



**ORANGE  
CORNERS**

AN INITIATIVE OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS

# UPDATE

16 december 2022

Hi there!

Time flies. As the end of the year approaches, shall we update you on what we've been up to these last few months? We've been busy as always, so what follows is but a small selection of our work.

We conclude 2022 with 17 hubs in 14 countries. As we plan to expand even further in the new year (spoiler: Bangladesh!), we want to use this opportunity to thank you for your ever-lasting support. Without our implementing teams, government and private partners and loyal fans we wouldn't stand where we are today. So from the bottom of our hearts: thank you for supporting Orange Corners. Let's continue to make positive impact on entrepreneurial ecosystems for youth in 2023.

The Orange Corners HQ Team

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### **VIP guest: Dutch Prime Minister visits OC Palestinian Territories**

On 25 October, Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte visited Orange Corners Palestinian Territories as part of a two-day state visit to Israel and the Palestinian Territories. To learn more about youth entrepreneurship, he spoke with several young Palestinian entrepreneurs about the realities of doing business and how Orange Corners supports them to turn innovative ideas into profitable, sustainable businesses.



Was PM Rutte impressed? Of course he was! Read more [here](#).



### **Celebrating DRC's Startup Act at the Startup Act Conference**

Between 23 and 25 November, the Startup Act Conference took place in Kinshasa. Orange Corners Programme



Advisor DRC [Richard van Hoolwerff](#) joined the celebrations around the development of the Startup Act, along with representatives from Netherlands Embassies in several other African countries. They not only witnessed the kick-off of the implementation phase, but also shared their own ideas and best practices.

Find a full report [here](#).

### **New publication: OCIF Impact Report 2019-2022**

Some three years ago, we launched the [Orange Corners Innovation Fund \(OCIF\)](#). By providing early stage financing to young entrepreneurs in Africa and the Middle East, this fund aims to stimulate employment, innovation and business growth in the region. Since 2019, OCIF has supported over 300 local entrepreneurs.

Did we really make a difference? Read our publication on the impact of OCIF [here](#).



### **New hub: Orange Corners Bangladesh**

Orange Corners is expanding. Early 2023, the next OC hub will open in Dhaka. We partner with local partners YY Ventures and the Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC) to support young Bangladeshi entrepreneurs to achieve their dreams. Through the Orange Corners Access to Finance Fund, implemented by SAJIDA Foundation, the programme will also support seed-funding.

Welcome to the family, Dhaka!

### **Inspiration: Petra Beris**

Entrepreneurs are often imagined as brave individuals with a focus who overcome all obstacles on their path to success. Think Steve Jobs tinkering at a first Mac computer in a garage in California. But what is the road to success really like? Successful entrepreneur Petra Beris (TransitionHero & Engineers Without Borders) takes us along on her entrepreneurial journey.

Read the full interview [here](#).



### **Follow Orange Corners on social media**

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updates, follow us on social media:



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### **Preview 2023**

Next year promises to be an exciting year for Orange Corners. Your HQ team is working on many different projects, from Strategy Days and an alumni accelerator to possibilities to engage more women business angels.

After a long preparation period, our new hubs in Bangladesh and Jordan are expected to welcome their first aspiring young entrepreneurs in early 2023. We also continue to explore possibilities to expand Orange Corners activities to three additional countries. If all goes well, we might be up and running in as many as 20 countries by 2024!

We're also very pleased to have extended most of our contracts with our current implementing partners until the end of 2023. A call for proposals under a new subsidy scheme for the continuation of the Orange Corners programmes (2024-2029) in these countries is expected to open before the summer of 2023. If you have any questions on this topic, don't hesitate to reach out to your contact at the OCHQ.

### **Happy New Year!**

That's it for now. All that remains is to wish all of you an absolutely lovely turn of the year. And see you again in 2023!

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