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Djassi Africa commits to advancing 200 Black-led tech startups in Brazil by 2026

Deepens equity push and presence in Brazil as major players retreat

London, United Kingdom – April 11, 2025 — In a bold and timely response to the global retrenchment of equity commitments, Djassi Africa is reinforcing its mission to build a fairer innovation ecosystem by committing to advance 200 Black-led tech startups in Brazil by the end of 2026.

As part of this commitment, Djassi Africa is significantly expanding its footprint in Brazil with the onboarding of 23 new startups to the Afropreneurs Brasil Fellowship that will be officially presented at Web Summit Rio 2025, bringing the total number of Brazilian startups accelerated and backed to 61 since 2024. This effort is a testament to resilience, resistance, innovation, and justice, and a decisive step toward providing a new and accurate narrative for Black-led entrepreneurship in the country.

This bold move to scale support for 200 startups in Brazil comes at a time when major tech players and funding bodies in the country are pulling back from diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives. Djassi Africa's response is clear: now is not the time to step away — it's the time to step up.

"We firmly believe in the need of dismantling existing barriers for Black Founders who remain widely underserved in Brazil, despite being the majority of the population in the country. Remember that the lack of equity, equality and diversity is costing the Brazilian startup ecosystem return, talent, and innovation. And the price to pay is just too high." said Fernando Cabral, Managing Partner of Djassi Africa.

Through this initiative, Djassi Africa is aiming to tackle the structural inequities that continue to exclude Black and underrepresented founders from capital, visibility, resources and opportunities in Brazil. Through its portfolio of 6 venture building programs targeting pre-seed to series A tech-enabled startups, Djassi Africa is leading the way in reimagining what inclusive innovation looks like in multiple regions across the globe.

This is just the beginning — a powerful commitment to building the structures and networks needed for long-term, meaningful change. Djassi Africa is advancing, not waiting, proving that action creates momentum, and momentum drives progress.

About Djassi Africa

Djassi Africa is a global organisation based in the United Kingdom, with the mission of advancing and backing African and Afro-diasporan innovators building tech-enabled startups to solve the world's greatest challenges.

We are Venture Builders – by accelerating and maturing high-potential early-stage startups into investable and market-ready businesses.

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We are Ecosystem Builders – by following a data-driven approach to embed diversity, equity, and sustainability in the DNA of innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems.

We are Angel Investors – by following a holistic approach to funding and typically being one of the first investors in early-stage startups that require more than financial capital to grow and scale.

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