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Call for Book Chapters

Deadline: 30 July 2025

Technology Entrepreneurship in Africa

Edited by:

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Find below the proposed chapter topics and synopsis. *Contributions across the main topics will be submitted for peer review.*

Note: The book chapter will comprise the following parts and each chapter will follow the following structure/topics:

1. Introduction/Definitions
2. *Critical Issues and Topics*
3. *Current Contributions and Research*
4. *Main Research Methods*
5. Discussion
6. *Recommendations for Practice*
7. *Future Research Directions*
8. References

Each chapter will be between 6,000 to 7,000 words including Tables, Figures and References

Introduction: The African tech ecosystem: an overview of the current state of technology entrepreneurship in Africa

This chapter serves as an introductory glimpse into the current state of the African technology (tech) ecosystem, spotlighting its key stakeholders, prevailing trends, formidable challenges, and abundant opportunities. Across the continent, from

bustling tech hubs in Lagos, Nairobi, and Cape Town to emerging entrepreneurial ecosystems in smaller towns, innovation knows no bounds. Visionary entrepreneurs, investors, and support organizations are pivotal players in this dynamic landscape. From fintech breakthroughs to agritech innovations, technology is transforming sectors and addressing pressing challenges. Yet, challenges such as infrastructure gaps, limited funding access, and regulatory complexities persist. Despite these obstacles, Africa offers a fertile ground for disruptive solutions, buoyed by a youthful demographic, growing consumer market, and cultural richness. This chapter invites exploration into the resilient spirit and creative potential driving technology entrepreneurship in Africa, beckoning readers to uncover stories, celebrate successes, and navigate the path to a brighter tech-enabled future on the continent.

Chapter 1: Historical Context: Exploring the evolution of technology entrepreneurship in Africa.

This chapter unveils a tapestry woven with notable successes and failures, each shaping the context of innovation on the continent. From early experiments in telecommunications and computing to more recent forays into fintech and e-commerce, African entrepreneurs have continually adapted to local contexts and global trends. Pioneering ventures like M-Pesa in Kenya and Nollywood in Nigeria stand as beacons of success, demonstrating the transformative potential of technology in African markets. However, alongside these triumphs lie cautionary tales of promising startups that faltered due to inadequate infrastructure, regulatory barriers, or lack of sustained support. By examining these historical precedents, this chapter seeks to glean insights into the underlying factors driving technological entrepreneurship in Africa. Thus, it provides a foundation for understanding the past and present, and thereby offers insights for charting a course for the future of tech entrepreneurship on the continent.

Chapter 2: The rise of crowdfunding platforms and entrepreneurship

This chapter offers a riveting discourse, analysing the influence of crowdfunding on the traditional financing for entrepreneurs, exploring success factors, challenges, and long-term implications for the African market. The chapter evaluates the success factors that have propelled crowdfunding into a prominent position within the entrepreneurial ecosystem. Factors such as the democratization of investment opportunities, increased accessibility to a diverse range of projects, and the ability to engage directly with a community of backers, contribute to the allure of crowdfunding platforms.. The chapter also examines the obstacles entrepreneurs may face in using this alternative financing platform, including heightened competition for attention, the need for effective marketing and communication strategies, and the potential for campaign fatigue within the crowdfunding community. The chapter offers a realistic view of the complexities inherent in this evolving financing paradigm and directions for key stakeholders.

Chapter 3: Emerging Technologies

This chapter delves into the transformative potential of emerging technologies on entrepreneurship in Africa. These technologies include artificial intelligence (AI), blockchain, the Internet of Things (IoT) and Quantum computing. Quantum computing, for instance, is emerging as a powerful tool that are optimizing processes, enhancing decision-making, and enabling personalized customer experiences across various industries. African entrepreneurs are increasingly exploring quantum applications in fields like data encryption, drug discovery, and optimization algorithms. Blockchain technology is facilitating transparent transactions, reducing fraud, and improving supply chain management, particularly in sectors like finance and agriculture. Moreover, 5G technology is playing a pivotal role in amplifying the capabilities of AI and IoT. High-speed, low-latency connectivity provided by 5G networks, is also fostering the development of smart cities, where interconnected devices seamlessly communicate to enhance the quality of urban living. African entrepreneurs are capitalizing on the potential of 5G to create innovative solutions that address challenges related to transportation, infrastructure, and public services. IoT devices are connecting previously underserved communities, enabling remote. The convergence of these emerging technologies is creating a dynamic ecosystem of innovation in Africa. Collaborations between startups, established businesses, and research institutions are fostering a fertile ground for experimentation and development. Overall, the e chapter highlights success stories, challenges, and opportunities for African entrepreneurs to leverage the transformative capability of emerging technologies for sustainable growth and social impact.

Chapter 4: Government Policies and Regulations on Tech Entrepreneurship

Government policies and regulations play a pivotal role in shaping the landscape of technology entrepreneurship in Africa. While supportive policies can foster innovation, attract investment, and facilitate market access, excessive bureaucracy, outdated regulations, and political instability can hinder entrepreneurial activities. This chapter examines the current policy environment for tech entrepreneurship across African countries, assessing the effectiveness of existing regulations and identifying areas for reform. Case studies and best practices from regions with conducive regulatory frameworks are analyzed to provide insights into policy interventions that can stimulate innovation, encourage entrepreneurship, and ensure the responsible use of technology for societal benefit.

Chapter 5: Building Sustainable Business Models in Tech Entrepreneurship

Building sustainable and scalable technology businesses in Africa requires more than just innovative ideas; it demands robust business models, effective customer acquisition strategies, and talent management practices. This chapter offers practical guidance to entrepreneurs on developing viable business models tailored to the African market dynamics. It explores various revenue generation strategies, including subscription-based models, freemium offerings, and partnerships with established enterprises. Moreover, it delves into customer acquisition tactics that leverages digital marketing, social media, and partnerships with local influencers. Additionally, the chapter addresses the importance of talent acquisition, retention,

and skills development in driving organizational growth and competitiveness in the tech sector.

Chapter 6: Social Impact and Innovation in Digital Entrepreneurship

Technology entrepreneurship in Africa is not only about profit-making but also about driving positive social change and addressing pressing societal challenges. This chapter explores how digital entrepreneurs are leveraging technology to innovate solutions in critical areas such as healthcare, education, agriculture, and financial inclusion. Case studies of impactful startups demonstrate how they are improving access to healthcare services, enhancing educational outcomes, boosting agricultural productivity, and promoting financial inclusion among underserved communities. Moreover, the chapter examines the role of impact investing, corporate social responsibility initiatives, and cross-sector partnerships in scaling social impact ventures and fostering inclusive growth in Africa.

Chapter 7: Gender and Diversity in Tech Entrepreneurship

Gender and diversity are essential considerations in promoting a vibrant and inclusive tech ecosystem in Africa. This chapter examines the current state of gender and diversity representation in the African tech sector, highlighting disparities in access to resources, opportunities, and leadership positions. It explores initiatives aimed at fostering gender equality, empowering women in technology, and promoting diversity and inclusion in entrepreneurial endeavors. Moreover, the chapter discusses policy interventions, mentorship programs, and awareness campaigns aimed at breaking down barriers and creating a more equitable playing field for all entrepreneurs.

Chapter 8: Tech Entrepreneurship and Global Scaling

Scaling a tech startup globally presents unique challenges and opportunities for African entrepreneurs. This chapter explores strategies for expanding market reach, forming international partnerships, and navigating cultural nuances to succeed in global markets. It examines case studies of African startups that have successfully scaled their businesses beyond the continent, identifying key success factors and lessons learned. Additionally, the chapter delves into the role of diaspora networks, trade missions, and accelerator programs in facilitating global expansion for African tech ventures. In addition to showcasing the significance of cultural intelligence, adaptability, and strategic planning, it addresses the complexities inherent in overcoming barriers to international growth, offering a comprehensive guide to not only accessing global markets but also building sustainable enterprises on the global stage. As technology continues to foster interconnectedness, this chapter serves as an indispensable resource for African tech entrepreneurs, arming them with the knowledge and strategies required to successfully navigate the intricacies of global scaling.

Chapter 9: The Future of Technology Entrepreneurship in Africa

As technology continues to evolve rapidly, the future of entrepreneurship in Africa holds immense promise and potential. This chapter speculates on emerging trends, disruptive technologies, and transformative developments that are likely to shape the African tech ecosystem in the years to come. It explores the impact of globalization, technological advancements, political-legal reforms, and demographic shifts on entrepreneurship dynamics, market opportunities, and innovation pathways in Africa. In particular, it discusses and emphasises the role of regulatory frameworks, infrastructure investments, and institutional support in fostering a conducive environment for tech entrepreneurship. Insights from thought leaders, industry experts, and futurists provide valuable perspectives on navigating the complexities and seizing opportunities in the ever-evolving landscape of African technology entrepreneurship.