



Startup Weekend FinTech GVA

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Last weekend, for most people in **Switzerland**, was a regular good time with friends and family. But, for close to **80 people**, it was an intense weekend full of emotions: courage, stress, fun, happiness and teamspirit! Our community dared to take the opportunity **to change the world** by creating a **FinTech Startup**. Participants had **54 hours** to dream of changing the world's biggest but, perhaps, least innovative industry: banking.



The event, which took place Geneva's FinTech accelerator [FinTech Fusion](#), gathered **FinTech believers, Bankers, IT geniuses, Startups, Venture Capitalist, Lawyers** and people from a myriad of sectors.



The Startup Weekend began Friday evening with two hours where participants could relax, network and show their **A game**.

Shortly after, **battle of pitches** took off and you could feel the great tension in the room since only less than half of those pitching would pass through.

Ten Teams were created after the selection process of each project, which consisted of **Visionaries** (Business Developers), **21st-century artists** (designers) and **hardcore coders** (IT developers).

Friday night was about **brainstorming** and **validating business plans**. Saturday was about **delegating tasks** to each teammate, get **market validation** by conducting meetings and surveys. Meanwhile, each team had the incredible chance to have fantastic coaches hailing from:

- prestigious Tech firms and Banks such as [IBM](#), [Google](#) and [BCV](#)
- disruptive FinTech such as [Ewise](#), [The Screener](#), [Alphametry](#) and [Investglass](#)
- fantastic Startups: Paper li, Faveeo,
- Awesome Venture capitalist: [Dybow](#) VC
- University, foundations and associations: HEIG VD, Inartis foundation, [Swiss FinTech associations](#)

Saturday evening and Sunday was dedicated to creating **MVPs** and putting together the **perfect pitch deck**.

At the stroke of 17:00 : "*so let's get ready to rumble*". Each Startup group had **5 minutes to pitch** and **5 minutes to answer judges' questions**. Every team really had convincing business models and managed to impress the judges and the crowd. Among them, 3 teams distinguished themselves in the order below:

1. **Snowball: Gamification** and enhancing communication between millennials and banks for retirement goals.
2. **Ting**: Making faster and **leaner payments** at restaurants, bars and hotels through an App.
3. **Currency2gether** : **Syndicating FX** orders to get best quotes through an innovative platform.

The Snowball team won: 3 months of **personal mentorship** at [HEIG VD](#), a **private stand** at [Nip Conf](#) (la fin de l'argent) and a team building event at an indoor [skydiving](#).

The event ended with a fun cocktail dinatoire and each participant, coach and judge, all, agreed that the weekend was profoundly useful and a great life experience. We hope, without much doubt, that we shall see most of them for batch2, in April 2017.

We strongly believe that Switzerland needs initiatives like the StartUpWeekend to ensure our place at the top of the world's ranking in innovation and the financial industry.



Once more, thank you, all (sponsors, coaches, judges, participants), for this letting us realize this amazing event, it was a great pleasure to strive to make it happen.

The Awesome SW FinTech Geneva team:

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