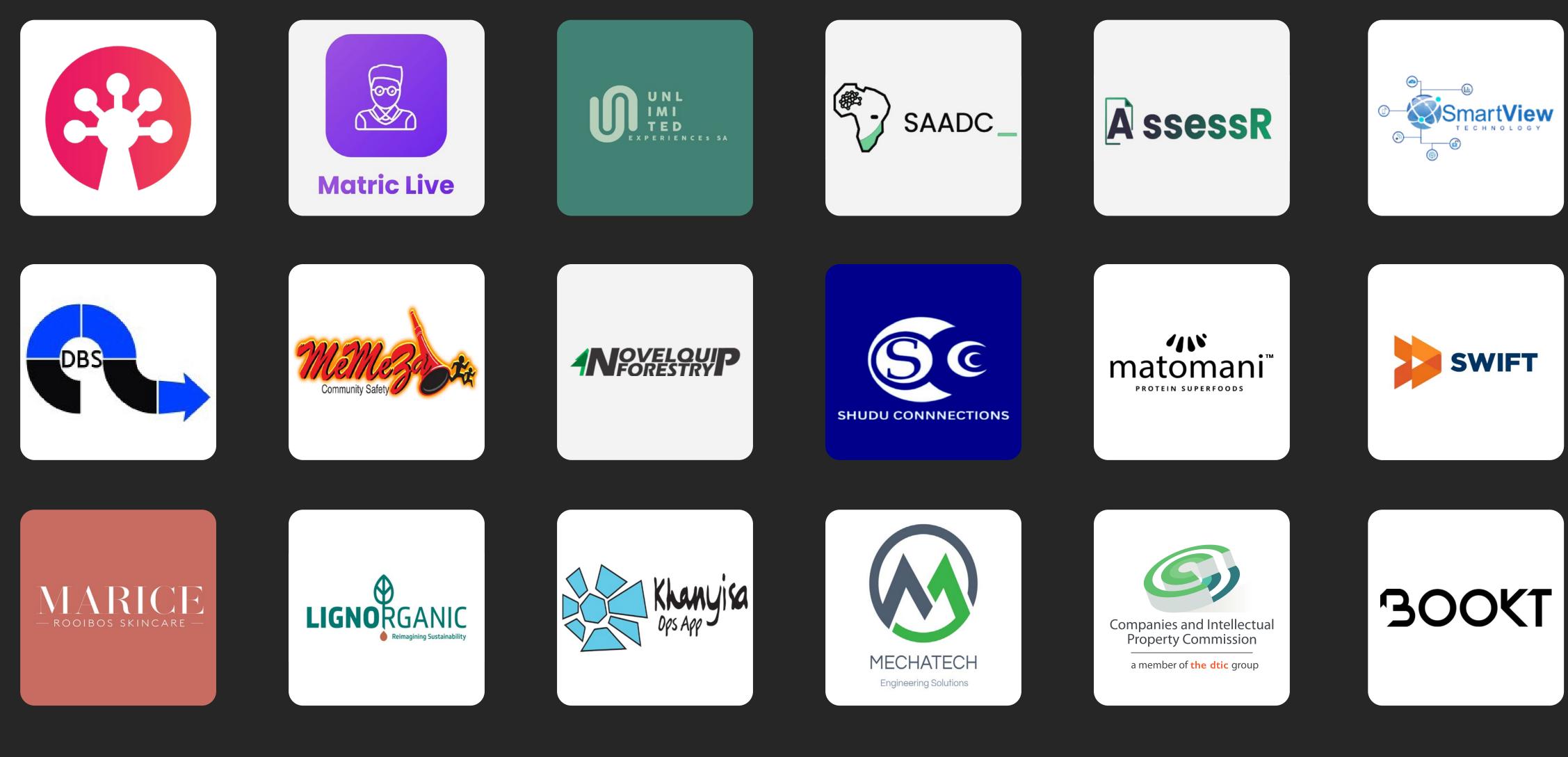
Match & Invest



Startups showed exceptional engagement by organising 38% of all meetings



Exhibitions







Exhibitions













science and innovation

Department: Science and Innovation **REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra

Embassy of Switzerland in South Africa

swissnex







NELSON MANDELA UNIVERSITY





















Exhibitions





Volunteer Programme

This year, SAIS partnered with the University of the Western Cape's Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation to engage 61 senior students as volunteers for the SA Innovation Summit. These students, drawn from a range of academic levels including 3rd year, Honours, Masters, and PhD programs, provided critical support across various summit activities.

Volunteer Fields of Study

The volunteers came from diverse academic backgrounds, reflecting a wide array of skills and expertise. Their fields of study include:



20% Law





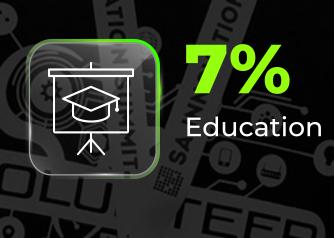


30%

Business &

Commerce





Roles and Responsibilities

- Assisting with event logistics and setup
- Managing registration and greeting attendees
- Supporting speakers during sessions
- Helping exhibitors to manage booths
- Providing on-site assistance and answering attendee queries
- Ensuring smooth transitions between sessions



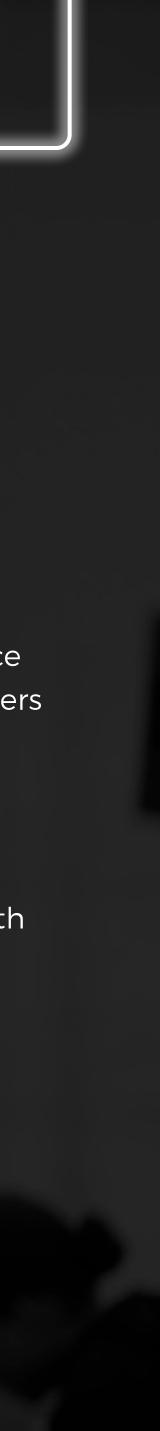


The volunteers were essential to the smooth operation of the summit. Their roles included:

Value for Volunteers

Beyond the practical experience of event management, volunteers benefited from:

- Practical experience in event management
- Networking opportunities with industry leaders
- Exposure to cutting-edge innovation trends



Attendee Feedback



Will be attending the SUMMIT IN 2025



Average Rating Rating of experience at the 2024 SA Innovation Summit

"Great initiative to bring startups, investors and eco-system stakeholders together."

"Great initiative to bring startups, investors and eco-system stakeholders together."

Eco-System Investors Event Harvesting Great Initiative Good Platform Stakeholders Growth Insightful Startups Innovative Awesome Impressive











Feedback from Volunteers

Initial volunteer feedback has been highly positive, with many students grateful for the practical experience and valuable career skills gained. Here is what they had to say:

"I enjoyed how I met different people with big dreams and aspirations, some successful and others on the path of success, it made me want to execute all the business ideas I have with immediate effect, the space was very inspiring, oh I enjoyed the food too."

"The big ideas that were shared on all the stages. People are ready to change our country, and they definitely are going for it. Presentations were my biggest highlights"

"The opportunity to be amongst people with great innovative ideas. I may have secured myself employment for 2025."



Feedback





Partners & Sponsors

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our esteemed partners and sponsors for their invaluable support in making the SAIS'24 a reality. Your commitment to fostering innovation and driving the entrepreneurial spirit has been instrumental in creating this platform for visionary ideas and transformative solutions.

Your partnership not only fuels the growth of Africa's innovation ecosystem but also empowers the next generation of creators, thinkers, and doers.

Together, we are shaping the future, inspiring change, and unlocking new opportunities for progress.

Thank you for being a vital part of this journey.

POWERED BY:





HOSTED IN:





Partners & Sponsors



INNCIRCLE



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft C Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra

the **dtic**

Department:

Embassy of Switzerland in South Africa

FOW

INSTITUTE FOR THE

AN INITIATIVE OF TSHWANE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY | SOUTH AFRI





Partners & Sponsors







The next wave of groundbreaking ideas is coming at SAIS'25!

Be part of Africa's leading innovation event.

Stay tuned for dates & more information.

SAIS'25

SA INNOVATION SUMMIT.





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SA INNOVATION SUMMIT.

SAIS'24 11111111111111111 **18-20** SEPTEMBER 11111111111111111111 CTICC 2 CAPE TOWN

082 708 1960 info@innovationsummit.co.za

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