



**AfriLabs** 

#### **Accelerating Africa's Digital Economy:**

by the Strength of our Community

11th - 13th October 2023



### **About** AfriLabs

AfriLabs is the largest pan-African network of over 400 technology and innovation hubs in 52 African countries.

AfriLabs was founded in 2011 to build a community around rapidly emerging tech hubs/innovation spaces that serve as meeting points and communities for developers, entrepreneurs, and investors.



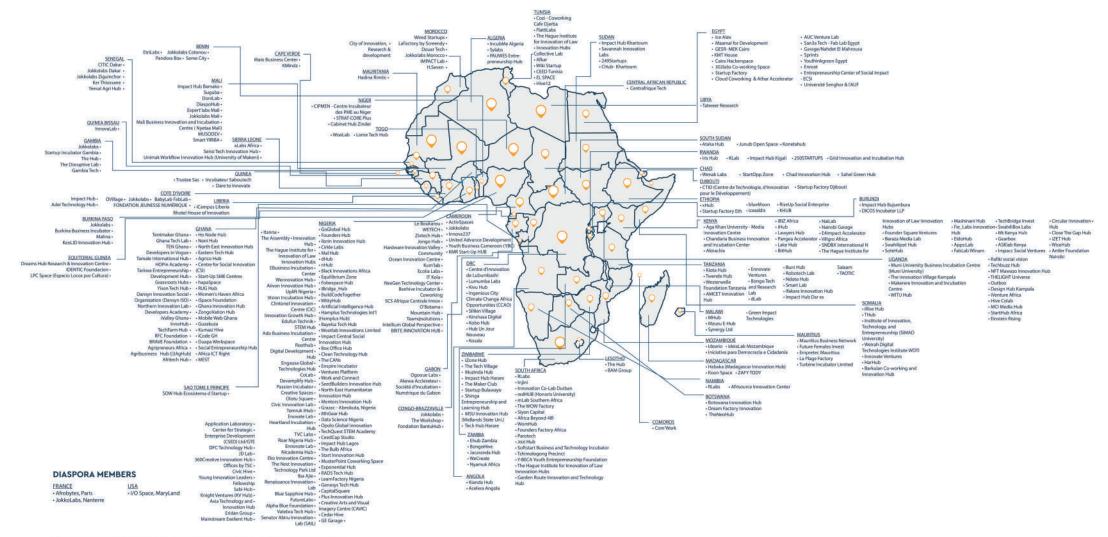
#### **Our vision**

Our vision is a thriving innovation economy in Africa, driven by the power of our community.

#### Our mission

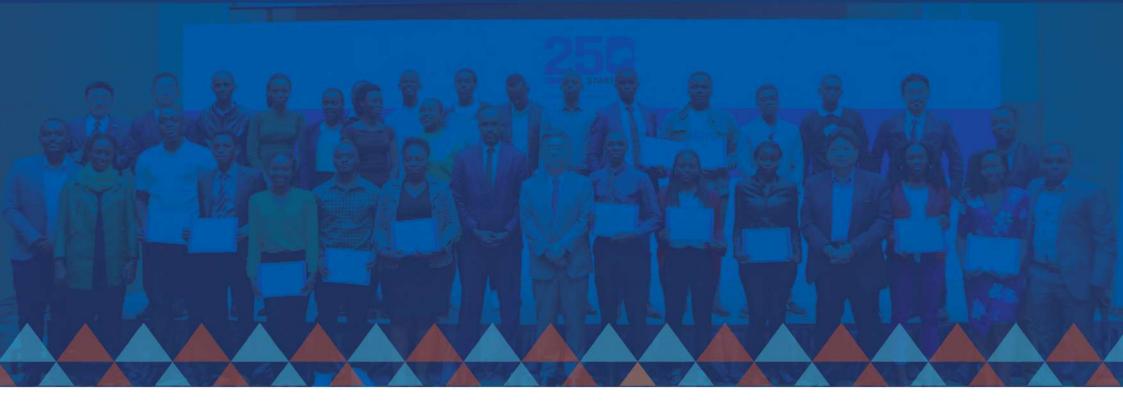
Our mission is to support innovation hubs and their communities to raise high potential entrepreneurs that will stimulate economic growth and social development in Africa. We achieve this through capacity building, financing, networking, policy advocacy, and providing insightful, reliable data.

#### AFRILABS ASSOCIATION MEMBERS ACROSS AFRICA



The Largest Pan-African Network of Technology/Innovation Hubs in Africa





### About

the AfriLabs Annual Gathering





The AfriLabs Annual Gathering is AfriLabs' flagship event which provides a unique opportunity for tech hubs within the AfriLabs network and other stakeholders of the African technology and innovation ecosystem (such as corporates, development agencies, academia, and investors) to convene, network, learn and share knowledge. The 2023 Gathering which is the 8th edition of the event aims at accelerating Africa's digital economy through the strength of the AfriLabs community and various innovative/creative communities in Africa. The 2023 Gathering will highlight the importance of having a fully digitalized economy in Africa and the various actions which can be adopted by various stakeholders of the African technology and Innovative ecosystem. The event will also ensure various implementation strategies are adopted to ensure that every individual, business and government in Africa will be digitally enabled by 2030



in support of the African Union "Digital Transformation Strategy for Africa" The event will also ensure various implementation strategies are adopted to ensure that every individual, business and government in Africa will be digitally enabled by 2030 in support of the African Union "Digital Transformation Strategy for Africa"

The AfriLabs Annual Gathering 2023 in Kigali, Rwanda, presents a unique opportunity to leverage the AfriLabs vast network of African technology and innovation ecosystem. Your organization will get a chance to connect with our 400+ hubs from 227 cities in 52 African Countries with a combined one million plus individual community network members. This event also provides an opportunity for organizations to leverage on the AfriLabs media reach of:



#### **50k**

Afrilabs member hubs email newsletters subscribers.



#### 6k

AfriLabs Secretariat email newsletter subscribers



#### 300k

member hubs' social media reach



#### 48k

on AfriLabs secretariat social media





average AfriLabs unique monthly website visitors

### Why Rwanda?

Rwanda's capital city was ranked as the second most popular destination in Africa for hosting international conferences and events by the International Congress Convention Association (ICCA)

Through its policies, the Rwandan government has positioned Rwanda to drive innovation and business growth. It has continually been ranked by the World Bank as the 2nd easiest country to "Do Business" in Africa. With unique policies that feature 72 hours business registrations at no cost.

Rwanda is also poised as the premiere African nexus for ICT as well as through the Kigali international financial centre is a leading financial destination for international investment and cross-border transactions in Africa.

As Stakeholders participating in this year's AfriLabs Annual Gathering, it affords you the opportunity to connect with a Government that is ready to direct aid flows towards procedures and investments infrastructure, which will facilitate trade for foreign companies.

The Annual Gathering also grants access to the Rwandan Technology and Innovation Ecosystem that is ready to engage, facilitate and support international

business and investment initiatives.



#### Past supporters of the AfriLabs Annual Gathering

#### **Multilateral Organizations**

















#### **Corporates**

























































#### **Donor Institutions**

























#### **Hubs, Investor Communities, and Networks**



































#### **Academia**





















#### The AfriLabs Annual Gathering over the years

The AfriLabs Annual Gathering has been held across different African countries in collaboration with member hubs, national and local governments, and the private sector.

In 2016, the Gathering was held in Accra, Ghana with the theme "Making Tech Ecosystem Count".

In 2017, the Gathering was hosted in collaboration with Hivos Coworking Summit, Cairo, Egypt with the theme, "Future of African Cities: Innovation, Spaces, and Collaboration".

In 2018, the Gathering was held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania with the theme, "Innovation in the Data Age".

In 2019, the Gathering was hosted in collaboration with the African Union Commission Department of Human Resource Science and Technology in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia with the theme: "Connect: Towards an Integrated Innovation Ecosystem".

In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its restrictions all around the world, the Gathering was virtual with the theme "Building a Resilient Innovative Africa".

In 2021, the AfriLabs Annual Gathering 2021 marked a monumental milestone for the network as we celebrated our 10th Anniversary. The Gathering, themed, "AfriLabs at 10: A Decade of Empowering and Inspiring Innovation across Africa," was held in Abuja, Nigeria and it aimed at spotlighting the growth and evolution of the African Innovation Ecosystem.

In 2022, the AfriLabs AfriLabs Annual Gathering themed "Intra-Africa Connectivity, Collaboration and Innovation" held from the 26th to 28th of October 2022 in Lusaka, Zambia, and was co-hosted by a consortium of AfriLabs Member Hubs which consisted of Jacaranda Hub, NyamukAfrika, Bongo Hive and WEAC.



### **AfriLabs Annual Gathering 2023**

#### WHAT TO EXPECT



How to engage and interact with our online community.

#### **Channels**











#### **Channels**

#AAG2023 #AfriLabs #Innovation #Entrepreneurship #Rwanda #ecosystem #Digitalecosystem #AccelerateAfrica



### AfriLabs Annual Gathering 2023 at a Glance:

Date: 11th - 13th October 2023

Venue: Kigali Convention Centre, Rwanda (KCC)

#### Attendees

100 Pan-African Government Officials & Pan- African Bodies

**50 +** speakers and moderators and translators

500 + CEOs, Start Up Innovators and Captains of Innovation

**50 +** Community of Investors

**20+** Journalists

**51+** African countries represented

20+ Exhibitors

Over 300 AfriLabs community members

**50 + Creatives** 

#### Who should attend (Stakeholder Categories)

- Venture Capitalists and Investors
- Entrepreneurs/start-ups
- Hub Leaders
- Representatives of development agencies
- International Development partners
- International Organisations/UN Agencies
- Government representatives & policymakers
- Corporate Organisations
- Media Agencies
- Academia Persons interested in Africa & International Development

#### What to expect

Don't miss out, get involved!

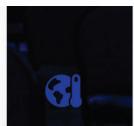
- High-level panel discussions and dialogue
- Meetups
- Rwandan Ecosystem Tour
- Exhibitions
- Masterclasses by subject matter industry experts
- Networking
- An engaged Pan-African & global audience
- Gala night

### **Event Tracks**



Investor Track

The investor track will explore the funding gaps in the African technology and Innovation ecosystem and what supports are required to bridge these gaps in the ecosystem.



Climate Change & Climate Adaptation



Creative & Technology Intersection

The Creative and **Technology Intersection** track at the AfriLabs Annual gathering 2023 will explore and highlight the convergence of creativity and technology while fostering collaboration across diverse industries. The Role of Technology in fostering creativity and Innovation in Education



Policy & Data driven Africa

The Policy will delve into the critical role of policy and governance in shaping the future of the continent whilst spotlighting Africa's development, progress and efforts made through effective policies and data-driven decision-making.



Gender Inclusion

The Gender Inclusion track at the AfriLabs Annual Gathering 2023 aims to highlight the importance of gender diversity and equality in driving innovation, fostering inclusive cultures and promoting equitable opportunities within the tech and entrepreneurship sectors.



**Hubs Solutions &** Sustainability

indigenous approaches

for the continent as well

as highlight pain points.

gain points, growth

small and medium

entrepreneurial

ventures.

scalability, and

opportunities, skillset

innovative financing for

This track will explore how hubs can start, build, and scale



**Smart Cities** Solutions

This track aims to delve into the multifaceted aspects of smart cities such as e-mobility, e governance, infrastructure and connectivity amongst others while exploring how they are transforming urban living and addressing the challenges faced by rapidly growing urban populations.



Adoption

This track will cover topics across AI trends and innovations, practical applications of Al across various industries, ethical considerations in AI, the use of AI in automation processes and robotics, the advancements in conversational AI and the impact of AI on the future of workforce.

This focuses on one of the most pressing global challenges of our time which is caused primarily by human activities, leading to increased greenhouse gas emissions and subsequent changes in the Earth's climate system.

## MEET THE RWANDAN INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM

#### **Ecosystem Mapping**

The Rwandan startup ecosystem is currently at a very exciting stage, with increased funding, a new generation of eager and talented innovators, increased access to mentorship and technology to address unemployment problems and promoting innovation.

Kigali Innovation City (KIC) is being developed to be a mixed-use, master-planned, innovation city situated on 60 hectares of land in Kigali, Rwanda. KIC seeks to facilitate the development of pan-African talent and act as a technology innovation hub. Its plan includes four universities, office spaces, start-up business incubators, and supporting facilities for retail, hospitality and accommodation.

Entrepreneurial/Innovationsupport:throughpartnerships, several programs have been established and facilities set to offer training and mentoring assistance, as well as coworking spaces: Norrsken East Africa Hub, Impact Hub, FabLab, kLab, Westerwelle Startup Haus, Grid innovation and incubation hub, Jasiri among other hubs.

Access to financing: the Rwanda Innovation Fund (RIF), was established to invest in growth-stage ventures across HealthTech, Agritech, Smart City, Edtech, and more. Additionally, the annual Hanga Pitchfest competition offers its winners access to seed funding.

The government of Rwanda embraced a proof-of-concept strategy to permit innovators to test their ideas within the framework of an adaptable regulatory and policy ecosystem, with many startups already profiting from this strategy like Zipline now scaling up their services to 7 countries in Africa, Asia and the USA.

#### **Key Stakeholders Within the Ecosystem**

- Ministry of ICT and Innovation
- ICT Chamber Rwanda
- UNDP Rwanda
- Smart Africa
- Youth Connekt Africa Hub
- University of Rwanda
- Norrsken East Africa
- Kigali international financial center ( KIFC)
- Kigali innovation city
- Rwanda Development Board (RDB)



### **BE A PART OF THE ANNUAL GATHERING 2023**

(Leverage on the largest network of technology and innovation hubs across Africa)

Sponsorship Benefit	Platinum	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Onyx
One Keynote address slot.	•				
Opportunity to own a panel.	(Own a main stage panel)	(Speak on a main stage panel)	(Speak on a main stage panel)	(Speak on a main stage Panel)	
Opportunity to give a presentation at the Gathering.	•	•			
Opportunity to host a side event such as Workshop, MasterClass, Parallel Panel, and Meet and Greet.	•	•	•	•	
Branding of AfriLabs General Meeting Soiree dedicated to AfriLabs Hub Members.	•				





Conference Branding Opportunity.	•	•	•	•	
Opportunity to exhibit during the Gathering.	•	•	•		
Branding on Day 1 welcome dinner.	•	•			
Organization feature on the Gathering's Brochure.	Full Page	• Half page	• Quarter page		
Gold Corporate Affiliate membership which offers unlimited access to the AfriLabs network and 20% discount on services.	One year	Six Months			
Exhibition Booth 6m x 4m	•	•	•	•	
Media exposure in associated PR coverage, pre and post the Gathering.	•	•	•	•	•
A prominent feature on the AfriLabs Annual Magazine that will be distributed to hubs across Africa and other ecosystem partners across Africa (Subject to a separate AfriLabs Annual Magazine Sponsorship Package).	•	•	•	•	



Opportunity to engage members of the African technology ecosystem such as startups, innovators, angel investors, tech hubs, and corporates as well as policymakers directly showcasing your support to the network that is committed to the development of the African technology and Innovation Ecosystem.

Article Feature on the event website

Recognition in all conference materials (Agenda, Gift bags, Backdrops, Roll up Banner) and communication channels (Newsletter, Social Media, Press release, Website)



## **LEAD SPONSOR** (\$250,000)

- Opportunity to lead an Opening Session panel.
- Opportunity to provide one speaker for a track panel
- Opportunity to give a presentation at the Opening Ceremony at the gathering and also during a track of choice.
- Opportunity to completely brand the Nile networking lounge (the V.I.P networking lounge).
- Invitation to a closed door ministerial roundtable
- Access to 6 complimentary Nile tickets, 6 Zambezi Tickets and 10 Kagera tickets
- Opportunity to be named Lead sponsors with branding featured prominently to the AfriLabs Logo
- Opportunity to host one side event such as a panel, workshop, masterclass, showcase during the track sessions or a networking event.
- Prominent branding of AfriLabs General Meeting soiree dedicated to AfriLabs hub members.
- Prominent branding of physical event and virtual platform
- Opportunity to exhibit during the Gathering (standard exhibition booth).
- Branding feature on all attendee badges

- Prominent branding on the Gala Dinner.
- One-year Corporate Affiliate Gold membership which offers unlimited access to the AfriLabs network and 20% off on all services.
- Right to distribute printed corporate literature/ gift packs at the event.
- Special recognition in all media related activities and pre and post the Gathering.
- Full page feature on the AfriLabs Annual Magazine that will be distributed to hubs and other ecosystem partners across Africa and the world.
- Opportunity to engage members of the African technology ecosystem directly showcasing your support to the network that is committed to the development of the African technology and Innovation Ecosystem
- Recognition in all conference materials (Agenda, Gift bags, Backdrops,Roll up Banner) and communication channels (Newsletter, Social Media,Press release, Website)
- Article Feature on the event website
- The sponsor will be listed as a Lead sponsor.

## PLATINUM PACKAGE (\$150,000)

- Opportunity to co-own a Track main-stage panel.
- Opportunity to provide one speaker for one track main stage panel.
- Invitation to a closed door ministerial roundtable
- Opportunity to give a presentation at the Opening Ceremony of the gathering.
- Opportunity to completely brand the Nile networking lounge (the V.I.P networking lounge).
- Access to 5 Nile, 4 Zambezi and 6 Kagera complimentary Tickets
- Opportunity to be named platinum sponsors with branding featured prominently to the AfriLabs Logo
- Opportunity to host one side event such as a panel, workshop, masterclass, showcase during the track sessions or a networking event.
- Branding of AfriLabs General Meeting soiree dedicated to AfriLabs hub members.
- Branding of physical event and virtual platform
- Opportunity to exhibit during the Gathering (standard exhibition booth)
- Branding on the Gala Dinner.
- Nine months Corporate Affiliate Gold membership which offers unlimited access to the AfriLabs network and 20% off on all services.
- Right to distribute printed corporate literature/ gift packs at the event.
- Highlight in associated PR coverage, pre and post the Gathering.

- A half page feature on the AfriLabs Annual Magazine that will be distributed to hubs and other ecosystem partners across Africa and the world.
- Opportunity to engage members of the African technology ecosystem directly showcasing your support to the network that is committed to the development of the African technology and Innovation Ecosystem
- Recognition in all conference materials (Agenda, Gift bags, Backdrops,Roll up Banner) and communication channels (Newsletter, Social Media,Press release, Website)
- Article Feature on the event website
- The sponsor will be listed as a Platinum sponsor.

## GOLD PACKAGE (\$100,000)

- Opportunity to speak on a Track main stage panel.
- Opportunity to host one side event such as a panel, workshop, masterclass, showcase during the track sessions or a networking event.
- Branding of physical event and virtual platform
- Opportunity to exhibit during the Gathering. (Standard exhibition booth)
- Branding at the Gala Dinner.
- Access to 7 complimentary Nile tickets
- Right to distribute printed corporate literature/ gift packs at the event.
- General media exposure in associated PR coverage, pre and post the Gathering.
- Six months Corporate Affiliate Gold membership which offers unlimited access to the AfriLabs network and 20% off on all services.
- A feature in the AfriLabs Annual Magazine that will be distributed to hubs and other ecosystem partners across Africa and the world
- Opportunity to engage members of the African technology ecosystem directly showcasing your support to the network that is committed to the development of the African technology and Innovation Ecosystem.
- Recognition in all conference materials (Agenda, Gift bags, Backdrops, Roll up Banner) and communication channels (Newsletter, Social Media, Press release, Website)

## SILVER PACKAGE (\$75,000)

- Opportunity to speak on track panel
- Opportunity to host one side event such as a panel, workshop, masterclass, showcase during the track sessions or a networking event.
- Branding of physical event and virtual platform
- Opportunity to exhibit during the Gathering. (Basic exhibition booth)
- Right to distribute printed corporate literature/ gift packs at the event.
- General Media exposure in associated PR coverage, pre and post the Gathering.
- Six months Corporate Affiliate Silver membership which offers unlimited access to the AfriLabs network and a 20% discount on services.
- A feature on the AfriLabs Annual Magazine that will be distributed to hubs and other ecosystem partners across Africa and the world.
- Opportunity to engage members of the African technology ecosystem
- Recognition in all conference materials (Agenda, Gift bags, Backdrops, Roll up Banner) and communication channels (Newsletter, Social Media, Press release, Website)
- Access to 5 complimentary Nile tickets

## BRONZE PACKAGE (\$35,000)

- Opportunity to do a presentation on a track
- Opportunity to host one side event such as a panel, workshop, masterclass, showcase during the track sessions or a networking event.
- Branding of physical event and virtual platform
- Right to distribute printed corporate literature/ gift packs at the event.
- Access to 3 complimentary Nile tickets
- General Media exposure in associated PR coverage, pre and post the Gathering.
- Opportunity to exhibit at the gathering. (Basic exhibition booth)
- A feature on the AfriLabs Annual Magazine that will be distributed to hubs and other ecosystem partners across Africa and the world.
- Opportunity to engage members of the African technology ecosystem, directly showcasing your support to the network that is committed to the development of the African technology and Innovation Ecosystem.
- Recognition in all conference materials (Agenda, Gift bags, Backdrops, Roll up Banner) and communication channels (Newsletter, Social Media, Press release, Website).

## ONYX PACKAGE (\$20,000)

- Brand Visibility at the AfriLabs Annual Gathering 2023.
- Right to distribute Corporate Literature and gift packs during the Gathering.
- Opportunity to have an exhibition booth at the gathering (Basic exhibition booth) General Media exposure in associated PR coverage (Pre, During and Post the Gathering).
- Recognition in conference materials (Agenda, gift bags, Backdrops, and Roll-up banner) and communication materials (Newsletter, Press release, Social Media, and Website).
- Logo placement on the AfriLabs Annual Magazine
- Access to 1 complimentary Nile tickets

## AAG Track Lead Sponsor Package (\$100,000)

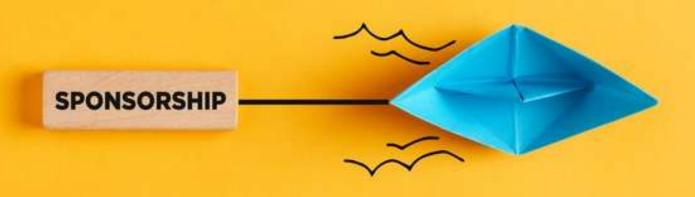
- Opportunity to lead the design of the track
- Opportunity to deliver keynote address at the track
- Opportunity to host a session such as workshop, masterclass, presentation, panel discussion during the track
- Branding of the physical event and virtual platform.
- Branding of the main stage and track stages
- Right to bring onboard partners to curate the track
- Right to distribute printed corporate literature/ gift packs at the event.
- General media exposure in associated PR coverage, pre, during and post the Gathering.
- Six months Corporate Affiliate Gold membership which offers unlimited access to the AfriLabs network and 20% off on all services
- A feature on the AfriLabs annual Magazine that will be distributed to the hubs and other ecosystem partners across Africa and the world.
- Opportunity to engage members of the African technology ecosystem directly showcasing your support to the network that is committed to the development of the African technology and Innovation Ecosystem.
- Recognition in all materials (Agenda, Gift bags, Backdrops, Roll up Banners) and communication channels (Newsletter, Social Media, Press Release, Website
- Sponsor will be recognised as a Track Sponsor at the event
- Access to 5 complimentary Nile tickets

## Standard Exhibition Booth (\$5,000)

- 3x3 shell scheme booths
- Fascia names
- A screen
- 1 Information Counter, 2 Foldable Chairs, 1 Round table
- 1 Brochure stand, Electricity + spotlights + one electricity socket

## Basic Exhibition Booth (\$3,500)

- 3x3 shell scheme booths
- Fascia names
- 1 Information Counter, 2 Foldable Chairs, 1 Round table
- 1 Brochure stand, Electricity + spotlights + one electricity socket



### **In-Kind Sponsorship**

The equivalent of Cash Sponsorship can be provided in kind. This includes (but is not limited to):

- Food
- Internet
- Venue
- Accommodation (Hotels)
- Transportation
- Flights
- Translating devices and Rappoteurs
- Event collateral
- Entertainment.

In-kind sponsors will also be listed on the AfriLabs Annual Gathering Website as a Partners



**Exhibition Booth** Fascia name Sample

# Be a part of Creative Tech in #AAG2023

The 2023 AfriLabs Annual Gathering will also focus on the Creative Technology Industry. Innovations and creatives in the technology industry will be able to showcase their cutting-edge products and services. This way, hubs, startups, and entrepreneurs can connect with investors, collaborators, and potential customers. Attendees will get a glimpse into the latest trends in creative tech and learn from successful industry players through exhibitions, a showcase of immersive art, hackathons, discussions, and workshops.

We will also be looking inwards with medication, reflective and inspiring sessions by Nature Sanctuary - an arty and earthy hub from Nigeria.

Join us at this year's Gathering if you are interested in exploring the intersection of creativity and technology in Africa. From entrepreneurs and startups developing creative tech solutions across various sectors like arts, design, media, gaming, and entertainment to investors seeking to fund and support African creative tech entrepreneurs. Creative tech incubators and accelerators as well as large tech companies with a presence in Africa that are interested in supporting and promoting the growth of the creative tech sector are not excluded. The event is also open to educational institutions that offer programs in creative technology and can provide speakers and workshop facilitators.

Are you interested in being a part of this?

Send an email to jen@afrilabs.com and joshua@afrilabs.com



### **CREATE A PACKAGE**

We are aware of the diverse objectives and visions of our partners and as such, are open to working with you to create a customized package that meets your needs and budget as long as it aligns with the general objectives of the AfriLabs Annual Gathering 2023.

#### Contact

#### **AfriLabs Team**

Send an email to felista@afrilabs.com, Cc jen@afrilabs.com, and pase@afrilabs.com.



