

Agenda

Exploring Youth Digital Pathways for Sustainable Development



1 Introduction

Setting the stage for understanding the role of youth in digital innovation for sustainable development.

2 Key Areas of Youth Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development

Highlighting the main focus areas where youth-led digital initiatives contribute to sustainable development.

3 Challenges and Barriers

Discussing the obstacles and difficulties faced by young innovators in their digital sustainability efforts.

4 Strategies to Enhance Youth Digital Pathways

Exploring effective methods and approaches to empower and support youth in their digital innovation journeys.

5 Impact on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Examining how youth digital initiatives contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.

6 Conclusion

Summarizing key insights and takeaways from the discussion on youth-driven digital innovation for sustainable development.

Introduction

Youth Engagement in the Digital Age: A Global Perspective



Youth Dominance in Africa

60% of Africa's population is under 25, driving change.

Digital Pathways for Development

Leveraging technology to enhance social and economic progress.

Social Impact of Technology

Technologies facilitate youth-led initiatives for local solutions.

Link to Sustainable Development Goals

Youth engagement is key to achieving the UN SDGs effectively.

Best Quote Words



Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals requires a seismic shift – which can only happen if we empower young people and work with them as equals.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres

Author Designation



Key Areas of Youth Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development

Empowering Youth Through Digital Solutions for Sustainable Progress

Education



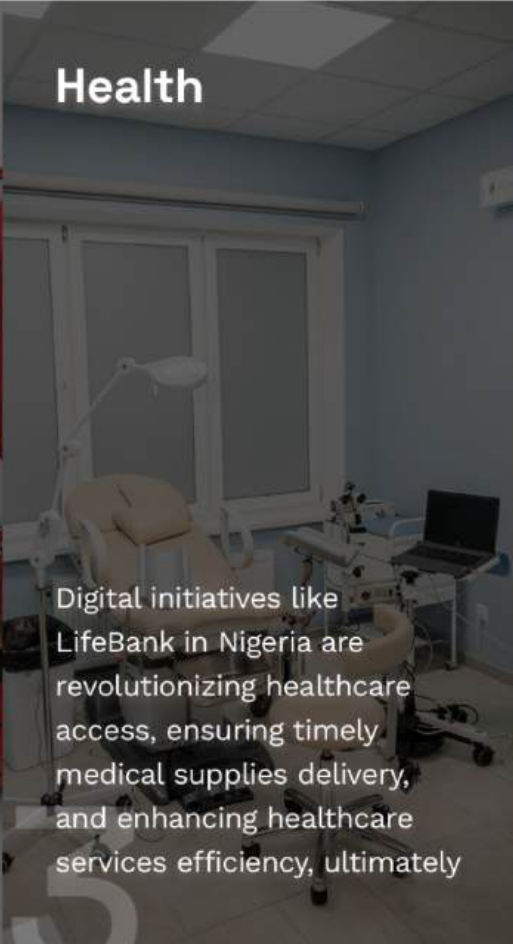
Enhancing educational accessibility via digital platforms like M-Shule in Kenya facilitates learning beyond traditional classrooms, promoting inclusivity and interactive

Entrepreneurship



Equipping young entrepreneurs with digital tools such as Flutterwave in Nigeria fosters innovation, financial inclusion, and the growth of sustainable businesses in the digital

Health




Digital initiatives like LifeBank in Nigeria are revolutionizing healthcare access, ensuring timely medical supplies delivery, and enhancing healthcare services efficiency, ultimately

Agriculture



Utilizing mobile technology and AI for agricultural purposes as seen with Hello Tractor in Nigeria enhances productivity, optimizes resource management, and promotes sustainable

Governance and Civic Engagement



Engaging youth in policy-making through platforms like BudgIT in Nigeria promotes transparency, accountability, and active participation in shaping the future of communities and

Facts to Know

Insights on Global Youth Demographics and Representation



Half of Global Population Under 30

Expected to increase to 57% by 2030, showcasing a significant demographic shift towards youth.



Optimism Among Youth

67% of individuals anticipate a better future, with 15-17-year-olds displaying the highest level of optimism.



Underrepresentation in Parliament

Only 2.6% of parliamentarians are under 30, with less than 1% being young women, highlighting the lack of youth voices in governance.



Global Youth Population Growth

Currently at 1.2 billion (15-24 years old), projected to reach 1.3 billion by 2030, emphasizing the increasing importance of youth in the global population.

Digital Innovation —

Digital Transformation and SDGs

Harnessing Technology for Sustainable
Development Goals

70% Impact on SDGs

Digital technologies influence 70% of the 169 SDG targets, highlighting their crucial role.



Cost Reduction Potential

These technologies can lower the costs of achieving SDGs by up to USD 55 trillion.



Data-Driven Decisions

Digital interactions provide valuable data for evidence-based decision-making.



Youth Empowerment

Engaging youth in digital innovation drives progress towards sustainable solutions.



Challenges and Barriers

Empowering Youth through Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development



Digital Divide

Unequal technology access, especially affecting rural and marginalized communities, limiting digital skill development and participation in the digital economy.



Funding

Challenges in securing funds for scaling digital initiatives and innovative projects, restricting the potential for impactful digital transformation and youth-led innovations.



Infrastructure

Limited internet connectivity and unreliable electricity impeding digital learning opportunities and hindering the adoption of digital solutions for sustainable development.



Policy and Regulation

Inconsistent or outdated policies acting as barriers to digital progress, creating uncertainties for youth digital entrepreneurship and innovation in sustainable development.

Strategies to Enhance Youth Digital Pathways

Empowering youth through strategic initiatives for digital advancement



Capacity Building

Invest in digital literacy and skills training programs like Andela in Nigeria to equip youth with the necessary



Improving Infrastructure

Foster collaboration between governments and private sectors to enhance digital infrastructure, ensuring widespread



Access to Finance

Expand funding opportunities through grants and venture capital support such as the Tony Elumelu Foundation to fuel



Policy Advocacy

Advocate for supportive policies that foster digital innovation, creating an enabling environment for youth-driven technological



Partnerships and Collaboration

Promote synergies among governments, private sectors, NGOs, and educational institutions to leverage collective expertise and resources for comprehensive youth

Impact on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Driving Youth-Led Digital Transformation for Sustainable Development

1

Online education tools broaden access to quality learning resources, enabling inclusive and equitable education.



**Digital Platforms
Enhance Education
Access**



**Digital
Entrepreneurship Fuels
Job Creation**

2

Youth-led digital ventures generate employment opportunities, fostering economic prosperity and sustainable development.

3

Innovative health technologies bolster healthcare services, ensuring better treatment outcomes and accessible medical support.



**Digital Health Solutions
Enhance Healthcare**



**Agricultural
Innovations Boost Food
Security**

4

Technological advancements in agriculture bolster food production, addressing hunger challenges and promoting sustainable farming practices.



**Digital Civic
Engagement Fosters
Accountability**

5

Youth engagement through digital platforms strengthens governance transparency, fostering accountability and participatory decision-making.

Conclusion

Youth digital innovators drive sustainable development across sectors.



Addressing Barriers

Removing obstacles and fostering supportive environments are essential for maximizing youth digital impact.



Creating Enabling Environments

Developing structures that nurture creativity and innovation amplifies the contributions of young digital talent.



Empowering Youth through Digital Opportunities

Access to digital resources and skill development propels youth towards becoming agents of positive change.



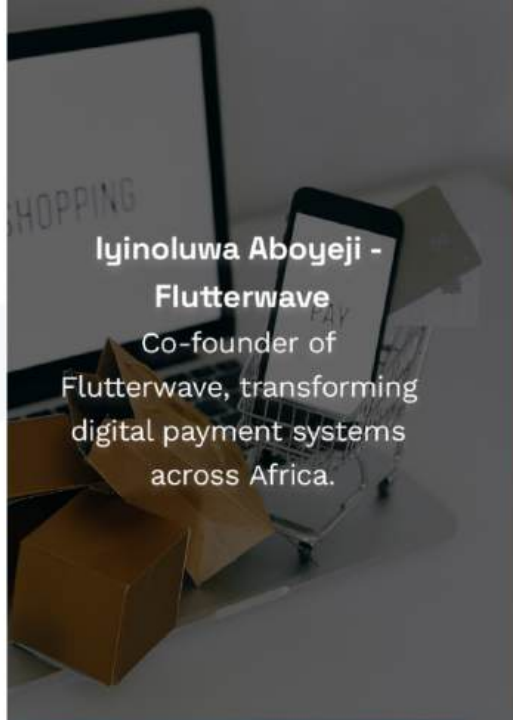
Sustained Progress for Future Generations

Youth engagement in digital realms ensures continuous advancements that benefit upcoming cohorts and societal growth.

African Youth Digital Innovators —

Examples of Young Digital Innovators in Africa

Empowering Africa Through Youth-led Digital Innovation



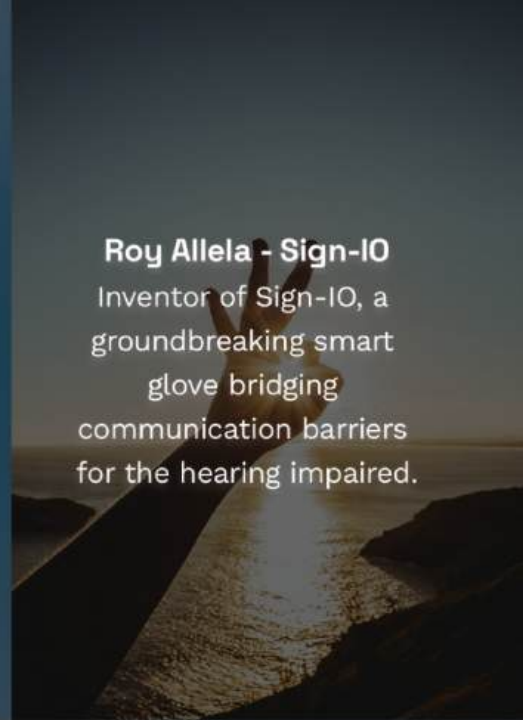
**Iyinoluwa Aboyeji -
Flutterwave**

Co-founder of Flutterwave, transforming digital payment systems across Africa.

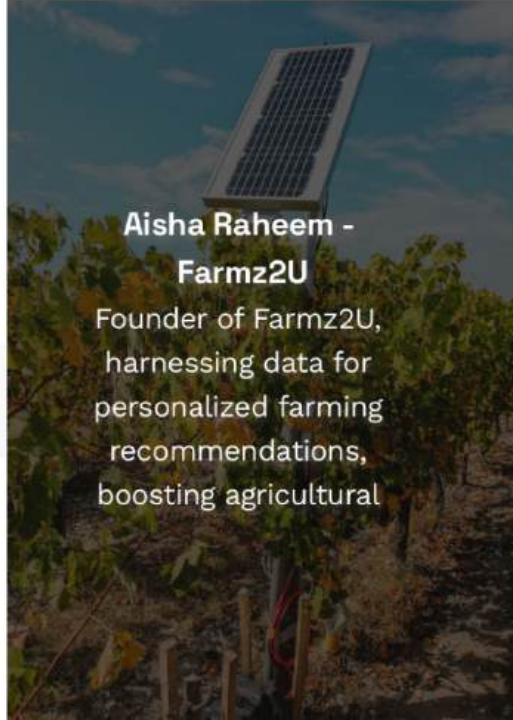


**Temie Giwa-Tubosun -
LifeBank**

Founder of LifeBank, utilizing digital tech to enhance healthcare accessibility and efficiency.

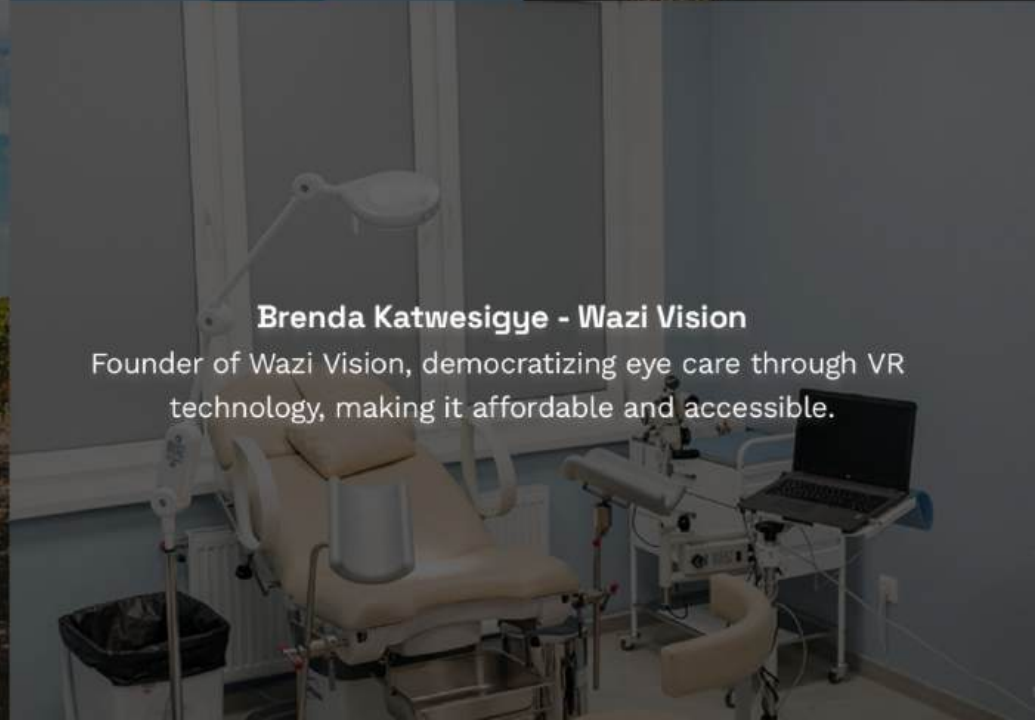


Roy Allela - Sign-IO
Inventor of Sign-IO, a groundbreaking smart glove bridging communication barriers for the hearing impaired.



**Aisha Raheem -
Farmz2U**

Founder of Farmz2U, harnessing data for personalized farming recommendations, boosting agricultural










Brenda Katwesigye - Wazi Vision

Founder of Wazi Vision, democratizing eye care through VR technology, making it affordable and accessible.

Call to Action

Empower youth for a sustainable digital future. Support inclusive policies, digital investments, and youth entrepreneurship.

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