

Applications open for Africa's Business Heroes prize

The Jack Ma Foundation has officially launched the second edition of the "Africa's Business Heroes" (ABH) prize competition with applications now open to African entrepreneurs from all 54 African countries, as well as every sector, age group, and gender.



2019 Africa's Business Heroes Prize Competition

Source: africabusinessheroes.org

The ABH prize competition and show is organised by the Africa Netpreneur Prize Initiative (ANPI), the Jack Ma Foundation's flagship philanthropic program in Africa. ABH made its debut last year, and aims to identify, support and inspire the next generation of African entrepreneurs who are making a difference in their local communities, working to solve the most pressing problems, and building a more sustainable and inclusive economy for the future.

Every year, ten finalists will be selected to compete in a finale pitch competition show that will be broadcast online and across the continent. At this year's grand finale, all ten finalists will share a prize pool of \$1.5m, up from \$1m last year, as well as gain access to the ANPI community of business leaders to leverage the community's shared expertise, best practice, training and resources.

Last year, the prize received nearly 10,000 applications from 50 African countries. The 2019 top ten finalists pitched their business ideas to a prominent judging panel during a televised grand-finale show in Accra, Ghana. The finalists represented a variety of industries – including cloud kitchens, tech agribusiness, healthcare and pharma, e-commerce, consumer goods, and water supply solutions.

“It was an incredible honour to be named Africa’s Business Hero last year. The Prize enabled me to expand to multiple states in Nigeria and become a truly pan-Nigerian business, and I was truly inspired by my experience and by all my fellow winners. I am looking forward to serving as an Ambassador for this year’s prize and to seeing the next group of entrepreneurs come forward to showcase the best of Africa’s entrepreneurial spirit and strength,” said Temie Giwa-Tubosun, founder and CEO, LifeBank.

“We find ourselves in unprecedented and extraordinary times. Now, more than ever, we need entrepreneurs with courage, initiative, and vision to do what they do best – solve problems for society. With this prize competition, we are looking to inspire and reward African business heroes in all sectors and encourage any aspiring applicants to seize this opportunity to break through barriers and create hope for the future,” said Jason Pau, Senior Advisor for International Programs, Jack Ma Foundation.

Applications will close on 9 June 2020. Semi-finalists will be announced in August, and the top ten finalists for 2020 will be unveiled in September. Applications will also now be available in both French and English.

To apply, go to africabusinessheroes.org and follow [@africa_heroes](https://twitter.com/africa_heroes) on Twitter.

For more, visit: <https://www.bizcommunity.com>