

## PRESS RELEASE

# TEN PROMISING EDTECH STARTUPS SELECTED FOR KICKSTART ACCELERATION PROGRAM IN LAUSANNE

LAUSANNE/ ZURICH, 29 August 2017 – [Kickstart Accelerator](#), together with the [Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne \(EPFL\)](#), is proud to announce that ten education technology (EdTech) startups from six countries have been selected by a jury of experts to take part in the Kickstart Accelerator program in Lausanne from mid-September to end November 2017. Four Swiss startups and six international startups were selected: [Dual Academy](#) (CH), [Edorable](#) (USA), [InTeach](#) (F), [MalMath](#) (D), [Mathrix](#) (F), [RyMM](#) (India/Chile), [SOSNachhilfe](#) (CH), [The Experience Accelerator](#) (CH), [UbiSim](#) (CH), and [Urban Social Technologies/U Smart Toys](#) (SP).

### Different technologies and educational needs

The startups selected span technologies from virtual reality to online mobile applications. The educational range spans school studies to learning and development in businesses, through mathematics applications and nurse training. Over 130 startups from four continents and 35 countries were interested in the program and the ten most promising ones were selected. Swisscom, Gebert Rütli Stiftung and the canton of Vaud are supporting the program.

Didier Rey of digitalswitzerland and EPFL emphasizes the strategic importance of EdTech in education, stating that “Switzerland’s combined leadership in Education and Innovation should yield global impact by bringing together leading institutions such as the EPFL, with competencies through the professors, research teams and wider ecosystem. The EdTech Collider offers the ten startups a unique co-working space as a base to collide, explore and expand.”

“Kickstart Accelerator attracts promising technologies in a range of fields and EdTech is no exception,” comments Patricia Schlenker, Program Manager at Kickstart Accelerator. “I am certain that the startups will gain huge benefit from being accelerated in Lausanne and can profit from synergies with EPFL.”

### Access to businesses and investors

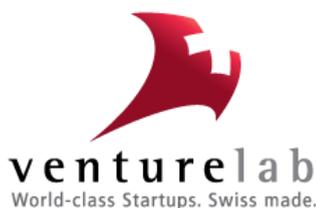
The startups will be arriving in Switzerland to start an intensive eleven-week program on September 19. They will be based in the EPFL [EdTech Collider](#) co-working space for the duration of the acceleration. The startups will have close access to Kickstart Accelerator partner Swisscom and other business partners who will be assisting with proof of concept. During the program they will also have access to investors who have expressed an interest in EdTech investing.

“The global education technology market is estimated to reach USD 252 billion by 2020 and Switzerland has a huge role to play in developing that market,” says Jordi Montserrat, managing director of [venturelab](#). “We hope that the startups will benefit from the vibrant ecosystem here in Lausanne to launch their international expansion. We hope many of the players here in Western Switzerland will attend the Opening and Closing ceremonies on September 20 and November 23 respectively.”

## About Kickstart Accelerator

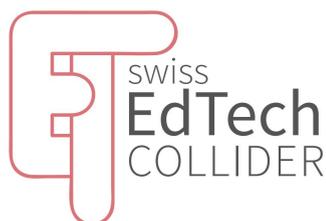
[Kickstart Accelerator](#) invests in solutions that work for problems that matter. The program, an initiative of [digitalswitzerland](#) is one of Europe's largest zero equity, multi-corporate accelerators with the aim of putting the Swiss innovation ecosystem on the global map of entrepreneurship. For 11 weeks, 50 startups come to Switzerland where they are provided with coworking space, seed funding as well as direct access to leading corporate partners, investors, mentors and experts. The program is open to the best international startups within the following six verticals: FinTech, Food, Smart Cities, Robotics & Intelligent Systems, are operated by [Impact Hub](#) and located in Zurich. The EdTech vertical is in partnership with EPFL and operated by [venturelab](#). To offer the healthcare-specific vertical, Kickstart Accelerator has entered into a partnership with [BaselLaunch](#) (operated by [BaselArea.swiss](#)).

Kickstart Accelerator's corporate partners are AXA Winterthur, Coop, Credit Suisse, EY, Gebert-Rüf-Stiftung, Migros, PwC Switzerland, Raiffeisen Switzerland, Swisscom and UBS. The program is also supported by ABB, Accenture, Empa, ETH, Global Fintech Association, Helbling, Helsana, Hilti, Maxon Motor, Metall Zug, Stäubli, Swiss Life as well as the city of Zurich, city of Bern and city of St. Gallen.



## About venturelab

Together with successful founders, key academic and industry partners such as BKW and Swisscom, [venturelab](#) designs and operates support programs to bring the best startup talents to their next development level. It is part of the [IFJ](#) Institute for Young Entrepreneurs, a company with offices and a startup space in Zurich, and offices in Lausanne and St Gallen. It includes programs such as Venture Kick, a pre-seed fund which has supported 500+ projects in the past 10 years, resulting in the launch of over 300 new ventures which have cumulatively attracted CHF 1.43 billion of investment, or venture leaders, the Swiss startups national teams platforms, which selects and boosts startups on their funding and global expansion path.



## About EdTech Collider

The [Swiss EdTech Collider](#) is Switzerland's first collaborative space dedicated to ambitious entrepreneurs transforming education and learning through technology. Located in the EPFL Innovation Park just a few steps away from EPFL's Center for Digital Education, we provide a modern coworking space to our members ranging from early-stage to established startups. Unlike a classical startup incubator or accelerator program, we offer ongoing support and access to edtech experts, industry leaders and investors.

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