makeafricaeu.org

MAKE African European Maker Innovation Ecosystem

Discover mAkE!



Scan me to learn about the project



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 101016858.

What is mAkE?

An international ecosystem approach

African European Maker innovation Ecosystem (mAkE) is a H2O2O project that focuses on makerspaces and Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs) for smart production linked to local conditions and needs. A transdisciplinary approach to connect European and African DIHs to maximise their potential as spaces for digital innovation, skill building, job creation and contact points for global collaboration networks.

The project focus is based on the impact potential of makerspaces, how to make them financially sustainable, recognizing the different roles and functions makerspaces have in African and European societies.

50%

EUROPEAN PARTICIPANT ORGANISATIONS 50%

AFRICAN PARTICIPANT ORGANISATIONS

Partners

The 3-year project involves 10 partner organisations with equal representation in Africa and Europe. The consortium members are based in Ghana, Cameroon, South Africa, Spain, Denmark, Austria and Germany.



mAkE highlights



BUSINESS MODELS CATALOGUE



MACHINERY MAP



MAKERS-IN-RESIDENCY (MIR) PROGRAM



MAKER PASSPORT



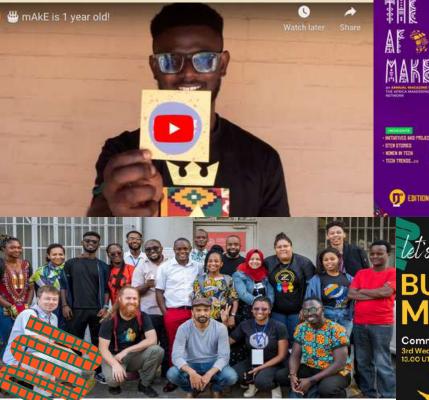
CONTRACTING SYSTEM



MOOCS - OPEN SOURCE LEARNING



MAKERVERSE









Community Discussions 3rd Wednesday of each month 13.00 UTC / 15.00 CEST

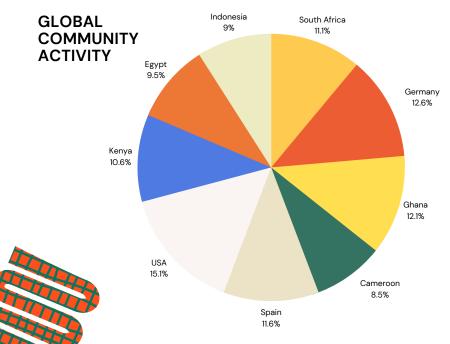


mAkE community





- 62.000+ PEOPLE REACHED
 - 120+ COUNTRIES
 - 50+ MAKERSPACES
 - 30+ EVENTS
 - 10 WEBINARS
 - 5 JURY MEMBERS
 - **4** COLLABORATIONS
 - 1 MAGAZINE



mAkE research

Policy advocacy

If Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs), including makerspaces, stand the chance to be empowered as key drivers of local innovation in Africa, then they would certainly require government support: they form parts of countries on the continent.

The mAkE Report on National and Regional Hub Associations digs into the activities being undertaken by innovation hubs and hub networks for their development. The interesting findings create awareness on the policy advocacy actions from featured European cases, which would be beneficial when adopted in African spaces. The report identifies the different approaches to policy advocacy actions and puts across a recommendation for a bottom-up multi-actor policy approach for hubs and hub networks in Africa. The report further recommends that innovation hubs and hub networks in Africa should not limit themselves to advocating for policy actions that would impact the hub ecosystem only. Rather, they should also undertake policy advocacy actions that would impact African cities at large.

Interviewees engaged for this study also propose for all key stakeholders on a policy advocacy action to present a united front; conversations should be had to ensure alignment of interest of all beneficiaries, enough funding should be secured before a policy advocacy action is fully implemented; people who have embarked on a policy advocacy using similar approach should be engaged and learnt from.

The bottom-up policy approach recommended to hubs and hub networks as an outcome of the study captures key points:

- O1 Assess Policy Beneficiaries
- O2 Document Findings
- 03 Present Findings to Policy Makers
- 04 Prepare Financials
- O5 Present Policy Actions
- 06 Public Engagement
- 07 Present Bill to Legislature
- **O8** Accept or Reject Policy Action



mAkE actions

Maker Passport

The central goal of the mAkE project standard is to create a shared understanding of the explicit, implicit, tacit, and procedural knowledge necessary for individual makers to participate in and easily navigate a distributed manufacturing ecosystem.

This navigation will be enabled by using a digital 'maker passport' following the maker community members criteria during the research stage.

SKILLS

Demonstrate your skills, and find and connect with skilled peers for mentoring and scaling up production.

CONTRACTS

Fill critical gaps in local markets on a commercial basis, shorten supply chains, lower shipping costs and make local manufacturing competitive while making contracting a better fit with local distributed production models.

THE MAKER PASSPORT

Based on pre-existing passport systems and maker community interviews, a baseline workflow for a maker passport has been developed. This system is reliant on two main forms of verification:

- Maker identity
- Maker credentials

I HAKE ACTIONS



MACHINERY

Find the machines needed to fulfil a manufacturing contract. Not having this information is a significant barrier to scaling up and replication. Preliminary set of data, collected by "Fab Foundation":









mAkE programs

The Maker-in-Residency

The Makers-in-Residency (MiR) program is a flagship of the mAkE project. It aims to increase collaboration and exchange between African and European makerspaces and DIHs.

The program was ideated and established after an implementation of several co-working sessions. Ideas for maker and makerspace's criteria were collected to inform the program's aim, scope and ultimate outcomes, forming the basis of the pilot program.

WHO?

This program is designed to benefit both makers and makerspaces with a core focus on coworking on prototypes in makerspaces, DIHs (Digital Innovation Hubs), Fab Labs and more.

WHY?

Build strong international partnerships, expand the maker networks, engage with the mAkErverse community, find new business opportunities, provide the chance to co-create or boost prototypes across the two continents and receive business development training. A remuneration up to 1000€ will be allocated based on proposals. The selected makers will be included in the matchmaking process for transparency and for the participatory practice at the heart of mAkE.

HOW?

The MIR program provides the opportunity to host an innovative maker from another continent, co-develop or boost prototypes, share one's expertise and exchange knowledge, challenges and find solutions through different perspectives, learn from each other and value the diverse cultural backgrounds. The matched makers will travel to the corresponding makerspace and, with supporting expertise, work on their products for 4–6 weeks after which they will have the opportunity to pitch to investors to continue their product development journey.







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Reach out to the mAkE project









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