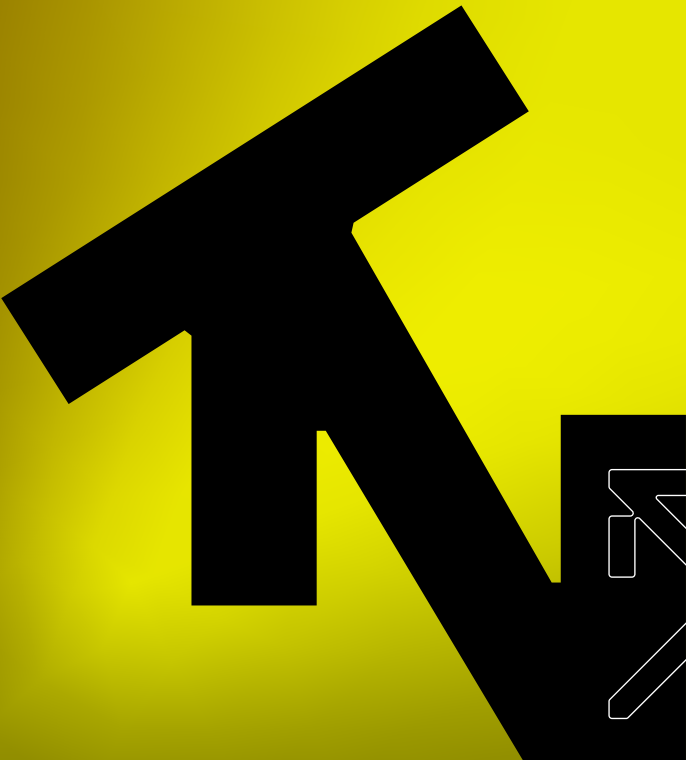




ANNUAL REPORT
TECHNOVATOR
2025 ←



REPORT
ANNUAL

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Foreword

We remain dedicated to empowering entrepreneurs across Moldova, emphasizing talent and business growth in underserved regions. Through our business tracking methodology and close collaboration with local and international experts, we continue to equip businesses with the clarity, tools and structure they need to grow sustainably.

We are proud to have earned the trust of visionary development partners while expanding our reach to European programmes and international collaborators. Participating in global and regional events such as Web Summit Lisbon, the Digital Transformation of SMEs in EaP Countries conference, and ecosystem missions in Sweden, Poland and the Western Balkans has enriched our perspective on emerging technologies and reinforced our role as a bridge connecting Moldova to the wider European tech and innovation landscape.

Our bold initiatives, such as DeepTech GigaHack 2025 – Moldova's largest deeptech hackathon – where 300 participants across 44 teams tackled 8 challenges in AI, FinTech, AgriFood, EnergyTech, Cybersecurity, HealthTech, RegTech and Open Innovation, with a total prize pool of 240,000 MDL, have set new benchmarks for innovation and professional development.

In parallel, Business Innovation Summit 2025 brought together over 300 business leaders, innovators and professionals for a full day of content across three thematic

stages, combining keynotes with hands-on workshops and concrete frameworks for strategy and execution.

In 2025, we also moved further into system-level impact. Through the SALTO component of the Strong Businesses and Communities programme, we co-designed and piloted 5 Business Development Services with 4 regional BDSPs, supporting 65 MSMEs in Moldova's regions through structured training and coaching in digital transformation, financial management, energy efficiency, market & sales and agile entrepreneurship. At the same time, as part of the ESG EDIH consortium – a candidate European Digital Innovation Hub – we actively supported the green and digital transformation of SMEs, with a strong focus on AI, cybersecurity and responsible innovation aligned with European standards.

Investing in people has always been at the core of Technovator. Looking ahead, we eagerly seek new collaborations locally, regionally and across Europe to amplify our impact.

Together, let's continue to make this world a better place for all, using innovation for the greater good.

Mary Nemciuc

Founder, CEO Technovator

About Technovator



2025 in
numbers



2 665

Entrepreneurs
mentored



11

Partner universities



35

Initiatives managed



4 179

People engaged
at initiatives



3 838

People in our
community

About us

Technovator is a non-profit organization founded in 2021 in the Republic of Moldova, dedicated to fostering innovation by developing talent within the local ecosystem.

Technovator focuses on empowering individuals with the skills and opportunities needed to drive innovation and entrepreneurship.

We organize various initiatives, such as hackathons, forums, and accelerator programs, to connect local talent with global opportunities and to support sectors like energy, agriculture, and digital health. These efforts also emphasize supporting entrepreneurs and contributing to the vibrant startup ecosystem in Moldova.

Vision

The vision of Technovator is to power impact through innovation.

We contribute to the growth of Moldova's ecosystem of innovative entrepreneurs through our initiatives, we empower businesses with the knowledge, skills, and tools they need to prosper and develop independently.

This mission is realized by providing access to a pool of experts and fostering strong connections through community networks.

Mission

Technovator's mission is to nurture and talent to drive innovation and entrepreneurship, focusing on empowering individuals with the necessary skills and opportunities.

By fostering a supportive environment for tech entrepreneurial ecosystems and enhancing connections with tech communities, Technovator aims to contribute to economic growth and societal advancement.

Projects



DEEPTeCH GigaHack _

300+ participants
48+ teams
8 challenges
240 000 MDL prizes

gigahack.md



BUSINESS INNOVATION SUMMIT

300+ participants
3 workshops
1 roundtable
5 showcases

bis.technovator.world



SALTO

5 new BDS products
4 BDSPs piloted
65 MSMEs trained & coached
11 SME Loop trainers/coaches trained

salto.technovator.world



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION MARATHON

27 applicants
21 graduates
8 weeks



GovTech HACKATHON

100+ participants
15 teams
6 challenges



TECH BĂLȚI BOOTCAMP

20 participants
3 days
2 speakers



TECHNOVATOR LABS

75 participants
5 meetings
6 speakers



MARATONUL AFACERII TALE

94 applicants
61 participants
26 graduates
3 grants × 3 800 CHF

Technovator TEAM



**MARY
NEMCIUC**

Founder, CEO



**ALIONA
COTUNA**

Chief Growth Officer



**FELICIA
TROIA**

Chief Operations
Officer



**NADEJDA
CIOBANU**

Business Developer



**DANIELA
ERHAN**

Communication Manager



**NINA
GOLOVATÎL**

Financial Manager

Calendar 2025

JANUARY



FEBRUARY

- ▶ Workshop deeptech: Research Methodology with AI and Knowledge Graphs

MARCH

- ▶ Technovator lab: Bullseye Marketing
- ▶ Maratonul Afacerii Tale 2025
- ▶ Launching SALTO

APRIL

- ▶ Workshop deeptech: Working with AI in Research Processes
- ▶ GovTech Hackathon 2025

MAY

- ▶ ESG EDIH pitch
- ▶ Digital Transformation Marathon

JUNE

- ▶ Technovator Lab: Cum brandingul generează profit
- ▶ Technovator lab: Proprietatea Intelectuală pentru Inovație
- ▶ Matchmaking SALTO, Edinet

JULY

- ▶ Technovator Labs: AI, Insights & Efficiency for Product Teams
- ▶ Tech Bălți Bootcamp
- ▶ Matchmaking SALTO, Comrat
- ▶ Matchmaking SALTO Forum, Strasen

AUGUST



SEPTEMBER

- ▶ DeepTech - GigaHack 2025
- ▶ Matchmaking SALTO, Leova

OCTOBER

- ▶ Macedonia EDIH workshop
- ▶ Educație antreprenorială I.P. ODA
- ▶ Matchmaking SALTO, Soroca
- ▶ Digitec

NOVEMBER

- ▶ Business Innovation Summit
- ▶ Sweden Study Visits Lisbon Web Summit

DECEMBER

- ▶ Poland Study Visits

Our Initiatives

DeepTech GigaHack 2025 – largest hackathon in Moldova

The DeepTech GigaHack, Moldova's largest hackathon and a Technovator flagship event, confirmed once again the country's potential as an emerging deeptech hub.

Held from 12 to 14 September 2025 at Tekwill, the 3rd edition gathered 44 teams and 300 participants – programmers, researchers, doctors, engineers, designers, students and startup founders. Over an intense 48-hour marathon, teams worked non-stop to build innovative deeptech solutions responding to real challenges from industry and public institutions, supported by 29 mentors, 8 team coaches and 26 jury members.

Participants tackled 8 thematic challenges in Cybersecurity, FinTech, EnergyTech, AgriFood, HealthTech, Artificial Intelligence, RegTech and an Open Challenge, competing for a total prize pool of 240,000 MDL. The hackathon combined focused work sessions with mentoring checkpoints, expert talks and structured pitching, offering teams both a learning journey and a bridge towards further collaboration with partners.

We had 8 winning teams, one for each challenge:

- AgriFood Challenge – Team DUTS – a data exchange platform for small farms, enabling fast access to information and better decision-making.
- AI Challenge – Team FalcoNS – a deterministic AI system that replaces parking operators, with real-time interaction and a LatePay mechanism via QR and messaging.
- Cybersecurity Challenge – Team DreamTeam – EVO Shield, a privacy-oriented protection module for the EVO app that scans files, links and QR codes, and educates users in simple language.

- EnergyTech Challenge – Team Singularity – a mobile app that turns raw consumption data into simulations, recommendations and forecasts for household energy use.
- RegTech Challenge – Team Sudo-ku – CyberCare, a digital tool helping Moldovan SMEs comply with the Cybersecurity Law No. 48/2023 through structured assessments, checklists and live updates.
- FinTech Challenge – Team JUAN – a document anonymisation solution that protects sensitive data and supports regulatory compliance.
- HealthTech Challenge – Team Vioire – a full AI assistant for X-ray analysis, combining neural networks and language models to detect anomalies and generate clinician-ready reports.
- Open Challenge – Team Rancho – DesignerSpace, a platform where designers can browse swipe-generated concepts, use a web scraper for local materials and generate AI/API-powered design mockups.

DeepTech GigaHack 2025 was organized by Technovator with the support of EU4Innovation East (funded by the European Union and co-financed by the Government of France), and co-organized together with UMAEF, UNDP Moldova, the Government of Italy and Innovate Moldova (funded by Sweden). Corporate and ecosystem partners such as Orange Systems, Orbility, Beden Grup Healthcare Systems, the Estonian E-Governance Academy, EIT Food, Fineguide.ai, along with more than 35 communities and academic partners from Moldova and Romania, contributed challenges, experts and visibility – turning DeepTech GigaHack into a national reference point for deeptech innovation.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION MARATHON

No-Code, Automation & AI for Moldovan Entrepreneurs

May 15 – July 1, 2025

27 applicants · 21 graduates · 8 weeks

The Digital Transformation Marathon, organized by Technovator with the support of UMAEF, helped Moldovan entrepreneurs turn digital transformation from a buzzword into concrete action. Over eight weeks, participants learned how to use no-code, automation and AI tools to streamline their workflows and improve their online presence.

What we focused on:

- No-code tools for workflows, databases and chatbots
- Automation with Zapier, Make.com and integrated systems
- Smart data collection with Airtable, forms and Notion
- Chatbots for client communication (ManyChat)
- Basics of APIs and integrations
- Data visualisation with Power BI

Trainers:

Vadim Ciobanu, CEO, Yard Studio – digital marketing, chatbots, automation

Nicolae Mihailiuc, CEO, CreateGO – business education for entrepreneurs

Impact in numbers:

- ★ 5.33 / 6 – general organisation
- ★ 5.33 / 6 – trainers' expertise
- ★ 5.17 / 6 – course content
- ★ 5.5 / 6 – interactivity

Real changes after the programme:

- 20 participants actively using tools like chatbots, AI, Make, Airtable, Brizy
- 15+ participants already automating tasks, improving data collection and optimising communication in their businesses

In a market where tools and customer expectations are constantly evolving, the Digital Transformation Marathon gave entrepreneurs a guided, hands-on space to experiment with digital tools that actually fit their business. By working with no-code automation, chatbots and smart databases on their own processes, participants turned abstract "digitalisation" into concrete workflows that save time, reduce errors and improve decision-making.

MARATONUL AFACERII TALE

From idea to resilient business

March 3 – May 30, 2025

94 applicants · 61 selected participants ·
26 graduates · 3 grants of 3,800 CHF

Maratonul Afacerii Tale is a two-month online business marathon implemented by Technovator and commissioned by Helvetas to support early-stage entrepreneurs, small businesses and people with business ideas from all over Moldova – with a special focus on refugees and vulnerable groups.

Over ten compact modules, participants explored how to turn ideas into viable businesses: from using AI in business, building a Business Model Canvas and testing ideas with real customers, to improving online visibility, designing marketing & sales strategies, planning finances, understanding the legal framework, building teams and confidently pitching their ideas.

What made the marathon unique:

- 10 live modules (2h each), delivered online and accessible nationwide;
- Programme conducted in Romanian and Russian, to include regional and refugee communities;
- Average of 34 participants per training session;
- A dedicated website – maraton.technovator.world – plus ongoing support via Google Drive and Telegram.

Mentorship & support:

- 25 group mentorship sessions in 5 subgroups, tailored by language and business stage;
- 54 individual mentorship sessions, helping participants with concrete issues: finding clients, choosing legal form, access to funding, online promotion and business image;
- Participants rated the mentorship as “very useful, practical and supportive”, highlighting the openness and professionalism of mentors.

Impact in numbers (participant feedback):

- Overall programme quality – 4.65 / 5
- Programme structure – 4.70 / 5
- Content relevance – 4.70 / 5
- Clarity of presentation – 4.74 / 5
- Balance between theory & practice – 4.62 / 5

Through the grant component, three participants received 3,800 CHF each to invest in equipment, digitalisation, promotion or growing their operations – turning learning into real, visible progress.

With strong communication through Facebook, Instagram, newsletters, a dedicated landing page and media coverage on Diez.md, Maratonul Afacerii Tale 2025 helped build not just better business plans, but a more confident and resilient community of entrepreneurs in Moldova.

GOVTECH HACKATHON 2025


Digital solutions for smarter public services


April 11–13, 2025 · Tekwill, Chişinău


100+ participants · 15 teams · 6 public sector challenges

The **GovTech Hackathon 2025**, organised by Technovator together with the Agency for Electronic Governance (AGE) under the patronage of the Ministry of Economic Development and Digitalization, brought Moldova's tech community and public institutions around the same table to redesign how public services work. Over three intense days at Tekwill, developers, designers and innovators worked side by side with representatives from ministries and agencies to build functional digital prototypes for real government challenges in energy (real-time national consumption data), agriculture and food safety (digital animal registration), education and research (research evaluation automation), road safety (digital amicable accident reporting integrated with EVO), entrepreneurship (automated eligibility checks for support programmes) and health (a unified medical appointment platform for urban and rural areas).

We had three winning teams:

 **Inov AI** – AI-powered solution for digital amicable accident reporting, helping drivers submit incidents quickly and securely, integrated with state systems.

 **ODA Connect** – “Suport Antreprenorial” digital module that automates eligibility validation for entrepreneurship support programmes, saving time for both applicants and institutions.

 **Prasada Jr** – online medical appointment platform designed to be accessible for citizens in both urban and rural areas.

The hackathon ran from challenge presentations and team formation to mentoring, demos and final pitching. Mentors from Endava, UNDP, AGE, MICB, CorlabTech, Enamply and others supported teams on product strategy, technical architecture, policy aspects and interoperability, while a jury from AGE, Finergy, Upcode and Evisoft evaluated solutions on relevance, MVP functionality, innovation, interoperability and user experience.

GovTech Hackathon 2025 was supported by UMAEF and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), with strategic partners Aision Tech, Moldindconbank, Tekwill, Urban Lunch and Upcode. All visibility and engagement were generated organically, reaching over **9,500 accounts on Facebook** and benefiting from active coverage across social media, newsletters and media outlets such as Agora.md, Diez.md, Moldova.org, Locals.md, Telegraph.md and TV Moldova 1.

Overall, the event showed how meaningful collaboration between government and innovators can turn complex public administration problems into **concrete digital services** that are more transparent, efficient and citizen-centric.

SALTO

Building a regional market for Business Development Services

5 new BDS products · 4 BDSPs piloted · 65 MSMEs trained & coached · 11 SME Loop trainers/coaches trained

Between February 2025 and February 2026, Technovator acted as the implementation partner for Moldova in the SALTO component of the Strong Businesses and Communities (SBC) programme, led by CEFE International and supported by GIZ, BMZ and the EU. It is Technovator's first large-scale European BDS project and a key milestone in our role as a connector between international expertise and local ecosystems.

SALTO tackles a core challenge in Moldova: outside Chişinău, micro and small enterprises have very limited access to professional Business Development Services (BDS), despite facing real pressure around digitalisation, financial management, energy costs and market access. Together with four national BDS providers, we designed and piloted five short-term BDS products in regions such as Edineţ, Comrat, Leova, Soroca and Străşeni, focusing on:

- Digital Transformation,
- Financial Management,
- Energy Efficiency,
- Market & Sales, and
- Agile Entrepreneurship.

These services were delivered by mixed teams of international experts, Technovator consultants and BDSP specialists, reaching 65 MSMEs through combined training and coaching.

In parallel, SALTO introduced the SME Loop methodology to Moldova – a European coaching approach that guides enterprises from diagnosis to concrete business development plans. Two regional BDS providers were selected as SME Loop partners, 11 trainers and coaches were prepared (6 already active), and 38 MSMEs – from early-stage to export-ready – worked on marketing, business models, financial visibility and digitisation in a structured training-and-coaching cycle.

For Technovator, SALTO has been both a learning and positioning experience. Our team contributed to curriculum design, tool localisation, BDSP selection and onboarding, delivery, and digital monitoring and evaluation. The insights gathered on MSME needs, willingness to pay and BDSP capacity will shape future programmes and support the emergence of a more professional, competitive and regionally inclusive BDS ecosystem in Moldova.

ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Module: Legal Framework & State Control 30–31 October 2025

35 participants · 2-day offline training · 25 certificates awarded

In October 2025, Technovator delivered the “Legal Framework & State Control” module within the Entrepreneurial Education Programme of I.P. ODA, helping entrepreneurs, managers, accountants and administrators understand how the business environment works from a legal and procedural perspective – especially when it comes to inspections and state controls.

Over two intensive offline days, 35 participants aged between 20 and 52 (average age 36, mostly from urban areas but also from regional communities) worked with practical tools and real scenarios, and 25 of them successfully met the criteria to receive a certificate of completion.

Guided by trainers Irina Cernei and Andrei Jizdan, the group explored:

- what types of state controls exist and how tax and other inspections are initiated and conducted,
- the rights and obligations of entrepreneurs and delegated staff,
- which documents must be presented – and which should not be shared,
- what acts and decisions are issued after control and how they can be contested,

- the accountant’s role during inspections, plus how the legal framework protects competition and consumers.

Case studies such as the “Volkswagen tacit agreement” and simulations on the difference between financial difficulty and legal insolvency grounds helped participants translate complex legal concepts into concrete business decisions.

Feedback confirms both the quality and the relevance of the module:

- Over 96% of respondents rated the course as “Satisfied” or “Very satisfied”, around 94% reported a high level of understanding, trainers received 100% positive evaluations for professional preparation, practical examples and facilitation, while training materials were seen as detailed, relevant and easy to follow. All participants stated that the course met their expectations, was relevant to their daily work, and that they would recommend it to others.

From an organisational perspective, Technovator ensured a smooth offline experience with a modern, fully equipped venue, reliable audio-video setup, coffee breaks and a dedicated Telegram group for fast communication. The overall impact was clear: participants left with more confidence in dealing with inspections, a better grasp of legal procedures, and a stronger ability to protect their business interests in an increasingly regulated environment.

ESG EDIH & EUROPEAN POSITIONING

From Moldova's ecosystem to the EaP and Western Balkans digital stage

In 2025, Technovator took important steps to position itself – and Moldova – more confidently in the European conversation on digital transformation and EDIHs (European Digital Innovation Hubs). As part of the ESG EDIH consortium, currently a candidate to become Moldova's European Digital Innovation Hub, we focused not only on writing concepts and strategies, but also on showing where decisions and networks are built.

On 15 May, Technovator was part of the regional event "Digital Transformation of SMEs in EaP Countries", a key platform dedicated to the digital future of small and medium enterprises in the Eastern Partnership. Our colleague Nadejda Ciobanu, Grant Project Manager, presented the vision of ESG EDIH – a hub designed to accelerate the green and digital transformation of SMEs, combining AI, cybersecurity and responsible innovation aligned with European values.

In dialogue with peers from Moldova, Romania, Ukraine and EU representatives, Technovator contributed to discussions on how the EDIH network can expand across the region and how hubs can bring innovation closer to companies that need it most. For us, it was a moment to publicly affirm that Moldova is ready to be part of this map, not only as a beneficiary, but as an active contributor.

Shortly after, Technovator was present at Western Balkans Digital Week in Skopje, North Macedonia – a combined experience of the Western Balkans EDIH Workshop, an Access to Finance conference and the Western Balkans Digital Summit 2025 (SK25). Organised by the Ministry of Digital Transformation of North Macedonia and supported by GIZ's DT4SME project, the Summit brought together governments, businesses, academia and civil society to discuss digital public services, cybersecurity, the EU Digital Wallet and AI.

The EDIH-focused workshop offered concrete insights into how to launch and implement an EDIH at national level, how to structure services, and how to connect with European networks. The Digital Summit added a broader regional perspective on policy, financing and collaboration in the Western Balkans – a context highly relevant for Moldova as it positions itself at the intersection of the EaP, Western Balkans and EU digital spaces.

Taken together, these actions mark a shift in how Technovator operates: we are no longer just implementing projects inside Moldova, but stepping more boldly and confidently into regional and European arenas, building alliances, learning from advanced ecosystems and making sure that EDIH and Moldova's SMEs are visible in the conversations that shape the next wave of digital transformation.

TECHNOVATOR LABS & BUSINESS TRACKING MEETUPS

Where ideas, tools and founders meet

In 2025, Technovator Labs & Business Tracking Meetups became our way of staying close to the ecosystem week by week – not only through big events, but through focused sessions where people could go deep on AI, product, marketing and legal topics.

Beyond large programmes and hackathons, Technovator stays close to the community through a series of compact, high-energy learning formats – spaces where founders, product teams and experts can test ideas, compare experiences and leave with something they can apply the next day.

In 2025, this happened mainly through Technovator Labs and Business Tracking Meetups.

Technovator Labs – AI & product work without the buzzwords

Technovator Labs are designed as mini-labs for product teams, innovators and tech professionals who want less hype and more “how do we actually use AI and data in real products?”

A highlight of the year was:

Technovator Lab: “AI, Insights & Efficiency for Product Teams” – 16 July 2025

During this session, participants explored how to:

- use AI to better understand user behaviour and generate insights faster,
- turn raw data into decisions for the product roadmap,
- automate repetitive parts of product work – from reporting and summaries to drafting hypotheses and experiments.

The format was highly practical: short inputs, live examples, then hands-on work

on real cases brought by participants. Each team left with a small AI workflow they could immediately test inside their organisation.

Business Tracking Meetups – one topic, deep and honest.

If Labs are for product and AI, Business Tracking Meetups are for entrepreneurs and managers who want to sharpen one critical area of their business at a time, without committing to a long programme.

Each meetup focuses on a single topic and goes deep: an expert talk, real examples, open questions and peer discussion. In 2025, the themes included:

- Bullseye Marketing – how to choose the channels that truly matter and stop spreading limited resources too thin.
- How Branding Generates Profit – connecting brand positioning to pricing power, loyalty and revenue, beyond logos and visuals.
- Intellectual Property for Innovation – what founders really need to know about IP, trademarks and protecting products while avoiding costly legal mistakes.

For many participants, these meetups act as a checkpoint: they come with concrete dilemmas and leave with more clarity, a few decisions made – and new contacts in their network.

Through Technovator Labs & Business Tracking Meetups, Technovator builds a continuous learning layer around its flagship programmes: teams return, test ideas, refine what they started in hackathons and academies, and the community stays active and connected between big events like GigaHack, GovTech or the Digital Transformation programmes.

BUSINESS INNOVATION SUMMIT 2025

7 November 2025 · maib park, Chişinău

300+ participants · 3 thematic stages

In 2025, Technovator launched the Business Innovation Summit as Moldova's key meeting point for business leaders, innovators and product teams who want to turn ideas into measurable growth. Hosted at maib park on 7 November, the summit brought together 300+ executives, founders, managers and ecosystem builders from Moldova and the region for a full day dedicated to practical innovation, not buzzwords.

The event grew out of Technovator's earlier two editions of Product Management Conference and expanded into a broader, strategy-focused summit. Content was organised across three stages – Growth, Corporate Open Innovation and Product Management – blending keynotes, panels and hands-on sessions. Speakers explored topics such as AI in products and processes, innovation strategy, startup–corporate collaboration, leadership in uncertain times, and how to build teams that can experiment, learn and scale.

What made the summit special was its focus on tools, not theory.

International and local experts shared concrete frameworks, case studies and checklists that participants could take back to their teams the next day. For many companies, the Business Innovation Summit became a space to benchmark their approach to innovation, meet potential partners and rethink how product, technology and business strategy work together.

For Technovator, the summit reinforced our role as a connector between global expertise and local ambition – a place where decision-makers can meet, compare perspectives and leave with a clearer view of how innovation can drive real impact in Moldova and beyond.

SWEDEN STUDY VISIT – EXPLORING NORDIC INNOVATION

Sweden · 7 Moldovan ecosystem
organisations · 8 innovation hubs visited

In 2025, Technovator took part in a study visit to Sweden, joining a delegation of key actors from Moldova's innovation ecosystem, including MITP, Startup Moldova, Dreamups, XY Partners, ACETI and COR, in a mission organised with the support of Innovate Moldova. Technovator was represented by Nadejda Ciobanu, Business Developer.

The programme included study visits and working meetings with leading organisations such as Kista Science City, Linköping Science Park, Intel Corporation, Vinnova, KTH Innovation, TechArena, Impact Hub Stockholm and Epicenter Stockholm. These interactions offered a first-hand view of how the Swedish innovation ecosystem operates – how universities, industry and the public sector collaborate to support startups, scale-ups and corporate innovation in a coordinated way.

A key message that guided the visit was: "Changing the world can get lonely, let's do it together." This reflects the main lesson from Sweden: real impact comes when institutions, accelerators and companies move in the same direction, sharing a long-term vision and acting as one ecosystem rather than isolated initiatives.

For Technovator, the visit was both an inspiration and a practical learning experience. Insights on governance models, funding instruments, science parks, and startup support structures will feed into how we design our own programmes, strengthen partnerships in Moldova, and better connect local founders with international opportunities.

The study visit was made possible thanks to Innovate Moldova, whose efforts to link Moldova's innovation ecosystem with Nordic and European leaders create concrete pathways for learning, collaboration and future joint projects.

WEB SUMMIT LISBON – MOLDOVA IN THE GLOBAL TECH ARENA

Lisbon, Portugal · 71,386 attendees · 2,725 startups · 10 Moldovan startups

In 2025, Technovator joined the Moldovan delegation at Web Summit Lisbon, one of the world's largest technology conferences. The event brought together 71,386 participants from 157 countries, including 2,725 startups (40% women-founded), 1,857 investors and 869 speakers shaping global conversations on AI, sustainability, creativity and the future of tech.

At the heart of this global energy stood Moldova, with a national stand, its strongest delegation so far, and a clear message: our ecosystem is growing, ambitious, and ready to compete globally. Technovator was represented by Aliona Cotuna, Chief Growth Officer at Technovator, who took part in meetings, pitches and networking sessions alongside Moldovan founders and ecosystem partners.

Ten Moldovan startups represented the country this year – Argus AI, EatingAI, Vector Academy, Brizy, gardy.me, Fagura, Finergy Tech, Cardnetto, DeepGuard and City Farm – pitching, networking and showcasing solutions in AI, fintech, agritech, cybersecurity and digital tools.

For Technovator, being part of this mission was about more than attending a conference. It was an opportunity to stay close to global trends that influence our programmes (AI, deeptech, digital innovation), support Moldovan founders in connecting with investors, partners and peers, and help position Moldova as a confident, emerging player in the European tech landscape.

Lisbon was a reminder that innovation has no borders – and that Moldova belongs in this conversation.

POLAND STUDY VISIT – LEARNING FROM A HIGH-PERFORMING STARTUP ECOSYSTEM

Poland · 5+ key institutions · 3-day intensive study visit

In 2025, Technovator took part in a study visit to Poland as part of the Generation Moldova project, delivered together with Unsung Heroes – Ventures for Humanity. Technovator was represented by Felicia Troia, Operational Manager, who joined ecosystem partners Dreamups, Yep!Moldova and Startup Moldova for a deep dive into how Poland has built one of the most dynamic startup ecosystems in Central and Eastern Europe.

Over three days, the Moldovan delegation visited and engaged with institutions that form the backbone of Poland's innovation system: from SGH Warsaw School of Economics, where they explored how structured entrepreneurship education and policy research support founders, to PARP – the Polish Agency for Enterprise Development, AKCES NCBR – the National Centre for Research & Development, PSIK – the Polish Private Equity & Venture Capital Association, and Białostocki Park Naukowo-Technologiczny, one of Poland's most vibrant innovation communities. The programme also included meetings with PAIH, the agency shaping Poland's international investment and expansion strategy.

What became clear throughout the visit is that Poland grew its innovation capacity through alignment between institutions, a long-term vision for startup support and strong public-private partnerships. For Technovator and its Moldovan partners, this study visit was about understanding which structures, incentives and collaborations make an ecosystem work over time.

The insights gathered in Poland now feed into our efforts to strengthen Moldova's own innovation ecosystem – from how we design programmes and support founders, to how we cooperate with universities, government and international partners to build a more coherent and resilient environment for startups.

Let's collaborate in 2026

We can help you with:

> Innovation Laboratories

Hands-on structured workshops where entrepreneurs develop and test their ideas with expert guidance.

> Forums and Conferences

Platforms for knowledge sharing and networking, bringing together leading minds in the tech field, featuring keynote speakers, panel discussions, and breakout sessions on cutting-edge technologies.

> Hackathons

Intense competitions where teams collaborate to create innovative solutions for real-world problems.

> Community Development

Meetups and other initiatives aimed at fostering your community growth, collaboration, and knowledge-sharing.

> Training and Development Programs

Educational programs to enhance skills and knowledge in various tech-related fields.



The Focus for 2026

Deeptech

We will continue with the fourth edition of the Deeptech GigaHack, establish a DeepTech Academy and Mentorship program, and foster collaborations between researchers, startups and businesses.

Will expand initiated activities in HealthTech, FinTech, AgTech, and EnergyTech, creating tailored programs for specific industries.

Empowering Entrepreneurship

Keep focus on emphasizing entrepreneurial spirit and business growth in Chisinau and underserved regions of Moldova. Will promote the need for mentorship, continue using business tracking, and support entrepreneurs with the latest global trends.



Contact and Inquiries

**LET'S POWER IMPACT
THROUGH INNOVATION
TOGETHER!**

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