



Lagos Summit

2025 Summit Guide

Fintech & Logistic, Mobility

30 April 2025

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WELCOME

Welcome to the ninth live edition of the AfricArena Tour, where we are leading the way in blending digital and in-person tech experiences throughout the African continent.

Our summit and associated events present a distinctive chance to explore current and emerging tech trends while highlighting Africa's most outstanding startups and innovators. Covering five regions, AfricArena has brought together prominent figures from both global and African tech scenes, advocating for excellence in African technology. Past editions have seen over 700 attendees, more than 60 speakers, and upwards of US\$880 million in significant deals.

This one-day summit will connect over 20 top African startups with global investors, showcasing the continent's innovative capabilities.

Thanks to our valued tech ecosystem partners, Lagos has emerged as West Africa's leading Fintech Capital, with a strong track record of producing world-class unicorns.

As we aim for a collaborative, pan-African approach to innovation - dedicated to creating an environment that promotes positive change. This year's Lagos Summit is set to provide the ultimate platform for accelerating the growth of African tech startups in Fintech, Mobility and Logistics.



Eko Hotel And Suites
Victoria Island | Lagos, Nigeria



20 + Founders | 30+ Speakers



Over 100 in person attendees
throughout 1 day

WHAT IS AFRICARENA?

AfricArena plays a unique and key role in unifying Tech Startups, Corporations, and Investors.



Strengthen

Strengthening the international traction of Africa's most innovative tech startups.



Connect

Connecting founders with investors and corporations.



Promote

Attracting both entrepreneurs and investors to Africa.



Attract

Promoting the African Tech ecosystem and its opportunities.

PROGRAM OF THE WEEK

Alongside the AfricArena Summit, we have tailored exposure events where we create even more opportunities for startups and investors to connect with one another.

AfricArise Founder's Bootcamp

The AfricArise Deal Flow Founder's Bootcamp 2025 accelerates founders' knowledge in key areas overlooked by other programs to prepare startups for the summit.



AfricArena Wired Speed Connect

The AfricArena Wired Speed Connect is a speed networking event for LPs, GPs, and startups held after the summit to facilitate connections and potential collaborations among participants.

The AfricArena VC Night

The AfricArena Lagos VC Night cocktail event will be held on the night before the summit an exclusive venue in Lagos, on Victoria Island in the heart of Nigeria's finance capital.



AfricArena Lagos Summit 30 April 2025

The mission of the AfricArena Summit is to bring together the leading corporates and investors investing in the continent's tech-ecosystem, with the most talented entrepreneurs from across Africa.

SUMMIT PROGRAM

DAY ONE - Wednesday 30 April 2025

All times are WAT (West Africa Time, GMT+1)

08:30 AM	GUESTS ARRIVE AND MINGLE
09:00 AM	MC Welcome and Wake Up
09:15 AM	AfricArena Welcome & Sponsor Remarks - Christophe Viarnaud
09:45 AM	Keynote: Unicorns & Underdogs: What's Next for Africa Fintech Boom?
10:00 AM	Panel Discussion: Borderless Innovation: Africa's Fintech Footprint
10:30 AM	Pitch Challenge & Judging Q&A: Fintech Track (Part 1)
11:10 AM	Fireside Chat: What's next for Africa's innovation ecosystem
11:40 AM	Panel Discussion: Early-Stage Powerhouses: The Traits of High-Impact Founding Teams
12:10 PM	Pitch Challenge & Judging Q&A: Fintech Track (Part 2) & Logistics Track
12:50 PM	LUNCH & NETWORKING
13:50 PM	Founder's Keynote: Navigating New Roads: A Founder's Journey in Mobility & Logistics
14:05 PM	Pitch Challenge & Judging Q&A: Energy Track
14:45 PM	Panel Discussion: What We Should Be Investing In — But Aren't
15:15 PM	Pitch Challenge & Judging Q&A: Agnostic Track
15:55 PM	Pitch Challenge & Judging Q&A: Investor Reverse Pitch
16:15 PM	Panel Discussion: Empowering Resilience: Scaling Women's Impact in African Tech
16:45 PM	Award Ceremony & Official Closing by The Honourable Minister - Bosun Tijani
17:00 PM	END OF DAY



PITCH PROGRAMS

Pitch Track: FinTech



myStash

myStash is a digital savings platform that helps Nigerians build financial discipline by automating micro-savings from everyday spending. With flexible plans and seamless integration into daily transactions, myStash empowers users to save effortlessly and reach their financial goals.



NORTHWAVE LTD

Northwave Credit Ltd is a fintech company offering secured lending solutions, including logbook loans, asset finance, import finance, and title deed loans. The company provides accessible financial services to individuals and businesses, with competitive interest rates and flexible repayment terms. Northwave Credit is committed to promoting financial inclusion and economic growth in Kenya.



CROP2CASH

Crop2Cash is a agritech and fintech startup focused on improving financial inclusion and productivity for smallholder farmers. The platform offers digital payment solutions, agricultural inputs, and insurance via mobile phones, including features like CashCard for digital payments and SupplyBase for managing supply relationships. Crop2Cash also provides climate-smart solutions, such as drought-resistant seeds and weather advisories.



REasy

REasy is a digital rent savings platform that helps users plan, save, and pay their rent with ease. By offering automated savings, reminders, and landlord payment options, REasy makes renting more manageable and stress-free for tenants across Nigeria.



Liquify Digital Limited

Liquify Digital Limited is a fintech company specializing in invoice financing for SMEs in emerging markets, particularly Africa. The platform connects African exporters to global capital markets, providing access to affordable working capital. Led by experienced professionals from finance and technology, Liquify aims to improve cash flow and facilitate business growth for SMEs through trade finance solutions.



PaySika

PaySika is a Francophone Africa-focused neobank that offers digital banking services through mobile apps and popular messaging platforms like WhatsApp, Messenger, and Telegram. It provides free virtual and physical Visa debit cards, enabling users to manage their money, make payments, and receive funds from platforms such as PayPal, YouTube, and TikTok.



Pika Insights

SaaS subscription to data dashboards, and revenue share from financial services marketplace. Pika transitions Africa's informal MSMEs from paper ledgers to a bookkeeping app, which opens them up to financial partners. This activity generates critical last mile retail data.

Pitch Track: FinTech

Adashi



Adashi is a digital financial platform that modernizes informal savings groups in Nigeria by enabling MSMEs and individuals to save money digitally through flexible plans. By partnering with local thrift collectors as agents, it bridges traditional cash-based systems with modern banking, offering transparency, security, and credit-building opportunities. Accessible via USSD and mobile app, Adashi promotes financial inclusion and growth for underserved entrepreneurs.

Loop



Loop is a digital platform transforming mobility and payments across emerging markets. The platform facilitates reliable corporate transportation through real-time shared rides, optimizing costs and enhancing productivity. Loop also enables seamless, secure digital payments via innovative solutions like Chat-to-Pay and Tap-to-Pay, boosting financial inclusion and convenience for businesses, commuters, and informal vendors alike.

Pitch Track: Energy

Moon Innovations Limited



The Solar Utility Box is an all-in-one infrastructure-as-a-service solution built for the digital, off-grid economy. It integrates solar power generation, wireless internet connectivity, and AI-powered security in a compact, plug-and-play system. Monitored and controlled through a mobile app, users can track energy usage, manage connectivity, and receive system alerts in real-time. Ideal for homes, businesses, clinics, and schools, it brings clean energy, digital access, and enhanced security to communities across Nigeria.

Koolboks



Koolboks is a Paris-based company providing solar-powered refrigeration solutions in off-grid areas across Africa. Their freezers, equipped with ice battery technology, offer up to 72 hours of cooling without sunlight. Koolboks uses a Pay-As-You-Go financing model to make refrigeration accessible to low-income consumers.

Greenera Technologies



Greenera Technologies is a renewable energy company specializing in affordable solar power solutions for underserved communities and small businesses across Africa. Greenera is committed to making clean, reliable energy accessible to everyone. The company offers a range of products and services, including solar home systems, mini-grids, portable solar units, and solar-powered generators.

PITCH PROGRAMS

Pitch Track: Logistics & E-commerce



Kamel

Kamel is a social commerce startup building essential infrastructure to empower a caravan of over 100 million retail entrepreneurs in Africa. We provide the tools needed for anyone to start, manage, and, grow a retail business of any size - even without access to capital. Our mission is to make commerce accessible to everyone interested in earning online; From vendors & brands with products looking to grow their sales; To resellers with no products looking to earn from commissions.



Retailloop Technologies

Retail Loop Technologies is an AI-powered enterprise commerce platform focused on emerging markets, particularly sub-Saharan Africa. It provides tools for inventory management, sales tracking, online storefronts, and secure payment processing, including cryptocurrency support. Founded in 2022, Retail Loop streamlines operations for retailers and chain stores.



Boifiok

Boifiok digitalizes Africa's food supply chain, with a core focus of connecting urban households to affordable groceries and accelerating growth for vendors through group buying.

PITCH PROGRAMS

Pitch Track: Agnostic



XCHANGE BOX

An Agritech and Fintech startup streamlining agro-commodity sourcing and supply chains in Africa, starting with Nigeria. The platform offers trading finance, a marketplace, and inventory tools to support farmers and agro traders, while promoting food security, youth engagement, and export access. We also provide rural payment services through agent networks, backed by a Central Bank of Nigeria license.



Vetsark

Vetsark helps farmers and agribusinesses in Africa access finance, increase productivity, and improve their profitability. We use technology to bridge the gap between farmers and financial institutions by providing a platform for loan origination, credit scoring, and loan monitoring. Vetsark also helps farmers source inputs and sell their products at fair prices.



CDIAL AI

CDIAL.AI is a Nigerian startup building conversational AI tools in African languages to promote digital inclusion. Its flagship product, Indigenius, lets businesses deploy multilingual voice agents, while its smart keyboard supports 180 African languages. CDIAL has earned major awards and accelerator spots for its work in bridging the language gap with AI.



Agrovesto

Digital platform that optimizes supply chain, market access and financial services for farmers, agro-processors and crop exporters using real-time data. It enables farmers access markets, build digital records and access finance seamlessly to streamline all agricultural transactions for efficiency and improved digital Agri-ecosystem.



Coastal BioTech

Coastal Biotech is a marine biotechnology company based in Zanzibar, focusing on macroalgae (seaweed) to revolutionize the food and feed industry. They specialize in value-added products derived from seaweed, aiming to replace chemical inputs in the agricultural sector and offer affordable solutions for farmers. They are a carbon-negative company that integrates international biotech standards with local agronomic knowledge.

EVENT LOGISTICS

This year's AfricArena Lagos Fintech, Logistics & Mobility Summit is taking place at the prestigious Eko Hotel And Suites.

There is parking in the same venue for delegates attending the summit.

Venue & Parking:

1415 Adetokunbo Ademola Street, Victoria Island, Lagos 106104, Lagos

On arrival make your way to the main entrance and they will direct you to the summit venue.



EVENT LOGISTICS

Venue Directions



Step 1:

Upon arriving at the hotel, this is the view from the outside. There is plenty of parking available on the ground level, with staff on hand to assist you.



Step 2: At reception, simply ask for the 'AfricArena Lagos Summit,' and a volunteer will be nearby to guide and assist you.



Step 3: You follow along this path; continue straight until you reach the end, where another volunteer will be there to assist you further.



Step 4

Follow this path straight ahead; the entrance to the hall will be on your left-hand side.

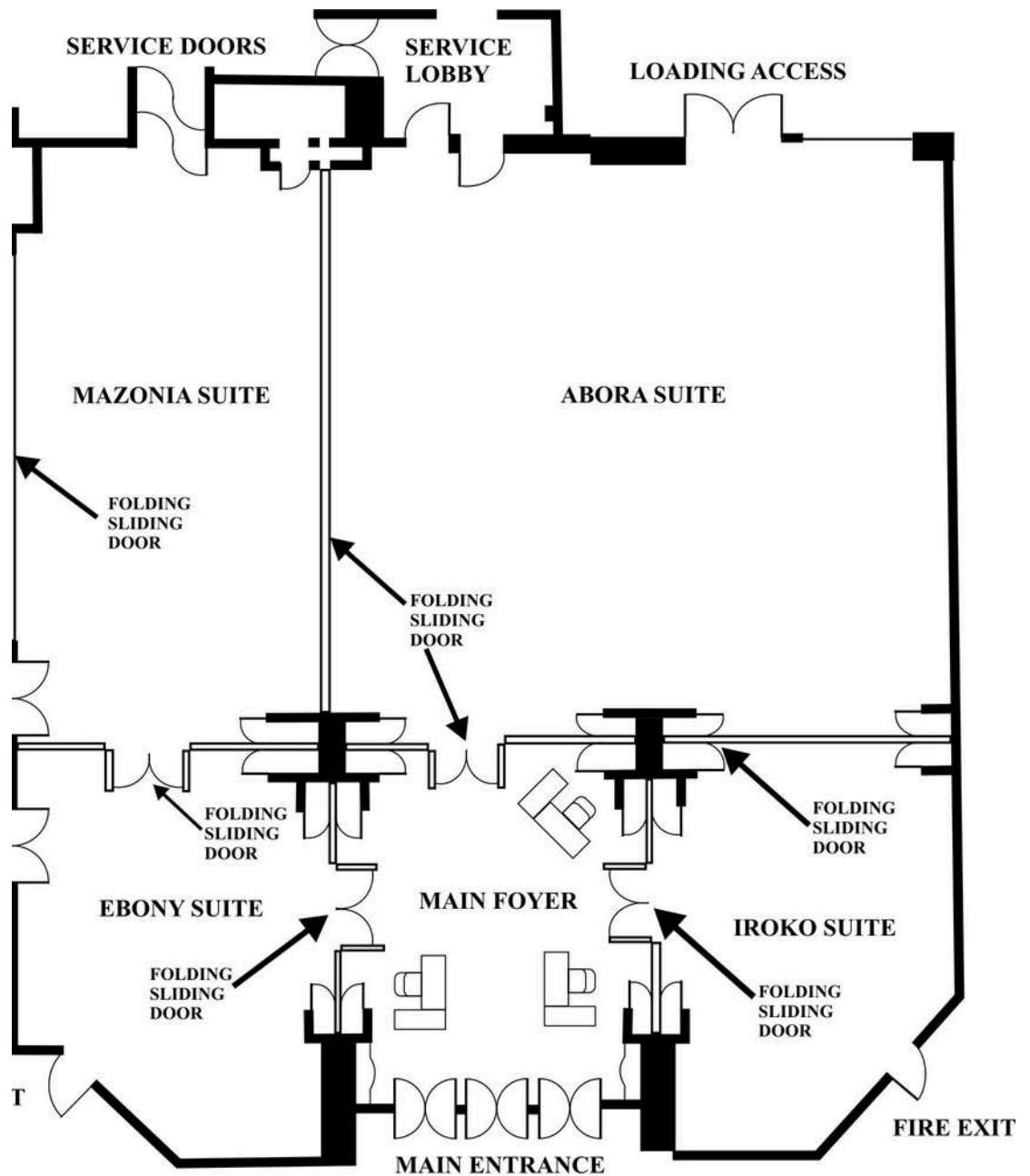


Step 5 :

This entrance leads into the main foyer where you will be assisted with registration and badge collection. Thereafter, into the main hall.

EVENT LOGISTICS

Africarena Lagos Venue Summit Floor Plan & Room Breakdown



WORD FROM THE SPONSORS

LUCA ZIMMERMANN
STARTUP ADVISOR
GIZ SAIS

Luca Zimmermann works at the intersection of technology and sustainability. During his three years at SAP, he supported European automotive manufacturers in optimizing their production systems through software and process innovation. Afterwards, he joined Koolboks, a Nigerian ClimateTech start-up providing solar-powered refrigeration on a pay-as-you-go model. For the past three years, he works with GIZ/SAIS, where he helps African AgTech ventures scale through capacity building and fundraising.



DANIEL VON RITTER
COMPONENT MANAGER
GIZ NIGERIA

Daniel von Ritter, Component Manager at GIZ Nigeria has over 15 years' experience consulting international Corporates in the field of Innovation Management and Digital Transformation processes, he started to work for the German Development Agency (GIZ) in 2020. He worked for a program to support Startups in East Africa (Make-IT in Africa) based in Kigali Rwanda from 2020 to 2024. Since April 2024 he has joined the GIZ/Digital Transformation Center Nigeria as Head of Component. He is responsible for all activities from DTC concerning the Innovation Ecosystem and Entrepreneurship Support.

JAREESHA CHIRAMMAL
PRODUCTION MANAGER - MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA
REDINGTON

With over a decade of experience in sales and channel management, Jareesha Chirammal specializes in driving revenue growth through strategic partnerships, innovative marketing, and effective partner enablement. She has a proven track record of exceeding sales targets and enhancing market reach. Her strengths include negotiation, market analysis, contract management, and delivering exceptional customer experiences through clear communication and collaboration. Jareesha holds a B.Sc. in Computer Science & Engineering from Visvesvaraya University and certifications in Sales Acceleration and Employability Training.



EVENT MC



LADY KAY

STARTUP STORYTELLER

SALAD AFRICA

Lady is a multimedia journalist, poet, and conference host. She covers excellence in African business, technology, and arts in her newsletter, Journal 54. She currently oversees Communications and Social Impact at Salad Africa, an embedded lending fintech startup.

With a versatile background in Nigeria and Africa's tech ecosystem, Lady has excelled in various roles, from managing communications for startups to co-hosting The Next Wave TV show on CNBC Africa (2022)

Lady also led TechCabal's newsroom from 2021 to 2023. Her expertise extends to hosting technology conferences and speak on and moderating technology and business panels.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

DR. 'BOSUN TIJANI I

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS INNOVATION AND DIGITAL ECONOMY

THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA.

OFFICIAL CLOSING CEREMONY AND AWARDS

A pioneer of Africa's tech ecosystem, he co-founded and led Co-Creation Hub (CcHUB), a leading innovation center driving startup growth across the continent. With a background in international trade, innovation management, and economic development, Dr. Tijani is a passionate advocate for technology-driven transformation in Africa. He holds degrees from the University of Jos, Warwick University, and a PhD from the University of Leicester. He has been instrumental in scaling tech hubs and innovation programs across Nigeria, Kenya, and Rwanda. Throughout his career, he has championed initiatives that promote digital inclusion, education, and entrepreneurship. Dr. Tijani has been recognized globally for his contributions to Africa's innovation landscape. His vision continues to inspire a new generation of leaders shaping the continent's digital future.



IYINOLUWA ABOYEJI

FOUNDING PARTNER

FUTURE AFRICA



FIRESIDE CHAT: WHAT'S NEXT FOR AFRICA'S INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM

Iyinoluwa "E" Aboyeji is currently the Founding Partner of Future Africa, Africa's largest seed stage investor which has invested millions of dollars into over hundred startups across Africa. Prior to that he co-founded two of Africa's seven unicorns; Andela and Flutterwave. Iyinoluwa has served his country as the youngest member of Nigeria's Presidential Council on Industrial Policy and Competitiveness and has been recognized as one of the youngest recipients of a national award as the Officer of the Order of the Niger (OON). He has been recognized as a World Economic Forum Young Global Leader and a Forbes 30 under 30 honoree amongst other awards and fellowships.

SEHINDE AFOLAYAN

FOUNDER & CEO

HAUL247

FOUNDER'S KEYNOTE: NAVIGATING NEW ROADS: A FOUNDER'S JOURNEY IN MOBILITY & LOGISTICS

Sehinde Afolayan is the Co-founder and CEO of Haul247, a tech-driven logistics and warehousing platform transforming supply chains in Africa. He is passionate about innovation and operational efficiency, using technology to optimize logistics and drive sustainability. Sehinde previously founded two businesses in agriculture, logistics, and commodities trading, showcasing strong leadership.



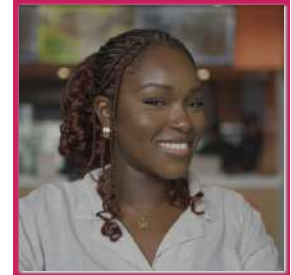
Through Haul247, he addresses Africa's fragmented logistics sector by integrating smart technology solutions. He holds an MBA and has completed advanced management programs locally and internationally.

SPEAKERS

PRECIOUS OYELADE
CHIEF IMPLEMENTER
POV

PANEL MODERATOR : BORDERLESS INNOVATION: AFRICA'S FINTECH FOOTPRINT

Precious has worked with hundreds of early stage founders across Africa & Europe, to grow and scale. At Google for Startups, she led the Black Founders Fund, equipping founders with the tools to unlock \$200m+ in follow-on funding. A community builder, she led Seedcamp's 400+ European founder community, and launched the inaugural Wimbart Office Hours program for African startups. At POV, she leverages her strategic acumen to forge connections across the European and African tech ecosystems, supporting both angel and institutional investors, corporates, and founders to identify more cross border investment and growth opportunities, access capital, and explore expansion.



ISMAIL OLASUNKANMI
CEO & FOUNDER
DEVEOTE

PANEL: BORDERLESS INNOVATION: AFRICA'S FINTECH FOOTPRINT

Ismail Olasunkanmi is a transformation leader in Africa's tech ecosystem with over twelve years of experience. He was formerly CTO at Future Africa and Accelerate Africa. He now leads Deveote, a startup studio empowering founders with technical strategy and engineering expertise. Ismail has launched ventures and collaborated with top organizations across fintech and telecommunications. At Deveote, he helps startups avoid costly mistakes, accelerate growth, and build lasting impact. He combines hands-on technical skills with strategic vision to drive success. Passionate about innovation, he addresses Africa's unique challenges and opportunities.

GABRIEL OLOGUNWA
AVP, GLOBAL EXPANSION & PAYMENT PARTNERSHIPS - WEST AFRICA
FLUTTERWAVE

PANEL: BORDERLESS INNOVATION: AFRICA'S FINTECH FOOTPRINT

Gabriel Ologunwa is a business growth professional turned financial advisor and investor. He is passionate about partnering with value-aligned innovators and investors, bringing economic empowerment to disadvantaged communities on the continent of Africa. He is currently the Founding Partner of Plumule Advisory Limited, with a mission to empower young African entrepreneurs who are leveraging technology to turn the continent's toughest and multi-layered infrastructural challenges into profitable business opportunities. He was previously the Group Head of Fintech at Fidelity Bank Plc where he successfully grew net income from N50m to over N400m monthly, thus earning the award for the "Highest Budget Achievement" and "Most Valuable Team".



SPEAKERS

FOLU OTUBANJO
INDUSTRY LEAD
PAYSTACK

PANEL: BORDERLESS INNOVATION: AFRICA'S FINTECH FOOTPRINT

Folu Otubanjo is a fintech leader with over five years of experience driving business growth and expansion for Paystack's enterprise businesses in Nigeria. She is currently the industry Lead for the Transports and Utilities vertical at Paystack where she leads go-to-market and growth strategies for new and existing clients within these sectors. Prior to this, she served as Key Accounts Lead for Nigeria, leading the team responsible for managing relationships Paystack's largest and fastest-growing enterprise clients in various industries. Folu holds an MSc in Financial Management from Warwick Business School and a BA in Business Economics from the University of Liverpool. In her spare time, she enjoys travelling and exploring other cultures.



BRIAN WASWANI ODHIAMBO
PARTNER
NOVASTAR

PANEL: BORDERLESS INNOVATION: AFRICA'S FINTECH FOOTPRINT

Brian Waswani Odhiambo is a Partner at Novastar Ventures West Africa Limited, Lagos. Born and raised in Kenya, Brian's career has been an entrepreneurial adventure across West, Southern and East Africa. Immediately after graduating from Yale University with honours, he joined the management team that started Jumia, a leading and award-winning e-commerce platform across Africa. Brian then co-founded Zamsolar, a last-mile distribution company in Zambia, and was later Chief Operating Officer at Livelyhoods, a last mile distribution business in Nairobi. He joined Novastar in January 2015 and now heads up the team in Lagos.

PRINCESS EDOKPAYI
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
SPURT

PANEL MODERATOR: EARLY-STAGE POWERHOUSES: THE TRAITS OF HIGH-IMPACT FOUNDING TEAMS

Princess O. Edokpayi is the Chief Operating Officer at Spurt!, bringing extensive expertise in team leadership, business administration, and stakeholder development. A seasoned entrepreneur, she has built a strong track record in client management, project coordination, and corporate brand strategy. Princess leverages technology and data-driven decision-making to empower entrepreneurs and scale organizations across Africa. Her leadership reflects a commitment to sustainable growth, innovation, and lasting impact.



SPEAKERS

OLUWADUNNI FANIBE

ACCELERATOR PORTFOLIO MANAGER AFRICA
GOOGLE

PANEL: EARLY-STAGE POWERHOUSES: THE TRAITS OF HIGH-IMPACT FOUNDING TEAMS

Oluwadunni Fanibe is the Accelerator Portfolio Manager for Africa at Google, with deep expertise in deal sourcing, venture building, and portfolio management. She has driven high-impact outcomes across key African markets, including Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, South Africa, and Rwanda. An Economics graduate from Obafemi Awolowo University, she also holds a Diploma in French and completed the Private Equity programme at Oxford's Saïd Business School. Passionate about empowering African female founders and improving access to education for girls, Oluwadunni is a committed advocate for inclusive growth across the continent.



MIA VON KOSCHITZKY-KIMANI

PARTNER
FUTURE AFRICA

PANEL: EARLY-STAGE POWERHOUSES: THE TRAITS OF HIGH-IMPACT FOUNDING TEAMS

Mia von Koschitzky-Kimani is a Partner at Future Africa, passionate about helping African startups unlock their full potential through a unique blend of strategic expertise and empathy. Originally from Germany, Mia attended Harvard Business School before moving to Africa in 2009, where she has since built a dynamic career as an operator, VC, angel investor, and entrepreneur. She co-founded and successfully exited DukaConnect, a retail and AI startup acquired by Mastercard. Previously, Mia was a Partner at climate-focused VC firm Persistent Energy Capital and helped establish the Johannesburg and Nairobi offices of Boston Consulting Group. Now based in Kenya with her family, Mia continues to champion innovation across Africa, with a goal of visiting 100 countries worldwide.



JORDY KIANGE BENI

INVESTMENT PRINCIPAL
OCTERRA CAPITAL

PANEL: EARLY-STAGE POWERHOUSES: THE TRAITS OF HIGH-IMPACT FOUNDING TEAMS

Jordy Kiange Beni is the Investment Principal at Octerra Capital, where he leads strategic investments across Africa's most promising sectors. With a sharp eye for high-growth opportunities and a passion for empowering entrepreneurs, Jordy combines deep financial expertise with a strong commitment to driving sustainable impact. His experience spans private equity, venture capital, and strategic advisory, positioning him as a key player in Africa's evolving investment landscape. Known for his analytical rigor and collaborative approach, Jordy is dedicated to fueling innovation and building the next generation of market leaders across the continent.



SPEAKERS

KRISTIN WILSON
MANAGING PARTNER
INNOVATE FUND AFRICA

PANEL: EARLY-STAGE POWERHOUSES: THE TRAITS OF HIGH-IMPACT FOUNDING TEAMS

Kristin Wilson is a technology strategist and Fund Manager at Innovate Africa Fund, where she leads investments in early-stage, tech-driven ventures solving complex problems across Africa. She also serves as Chief Strategy Officer at Spurt!, driving digital transformation and growth for startups and SMEs across the continent. With over a decade of experience, Kristin specialises in building systems, teams, and strategies that enable businesses to scale and adapt in evolving markets. She is a recognised voice on the future of work, a Managing Partner at Bold Angel Network, Venture Partner at Oui Capital, and Investment Lead at Rising Tide Africa. A Harris Fellow, Kristin is passionate about leveraging technology and entrepreneurship for sustainable development.



ESOHE IGBINOBA
STARTUP ADVISOR
ALX VENTURES

PANEL MODERATOR: WHAT WE SHOULD BE INVESTING IN – BUT AREN'T

Esohe Igbinoba is a passionate Builder and the founder of Coterie Builders, where she helps companies create thriving communities. With 12 years of experience, she excels in taking startups from 0 to 1, having led over 12 portfolio companies and managed day-to-day operations for two of them. Her expertise spans strategy, product development, marketing, startup operations, and people management. Esohe has a strong background in HR consulting and recruiting, helping organizations build strong teams. Outside of building, Esohe mentors leaders, enjoys movies, and is an avid reader and book club member. She is deeply committed to fostering high-performing cultures and empowering the next generation of entrepreneurs.

CYRIL SHONIBARE
VC ASSOCIATE
TLCOM CAPITAL LLP

PANEL: WHAT WE SHOULD BE INVESTING IN – BUT AREN'T

Cyril is an investment professional at TLcom Capital LLP, based in Lagos, focusing on early-stage tech investments in Africa. He handles deal sourcing, due diligence, execution, and strategic support for portfolio companies. Cyril has a background in consulting for African startups in product development and fundraising and previously led Product Strategy and Operations at Payscale. He also worked as an Investment Professional at Emerging Capital Partners. Cyril holds an MSc in Emerging Economies from Kings College London and an MA in Economics from the University of Edinburgh.



SPEAKERS

ASHIM EGUNJOBI
MANAGING PARTNER
OCTERRA CAPITAL

PANEL: WHAT WE SHOULD BE INVESTING IN – BUT AREN'T

Ashim Egunjobi is an investment professional and global leader with over 15 years of experience in the financial services and technology sectors. She has led multinational teams across Africa, Germany, the Middle East, and Asia, gaining a deep understanding of global opportunities and risks. A strong advocate for diversity, she championed the Diversity and Inclusion committee at Standard Chartered and founded the Tek Experts Women's Network in Nigeria. Ashim holds an MBA from IE Business School and a Bachelor's in International Business and Finance from Munich Business School. She co-founded the award-winning brand Always Me by Anne Li and is a founding member of the Bake For Change Development Foundation, supporting disadvantaged youth in Lagos.



TOYIN EMMANUEL- OLUBAKE
CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER
CATALYST FUND

PANEL MODERATOR: WHAT WE SHOULD BE INVESTING IN – BUT AREN'T

Olúwatóyìn (Toyin) Emmanuel-Olúbákè is Chief Investment Officer at Catalyst Fund, a pan-African early-stage investor targeting high growth companies enabling climate adaptation and in Africa. Toyin has over 17 years' experience across the financing value chain from advising on transactions collectively worth over \$3bn during his investment banking career, before moving to investment management where he has deployed over \$8m across private equity, impact investing and venture capital. His expertise includes fundraising, investment appraisal, commercial growth, strategic planning, board management and developing governance systems. Toyin has worked closely with entrepreneurs across a variety of sectors, geographies and business models.

CHRISTINE MAINA
CEO
EAST AFRICA VENTURE CAPITAL ASSOCIATION (EAVCA)

PANEL: WHAT WE SHOULD BE INVESTING IN – BUT AREN'T

Christine Maina is the CEO of the East Africa Venture Capital Association (EAVCA). She has over 16 years of experience in Business, Trade, and Investment across the Region. Her expertise spans organisational leadership, marketing communications, cross-border advisory, and bilateral trade negotiations. Christine is a passionate advocate for increased investment in East Africa as a driver of sustainable economic growth. Through her role at EAVCA, she works to strengthen the region's private capital ecosystem and position East Africa as a strategic destination for investors.



SPEAKERS

BABACAR SECK
MANAGING PARTNER
ASKYA INVESTMENT PARTNERS



PANEL: WHAT WE SHOULD BE INVESTING IN – BUT AREN'T

Babacar Seck is founder & managing partner of Askya Investment Partners, an investment firm building generational tech and AI companies from Africa. As investor and operator, Babacar backed 17 startups that returned over \$120m in profits to investors, including one IPO on the New York Stock Exchange. Since 2015, he has contributed to the development of Africa's startup ecosystem as CEO of Digital Africa and Founding Member of Proparco's \$300m venture capital program, investing in iconic startups such as Moniepoint, Jumia and Complete Farmer, and anchoring multiple VC funds. Prior to becoming an investor, Babacar served as Advisor to the Chairman and CEO of AXA, one of the world's largest firms, where he played a key role in the group's digital partnerships and emerging markets expansion, spearheading billion-dollar strategic initiatives.



CHIDUBEM EMELUMADU
ECOSYSTEM LEAD
LISK

PANEL MODERATOR: EMPOWERING RESILIENCE: SCALING WOMEN'S IMPACT IN AFRICAN TECH

Chidubem Emelumadu is the Ecosystem Lead for Africa at Lisk, where she drives blockchain adoption across the continent by supporting developers and startups. She manages local ambassadors, coordinates incubator programs, and organizes events like hackathons and boot camps. Before Lisk, she worked with Binance, Nodo, and Access Bank, advocating for blockchain innovation in Africa. Chidubem is passionate about diversity and inclusion, having hosted events like "Block & Brunch" to empower women in blockchain. She holds a degree from the University of Warwick and is based in Lagos, Nigeria.

SOLOMON KING
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
LAGOS ANGEL NETWORK

PANEL: EMPOWERING RESILIENCE: SCALING WOMEN'S IMPACT IN AFRICAN TECH

Solomon King is the Executive Director of the Lagos Angel Network (LAN), where he leads initiatives to mobilize capital, empower entrepreneurs, and strengthen Africa's startup ecosystem. With over 17 years of experience in funding and finance, he has guided startups in sectors like agribusiness, FMCGs, telecommunications, and energy, helping them secure funding exceeding \$20 million. Solomon is also the Chief Business Officer at Boodl and serves as a Non-Executive Director and mentor in various organizations.



SPEAKERS

SEGUN COLE
CEO & FOUNDER
MAASAI

PANEL: EMPOWERING RESILIENCE: SCALING WOMEN'S IMPACT IN AFRICAN TECH

Segun Cole is the CEO and Founder of Maasai, a fintech SaaS platform that streamlines mergers and acquisitions for startups and investors in Africa. He is also the founder of Fund The Gap Alliance, advocating for underrepresented founders in venture capital.

Segun is the President of Startup Huddle Lagos, supporting over 230 startups, and serves on the Nigerian SEC's working committee on Angel Investment and Venture Capital. He holds a degree in Business Administration from Bells University of Technology and is actively involved in reshaping Africa's venture capital landscape.



JANE EGERTON-IDEHEN
CEO OF NIGCOMSAT AND FOUNDER
VONTECH GROUP

PANEL : EMPOWERING RESILIENCE: SCALING WOMEN'S IMPACT IN AFRICAN TECH

Jane Egerton-Idehen is a dynamic leader with over 17 years of experience in the tech sector. A senior executive, angel investor, and strategic advisor, she has led sales and marketing teams at Ericsson, Nokia-Siemens, and Meta across Europe, the Middle East, and Africa.

She specializes in helping businesses take products to market, generate revenue, and build high-performing teams. Jane is also the author of the Amazon bestseller *Be Fearless: Give Yourself Permission To Be You*. Her expertise includes strategy, sales, marketing, product development, and new business development.



YEMI KERI
PRESIDENT
ABAN

PANEL: EMPOWERING RESILIENCE: SCALING WOMEN'S IMPACT IN AFRICAN TECH

Yemi Keri is a commercially minded technologist with 23 years of experience in IT and telecommunications. She is a recognized leader in digital transformation, delivering innovative solutions to business and social challenges.

Yemi serves on multiple boards, including First City Monument Bank, Investment One Financial Services, and the Nigerian-German Chamber of Commerce. She is the President of the African Business Angel Network and Chair of Lagos Angel Network. She is the CEO of Heckerbella Limited, Co-Founder of Rising Tide Africa, and a mentor to tech startups. Yemi is also an Expert in Residence at the Enterprise Development Centre and was honored as Nigeria's most outstanding Public Sector CIO in 2014.



SPEAKERS

JEFFERY AKEMU
PLATFORM & OPS ASSOCIATE
LAUNCH AFRICA VENTURES

PANEL: INVESTORS PITCH

Onafume (Jeffery) Akemu is a dynamic force at Launch Africa Ventures, helping to power early-stage investment across Africa's fastest-growing startups. With a sharp eye for innovation, a strong background in venture building, and a passion for scaling African talent, Jeffery plays a key role in shaping the continent's tech and entrepreneurial landscape. He is deeply committed to bridging the funding gap for African founders and driving sustainable growth across emerging markets.



MUKAMI WAINAINA
INVESTMENT OFFICER
AL MADA VENTURES

PANEL MODERATOR: INVESTORS PITCH

Mukami Wainaina is an Investment Officer at Al Mada Ventures, based in Casablanca, focusing on early-stage startups scaling across Africa and beyond. She also sits as a strategic venture partner with Chui Ventures and prior to that was with a London-based Family Office investing in direct equity and real estate assets. Mukami is a qualified Chartered Accountant and holds a Masters in International Business Law from LSE and a Law Degree from the University of York.

MAXIME BOUAN
GENERAL PARTNER
SEEDSTAR AFRICA VENTURES

PANEL: INVESTORS PITCH

Maxime Bouan is the General Partner at Seedstars Africa Ventures, where he leads investments into the continent's most promising early-stage startups. With extensive experience across venture capital, entrepreneurship, and emerging markets, Maxime brings a hands-on approach to supporting founders from seed to scale. Passionate about unlocking Africa's full economic potential, he is focused on backing bold, impact-driven entrepreneurs building scalable, inclusive solutions across sectors such as fintech, healthtech, agritech, and climate tech. Through Seedstars Africa Ventures, Maxime is helping shape a vibrant and resilient startup ecosystem that drives sustainable growth and global relevance.



JUDGES

HITESH MAKHIJA
CO-FOUNDER & CEO
REGULUS INVESTMENTS

JUDGE: FINTECH PITCH TRACK

Hitesh Makhija is a seasoned finance professional with over 16 years of diversified experience deeply entrenched in shaping financial strategies and optimizing operations across various sectors and geographies. With focus on Africa for the past decade, Hitesh possesses a deep understanding of the continent's intricate terrain, having worked directly in more than 10 out of its 54 countries. His expertise and success lie in navigating the complexities of African markets and thus contributing significantly to the growth and success of ventures within the region.



LORETTA ADAMU
DEMAND GENERATION MANAGER
PAYSTACK

JUDGE: FINTECH PITCH TRACK

Loretta Adamu is a seasoned growth specialist at Paystack, a leading African payments technology company where she is the Demand Generation Manager. She has a strong background in communications, event planning, program management, marketing, and fundraising, she plays a pivotal role in driving user acquisition and brand engagement for Paystack. Loretta holds a Bachelor's degree in English Language and Literature from the University of Abuja.



ESOHE IGBINOBA
STARTUP ADVISOR
ALX VENTURES

JUDGE: LOGISTICS PITCH TRACK

Esohe Igbino is a seasoned entrepreneur, startup advisor, and ecosystem builder with a strong focus on empowering African tech talent and early-stage ventures. Currently serving as a Startup Advisor at ALX Ventures, she plays a pivotal role in supporting the next generation of African entrepreneurs. In her capacity at ALX Ventures, Esohe contributes to initiatives like the Founder Academy, which is designed to help aspiring entrepreneurs develop and launch their startups. The program offers workshops, mentorship, and resources to guide participants from idea to execution. She is also involved in the ALX Accelerator Programme, which provides investor readiness support and initial in-kind investment to selected startups, and the Venture Capital Fund, offering co-investment and advisory support to high-potential ventures. Beyond her advisory role at ALX Ventures, Esohe is the Founder and CEO of Neobrand Africa, a platform dedicated to providing SMEs and startups with innovative solutions to accelerate their growth. She is also the co-founder of Fail Forward, a community aimed at supporting tech entrepreneurs in navigating the challenges of building successful ventures.



JUDGES

PETER WAMBURU
VICE PRESIDENT
VESTED WORLD

JUDGE: LOGISTICS PITCH TRACK

Peter Wamburu is currently the Vice President at VestedWorld, having previously served as an Investment Associate. With extensive experience in the venture and investment space, Peter worked as a Startup & Investment Advisor at Pariti, providing strategic input on financial models and pitch decks for early-stage companies. As a Consultant for Optimizer Foundation, Peter supported impact investing efforts in Sub-Saharan Africa, focusing on pipeline development and due diligence. Peter also participated in the prestigious Newton Venture Program as a Venture Fellow, selected among over 300 global applicants. Earlier roles include Group Business Analyst and Data Analyst at Odyssey Capital, where Peter facilitated fundraising and implemented credit risk scoring frameworks. Additional experience includes project management in the renewable energy sector at Solar World Group East Africa and hardware product development at BRCK. Peter holds a Master of Science in Financial Technology from the University of Glasgow and a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Nairobi.



OLUFEMI OYINSAN
GENERAL PARTNER
TCVP

JUDGE: LOGISTICS PITCH TRACK

Olufemi Oyinsan, is the General Partner at The Continent Venture Partners (TCVP), an Africa-based early-stage venture capital firm launched in 2020. Based in Lagos, Nigeria, Oyinsan brings significant private equity experience to TCVP, where he focuses on supporting tech-driven startups across the continent. The firm's portfolio includes companies such as Moniepoint, Helium Health, Terragon Group, Mono, Lami, and Akiba Digital.

KRISTIN WILSON
PARTNER
INNOVATE FUND AFRICA

JUDGE: LOGISTICS PITCH TRACK

Kristin Wilson is a technology strategist and Fund Manager at Innovate Africa Fund, where she leads investments in early-stage, tech-driven ventures solving complex problems across Africa. She also serves as Chief Strategy Officer at Spurt!, driving digital transformation and growth for startups and SMEs across the continent. With over a decade of experience, Kristin specialises in building systems, teams, and strategies that enable businesses to scale and adapt in evolving markets. She is a recognised voice on the future of work, a Managing Partner at Bold Angel Network, Venture Partner at Oui Capital, and Investment Lead at Rising Tide Africa. A Harris Fellow, Kristin is passionate about leveraging technology and entrepreneurship for sustainable development.



JUDGES

LUCA ZIMMERMAN
STARTUP ADVISOR
GIZ

JUDGE: ENERGY PITCH TRACK

Luca Zimmermann works at the intersection of technology and sustainability. During his three years at SAP, he supported European automotive manufacturers in optimizing their production systems through software and process innovation. Afterwards, he joined Koolboks, a Nigerian ClimateTech start-up providing solar-powered refrigeration on a pay-as-you-go model. For the past three years, he works with GIZ/SAIS, where he helps African AgTech ventures scale through capacity building and fundraising.



NADIA SEEMUTH
INVESTMENT ANALYST
JAMBAAR CAPITAL

JUDGE: ENERGY PITCH TRACK

Nadia Seemuth is a Managing Partner at Jambaar Capital, a venture capital firm based in Dakar, Senegal. Jambaar Capital focuses on supporting early-stage, impact-driven tech startups across Africa. The firm aims to empower visionary founders by providing access to capital, networks, and strategic partnerships, with a commitment to responsible, gender-balanced, and sustainable investing. Prior to her role at Jambaar Capital, Nadia Seemuth had a distinguished career in law and finance. She became a corporate and private equity lawyer at Clifford Chance and Ropes & Gray LLP, and later held in-house roles. Her extensive experience in the legal and financial sectors has equipped her with a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities within the African startup ecosystem. Nadia is also a Class 3 Fellow of the Ubuntu Launchpad Fellowship, an invite-only, 12-month virtual program designed to support emerging fund managers focused on Africa.

RAJ KULASINGAM
SENIOR COUNSEL
DENTONS

JUDGE: ENERGY PITCH TRACK

Raj (born and grew up in Malaysia) is Senior Counsel at Dentons (the world's largest law firm) and investor at SM River. His 30+ year legal career has covered a wide range of transactions in various sectors including financial services, PE, VC, real estate, energy (including renewables and oil and gas), transport, utilities and other infrastructure. In addition, Raj has for 20+ years been advising and investing in businesses and startups. His investment portfolio range from tech and tech enabled companies to FMCG and beverage businesses to real estate and growth stage companies. Together with his business partner Vishal Agarwal, they have invested (as V&R) in more than 70 companies and 7 venture funds globally.



JUDGES

OKE EKPAGHA

INVESTMENT ASSOCIATE
OUI CAPITAL

JUDGE: AGNOSTIC PITCH TRACK

Oke Ekpagha is a Finance & Investment professional with over three years' experience across diverse industries. She is passionate about supporting and enabling the growth of innovative African startups to bring their visions to life. Her skills in buy-side and sell-side transaction support, financial modeling, financial analysis and evaluation, and storytelling have helped her facilitate fundraising and provide advisory services to both startups and VC Funds.



DOLAPO OLAYORIJU

INVESTMENT ANALYST
VEROD-KEPPLE AFRICA VENTURES

JUDGE: AGNOSTIC PITCH TRACK

Dolapo Olayoriju is currently working as an Investment Analyst at Verod-Kepple Africa Ventures. Previously, Dolapo has been involved in various roles at companies such as A&A Collective, PremiaBN, Dream VC, and KickoffAfrica. With a background in Information Technology and extensive experience in the aviation industry, Dolapo is also a member of the global non-profit community working towards the growth of the African tech and investment ecosystem. Additionally, Dolapo holds a Postgraduate Degree in Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Design, a Bachelor's Degree in Information Technology, and an Executive MBA.

JUDGES

MAXIME BOUAN
GENERAL PARTNER
SEEDSTAR AFRICA VENTURES



JUDGE: ENERGY PITCH TRACK

Maxime Bouan is the General Partner at Seedstars Africa Ventures, where he leads investments into the continent's most promising early-stage startups. With extensive experience across venture capital, entrepreneurship, and emerging markets, Maxime brings a hands-on approach to supporting founders from seed to scale. Passionate about unlocking Africa's full economic potential, he is focused on backing bold, impact-driven entrepreneurs building scalable, inclusive solutions across sectors such as fintech, healthtech, agritech, and climate tech. Through Seedstars Africa Ventures, Maxime is helping shape a vibrant and resilient startup ecosystem that drives sustainable growth and global relevance.

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V. CHINYERE INYA
PARTNER & HEAD OF PLATFORM
FUTURE AFRICA

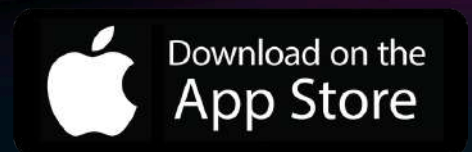
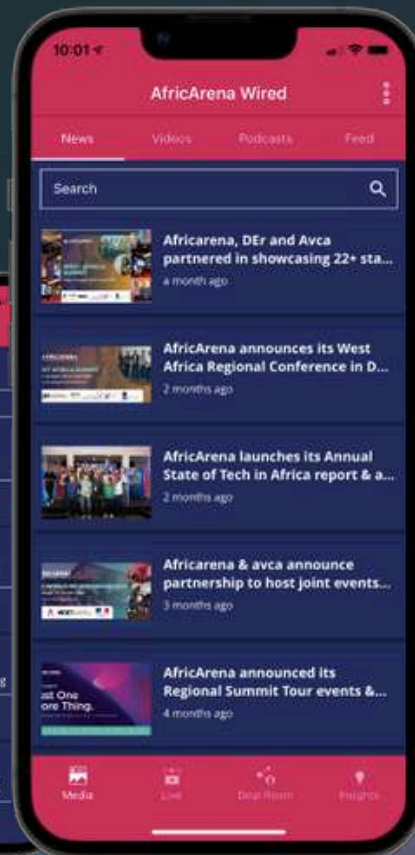
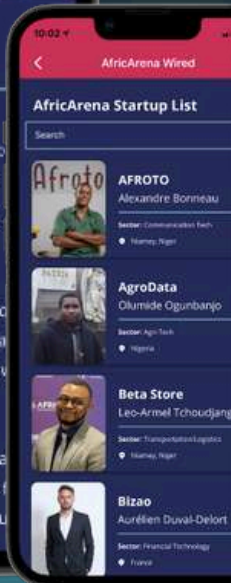
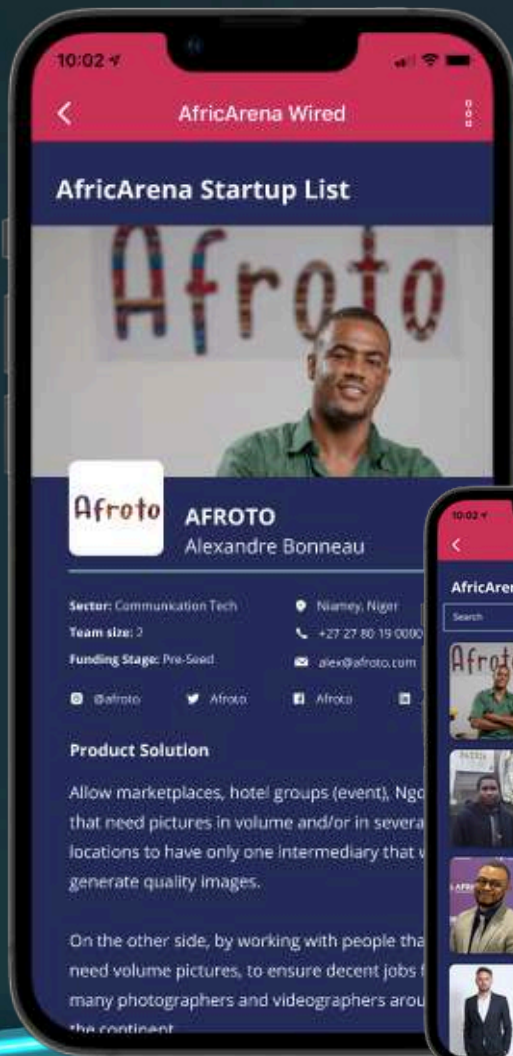
JUDGE: AGNOSTIC PITCH TRACK

V. Chinyere is a Partner at Future Africa, a VC firm that serves early-stage founders. She also drives the firm's 10-week, pre-seed/seed accelerator program, Accelerate Africa as COO. Her career has spanned technology consulting and operations for large Fortune 500 organizations across the world. She has a Bachelor's in Business Management from the Rochester Institute of Technology and a Master's in Finance from Georgetown University.

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