



**ORANGE  
CORNERS**

AN INITIATIVE OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS

# UPDATE

9 februari 2023

Hi there!

As 2023 is well underway now, we'd like to update you once again on what we've been up to lately. From opening new Orange Corners hubs to alumni community projects and kicking off new business-as-usual incubation and acceleration programmes: there's a lot to be excited about. And all benefitting our young entrepreneurs, of course. So without further ado: we invite you to read on!

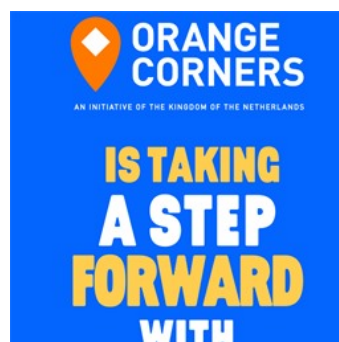
The Orange Corners HQ Team

- ✓ [1,781 alumni and counting!](#)
- ✓ [Alumni Accelerator by Forward-Inc](#)
- ✓ [Opening ceremony Orange Corners Bangladesh](#)
- ✓ [New hub: Orange Corners Jordan](#)
- ✓ [Inspiration: Shakir Ayad - Orderii](#)
- ✓ [#CoCreateMyCity Côte d'Ivoire](#)
- ✓ [Follow Orange Corners on social media](#)

## 1,781 alumni and counting!

In recent weeks, the Orange Corners alumni community expanded considerably, with graduation ceremonies taking place in Erbil, Baghdad, Cairo, Mozambique and Senegal, amongst others.

In total, nearly 1,800 young entrepreneurs have now successfully completed our local incubation and acceleration programmes. And as our new acceleration cycle in Ghana just kicked off with a record number of nearly 350 participants, we're expecting to hit 2,000 graduates very soon too.



## Alumni Accelerator by Forward-Inc

To continue to support our ever-expanding alumni community, we partnered with Amsterdam-based accelerator Forward-Inc for our brand-new online Orange Corners Alumni Accelerator. We're currently accepting applications for the first cycle, which will run between March and October



this year. Participants will have access to further training, coaching and networking sessions.

Deadline for applications: 14 February

Read more about the Alumni

Accelerator [here](#).

### Join RVO's new Partners in Sustainable Development community

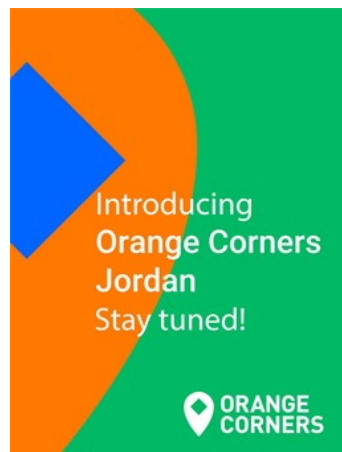
RVO's new Partners in Sustainable Development community aims to connect entrepreneurs, NGOs, knowledge institutes, government organisations and others working on reaching the SDGs in developing countries. Are you interested in expanding your network, sharing knowledge & best practices, learning from others and creating future partnerships to reach the SDGs faster?

Join the [LinkedIn group](#) to benefit from cross-border connections and knowledge sharing.

### Opening ceremony Orange Corners Bangladesh

Yesterday we officially launched Orange Corners Bangladesh at the 8th Social Business Youth Summit. From the HQ side, Programme Advisor Bangladesh Mike Sips was present to take part in the festivities.

Mike: "I'm thrilled that we're able to start an Orange corners hub in Dhaka. There are many young people that have a strong drive to solve local challenges through entrepreneurship."



### New hub: Orange Corners Jordan

Orange Corners is expanding yet again! In addition to launching our programme in Bangladesh, we're also about to open a new hub in Amman, Jordan. For Orange Corners Jordan, we'll partner with local NGO [Queen Rania Center for Entrepreneurship](#) (QRCE) and innovation catalyst [iPARK Jordan](#). On an annual basis, some 40 Jordanian entrepreneurs will have access to training, mentorship, business development support, networking and more.

Welcome to the family, Amman!

### Inspiration: Shakir Ayad - Orderii

From a one-man company to 30 employees and a six-figure pre-seed investment: Orderii's Shakir Ayad has come a long way since his Orange Corners days. Taking advantage of the growing digital literacy and smartphone use among Iraq's young population, his cross-border e-commerce platform is perfectly set to provide Iraq's customers with sought-after foreign products now and in the future. We spoke to Shakir about



Orderii, doing business in Iraq and how Orange Corners helped him get where he is today.

Read the full interview [here](#).



### #CoCreateMyCity Côte d'Ivoire

How can we increase female participation in trainings? Or encourage households to sort their waste? 3 times last year, talented Ivorian students and their mentors racked their brains trying to find solutions to these questions. With the ultimate aim to cocreate their city. They left with new skills, connections and awareness of entrepreneurship as a fun solution to local challenges.

In 2023 too we aim to organise a number of #CoCreateMyCity activities, so stay tuned... maybe this year we'll come your way!



### Follow Orange Corners on social media

Don't want to wait for the next newsletter to get the latest OC news? Want to learn even more about the work we do? For your daily OC updates, follow us on social media:

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Twitter](#)

We can't imagine why, but maybe you no longer want to receive this newsletter. Please send an e-mail to [orangecorners@rvo.nl](mailto:orangecorners@rvo.nl) to unsubscribe.