

PODCAST



The Africa Law Tech Podcast explores the latest in legal technology and innovation in the African Continent. Follow and Listen to the Podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and all other leading podcast platforms.

DATA PROTECTION

UK law firm sues Google subsidiary for breach of data protection laws



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Firm director jailed for copyright infringement

He was found guilty of being in possession of computers containing infringing software whose copyright is owned by Autodesk Inc



Newsletter

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STARTUPS



Photo: Google

Google sets up \$50M fund to invest in African startups

Google this week announced a \$50 million Africa Investment Fund. The announcement came during the first virtual Google For Africa event where the company announced its plans to invest \$1bn in Africa's digital transfor-

mation with projects ranging from improving digital infrastructure to providing low interest loans to small businesses. The Fund will help Google derive equity from high-growth African startups in exchange for varied cheque sizes.

Briter Bridges partners with World Bank for 'In Search Of Equity Exploring Africa's Gender Gap in Startup Finance' Report

■ Briter Bridges, a market intelligence and research firm focused on underserved economies, this week launched the Search Of Equity Exploring Africa's Gender Gap in Startup Finance Report in partnership with the World Bank's Africa Gender Innovation Lab (GIL). The report addresses the gender gap in Africa's startup finance.



Photo: africanenda.org

AfricaNenda Launches The State of Instant Payments in Africa Report

■ AfricaNenda, an independent, African led organisation accelerating the growth of instant and inclusive payment systems in Africa, this week launched The State of Instant Payments in Africa Report. The report explores the state of financial inclusion in Africa and the role that inclusive instant payments play in achieving inclusion for all. It is a preview to a full 2022 report that will explore the themes outlined in depth.

13 online African communities among Facebook's 2021 Community Accelerator Program in Africa

■ 13 online African communities have been selected for Facebook's Community Leadership Program. The awardees will receive \$50,000 to invest in projects that extend their communities positive impact. The winners span across Kenya, Nigeria, and South Africa.



BLOCKCHAIN & DIGITAL CURRENCIES



Nigeria's Central Bank postpones the launch of its CBDC, the eNaira

■ The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has postponed the launch of its digital currency, the eNaira. The launch which was to coincide with the country's independence day has been postponed due to a surge in traffic on the website. The surge forced the CBN to reassess the system powering the digital currency.

Interswitch partners Interstellar to develop blockchain infrastructure services across Africa

■ Interswitch, a leading player with critical mass in Africa's financial ecosystem providing a full suite of omni-channel payment solutions, has partnered with Interstellar to develop blockchain infrastructure services across Africa. This partnership will see Interstellar's Blockchain technology stack integrated with Interswitch's industry-leading payments and digital commerce technology. This will enable enterprises using Interswitch to make Bitcoin payments across 5 countries in Africa including Nigeria, Kenya and South Africa.



Ejara Raises \$2million to pioneer usage of Cryptocurrencies in Francophone Africa

■ Ejara, a Pan African platform that allows access to various investment offers including fractional shares and cryptocurrencies, has raised a \$2million funding round. The platform has more than 8000 users, from Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Mali, Guinea and

Senegal. The company hopes to use the funds for regional expansion and deployment of additional features. Francophone Africa has relatively low adoption of cryptocurrency despite its potential to boost financial inclusion.

MoneyGram Announces Innovative Partnership with the Stellar Development Foundation to Utilize Blockchain Technology



■ The partnership will enable digital wallets connected to the Stellar network to access MoneyGram's global retail platform, providing a bridge between digital assets and local currencies for consumers. The partnership will also revolutionize settlement flows by facilitating near-instant settlement in USDC.

LEGAL TECH NEWS

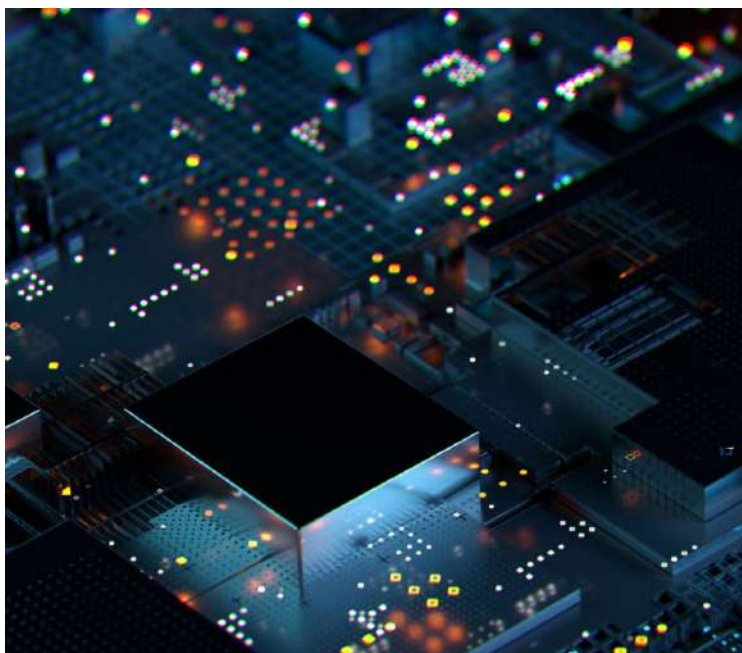
Egyptian President orders ramping up of digital transformation of litigation systems

■ Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi has called for the digital transformation of litigation systems during a meeting with Justice Minister Omar Marwan. He called for equipping courts with technology and technical expertise to help improve access to justice for Egyptian citizens.



Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi.

DATA PROTECTION



UK law firm sues Google subsidiary for breach of data protection laws

CLAIM FOLLOWS DEEPMIND'S BREACH OF DATA PROTECTION LAWS ARISING FROM THEIR DATA-SHARING ARRANGEMENT WITH THE ROYAL FREE LONDON NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE FOUNDATION TRUST.

■ A U.K. based law firm is bringing a class-action style claim over a patient health data scandal that dates back to 2015 and involves the Google-owned AI company DeepMind, after it was quietly passed medical information on more than a million patients by an NHS Trust as part of an app development project. This follows Deepmind's breach of data protection laws arising from their data-sharing arrangement with the Royal Free London National Health service foundation trust.

Twitch 2021 data breach amplifies concerns about safety, diversity and pay transparency

■ Twitch confirmed that a massive cache of internal data, including creator payouts, was published online after a breach. The streaming platform said in a blog post that the leak was caused by an error in a Twitch server configuration change, which was then

accessed by a malicious third party. For many streamers, this leak exacerbates existing tensions over pay transparency in streaming and safety on Twitch. Though Twitch has since added new safety features, tensions remain high in the community.



Multibillion-Dollar Market for Your Phone's Location Data

■ Currently at an estimated \$12 billion market, the location data industry has many players including collectors, aggregators, marketplaces, and location intelligence firms, all of which boast about the scale and precision of the data that they've amassed. Companies that you likely have never heard of are hawking access to the location history on your mobile phone. Location firm Near describes itself as "The World's Largest Dataset of People's Behavior in the Real-World," with data representing "1.6B people across 44 countries." Mobile-

walla boasts "40+ Countries, 1.9B+ Devices, 50B Mobile Signals Daily, 5+ Years of Data." X-Mode's website claims its data covers "25%+ of the Adult U.S. population monthly." According to Justin Sherman, a cyber policy fellow at the Duke Tech Policy Lab, there isn't a lot of transparency and there is a really, really complex shadowy web of interactions between these companies that's hard to untangle. He further states that these companies operate on the fact that the general public and other regulatory centers aren't paying attention to what they're doing.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY



WHO endorses use of world's first malaria vaccine in Africa

The World Health Organization has recommended the widespread rollout of the first malaria vaccine, in a move experts hope could save tens of thousands of children's lives each year across Africa. After a successful pilot programme in three African countries the RTS,S vaccine should be made available more widely, said the WHO's director general, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. The RTS,S vaccine, also known as Mosquirix, was developed by the British pharmaceutical



company GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), and has been administered to more than 800,000 children in Ghana, Kenya and Malawi since the pilot programme began in 2019.

Engineering firm director jailed for copyright infringement

■ An engineering company director has been jailed for a year by a Nairobi court for copyright infringement of a software. Senior Resident Magistrate TN Sinkiyian ordered Kariuki Muchemi, the director of Interconsult Engineers Ltd to pay a fine of Sh120,000 if he is to escape jail. The magistrate further ordered him to pay Ideate technologies, the author-

rized dealers of the software in Kenya, Sh240,000 as compensation or serve an additional 10 months in prison. Muchemi was convicted of two counts of copyright infringement. He was found guilty of being in possession of computers containing infringing Auto Card 2009 and 2013 software whose copyright is owned by Autodesk Inc

Loss of Intellectual Property, Customer Data Pose Greatest Business Risks

A recent Dark Reading survey of 215 IT and cybersecurity professionals, identified the types of incidents posing the greatest threat to the organization's sensitive data. Dark Reading's "The State of Incident Response 2021" report shows that security professionals have been most

concerned about breaches of intellectual property and business secrets (36%), followed by the unauthorized use of applications by credentialed users (17%). In addition, 16% said outages of internal IT systems, applications, or networks pose big organizational risks.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE NEWS

EU Passes non-binding resolution calling for ban on law enforcement use of AI

This week, The European Parliament, the body responsible for adopting European Union (EU) legislation, passed a non-binding resolution calling for a ban on law enforcement use of facial recognition technology in public places. Members also asked that fundamental rights be upheld when using these technologies, by ensuring that algorithms are transparent, traceable and sufficiently documented.



Democrats Warn School Surveillance Tools Could Compound 'Risk of Harm for Students'

A group of Democratic lawmakers has demanded that several education technology companies that monitor children online explain their business practices, arguing that around-the-clock digital surveillance demonstrates "a clear invasion of student privacy, particularly when students and families are unable to opt out."



EVENTS

26TH EAST AFRICA LAW SOCIETY ANNUAL CONFERENCE & GENERAL MEETING

23rd -27th November

The 26th East Africa Law Society Annual Conference will be hosted in Zanzibar this year in collaboration with the Zanzibar Law Society and the Tanganyika Law Society. The premier event will see participation of lawyers drawn from across East Africa and beyond. Part of the Conference will be streamed virtually with participation from senior leaders from the region and several lawyers drawn from outside Africa. The purpose of the conference is to pool legal resources to debate common challenges to the legal profession and the region and find sustainable outcomes aiming at harmonizing relationships among EAC lawyers and providing solutions to governance challenges in the region. This year, the conference discusses sustainable outcomes for the legal profession in the face of uncertainties and rising threats to the profession.

AFRICA TECH FESTIVAL

November 8th to 12th

Africa Tech Festival 2021 will take place virtually from the 8 - 12 November 2021. Along with its two anchor events, AfricaCom and AfricaTech, Africa Tech Festival is the largest and most influential tech event in Africa boasting more than 300 visionary speakers and over 10 premium conference tracks - each with razor-sharp focus, exploring the hottest connectivity and enterprise tech trends.

AFRICA SUMMIT ON WOMEN AND GIRLS IN TECHNOLOGY.

11th & 12th October 2021.

Bridging the digital gender gap. Join the symposium in designing solutions that will enable millions of African women and girls to benefit from access to technology and use their skills to build a better Africa for all.

OCTOBER 12TH, 2021

01:00PM CAT

The Intersection of Freedom of Expression Online and the Protection of Personal Information by TechHiveAdvisory with the support of Omidyar Network focusing on Botswana Ethiopia, Kenya and Nigeria.

DIGITAL IDENTITY NEWS



Digital identity trust scheme pilot for home buying and selling

Propertymark is working with Etive and other industry stakeholders on a project to develop a digital identity trust scheme for the home buying and selling sector. Aligned to the eventual UK Digital Identity and Attributes Trust Framework that is being developed by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), the development of the Scheme, known as MyIdentity, will allow the digital identity of a home buyer/seller to be verified once and then be shared by the consumer used

throughout the rest of the sales transaction, based on consent. The Scheme is for the complete home buying and selling process/transaction and is expected to have active involvement from all key stakeholder groups including estate agents, conveyancers/lawyers, mortgage intermediaries, mortgage lenders, new home developers and identity providers serving the market. The Scheme will initially run during a Pilot Phase from the end of October for six months in specific areas.

Tamil Nadu police's 'Face Recognition Software' has privacy experts worried

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin on October 4 announced a Face Recognition Software (FRS) to aid the state police in its investigations. The software, according to the government, will help compare the photos of suspects with a data resource of over 5.30 lakh photos updated in the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network Systems (CCTNS). An official statement from the state police said that the software will help track down accused persons, suspected persons, and missing persons. It will

also help in identifying corpses by comparing with the data available with the CCTNS. The software will also share the information about a person to all other police stations and help nab the accused if they happen to commit an offence in another police station limit. However, privacy experts have raised several concerns, including that of mass surveillance and violation of the right to privacy. Some have pointed out that such a technology should be introduced along with a law to regulate usage.

Join our membership and be a part of a great community that includes legal and tech professionals, students, startups, organizations and government representatives. Over the past year, members have benefited through Networking Opportunities, Collaboration Opportunities, Invitations to speak at events, Mentorship, Access to the Lawyer’s Hub Innovation Space and to cutting-edge technology tools. This year, we have revamped our offers to make it even better and more accessible to many across Kenya & beyond our borders. These benefits include;

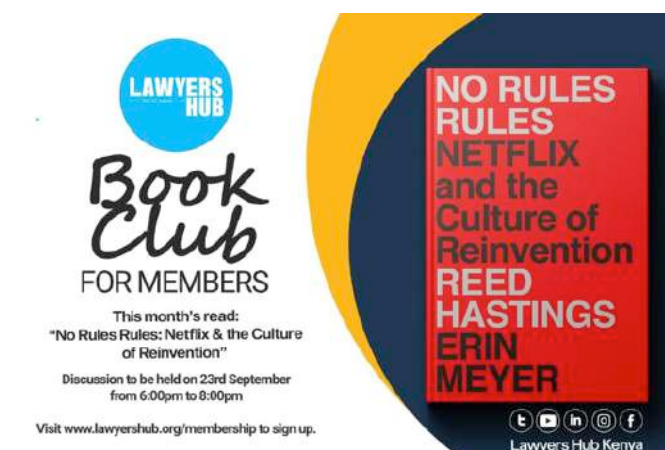
1. CODING FOR LAWYERS

It is important for lawyers to learn the fundamentals of coding as the legal industry becomes more tech and data driven. The Lawyers Hub has taken the initiative to ensure that its members develop these skills by curating a coding course that is set to start on the 1st of October 2021.



2. BOOK CLUB

September read: No Rules Rules; Netflix and the culture of Reinvention by Reed Hasting and Erin Meyer. Applications to join are open. 1st discussion will be held on 23rd September 2021.



3. DANCE CLASS

We care about our members' mental health and fitness as these are crucial to everyone's wellbeing. The Lawyers Hub hosts two choreographed dance classes every week that will tick all your mental health boxes in Upper Hill at Ack Garden House. You also get to network with working groups. Your 1st dance class is on the house. Join us!

4. DISCOUNTS ON LAWYERS HUB AMENITIES

Have you been looking for an office to work from? Tired of working from home and need a change in work environment? Having issues with power or the internet? The Lawyers Hub has amazing deals on its amenities for members such as 10% discounts on virtual office, private office, hot desks, meeting and conference rooms, and event space with great features suited to help you take your business to the next level.

We also have amazing deals on our media and events services for virtual, physical and hybrid events if you are looking to convene conferences, trainings, host webinars, launches, AGMs, you name it!



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The Lawyers Hub event space is equipped to serve a variety of event types from AGMs, Conferences, Webinars, Launches, socially oriented events such as parties, Workshop and Trainings. We also offer video conferencing and live streaming services that will take your event to the next level. Book today, call +254784840228 to get a quote.

LAWYERS HUB CO-WORKING SPACE

Our serviced office space provides individuals and organizations in the Law & Tech space with everything you need to grow and innovate. Come and work with like-minded professionals in the industry, accelerate your business growth, and unlock your potential in our well-designed work environment. We offer hot desks, private offices and meeting rooms all at flexible rates.



CO-WORKING SPACE

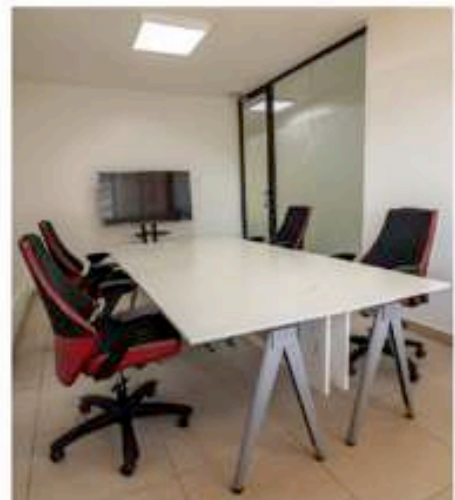
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