



Press release
Paris, February 7th, 2018

THE VERY FIRST
GLOBAL STARTUP WEEKEND WOMEN
FEBRUARY 9, 10 & 11th, 2018

The 2018 Global Startup Weekend Women, first of its kind, will gather thousands of women all around the world: 23 cities across all 5 continents.

OUR AMBITION :

« Affirm the place of women entrepreneurship in the global innovation and technology ecosystem! »

The Global Startup Weekend Women Team



<< Create a worldwide movement of women entrepreneurs

The innovation ecosystem has never been so favourable. And yet women entrepreneurship remains

underrepresented ; **in France only 36% of women manage businesses**, a statistic which barely reaches 10% when it comes to technology and innovation sector. And the global situation does not prove any better, as women represent only 32% of all entrepreneurs. *It is time to take action, to change the rules of the game, leave the status quo and foster women roles in the ecosystem.*

Global Startup Weekend Women is an international initiative, led by Paris-based teams. The initiative was set up to encourage more diverse, inclusive, impactful actions in the field of technology and entrepreneurship.

This global movement pursues an ambition: to reveal entrepreneur mindset in women from all around the globe, who will gather from February 9th to 11th, 2018.

2000+ women and 23 participating cities: Paris, Sydney, Brisbane, Hong-Kong, Sacramento, Denver, Detroit, Bordeaux, Port au Prince, Dakar, Bamako, Antananarivo, Durban, Kathmandu, Abia, Oran, Algiers, East Lansing, Outback, Raleigh-Durham, Tunis, Baku, Douala.

A worldwide finals will take place in Paris in March 2018, bringing together the award-winning leaders from all participating cities.

The Paris-based volunteers set themselves a challenge: engage committed sponsors, in order to offer to all winners of local editions, an invitation to the Paris International Finals, on March 7th, 2018, at the HQ of AccorHotels group. Challenge proudly won, with the support of **RCI Bank and Services, AccorHotels, Air France, Wavestone, Air Liquide and LaTribune !**

<< Encourage disruption and reveal talents

The first local editions of Startup Weekend Women events took place in several countries around the world and allowed **several hundreds of women to create, step up, inspire and be inspired, and take action.** The Paris-based team now takes the initiative to **further structure the movement and foster diversity**, mixing knowledge & cultures in a positive impact melting-pot.

In every city, on February 9th to 11th (and on 16th to 18th), the event will gather 70-150 attendees who will benefit from a caring and boosting environment, where they will test ideas, work on projects and experiment an entrepreneur-like experience. **The adventure will take place simultaneously in all participating cities, creating a true living world tour of women entrepreneurship.**

<< Less talk more action : 54 hours from idea to project

A Startup Weekend is 54h-event designed to bring an intense learning-by-doing experience for potential women entrepreneurs with diverse backgrounds. Startup Weekends create a **perfect environnement to test an idea, engage partners or set one's first steps in entrepreneurship.**

From Friday night, with pitches and team building – Saturday and Sunday : brainstorming, business model research, prototype creation, coaching sessions. Last step, Sunday afternoon with final pitches in front of the jury, discussions and award ceremony then celebration cocktail, together !

Global Sponsors:



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