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## Seedstars and Fondation Botnar Launch Seedstars Youth Wellbeing Ventures with \$20M Investment in Africa

Zurich, Switzerland - June 19, 2023 - [Seedstars Capital](#) and [Fondation Botnar](#) have announced the launch of the [Seedstars Youth Wellbeing Ventures](#) mandate. Together, they intend to invest \$20 million in early-stage, purpose-driven companies aiming to improve the wellbeing of young people in low- and middle-income countries across the continent.

Seedstars Capital is an alternative investment platform focused on supporting emerging fund managers as well as investing in technology companies in emerging and frontier markets. Fondation Botnar is a Swiss philanthropic foundation dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of young people living in urban areas worldwide. The partnership reflects their shared commitment to fostering positive impact through strategic investment.

The mandate will target pre-seed to Series A companies in sectors such as health services, environmental sustainability, local food security, water and sanitation, waste management, digital technologies, quality education, access to employment, financial services, safe transportation, and affordable housing.

Seedstars Youth Wellbeing Ventures will act as a catalyst for additional capital into the continent and is expected to co-invest alongside like-minded investors. Investments will be made across Africa, with a strong focus on companies active in, or expanding to Tanzania, Ghana, Senegal, Morocco, and Egypt.

"Our partnership with Fondation Botnar will combine our strengths and resources to drive meaningful impact in emerging markets," said Benjamin Langer, Partner at Seedstars Capital. "Together and with the added strength of our co-investor network, we will identify, invest and scale innovative companies with the potential to transform the lives of young people across our key markets."

Antoine Veyrassat, Venture Philanthropy Lead at Fondation Botnar said, "Fondation Botnar is excited to join Seedstars in supporting companies that are making a difference. Our shared commitment to improving the health and wellbeing of young people aligns strongly with our investment strategy that takes a market-based approach to philanthropy in

addition to our other philanthropic funding, especially as rapid urbanization and the increasing number of young people living in cities present both unique challenges and opportunities."

The partnership between Seedstars and Fondation Botnar has already begun making strides in Africa, with one of their [first joint investments being Charge!](#), a Senegal-based logistics technology company. The venture, which uses technology to streamline operations in the fragmented logistics sector, has successfully raised \$2.5 million in seed funding. This move exemplifies the partners' commitment to backing companies that contribute to youth wellbeing by improving the working conditions of young Senegalese truck drivers.

To further support the mandate and drive its mission, Cyrine Ben Fadhel is joining Seedstars as an Investment Manager. Bringing years of hands-on experience in venture capital, with past roles at Lateral Frontiers Capital and Global Ventures, Cyrine will act as the main point of contact for the mandate, and her knowledge will be instrumental in identifying and scaling innovative companies across the African continent.

For more information about Seedstars Youth Wellbeing Ventures, visit the [website](#).

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#### **ABOUT SEEDSTARS CAPITAL**

[Seedstars Capital](#) is an alternative investment platform specialized in emerging markets. The platform partners and invests in emerging venture capital fund managers active in complementary sectors in the Pre-Seed to Series A stages across emerging markets and makes direct co- and follow-on investments in their portfolio companies. For more information, visit [seedstars.com/funds](https://seedstars.com/funds).

#### **ABOUT FONDATION BOTNAR**

Fondation Botnar is a Swiss philanthropic foundation working to improve the health and wellbeing of young people living in cities around the world. Advocating for the inclusion of youth voices and the equitable use of AI and digital technology, the foundation invests in and supports innovative programs and research, and brings together actors from across sectors to create dialogue and partnerships: [fondationbotnar.org](https://fondationbotnar.org).

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