

## Learning Journey to Silicon Savannah, Nairobi

Learn from the innovation power of digital Africa: January 19 – 22, 2026

When we think of Africa, many of us picture a continent of crises, wars, and disasters. Few realize that some of the world's most remarkable technological innovations are emerging right here.

This is happening simply because landline telephony, mainframe computers, and PCs were skipped entirely. Half of the population is under 20 - an immense workforce potential that is becoming increasingly well-educated. Africa is the world's first "mobile-only" continent, home to 1.4 billion people who have entered the digital age directly through mobile technology. 60% already own a mobile phone, which serves as a bank account, credit card, marketplace, medical advisor, and a tool to generate income. Can you imagine the sheer drive for development and innovation - without the constraints of Basel III and Solvency II? Here are just a few examples ...



### Mobile money?

an African invention



### 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?

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



### TWIGA FOODS?

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



### ILARA HEALTH?

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



### BITPESA?

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

## What can you expect?

We explore Nairobi's start-up scene and meet the key players who have shaped - or are currently shaping - Silicon Savannah. This includes Bitange Ndemo, Eric Hersman, and Safaricom/M-Pesa, as well as legendary co-working spaces and academic institutions. The program also features a visit to Kibera, East Africa's largest informal settlement, a city tour, and a game drive in Nairobi National Park. We place great emphasis on cross-continental discussions and networking.

### Program



#### Monday, January 19, 2026

Theme of the day: **APPROACHING**

Morning	<b>Silicon Savannah: A new Africa breaks free</b> Introduction to Kenya, lectures and talks from Nairobi business people and government officials. Future Tech Investment in Kenya
Afternoon	Field visits to co-working spaces and start-ups in <b>EnergyTech</b> like Mobisol
Evening	Networking dinner with Nairobi business people



#### Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Theme of the day: **DIGITAL AFRICA**

Morning	<b>Mobile phone and mobile money – access to communication and the money economy</b> Field visit to Safaricom/M-Pesa, world market leader in "mobile money"
Afternoon	Field visits to Nairobi's first open-access makers space and Nairobi's co-working spaces like Gearbox, iHub and start-ups in <b>FinTech</b>
Evening	Growing Nairobi: Bus ride, talk and visit of Nairobi's modern malls



#### Wednesday, January 21, 2026

Theme of the day: **URBAN AFRICA**

Morning	<b>Trajectory of the middle class</b> Reading and discussion with artists and thinkers from Nairobi and ventures <b>21<sup>st</sup> century entrepreneurship – the networked global society</b> Visits to <b>EduTech</b> and <b>HealthTech</b>
Afternoon	Afternoon Local tour to Kibera, Nairobi's biggest informal settlement
Evening	Free time



#### Thursday, January 22, 2026

Theme of the day: **CO-CREATION**

Morning	China in Africa, Field visit to Eastleigh, <b>Little Mogadishu in Nairobi</b> Co-Creation in Kenya, <b>New African-European relations: Co-Creation</b>
Afternoon	Lunch, end of program at 3 pm
Afternoon	Game Drive in Nairobi National Park

#### Friday/Saturday, January 23 – 24, 2026

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 collaborations
- **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?

- Executives and managing directors, CEOs & CTOs
- Senior consultants, business angels, and innovation managers
- Decision-makers from politics, business, digitalization, development cooperation, migration, and sustainability
- Or simply: entrepreneurial minds who think beyond borders and actively shape the future

## 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 and what does it cost?

Individual arrival: by Sunday, January 18, 2026  
Program: Monday, January 19, 2026, from 08:00 AM  
to Thursday, January 22, 2026, 3:00 PM

**Participation fee:** Early registration (by November 30, 2025): EUR 2,400,- zzgl 20 % VAT  
Standard registration (from December 1, 2025): EUR 3,100,- zzgl 20 % VAT

The price includes the four-day program, all entry fees, and catering. Hotel and flight costs are not included. We are happy to provide you with recommended travel options. A room contingent has been reserved at a business hotel, which can be booked individually.

## What participants of past Learning Journeys say:

„I have been exploring the world’s innovation hot spots for many years. The Silicon Savannah Journey was the best experience I have had so far. There are few regions as diverse and full of potential. Witnessing the innovation power of digital Africa left a lasting impression on me.“

Stephan Grabmeier, Chief Innovation Officer, Kienbaum und Partner GmbH – Kienbaum Consultants International

„Impressive – we live in a bubble. I need to come back soon.“  
Bernhard Hoetzl, Entrepreneur, Co-Founder of kompany.com, Managing Partner at funkensprung.com

„My expectations were far exceeded. The variety and depth of topics and encounters were beyond anything I could have imagined. I am deeply impressed by Kenya and its committed people - a country that, despite its many contrasts and influences, will hopefully find the right path with its energy and strength.“

Jutta Jakobi, Global Director ICT & Digital Business der Deutsche Messe AG

„A packed program - dense, intense, fascinating, and varied. A fantastic mix.“  
Johannes Dieterich, Africa Correspondent, brand eins

„Expanded insights, thought-provoking inspiration, engaging travel companions, and the beginning of new ideas.“  
Roland Tscheinig, CEO, OBJENTIS Software Integration GmbH

„In East Africa, there is more hope for the future than Europe realizes. Let’s not miss it.“  
Stefan Borgas, CEO, RHI Magnesita



## Learning Journey to Silicon Savannah, Nairobi

### 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 eight 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** is an Afro-European initiative that connects purpose-driven businesses from both continents. Through co-creation, it 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?

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