



EMPOWERING TOMORROW'S CLIMATE ENTREPRENEURS

11- 12, 18 - 19 OCTOBER 2024

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

ECOLOTRIP

Dakar, Senegal



Programme participants with Prowibo's volunteer: Nadine Minampala at the certificate presentation ceremony.

SUMMARY

In mid-October, Professors Without Borders and Ecolotrip collaborated to deliver an interactive four-day Climathon event, designed to inspire and equip the next generation of Francophone African environmental activists and green entrepreneurs with high-impact skills.

The programme commenced with an online introductory series on green entrepreneurship from 11–12 October, setting the stage for an intensive in-person session from 18–19 October. Throughout these sessions, participants engaged in immersive workshops on climate-driven business, innovative design thinking, and transformative social entrepreneurship. Nadine Minampala led these workshops and built participants' capacities to overcome challenges and drive sustainable impact through green business ventures.

To finish off the programme, participants presented their project ideas in a pitch competition, receiving invaluable feedback from a panel of four industry experts. This experience not only honed participants' pitching skills but also encouraged them to learn from one another, build solutions together, and connect with social investors and potential collaborators.



Nadine Minampala facilitating a workshop during the programme.



Winners of the pitch competition at the certificate presentation ceremony.



Participants interacting during one of Nadine Minampala's classes.

This programme allowed me to understand the importance of formalising and structuring our local ideas in writing in order to translate them into concrete actions. In this way, we will be able to attract international funding for the realisation of the project. I found the coaching on pitching techniques interesting because it taught me how to convey the story behind our project with empathy. I wish this programme was a week long as it would allow us to mature our ideas even more.

Programme Participant

REFLECTIONS

This programme has helped me a lot in shaping the problem I want to solve and pre-defining an image of the final solution based on the brainstorming we did. I believe the programme content would be useful to any entrepreneur who desires to enhance their project with a clear social impact solution.

Programme Participant



Nadine Minampala presenting a certificate of completion to one of the participants.

The training had a positive impact on the way I approached issues and the structuring of my project. I greatly improved my understanding of the challenges and opportunities within positive impact entrepreneurship.

Programme Participant



MEMORIES

I have learned new concepts to better train myself on green entrepreneurship. I learned from the panelists, Catalist members, and members of my group. I understood that green entrepreneurship is within my reach and opportunities are available to help myself and my community.

Programme Participant



This programme allowed us to build self-confidence, gain experience, and see new things. It showed us that we can go beyond our limits and always innovate.

Programme Participant



The learners were very engaged in everything they did. They were also very focused, and they all wanted to win the prizes at the end of the day. So that was a really big motivation for them to give all they had to implement or to create a project together. It was inspiring to see their zeal and commitment to learning.

Marie Jeanne, Ecolotrip's in-country focal person in Senegal

The programme allowed me to gain new experiences in terms of writing and presenting projects. It also enhanced my self-confidence and interpersonal communication skills.

Programme Participant

