

# S+T+ARTS 4AFRICA

**Residencies**

**Call for Hosts**

**Deadline: 13 September 2023**

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European  
Commission

**S+T+ARTS**



Co-funded by  
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### STARTS4AFRICA

Promoting a S+T+ARTS approach to digital innovation rooted in African sub-Saharan culture and digital innovation hubs

Grant Agreement number: LC- 01960720)

Web: <https://starts.eu/what-we-do/residences/starts4africa/>

Consortium: INOVA+ (coord., PT), ARS ELECTRONICA (AT), GLUON (BE), PiNA (SI), ECA (NG), BUNI (TZ), HAPA (GH), PICHA (CD), GOETHE (DE)

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### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This document was developed based on collective efforts from all partners of the STARTS4AFRICA consortium.

## 1. INTRO

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STARTS4AFRICA is pleased to announce the **call for hosts for the START4AFRICA Residencies**, the first S+T+ARTS residency program fully dedicated to promote Sub-Saharan Africa innovation at the nexus of Science + Technology + Arts.

### ABOUT STARTS

STARTS is an initiative of the European Commission to foster alliances between science, technology, and the arts.

Science, Technology and Arts (=STARTS) form a nexus with an extraordinarily high potential for creative innovation. And such innovation is considered to be precisely what is called for if we were to master the social, ecological and economic challenges that Europe and the world will be facing in the near future. Under such vision, scientists, tech and artists are seen as equally relevant in the innovation process, influencing, opening and enriching each other's views and practices.

Since 2016, S+T+ARTS has supported the development or promotion of more than **+500 science+tech+arts innovations through**

#### **+150 STARTS Residencies**

Gathering scientists, tech, artists, business and other areas

#### **+250 STARTS PRIZE winners, honorary mentions or nominees**

Gaining visibility and raising traction to further develop their projects

### ABOUT STARTS4AFRICA

As part of the STARTS initiative, STARTS4AFRICA was launched in May 2023 as a pilot project to **promote a S+T+ARTS approach to digital innovation rooted in African sub-Saharan culture and digital innovation hubs**. With S+T+ARTS4AFRICA, European structures experienced with S+T+ARTS approaches will partner with change-makers in Sub-Saharan Africa as well as existing Digital Innovation Hubs (DIH), and together, they will push for innovation on a regional level by facilitating the involvement of local and international artists with regional stakeholders (industry,



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regional authorities, SME, NGOs, startups, art institutions, etc) and promoting the concrete outcomes of these collaborations, aiming at three overarching objectives. Those being:

- 1) accelerate the transition towards a more competitive African economy by stimulating development and uptake of novel technologies that address regional challenges;
- 2) highlight – through 2 STARTS Prize awards, the regional rich and complex relationships between technology, arts and culture;
- 3) level the regional perception on the potential of innovation and breakthrough technologies' application to local and indigenous issues.

STARTS4AFRICA implements this approach and address the above objectives by:

- + **S+T+ARTS Residencies**– funding 8 artistic residencies in African technology institutions and other pertinent local stakeholders, in the 5 targeted countries and in line with the STARTS residencies program;
- + **S+T+ARTS Prize** – implementing a first pilot edition of the STARTS Prize for African artists and institutions in 2024, to single out for recognition innovative projects at the nexus of science, technology and the arts that have what it takes to make a significant impact on economic and social innovation within the continent;
- + **Mentoring** – implementing a mentoring programme for STARTS residencies and its outcomes;
- + **S+T+ARTS Academy** – organising a STARTS4AFRICA Networking Academy for the promotion of digital and art-driven innovation skills, oriented towards an enlarged participation of local stakeholders and open to EU-AF collaboration; and,
- + **S+T+ARTS Sylloge** – promoting a dialogue and narrative building on an equal footing between artists and African and European DIHs for addressing relevant societal challenges, especially related to the green and digital transition and combat misinformation.

## ABOUT STARTS4AFRICA RESIDENCIES

STARTS4AFRICA will fund 8 STARTS Residencies hosted by African institutions, in Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, DR Congo and Tanzania.

The residencies will have a fixed timeframe, beginning in January 2024, and ending in July 2024.

The STARTS4AFRICA Residencies Teams will be composed of one (1) host institution + one (1) artist/collective of artists<sup>1</sup>. Other stakeholders may be involved in the teams if relevant.

<sup>1</sup> An artist collective can comprise an unspecified number of artists. However, it must identify up to two (2) individuals to act as the representatives of the collective at various physical events and meetings.

STARTS4AFRICA Residencies Teams will be asked to address a local challenge. The host institution will provide access to premises and technology and contribute to discussions by sharing knowledge and experience. Artists will bring their views to the discussions and create an artwork or a functional or speculative artistic prototype.

The teams will receive support from mentors and other relevant stakeholders from Europe and Africa. Mentors will be selected by the STARTS4AFRICA consortium with the support of host institutions and artists. The fees for mentors will be covered by the STARTS4AFRICA program.

Each residency consists of 4 different phases:

1. **Reflection phase:** this phase focuses on the exchange of knowledge and the outlining of shared goals for the collaboration. The goal of this phase is not to find solutions for existing questions, but to raise new radical questions related to the local challenges (Art Thinking). During this phase the initial questions are re-defined and new contexts for experiments and solution-finding are being created. Meetings and discussions between artists, researchers and representatives of the expert groups are being held in neutral places, real as well as virtual. This phase consists of a minimum of 2 meetings between artists and expert groups, of which at least one needs to be open to the community for input.
2. **Development phase:** During this phase the artists connect with researchers and creative people in the labs of research institutions and the R&D departments of companies. This while the participating researchers visit the studios of the artists. These interactions will further shape the ideas for artistic prototypes answering the challenges defined by the expert groups and community. The researchers give the artists insight into their innovation processes and the different iterations that lead to new products, tools and processes. This while the artists share their views, skills and working methods with the researchers. This phase consists of a minimum of 2 meetings of 1 or 2 days between artists and researchers as well as a minimum of 3 online meetings between African and European partners, where shared learning and alternative perspectives will be favoured.
3. **Evaluation phase:** evaluation of the potential impact of the new and innovative ideas, scenarios, across governments and businesses. A public presentation of the first ideas and prototypes to the involved community will offer an inside look on how the artists think and work. Each artist presents his findings or experiments to a selected group of citizens, policy makers and representatives from the expert group to evaluate its potential and importance for the local community. This will be organized online as well as in real life, and will also feed into a future road map for the ways in which STARTS initiatives can grow and be fostered by local communities.
4. **Production phase:** artist taking part in innovation processes within the company or research institution, helping the artist to produce an artistic prototype. Hosting universities, research

institutions and companies will accommodate and collaborate with the artist and will provide access to their premises and equipment for the artist for free. **The outcome of these residencies can be artworks as well as functional or speculative artistic prototypes. These works or prototypes can be considered as 'proofs of principles' or 'proofs of concepts', future scoping the potential of speculative ideas (rooted in stage 1).** This phase consists of minimum 2 meetings of 1 or 2 days between artists and researchers and 3 online meetings including the African and EU partners.

## 2. CALL FOR RESIDENCIES HOSTS

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STARTS4AFRICA invites all interested entities in hosting and offering support to a STARTS4AFRICA Residency to submit their Expression of Interest.

### ROLE OF HOST

Host institutions will be asked to:

- Co-design the *Call for Artists* with STARTS4AFRICA consortium, and participate in the evaluation and selection process;
- Provide logistic support, access to premises and equipment (free of charge) to the artist during the residency;
- Provide guidance and advice to the artist during the residency (introduce and/ or discuss with him/her concepts, technology and other aspects relevant to the residency). A minimum of 7 on-site meetings or visits to the hosting premises (1 per month) shall be organized to assist the discussions with the artist;
- Support artists in searching and showcasing residencies results in events/ fairs/ exhibitions in AU and EU. It is expected the showcasing of the residency results in at least 3 international events;
- Organize and participate in online or on-site local/ national events, masterclasses, and seminars to (i) share experience in participating in STARTS4AFRICA Residency program; (ii) ensure the promotion of residency results. It is expected the organization of at least 6 online or on-site local/ national events. The participation of artists shall be sought;
- Facilitate exchanges between artists, STARTSAFRICA Consortium and other stakeholders (e.g.: mentors, researchers, citizens, policy-makers);
- Support the STARTS4AFRICA consortium in implementing impact assessment tools to analyse the impact of the residency on the different stakeholders and contexts involved in the residency;
- Support the STARTS4AFRICA consortium in engaging local stakeholders and defining business and exploitation strategies for the STARTS4AFRICA residencies. Among other strategies, hosting entities are expected to contribute to exploring, defining and implementing investment and fundraising strategies for the STARTS4AFRICA residencies.



## TO WHOM

STARTS4AFRICA is especially looking for entities based in one of the following countries: Ghana, Nigeria, DR Congo, Senegal and Tanzania.

Applicants must showcase the capacity and ability to provide support and resources such as access to various materials, technology and physical facilities. Additionally, applicants must show interest in the following topics:



**Food and Water**



**Digital Mapping and  
Speculative Landscapes**



**Culture and  
Coding**



**Wearable Technology  
and Smart Textile**



**Immersive Storytelling**



**Rethinking Sustainable  
Construction**



**Speculative Urbanism**

To be considered, applicants must:

- Be based in one of the following countries: Ghana, Nigeria, DR Congo, Senegal and Tanzania;
- be a public or private organisation with legal personality<sup>2</sup>, e.g. not-for-profit organisations (private or public); public authorities (national, regional, local); international organisations; profit-making entities<sup>3</sup>.
- be a legal entity established on or before 2020;
- be from the scientific or technological sector (such as research centres, universities, technological companies) with strong connections to the Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries (CCSI);
- or be from CCSI with an established network and access to scientific and technological entities/projects;
- have the capacity (i.e. facilities, services, staff) to host and provide guidance to a STARTS4AFRICA residency.

<sup>2</sup> Natural persons are NOT eligible (with the exception of self-employed persons, i.e., sole traders, where the company does not have legal personality separate from that of the natural person)

<sup>3</sup> Applicants cannot make any profit out of the STARTS Residency.



## BENEFITS

1. Possibility to experiment new methodologies and engage in innovative co-creation processes with an artist(s);
2. Opportunity to network with esteemed experts from both Europe and Africa;
3. Enhanced visibility and opportunities to participate in large-scale public events (such as, Ars Electronica Festival in Austria)
4. Join the growing S+T+ARTS Network and take an active role in the strengthening of the innovation ecosystems in Africa.
5. Contract fee: STARTS4AFRICA will enter into contracts with selected host institutions through a subcontracting process. Host institutions will be remunerated with an amount of 25.000€. The payments will be made in Euros (€). Additionally, the host institutions will bear any costs associated with the currency exchange.

The contract will foresee the following payment scheme, reflecting three instalments:

[Month 1] **First instalment** following the signature of the contract by both parties: 30%;

[Month 4] **Second instalment** – following the submission and validation of a mid-term assessment (technical and financial): 40%; and,

[Month 7] **Final instalment** – following the conclusion meeting and submission and validation of a final report (technical and financial): 30%

Host institutions must foresee the following expenses associated with the residency development (indicative budget breakdown – the applicant can propose a different distribution):

Personnel costs (fees to follow-up residency, impact assessment, business and exploitation strategies and engagement of local community stakeholders from science, tech, arts, business and investment sectors)	7.500€
Production, prototyping and consumables costs	12.000€
Local and international events (6+3) (costs for events organisation and participation, and results' crating, transport, travel and hotel, insurances)	5.500€
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25.000€</b>

## MINIMUM EXPECTED OUTPUTS

STARTS4AFRICA Host institutions are expected to deliver the following outputs:

- Mid-Term and Final **Technical Report** on the activities performed (support provided to artist, meetings/ visits, production/prototyping actions, promotion, events, masterclasses, etc.);
- Mid-term and Final **Financial Report** on the costs incurred related to the activities performed;
- Submission of a **collection of high-quality photographs** (minimum of 10) and **2 videos** (maximum duration of 3 minutes each), the first video presenting the expectations of hosts towards the residency; and the second video presenting and documenting the STARTS Residency experience;
- **Report on business and exploitation strategies**, including local stakeholders engaged and investment and fundraising potential; and
- Collection of **feedback related to impact assessment** tools.

## RELEVANT DATES

07 Aug. to 13 Sept. 2023	Call for Hosts – Proposals submissions
15-30 Sept. 2023	Evaluation and interviews
02 Oct. 2023	Release of results
03-10 Oct. 2023	Co-design of call for artists
16 Oct. - 27 Nov. 2023	Call for Artists – Proposals submissions
December 2023	Evaluation
December 2023	Release of results
January 2024	Signature of contracts with the selected artist and host
Jan-July 2024	STARTS4AFRICA Residencies program implementation

## EVALUATION PROCESS

STARTS4AFRICA partners will evaluate each Expression of Interest (EoI) according to the following process:

- Assessment of EoI applications;
- Shortlist of 15 EoI, ensuring representation from the five listed countries;
- Conducting interviews with the 15 shortlisted applicants;
- Selection and notification of the selected 8 hosts.

All interested entities (including the ones not selected to be hosts) will be integrated into the STARTS4AFRICA pool of key stakeholders and considered for future activities to be implemented by the STARTS4AFRICA project (e.g.: advising, jury, community actions, etc.).

## CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

### (A) Capacity (30%)

(A.1) Financial capacity (10%)

(A.2) RH capacity (10%)

(A.3) Facilities (10%)

### (B) Experience (25%)

(B.1) Portfolio (15%)

(B.2) Projects relevance (10%)

### (C) Network (15%)

### (D) Investment and fundraising capacity (20%)

### (E) Motivation (10%)

## HOW TO APPLY

- Applications must be submitted, in English, electronically via [this EUSurvey Application Form](#).
- Applications must be complete and comply with the guidelines included in the template, and must comply with the character limits indicated.
- Applicant should only submit one EoI (in the event of multiple applications, only the most recent submission will be taken into consideration)

submit expression of interest

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- Results and intellectual property rights are owned by the Party that generated them. The copyright of the results produced during STARTS4AFRICA Residency shall remain with their generators.
- Unless agreed otherwise, the ownership and copyright of the artwork or prototype developed during the STARTS4AFRICA residency shall remain the property of the Artist, who has the exclusive right to reproduce, distribute, and commercially exploit the generated artwork/prototype.



- All specifications concerning copyright and IPR shall be discussed during the residency and included in a written agreement to be signed by all the Residency Team members.

## FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions and other supporting material can be found here:  
<http://starts.eu/opportunities/starts4africa-call-for-hosts-residencies/>

## CONTACT

Any enquiries, contact:

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# S+T+ARTS4AFRICA

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# S+T+ARTS

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