

Orange Digital Centre launches in Tunisia

Orange recently launched its Orange Digital Centre in Tunis, Tunisia, to provide wide-ranging support for startups, including training young people in coding and providing more direct guidance as well as startup acceleration and investment in early-stage companies.



Image source: [Muslimcommunityreport.com](https://muslimcommunityreport.com)

Alioune Ndiaye, CEO of Orange Middle East and Africa, explains: “I am very proud to launch the first Orange Digital Centre in Tunis. By the end of this year, we will set up similar centres in Senegal, Côte d’Ivoire, Jordan, Cameroon, Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone. From 2020 onwards, Morocco, Egypt and the rest of the countries in the Middle East and Africa region will have their own Orange Digital Centre. Dedicated to countries’ digital development, these new spaces aim to consolidate Orange’s standing as a key player in the digital transformation of the countries where we operate. Functioning as a network, these sites favour sharing experiences and expertise in a way that will benefit not just entrepreneurs but also students, young people with or without degrees, and young people undertaking a career change. We will therefore work in close collaboration with all our stakeholders, including governments and academics, to strengthen the employability of these young people and to encourage them to run businesses and to innovate.”

Catalyst for innovation

The Orange Digital Centre houses four strategic programmes: the coding school, the FabLab Solidaire, Orange Fab and Orange Digital Ventures Africa.

- The coding school is a freely accessible and totally free-of-charge technological centre that offers training and events for the community of young developers, geeks and people with ideas for projects is particularly aimed at students, young graduates and young entrepreneurs.
- The FabLab Solidaire is a digital production workshop for creating and prototyping with digital equipment, such as 3D printers, milling machines and laser cutters. It brings together both young people who are unemployed and have no qualifications as well as students, young graduates and young entrepreneurs.
- Orange Fab is a startup accelerator with an aim to build national and international business partnerships.

with the Orange Group and the international Orange Fab network. This programme helps improve managerial capabilities and provides support for the commercial development of promising startups, and it is mainly aimed at entrepreneurs.

- Orange Digital Ventures Africa is a €50m investment fund for financing innovative startups in Africa and the Middle East (fintech, e-health, energy, edutech and govtech), and it targets entrepreneurs.

Twenty-seven partner universities make up the system in Tunisia, alongside five centres in the region. The aim is to offer access to and support for the best uses of networks to the largest number of people possible.

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