

PRESS RELEASE

THE NEXT SOCIETY - Acceleration bootcamps: Slighter in BigBooster's top 25 2018 flying to the Booster Camp Boston!

Marseille, 7 June 2018 - *The Lebanese start-up has been selected in the "class of 2018" of Demo Days, the last selection stage of Big Booster, the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Booster Hub, partner of THE NEXT SOCIETY initiative. It develops an intelligent lighter that supports the user to reduce his tobacco consumption.*

Two other start-ups of the [THE NEXT SOCIETY](#) 2018 promotion made it to the Demo Days: [Carpolo](#) (Lebanon) and [Lagare.ma](#) (Morocco), which abandoned the competition to carry out a fundraising of 2M dirhams (about 200K euros), concluded in May 2018.

[Slighter](#) will continue the adventure from June 4 to 8, 2018 at [Booster Camp in Boston](#) in the United States where it will benefit from an individualised agenda of meetings (Foley Mc Dermott, MIT Media Lab, GreenTownLab, MISTI, Advise Connect & Inspire, VCs and MIT alumni), joint workshops with the [Mass Challenge](#) acceleration programme and networking evenings organised by the city of Boston and the [Only Lyon delegation](#).

What's NEXT: A Booster Camp Africa THE NEXT SOCIETY in Morocco in October 2018!

After Lyon and Boston, the second acceleration bootcamp of the Start-up Booster Track THE NEXT SOCIETY will be co-organised by [BigBooster](#) and [Startup_Maroc](#) in October 2018 in Casablanca and Rabat as a springboard for internationalisation towards Africa. Morocco, which has become a major investor in the African continent, is indeed a regional hub favourable to the internationalisation of start-ups towards fast-growing African markets. To be continued!

[The Start-up Booster Track](#) is a tailor-made acceleration programme for entrepreneurs in the MENA region that aims at supporting them to bridge with key markets in Europe, Africa, the Gulf countries and the United States.

BigBooster, a global programme established on 4 continents created in 2015 around the Lyon - Boston axis, has quickly evolved and today offers an immersion in the heart of the most dynamic innovation ecosystems. The start-ups in the "class of 2018" will benefit from a tailor-made programme enabling them to study local best practices and build a network of allies to start doing business in the USA, China and the Middle East through Morocco and Tunisia. BigBooster is a partner of THE NEXT SOCIETY and coordinates the acceleration bootcamps, one of the Start-up Booster Track services of the initiative.

THE NEXT SOCIETY has just completed its first start-up class 2018, which will benefit from tailor-made support in the framework of the Start-up Booster Track, one of the initiative's four areas of intervention alongside issues regarding clusters, technology transfer offices and innovation policy framework.

To see the profiles of the start-ups integrating this first THE NEXT SOCIETY promotion, click [here](#).

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About THE NEXT SOCIETY

THE NEXT SOCIETY is an open community of change makers engaged in innovation and economic development. It gathers entrepreneurs, investors, corporates, NGOs, public and private innovation, research and economic development hubs from Europe and the Mediterranean countries.

THE NEXT SOCIETY gathers already a large network of over 300 business & innovation, research and investment organisations, 2,500 international SMEs and entrepreneurs from 30 countries.

THE NEXT SOCIETY is launching a four year action plan (2017-2020), co-funded by the EU up to 90% for a global amount of EUR 7.8 million budget.

<http://www.thenextsociety.co>

THE NEXT SOCIETY partners' community

Agence de Promotion de l'Industrie et de l'Innovation (Tunisia) | Agence Régionale d'Innovation et d'Internationalisation (France) | Agence Wallonne à l'Exportation et aux Investissements étrangers (Belgium) | Agencia per a la Competitivitat de l'Empresa - ACCIÓ (Spain) | ANIMA Investment Network (France) | Arabreneur (Palestine) | Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Belgium) | Bedaya Center - General Authority For Investment and Free Zones (Egypt) | Berytech (Lebanon) | Big Booster (France) | Centro Estero per l'Internazionalizzazione (Italy) | Confédération des Entreprises Citoyennes de Tunisie CONECT (Tunisia) | Economic Research Forum (Egypt) | Enterprise Greece (Greece) | European Business and Innovation Centre Network - EBN (Belgium) | Forum des Chefs d'Entreprises (Algeria) | Forum Euro-méditerranéen des Instituts de Sciences Economiques (France) | France Clusters (France) | Higher Council for Innovation & Excellence (Palestine) | Information and Communications Technology Association of Jordan - int@j (Jordan) | Information Technology Industry Development Agency (Egypt) | Institut de la Méditerranée (France) | International Network for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (Italy) | Kedge Business School (France) | Mowgli Foundation (UK) | PICTI.StartUps (Palestine) | R&D Maroc (Morocco) | Royal Scientific Society (Jordan) | Startup Maroc (Morocco) | The European Trade Association for Early Stage Investors (Belgium) | The MENA Business Angels Network (Belgium)

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