

20 out of 65 Seedstars Summit finalists from Africa

 By [Ilse van den Berg](#)

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With the Seedstars World Summit taking place on Thursday, 12 April 2018, the organisers have announced the final 65 finalists that will get the chance to pitch their ideas on the global stage. 20 out of the 65 finalists are from Africa.



This year Seedstars visited 65 countries, 75 cities and organised roughly 85 events in six months.

It managed to gather a whole bunch of highly promising startups that will all compete in Lausanne, Switzerland for the big final: five minutes pitch on the main stage followed by five minutes of questions and answers.

They will all have to prove their point to convince the jury to award them for those different prizes:

- **Global Seedstars winner prize:** Awarded by Seedstars: up to \$500K investment.
- **BBVA open talent prize:** Together with BBVA, it will be sourcing fintech, AI, identity and enterprise banking startups in over 50 countries around the world to fast-track them for BBVA's Open Talent competition.
- **Africa energy prize:** Seedstars has partnered with Enel Green Power, perhaps the biggest producer of renewable energy, to search for the most innovative company fostering socio-economic development in rural Africa.
- **Transforming education prize:** In partnership with HEG Fribourg and TRECC, it is scouting for the most transformative startups in education. A prize in the value of \$50k will be awarded to the winner to help them expand in new markets
- **Health tech prize:** Seedstars has partnered with Merck in order to support startups focusing on healthcare, life science and performance materials, by providing them office space in the Merck Innovation Centers, mentoring, coaching and financial support of up to €50,000.

And here are the startup finalists:

Startups in high tech/robotics

Armenia – [Chessify](#) is revolutionising the chess community experience by applying state-of-the-art deep learning solutions. They have created an AI-based product that reduces the chess professionals training time by 30% with only \$100 monthly fee. All these come with an unprecedented chessboard scanner and AI-based human style analytical tool. Chessify has

created an initial model of the first ever human-style chess engine, which plays with the strength of a middle first rank player.

Azerbaijan – [WakeMeUp](#) has created new and innovative wearable technology, which can save people's life. This wearable device, combined with an application, can help people to stay awake in extreme situations.

Costa Rica - [Difacom](#) designs reconstructive material made out of carbon fibre that aims at replacing non-recycled materials in bikes.

Russia – [Marvelmind Robotics](#) has developed an extremely precise (+-2cm) Indoor “GPS” for autonomous robots, vehicles, copters, VR and humans.

Kuwait – [General Senses](#) is Kuwait's leader in sensory and experiential technologies, with emphasis on pioneering VR, AR, and natural human interfaces.

Egypt – [WideBOT](#) is the first bot builder platform in the MENA. WideBOT allows anyone to build his/her own intelligent chatbot without any coding in only 10 minutes.



All you need to know about the 2018 Seedstars Summit

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B2B services and products

India - [VdoCipher](#) is a one-stop video streaming solution to prevent piracy and ensure smooth delivery of content.

Myanmar - [Kargo](#) is the first trucking marketplace to bridge the gap between thousands of truck owners and emerging businesses.

Bolivia - [Netbits](#) is the virtual manager for SMEs' daily operations. NetBits allows you to use personalised business reports that fit your needs, and allows you to integrate the necessary modules as your company grows.

Uganda - [Numida](#) issues convenient and unsecured credit to Ugandan small businesses that use its free financial management app.

China - [OCheng's](#) end to end social CRM platform uses AI to send personalised messages to millions of wechat followers, driving engagement and purchase.

South Korea - [Profound](#) connects consultants and industry experts to clients in need of business expertise for spot and project consulting opportunities.

Jamaica - [SameLogic](#) is a video analytics platform that measures emotion and intent. It's the first company to correlate vocal and facial emotions to tell if subjects are being fully honest.

Mongolia – [TataTunga](#) helps companies manage their cost, time and customer satisfaction by providing AI self-learning platforms.

Lebanon – [Vision in Motion](#) has developed a B2B software solution that helps retailers understand their customers by using security cameras and computer vision.

Ukraine - [EVE.calls](#) is an online SaaS platform that helps companies to sell, notify and survey their customers with an intelligent robot.

Tunisia – [Favizone](#) has developed a plug and play personalisation solution that enables retailers to deliver recommendations across all channels: e-shop, emails, and messaging app.

Dominican Republic - Through the use of the latest machine learning and data mining techniques, Madison leverages client's data to democratise insight, allowing SMEs to work with a data scientist without having to pay for one.

Startups in fintech

Brazil - [Celcoin](#) turns any smartphone into a Utility Payment Terminal for bill payments, recharges, and other services. With Celcoin, anyone with a smartphone can receive +800 utility payments, recharges, games, digital content and transportation services for customers and contacts. Celcoin has no cost, no bureaucracy and no approval process and brings a new revenue stream to its users.

Cote d'Ivoire – [Cinetpay](#) is a mobile money payment gateway that enables e-merchants and merchants to accept mobile money and card payments, online or offline.

Singapore – [FinChat](#) makes messaging (WhatsApp, WeChat) compliant with data retention regulations, so that bankers can reach out to the billions of users of these messaging platforms.

Senegal: [MaTontine](#) provides access to small loans and related financial services like micro-insurance by digitising traditional savings circles.

Mexico: [Payit](#) is a secure payments platform concentrated on making it easy for people in Mexico (and soon Latin America) to pay all of their day-to-day expenses.

Turkey – [Paym.es](#) is a secure shopping chatbot that helps users sell or purchase items by asking them a series of questions. It is smart (using AI to assist) and channel independent and accepts global payments. As simple as chatting with a friend on Messenger Apps, it spares you an extra app download, since it's already on your phone.

Chile - [RedCapital](#) is a crowdfunding p2p lending platform through which investors obtain attractive returns at low risk and SMEs get loans at a fair rate. RedCapital has a risk predictor which allowed their investors to have zero default until today. They also have a variety of solutions for SMEs.

Mozambique – TABECH Serviços will present a service named MoveCare, which uses mobile phones without access to the internet to access funeral insurance.

Startups in the advertising and marketing industry

Morocco - [Hooplacar](#) disrupts the advertising market by letting people wrap their cars with ads, while selling the space to advertisers with a state of the art technology to track the cars and collect major marketing KPIs. With 6500 drivers already registered, and several major campaigns launched, the Moroccan startup is taking the market by storm.

Thailand - [Event Banana](#) is a one-stop service marketplace to connect under-utilised spaces and vendors with people hosting events and meetings. In 2017, they have created >\$8,5m-worth business leads to venues and counted >100 venue partners from unique spaces to global brand hotels.

Czech Republic - [SatisMeter](#) reduces churn risk of each customer and accelerates growth by collecting customer's feedbacks and recommending actions to take. SatisMeter detects unhappy customers, finds out why they are unhappy, and helps resolve their problems before they churn.

Hong Kong - [Emotics](#) is a reg-tech company who developed a solution for analysing user engagement with online content, in particular, compliance training, at financial institutions.

Startups in agritech

Ghana: [AgroCenta](#) is an online sales platform that connects smallholder farmers directly to an online market which has wider geographic size, to sell their commodities.

Mali: [ESenè](#) is an onboard system that collects soil moisture to provide water and fertilizer for crops.

Indonesia: [SayurBox](#) is an online platform providing high-quality fresh products from local farms. In a year, the business grew more than 10x in revenue size and partnered with more than 50 farmers, having now a strong network of farmer communities and local producers.

Kenya: [SolarFreeze](#) is pioneering mobile cold-storage units powered by renewable energy to help rural smallholder African farmers to face the huge challenge of post-harvest loss. Postharvest management is a systems-based challenge and requires an integrated innovation strategy that incorporates technological and financial innovations, capacity building across the value chain, enhanced market access and other elements to achieve impact at scale. Solar Freeze ingeniously tackled this via its innovative "Pay-as-You-Store" system, that allows smallholder farmers to access cold storage at prices they can afford.

Startups in B2C services and products

Colombia - [Celucambio.com](#) is a platform that allows to exchange, buy or sell used smartphones. In Celucambio.com you can find refurbished smartphone in great condition, with a guarantee and low price. You can also change your smartphone for another one and only pay the difference, the payment is always transferred in 24 to 72 hours.

Jordan - [3oun](#) is an on-demand mobile application that connects you with vetted handymen around you.

Iran - [Dastaneman](#) is a platform that let customers create and buy personalised storybooks for their children.

Rwanda - [PikiWash](#) is an eco-friendly, time-saving solution for cleaning motorcycles.

Bahrain - [WNNA](#) gives you personalised recommendations curated from different sources with the ability to take actions like ordering food or reserving a table at a restaurant, requesting a ride or even finding the nearest gas station and ATM machine.

Angola – [Tupuca](#) is the first online food delivery platform in Angola. Tupuca already served over 20,000 customers and delivered over 80,000 meals in the first year and created over 75 jobs.

Argentina - [Alquilando](#) is the first Spanish speaking marketplace for long-term rentals in Latin America, that simplifies the rental process, minimises risk and guarantees rent payments on time. Alquilando disrupts the real estate market as an innovative solution, offering a new trust ecosystem that eliminates bureaucracy, guarantees rental payments on time and allows contract signatures to take place up to five times faster.

Croatia – [Dentologix](#) is a marketplace for dental lab services backed up with a custom CRM. Aimed at professionals, Dentologix solves prosthetic production process problems for dislocated teams in a new, innovative way and at the same time acts as a tool to control outsourced dental work for dentists and dental labs.

DRC - [Youdee](#) is an easy and trustful way of finding your ideal real estate property. In many African cities, transactions in the real estate market are informal, and they lack trust. Youdee is a reliable online real estate platform that checks and rates dealers, and offers a tailored catalogue to customers. There are 1.3 million households in Youdee's target segments

collectively spending an estimated \$6.9B per year on rent. Youdee is here to transform real estate transactions into trustful and safe deals.

Startups in education

Vietnam - [GaraSTEM](#) changes the way Vietnamese children study science and technology by providing creative science and technology syllabus with learning kits to schools. The startup has been working with over 15 schools and the two biggest STEM teaching companies in Ho Chi Minh city. They organised many events with their partners, having reached over 10,000 students in Vietnam.

Bahrain - [Junkbot](#) is a do-it-yourself robotic kit which helps children to make their own robots and gadgets by recycling things around them such as cardboard, old CDs, plastic water bottles, tea or coffee cups, etc.

Ethiopia - [Langbot](#) is a gamified and AI-powered language teaching chatbot.

Kenya - [M-Shule](#) improves learning for every primary student in Africa using artificial intelligence and SMS to deliver personalised, accessible education.

Startups in healthtech

Nigeria – [Medsaf](#) uses technology to make the process of buying and selling medication easy and efficient for hospitals and pharmacies worldwide. Being the trusted medication platform for Africa, it connects pharmacies and hospitals with safe and cost-effective medications.

Bangladesh – [CMED](#) is an IoT enabled cloud-based preventive healthcare platform that monitors health parameters, predicts health risks, and reduces health costs.

Cameroon – [Gifted Mom](#) democratises health information access in emerging markets through an AI-based remote medical support platform.

Sri Lanka – [Jendo](#) offers preventive cardiovascular healthcare that helps people reliably measure their risk by assessing their endothelial functionality. It can help stop the early deaths from cardiovascular diseases for the middle age people.

Pakistan – [Neurostic](#) rehabilitates amputees by cutting the cost of prosthetics through innovative, local development and manufacturing.

Botswana: [Yapili](#) is a p2pr web platform and Android App offering new opportunities for many Africans to connect to local and western health professionals in an efficient and confidential way. In societies where professional health advice can be expensive or inaccessible due to overcrowded public health facilities, Yapili offers free of charge, anonymous and secure channels to seek medical care in case of pregnancy and family planning, diabetes and hypertension, HIV and sexual health, mental health and lifestyle diseases.

Startups in HR, recruitment and jobs

Kazakhstan – [Clockster](#) designed an advanced cloud-based time and attendance system, useful for HR data, based on biometric devices.

Philippines – [ServeHappyJobs](#) helps service businesses with their HR pain points by leveraging smart bots in social media and messaging technologies to reach the 51M Filipinos on Facebook.



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Startups in medtech and biotech

Ecuador - [Multidoctores](#) is a chat and telemedicine platform that allows doctors to communicate with their patients while giving accessible consultations to people.

Moldova - [BabyMoon](#) enables parents to clearly communicate the health of their child to doctors and understand how to optimise their parenting.

South Africa - [EMGuidance](#) solves a critical problem for medical professionals by aggregating medical content from regional experts in one app.

Uruguay - [GenLives](#) brings genomic medicine closer to physicians and patients, providing doctors with a platform to support rare diagnosis interpretation and patient care.

Georgia - [RehabGlove](#) has designed an affordable glove that assists patients in post-stroke hand rehabilitation by providing supportive forces and using virtual reality for various psychological therapies.



Seedstars finalists from Middle East, North Africa

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Startups in travel and transport

Peru - [TuRuta](#) connects users to the city transportation services through an app. The app is now connected to 26 public transport lines in real time. Thanks to TuRuta, anyone in Lima has now the ability to know when their buses are coming and save time. These buses are used by around two million people every day.

Zimbabwe - [MyRunner](#) enables anyone to purchase bus tickets online and track bus location at all times, making the experience safer and more pleasant.

Nepal - [Tootle](#) offers a low cost, convenient, and secure last mile, point to point ridesharing platform for two-wheelers in Nepal. There is a special emphasis on accessibility for the visibly impaired and safety features for women.

Startups in the insurance industry

Tanzania - [Nefrids Africa](#) has developed SimuBima, a mobile phone insurance solution.

Malaysia - [PolicyStreet](#) hand-picks, curates, and offer best-in value insurance products to groups.

Congratulations to all the finalists! We'll be holding thumbs!

ABOUT ILSE VAN DEN BERG

Ilse is a freelance journalist and editor with a passion for people & their stories (check out Passing Stories). She is also the editor of Go & Travel, a platform connecting all the stakeholders in the travel & tourism industry. You can check out her work here and here. Contact Ilse through her website here.

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