

Acco Accelerator Program

The need

Acco is a city of 65,000 residents – 60% Jewish and 30% Arab. The city's unique nature lies in its blend of heritage, geographical location, and multi-cultural human and social texture. Acco is a beautiful symbol of Israeli coexistence, and has significant economic and social potential. Over the recent decade Acco has undergone an accelerated development process, and is expected to grow to 10,000 residents within the next few years. However, the city is ranked in the 4th socio-economic cluster on the national scale and suffers from negative migration and an old, weak city center.

The purpose

OR Movement launched the "Equitable Cities" national program, which accelerates the development of Acco in fields of demographic, economic and community growth. **Urban growth depends greatly on economic growth and employment opportunities.** We mapped the local and regional assets and characterized Acco by a specific economic cluster; renewal of the city center and developing travel-tech and blue-tech sectors. The cluster is the basis for socioeconomic growth and a magnet for businesses, residents, innovation, and investment.

The solution

To create a strong, active hi-tech community in Acco where **residents from all religions are highly satisfied with their quality of life.** Businesses and entrepreneurs choose Acco as their center of activity, leveraging and developing urban businesses and places of employment.

Our mission

To enlarge Acco's value proposition for start-ups, hi-tech companies and entrepreneurs in order to create core jobs, preserve quality population in the city, strengthen the weakened population and keep young people in technological professions in the city.

Establishing an accelerator program will generate talented technological initiatives with tools for success and serve as a magnet for additional hi-tech companies.

The goals

- 1. A vibrant city center** serves as an anchor for urban growth for all residents.
- 2. An Innovation Center** that acts as a home for dozens of local-based hi-tech companies, creating innovation communities around it.
- 3. Acco is transformed into the capital of the western Galilee**, acting as a drawing point for innovation companies and families seeking quality of life and opportunity for great jobs.





Acco Accelerator Program

Components (one accelerator program)

- ONE-STOP-SHOP:** Close assistance to all participants, both operating companies and start-ups, helping them succeed and acting as a link to the local eco-system.
Harnessing partners \$5,000 | Pinpoint an operating company \$5,000 | Connection to local businesses and companies \$5,000 | Assistance with Gov. fundraising \$5,000
- Campaign:** a call for entrepreneurs to participate in the accelerator program \$10,000
- Professional content: Weekly Lecture** 16 lectures, 4 hours each \$35,000 | **Personal Mentor** 20 hours \$15,000

Budget:
\$80,000 for an accelerator program lasting 4 months

Timeline



Partners



Operation (1 year)

- 2-3 accelerator programs supporting start-ups annually.
- 10-15 technological start-ups per year based in Acco.
- A vibrant, active innovation community based around the Innovation Center, increasing the value of the city center specifically and Acco in general.

Expected Impact

Short-term impact (1-2 years):

An additional 10-15 innovation companies in Acco – tripling the number of Acco-based hi-tech companies.

Mid-term impact (5 years):

40-50 hi-tech companies in Acco.

Long-term impact (10 years+):

Creation of 1300 high-quality core positions in Acco, providing a solution for young people residing in the city and generating a significant draw for strong, high-quality families.



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