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Casablanca, January 25, 2018 - A success for the second edition of the "Startup Of The Year Africa" (SOTYA) award, initiated by Startup.info, the first collaborative magazine of startups, with the OCP Group, the world leader in the phosphates market derivatives. This year, more than 600 startups took part in the 2018 edition and more than 12,000 online votes were collected to select the most innovative startups on an African scale.

This year, the awards ceremony took place at Technopark in Casablanca, to nominate the winners of various prizes, including the winner of the OCP Agritech Special Award, specializing in agriculture. It is the Ivorian start-up GRACI (Grace Agricole of Ivory Coast), working for the improvement of rice production in Ivory Coast, which has won this prize. The company offers a program of production, certification and dissemination of improved seeds for the rice sector.

This initiative is in line with the ambition of the OCP Group, which, as an African group operating internationally, aims to contribute to food self-sufficiency on a continental scale. The OCP Foundation has also carried out several actions (the OCP Caravans have spread several Africa countries...) in order to help the development of the agricultural sector, in particular through the implementation of a study whose recommendations aim to support this sector in the Basin. Mano River encompassing, besides Ivory Coast, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea Conakry.

OCP Group supports the Startup of the Year Africa initiative, which aims to support the development and promotion of African innovation globally, as part of its commitment to sustainable agriculture in Africa. This operation will then continue throughout the year, with the promotion of African startups and the monitoring of the actions carried out by the partners in a context of open innovation programs for entrepreneurship throughout the continent.



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