

Incubators Connect 2.0

Incubation and Internationalisation

26.02.24 - 01.03.24

New Delhi | Bengaluru

PARTICIPANT PROFILES
GERMANY

A Programme of



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Incubators Connect 2.0 is a weeklong programme, in which directors and managers of incubators, technology transfer offices and select funding agencies from India and Germany will meet to discuss internationalization of incubators.

The programme will bring together 20 institutions from Germany and 40+ from India. It will cover workshops, meetings, institutional visits and networking with policy advisors and key stakeholders in the research-based entrepreneurship ecosystem in India. The programme aims to identify concrete formats and themes for international cooperation between the incubators and for their start-ups.

Incubators Connect is a flagship programme of the German Centre for Research and Innovation -DWIH New Delhi (a unit of German Academic Exchange Service- DAAD). The DWIH New Delhi is funded by Germany's Federal Foreign Office and is managed by the DAAD.

For more information visit: <https://www.dwih-newdelhi.org/en>

PARTICIPANT INSTITUTIONS GERMANY






Cheng-Wen Jaw

Startup Consultant, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg Knowledge & Technology Transfer Centre, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

Cheng-Wen Jaw studied business administration at the BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg, at the Cheng-Kung National University Taiwan and is a doctoral student at the BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg in the field of macroeconomics. Since February 2022, he has been working as a startup consultant in the start-up service and was deputy head of the Startup Revier EAST project.

 [/cheng-wen-jaw/](#)

BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg In addition to the traditional transfer tasks of a university, such as initiating and supporting R&D collaborations, the transfer of knowledge and intellectual property rights management, BTU is implementing numerous innovative transfer projects. The aim is to strengthen the BTU as a research and high-performance cooperation partner, especially for the regional economy.




Focus Areas: Modern Industry, Renewable Energy, Hydrogen Technologies, Green Tech, Artificial Intelligence, Healthcare etc

Tosca Albrecht

Department Head - Entrepreneurship, Campus Foundry OWL, OWL University of Applied Sciences and Arts

Tosca Albrecht has many years of experience as a start-up coach. She supports numerous teams at "Campus Foundry OWL", in the development and implementation of their business ideas as a department head and trained business coach. With her background as a trained interior and product designer and further training in design thinking, she combines a wide range of design disciplines and supports innovation projects in ideation formats to develop creative solutions.



 [/tosca-albrecht](#)

The Campus Foundry OWL is the hub for prospective founders and offers resources and expertise for researching, validating and testing innovative ideas. We offer our own Master's degree course in Applied Entrepreneurship, in which future entrepreneurs can learn hands-on from their own start-up project. We support the entire life cycle of start-ups. Our program aims to complement the startup ecosystem in our region.



Focus Areas: Creative industries (Interior Design, Architecture, Media, Gaming and Design), Technology (Industrial Automation, Industry) and Food Industry.



 [/Martin-Setzkorn](#)

Dr Martin Setzkorn

Managing Director Center for Entrepreneurship, University of Rostock

Dr. Martin Setzkorn oversees operational management at the University of Rostock's Center for Entrepreneurship. Since 2011, he has developed projects promoting entrepreneurship at the university and in the state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. In 2019 he took on the profile of Strategic Coordinator for the Digital Innovation Center Rostock, and now serves at its Managing Director.

Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Rostock aims to create a nurturing ecosystem for startups, enabling them to overcome challenges, grow their businesses, and bring their innovative ideas to market successfully. Each incubator might emphasize different areas based on their expertise, target audience, and available resources.



Focus Areas: Business development, access to funding, networking opportunities, infrastructure and resources, specialized training and workshops, market validation and legal, administrative and industry-specific support.

Aamruth Shankar

Venture Campus Lecturer and PhD Candidate, Centre for Entrepreneurship, StarUP Incubator, Technische Universität Berlin

Aamruth Shankar has 12 years of experience in Digital Product Development in the fields of Aviation, E-Commerce and Logistics and in the FinTech sector. He is currently the lead lecturer for Venture Campus course at Technische Universität Berlin.



Centre for Entrepreneurship, StarUP Incubator is open to employees, graduates and students of TU Berlin for the incubation process. After fulfilling the admission criteria, the prospective start-up teams can take advantage of all the services on offer as part of a six to 18-month mentoring programme and receive successive entrepreneurial training. Mentored start-ups can also take advantage of the joint services offered by the university start-up network Science & Startups.

Focus Areas: Trippel Bottom Line approach, sustainability forecast, Technology etc.



Prof Dr Dirk Mueller

Professor of Innovation and Growth Management , Speaker of Jackstaedt Zentrum, Flensburg University of Applied Sciences

Dirk Müller graduated in business administration as well as in mechanical engineering and is centre spokesman of the Jackstädt-Zentrum Flensburg. His research, transfer and teaching focuses on entrepreneurial innovation. He has also served as head of spin off development with the business development agency of the federal state Schleswig-Holstein and has worked for the state's public seed- and startup funds.

 [/dirk-mueller/](#)

Dock 1 // TestUp operates a seamless integration of academic knowledge and practical resources. It supports founders from ideation to market success and offers workshops, mentorship programs, access to financial resources, state-of-the-art workspaces, 1-to1-coaching and a vibrant GER-DK entrepreneurial community.



Focus Areas: Green/Sustainable/Impact entrepreneurship, business applications - DTech, Computer science, Internet Solutions, E-health applications, Maritime Technologies, Biotech, Food processing and more.

Johannes Hähnlein

Head of Entrepreneurship Services, EXISTENCY

Johannes Haehnlein is an entrepreneurship researcher and ecosystem coordinator from Ansbach, Bavaria. After studying Sports, Business and Law at the University of Bayreuth, he held positions and companies in the fields of business development, strategy and innovation. Since 2020, he has been largely responsible for setting up the "EXISTENCY" entrepreneurship ecosystem and developing a integrated entrepreneurship teaching and transfer program at his university.



 [/johannes-haehnlein/](#)



EXISTENCY is a joint program of FAU Erlangen-Nuremberg, Nuremberg Technical Institute, and University of Applied Sciences Ansbach. The aim of the systematic and sustainable increase in regional and science-based start-ups emerging from the collaborating universities as well as the development of the growth and continuation potential of our spin-offs. The program aims to promote and strengthen the regional start-up culture under the umbrella brand EXISTENCY together with local economy.


Focus Areas: Incubation of early-stage scientific spin-offs, supporting start-up teams in the founding process, startups emerging from science and more.



Andreas Aepfelbacher

Deputy Head & Section Manager Investment Manager, Fraunhofer Venture

Andreas Aepfelbacher is in charge of the business administration staff. He joined Fraunhofer Venture in February 2002 after working in controlling at Messe München GmbH and as a project developer and investment controller at a leading company of RWE-Umwelt AG. Andreas became a CFA Institute Charterholder in 2007 and has completed his studies in forestry/environmental protection engineering and business administration at LMU in Munich.

 [/andreas-aepfelbacher](#)

Fraunhofer Venture represents the central spin-off and stake management unit of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft. Through an extensive support program, it provides founders, start-ups, industry and investors with access to the cutting-edge technologies of the 76 Fraunhofer Institutes. The range of services includes complete support and consulting from the idea to the founding of a company, support with finding investors up to a possible sale of the company.



Focus Areas: Information and Communication Technology, Innovation research, Life Science, Light and Surfaces, Microelectronics, Production and Material Science.

Dr Marita Mehlstäubl

Head of Transfer & Scouting, Gateway Excellence Start-Up Center at the University of Cologne

Dr. Mehlstäubl heads the Transfer & Scouting Unit at the Gateway Excellence Start-Up Center at the University of Cologne, which gives subject specific supports scientists at the university's six faculties. Previously, she set up the transfer office at the German Sport University Cologne. Prior to that, she was responsible for strategic development and internationalization at the Fraunhofer FEP. Dr. Mehlstäubl graduated in physical chemistry at the WWU Münster.



 [/dr-marita-mehlst/](#)

The Gateway Incubator helps founders in the early pre-start-up phase to develop ideas into a sound business model. Its standardized 4-month programme usually takes place twice a year and is for advanced start-ups. It includes workshops, training sessions, social events, coaching, expert advice, workspaces and lots of start-up community as well as introduction to the Cologne start-up ecosystem.




Focus Areas: Open for all fields



Prof Dr Christian Meisel

Gründet Project Manager, Gründet - Gründungs- und Transferförderung, Hochschule Magdeburg-Stendal

Prof. Dr. Christian Meisel, an expert in SMEs and business start-ups, studied business administration at the FU Berlin after training as a banker. His varied career spans positions in teaching and project management. As "gründet" project manager, he manages competitions and innovative projects. His expertise includes third-party funded projects in the field of entrepreneurship. He has given keynotes to the US Congress and the United Nations on "MSME Day".

 [/prof-dr-christian-meisel](#)

Gründungs- und Transferförderung, supports self-employment and helps turn innovative research ideas into something more. The project "Start-up and transfer support at University of Applied Sciences Magdeburg-Stendal" has been the central service point for students, alumni and researchers who want to start their own business since 2016.



Focus Areas: Open for all fields

André Kabeck

Head of Start-up Service, Gründungsservice, Ernst-Abbe-Hochschule Jena

André Kabeck is responsible for the university's start-up service and provides support in advising, networking and financing. After successfully completing his degree in Business Administration /Intercultural Management with a focus on Finance and numerous stays abroad, he joined the start-up sector and built up the start-up service at EAH Jena. As a certified Startup Consultant, he has an extensive network and many years of experience in setting up innovative companies.



 [/andré-kabeck](#)

Gründungsservice, Ernst-Abbe-Hochschule Jena is located in eastern Germany's "Optics Valley" and is a fast-growing hub for the high-tech industry. Prospective entrepreneurs receive comprehensive support from several players at the university. From sound advice, modern infrastructure, dedicated rooms and financial assistance to helpful networking opportunities such as pitching events, a tailor-made ecosystem is provided to turn new ideas into innovative start-ups.


Focus Areas: Optics/Photonics, Medical Technology, Healthcare, Precision Mechanics, Transformation/Digitalization Technology and Environmental Technology



Dr Raoul Haschke

Projectlead, hei_INNOVATION, Heidelberg University

Raoul Haschke is an RTTP certified innovation and project manager with about 10 years of experience. In this time he has developed himself into a facilitator, who enables talents to become the leaders of tomorrow. He has been involved in the development, organisation and execution of various activities, always with the aim to introduce the learning of innovation methods in a collaborative way.

 [/raoul-haschke/](#)

Hei_INNOVATION, a transfer agency, stands for the transfer of knowledge and technology from university research results to society and is the central point of contact for supporting and implementing transfer activities at Heidelberg University. The transfer agency's services in the area of knowledge and technology transfer can be used by all members of the university. It is thus a platform for the further development of future-oriented ideas.



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Focus Areas: Open for all fields

Kristin Hesche

Startup consultant, K1 - Startup Service, Service Centre for Research and Transfer of the Friedrich-Schiller-University of Jena

Kristin Hesche has many years of professional experience in various international companies. She has herself founded a co-working space in Jena. She is interested in advising and supporting those interested in founding a company and startups.



 [/kristin-hesche/](#)

The K1-Startup Service is the central point of contact for all members of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena who are interested in the topic of starting a business or want to implement a concrete business idea. They accompany the entire start-up process, from the initial idea to the development of a viable business model to the establishment of the company and also offer services to promote the internationalization of startups

**FRIEDRICH-SCHILLER-
UNIVERSITÄT
JENA** Servicezentrum
Forschung und Transfer


Focus Areas: Light- Optics and Photonics, Innovative Materials, Energy Research Life: Microbiology, Biodiversity and more.



Thomas Neumann

Head KIT-Gründerschmiede, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

Thomas Neumann is responsible for the foundation and investment of start-ups at KIT and the associated KIT-Gründerschmiede as one of the leading university start-up platforms, and has been handling this portfolio since 2011. Together with his team, he has supported more than 200 start-ups and spin-offs in the last 5 years. In addition, Neumann is involved in various events as a mentor, coach, speaker and jury member.

 [/thneumann/](#)

The KIT-Gründerschmiede is one of the largest university start-up centers in Germany and bundles all activities on the topics of founding and entrepreneurship to achieve more impact for their founding teams. The KIT-Gründerschmiede serves as an initial contact point for technology-based start-ups and sees itself as a breeding ground and accelerator for innovative business ideas around the central future topics.



Focus Areas: DeepTech (AI, Mobility, HealthTech, BioTech, Smart Production etc)

Maiia Deutschmann

Scientist, EXIST Team Speaker - International Affairs, Project Management Jülich (PTJ)

Maiia Deutschmann has a background in International Business Administration, International Marketing and Linguistics. Since 2016 she is a scientist and an EXIST team speaker for international affairs at the PTJ. Prior to this role, she worked at the Berlin Administration Academ, as a scientist at the Europe-University Viadrina in Frankfurt (Oder), and as a marketing specialist in an international packaging company.



 [/maiia-deutschmann/](#)



EXIST is a support programme of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK). It is managed by Project Management Jülich (PTJ), a leading project management organization in Germany. PTJ supports its clients in achieving their funding policy objectives. The EXIST programme aims at improving the entrepreneurial environment at universities and research institutes and at increasing the number and success of technology and knowledge based business start-ups.

Focus Areas: Research based start-ups



Philipp Janotta

Incubation Manager, SMINT@HANNOVER, Leibniz University of Hannover

Phillip Janotta studied economics at Georg-August Universität Göttingen & Leibniz University of Hannover and pursued Master of Arts before joining a SME in the field of machinery building. He joined project management at the startup service @ Leibniz University in 2022. he is responsible for the high tech incubator SMINT@HANNOVER with 10 pre-startup projects and 9 startups

 [/philipp-janotta/](#)

SMINT@HANNOVER, is a hightech incubator which supports startups and "pre-startup projects" with funding, coaching and mentoring. They mainly support startups from the areas of production technology (such as [TetraLytiX](#)), additive manufacturing (such as [RÖBEN 3D](#)) and mobility (such as [Moxi GmbH](#)). Within the incubator our teams are experiencing a well structured and customized workshop and mentoring program.



SMINT@HANNOVER
Incubator for Smart Information Technologies

Focus Areas: Additive Manufacturing, Production Technology, Mobility

Marvin Goeldner

Head of Startup Incubator Berlin, Berlin School of Economics and Law

Marvin Goeldner, brings a wealth of entrepreneurial experience to the role. Formerly a successful founder, he sold his healthcare startup in 2019. Marvin combines business acumen with a passion for innovation. His dynamic leadership mirrors his diverse interests, shaping the incubator into a community of creativity and achievement.



 [/marvingoeldner/](#)


Startup Incubator Berlin develops startup ideas into market-ready products. We support academic startup teams with know-how, infrastructure, and scholarships. As a lean startup incubator, SIB's focus is on closely examining business models with the customer and developing the product or business quickly. Its proposal addresses the needs of new businesses, whether they are only at the beginning of their endeavor or are already in the active establishment phase.

Focus Areas: Lean Startup Method (testing your product as early as possible with real customers in order to get valuable feedback and to avoid developing a dead product)

Startup
Incubator
Berlin

SIB



 [/steffen-reik](#)

Prof Dr Steffen Reik

Professor and Head, THU Startup Center, Technische Universität Ulm

Steffen Reik has been heading the Startup Center at the Technical University of Ulm since 2020. Prior to this, he was Managing Director of Transmed Transport GmbH. During his studies in Mannheim, he was co-founder of the internet startup simfy. Steffen conducted research in the field of game theory at WHU - Otto Beisheim School of Management and the University of California at Berkeley. His research focuses on credence goods markets and entrepreneurship

The THU Startup Center is dedicated to empowering creative minds to contribute to an innovative future. Guided by the principle of 'Technology acts entrepreneurially,' the institution passionately supports aspiring entrepreneurs, providing them with a launching pad for their journey into self-employment. By offering innovative courses and comprehensive training, the center equips students with the essential tools to foster an entrepreneurial mindset.




Focus Areas: Technical areas of applied sciences

Dr Rubina Zern-Breuer

Head of Transfer Center TRACES, University of Stuttgart

Rubina Zern-Breuer has been leading TRACES at the University of Stuttgart since 2023. Prior to this, she set up an innovation lab for public administration at the University of Speyer, was a senior researcher at the Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research ISI and coordinated the Public Science team at KIT. In 2022, she was a Fellow of the Thomas Mann House in L.A. She is interested in strategic & co-creative transfer and innovation processes in innovation ecosystems.



 [/rubina-zern-breuer/](#)



TRACES actively participates in accelerator activities such as the ICM Accelerator (Mobility). One of its notable focal points involves advancing female-led start-ups and spin-offs. This commitment is evident through initiatives like the Female Founder's Agency, which aims to enhance the visibility of female-led spin-offs within the country. As an essential part of the Startup Campus 0711, TRACES actively engages in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship across the region.

Focus Areas: Deep tech start-ups and Spin-Offs. TRACES also concentrates on female-led start-ups.



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