

## Free Mentorship Project for Startups Launched - Entrepreneurship in Residence Program in Moldova

On Wednesday, August 2nd, XY Partners, with the financial support of the Western NIS Enterprise Fund, launched the Entrepreneurship in Residence Program in Moldova (EIR), a remarkable opportunity for the development of startups in Moldova. Within the project, 12 exceptional mentors from the diaspora will return home to share their experience and knowledge in the field of entrepreneurship with local startups. The registration deadline for founders is August 15th.

As part of the launch event, was organized the first workshop of the project, delivered by the first mentor who arrived in Chişinău, Ana Popa.

Stella Jemna, the country representative of the Western NIS Enterprise Fund, also participated in the official opening, encouraging the development of the startup ecosystem in our country.

"I believe that when we, as a regional fund, by investing in such programs, we are investing in productivity and jobs," said Stella Jemna.

The "Entrepreneurship in Residence in Moldova" aims to support local startups in obtaining a new round of funding and taking their first steps towards the international market.

## What does the project offer?

Selected startups will benefit from:

- 3 individual mentoring sessions with one of the 12 mentors;
- 3 valuable international contacts (potential clients/partners/investors) provided by the mentor;
- Participation in 12 workshops on various topics, conducted by these 12 mentors;

How can you participate?

Innovative startup founders from Moldova are invited to apply for this unique opportunity until August 15th. Interested individuals will complete the <u>REGISTRATION FORM</u> to apply. Selected startups will receive a response and instructions for the next steps.

## About XY Partners:

XY Partners is a business accelerator founded in 2019 that, through its programs, develops companies and startups from the ground up, providing operational support and access to

potential funding. The mission of XY programs is to support entrepreneurs with unique and innovative business ideas.

## About WNISEF:

Western NIS Enterprise Fund (WNISEF) is a \$285 million regional fund, a pioneer in Ukraine and Moldova with more than 29 years of successful experience in investing in small and medium-sized companies. WNISEF was funded by the U.S. government via the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Since its inception, WNISEF's cumulative investments total over \$188 million to 136 companies employing around 26 000 people and made it possible to unlock \$2.3 billion for companies in Ukraine and Moldova.

In 2015 WNISEF has launched a \$35 million legacy program focused on export promotion, local economic development, impact investing and economic leadership. WNISEF is funding innovative, high-impact, reform focused programs and aims to support Ukraine and Moldova at this critical period by developing sound economic policy and leadership. Visit www.wnisef.org.