



Integration of Tech Hub into University

A case of Strathmore University

About iBizAfrica



iBiz
Africa

We are a multi-disciplinary university-based business incubator focused on creating an enabling environment that builds on the potential of the youth to develop innovative solutions and businesses that work for the common good in society.

Portfolio startups: 300+ Mentors: 20+

Services: 10+ Coaches: 15+ Seed Capital: 200K+ USD

Partners:20+

About Strathmore University

Fun facts-We are first:

- [Multiracial school in East Africa](#) (inclusion is in our DNA)
- Quality and freedom driven higher education in Kenya
- University-based innovation and incubation centre in Kenya
- to offer digital skills training in mobile technologies in Kenya
- Technology powered University in Kenya open-source financial and e-learning systems in Kenya's higher education landscape
- [Launch Masters in Oil and Gas Law](#)
- Install the first solar powered University campus

@iLabAfrica

- ✓ @iLabAfrica is Strathmore University ICT driven centre of excellence in research and innovation.
- ✓ Founded in the year 2010 with a mission to provide an environment that promotes technological innovation and provides business support structures and policy direction to harness the potential of ICT as a genuine tool for sustainable development.
- ✓ @iBizAfrica is the entrepreneurship arm of iLabAfrica providing an enabling environment for innovation and creation of new ventures and spinoff companies, addressing local societal needs but with regional and global relevance for scale

@iLabAfrica

We focus on:

- ✓ Applied research-solving relevant local problems by leveraging on cutting edge ICT technologies, top academic researchers and industry partners. We have had impact in the following areas: education, health, information and systems security and financial sector.
- ✓ Skills training and capacity building in relevant emerging technologies: mobile technologies, information and systems security, blockchain, digital advertising, Internet of things, data science and analytics, AI
- ✓ Entrepreneurship (@iBizAfrica)-providing an enabling environment for new venture creation and commercialisation of research.

Shaping the trends of higher Education in Africa

- ✓ Africa's leading Universities of the future are highly adaptive, open and digital
- ✓ Broadband at the centre of Africa's economic and social transformation (knowledge-based economy)
- ✓ The University of the future is energy sufficient and runs on renewable energy
- ✓ Entrepreneurial Universities-Africa's leading Universities have thrown out reliance on the fees-based business model!

Case Study 1: Strathmore University: adaptiveness

- ✓ Being a pioneer in quality driven higher education we have intentionally remained adaptive to industry and market needs:
- ✓ Degree programmes based on skills gap in the market, developed collaboratively with industry partners: Strathmore: Business Information Technology, Law, Information and Systems Security, Mobile Telecommunication and Innovation, Spectrum Management, Leadership
- ✓ Human Development-A strathmore graduate is holistically developed: intellectual, soft skills, talent enhancement, philosophical and ethical development

Case Study 1: Strathmore University: Open

- ✓ An open University is driven by participation by everyone! We have created an ecosystem where relevant players are engaged to contribute value:
 - ✓ Parents, students, faculty, staff, industry, government and non-governmental organisations, development organisations, corporate and private sector, entrepreneurs, startups and SMES.
- ✓ We are a tripple helix University: Public Private Partnership

Case Study 1: Strathmore University: Digital

We are a digital University:

- ✓ High broadband infrastructure-fibre optic link and efficient campus wide deployment WiFi and cable)E-learning and Mobile learning
- ✓ E and M University-Everything from learning, HR, Finance, Mentoring is supported by useful, efficient and affordable technology.
- ✓ Breaking barriers-Leveraging on broadband and e-learning we deliver education to refugees in Kakuma. Our first phase was teaching and getting them certified as accountants. We are investing more to make our education more accessible e.g. nano lessons (short video-based lessons)

Case Study 2: Strathmore University: Energy Sufficiency

- ✓ Strathmore University has set up a solar grid that powers the entire campus and sells excess energy to the national grid through the Strathmore Energy Research Centre
- ✓ This translates to lower costs, less than 2 % power-related downtime
- ✓ Strathmore Energy Research Centre additionally provides cutting edge training and quality assurance testing for solar technicians, vendors and innovators

Case Study 3: Strathmore University: An Entrepreneurial University

Commercialising Research-We now have a model for commercialising research through various centres of sustainability that focus on providing industry and the society with solutions to local problems:

1. [@iBizAfrica](#)
2. [@iLabAfrica](#)
3. [Strathmore Energy Research Centre](#)
4. Strathmore Research and Consultancy Centre
5. Strathmore Centre for Intellectual Property and IT Law
6. Centre for research in Therapeutic sciences
7. Centre for Research in Education

Case Study 3: Strathmore University:@iBizAfrica Success Story 1: Class Project to Venture

Year: 2013

Who: Ayrton Bett and Diana Martha team up to work on an e-commerce project for their final year BBIT course

Venture: Purpink Gifts Ltd. | www.purpinkgifts.com Video: [Link](#)

Case Study 3: Strathmore University: @iBizAfrica

Success Story 1: Class Project to Venture

What:

- They develop a concept for online gift-shop focused on personalised gifts. They start on Facebook
- They move the project to @iBizAfrica and use their 3 months industrial attachment hours to work on their startup.
- The duo secures USD 5,000 seed funding from the Idea Foundation Programme and launch their startup in three months.
- After six months the startups the startup graduates from @iBizAfrica as a self-sufficient business with annual turnover of more than USD 100,000
- Today the company has expanded country wide and are looking to venture in the larger East Africa region.

Case Study 3: Strathmore University: @iBizAfrica Success Story 2: Class Project to Venture

Year: 2013

Who: Sospeter Njoroge. A Bachelor of hospitality and tourism student extends his final year class project into a startup at iBizAfrica.

Venture: Eliteways Travel. | www.elitewaystravel.com Video: [Link](#)

Case Study 3: Strathmore University:@iBizAfrica

Success Story 2: Class Project to Venture

What:

- Sospeter starts of as an online travel agency as part of his class project. Discovers the need for airport transfers and gets first vehicle on hire purchase.
- He moves the project to iBizAfrica after graduation for incubation. 2 years later he expands his fleet to 9 vehicles and launches a fully fledged tours and travel company.
- Today, Eliteways Travel provides corporate shuttle services for Strathmore University and other organisations in Kenya.
- Today Sospeter runs a thriving travels and tours company with services across East Africa.

Case Study 3: Strathmore University: @iBizAfrica

Success Story 3 : M-ledger

What:

- Kuria Ndungu joins @iBizAfrica with his brother through the Safaricom App Wiz Challenge 2013
- The duo develop Kenya's first ever user-focused analytics platform for M-Pesa, Kenya's leading mobile money platform
- The two brother emerge winners in a runners up and financial category position bagging home KES 1,000,000.
- The startup gets acquired by Safaricom (Kenya's biggest Telco and owner of M-Pesa) through a multi-million shillings deal.

As researchers or practitioners what are the possible interactions/collaboration with practitioners resp. researchers to improve/upscale your activities

- Knowledge sharing and support to set up enabling environments:
 - Incubation
 - Innovation Centre
 - Entrepreneurship Centre
- Collaborative projects in common areas of research interest: e.g. renewable energy and water through Strathmore Energy Research Centre

What are the potential aspects of the research that can be transformed into practice?

- ▶ **Student Class Projects**
- ▶ **Faculty Research Work**
- ▶ **Research grants**

About Me



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