

2023

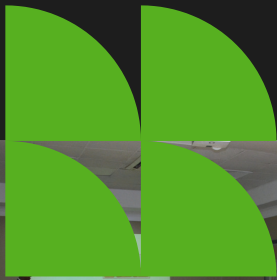
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Virtual Innovation Accelerator 2022-23 Progress

**Global Giving Report
By Emergination Africa**





Emergination Africa (EA) is committed to nurturing a new generation of entrepreneurs who are equipped to tackle both current and future challenges and opportunities in Africa.

Recently, EA facilitated a retrospective meeting for the 2021-2022 Virtual Innovation Accelerator Cohort. This meeting provided an opportunity for the cohort to update the team on their vision, challenges, and opportunities they've encountered so far. It was inspiring to see their renewed motivation after the session, drawing inspiration from each other and reminding themselves of their responsibility to ensure the success of their ventures. We appreciate their commitment to driving positive change in Africa and creating self-sustainable solutions to the continent's rising challenges.



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One of our VIA 2022 Alumni, Tadiwanashe Makamure of Verde Agri Solutions, shared her VIA Experience quoting:

“I was passionate about entrepreneurship and organisation. I got a taste of what it truly meant to be part of a team, it made it clearer what and how I envisioned myself as a young business leader. It was a mix of very big highs and very deep lows. What will remain engraved in my memory is that at each step of the way it never felt lonely, the Emergination Africa team provided me with support. I also communicated and created networks with some leading figures in Zimbabwe's business scene, I talked about my product at the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair and I created partnerships for life with all the other people in my VIA cohort. In all, I wouldn't trade anything for my VIA experience.”

We're excited to see their ventures thrive in the future and will continue to provide support wherever possible.



Another highlight for EA in the 3rd quarter was hosting the 2023 National Business Case Competition finals. This platform allowed learners from across Zimbabwe's 10 provinces to pitch their ideas and potentially be part of the Virtual Innovation Accelerator (VIA) Program, where they receive seed capital to work on their ventures. The VIA program fosters creativity, collaboration, and entrepreneurship among young people in Zimbabwe, offering them the opportunity to learn from the best mentors and experts in the field of innovation and entrepreneurship.

During the 2023 NBCC national finals, 5 teams were selected to be part of the VIA program and were paired with global advisors for guidance throughout the program.

On November 17, 2023, EA launched the VIA program for 2023-2024 with training workshops for the 5 incoming VIA teams. These workshops equipped the teams with the information and resources needed to start incubating their ventures, directly impacting 408 learners.

We're eagerly anticipating the performance of our students in this accelerator and the valuable insights they will gain from their interactions with advisors and experts from diverse industry sectors.