



GLOBAL BUSINESS
ANGELS NETWORK

MEMBERSHIP
PACKET

Global Business Angels Network

Membership Packet

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MESSAGE FROM THE GBAN BOARD

Cross-border collaboration and syndication among angels and angel federations has come a long way since the initiation of the European Business Angel Network in 1999. The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation launched the Angel Capital Association in 2005 and the Portuguese Federation of Angels initiated the World Business Angel Association launched in 2009. We thank those leaders and all those associated with these efforts for their pioneering work. They have laid the groundwork for the launch of the next generation global network, open to all serious non-institutional funders of entrepreneurial ventures: The Global Business Angels Network (GBAN). GBAN is an initiative of the Global Entrepreneurship Network (GEN), the community of programs and policy initiatives now in 170 countries born out of Global Entrepreneurship Week initiated and funded by the Kauffman Foundation.

GBAN was launched at the Global Entrepreneurship Congress in Milan in 2015. While membership is free, it requires angel organizations to fill out an application as either a national member (one representative per country), or a general member (other organizations involved in developing the angel movement). There are no categories for service providers, academic institutions, or SME members as GBAN serves the angel investor movement alone. GBAN will connect with other constituencies through GEN.

We hope you will join us to elevate the role of angels with policymakers and entrepreneurial ecosystems throughout the world.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Ortmans
Co-Chair, Global Business Angels Network
President, Global Entrepreneurship Network

ABOUT GBAN

The Global Business Angels Network (GBAN) is a global community of business angel networks and organizations coordinated by the **Global Entrepreneurship Network** (GEN). GBAN brings greater public awareness and engagement to the role that business angels play in helping new firms start and scale.

GBAN interfaces with entrepreneurs, policymakers, other early-stage finance actors and leading entrepreneurial support programs to strengthen the global entrepreneurial ecosystem. Whether helping local entrepreneurial ecosystems recruit more investors, expanding geographic investment arenas beyond local markets or amplifying the angel “voice” to regulatory issue discussions, GBAN seeks to provide an inclusive, supportive community of early-stage investors around the world.

GEN is a year-round platform of programs and initiatives created by the communities that celebrate Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) each November. Aimed at creating one global entrepreneurial ecosystem, GEN helps people in 170 countries unleash their ideas and turn them into promising new ventures—creating jobs, unearthing innovations for society and strengthening economic stability around the world. For details on the programs and initiatives that make up GEN, visit genglobal.org.

PRINCIPLES OF GBAN

GBAN promotes knowledge sharing and collaboration for and with other key actors in local and global entrepreneurial ecosystems. GBAN seeks to:

- Connect business angels with other actors in entrepreneurial ecosystems around the world;
- Increase public awareness regarding the role of business angels within entrepreneurial ecosystems including advancing the concerns of existing angels, welcoming new investors and increasing the overall ability of new firms to gain access to angel investors worldwide; and
- Develop angel investor groups in burgeoning entrepreneurial ecosystems and help foster more communication between angel organizations around the world.

MEMBER INTERFACE

GBAN provides an opportunity for angels and their advocates to more actively participate in building and strengthening local and regional entrepreneurial ecosystems, helping to enhance connections with startup communities and policymakers and provide invaluable knowledge sharing and resources for all those who work with entrepreneurs. GBAN does not participate in lobbying activities or fundraising.

GBAN members have the opportunity to:

- Share ideas, developments in their initiatives, lessons learned, and other knowledge and experiences on the **GBAN website**;
- Participate in **“Investors Day” during GEW** – a day that enables early-stage investors to connect with community leaders and local media through events and competitions, local programs for entrepreneurs, policy research and growing regional networks, during GEW, the annual celebration of entrepreneurship each November that adds energy to advancing entrepreneurship worldwide;
- Participate in the **GBAN Summit** held in conjunction with the Global Entrepreneurship Congress (GEC) which is hosted in a new city every year.
- **Connect with other angel organizations** for national or regional activities and objectives.

GBAN members have access to the following resources:

- **GEN Connect:** An online directory of both the GBAN members as well as GEN members overall that can be searched, filtered, and used for finding people, messaging and conversations.
- **Field Calls & Reports:** An ongoing, members-only call series on topics related to angel investing from a global perspective.
- **Country Toolkits:** Produced by members, for members, as guides to operating as an angel investor in local ecosystems that include tax, regulatory, corporate formation issues guidelines to different policies.
- **Slack:** A supplementary tool which GBAN members can use for quick, convenient communication with each other and other members of the GEN community.

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP AND DECISION-MAKING STRUCTURE

Board: Six GBAN Board Members lead the community with voting rights on items such as membership applications and GBAN strategic direction and activities.

National Lead Members: One member per country with strong ties to multiple angel organizations and a leading voice in that national angel market that assumes the responsibility for communicating on behalf of that nation's angel investor communities locally within the broader national entrepreneurial ecosystem and globally.

Members: Organizations involved in building the angel ecosystem that apply to be a member on-line and are accepted by the Board members.

MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

GBAN welcomes new members from around the world. Applications are considered on a case-by-case basis within 30 days of being submitted.

The GBAN Board selects one organization per country to serve as the interface between that nation's angel community and GBAN efforts. Criteria include:

- Ability to be accepted as a neutral and inclusive party by the various organizations and clubs active in promoting and engaging in angel investing in that country;
- Openness to engaging actively with other local organizations that are part of GEN and in helping to improve the quality of the work done by the main local actors in enhancing the local entrepreneurial ecosystem;
- Willingness to help angels and those advancing their interests engage in other startup and scale up community efforts; and
- Willingness to come to the GEC each Spring for the GBAN Annual Meeting.

Members are required to:

- Participate in Field Report calls at least once a year; and participate in "Investors Day" during GEW.

Members are encouraged to:

- Attend the GBAN Summit at the GEC to interface with other angel associations and groups. Dates and locations are provided two years in advance.
- Use the GBAN online community management system (supported by GEN Connect and Slack) as a global project management tool for collaborating and executing mutual plans.

Members remain members as long as they are active and engaged. Where there is more than one party interested in assuming the national lead role, the Board will select one organization to serve as National Lead Member for two years, at which time if others are still interested, rotating national leadership will be suggested. The Board also reserves the right to ask National Members to convert to General Members if that National Member becomes inactive.

There is currently no membership fee.

Evaluating Membership Criteria:

- GBAN as a community welcomes all established angel networks and groups to join a global network of like-minded individuals.
- Organizations established less than one year are not eligible to apply for National Lead Membership but may become General Members.
- Selected National Lead Member applicants should show a commitment to advancing connections between angel investors, the ecosystem they operate within and entrepreneurs.

- Selected applications should also show a commitment to working together with others, large and small, within the early-stage investing community both within their home country and globally.

Applications will be reviewed by the Board, which may seek counsel and input from experts and the national GEN leads (e.g., GEN [Country] Managing Directors; GEW National Hosts in 170 countries).

GBAN BOARD MEMBERS

Selma Prodanovic

Vice - President, European Business Angel Network (EBAN)

Selma, hailed as the Startup-Grande-Dame by the media, is a dynamic entrepreneur and renowned global speaker, captivating audiences with her extensive professional journey and compelling personal narrative. Over the past two decades, she has been instrumental in shaping Europe's startup and angel investing landscape, earning recognition as one of "Europe's most influential women in the startup & VC space" for consecutive years. As Vice-President of the European Business Angel Network (EBAN), Selma spearheads initiatives to foster gender-balanced investing and amplify early-stage investment in Europe. She is the visionary behind the global SDG platform 1MillionStartups and the Austrian Angel Investors Association, while her boutique advisory, Brainswork, has incubated numerous successful brands. Beyond her boardroom prowess, Selma is a beacon of inspiration, championing female empowerment and mental fitness. Her innovative business acumen and dedication to social change have garnered prestigious accolades like the Veuve Clicquot Business Woman Award. A polyglot and multiculturalist, Selma's upbringing across Europe and North Africa, coupled with her diverse academic background, enriches her holistic approach to entrepreneurship and mentorship.

Tomi Davies

President, African Business Angels Network (ABAN)

Tomi Davies is an Influential technology business leader, board director, mentor, advisor and keynote speaker with nearly two decades of experience building technology enabled infrastructure projects across Africa. Over the last decade Mr. Davis has looked after a growing portfolio of Africa-based tech-enabled early stage businesses. He is the Founder of the Lagos Angel Network (LAN) and the President of the African Business Angel Network (ABAN). An inspiring thought leader whose personal goal is "maximizing the creation of social and economic value using technology innovatively," in 2014 he published "The African Project Manager." Mr. Davis has held a variety of executive and non-executive leadership roles with influential global brands like Ernst & Young, Marks & Spencer, Elf, Sapient and the One Laptop Per Child project. He is a volunteer to a number of non-profit organizations and Guest Lecturer at the Pan Atlantic University's Enterprise Development Centre. His rich and varied experience has been leveraged by organizations for advisory services, speaking engagements and non-executive board roles at companies like MBO Capital Limited (Private Equity), TextNigeria Limited (Telecoms) and Sproxil Nigeria (Anti-Counterfeit Technologies).

Jonathan Ortman

President, Global Entrepreneurship Network

Jonathan Ortman serves as president of the Global Entrepreneurship Network, a year-round platform of global programs and initiatives created by the communities that celebrate Global Entrepreneurship Week each November. Aimed at creating one global entrepreneurial ecosystem, GEN helps people in 170 countries unleash their ideas and turn them into promising new ventures—creating jobs, unearthing innovations for society and strengthening economic stability around the world. Programs and support organizations include: Global Entrepreneurship Week – 25,000 events, 170 countries, 1 week each November; the Global Entrepreneurship Congress – an annual gathering of thousands of delegates looking to strengthen entrepreneurial ecosystems; Startup Nations – a collection of startup-savvy policymakers exploring regulatory changes and policy ideas to help accelerate new firm formation; Global Entrepreneurship Research Network – a working coalition of institutions dedicated to advancing research in the field; and the Global Entrepreneurship Index – an annual index that measures the health of entrepreneurship ecosystems in 130 countries. Ortman also serves as a senior fellow at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. In addition to the national boards for GEN around the world, he serves on the boards of several non-profits including the Center for Entrepreneurship in Moscow.

Padmaja Ruparel

President, Indian Angel Network

Recognized both globally & nationally as a key player in the Indian entrepreneurial ecosystem for helping co-found many entrepreneur-focused organizations, Ms. Ruparel is an active Angel Investor and a successful entrepreneur with M&A as well as listing experience. Today she mentors startup founders, angel investors and drives policy making for seed / angel investing in India. The Indian Angel Network (IAN) has become a global network with over 450 investors from 10 countries, comprising a portfolio of over 130 companies across 17 sectors based in 7 countries. She was a key enabler in the creation of Lankan Angel Network in Sri Lanka and is the Executive Director of the Indian Venture Capital Association (IVCA). She operationalized India's oldest VC & PE organization, which now plays a leading role in India's VC / Private Equity ecosystem and is a leading policy advocate with the government. An English Honors graduate, Ms. Ruparel completed an MBA as well as Chartered Accountancy (intermediate) and was awarded the 'Women of the Decade in Investment Banking' by the Women Economic Forum.

Linda Smith

Former Chair, Angel Capital Association (ACA)

Smith joins GBAN from her position as Chairman of the Board of the Angel Capital Association (ACA) which represents more than 14,000 accredited investors in the United States, Canada and Mexico. ACA is a founding member of GBAN, an inclusive community of early-stage investor networks seeking to

increase angel investor capacity in burgeoning entrepreneurship ecosystems across roughly 50 countries on all six major continents.

As Chairman of the Angel Capital Association (ACA), Ms. Smith has spearheaded a nationwide grassroots organizing and implementation program to gain successful passage by the U.S. Congress of critical tax legislation to encourage and expand access to capital for innovative, start-up firms. She has also been at the forefront of efforts to develop formal linkages between ACA and angel networks in Europe, Mexico, New Zealand, Australia, and Latin America. Most recently she has overseen a multi-year strategic planning initiative to enhance ACA's educational offerings and data analytics to significantly benefit angels and entrepreneurs.

Additionally, Linda Smith had an outstanding 22 year public career that included serving three U.S. Presidents, two Congressmen, one mayor, and the Governor of Hawaii. Her accomplishments included being appointed as director of Finance for the City and County of Honolulu, responsible for a budget exceeding \$900 million serving over 800,000 resident and visitors to the city. She also was the Senior Policy Advisor to the Governor, covering issues ranging from agriculture, energy, education, transportation, natural resources, and veterans.

Israel Pons

CEO and Co-Founding Partner of Angels Nest LATAM

Israel is the CEO and Co-Founding Partner of Angels Nest LATAM, Founded in 2015. Angels Nest is an Angel Investment Network operating in Mexico and LATAM. It has been named "One of the most active Angel networks in Latin America" by XCALA (part of the Interamerican Development Bank). Angels Nest has many Angel Investors from Latin America, Canada, United States and United Kingdom. Coinvesting in 18 projects in portfolio and counting. He is a partner (GP Assigned) at BillioNeurons USA based, a global investment fund focused on the AI industry, President of the Board of investors in "E-Uno" a VC fund based in Mexico and investing in the Agro-tech industry, Investor and advisor to Canadian fund, Brickhouse Ventures Ltd, invests in eSports, Sports and Entertainment Technologies. Additionally, he is board advisor in Blue Forward Bio-marine (Blue Sea economy), a VC fund based in Luxembourg. (\$300MUSD), and the Mexico Ambassador to Deal Gateway (Largest Family Office network) with presence in more than 35 countries and multi-industry portfolio, and the Mexico Chair to GBA Government Blockchain Association.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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