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**For Immediate Release**

**e2 Entrepreneurial Ecosystems Joins National Project to  
Advance Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Building**

Leaders Across Thirty Plus National Entrepreneurship Support Organizations Come Together to Advance  
the Field of Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Building

Lincoln, NE - Today, an initiative launched to advance the entrepreneurship ecosystem building field of practice, hosted by the International Business Innovation Associate (InBIA), with funding and support by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. The **Ecosystem Building Leadership Project (EBLP)** seeks to collaboratively design, create, and validate a field-wide infrastructure that will help accelerate wider understanding and adoption of ecosystem building as a practice in economic, community, workforce, and entrepreneurship development in the United States.

“The EBLP is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to transform the ways in which communities support entrepreneurs and enable equitable prosperity,” says Charles Ross, Project Co-chair, and President CEO of InBIA. “We’re excited to collaborate on this initiative with a great group of partners that will bring a wealth of insight, experience, and guidance to the project.”

The project will also be led by co-chairs: Dell Gines, Inclusive Urban and Rural Economic Development Consultant and Kristin Leutz, Founder of Petra Impact Partners. Over thirty leaders and entrepreneurship ecosystem builders from a diverse collective of National Resource Providers are engaged as advisors to the co-chairs and the project team, including Don Macke, Vice President of e2 Entrepreneurial Ecosystems located in Lincoln, Nebraska.

“I’m honored to be on the EBLP Advisory board. For the past few years, the Kauffman Foundation has advanced entrepreneurial ecosystem building. With the EBLP initiative, it is our hope to expand this effort,” says Macke.

The project will accomplish the following goals:

- Collaboratively develop a vision and plan to create field-wide infrastructure to support ecosystem builders
- Create conditions for the sustained efforts needed to create a ‘home’ to center the field of ecosystem building
- Increase shared leadership across multiple organizations in working to accelerate the professional field of practice

To learn more about the EBLP or about getting involved with this project, email:

[eblp.zimmer@gmail.com](mailto:eblp.zimmer@gmail.com).

**About InBIA:** [InBIA](#) is a global non-profit with over 1,200 members that lead entrepreneurship support organizations in 30 countries. InBIA provides industry best practices through education while enabling collaboration, mentorship, peer-based learning, and the sharing of innovative ideas for entrepreneurs across the globe.

**About e2 Entrepreneurial Ecosystems:** [e2 Entrepreneurial Ecosystems](#) helps communities increase prosperity through entrepreneur-focused economic development and ecosystem building. Led by Don Macke, e2 has a national team of practitioners who bring research, coaching, incubation, market intelligence and other expertise to this work.

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