



## **The SME Toolkit South Africa Young Entrepreneurs Business Plan Competition**

By using the SME Toolkit as a platform, the competition called on young South African entrepreneurs aged 18 to 35 to submit business plans or their business ideas. Sponsored by Business Partners, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and IBM, the competition aims to provide a platform for these young entrepreneurs to unleash their ideas and start them on their journey to business success.

To qualify to enter the competition, the contestant must be:

- A registered user of the SME Toolkit
- 18 to 35 years old
- A South African citizen
- In the idea phase or the business must be less than 2 years old

Short-listed candidates were invited to attend a full-day training workshop on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October, to assist them in writing formal Business Plans. The contestants then had 7 days to submit their Business Plans.

5 finalists will be selected to be interviewed by a judging panel. A regional winner (perhaps more than one if viable) will be selected once they have concluded the final interviews. Runner-up prizes will depend on what we have been able to procure from our sponsors.

The culmination of the competition will be the final Awards Evening on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November, where two winners will be awarded with a notebook each, sponsored by IBM and R10 000 worth of mentorship from Business Partners. High profile SME Stakeholders and members of the media will be invited to attend this event, with the view to give our winners maximum exposure.

For more information on this and other events happening during Global Entrepreneurship Week, please visit <http://southafrica.smetoolkit.org>

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