

Google's commitment to Africa extends beyond infrastructure and services. The company is providing training on the latest

cloud technologies and sustainable business practices and runs several programmes for African startups, including the Black Founders Fund Africa and Google for Startups Accelerator Africa, which have supported 106 startups across 17 African countries.

These startups have collectively raised over \$263m in funding and created more than 2,800 direct jobs.

In October 2023 cohort of Google's AI First Accelerator Program, 11 startups will embark on a 10-week journey to scale their AI solutions for Africa and globally, leveraging up to \$350,000 in Google Cloud Credits, and gaining access to Google's AI expertise and support.

The operational launch of the cloud region is seen as another significant step towards fostering a dynamic startup ecosystem in Africa.

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