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Building Global Innovators opens applications for the 13th edition of its acceleration program

“It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent; it’s the most adaptable to change” - Charles Darwin’s famous quote has also been the motto of Building Global Innovators (BGI) accelerator, which since 2010 has carried out several projects with the clear focus of being an engine of innovation in Portugal and putting the country in the world map of the innovation ecosystem. This “urgency” to innovate and be able to face change and the unexpected becomes even more evident in a pandemic and post-pandemic context in which practically all businesses in all sectors were forced to innovate and adopt technological solutions to reinvent themselves. These solutions, in most cases, arise from a type of companies that “breathe” innovation: startups.

To continue to promote the transition of innovative ideas - capable of responding to current global challenges - to the market, BGI is once again opening applications for its BGI Accelerator program, which already has 13 editions. Interested teams can apply through the F6S platform until April 15th.

Through the BGI Accelerator, BGI has already helped startups to raise a total of 264 million euros and now has a portfolio composed of 7 exits - BigAR, DoDoc, Movvo, Muzzley, Mediwis, Samebug and Turflynx - and the two most recent Portuguese unicorns: Feedzai and SwordHealth.

The BGI Accelerator program supports deep tech entrepreneurs and startups with solutions capable of meeting the challenges of an ever-changing world. To promote the
integration of these ideas in the market, BGI offers participants opportunities to obtain investment, meet potential customers and partners and create pilots with key companies in the industry in which they operate, thanks to its strong network of investors, mentors and companies.

In the last decade, 155 startups have participated in the BGI Accelerator, of which 91 are still active. This means a survival rate of 59%, higher than the world average of 10%\(^1\). Also, startups accelerated by BGI manage to attract on average 1.7 million euros just 2 and a half years after joining the program. The recipe for success is linked to BGI's strong training methodology and deep connections with pan-European organizations such as the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Despite the challenges imposed by a modern pandemic, the last 2 years have been decisive in the company’s growth, with new and important projects for the accelerator that is now celebrating 13 years of driving innovation and technological transformation. According to CEO Gonçalo Amorim, "BGI is increasingly committed to building global innovators in sustainable businesses" and expectations are good for the coming months. Projects focused on internationalization and investment in new industries are foreseen.

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For more questions please contact:
Patrícia Serrano, Marketing and Communications Director at BGI
patricia.serrano@bgi.pt
+351 919 602 500
www.bgi.pt

\(^1\) Information taken from the BGI Annual Report. More information [here](#).