Overview
The Stanford Institute for Innovation in Developing Economies, known as Stanford Seed, is a Stanford Graduate School of Business initiative built on the understanding that business is one of the most powerful engines of change and can move developing countries to greater prosperity. It is a collaborative effort by all seven Stanford schools and transforms lives. The program was established in 2011, implemented in West Africa in 2013, in East Africa in 2016, and expanded to India and Southern Africa in 2017.

Program Details
1. **The Seed Transformation Program (STP)** – a yearlong, on-the-ground leadership program for established business leaders in developing economies focused on scaling businesses and creating jobs. This program includes:
   - **Immersive class sessions** taught locally by Stanford University and Stanford GSB faculty. Participants attend four intensive, week-long sessions over the course of six months on topics such as leadership, strategy, business ethics, accounting, marketing, and value chain innovations.
   - **In-company workshops led by trained local Seed facilitators** to share knowledge and provide training with the entrepreneur’s leadership team.
   - **Ongoing leadership labs**, or small peer groups with support from Seed facilitators, that provide networking, resources, and ideas to help participants implement their transformation plan.
   - Following completion of STP, participants may apply to receive **high-touch coaching** as well as access to Seed interns and consultants.

2. **Seed Student Programs** – a combination of educational opportunities and summer internships at STP companies, through which Seed introduces Stanford students to the challenges and opportunities of doing business in developing economies.

Program Impact
Of the 441 entrepreneurs and 1,000+ senior leaders trained in the Seed Transformation Program:
- 99% remain in business
- 63% create new jobs
62% increase revenue  
86% grow their customers  
45% expand into new geographies  
46% open a new physical location  
60% introduce new products/services  
55% expand their senior management team  
86% expand their vision of what their companies can achieve  
58% do business with each other (We call this the **Seed Network Effect**.)

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23,400 intern volunteer hours  
48,480 coach volunteer hours  
25 Stanford professors travel abroad to teach and train local leaders

**Videos & Articles**

- **Profiles of Promise** – interviews with interns and faculty  
- **Africa Business Forum 2018** – overview of the 11th annual Stanford Africa Business Forum  
- **The Problem Solvers** – interviews with participants and faculty  
- **Yes She Can** – participant profile of Elsie Dogbegah, owner of HomeFresh Foods  
- **Putting Safety on the Front Burner** – participant profile of Femi Oye, owner of GoSolar Africa  
- **The Art of Transformation** – participant profile of Constance Swaniker, owner of Accents & Arts

Recent articles about Seed include: **Scaling Up and Changing Lives in Africa**, **Clinton Etheridge, MBA ’74: The Long Road Back**, and **“Why Is She Telling Us to Eat Grass?”**

**Application Deadlines**

For information about upcoming opportunities in East Africa, Southern Africa, West Africa, and India, visit [seed.stanford.edu](http://seed.stanford.edu).