

# International Science Partnerships Fund (ISPF)

## Africa Science Entrepreneurship Program 2024 Call for Participants

### Maximizing Impact Through Technology Transfer & Commercialisation

The Africa Science Entrepreneurship (ASE) program is an 18-month virtual, accelerator program for data innovation products that are using Machine Learning / AI tools and techniques to address uniquely African challenges. Applicants must demonstrate a minimum viable product (MVP) through their application submission. Successful participants will receive technical mentorship from an academic / industry expert to develop their MVP, together with entrepreneurial training by Leeds University Business School as part of the ASE programme.

Thematic areas under this call include African-focused data innovations in areas of agriculture/agri-tech, extreme weather/climate change, health, addressing the energy crisis, environmental resilience, and building resilient cities.

#### **Start-ups based in the following African countries are eligible for the ASE Program:**

South Africa, Botswana, Kenya, Mauritius, Madagascar, Mozambique, Zambia, Angola, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, Rwanda, Senegal, Uganda, Tanzania, Burkina Faso, Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo.

#### **More about the ASE Program:**

1. A 12-month virtual, part-time entrepreneurship course will be presented by Leeds University Business School and will include the following modules – What makes a good innovator and/or entrepreneur; Understanding the Business Model Canvas; IP Management; Preparing your Pitch Deck & Pitching your solution.
2. Technical support and mentorship over an 18-month period starting in August 2024 in developing your data innovation solution.
3. An opportunity to present your solution in a Pitching & Technology Showcasing event to be hosted in South Africa in 2025, allowing the best solutions to engage with the South African market and innovation ecosystem.
4. Individual and team projects will be considered with up to 3 team members to be considered for participation. Role of each team member must be specified in your application. Organizers



of the ASE program reserves the right to accept or decline participation of additional team members.

5. Participants will not receive any financial remuneration while participating in the programme.

**Apply here – Google Form:** <https://forms.gle/Uqgdu3MVtWeL7CzQ8>

More information – Contact [smeyer@sarao.ac.za](mailto:smeyer@sarao.ac.za) or [consultant@empirepartnerfoundation.org](mailto:consultant@empirepartnerfoundation.org)

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For more information on the ISPF please follow this link:

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/education/he-science/our-work/international-science-partnerships-fund>

**CLOSING DATE : 19 June 2024**