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Learning Journey to Silicon Savannah, Nairobi

Where Europe learns from Africa's innovators: **March 1 – 5, 2027**

When we think of Africa, we think of crises, wars, and disasters. We rarely think of mobile money, drone deliveries, or startups that leapfrog Europe. Time to update the picture.

Much of this is happening because Africa leapfrogged landlines, mainframes, and PCs altogether. Half the population is under 20 – a vast and increasingly well-educated workforce. Africa is the world's first "mobile-first" continent: most of its 1.5 billion people have entered the digital age through a phone, not a computer. That phone is a bank account, credit card, marketplace, medical advisor, and source of income – all in one. Now imagine the hunger for innovation without decades of legacy systems holding it back. Here are just a few examples …



Mobile money?
an African invention

M-PESA

M-Pesa?
The first mobile bank was founded in Kenya in 2007. Now a global leader, processing transactions equivalent to 44% of Kenya's GDP.

M-KOPA

M-Kopa?
An African financing platform for unbanked customers, enabling the purchase of solar lighting, TVs, refrigerators, and smartphones.

Twiga

TWIGA FOODS?
Revolutionizing supply chains with a mobile platform connecting food producers, FMCG manufacturers, and retailers.

ILARA HEALTH

ILARA HEALTH?
Improving healthcare in sub-Saharan Africa through mobile diagnostic tools such as ultrasound devices and lab diagnostics.

Bit Pesa

BITPESA?
Developing a cryptocurrency payment platform that converts Bitcoin transactions into local currencies and transfers them to bank accounts or mobile wallets.

Why attending?

- **Experience a truly entrepreneurial mindset firsthand**
  Immerse yourself in an environment driven by problem-solving under severe constraints
- **Learn from a different innovation ecosystem**
  Gain insights into alternative digital transformation paths and unique tech models operating outside traditional European frameworks
- **Spot future markets with high growth potential**
  Identify rapidly expanding economic opportunities across African countries

Program









Monday

Theme of the day: **APPROACHING SILICON SAVANNAH**	
Morning	Context and opportunities
Afternoon	Field visits to successful startups
Evening	Dinner with Nairobi business people

Tuesday

Theme of the day: **DIGITAL AFRICA**	
Morning	The Mobile Money Story: field visits to financial institutions and fintechs
Afternoon	Further field visits
Evening	Visit to the National Park

Wednesday

Theme of the day: **DIGITAL AFRICA**	
Morning	The healthtech ecosystem
Afternoon	The energytech ecosystem
Evening	free

Thursday

Theme of the day: **URBAN AFRICA**	
Morning	Agritech Field visits to coworking spaces and startups
Afternoon	Nairobi's informal settlements
Evening	Networking Dinner

Friday

Theme of the day: **CO-CREATION**	
Morning	African-European Collaboration
Afternoon	Synthesis: defining principles

Saturay/Sunday

Optional: 2-day Safari to one of Kenya's famous National Parks

What will you take with you?



- **Perspectives** on an innovative Africa
- **Insights** into a digital transformation unfolding differently than in Europe
- **Clarity** on Africa´s economic strength and rapidly growing middle class
- **Access** to new markets, customers, and collabroations
- **Indications** of future global disruptions and shifts
- **Understanding** of new approaches to European-African cooperation
- **Key takeaways** on what Africa will mean for Europe in the future

Learning Journey to Silicon Savannah, Nairobi

Who is this Learning Journey for?

- 1. CEOs, CIOs, board members.
- 2. Business angels, senior consultants, and incubators.
- 3. Decision-makers in the fields of business, technology, people& culture, development cooperation and migration.

Basically, we are looking for people with an entrepreneurial mindset. They will be able to get the most out of this programme.

Where will you stay?

We have pre-reserved rooms at a comfortable 3-4 star hotel, where you can book and pay for your accommodation individually.

When?

Individual arrival:	by Sunday, February 28, 2027
Program:	Monday, March 1, 2027, from 08:00 AM to Friday, March 5 ,2027, 1:00 PM

What does it cost?

Booking before December 16, 2026: EUR 2.300,– plus 20% VAT
Booking before January 31, 2027: EUR 2.600,– plus 20% VAT
Booking from February 1, 2027: EUR 3.100,– plus 20% VAT

Included in the fee: A full program of lectures, company and field visits, five lunches, coffee and tea, and two dinners. Please note that hotel accommodation and travel costs to and from Nairobi are not included.

What participants of past Learning Journeys say:

"I have been touring the world's Innovation Hot Spots for many years. The Silicon Savannah Journey was the best I`ve experienced so far. There are few regions that are so diverse and have such enormous potential. Experiencing the innovative power of digital Africa has touched me deeply."
Stephan Grabmeier, Zukunftsinstitut GmbH, Germany

"I only knew the promoted program and that was already very good. But the reality then has exceeded my expectations many times! Best Learning Journey ever – strong impact on my life."
Bernhard Hoetzl, Entrepreneur, Co-Founder of kompany.com, Managing Partner of funkensprung.com

"My expectations have been completely exceeded – such diversitiy and variety of topics and encounters could not have been expected. I am very impressed by Kenya and its dedicated people."
Jutta Jakobi, Deutsche Messe AG

"As a diplomat, I see myself as an „Interpreter between cultures" – and you do it in the private sector, you have your target audience which you know and which trusts you. I would like to support you and your partners in exploring these possibilities, opening doors, taking advantage of opportunities – and, if necessary, averting dangers."
Dr. Christian Fellner, Ambassador of the Republic of Austria in Kenya

"Enhancement of knowledge, fascinating ideas, exciting travel colleagues, start of new ideas..."
Roland Tscheinig, CEO, OBJENTIS Software Integration GmbH

"I knew Kenya already very well. But in this Journey, I have really got to know another side. I want to become a facilitator for serious European business engagement in Africa."
Florian Demmer, Entrepreneur, Founder and CEO of Coolibree GmbH, Austria

"The Learning Journey has been an outstanding experience! The selection of companies and people we met was truly amazing – from urban to digital to entrepreneurial Kenya. It felt like decades of experience condensed in just a few days. There is just so much going on right now in Kenya – a living lab in itself and we had a chance to grasp this spirit. The trip has definitely inspired me – to learn more and go back."
a.o.Univ.Prof. Dr. Barbara Stöttinger, Dean WU Executive Academy, Vienna

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How do these journeys happen?



Hans Stoisser is the author of "The Black Tiger Africa – What We Can Learn from Africa," and Karin Krobath has read it. They have two things in common: both are management consultants and are passionate about Africa. On this journey, their expertise comes together. Hans brings his experience as a Malik Associate, with many years of work in African countries. Karin contributes her passion for brand positioning, innovation culture, and empowerment, combined with her voluntary board work at Light for the World..



By now, Hans and Karin have led more than 10 journeys to Nairobi and Kigali, with some participants returning multiple times. The logical next step was to establish a shared brand because great ideas and emerging joint ventures thrive even more under a common umbrella. Thus, NextAfrica.cc was born.

NEXTAFRICA

NextAfrica is an Afro-European initiative that connects purpose-driven businesses from both continents: Co-creation enhances impact and fosters meaningful collaboration.

You like the idea but still have questions?

We´d love to hear from you!
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Would you like to join the next Learning Journey??

Or start with a webinar?

How about subscribing to our exciting newsletter as a first step?

www.nextafrica.cc









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