

Technische
Universität
Berlin



UNIVERSITY of
RWANDA



Logistics in Practice – Empowering East Africa

Future Role of Startups in Promoting Logistics Innovations and Job Creation

Digital Conference

27 April 2022

11.30 – 14.00 EAT (Ethiopian Time)

10.30 – 13.00 CAT/CET (Rwandan/German time)

Hosted by:

Prof. Dr. Frank Straube | Angelica Coll, M.Sc. | Dr. Benjamin Nitsche | Cedric Lengeling, M.Sc.
Dilnesahu Samuel, M.Sc. | Dr. Jonas Barayandema | Dr. Gershom Abaho Shyaka

Digital Conference Logistics in Practice – Empowering East Africa: Future Role of Startups in Promoting Logistics Innovations and Job Creation

The conference “Logistics in Practice – Empowering East Africa” is the result of the cooperation between the Technische Universität Berlin, Addis-Ababa-University, University of Rwanda, and several partners, such as the GIZ, Kühne Foundation, and the DAAD, for developing the logistics capabilities in the region. Within several projects we aim to bring industry and academia together, advance the current knowledge about challenges and improvement potentials for logistics networks in East Africa, and incorporate these findings into logistics education. This approach aims at more practice-oriented education for students in the region to better meet the demand of the job market for well-trained students.

This year’s conference will be focusing on the current startup landscape in East Africa and the efforts in this region to promote job creation and the use of digital technologies.

During the event, we will dive into the current environment for entrepreneurial activities and how startups have managed to create new markets and job opportunities with their products and services in Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, and Rwanda. Following a brief introduction, innovative startups will present their approaches followed by a panel discussion. The conference’s objective is to offer valuable insights to industry and government representatives, as well as students and academic staff, into the startup landscape and to promote an open dialogue among all stakeholders to foster logistics improvements. Additionally, the insights gained during the event will serve as a starting point to investigate and develop digitalization approaches that promote sustainability and job creation in the logistics networks in the region.

Key facts

Date: 27 April 2022

Time: 11:30 pm – 2:00 pm EAT (Ethiopian time)

10:30 am – 1:00 pm CET/CAT (German/Rwandan time)

Online registration under <https://www.unipark.de/uc/Afrika/0a9e/>

For questions, please contact Angelica Coll at coll@logistik.tu-berlin.de



Endowed by:



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development


KÜHNE-STIFTUNG



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



Digital Conference Logistics in Practice – Empowering East Africa: Future Role of Startups in Promoting Logistics Innovations and Job Creation

11.30 – 11.35 **Opening & Welcome**

11.35 – 11.50 **Development perspectives for logistics in Africa**
Prof. Dr. Frank Straube, Head of Chair of Logistics, TU Berlin

11.50 – 12.05 **Unlocking the potential of the current startup landscape in Africa**
Dr. Benjamin Nitsche
Manager of Competence Center for International Logistics Networks,
Chair of Logistics, Technische Universität Berlin

12.05 – 12:20 **Introduction to the startup environment in East Africa**
Project Manager - DIGILOGIC Project at MEST Africa

INTRODUCTION

12.20 – 13.10 **Pitches of innovative logistics solutions**

- Eshi Express – Last-mile delivery service - Ethiopia
- Zipline – Drone Delivery Platform – Rwanda
- Instadriver – Logistics Platform – Kenya
- Sendyit – Fullfilment Solutions – Kenya
- Boxconn – Logistics Platform – Ghana

PITCHES

13.10 – 13.50 **Panel discussion**

Guiding questions:

- What role does digitalization play in shaping more efficient logistics systems in Sub-Sahara Africa?
- How does digitization influence job creation?
- Which technologies do you believe will be relevant for improving the logistics performance in the region in the upcoming years?

DISCUSSION

13.50 – 14.00 **Wrap-up and outlook**

The schedule is given in the Ethiopian time

