Slovenia-Israel Accelerator 2022

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Slovenia to launch a tech accelerator program for Slovenian startups in Israel.

This high-end 2-month program was jointly set up by the **Slovenian embassy in Israel, Spirit Slovenia, the Slovene Enterprise Fund** ,and will be managed by Arieli Capital's ETC.

About 10 startups will be exclusively selected to take part in the first accelerator program for Slovenian startups in Israel, a two-month program that will start February 2022 and take place in Tel Aviv, one of the world's leading ecosystems for startups.

The 10 startups will be chosen via a tender process published starting December of this year and will stay open until mid-January 2022. (or sooner, once the startups have been approved, based on program conditions). The program is open for startups from a variety of sectors including health, agriculture, fintech, smart mobility, food tech, cleantech, and more who are seeking to accelerate their startups and grow through this unique opportunity to connect to the heart of Israel, known as the Startup Nation.

The Accelerator program will take place in Tel Aviv, the heart of the Israeli startup ecosystem. The Accelerator program will start at early February and will end early April, 2022.

The Accelerator will be led by Arieli Capital's ETC, which operates innovation centers and programs for leading academic/research institutions, governments, municipalities, industry brands, and investment/capital funds including: Italy-Israel Accelerator, Italian government, Intesa San Paolo bank, Amadeus, EIT, Frontier Innovation Center, Eilat technology center hub, Bridge USA Wellness Accelerator, Microsoft for Startups and more.

The main objective of the program is to connect Slovenian companies – with an emphasis on start- ups operating in the high-tech sector that has successfully verified their products in target markets, addressing an important problem of the target group of users – with a foreign investment ecosystem.

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The objective is also to provide participating companies with the knowledge and information to help them optimize their business, legal and financial strategy and connect them with potential partners, customers and investors in the international field.

One of the most important international investment ecosystems, which is at the same time an excellent market for verifying the suitability of new solutions for global markets, is **Israel**. It represents one of the best ecosystems for start-ups in the world, it is highly positioned in the world in terms of the number of start-ups and also of the number of engineers, reaching billions in investment in companies, a large part of which is in the form of support from venture capital funds. The Israeli economy is extremely experienced in the field of negotiation and presentation skills and it is a useful test market where many foreign companies are present, which is why there is good knowledge of various world cultures in this market. It is a good stepping stone for many companies entering foreign markets. **The program is funded by the Slovenian Government**.

"We are excited and believe that the Slovenia Israel Accelerator will help to further connect the two fastgrowing innovation ecosystems of Israel and Slovenia and provide Slovenia startups with a unique opportunity to connect to the heart of one of the world's top high-tech scenes, the Israeli Startup Nation ecosystem. We are confident that this strategic partnership will launch the participating Startups forward and produce impactful new technology companies bringing the best out of these two great nations, Slovenia and Israel," Said Or Haviv, Partner & Head of Global innovation platforms, Arieli Capital.

"Israel and Slovenia share a lot in common," said **Andreja Purkart Martinez, Slovenia Ambassador to Israel**. "The Slovenian economy is growing fast thanks to excellent human capital, government backed investments and cutting edge research and academic institutions. We are certain that collaborating with Israel will help Slovenia's entrepreneurial and startup industry thrive and help our talented startups expand to international markets," Purkart Martinez said.

Spirit Slovenia is a government agency facilitating the growth and development of the Slovenian economy through its activities in the fields of entrepreneurship, technology, innovation, foreign direct investment, internationalization, and promotion of the Slovenian economy and Slovenia.

The Slovene Enterprise Fund (SEF) is a public financial fund for the financial support of micro, small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), start-ups and scale-ups, which reduces gaps in access to finance and substantive support through effective financial and substantive incentives and allows the co-financing of various business services (vouchers) for SMEs, start-ups and scale-ups focusing on priority sectors of the future. The SEF follows its vision and remains a specialized financial institution with effective incentives for SMEs, following the example of best practice worldwide.

Program Main Goals:

Advancing our successful partnership...

- **Connecting** Slovenian startups to the Israeli ecosystem.
- Re-aligning **product-market-fit** and business strategy- advancing technology and business validation.

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- Market expansion- connecting to relevant potential partners, customers and investors.
- Advancing community, culture and business relationships between the Slovenian and Israeli ecosystems.



Program Requirements



An innovative technology startup



Initial client\user engagement\feedback



A solid established team



Looking to validate & go to market



Working product (Prototype)



With potential to grow to the global market



Validated technology (Advantage)



Raised capital\funds (Advantage)

Program Main Mentors



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Network & Partners

