

ACTIVITY REPORT 2025



EDITORIAL

Anne-Leïla Batel, Executive Director of **PULSE**

ABOUT PULSE

PULSE, an association of the **Groupe SOS**

Key Figures

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In France, **PULSE FRANCE**

In South Africa, **ORIBI**

In the Balkans, **PULSE Balkans**

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How do we support entrepreneurs ?

Who are our entrepreneurs ?

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Ta'ziz

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SIBC

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EDITORIAL

In 2025, ten years after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the situation is clear: the ambitions set in 2015 are now being directly called into question.

This framework was built on a strong belief: the pursuit of peace and decarbonized prosperity, with development pathways that are both compatible with climate requirements and socially just.

What once appeared to be a broad consensus is now significantly weakened by major cuts in official development assistance, particularly in the United States and Europe, the disappearance of some long-standing instruments, and a refocusing on national priorities.

In concrete terms, this has led to interrupted funding, reduced or suspended programs, directly undermining the most vulnerable populations and weakening our collective ability to prevent and respond to crises.

This trend highlights a clear contradiction: by reducing resources dedicated to addressing the root causes of migration, for example, states are actually worsening the very dynamics they claim to want to curb.

Given the scale of this shift, the issue is no longer about defending existing systems, but about fundamentally rethinking how we act.

This means supporting locally grounded models that can sustainably strengthen local economies. Social and environmental entrepreneurship provides a concrete example: by supporting economic actors—improving practices, expanding access to financing and markets, and structuring activities—it generates ripple effects, including job creation, skills development, stronger value chains, and positive spillover benefits for communities.

These approaches make it possible to act before crises occur. Providing dignified and accessible economic opportunities is a direct lever for reducing vulnerabilities and addressing the root causes of economic and social imbalances.

It is within this framework that **PULSE** operates.

For nearly 20 years, we have been developing programs that make entrepreneurship accessible to those who are often excluded from it: women, young people, individuals undergoing career transitions, and actors in rural or marginalized areas. Our initiatives are tailored to the realities of different life paths, combining support, training, networking, and access to financing solutions.

Nous agissons également sur les écosystèmes, en renforçant les structures locales d'accompagnement, en partageant nos méthodes et en contribuant à structurer des filières économiques à impact.

We also work at the ecosystem level by strengthening local support organizations, sharing our methods, and helping to structure impact-driven economic sectors.

In response to these evolving challenges, we remain fully committed. Together with our teams and partners, we pursue a clear objective: to demonstrate through action that the social and solidarity economy is a credible and proven response to the challenges of our time, particularly when it is rooted in local realities.

We do not offer a single answer or a simplistic solution. Instead, we choose to act concretely by supporting initiatives that show economic performance and social and environmental value are not in opposition, but can reinforce one another when designed together.

In an uncertain world, we choose action; not to compensate for vulnerabilities, but to sustainably transform the conditions that create them.



Anne-Leïla Batel,
Chief Executive Officer of
PULSE

Nicolas Messio,
President of **PULSE**

PULSE is a non-profit organization founded in 2006 at the initiative of Groupe SOS. Its mission is to support and promote entrepreneurship as a driver of inclusive and sustainable development. PULSE develops awareness-raising initiatives, support programs, and financing opportunities in France and internationally for individuals leading impact-driven projects. Since its creation, PULSE has enabled thousands of entrepreneurs to launch impactful initiatives and has supported the emergence of new changemakers, particularly by backing projects led by underrepresented groups in entrepreneurship or based in emerging regions.

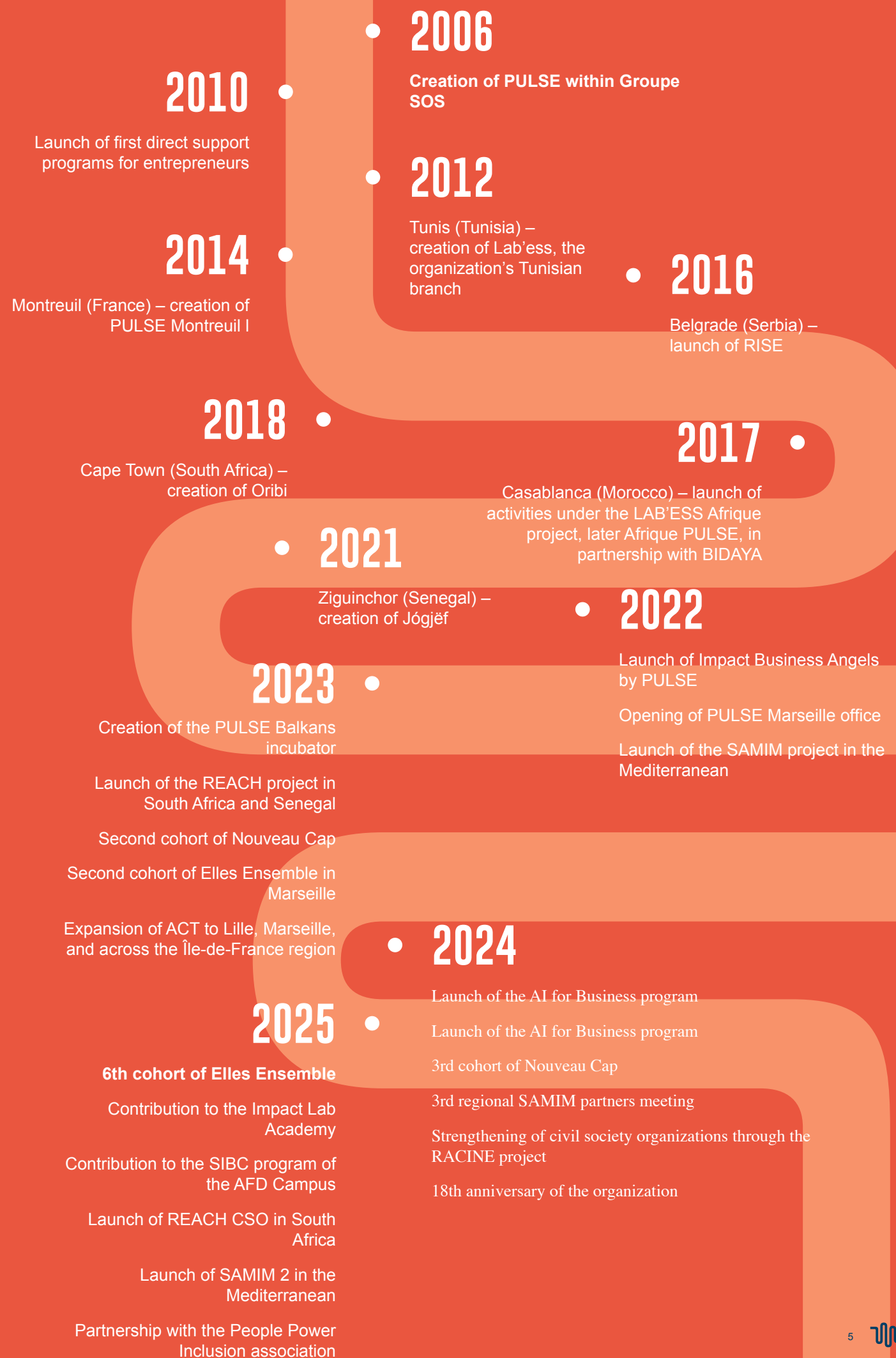
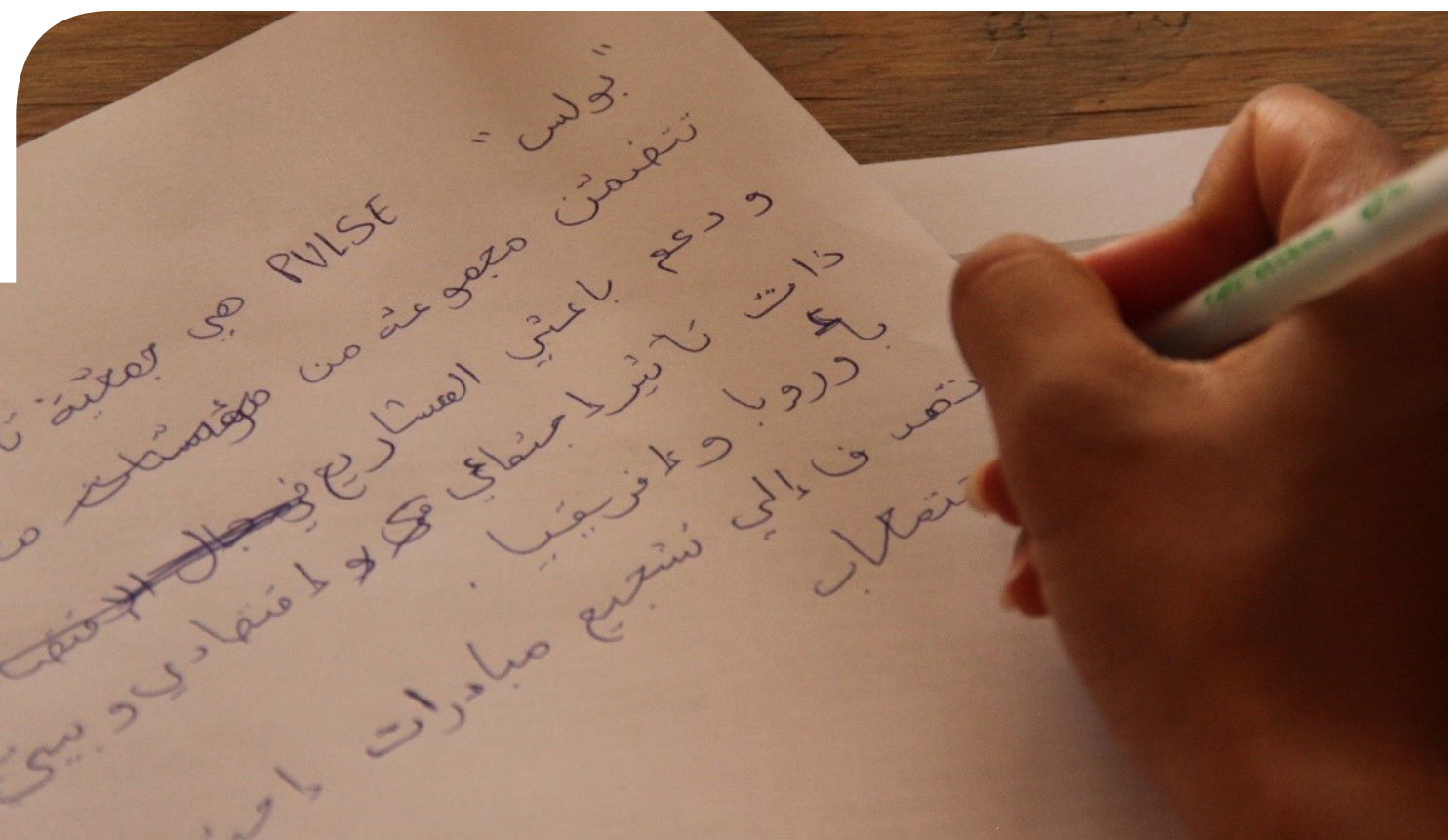
Founded on the belief that everyone can become an agent of change, PULSE works across 18 countries to make entrepreneurship and access to funding more inclusive through outreach activities and tailored support programs.

PULSE operates several incubation spaces across Africa and Europe and runs around thirty programs from five main hubs: Lab'ess (Tunisia), Oribi (South Africa), Jógjéf (Senegal), PULSE Balkans (Serbia), and PULSE France.

Learn more about our activities: <https://www.pulse-group.org/> ➔

GOVERNANCE

As part of Groupe SOS, PULSE is composed of two members: Groupe SOS, a French non-profit organization, and Groupe SOS International—one of its founding associations—specialized in international solidarity. These entities are represented at PULSE's General Assembly by their respective presidents. The Assembly defines the organization's strategic direction and approves its accounts. Groupe SOS International has its own Board of Directors, made up of qualified volunteer members, and appoints two representatives to sit on the Union's Board. PULSE's president, Nicolas Messio, elected for a three-year term, serves as the organization's legal representative.



Groupe SOS Overview

Groupe SOS is a non-profit organization and a major actor in promoting social cohesion (vivre-ensemble). It brings together associations and social enterprises united by a shared commitment to social and environmental impact.

Its work is structured around two main priorities: Managing non-profit facilities dedicated to youth, healthcare, vulnerable populations, and the elderly and building a sustainable and inclusive future through initiatives in ecological transition, regional revitalization, responsible commerce, and access to culture. Secular and non-partisan, Groupe SOS promotes a broad societal vision centered on the common good.

With 22,000 employees, 2 million beneficiaries each year, and a presence in 50 countries, Groupe SOS demonstrates that large-scale impact is both achievable and essential for building a more just and inclusive future. [Learn more about GSOS here](#)



The administrators of the Groupe SOS International association



KEVIN GOLDBERG



CHEBEKA HACHEMI



JEROO BILLIMORIA



DIANE BINDER



YASMINE HAMRAOUI



BRUNO CHATELIER

Counting those who matter to us:

Since 2025, Groupe SOS has been working with PULSE to develop a methodological framework to better define and count the beneficiaries supported by the association, with the aim of making the scope and diversity of the actions carried out by our programs and services more transparent.

Thus, we define as beneficiaries of PULSE all individuals and organizations for whom our association has contributed to bringing about at least one positive change.

For PULSE, depending on our target audiences and

programs, these changes may concern one or more aspects of social, professional, or educational life. They may be direct or indirect, visible or more subtle, one-time or long-lasting.

Even when they are difficult to measure or attribute precisely, Groupe SOS considers that all the association's impacts matter. It is their combination that allows us to act on a large scale and to contribute, in a systemic way, to a society that is more inclusive, united, and sustainable, in the service of living together.

THE KEY FIGURES OF PULSE SINCE ITS CREATION



WEBSITE

Number of entrepreneurs supported:
4313

A total of **6440** Changemakers in Europe and Africa have received long-term support to help secure the development of their projects.

Number of local incubators strengthened:
80

Number of associations supported:
2120

More than **35.000** Aspiring entrepreneurs have also been supported through diagnostic assessments to evaluate the viability of their projects.

Number of professionals trained:
365

AGE: FOUNDED IN 2012, IN THE WAKE OF THE REVOLUTION, LAB'ESS IS NOW ENTERING ITS 13TH YEAR OF ACTIVITY.

Mission

Founded in 2012 following the revolution, Lab'ess is a Tunisian non-profit organization whose mission is to support, finance, and raise awareness among changemakers in the MENA region who aim to generate positive social and environmental impact.

Through its support for civil society and social entrepreneurship, Lab'ess empowers changemakers to contribute to a more inclusive, sustainable, and solidarity-based economy.

WEBSITE 

FIND US ON OUR
SOCIAL MEDIA :



KEY FIGURES / IMPACT SINCE INCEPTION

268

impact-driven
enterprises supported

6

support programs (Incubation
Tunis, Acceleration (OCIF),
Safir, Samim, Ta'ziz, SIBC
North Africa)

60%

women participants
across programs

2115

associations supported

14

support structures
strengthened

+ 8000

people reached through
awareness-raising activities

FRANCE

PULSE FRANCE

FOUNDED IN 2014, PULSE FRANCE HAS BEEN ACTIVE FOR 12 YEARS.

Mission

PULSE France supports the development of impact entrepreneurship in France through two main areas of action.

The first is to enable individuals who are underrepresented in the entrepreneurial ecosystem or far from entrepreneurship to launch projects that combine social impact with economic viability. In this context, PULSE France runs awareness, ideation, and support programs targeting specific groups, including women, seniors, and

residents of priority urban neighborhoods.

The second is to accelerate the social and environmental transition by supporting entrepreneurs in scaling and strengthening their projects. This includes thematic incubation programs, for example in the circular economy, as well as training for entrepreneurs and support professionals on social and environmental impact.

WEBSITE 

FIND US ON OUR
SOCIAL MEDIA :



ACTIVITY REPORT 2025



IMPACT IN 2025

120 entrepreneurs supported, including 69% WOMEN

732 individuals reached through awareness and early-stage support, including 65% 169 participants in ideation programs WOMEN

A total 852 people reached through PULSE France's activities, including 66% WOMEN

Since inception Pulse France, supported through long-term programs

1120 entrepreneurs



AGE: FOUNDED IN 2018, ORIBI HAS BEEN ACTIVE FOR 9 YEARS

Mission

At ORIBI, we are committed to catalyzing sustainable economies in South Africa by equipping individuals and communities that are distant from economic opportunities with the skills, resources, and access they need to thrive in social entrepreneurship. We contribute to the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals by providing responsive entrepreneurial support services, inclusive financing, and fostering a strong, supportive

network that enables entrepreneurs to grow. Our goal is to build a self-sustaining ecosystem of connected changemakers who drive economic prosperity, social equity, and environmental sustainability.

www.oribi.org.za

FIND US ON OUR
SOCIAL MEDIA :



KEY FIGURES/IMPACT SINCE
INCEPTION

+ 229

entrepreneurs supported;
over 500 high school girls

+ 500

high school
girls

INCUBATION PROGRAMS :

#FOODSYSTEM
(7 cohortes)

#GIRLSINBUSINESS
(5 cohortes)

CSO SOCIAL
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

#BRIDGINGTHEGENDERGAP
(pilote)

PROGRAMME D'INCUBATION
AFRIFOODLINKS

88.6%

women (and girls) in the
programs

AGE : FOUNDED IN 2021, THE JÓGJĚF INCUBATOR SUPPORTS YOUNG SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT PROJECT LEADERS IN THE CASAMANCE REGION OF SENEGAL.

Mission of the organization

JógjĚf is the incubator for impact entrepreneurs in Casamance. Operated by PULSE, it is based at the Université Numérique Cheikh Hamidou Kane in Ziguinchor. Through the REACH program (Making Entrepreneurship Accessible to Everyone), co-funded by AFD and the Bank of Africa Foundation, JógjĚf trains, guides, and supports young entrepreneurs across its five cohorts.

The incubator aims to make impact entrepreneurship accessible to those who are most distant from it: young people and women living in Casamance. Since 2022, the incubator has offered three-month financing support and financial grants to its most promising projects.

[Jogjef Impact and Capitalization Report](#) ➔

FIND US ON OUR
SOCIAL MEDIA :



PARTNERS :

Agence Française de Développement, Bank of Africa, Fondation Denibam, Fondation groupe EDF, Fondation L'Oréal, Gouvernement de Monaco, Play International, Union Européenne, Université numérique Cheikh Hamidou KANE (UN-CHK)

KEY FIGURES

637

entrepreneurs
supported , including
166 women

35

enterprises
created

Balkans

PULSE BALKANS



AGE : FOUNDED IN 2023, PULSE BALKANS IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO PROMOTING CIVIL SOCIETY AND ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEMS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES.

Mission of the organization:

Its mission is to create favorable conditions for the emergence of social entrepreneurship in the Western Balkans, promoting sustainable development and positive social impact. Through innovative programs and strategic partnerships, PULSE Balkans empowers social entrepreneurs to transform their ideas into solutions that benefit their communities. By bridging French expertise with local contexts, the organization acts as a catalyst for change, connecting green and solidarity initiatives to foster a thriving social entrepreneurship ecosystem.

As a subsidiary of PULSE, PULSE Balkans aims to extend PULSE’s vision to the Western Balkans.

FIND US ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA :



KEY FIGURES/IMPACT SINCE INCEPTION

6

civil society organizations within the ecosystem strengthened

22

project leaders from these organizations trained

1158

young people sensitized to social entrepreneurship

379

young people supported in the ideation phase

68

young people supported in the incubation phase

54

projects supported, including 36 development grants awarded

WEBSITE



1. SUPPORTING IMPACT ENTREPRENEURS IN LOCAL TERRITORIES

HOW DO WE SUPPORT ENTREPRENEURS ?

AT PULSE, WE DEPLOY A STRUCTURED SUPPORT METHODOLOGY BASED ON THREE KEY PRINCIPLES:

STRONG FOCUS ON IMPACT

with particular attention to three priority sectors: sustainable agriculture, the circular economy, and sustainable cities. This sectoral approach aims to develop concrete solutions to the structural challenges of the regions where we operate. For example, in Africa, agriculture accounts for nearly 60% of employment, highlighting the strategic importance of this sector. This approach leverages synergies between cohorts, in-house expertise, and that of our partners. Notably, Suez and ADEME, through the Saison Circulaire in France, mobilize their employees to strengthen support. This strategy carries strong transformative potential aligned with several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDGs 2, 8, 11, 12, and 13.

ACCESSIBLE AND PROGRESSIVE PATHWAYS

designed to accommodate the realities of all participants, including those traditionally distant from entrepreneurship: time constraints, lack of networks, or specific barriers (e.g., mobility or digital access). Our formats are designed to remove these obstacles. This approach is guided by a core belief: entrepreneurs are not born, nor is entrepreneurship simply a talent. It is a set of skills, knowledge, and a mindset that can be learned and cultivated. At PULSE, our role is to secure every stage of project development. That is why we provide long-term support, with strong involvement upstream (awareness, ideation, incubation) and continuous scaling downstream through acceleration programs and tailored post-program follow-up.

ACTIVE PEDAGOGY

combining individual coaching, collective training, practical tools, and networking events. Our approaches emphasize learning by doing, experimentation, practice, peer-to-peer exchanges, and continuous community engagement (alumni, cross-mentoring, field experts in all our countries of operation, partner experts, etc.).



WHO ARE OUR ENTREPRENEURS ?

SOME EXAMPLES



“

The support from Lab'ess allowed me to refine my understanding of my project and strengthen my marketing strategies. Thanks to this experience, I gained confidence and was able to approach the market with greater assurance.

Fatma Elloumi
founder of Ecod'Art, Cohort #2

[▶ Testimonial video](#)



“

What sets this program apart is its pragmatic approach, which goes beyond theoretical aspects. As entrepreneurs, we often need real guidance to make informed decisions, and that is precisely what Lab'ess provides.

Kaouther Mejdi
co-founder of Ecojina, Cohort #12



“

BONUS: Thanks to the Ta'ziz program, our association was able to significantly strengthen its capacities. We realized that proper structuring is essential and that our projects are solid, because we work for the well-being of our country.

Zeineb Hamouda
President of the Réseau Enfants de la Terr association

GIRLSINBUSINESS

▶ Video testimonial

FOOD SYTSEM

▶ Testimonial video

THE WASTE VALORISERS
PULSE Stories

OUR PROGRAMS



Essentials

DISCOVER THE ESSENTIELLES PROGRAM
PARTNERS: AFD, CDC, AND EXPERTISE FRANCE

The #Essentielles program aims to promote social innovation and women's entrepreneurship in the region. Through comprehensive and tailored support, it helps women entrepreneurs develop their impact-driven projects. In 2024, Essentielles launched its second cohort of incubated participants.

In this context, a guide on women's entrepreneurship was developed. It brings together key insights, highlights the main challenges faced, proposes solutions and best practices, and shares inspiring testimonials from women who have successfully overcome these obstacles.

Discover the guide «Inclusive entrepreneurship is our kind of thing!»



In service of local environmental impact

ACCESS THE ONLINE
INCUBATION PROGRAM

In a context of decisive environmental transition in Tunisia, the Lab'ess incubation program in Tunis is strengthening its commitment to environmental impact entrepreneurship. Aimed at companies at the MVP (Minimum Viable Product) stage, this program seeks to strengthen their business model, maximize their environmental impact, and solidify their market positioning. In 2024, the Lab'ess incubator is launching its 12th cohort, continuing its support for committed entrepreneurs.



73% Women beneficiaries

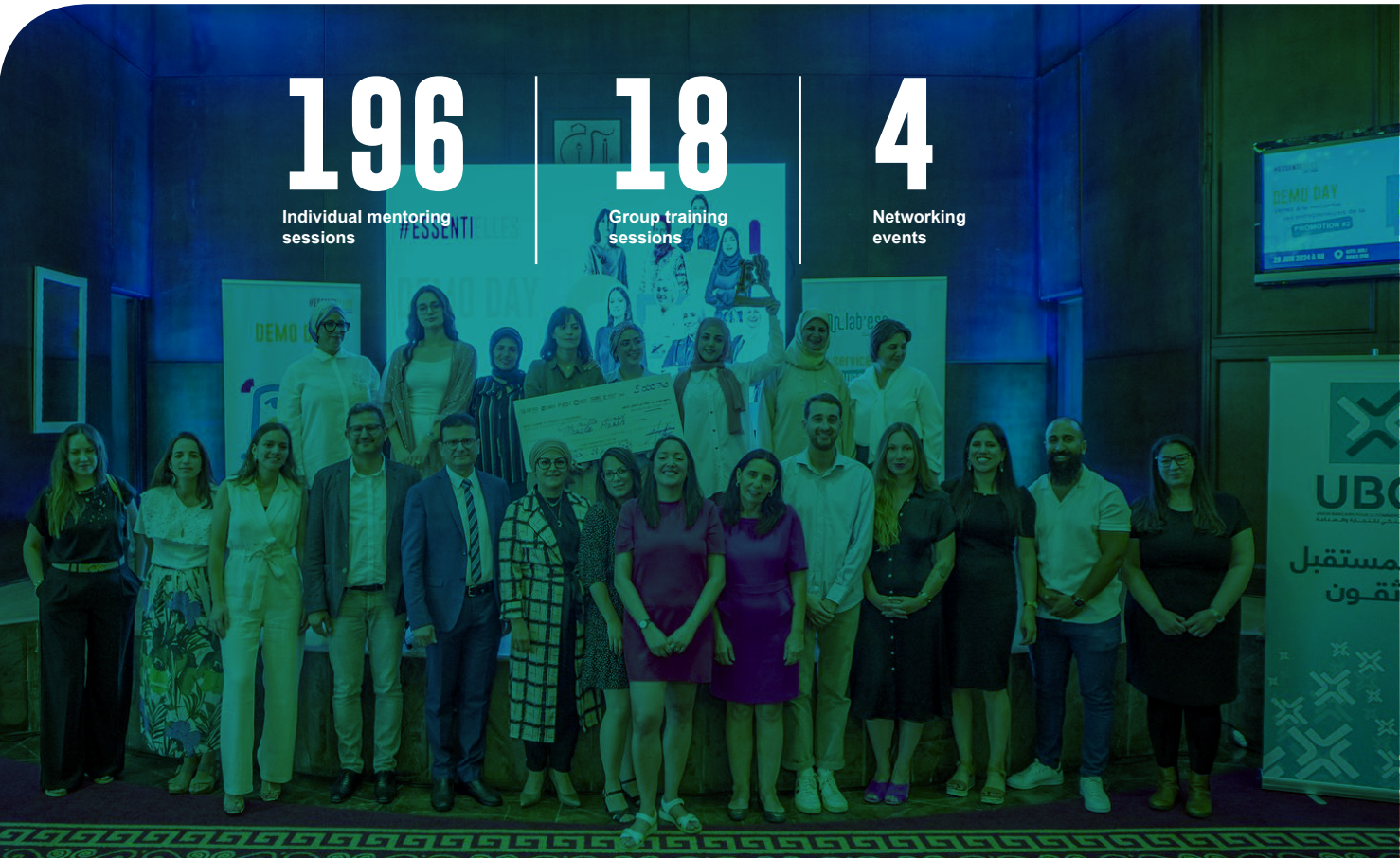
Perspectives 2025

SUPPORTING GREEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP, ACCELERATING IMPACT

Lab'ess will continue its commitment to environmental entrepreneurship by supporting two new cohorts of around thirty companies. A comprehensive support package will be provided: tailored mentoring, training, workshops, networking opportunities, and honor loans of €7,000 to support their development.

A BAROMETER TO SHED LIGHT ON RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION

In 2025, Lab'ess will publish a unique barometer on responsible consumption in Tunisia. Based on statistical data, it will analyze changes in consumer behavior and expectations. As a strategic tool for impact entrepreneurs, it will help identify concrete levers to encourage more sustainable practices and guide the choices of both economic actors and consumers.



TESTIMONIAL



At the beginning, our project vision was not yet clearly defined. That is why we joined the Lab'ess incubator—to structure and clarify our approach. This support allowed us to develop a go-to-market strategy as well as a strong pitch deck for our funding applications, which will facilitate the next steps in the project's development.

KAOUTHER MEJDI
CO-FOUNDER OF ZERRIAA #13

Reinforce the social and environmental initiatives in Tunisia

In Tunisia, more and more entrepreneurs are choosing to dedicate their projects to sustainable social and environmental transformation. The Lab'ess acceleration program is designed to support them in this ambition. Over three months in Tunis, participants benefit from a tailored program combining training, specialized coaching, individualized support, and financial assistance to strengthen their business models, amplify their impact, and accelerate their development.

PARTNERS :

Embassy of Netherlands,
Orange Comers

Programme d'accélération ➡ ODD : ODD 11 / ODD 12

KEY FIGURES 2025

30

entrepreneurs supported

143

individual coaching sessions

3

collective training sessions

5

networking events

50%

women beneficiaries



For us, the Lab'ess acceleration program is like a true workshop: we arrive with our own paths, experiment, make mistakes, and adjust. The program challenges us on key issues related both to our impact and our business model. It also provides a space for entrepreneurs to meet, discover different perspectives, interact with talented cohort members, and, most importantly, take the time to share what is rare in everyday life.

ANAS SABBAGH
CO-FOUNDER OF DOWIT PROMO #1

Accelerate social and inclusive innovation in North Africa

The SIBC North Africa program is a hybrid acceleration program dedicated to project leaders with high social or environmental impact in North Africa. Over five months, selected entrepreneurs participate in a structured program combining interactive e-learning, individual coaching, mentoring, peer-to-peer meetings, and two intensive bootcamps—one in a country of operation and one in Marseille.

PARTNERS :

Campus AFD, Investisseurs et Partenaires (I&P), Pulse Group, Impact Lab, Human Development Network in Algeria, Icealex et Tafaseel

Page link for the program ➡ ODD : ODD 10 / ODD 11 / ODD 12

KEY FIGURES IN 2025

25

entrepreneurs supported

3 YEARS

2025-2027

5 COUNTRIES

Tunisie, Algérie, Maroc, Egypte et Libye

5

local selection panels

64%

women beneficiaries

Responsible Consumption: The View of Tunisians

In 2025, Lab’ess published its first Responsible Consumption Barometer, based on a survey of over 900 Tunisian citizens across four governorates. Enriched with practical recommendations, a directory of local actors, a photo shoot highlighting around ten initiatives, and a quiz, this tool is aimed at both social and solidarity economy actors and the general public.

To support its dissemination, a promotion strategy was implemented around a panel discussion with 46 participants, a responsible market (souk responsable) welcoming over one hundred visitors and around thirty local actors, and a digital campaign that generated more than 261,000 impressions on LinkedIn and 12,296 interactions on Facebook. Since its online release, the Barometer has been downloaded over 70 times, and 350 printed copies were distributed during the event.

▶ VIDEO RECAP OF THE EVENT

LINK FOR THE RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION BAROMETER ➡

Perspectives 2026

CONTINUING TO SUPPORT IMPACT ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Lab’ess continues its commitment to environmental impact entrepreneurs by supporting two cohorts of around thirty enterprises. Training, workshops, networking, and €7,000 honor loans form the foundation of this support. For entrepreneurs ready to take the next step, the three-month acceleration program goes further: an intensive coaching and training pathway, complemented by financial support of up to 100,000 TND, to structure, grow, and amplify their impact.



OUR PROGRAMS

TA'ZIZ

▶ WATCH THE VIDEO

MISSION OF TA'ZIZ

Ta'ziz is an initiative led by Lab'ess and the El Kawakibi Democracy Transition Center, with support from the European Union, aimed at strengthening and empowering civil society organizations (CSOs) in Tunisia. The program supports them in developing sustainable strategies, building capacities, and implementing economically viable activities, while promoting an inclusive approach based on gender and human rights.

SDGs : SDG 11 / SDG 5 / SDG 16

#TA'ZIZ



Flagship actions of 2025

CSOS SUPPORTED FOR SUSTAINABLE IMPACT

In 2025, the Ta'ziz program continued and expanded its support by accompanying two cohorts of civil society organizations (CSOs). Cohort #2, selected following a second selection committee held in December 2024, brought together 15 CSOs divided into 3 modules according to their maturity level and specific needs. Cohort #3 was launched following the selection committee held in July 2025, welcoming a new generation of CSOs to benefit from the same structured and personalized support. Thanks to the program's open-access system, these 27 organizations receive coaching sessions and individualized follow-up, enabling them to consolidate their vision, refine their model, and strengthen their impact in support of development.



THE THIRD EDITION OF "TA'ZIZ CONNECT"

Among the highlights of 2025, Ta'ziz Connect #3 brought together, in February at the Startup Village, a committed community focused on social entrepreneurship and the nonprofit sector. The day was rich and dynamic, combining a solidarity market showcasing impact initiatives, a panel dedicated to the challenges of public funding for associations, and practical workshops designed to strengthen participants' skills. As a true hub for exchange and co-creation, this event provided entrepreneurs, associations, and changemakers with a valuable space to meet, share experiences, and collectively imagine sustainable solutions.

GRANTS TO TAKE ACTION

In 2025, Ta'ziz held two funding committees, in May and October, marking a key step in providing tangible support to civil society organizations in Tunisia. Following these sessions, four associations were selected and received grants, enabling them to implement their projects and strengthen their capacity for action on the ground. These funds fully align with Ta'ziz's vision of supporting CSOs not only in building skills but also in the effective implementation of initiatives that serve development.

LEM7ATA, A FOURTH EVENT AT THE HEART OF THE CAPITAL

In November 2025, Ta'ziz set up in the heart of Tunis. For its fourth event, titled "Lem7ata," Ta'ziz gathered at Place Barcelone, in front of Tunis train station, where the city pulses and intersects, offering Tunisian civil society a stage worthy of its ambition. For an afternoon, this public space transformed into a vibrant hub of life and interaction, where association booths, activities, and exchanges animated the day. Passersby, committed activists, and curious visitors from all backgrounds came together to celebrate those who work every day to transform their communities. This edition, more than ever, affirmed that Tunisian civil society is not only active—it is alive.



27

Supported Tunisian civil society organizations

More than

400

Tailored support sessions carried out

27 000

Euros in grants mobilized and distributed

2

Networking events organized

Perspectives 2026

CONTINUING TO SUPPORT TUNISIAN CIVIL SOCIETY ACTORS

In 2026, Ta'ziz will accompany its fourth cohort by providing structured and personalized support to the selected CSOs. Through mentorship sessions, thematic workshops, and individualized follow-up, the program will help each organization strengthen its capacities, consolidate its vision, and amplify its impact. This phase will also be an opportunity to build on the lessons learned from previous cohorts, refining practices to offer support increasingly adapted to the realities and needs of Tunisian CSOs.

THE GRAND FINALE OF THE TA'ZIZ PROJECT

The end of 2026 will mark the official closure of the Ta'ziz project. To celebrate this milestone, a final event will bring together all program stakeholders: partners, funders, experts, and supported CSOs. This moment of reflection and conviviality will provide an opportunity to highlight achieved results, recognize everyone's contributions, and collectively measure the progress made since the project's launch.

“

The Ta'ziz project provided structured support for Future Visions. The training and follow-up strengthened our team's skills and ensured better alignment among members around the association's mission, strategy, and priorities. This support helped improve our internal organization, reinforce our structure, and consolidate our governance, allowing us to expand our reach, engage more young people, and increase the impact of our initiatives.

SeifAllah Ben Salem
former president and current member of Future Visions

Partners

- PROJECT LEAD:** Lab'ess
- FUNDERS:** Delegation of the European Union and the Canadian Fund for Local Initiatives
- PARTNERS:** El Kawakibi Center

KEY FIGURES 2025

2

networking events

27 000

euros in grants for CSOs

27

CSOs supported in 2025 (cohort #2 and cohort #3)

15 %

of supported CSOs operate an Income-Generating Activity (IGA)

OUR PROGRAMS



Entrepreneurship Discovery Workshops

Since January 1, 2024, we have become CitésLab references in the Est Ensemble area of Seine-Saint-Denis. This recognition and support from BPI allows us

to implement our impact entrepreneurship awareness activities, developed through the ACT! project funded by Google.org.

▶ DISCOVER CITÉS LAB IN VIDEO

LEARN MORE ABOUT CITÉS LAB ➡



Perspective 2026

In 2026, we will continue to introduce entrepreneurship to increasingly diverse and larger audiences. Our local partnerships allow us to reach women far from the labor market, seniors undergoing career transitions, people living in priority areas, and incarcerated individuals preparing for reintegration. The goal is to make impact entrepreneurship accessible and essential for anyone wishing to start their own business.

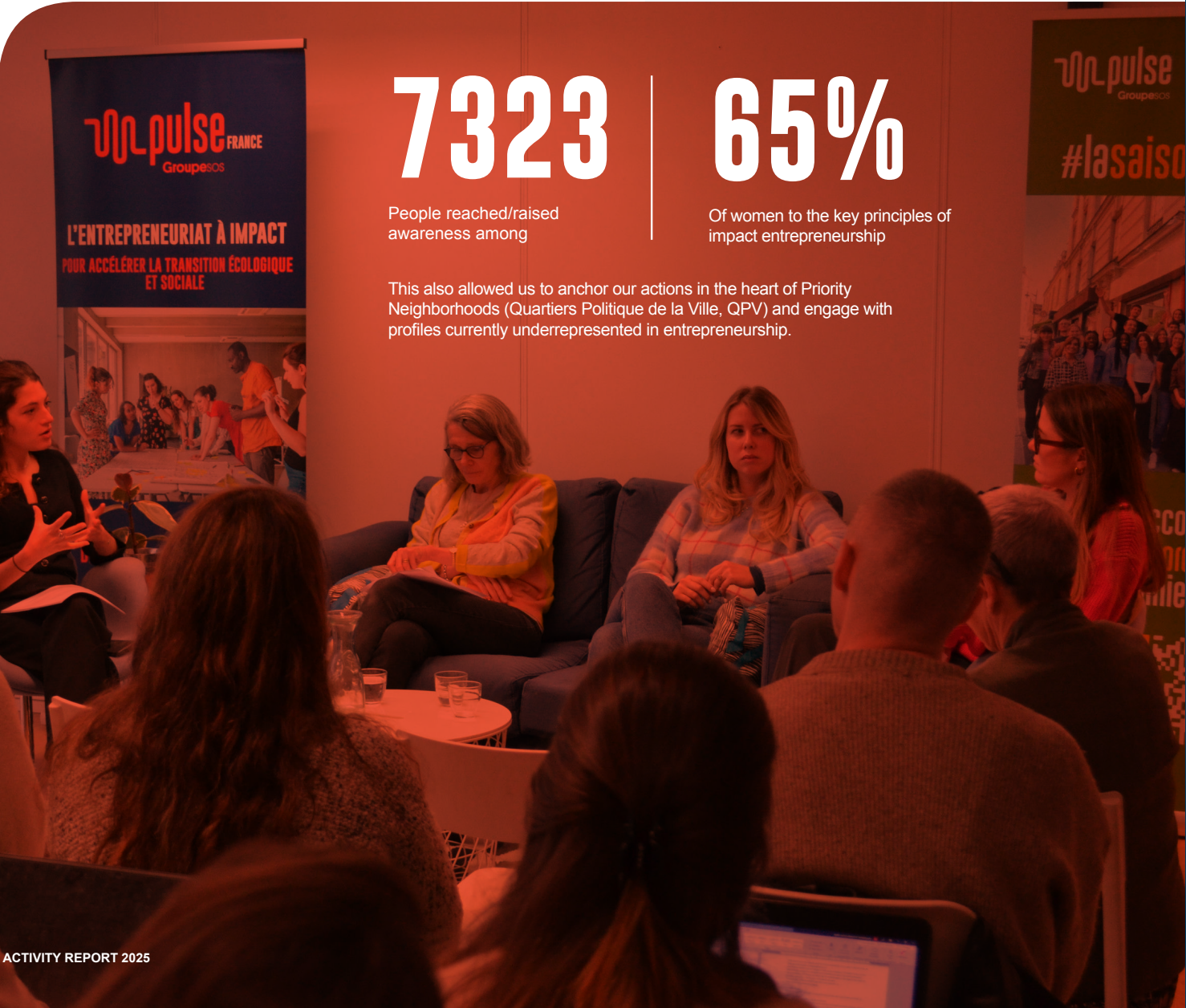
Nouveau Cap – Senior Entrepreneurship

For the fourth consecutive year, we offered people aged 45 and over, in career transition, a 3-month orientation and support program toward impact entrepreneurship. The aim of Nouveau Cap is to foster social and environmental innovations, inspire professionals seeking purpose, introduce them to the world of impact entrepreneurship, and equip project leaders with entrepreneurial skills to take action.

#nouveauCap

19

Projects were supported



7323

People reached/raised awareness among

65%

Of women to the key principles of impact entrepreneurship

This also allowed us to anchor our actions in the heart of Priority Neighborhoods (Quartiers Politique de la Ville, QPV) and engage with profiles currently underrepresented in entrepreneurship.

OUR PROGRAMS



ORIBI : #GirlsInBusiness Program

The ORIBI #GirlsInBusiness program empowers high school girls from townships to become change leaders and innovative, influential actors. Through a social innovation initiative, participants gain essential skills in social entrepreneurship, personal development, and community engagement. The program fosters confidence, resilience, and leadership by equipping young girls with the tools they need to drive change within their communities and beyond.

[WEBSITE LINK](#) [ARTICLE ON THE EVENT](#)

#FoodSystems Incubation Program

Our #FoodSystems program is a 9-month incubation journey designed to promote and catalyze transformative entrepreneurship while unlocking the potential of social entrepreneurs in developing innovative solutions to address the challenges and opportunities of the food system in South Africa. The program uses a systemic approach to support the growth of social enterprises.

We place strong emphasis on supporting women and youth, providing them with the tools, mentorship, and networks they need to thrive as leaders in the food systems sector. By prioritizing gender equality and youth empowerment, we aim to inspire and elevate emerging voices in social entrepreneurship, while ensuring diverse perspectives help shape the future of sustainable food systems in our country.

[LINK TO THE WEBSITE](#) [CHANGEMAKERS SOCIAL](#) [INCUBATED BY FOOD SYSTEMS](#)
Entrepreneur : Babalwa Mpayipeli social business : Umsinga Organics



Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Zero Hunger (SDG 2), Gender Equality (SDG 5), Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8), Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11), Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12), and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17).



Oribi 2025 Outlook

As we reflect on a remarkable year, we look ahead to 2025 by renewing our commitment to strengthen the social economy in South Africa and ensure the institutional sustainability of our initiatives. Our focus will be on concluding the REACH and Afrifoodlinks projects, deepening sustainability and circular economy initiatives through the social and solidarity economy, closing the gender gap in entrepreneurship, and amplifying our advocacy efforts.



APPEL À PARTENARIAT

Nous invitons des partenaires opérationnels à collaborer dans les domaines suivants : innovation dans le système alimentaire, financement inclusif pour les entrepreneur-euse-s alliances stratégiques, mentorat, collaborations en matière de recherche et de plaidoyer et partage des ressources pour atteindre avec succès les entrepreneur-euse-s sociaux marginalisé-e-s et avoir un impact plus profond. Travaillons ensemble pour construire un avenir plus inclusif et durable. Nous sommes prêts à partager notre expertise et à amplifier notre présence dans les principaux dialogues sur l'innovation sociale et l'ESS, les économies circulaires et l'entrepreneuriat inclusif pour les femmes et les jeunes.

OUR PROGRAMS

JOGJEF: REACH Project

This report presents the preliminary results of a survey conducted in 2025 by Jógjēf as part of the REACH project.

JOGJEF IMPACT AND CAPITALIZATION REPORT 

 Jógjēf : LinkedIn

 ORIBI : LinkedIn

LES PARTENAIRES :

French Development Agency, Bank of Africa, Denibam Foundation, EDF Group Foundation, L'Oréal Foundation, Government of Monaco, Play International, European Union, Cheikh Hamidou Kane Digital University (UN-CHK)

REACH – Rendre l'Entrepreneuriat Accesible à Chacun.e (Making Entrepreneurship Accessible to Everyone) is a multi-country project coordinated by PULSE, aimed at improving access to impact entrepreneurship for women and youth living in marginalized areas in Senegal and South Africa.

The project pursues two specific objectives:

Promote the emergence of a more inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem, better informed about the opportunities that social entrepreneurship offers to women and youth in these regions.

Support the creation and development of social or environmental impact projects led by women and youth from marginalized territories.

To achieve this, REACH relies on experienced local partners already embedded in regional entrepreneurial dynamics: Oribi in South Africa and Jógjēf in Senegal.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

Zero Hunger (SDG 2), Gender Equality (SDG 5), Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8), Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11), Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12), and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17).



900

Young people

687

Women

+100

Entrepreneurs through an incubation program

26

Funded entrepreneurs

These results demonstrate the tangible impact of the project and its ability to promote fairer, more inclusive, and sustainable entrepreneurial models.

PULSE leads the organization of local juries and contributes to impact measurement



The second half of 2025 was marked by the organization of local juries in the five countries involved in the program: Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Libya, and Egypt. These juries selected 25 impact-driven entrepreneurs, over 50% of whom were women, forming the first cohort of this regional edition.

The SIBC North Africa program is a bilingual acceleration program (French/English) designed for entrepreneurs who are innovative and committed to addressing social and environmental challenges. Its objectives are to:

- Strengthen the skills of project leaders to maximize their impact and prepare for scaling up.
- Consolidate regional ecosystems by fostering networking and synergies.
- Promote a shared culture of impact entrepreneurship in North Africa.

The program is led by a consortium of actors committed to impact entrepreneurship. Lab'ess

coordinates the program and supports the Tunisian cohort, while Investisseurs & Partenaires (I&P) focuses on project scaling. PULSE, as the educational partner, contributes throughout the project by developing content and leading key modules on impact measurement, hybrid business models, partnerships, and intercultural skills. Local partner organizations (HDN in Algeria, Impact Lab in Morocco, Icealex in Egypt, Tafaseel in Libya) provide operational expertise and local anchoring. Finally, Campus AFD, the program initiator, acts as the institutional partner and ensures the overall framework. This collaborative approach mobilizes complementary expertise, strengthens national ecosystems, and ensures implementation adapted to local realities, from jury organization to the support of selected entrepreneurs.

LOCAL JURY IN TUNIS – SIBC 2024

Jury members in the middle of a session evaluating applications from women entrepreneurs, during the event held in September 2024, Tunisia.

2. FINANCING THE ENTREPRENEURS



Tunisia

LAB'ESS

The Honor Loan, an Effective Financial Tool



AN INITIATIVE OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS

Since the creation of the financing support program, the honor loan—offered at 0% interest, with a 6-month grace period and no collateral required—has proven to be a financial instrument perfectly suited to the local context. The honor loan strengthens the entrepreneur's personal contribution and the company's equity, thereby enabling the realization and growth of their project. This loan is designed to become a genuine lever for financing impact-driven enterprises.

This fund dedicated to honor loans operates as a self-replenishing, solidarity-based system. Each repayment made by beneficiaries helps to reinject resources into the fund, allowing new social and innovative project leaders to be supported.

Key figures

In 2025, 17 impact-driven entrepreneurs from our incubation and acceleration programs benefited from this financing program, receiving honor loans of up to €11,000 (37,000 TND) for the incubator and 100,000 TND (30,000 TND in grant + 70,000 TND in loan) for the accelerator.



The honor loan represented a decisive step in the development of ECOMARC, a project dedicated to the valorization of organic waste, particularly coffee grounds. Thanks to this financing, we were able to begin constructing our compost production unit for mushroom cultivation and implement a pasteurization tunnel—two essential investments to structure our activity and strengthen our production capacity in the circular economy. The honor loan thus played a catalytic role, allowing us to accelerate the establishment of this infrastructure and consolidate our vision of a sustainable circular economy in Tunisia

Ahmed Hamdi

Co-Founder of Ecomarc

Promo #1 of the acceleration program



Thanks to the Lab'ess honor loan, Rybsen was able to invest in the development of a new prototype of its water treatment machine integrating artificial intelligence, as well as in obtaining European CE compliance. These advances allow the company to strengthen its market presence, accelerate its technological development, and structure its operations in preparation for international expansion.

Yassine Rezgui

Founder

CAS CONCRET: Financement de Rybsen

SOUTH AFRICA

ORIBI

Financing Entrepreneurs

At Oribi, we believe that access to financing should never be a barrier for social entrepreneurs driving meaningful change. Our inclusive financing approach continues to support underrepresented entrepreneurs — particularly women and youth, in both formal and informal economies — by expanding equitable access to capital, capacity building, and strategic networks that strengthen and sustain their business models.

In 2026, Oribi is reinforcing its hybrid financing model in collaboration with innovative partners such as 2 Cents, which brings complementary expertise in business development and financial readiness, ensuring that entrepreneurs are fully equipped to access and effectively use financing opportunities.

Key figures

Following the successful deployment of over €90,000 in grants under the REACH and AfriFoodLinks programs in 2025, Oribi is expanding its financing pipeline in 2026. Increasing both the scale and accessibility of financing remains a major strategic priority, enabling more social entrepreneurs to develop sustainable, impactful activities and contribute to inclusive economic growth in South Africa.

Sénégal

JÓGJËF

Financing Entrepreneurs

As part of the REACH project, a financial support mechanism was established to accompany the development of social enterprises incubated in Senegal and South Africa. This financial support is part of a comprehensive post-incubation accompaniment, including technical, strategic, and financial guidance. Each REACH partner support structure offers, at the end of incubation, a financing pathway for the most promising entrepreneurs. The objective is to strengthen the viability and sustainability of incubated projects.

Key figures

Over the three years of the project, €170,000 was mobilized to provide direct grants and prototyping scholarships for 40 entrepreneurs supported across these two countries.

IMPACT BUSINESS ANGELS

Projet et objectifs

The first network of Business Angels exclusively dedicated to supporting impact entrepreneurship in France.

Launched in 2021 by PULSE, Impact Business Angels has grown to bring together over 60 investors supporting impact-driven projects in the seed phase.

Impact Business Angels addresses two needs:

- Engaging Business Angels in the impact sector, which is often challenging.
- Bridging the financing gap for impact entrepreneurship in the seed stage.



Going further with hybrid financing?

Launched in 2025 with the support of the Orange Corners Innovation Fund, the Lab'ess acceleration program supports social and environmental impact enterprises in Tunisia. Through personalized guidance and financing of up to €30,000, it backs innovative solutions addressing local social and environmental challenges, aiming to build a more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable community.

On the financial side, the program mobilizes a total envelope of €2,320,000 over six years (2024–2030). Of this, €1.56 million is dedicated to financing 52 impact entrepreneurs, distributed through a hybrid model combining honor loans (2/3) and grants (1/3).

Key figures

In its first year, the program's results show an encouraging momentum with 30 entrepreneurs supported, including 10 recipients of the solidarity financing, 143 individual coaching sessions, 3 collective trainings, and 5 networking events. Notably, women represented 50% of the beneficiaries.





3. STRENGTHENING LOCAL ACTORS

STRENGTHENING LOCAL ACTORS

Notre mission

AT PULSE, WE SUPPORT ALL THOSE WHO:

-  Promote entrepreneurship, creativity, and innovation (SDG 8).
-  Work towards sustainable consumption and production (SDG 12)
-  Invest in the resilience of their territories (SDG 11)
- Improve employability and socio-economic inclusion for the most vulnerable
- Contribute to enhancing education and vocational training systems

NOTRE IMPACT SUR LES ORGANISATIONS

- ✓ Strengthening skills and knowledge.
- ✓ Strategic and organizational capacity building enabling the sustainability of structures and their business models.
- ✓ Improvement in the quality and reach of activities conducted.
- ✓ Enhanced positioning within their ecosystems and creation of multi-actor partnerships at the regional level.

NOTRE VALEUR-AJOUTEE

- ✓ Already 35 organizations supported and 2,500 professionals trained
- ✓ Operator of 5 incubators and 30 programs, acting as innovation labs.
- ✓ Proven pedagogy and tools.
- ✓ Personalized support and a diagnostic tool to get started.
- ✓ Systematic monitoring, evaluation, and capitalization.



RISE

The RISE project is a regional cooperation initiative aimed at strengthening youth social entrepreneurship in the Western Balkans through a network of local support structures. Through a structured pathway combining training, incubation, and intercultural exchanges, the project has enhanced the capacities of both incubators and young entrepreneurs, while promoting regional cooperation and intercultural dialogue. RISE has also developed methodological tools, training modules, and a learning platform to sustainably support local social economy ecosystems. By emphasizing social innovation, inclusion, and youth employability, the project contributes to sustainable development dynamics and fosters a new generation of engaged actors within their territories.

This program targets the promotion of social entrepreneurship among youth in Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia.

PARTNERS :

AFD, ARNO, Balkan Green Foundation, Nesto Vise, OFAJ, RYCO, Smart Kolektiv, Tehnopolis, Yunus Social Business, European Union

WEBSITE

 LinkedIn


Flagship Actions of the Year

Following the selection of social entrepreneurs for the 3rd cycle of the Rise Journey through the Demodays, an online Bootcamp was organized with the finalists to provide them with the fundamentals of social entrepreneurship, to meet their peers, and to exchange best practices.

BOOTCAMP

In September 2025, a hackathon was held in Pristina (Kosovo*), in partnership with the local incubator Balkan Green Foundation, focused on interculturality and social entrepreneurship. The event brought together 13 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Albania, and Montenegro, promoting regional exchange and intercultural collaboration. Through intensive workshops and co-creation sessions, participants worked in teams to develop innovative solutions addressing social challenges while integrating intercultural approaches into their projects. This hackathon strengthened young people's entrepreneurial skills, stimulated social innovation, and reinforced connections among actors in the regional ecosystem.

HACKATHON

Between September and mid-November 2025, regional forums were organized at the national level in each country instead of a single centralized forum, including a panel discussion on social entrepreneurship in the region. These events gathered local decision-makers, political representatives, civil society actors, and funders such as the French Development Agency (AFD) and the European Union, with participation ranging from 30 to 70 people per forum. The forums provided a platform for exchange and dialogue, enabling sharing of best practices, discussing challenges and opportunities in social entrepreneurship, and strengthening cross-border cooperation. They also fostered connections between young entrepreneurs and institutional actors, increasing the visibility of local initiatives and stimulating social innovation in regional ecosystems. These meetings helped consolidate the RISE network and encouraged a sustainable regional dynamic supporting inclusive and intercultural entrepreneurship.

REGIONAL FORUMS



In November 2025, local incubators were invited to Paris at the PULSE France offices to participate in a capitalization workshop reflecting on the three years of RISE 2 implementation. This workshop offered a space for exchange and reflection, allowing partners to discuss challenges and successes of the project while sharing experiences and best practices. Discussions also focused on perspectives and opportunities for collaboration after the conclusion of RISE, with the goal of jointly defining strategies to continue and strengthen regional initiatives. The event reinforced connections between incubators, consolidated the RISE network, and co-created new approaches to sustainably support social and intercultural entrepreneurship in the region.

CAPITALISATION



Deliverables

MOOC TO DEMOCRATIZE SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP :

PULSE launched the MOOC «Empowering for Good: A Social Entrepreneur's Guide», a free online course accessible to everyone. Designed for aspiring social entrepreneurs, professionals, or curious learners, the program explores the fundamentals of social entrepreneurship and its impact levers.

MOOC ➡

METHODOLOGICAL GUIDE FOR DESIGN THINKING:

Developed as part of the RISE project, this guide provides a structured and accessible framework for partners and young entrepreneurs to apply human-centered, iterative, and innovation-oriented approaches.

DESIGN THINKING ➡

METHODOLOGICAL GUIDE ON INTERCULTURALITY AND GENDER:

This guide offers a structured framework to help partners and young entrepreneurs integrate inclusive, gender-sensitive, and culturally adapted approaches in the design and implementation of their projects.

INTERCULTURALITY AND GENDER ➡

EXTERNAL EVALUATION:

As part of the mid-term evaluation of the RISE project, local incubators were interviewed to assess satisfaction, identify areas for improvement, and measure methodological progress. Feedback highlighted the relevance of entrepreneurial themes, the effectiveness of the RISE methodology, participant support, and the strengthening of incubators' skills. This deliverable provides a clear view of the project's impact and recommendations for sustainability.

EXTERNAL EVALUATION ➡

SDGs

Gender Equality (SDG 5), Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8), Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11), Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12), and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17).



RISE FIGURES

6

civil society
organizations within the
ecosystem strengthened

22

project leaders from these
organizations trained

1200

young people
sensitized to social
entrepreneurship

380

young people supported
during the ideation phase

68

young people supported
during the incubation
phase

54

projects supported, of which
36 received financial support

BOOST

Launched in April 2024, the BOOST project is led by ALDA and funded by the French Development Agency (AFD) and the European Union. PULSE Balkans acts as a strategic partner to strengthen the capacities of civil society organizations (CSOs) and their role in the economic, cultural, and social development of the Western Balkans, in a context marked by structural challenges such as governance, inequality, civic engagement, and brain drain.

The project aims to provide sustainable support to 150–200 CSOs through a cascading grant program and structured assistance around three thematic pillars. It also seeks to strengthen cooperation among actors at both national and regional levels.

At the beginning of 2025, 72 applications were evaluated, resulting in the selection of six transnational projects. A regional training organized in Belgrade

brought together CSOs from six countries around key topics: project management, social entrepreneurship, rural development, environmental sustainability, cultural heritage, and gender equality. This training helped strengthen participants' skills and foster regional exchanges.

Between October and November 2025, six national trainings were held across the region, complemented by a “train-the-trainer” session beforehand. As part of the “Youth and Entrepreneurship” pillar, PULSE deployed a module dedicated to social entrepreneurship, combining practical tools and participatory methods.

All of these activities were conducted in coordination with project partners and contributed to reinforcing collaboration dynamics among CSOs. BOOST also gained international visibility during the GSEF 2025 forum in Bordeaux.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ➔

COOPOWER

In 2025, PULSE Balkans contributed to the initial implementation phase of the COOPOWER project, a transnational initiative under the Interreg Danube program aimed at reducing youth unemployment and promoting inclusive pathways for vulnerable groups. This phase was primarily focused on establishing the project's methodological framework, aligning partners, and preparing pilot actions in the participating countries.

PULSE Balkans actively participated in coordination and co-creation activities, notably during a pilot development workshop held in Vienna in autumn 2025. This workshop helped define the main directions for the pilot actions, including stakeholder identification, analysis of barriers to youth engagement, and the development of intervention strategies. Within this framework, PULSE Balkans contributed to designing the pilot in Serbia, targeting vulnerable youth in the Niš region, with the goal of enhancing motivation, skills, and access to local opportunities.

Over the course of the year, the organization also contributed to analyzing the national context and identifying the main obstacles faced by young people, such as lack of confidence, limited access to employment, and weak coordination among local actors. These insights informed the development of an approach based on cooperation among territorial stakeholders.

In parallel, PULSE Balkans helped define the methodology for the pilots, particularly by adapting a project-based learning approach to foster engagement and skills development. Work was also carried out on governance, monitoring, evaluation, and engagement frameworks to ensure coherence among partners.

Thus, 2025 constituted a preparatory and design phase for the COOPOWER project, laying the methodological, analytical, and partnership foundations necessary for the deployment of pilot actions, while strengthening cooperation among actors in the Danube region.

The Samim Mission

Samim is the first project led by a locally registered civil society organization (CSO) funded by the French Development Agency (AFD) under its CSO Initiatives program. Managed by Lab'ess, it benefits from €3 million in AFD funding and €300,000 in co-financing from the European Union in Morocco. The project aims to strengthen the capacities of young people, especially women, engaged in Mediterranean civil societies and to support them in implementing innovative local projects that address sustainable development challenges (SDGs 11 and 12) in four Mediterranean cities: Nouakchott, Casablanca, Tunis, and Amman.

After a first phase that concluded in July 2025 alongside PULSE, Ecodev, Bidaya, TCSE, and JYIF, Lab'ess launched Phase 2 of Samim in August 2025. This new phase builds on lessons learned from Phase 1 and marks a renewed ambition for the program, with new partner support structures: Ecodev in Mauritania, MCISE in Morocco, JYIF (Jordan Youth Innovation Forum) in Jordan, and Lab'ess directly supporting Tunisia

PARTNERS :

Project Lead: Lab'ess

Funding : AFD and the European Union in Morocco

Technical Assistance : PULSE

Operational Partners : MCISE, Ecodev, Jordan Youth Innovation Forum (JYIF) et JYIF

▶ Watch video



2025 Results

In 2025, the Samim project transitioned between its two phases. Phase 1 concluded in July 2025 after a year of finalizing support for partner organizations in the four target cities (Nouakchott, Casablanca, Tunis, and Amman) through 15 project follow-up sessions, 6 individual mentoring sessions, administrative and financial support sessions, and collective training on human resources management.

Phase 2 officially began on August 1, 2025, with three partner support structures: Ecodev in Mauritania, MCISE in Morocco, and JYIF in Jordan, while Lab'ess directly supports Tunisia. A regional kick-off meeting was held in Tunis in December, bringing together all partners for five days of training sessions on urban greening in dense environments and integrating gender considerations into CSO strategies. The first call for applications for CSOs will be launched in January 2026.

Flagship Actions of 2025

PHASE 1 SUMMARY AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

After three years of supporting project leaders engaged in Mediterranean civil societies, Phase 1 of Samim officially concluded in July 2025. This milestone marked both the completion of a pioneering program—the first project led by a locally registered CSO funded by AFD—and the starting point for a renewed ambition. Building on the lessons learned from this first phase, Lab'ess and its partners launched Phase 2 of Samim on August 1, 2025, with the aim of amplifying the program's impact and supporting new civil society organizations committed to sustainable cities and responsible consumption in the four partner territories.

REGIONAL LAUNCH MEETING FOR PHASE 2 OF SAMIM

In December 2025, Lab'ess organized in Tunis the regional launch meeting for Phase 2 of Samim, bringing together Mauritanian, Moroccan, and Jordanian partners over five days. This key moment marked the official kickoff of this new phase and helped lay the operational foundations for the upcoming program.

Beyond strategic exchanges between partners, the meeting included collective training sessions, particularly on urban greening in densely populated areas and the integration of gender into CSO strategies, as well as the presentation of two new capacity-building modules to representatives of support organizations. It was also an opportunity to strengthen ties between teams, share lessons learned from Phase 1, and collectively explore the ambitions of Phase 2.

Mediterranean

SAMIM

Perspectives 2026

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR A NEW GENERATION OF CSOS

In Phase 2 of Samim, Lab'ess and its partners continue their commitment to Mediterranean civil societies by strengthening support for CSOs at the regional level. Through a combination of personalized assessments, support plans, training, capacity-building, and networking, this new phase aims to consolidate the collective dynamics initiated during Phase 1 and enhance the impact of local projects led by young people, especially women, in the four partner territories. By promoting the exchange of practices between CSOs and supporting the emergence of new local initiatives, Samim Phase 2 positions itself as a sustainable driver of social and environmental transformation in the Mediterranean region.

TAILORED SUPPORT

As part of Phase 2 of Samim, Lab'ess and its partners are continuing their commitment to Mediterranean civil societies by strengthening support for civil society organizations (CSOs) at the regional level.

Through a framework combining personalized diagnostics, support plans, training, capacity building, and networking, this new phase aims to consolidate the collective dynamics initiated during Phase 1 and to enhance the impact of territorial projects led by young people particularly women across the four partner territories.

By fostering the exchange of practices among CSOs and supporting the emergence of new local initiatives, Samim Phase 2 positions itself as a sustainable driver of social and environmental transformation in the Mediterranean region.



“

Acting as a support structure within the Samim project has been a decisive step for the Jordan Youth Innovation Forum. Together, we reached over 6,600 people and supported initiatives led by women and young people, contributing to the achievement of SDGs 11 and 12. This collaboration has strengthened our capacity-building expertise and reinforced our commitment to developing the civil society ecosystem in Jordan.

Ali Haddad
Executive Director of JYIF

Key Figures

Budget : €3.3 million (2025–2028)

CSOs strengthened : 4

Final field visit for Samim Phase 1 in Jordan: 1

Regional Launch Meeting: 1

RACINE

Co-financed by the French Development Agency, the RACINE project (Strengthening Community Actors Committed to Nature and the Environment), led by Planète Urgence since October 2024, aims to strengthen the capacities of civil society actors in Cameroon.

In 2025, PULSE trained the Planète Urgence teams on the methodology and diagnostic tool for assessing CSO needs—an essential step for defining and implementing a support plan that enables beneficiary CSOs to improve their impact on environmental protection and restoration. PULSE also created ready-to-use resources for teams and CSOs and contributed to the exchange and dissemination of best practices.



“

This assignment was a very positive experience. The involvement of the PPI and CEENTRE coaches was remarkable throughout the process. Thanks to their commitment and constant interaction with the field, we were able to achieve our objective: building a diagnostic tool that is relevant, clear, and truly aligned with on-the-ground needs.

The training-action format—combining theory, practice, and then knowledge capitalization—encouraged a concrete and dynamic appropriation of the methodology.

Field visit,
First diagnostic session with the Chamber of Agriculture, Antananarivo



France

IMPACT LAB ACADEMY

The mission

In 2025, France strengthened and affirmed its position as a key actor in supporting impact-driven projects, particularly in the Île-de-France region, both as a trainer of support organizations and as a key partner for local stakeholders in Eastern Paris.

1/ PULSE France's continued involvement in the Impact Lab Academy, as a trainer for other support organizations—such as incubators in the Lille metropolitan area—has enabled us to establish ourselves as a leading actor in impact entrepreneurship in Île-de-France.

2/ As part of our awareness-raising and ideation activities around entrepreneurship, we have onboarded many new partners such as FAIRE/Ares, Wake Up Café, and Mampreneurs. These partnerships allow us to reach audiences that are further removed from employment (such as former inmates or entrepreneurial mothers) and to strengthen our mission: making impact entrepreneurship accessible to populations that are typically excluded from it.

TO LEARN MORE ➡



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WHAT IS A SOCIAL IMPACT UNICORN?

A social impact unicorn is an impact-driven company that is less than 10 years old and generates more than €50 million in avoided costs for society per year.

3 STUDIES HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED ON THIS TOPIC BY IMPACT FRANCE, BCG, AND ESSEC. ➡



4. INNOVATE AT THE SERVICE OF THE IMPACT ECOSYSTEM

INNOVATE AT THE SERVICE OF THE IMPACT ECOSYSTEM

At the heart of our approach, monitoring and evaluation strengthen our ability to experiment, adjust our interventions, and anticipate the needs of impact entrepreneurs and the organizations we support.

In 2025, we continued to deepen our work on impact measurement and to strengthen monitoring and evaluation practices. We supported our incubators and partner organizations in tracking their activities through training sessions, tool sharing, and methodological guidance. The use of collaborative tools such as Notion and Airtable facilitated real-time monitoring and information sharing within our teams and with our partners. We also recruited a Monitoring and Evaluation Manager to structure a shared impact strategy and foster a culture of learning. This step reflects a strong commitment to consolidating a culture of evaluation and learning across the organization.

Our projects are systematically evaluated by specialized external teams, ensuring an objective and independent view of our results. The data collected has also enabled us to continuously adapt our training programs, strengthening both participation and beneficiary satisfaction.



RENFORCER LA MESURE D'IMPACT POUR 2026

For 2026, we are preparing to roll out a Monitoring and Evaluation toolbox aimed at harmonizing the tracking and measurement of our programs' impact while promoting the capitalization of best practices. We also plan to introduce participatory systems for beneficiaries, developing collaborative approaches to gather their feedback and deepen our understanding of the impact of our interventions. These initiatives reflect our commitment to continuous innovation and improving the effectiveness of our support, in order to generate lasting impact across all the countries where we operate.

I design and lead the Monitoring and Evaluation strategy with one conviction: behind every rigorous tool and well-analyzed data point lies a lever for empowerment, confidence, and collective progress.

Vanessa Mestre,

Monitoring and Evaluation Manager – Pulse & PPI

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE :

2025 WAS ALSO A YEAR OF ACCELERATION FOR THE EUROPEAN PROJECTS SCALING CATALYST AND ELEVATE, IN WHICH PULSE IS A PARTNER.

Scaling Catalyst, launched in September 2024, aims to strengthen the capacities of support organizations across Europe so they can better assist social enterprises in scaling their solutions. In this context, a practical guide was published, which PULSE used as a foundation to design a series of webinars for its entrepreneurs, helping them reflect on and plan their scaling strategies.

TO KNOW MORE ABOUT ➤

DISCOVER THE GUIDE DEVELOPED WITH OUR PARTNERS ➤

ELEVATE

The ELEVATE project aims to develop a program to support women aged 18 to 34 from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds who wish to start a social enterprise, enter the job market, or return to education. A 21-module online learning pathway has been developed to complement more traditional support programs. This platform will be tested with beneficiaries of the Elles Ensemble program during 2026.

RAPPORT FINANCIER ET PERSPECTIVES

FINANCIAL REPORT

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2025

The year 2025 was marked by a positive financial situation for PULSE, despite a decline in activity at the French association level, continuing the decrease in resources observed in 2024 amid a deteriorating international context. The association closed the fiscal year with a profit of €422,681, following a deficit of €120,682 in 2024. The annual financial statements also show a balance sheet total of 4 613 098 € and total revenue of 2 295 859 €.

This improvement is due in large part to the support of the SOS Group, which has converted previously granted advances to the association into financial contributions. It helps strengthen PULSE's financial position in a year marked by persistent pressures on international financing.

The 2025 fiscal year was also marked by the continuation of several key projects. In South Africa and Senegal, the REACH project, funded by AFD, continued for a third consecutive year. In the Balkans, the RISE project, funded by AFD and the European Union, was completed on December 31, 2025. In France, the ACT+ project, funded by the ESF+ since 2023, also concluded on that date. In Tunisia, the first phase of the Samim project, led by Lab'ess in partnership with PULSE, concluded on May 31, 2025, while a second phase, approved by AFD, began on August 1, 2025.

In addition, 2025 saw the launch of the merger between PULSE and PPI, which began in May, with an initial consolidation of three executive positions between the two organizations. This initiative aims to strengthen synergies, pool expertise, and consolidate the impact of initiatives carried out in France and internationally.

Finally, PULSE secured several service contracts in 2025, notably with MYSC, the French Embassy in Cameroon, SUEZ, and the AFD Campus through the SIBC North Africa project. Total revenue for the 2025 fiscal year amounted to 2 295 859 €.

Key Figures

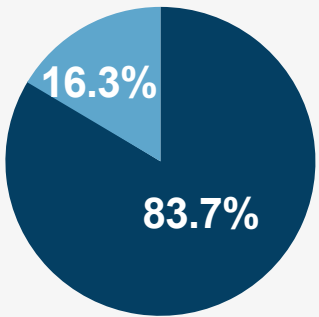
Total Balance Sheet 4 613 098 euros

Total revenue 2 295 859 euros

Net income for the fiscal year- **Surplus of 422,681 euros.**

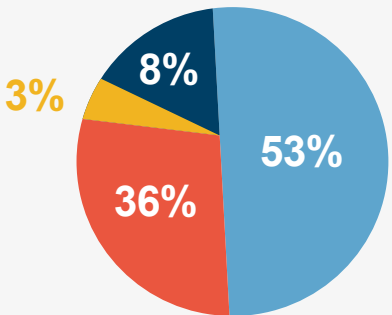
These figures pertain solely to the French association, which oversees all of our activities in Europe as well as a portion of our international operations; the remainder is managed by our subsidiary in Tunisia, our local office in the Balkans, and our office in South Africa.

RESOURCE ALLOCATION



■ Public funding
■ Service sales

CHARGE ALLOCATION



■ 01. Premises ■ 04. RH
■ 03. Research & consulting ■ 07 Operations



**15 rue de la Fontaine au Roi
75011 Paris**

www.pulse-group.org

REMERCIEMENTS

Notre mission nous la poursuivons avec nos 60 collaborateurs et collaboratrices, nos partenaires opérationnels et mécènes, ce rapport est l'occasion de les remercier chaleureusement pour leur soutien et implication renouvelée au service de notre mission sociale et de nos engagements.

PULSE est une association
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GroupeSOS