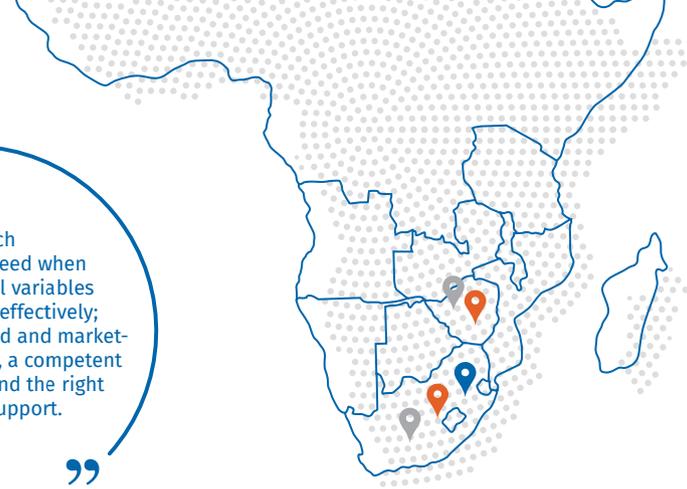




“ Biotech startups succeed when three essential variables work together effectively; scientifically sound and market-oriented product, a competent entrepreneur and the right financial support. ”



CITI PILOTING A BIOTECH INCUBATOR

ABOUT THE PROJECT

This project aims to pilot a biotech startup incubator, which will effectively integrate the variables needed to build sustainable biotech businesses. The program will be designed to provide life science entrepreneurs with the business skills, resources and connections needed to build sustainable life science businesses, turning scientist into fully-fledged entrepreneurs. A call will go out to biotech startups from across South Africa and Zimbabwe, with 5 from South Africa and 3 from Zimbabwe selected. The startups will take part in an intensive 6-month incubation program, based in Cape Town in South Africa and Bulawayo in Zimbabwe. It will include exchange visits and live streaming facilities will be used to connect the two countries and deliver the content. The biotech incubator program will not only help improve the capacities of the biotech entrepreneurs but also those of the two innovation supports organisations running the pilot - CiTi and TechVillage. It will enable CiTi and TechVillage to exchange knowledge and learn through experience the best way to help accelerate regional biotech startups. It will help the biotech ecosystem connect, bringing together the different stakeholders. Through marketing efforts it will create an increased awareness of biotech entrepreneurship.

PROJECT PARTNERS

Cape Innovation and Technology Initiative (CiTi) (South Africa)

TechVillage (Zimbabwe)



PROJECT COORDINATOR

Cape Innovation and Technology Initiative (CiTi)

IMPLEMENTING COUNTRIES

Zimbabwe

South Africa

KEY OBJECTIVES

1. To pilot a biotech startup incubator.
2. To aid in the development of new and improved products, services or processes brought to the market by providing bespoke biotech innovation support to entrepreneurs.
3. To improve the capacity of CiTi and TechVillage in terms of biotech expertise and delivery to support private sector biotech innovation and enterprise development.