

### ■ Initiatives for Startups

To realize the vision of becoming an innovation city that attracts global intellect, the Osaka Innovation Hub (hereinafter referred to as OIH) fulfills a central role in connecting startups, universities, corporations, and investors within the ecosystem; as well as stimulate the growth of new innovations. Likewise, we are earnestly committed to fulfill global initiatives by forming steadfast collaborations with international counterparts, which could further enrich the innovation ecosystem in Osaka.

Henceforth, in 2024, the pre-opening of the Umekita 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase Development Zone will unveil the harmonious integration of green and innovation; and sequentially following is the Osaka-Kansai World Expo 2025 themed "Designing Future Society for Our Lives", which will be held at Osaka Bay's Yumeshima Island. In preparation to showcase the concept of the "People's Living Lab", we are determined to bolster Osaka into a distinguished innovation city that offers a continuous stream of startups which can excel worldwide.

### ■ Main Activities

#### • Global Innovation Creation Support

With the key objective of attracting many people, technologies, and investments from all over the globe, we at the OIH, conduct various kinds of support for project creations and expansion of innovation networks; which are embodied through coordination of international startup pitch events like "GET IN THE RING", as well as open innovation activities with major corporations.

#### • OSAP (OIH Seed Acceleration Program)

A public recruitment process is held yearly to select 20 startups. Those selected undergo a 4-month training program that includes potential funding from VCs, collaboration with major corporations, and extensive media coverage; all in which accelerates commercialization. Moreover, we are engaged in retaining a cohesive network with startups who previously participated in the program. For e.g., we assisted 5 startups from the 2019 program in their efforts to expand businesses abroad.

#### • Other

The Global Innovation Conference Hack Osaka, City of Osaka Innovation Creation Subsidy, Osaka Top Runner Project, and programs relating to IoT and robotics business creations are all implemented by the OIH.

<https://www.innovation-osaka.jp/startup-cosystem/guide/>



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