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Personal Survey of Seed Forum Global Founder & CEO



**STEINAR
HOEL KORSMO**



CEO

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Steinar Hoel Korsmo is the Founder, President and CEO of Seed Forum Global which is the biggest organizer of investor-matchmaking forums in the world. Korsmo has been the driving force in the development of the Seed Forum concept and network to 40+ countries since the beginning in Norway in 2001. Seed Forum is currently recognized among start-ups and investors as a leading global provider of access to private equity funding and business acceleration, and the Seed Forum Global program is an important tool for investors to reduce the risk on investing in start-ups. Korsmo has personally conducted more than 350 Seed Forum investor-forums presenting more than 3500 start-ups to investors, and he is also known as one of the world's best investor pitch-trainers and world-leading experts in establishing innovation systems. He has personally trained more than 2000 start-ups in 30+ countries to become investor ready in more than 250 international pitch-training conferences.

Korsmo is also responsible for Seed Forums first mover development as a fast-growing operator of bilateral aid projects where Seed Forum has world-leading competence in the establishment of key-functionality in innovation systems in emerging markets as for instance Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, the Balkans, East Africa, Latin-America and South-East Asia. Korsmo is also a well-known speaker in international convents on innovation and finance on the topic of the global paradigm shift of innovation.

He has a wide background from public elected organizational and political positions as for instance the President of the Norwegian Student Society as well as a member of Municipality Council and elected positions in the Norwegian Conservative Party and youth organization. He also has a wide background and experience as a board member and chairman of the board of many companies, and he holds a major management experience as the managing director from a variety of companies including radio stations and newspaper editor. He has a significant international experience from developing and operating projects and companies with on-location business experience from 40+ countries.

By heart, Korsmo is a serial entrepreneur and Business Angel. He has founded a variety of start-ups, and he has exit experience from management teams and board memberships. Among others this includes Power FM and Scandinavian Travel Gazette.

He is a Norwegian citizen resident in Norway. He is married to Anita (born 1968) and has 2 kids (born 1998 and 2002). He speaks Norwegian / Scandinavian and English fluently and daily-speech Russian and German. His main hobbies are mountain high-pointing and history reading as well as listening to a great number of audiobooks while traveling. So far, he has been to 100+ countries.

As a result of his work, Korsmo is decorated the "Knight Cross of the Falcon of Iceland" by the President of Iceland as well as "The Ukrainian Golden Scythian Pectoral" by the International Chamber of Commerce. He is also a bearer of the Honorary Chairman Club of the Norwegian Student Society as well as awarded honorary life-long memberships in 3 respected Norwegian organisations.