

Organized by Hans Stoisser, ECOTEC, Karin Krobath, identifire and Living Lab University of Nairobi



ORGANIZERS



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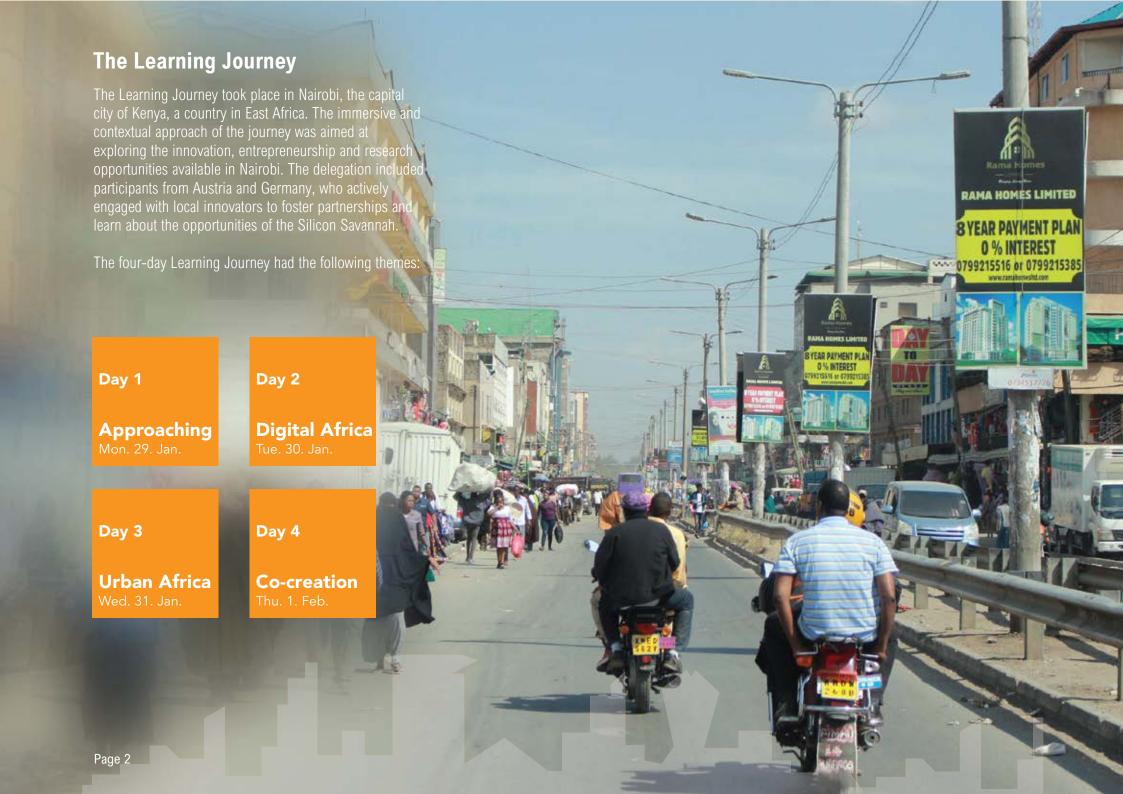


identifire is Austria's first internal branding agency focusing on employees as brand ambassadors. The company is specialized on Corporate Culture and Employer Branding closely linked to strategy and leadership. Innovation culture is a decisive topic when it comes to attract future talents. identifire therefore develops various kinds of mind-shifting learning experiences.



The Living Lab is a co-creative space for researchers and experts who have a common interest in sustainable urban change, and take part in research for innovation processes.

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Context Mapping Getting to know participants' interest areas

The journey kicked off at the University of Nairobi, where participants took part in a context mapping session to identify their areas of interest in accordance with the investment sector in Kenya.

These investment sectors were: Tourism, Logistics, Manufacturing, Real Estate, Financial Services, ICT, Energy, Agriculture, Infrastructure, Education, Health, PR and Branding.

Participants also mentioned what they would like to accomplish on the Learning Journey and these included:

"To learn something new",

"Feel enriched",

"Meet new, interesting people"

"Leaving you guys behind interested!"

The context-mapping was followed by a series of lively presentations from key industry players in Kenya.







CAREER CONNECTIONS

Zia Manji and Madeline Dunford
The human dimension of global innovation.

Career Connections is a team of experts that help organizations at the critical intersection of talent acquisitions, selection and development of people. According to Zia and Madeline, management is more often looking into getting soft skills as opposed to technical skills. This means that talent mindset and recruitment strategies are changing. To support this changes, career connections has collected and analysed data from 10,000 Kenyan professionals.

Q&A

• Do you also collect data from professionals in the informal sector given that it is a much larger sector that the formal sector in Kenya? No. Data from the informal sector would of course differ from the current data from the formal sector.

"Kenyan Leaders tend to be inquisitive and are willing to learn".



Dr. Dan Orwa UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI, School of Computing and Informatics Medical Informatics

Dr. Orwa stated that out of 9700 health facilities in Kenya, only 600 have digital records. Investments are therefore required at the bottom tier of facilities. One such investment would be in an Electronic Management Inventory (EMI) accessed by the end user typically in the form of either a tablet or mobile phone.

Q & A:

- Are refugees included in this records system? Yes, as this information is also gathered from the health centers which are based in Kenya's refugee camps.
- Are women's and young girls' health needs also integrated? Yes. Various initiatives target various groups such as women, young girls and orphans. One insight is that

"Most data from the manual Health
Management Information System in Kenya is
that of women as men are reluctant to visit
health centres or hospitals".







Field trip

For the first field trip, the participants visited two businesses in the city: A modern co-working space (Nairobi Garage), and a start-up company focused on renewable energy (Pawame).

I. NAIROBI GARAGE- Co-working space

Nairobi Garage is a creative co-working space for entrepreneurs, growing businesses and supporters of innovation in all its forms. The space has a community filled with Nairobi's most exciting start-ups and tech companies, as well as a host of freelancers, consultants and investors. The start-ups usually use the spaces for 2-3 years and most of these start-ups have international partners as investors. This Nairobi garage is the largest co-working space in Africa with 50,000 square feet available both in their Westlands and Ngong road offices, hosting a total of 130 companies.

The participants engaged with entrepreneurs from three start-ups based in the Ngong road branch: Trine, BuuPass and TTA.





BUUPASS - Digitizing Public Transport

The start-up is involved in creating and managing an app that enables the digitization of public transport that allows customers to buy tickets online and pay via M-pesa. Their booking system is an online solution for the customers using the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and an intercity/country bus company.

Q & A:

- How are all the logistics done? We have integrated the app with the already existing systems that the bus/train companies have. We also have USSD CODES that are used for the bookings.
- What is your business model? We have an agreement with the companies where payment is commission based and on revenue share.









Reception at the Austrian Embassy

At the reception, the delegation mingled with envoys and some invited Kenyan executives. Auma Obama, who is back in Kenya after years in Germany, needed no introduction! She engaged the visitors on their views of their learning for the day. Participants described the day as: "Innovative", "Creative", "Fast", "Insightful", "Informative".

Some opinions from the participants were:

"This was an eye opener journey where on day one we got to see what Africa has to offer as opposed to what we frequently see on international news reports on wars, and famine."

"This journey was a starting point, the beginning of knowing the areas that had potential and to know what some probable areas could be to pursue investor interest."

"My role would be that of an ambassador for Africa when he got home; the causal effect would be gradual as this was just the beginning of the Learning Journey".

Auma Obama further emphasize growth potentials and emerging opportunities in Kenya. She pointed out that:

"Despite Donor Aid, Africa is growing".
"We think local, act local and also global!"





Summary

Between 2000 and 2015, Sub-Saharan Africa's economies have grown threefold and income per capita has doubled. Extreme poverty has come down from almost two thirds of the population to one third. Big conflicts and wars on the continent have diminished from over 30 in 1990 to less than 10 today.

Kenya's economy has had stable growth rates of between 4,5 and 6% in the last years. Income per capita grew from 1800 USD in 2000 to 3500 USD in 2017 (in purchasing-power-parity). Kenya is considered the leading economy of the thriving East African Community which has a total of around 170 million people.

African economies have joined global value chains, and the African middle class has logged into the global knowledge society.

"During the recent decades,
African countries have become
part of the inter-connected global
society."





02 Digital Africa

I. SAFARICOM KENYA LIMITED

At Safaricom Limited, the delegation was welcomed by the Head of Strategy, Ken Okwero, and his team. Ken emphasized that Safaricom is a purpose driven company, building a more sustainable world for people and for profit. The main attraction was the story of M-Pesa (Safaricom's world renowned mobile money transfer system), and how this innovation is changing lives as well as making profits for the company. M-pesa is about "moving money fast and enabling the customer to make money payment solutions in real time".

In Kenya, "you are always 5-7 minutes away from an M-Pesa agent".

This is one of the highest penetrations of services in the world.

Q & A:

- Does M-Pesa cause a redundancy of opening traditional bank accounts? M-Pesa is beyond the traditional bank account and enables one to have a digital wallet. Further, Safaricom does work in collaboration with banks to offer credit services via mobile money.
- Why does M-Pesa money transfer work better than that
 of traditional banks? The level of engagement with
 users is different and the cost of setting up was
 cheaper as compared to setting up the banking system.
 The disruption of the M-Pesa system has caused a
 change in the banking system.











Digital transformation in Africa by Dr. Bitange Ndemo

A distinguished member and contributor of the digital fraternity in Kenya, Dr. Ndemo gave this talk on digital transformation in Africa. He has a PhD in Industrial Economics and is an author and influencer. He served as a Permanent Secretary in the Kenyan government from 2005-2013 and was in-charge of ICT. He is seen as one of the "enablers" of M-Pesa and the digital transformation in Kenya.

He spoke about initiating the development of undersea cables into East Africa, the Kenyan Open Data initiative and enabling M-Pesa.

Dr. Ndemo also gave insights into Big Data and Block chain developments. When you innovate you need to start with the un-known and only then work with the known. And not the other way around.

His take on the impact of many Chinese in Kenya? The Chinese have a good cultural training that is embedded even in the work that they do. People follow good role models.





Summary

The ubiquity of mobile phones has jump-started Africa's digital transformation. In the early 2000s, the rolling out of mobile phone networks has given access to communication to several hundred million people. A few years later, "mobile banks" have given them access to the money economy.

Kenya has taken the lead: Safaricom founded the first mobile bank in 2007, disrupted the way how financial transactions were done and has become a role model as a purpose-driven company.

Mobile money as a basic technology has led to other unexpected innovations, in the energy, education, health and other areas.

In African countries the digital transformation is much less hampered by old technologies and vested interests. Europe can learn from digital Africa, because:

"In Africa the digital transformation addresses human needs much more directly."





I. STRATHMORE BUSINESS SCHOOL.

New forms of African-European business relations Talk by Dr. Njenga

Dr. Njenga is the Founding Dean of Strathmore Business School. He is currently involved in public policy and Public-Private-Partnerships. Dr. Njenga stated that the economic space in Africa is rising but was facing a downturn in growth. Africa has a lot of resources that are available but lacks skilled leadership and capacity. By 2030, the African population is forecast to rise to 2.4 billion people.

There is a need for global investors to look into Africa. Typical growth sectors and technologies:
Telecommunication, Health, Big Data, Block Chain,
Agriculture, Education and Energy.

Since Rwandan President Kagame is heading the African Union, the development of regional economic zones has priority. African investments were outward looking but are coming back now. More and more businesses are owned by Africans.

The answer lies in free trade. Europeans shall come down from the cloud. With better ideas for economic development. There is a "natural merger".

But, of course, real economic engagement needs a long-term perspective.







03 Urban Africa

II. TUNAPANDA INSTITUTE

Tunapanda is an educational institute based in Kibera informal settlement. It is a sustainable venture serving the youth of Kibera. Tunapanda is a Swahili word which means "To Grow". The programme at the institute is a 3-month intensive learning experiences in tech, design, and business at no cost to the trainees. To date the institution has graduated over 100 young people.

Maureen Moraa who is the Tunapanda Lead Link in Training, further explained Tunapanda's roles and the various projects they had been involved in such as CODEBUS, TECH DADA, and as well as participation in collaborative ventures such as Nairobi EdTech Start-up Weekend.

It is a self-sufficient institution running from the cash made from building products such as websites for their clients.



III. KATWEKERA VILLAGE KIBERA

The Learning Journey delegates were then taken on a social tour around one of the villages in Kibera as part of the immersive experience, so as to understand how a typical member of the low tier income level lives, works and is able to meet all their basic needs.

On the way, the delegates visited a Jua Kali (informal) workshop that produces bone jewellery for sale to the Nairobi local market and some international markets. The artisans were able to briefly explain their working methods and processes of turning large cow and camel bones bought from the local slaughter houses into wearable jewellery.

The delegates then went on to visit Irene (not her real name) in her house. As a sole breadwinner, she sells soup and boiled cow leg meat at a makeshift shop along the roadside not too far from her house. She makes on average of 8 Euros a day from her food sales.

Irene has no electricity connected in her house and she uses her 'feature' phone to light up her home in the evening. This phone also doubles as her radio, her means of communicating with clients and family back at home and as her mode of facilitating payments via M-Pesa.





Summary

Africa has already over 50 cities with more than one million residents. Lagos, Kinshasa, Cairo, Luanda, Johannesburg have become mega agglomerations. Alongside huge challenges, new economic opportunities and social changes are emerging. Africa's middle class of currently 400 million people is deemed to double or even triple in the next 15 years. It is therefore obvious that urbanization will continue to shape African societies. Nairobi with its 3,5 million inhabitants has become a hotspot where companies, universities, start-ups and other initiatives connect, link and shape the digital transformation.

"Europe's natural partner in Africa are people from the 'middle'. They pursue the same interests, for security, for freedom, for prosperity, for meaning."







DELEGATION OF GERMAN INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE IN KENYA (AHK).

AHK represents German business interests by promoting Germany as a business location. It is in their mandate to promote bilateral business relations through advocacy and lobbying with state institutions and government bodies.

The Learning Journey delegates were welcomed to the AHK offices by the Country Director Ms. Maren Diale-Schellschmidt.

The discussions included the Kenyan economy, its regional dominance, GDP growth in trade value, skills and manpower, and the presence of German businesses in the region.

The *German Business Association Kenya* at AHK is a locally established institution that is also open for non-German organizations to become members.

gy Efficiency

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EASTLEIGH - TOKYO MALL

Nairobi's Eastleigh area is an example of how urbanisation is generating some of Africa's more unexpected development pathways. It is in many ways a contradictory accident of a neighbourhood that morphed into a transnational bazaar powered by pastoralist capital. It was the worthy subject of Prof Neil Carrier's new book, *Little Mogadishu: Eastleigh, Nairobi's Global Somali Hub.*

The Learning Journey delegates visited several Somali-Kenya owned businesses to interact with the merchants with the aim of trying to understand the business dynamics in Eastleigh.

They were engaged with three merchants, Mohamud, Ali and Hussein about their various businesses that are involved in importing cosmetics and beauty products for sale in Kenya and in other parts of Africa.







04 Co-Creation



Summary

The environment has changed, African-European relations will have to change. To carry on with development aid? To pursue a policy favoring big shareholder—value driven companies? China has done differently. A huge macro-political deal has changed the face of Africa. And has brought more than 10,000 Chinese companies to African countries.

The inter-connected global society calls for a European response which might be labelled 'agile': delight your partners, obey joint values, create horizontal communication, go in small steps, with autonomous units, scale with digital technologies.

To European companies, NPOs and other initiatives and institutions:

"Swarm out, link-up and collaborate with local African organizations - and co-create."



The Living Lab Team

Facilitators from the Living lab	Role
Maryanne Akoth MSc in Entrepreneurship and Innovation Management; Former administrator at C4Dlab – UoN; Current: Incubation Manager at TechBridge, Mombasa, Kenya.	Project Lead: Vision and Strategy
Dr. Amollo Ambole PhD in Development and Management Studies; Researcher at University of Nairobi (UoN), Kenya	Project lead: Implementation
Prof. Madara Ogot PhD in Strategic Management & Mechanical Engineering; Director of Research and Extension at UoN.	Facilitator
Julia Kamuiru Training Lead at Living Lab Freelance Product Designer; Part-time Lecturer University of Nairobi	Rapporteur
Nelson Cheruiyot BA in Design MA student at UoN	Design Lead and Photographer
Enos Weswa Design Consultant at World Bank Group, Advisory Board Member at Living Lab, Product Design Part-time Lecturer at University of Nairobi.	Design Consultant
Baraka Mwau Urban Planning Consultant Advisory Board Member at Living Lab	Urban Planning Consultant

"We believe
collaboration
is the key to radical
innovation."



Co-creators

The Learning Journey was a means for Co-Creation, but was also in itself, a Co-Creation! Meet some of its co-creators:



Maryanne Akoth, based in Mombasa/Kenya, mentors young tech entrepreneurs. Her energies are focused on being a part of "putting the blocks in place" for that foreseeable "domino effect" of building businesses to capture the market and employ the skills of millions of energetic African youth.

maryanne@livinglab.co.ke



Amollo Ambole, from
Nairobi/Kenya is a passionate
design researcher at the University
of Nairobi. She is currently
conducting collaborative research
with communities in the quest for
innovative, home-grown solutions.
She is convinced that if we look
hard enough, "we usually find out
that the answers we seek are in our
hearts".

amollo@livinglab.co.ke



Karin Krobath, home in Vienna/Austria, management consultant with a passion for brand positioning, innovation culture and empowerment. Her motto: "Europe's mindset about Africa is more than outdated. If we consider collaboration as a future success factor, we really have to invent new encounters like this Learning Journey."

karin.krobath@identifire.at



Hans Stoisser, based in Vienna/Austria, entrepreneur, management consultant and author of "The Black Tiger – what we can learn from Africa". His long-time experience in African countries has convinced him:

"Europe's future lies in Africa. But very different from what Europe thinks."

hans.stoisser@ecotec.at

