



Startup Center of the Hochschule für Wirtschaft und Recht Berlin (Berlin School of Economics and Law)

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1. About Us: Startup Incubator Berlin

At the Startup Incubator of the HWR Berlin, startup ideas are being developed to market maturity. Here, academic teams are supported with know-how, infrastructure and scholarships. As a lean incubator, in working with the team, the focus is on speed in the development and the early testing of business models with the customers.

The incubator has been founded in 2009. Initially, the offices were located within the HWR campus in Schöneberg. Since 2017, the Startup Incubator has moved to Rohrdamm 88 in Berlin-Siemensstadt as part of the site development at SIEMENS AG, which is becoming the "New Siemensstadt". In 2018 a design thinking lab and a prototype workshop were opened. Since December 2018 a modern multifunctional hall (A32) has been made available to the startups as a co-working space and event location.

2. Lean Startup Methodology

The lean startup method is being actively pursued by the Startup Incubator. The focus is on continuous feedback from potential customers. Products are not being developed first but rather enter the development cycle "build – measure – learn".

At the Startup Incubator, this process is encouraged by various offers – such as the monthly UX testing or the startup dinner. The feedback on product development is the main focus of these events formats. In addition the Startup Incubator Berlin offers several workshops, fireside chats and networking events.

3. Entrepreneurship at the HWR Berlin

At the HWR, the two areas of Entrepreneurship Education and Startup Incubation are closely interlinked. While the Startup Incubator in Siemensstadt promotes the practical aspects of starting a startup, the promotion of learning processes for the training of entrepreneurial thinking and acting is deeply established at the campus of the university. This takes place in the form of various formats, such as the Startup Class. With the Open Startup Academy the HWR offers additional formats in cooperation with the regional economy.

4. Financial Support

Startups at the Startup Incubator Berlin are financially accompanied in two phases in their startup process.

The program "Startup Now" is the first stage:

 <u>Startup Now:</u> Can be started at any time; is aimed at founders at the very beginning of their project; includes the use of the Co-Working-Space, participation in all events and workshops and individual support by coaches and mentors.

In the second phase, founders have the opportunity to receive the following scholarships:

- Berliner Startup Stipendium: Can be started in July and January each year; aimed at founders* wishing to develop their start-up; includes all Startup Now Program offers plus €2000 per founding member per month (for 6 and 12 months respectively)
- EXIST-Gründerstipendium: For particularly technologically innovative start-up projects; 2500€ per founding member per month (for max. one year).

5. Our Teams (selection)

<u>Grueneo</u>: Grueneo offers the first DIY gardening box for the windowsill that is made from 100% eco-friendly materials. It also contains all the know-how you need to grow your own herbs and vegetables in the smallest of spaces in your home – from sowing to harvest!

Thing: Everyone wants to grow old in their own home. Thing deploys robots that help elderly people age at home more safely and for longer. We combine supervisory features, like fall-detection and 24/7 care support, with easy connections to their primary care network & communities

<u>Forget Finance</u> Forget Finance is the first digital financial advisor that empowers everyone to plan their financial future holistically from their smartphone. It uses a hybrid model with personal advice from real financial experts and algorithm-based coaching.

<u>Vedra</u> Vedra is a brand for sexual wellbeing consumer goods that will cover the areas of intimacy, pleasure and care. Our first product will be a massage gel for the intimate area with CBD infusion..

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6. Contact

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