



Tshwane University  
of Technology  
*We empower people*



# JAMBO JOURNAL

A publication of the International Students' Organisation (ISO)



8th Edition  
March 2025

## International Day

International  
Students'  
Organisation

Campus activities

Entrepreneurship

# Contents

Editor's Note.....	2
International Students' Organisation (ISO).....	4
ISO Leaders 2025.....	5
Ga-Rankuwa Campus Activities.....	7
Mbombela Campus Activities.....	9
Pretoria Campus Activities.....	10
Soshanguve Campus Activities.....	11
Important TUT Contact Details.....	12
International Day 2024.....	14
Countries' Profiles.....	16
Entrepreneurship Education in Africa.....	18
Graduation Interview.....	21
ISO Studython.....	23
Visa Facilitation Services on Campus.....	24
Coco Craft: International Student Entrepreneurs.....	25
Pan-African Leadership in the Face of Conflict....	29
Breaking the Silence: The DRC.....	31
Africa: The Indispensable Continent.....	33
African Creativity and Identity.....	35
Social Media: To post or Not?.....	37
Quantum Computing and AI.....	40
Book Review.....	46
Poetry Corner.....	47

## Editor's Note

*Globalisation.* More than ever before, we are connected to one another. The world, as it were, is a global village. Did you know that you can watch television from any channel in the world? Search "TV.garden", select a country from the world, choose a TV or radio station and watch the news 24/7! In many respects, the world has become a global village. The World Wide Web revolution has made the world a global village, if we are to speak of technological advancements in the world. It has enabled people to connect regardless of where they live. Through social media, you can establish connections with people around the world. Social media platforms allow users to engage with people worldwide and have conversations about several topics, including politics, sports, music and movies. We will soon begin to consider people from other countries to be our neighbours.

*Democracy.* Africa's democracy faces insurmountable obstacles. Several West African nations, including Mali, Chad, Guinea, Burkina Faso and Gabon, have recently experienced military takeovers. However, recent elections

in Africa have been peaceful. Botswana held its general elections on 30 October 2024. The opposition Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC), which is centre-left, defeated the centre-right Botswana Democratic Party (BDP), which had dominated the country's politics since independence in 1966. Duma Boko, the leader of the UDC and its main faction, the Botswana National Front (BNF), became president of Botswana. On November 1, 2024, Mokgweetsi Masisi, the incumbent president, conceded defeat and ensured that the transition of power would be peaceful.

General elections were held in Namibia on November 27, 2024, but were postponed in some areas to November 30 due to inadequate planning. These were the country's seventh general elections since independence in 1990. On December 3, 2024, Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah of the ruling South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) party of Namibia was declared the election winner. She is Namibia's first female president.

South Africa held general elections on 29 May 2024. The ruling African National Congress (ANC) saw a dramatic decline in support in this election; although it remained the largest party, it lost the parliamentary majority it had held since the first post-apartheid election in 1994. On June 14, 2024, Cyril Ramaphosa was re-elected as South Africa's president after the ANC, the Democratic Alliance (DA), the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) and the Patriotic Alliance (PA) agreed to form a national unity government.

Welcome to Jambo Journal's eighth edition. We hope that the articles in this issue will be both educational and informative. "Jambo" is a Swahili word that can mean "something" in another context, in addition to being used as a greeting. This captures the spirit of this journal; therefore, it is a suitable term to describe it. We express our gratitude to the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) for providing the financial support necessary to ensure the success of this journal's publication.

At the time of publication, the articles included in this issue were as diverse as possible. Although this is an international student journal, anyone can contribute to it. Better relationships within the TUT community are fostered through our embrace of diversity. We encourage more students and staff to submit their articles and other contributions for consideration in future Jambo Journal editions.

In this edition, we highlight the International Students' Organisation (ISO) central committee's activities and those of each campus. There is an academically-inclined article by Mr O.C Adekoya, focusing on quantum computing and artificial intelligence (AI). Additionally, Lauriane Mujinga

and Foula-Motassi Bebey Murielle, two recent graduates from the Soshanguve campus, were interviewed. Dr M.E. Migabo discusses pan-African leadership in the face of conflict and Dr R.W. Mutoko interrogates whether entrepreneurship education in Africa should be aligned from kindergarten to university.

Is Africa an indispensable continent? To post or not on social media? What do African creativity and identity entail? What is going on in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)? Answers to these pertinent questions have been suggested in this journal. There is also a poem and a book review section, where *The Psychology of Money* by Morgan Housel, *Atomic Habits* by James Clear and Mpoomy Ledwaba's memoir *How Did We Get Here?* are reviewed.

We recommend *The Pan African Review*, a journal that discusses Pan-Africanism and development issues of the continent, to our readers: <https://panafricanreview.com>. We appreciate your opinions on the journal. We sincerely hope that you will find this issue both interesting and educational. Thank you.

*Stafford Osuri Osuri*

**Associate member of the Professional Editors' Guild (PEG), South Africa**

**Editor**

**Jambo Journal**



**Please use the following details for article submissions, letters to the editor, advertisements and feedback:**



osuriosuri@gmail.com



iso\_tut



International Students Organisation ISO-TUT

**Editorial team:** Aloisia Loubah, Anaclet Lukasa Mukendi, Bandile Dlamini, Carlos Chrysogone Alongaud-Alihangang, Isnela Gbetin, Kevin Bashizi, Ngangole Gracia Kibole, Rossy Manana, Stacieh Shoko, Tshikaya Emmanuel Mbuyi and Stafford Osuri Osuri.

**Coordinator:** Carlos Chrysogone Alongaud-Alihangang.

**International Students Office:** The International Office is situated in Building 4-240 Tshwane University of Technology, Pretoria Campus.

**Office Hours:** (Monday – Friday): 08:00 – 16:00

**Email:** internationaloffice@tut.ac.za

**Tel:** +27 12 382 5709

**Design:** UVO Communication +27 12 423 9460

**Cover photo:** International students from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) during International Day.

Information is correct at impression time. The views expressed in this journal are the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect views or policies of the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT), or the International Students' Organisation (ISO). Jambo Journal makes no representation concerning and does not guarantee the source, originality, accuracy, completeness or reliability of any statement, information, data, finding, interpretation, advice, opinion, or view presented.

©2025 Jambo Journal. All rights reserved. Reproductions in part or whole without permission is prohibited.



# International Students' Organisation (ISO)

By editorial team

The international students' organisation (ISO) at Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) has elected members from all university's campuses. New international students are introduced to the various campus ISO leaders during orientation. The leaders' roles include assisting international students with academic-related questions and organising social events that promote goodwill among the international students and their integration into South Africa. The ISO arranges excursions to notable South African historic sites, such as the Cradle of Humankind and Soweto. Additionally, there are other initiatives such as outreach to orphanages where international students are encouraged to embrace the "ubuntu" spirit.

Other events include the ISO public lecture, where professors, ambassadors and high commissioners are invited to speak on particular topics; Sports Day, where students from all TUT campuses are invited to compete in various sports, such as chess, football, netball, volleyball, basketball and tennis; and International Day, an annual event that highlights the cultural diversity of students. The ISO at Tshwane University of Technology (TUT), endeavours to achieve unity in diversity within the international student community. The organisation is committed to maximising the integration of students and strives to nurture a culture of learning, understanding, acceptance, discipline, unity and civil duty. The organisation seeks to:

- Promote social cohesion.
- Promote the principles of democracy and consensus building.
- Embrace the mission, vision and strategic goals of the university.
- Be transparent and accountable to the international student community.
- Honour the rules and regulations of the university.
- Serve all bona fide registered international students.

ISO is the umbrella representative body of all organised country organisations including individual international students not affiliated to any country organisations. In its endeavour to represent and strengthen its relationship with member country chapters and individual international students, ISO pledges to:

- Support the interests of international student community of TUT.
- Introduce and launch programmes that are aimed at integrating new international students. Serve as the mouthpiece of international students on all matters. Provide academic and social support for international students.
- Forge good relationships between ISO and country chapters.
- Ensure all international students are aware of their rights and responsibilities.
- Promote a culture of diversity, balanced student life and academic support.

## Responsibilities of ISO

- a. Represent the interests of the international student community of TUT.
- b. ISO will provide material assistance such as information to new students during registration.
- c. Creation of a welcoming environment for international students.
- d. Ensure that all international students are integrated within ISO activities.
- e. Introduce and launch programmes that aim at integrating new international students to the rest of the TUT community.
- f. Serve as the mouthpiece of all international students on all matters.
- g. Provide academic and social support for international students.
- h. Forge good relationships between ISO and other TUT student structures.
- i. Ensure unity within the entire international student community of TUT.
- j. Ensure the international student community is aware of their rights and responsibilities.
- k. Promote a culture of diversity, balanced student life and academic welfare.
- l. Ensure that every international student has access to information.
- m. Assist in marketing TUT at all represented chapters.

# ISO LEADERS 2025



## Central Committee ISO Leaders 2025

Left to right: Rossy Manana (Deputy chairperson), Lilian Mboumba Ikapi (Project officer), Yemima Andeme (Treasurer) and Kevin Bashizi (Chairperson). Not in the photo: Prayer Mutoko (General secretary).



## Ga-Rankuwa Campus ISO Leaders 2025

Left to right (Back row): Marvellous Zamire (Academic officer), Meryl Misongo (Deputy chairperson), Andy-Marvin Bekale (Treasurer) and Fatima Toure (Project officer).  
Left to right (Front row): Margereth Mateu (General secretary), Rahma Kipela (Chairperson), Alexis Oyiba (Deputy secretary) and Mariella Kasongo (International relations officer).



## Mbombela Campus ISO Leaders 2025

Left to right: Joy Mngomezulu (General secretary), Bandile Dlamini (Chairperson) and Mhlobiso Dlamini (Treasurer).  
Not in the photo: Similo Mondlane (Deputy chairperson), Nothando Fakudze (Deputy secretary), Noma Dlamini (Academic/International relations officer).

# ISO LEADERS 2025



## Pretoria Campus ISO Leaders 2025

Left to right (Back row): Trevor Mareni (Academic officer), Gerahrt Gnimba (Project Officer), Parfait Matamba (International relations officer) and Alex Nkongolo (General secretary).  
Left to right (Front row): Amanda Ndlovu (Deputy secretary), Emmanuel Mbuyi (Chairperson), Abigail Diati (Treasurer) and Rebecca Chiweza (Deputy chairperson).



## Soshanguve Campus ISO Leaders 2025

Left to right (Back row): Miguel Kamini (Deputy secretary), Kudakwashe Mhembe (Project officer) and David Mwamba (Treasurer). Left to right (Front row): Anaclet Lukasa Mukendi (Chairperson), Mpho Precious Pokocho (Deputy chairperson), Lisa Bashizi (General secretary) and Kutyla Lamas Alfredo (Academic officer).



## Exceptional leader ISO 2024

Ms Mmapthuti Mohlala (International Office) awarding the ISO 2024 Exceptional Leader, Rossy Manana (left).



## The best campus ISO 2024: Soshanguve



# GA-RANKUWA CAMPUS ACTIVITIES 2024

By Isnela Gbetin, Chairperson

On February 15, 2024, the International Students' Organisation (ISO) Ga-Rankuwa campus held an Orientation Day at the library. The event welcomed new students, introducing them to ISO's mission and core principle, "Unity in Diversity", to foster a supportive and inclusive campus environment.

An important outreach programme was held at New Beginningz, a centre for neglected and abandoned children, on April 22, 2024. With the support of international students on campus, various essential items were collected, which were donated to the centre to support the children's needs. The students learned about the challenges faced by these children and heard heartbreaking accounts of abandonment and neglect. This experience not only opened their eyes to

the realities many children face but also inspired them to think of ways to help.

On 20 May 2024, an educational event was organised at the library, aimed at providing finance students with insights into career opportunities in the financial sector. Leading institutions, including SAGE, Standard Bank and FNB, were invited to share information about their organisations and the various career paths available to finance graduates. A highlight of the event was a presentation by the South African Institute of Financial Markets, titled "Careers in the Financial Markets and How to Get to Those Careers". This session provided students with valuable guidance on navigating the financial market sector and the qualifications and skills needed to pursue roles in this field.





# GA-RANKUWA CAMPUS ACTIVITIES 2024

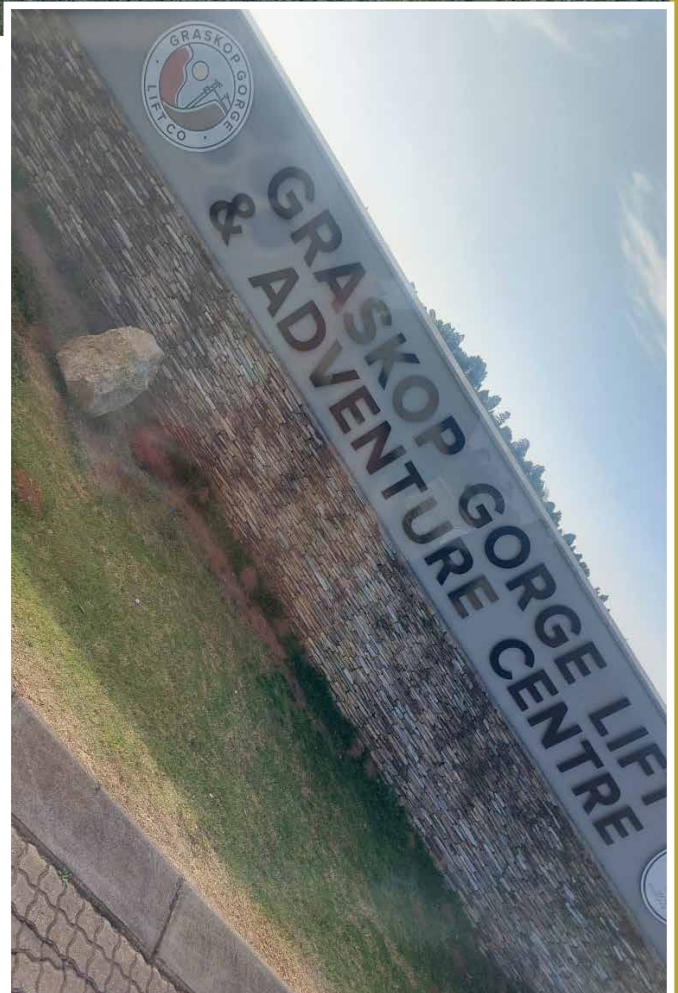




# MBOMBELA CAMPUS ACTIVITIES 2024

By Bandile Dlamini, Chairperson

On 27 July 2024, students went on an educational tour to Graskop, a well-known tourist attraction in Mpumalanga. The Three Rondavels was a notable scenery along Mpumalanga's Panorama Route.





# PRETORIA CAMPUS ACTIVITIES 2024

## ISO Pretoria Campus: A Year of Community, Growth, and Unforgettable Experiences



By Prayer Mutoko, General Secretary

The International Student Organisation (ISO) Pretoria campus had a transformative year in 2024, filled with impactful outreach initiatives and enriching academic events. With a commitment to fostering unity and creating opportunities for both personal and professional growth, ISO Pretoria campus continues to be a pillar of support for students, the community and beyond. On 27 April 2024, students took a heartfelt step towards making a difference in the community with a charity run to *The Potter's Home*, a Christian, faith-based shelter dedicated to raising and supporting children and women. An academic event on career counselling and mental wellness was held on August 6, 2024. The event was a platform for learning, networking and growth.





# SOSHANGUVE CAMPUS ACTIVITIES 2024



**By Anacleto Lukasa Mukendi, Chairperson**

An orientation day was held on February 14, 2024. This event supported new students by informing them about the ISO's mission, activities and resources available to them on campus. Students were urged to get involved in campus activities. On 2 August 2024, a workshop was organised for students. The workshop's aim was to empower students by providing them with practical skills and valuable insights from professionals across various fields. It provided a comprehensive platform for learning, networking and support, aligning with ISO's mission of nurturing unity and growth among international students. In 2024, the ISO Studython at Soshanguve continued its mission to support students in challenging subjects. Three dedicated ISO Soshanguve members—Anacleto Lukasa, Lass Mangani and Kutyla Alfredo—led the programme. The Studython improved from 2023, especially focusing on helping first-year international students succeed academically.



# IMPORTANT TUT CONTACT DETAILS

By the editorial team

## The Directorate of Student Development and Support (SDS)

The SDS offers various free support services to assist TUT students in their personal and academic lives. Study counselling and support are provided by the SDS. The significance of preserving one's mental health and wellbeing is a component of studying that is frequently disregarded. You can seek professional, one-on-one counselling at SDS if you are having mental health challenges. For students who are struggling academically, or for student development and support interventions for study skills and English proficiency, an academic mentor or tutor may be assigned. You may schedule an appointment at one of the following learning sites:

## The Office of the Student Ombudsman for academic complaints

Pretoria Campus  
Dinokeng Building, 4th floor, Room 428  
Tel: 012 382 5525/5085  
Email: ombudsman@tut.ac.za

## Contact Centre (General Course Information)

Tel: 086 110 2421  
Email: general@tut.ac.za

Pretoria	Soshanguve North
Building 6, Room 361 (012 382 5010)	Building 14, Room 01 (012 382 9863)
Arcadia	Soshanguve South
Building 1, Room G08E (012 382 6117)	Building 5, Room G38 (012 382 9662)
Emalahleni	Garankuwa
Building 7, Room G79 (013 653 3109)	Building 20, Room G11 (012 382 0754)
Polokwane	Nelspruit
Building 1, Room G03 (015 287 0753)	Building 14, Room 7 (013 745 3570)
Arts	
Building 12, Room G04D (012 382 6062)	



# IMPORTANT TUT CONTACT DETAILS



## Tshwane University of Technology

 [www.tut.ac.za](http://www.tut.ac.za)

Please follow and like us on

 Tshwane University of Technology TUT

 @Official\_TUT

 WeChat (tutacza)

 TUT-Inspired

 @TUT-Inspired

# INTERNATIONAL DAY 2024

By the editorial team

The International Day was held on October 22, 2024, at the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT), Pretoria Campus, in Theunis Bester Hall. The hall had different stands for the participating countries, where cultural food was on display for judges and other guests to sample. The flags of the various countries were also displayed, along with details about their political, cultural and economic aspects. At the stands, a few students from the participating countries explained these facts to attendees and responded to any inquiries about their countries.

The International Office and the International Students' Organisation (ISO) organise the International Day annually to celebrate cultural diversity. Invitations to the event are extended to representatives of the various high commissions and embassies represented among TUT students. Various cultural aspects are showcased, and judges select winners in various categories, such as best stand, food, dance, fashion display, originality and the overall winner.

One of the South African cultures is also represented at the event, which is organised in partnership with TUT's Student Life and Governance Department. Most staff members and students look forward to this significant event on the ISO calendar. Undergraduate, postgraduate and exchange students comprise approximately 1,300 international students. The main goal of the International Day is to

encourage diversity and unity among university students, staff, and other internal and external stakeholders. There were approximately 500 people in attendance. Four judges—three external and one internal—judged the categories among the participating countries.

The following countries were represented at the event: Angola, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Gabon, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa and Zimbabwe. Among our guests were representatives from embassies and high commissions. The event was graced by Her Excellency Ms. L.S. Kunen, High Commissioner for the Kingdom of Eswatini in South Africa.

The judges' verdict on the various categories evaluated were as follow:

- Best dance: Gabon
- Best fashion : Eswatini
- Best food: Nigeria
- Best stand (display): Lesotho
- Originality: Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)
- Overall winner: the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Trophies were awarded to the winners of each category and the overall winner. The 2024 International Day was a success.





# INTERNATIONAL DAY 2024





# COUNTRIES' PROFILES

By the editorial team



## Republic of Botswana

### FAST FACTS

Area:	581,730 km <sup>2</sup>
Borders:	Namibia (to the west and north), South Africa (to the south and southeast), Zimbabwe (to the northeast) and Zambia (to the north, but only at a short 150-metre border near Kazungula)
Capital:	Gaborone
Official language:	English
National language:	Setswana
Other languages:	Kalanga, Sekgalagadi, Shona, Ndebele, Yeyi, Herero and Khoisan languages (Tsoa, !Xóõ, Khwe, etc.)
Currency:	Botswana Pula (BWP)
Population:	Approximately 2.6 million people
(2024 estimates)	Time zone: UTC + 2 (Central Africa Time [CAT] zone)

The Southern African landlocked nation of Botswana is renowned for its abundant wildlife and scenic landscapes. It is dominated by the Kalahari Desert, covering about 70% of its territory. It is renowned for its diverse wildlife, which includes meerkats, lions and elephants, particularly in Chobe National Park and the Okavango Delta. The richest diamond mine in the world is the Jwaneng Diamond Mine, which is located in southern Botswana. The population density of Botswana is among the lowest in the world. Furthermore, Botswana is celebrated for its stable democracy and economic expansion, which is mostly due to diamond mining.



## Kingdom of Lesotho

### FAST FACTS

Area:	30,355 km <sup>2</sup>
Borders:	Completely landlocked and surrounded by South Africa
Capital:	Maseru
Official languages:	Sesotho (Southern Sotho) and English
Other languages:	isiZulu and Afrikaans
Currency:	Lesotho Loti (LSL); also uses South African Rand (ZAR)
Population:	Approximately 2.3 million (2024 estimates)
Time zone:	UTC + 2 (Central Africa Time [CAT] zone)

Lesotho is a landlocked nation in Southern Africa that is formally known as the Kingdom of Lesotho. It is entirely surrounded by South Africa and is known for its mountainous terrain, including the Maloti Mountains. It is the only nation in the world with all of its land above 1,400 metres. Thabana Ntlenyana is the highest point (3,482 m). It is frequently referred to as "The Mountain Kingdom" or "The Kingdom in the Sky". Lesotho gained independence from the United Kingdom on 4 October 1966. It is well-known for the Maletsunyane Falls, which is one of the tallest single-drop waterfalls in Africa.

The economy is primarily based on agriculture, livestock and textile manufacturing. Water and diamonds are also significant resources. Basotho culture is well-known for its traditional Mokorotlo hat and blankets. Lesotho is one of only three countries in the world completely surrounded by another country (the others are San Marino and Vatican City in Italy). Lesotho is an intriguing place because of its distinctive geography and culture.





# COUNTRIES' PROFILES



## Republic of Namibia

### FAST FACTS

Area:	825,615 km <sup>2</sup>
Borders:	Angola (to the north), Botswana (to the east), South Africa (to the south) and Zambia (to the northeast – a small border along the Zambezi River)
Capital:	Windhoek
Official language:	English
Other languages:	Afrikaans, Oshiwambo, Herero, Khoekhoe, German, Rukwangali, Silozi and Ndonga
Currency:	Namibian Dollar (NAD); also uses South African Rand (ZAR)
Population:	Approximately 2.5 million (2024 estimates)
Time zone:	UTC + 2 (Central Africa Time [CAT] zone)

Namibia, formally known as the Republic of Namibia, is a country in southwest Africa renowned for its distinctive wildlife and scenic landscapes. It is home to the Namib Desert (includes the world's tallest sand dunes, for example, Dune 7), one of the oldest deserts in the world, and the Skeleton Coast, which is famous for its shipwrecks. It is the nation with the world's second-lowest population density.

The country boasts diverse wildlife, including elephants, lions and cheetahs, and is a leader in conservation efforts. It is home to the world's largest population of free-roaming cheetahs. It is home to the Etosha National Park, a major wildlife sanctuary. The Himba people are an indigenous group well-known for their distinctive appearance and culture. Namibia's clear skies and absence of light pollution make it one of the best places in the world to see the Milky Way at night! Its economy is driven by mining (diamonds and uranium), agriculture and tourism. Namibia is also advancing green energy, as evidenced by recent advancements in the production of green hydrogen.



## Republic of Zambia

### FAST FACTS

Area:	752,612 km <sup>2</sup>
Borders:	Tanzania (to the northeast), Malawi (to the east), Mozambique (to the southeast), Zimbabwe (to the south), Botswana and Namibia (to the southwest) and Angola (to the north)
Capital:	Lusaka
Official languages:	English
Other languages:	Bemba, Nyanja, Tonga and Lozi
Currency:	Zambian Kwacha (ZMW)
Population:	Approximately 21.7 million (2024 estimates)
Time zone:	UTC + 2 (Central Africa Time [CAT] zone)

Zambia is a landlocked nation in south-central Africa, formally known as the Republic of Zambia. It is bordered by eight countries: Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo. It is home to the Zambezi River and the iconic Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World (shared with Zimbabwe); the largest waterfall in the world. More than 70 languages are spoken in Zambia. The economy is largely driven by mining, particularly copper, along with agriculture and tourism. Zambia is one of the top Copper producing countries.

It is known for its national parks and game reserves, and for offering incredible safari experiences. There are several national parks in Zambia, including Kafue, Lower Zambezi and South Luangwa. Zambia is one of the few African nations in which walking safaris are common, particularly in areas such as South Luangwa National Park. It is also known for its rich cultural heritage and warm hospitality. The headquarters for the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) are in Lusaka.



# How Entrepreneurship Education in Africa should be aligned from Kindergarten to University

By Dr Wilbert Mutoko

PhD, MBA, FHEA, Multi-international-award-winning expert in strategy, change management, leadership and entrepreneurship | Senior lecturer at Tshwane University of Technology



Dr Wilbert Mutoko

Entrepreneurship is often considered the backbone of economic development. In Africa, this is particularly true as many countries on the continent continue to grapple with high unemployment rates and significant economic challenges. Across the continent, the unemployment crisis remains one of the most pressing issues. According to sources such as CIA and Trading Economics, in Zimbabwe, youth unemployment hovers at around 50%, while South Africa struggles with an overall unemployment rate of over 34%, with youth unemployment reaching a staggering 63%. Botswana faces a youth unemployment rate of approximately 40%, and Kenya is not far behind, with youth unemployment standing at 22.5%. In Egypt, the overall unemployment rate is around 9.2%, with youth unemployment reaching 30%, and in Nigeria, over 40% of the population is unemployed, particularly affecting young people. While progressing, Rwanda still faces a youth unemployment rate of 18.4%. These alarming statistics highlight the urgent need for solutions that can create sustainable jobs and economic opportunities. One of the most effective ways to address these challenges is through comprehensive entrepreneurship education, which should be a central part of the curriculum at all educational levels—from kindergarten through to university.

## The Need for a Holistic Approach

Entrepreneurship is not just a business skill; it is a mindset—a mindset that encourages problem-solving, creativity and resilience. For students to truly benefit from entrepreneurship education, it must be woven into the fabric of their learning experience at every stage of their academic journey. From the first lessons in kindergarten to advanced business strategy at the university level, entrepreneurship should be something that is continuously nurtured, developed and refined.

By integrating entrepreneurship into every level of education, we can foster a generation of innovators, thinkers and leaders who are equipped to drive economic transformation across Africa. But why is it so important?

## The Global Picture: Entrepreneurship Education Across the World

Around the world, countries are increasingly recognising the need to introduce entrepreneurship education at an early age. According to the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM), a study found that 50% of countries have made significant strides in introducing entrepreneurship education to their primary and secondary school curriculums.

In the United States, entrepreneurship education is becoming a key component of the K-12 education system, with organisations such as the Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) providing youth programmes that encourage entrepreneurial thinking from as early as elementary school. Similarly, in the United Kingdom, the Enterprise Bill introduced in 2016 mandated that schools incorporate entrepreneurial learning into their curriculum from an early age.

These international examples show the value of fostering an entrepreneurial mindset early on. However, the situation is a bit more complex in Africa due to socio-economic challenges, but there is still immense potential for transformative change.





### **Africa's Current Landscape: The State of Entrepreneurship Education**

In Africa, entrepreneurship education is still developing and its integration into the education system varies greatly from country to country. For instance, South Africa has made significant strides in introducing entrepreneurship education in schools, with the Department of Basic Education acknowledging its importance in the National Development Plan. However, the availability and quality of these programmes still face challenges, such as underfunding and a lack of trained teachers.

In contrast, countries such as Nigeria and Kenya have demonstrated substantial growth in the private sector, particularly through tech start-ups. Companies such as Flutterwave (Nigeria) and M-Pesa (Kenya) have become global players in fintech and their success stories can be traced back to the innovative spirit instilled in students through exposure to entrepreneurial thinking. However, these stories remain the exception rather than the rule and scaling entrepreneurship education across the continent remains an uphill battle.

### **Aligning Entrepreneurship Education from Kindergarten to University**

To create a sustainable ecosystem for entrepreneurship, Africa needs a comprehensive approach that integrates entrepreneurial education from kindergarten to university. Here is how we can achieve this alignment:

#### **1. Starting Early: Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset in Kindergarten and Primary School**

In the early stages of education, the primary focus should be on fostering creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving. At the kindergarten level, activities such as storytelling, role-

playing and simple group tasks that encourage teamwork can set the stage for entrepreneurial thinking. Dr Peter Drucker, the father of modern management, once said, "The best way to predict the future is to create it". This mindset needs to be instilled in children from a young age.

For instance, in Rwanda, initiatives like the Kidpreneur programme already teach children about business and entrepreneurship in a fun, engaging manner. While these efforts are still in their infancy, they represent a model that other African countries could emulate.

#### **2. Secondary School: Nurturing Leadership and Practical Business Skills**

At the secondary school level, entrepreneurship education can evolve into more practical skills such as budgeting, marketing and basic business operations. Schools should offer subjects focused on entrepreneurship, supported by experiential learning such as school-based businesses or community development projects.

As a former secondary school teacher specialising in business subjects, I have seen first-hand how introducing entrepreneurial concepts early on shapes the mindset of students. When students are encouraged to think about starting their own businesses, they gain a sense of ownership and responsibility. I spent nearly a decade mentoring students on entrepreneurship, helping them understand that business is not just about profit but about solving real problems and adding value to society. These early lessons build the foundation for their entrepreneurial futures.

For example, Uganda has introduced entrepreneurship as a compulsory subject for students in secondary school,

aiming to equip the next generation with the tools they need to start businesses. This initiative has seen significant success in empowering students to think critically about how to use available resources to create solutions to local problems.

One of the key statistics from the African Development Bank shows that youth unemployment in Africa is currently at a staggering 60%. Teaching entrepreneurial skills in secondary schools can prepare young people to take charge of their future, reducing dependence on formal employment and encouraging job creation.

### 3. Tertiary Education: Specialization and Advanced Skills Development

When students reach tertiary institutions, entrepreneurship education should go beyond basic business concepts and focus on specialisation, innovation and leadership in the entrepreneurial space. Universities should offer robust entrepreneurship programmes that are aligned with global best practices and provide students with access to real-world business experiences through internships, mentorships and start-up incubators.

Having worked as a university lecturer, facilitator, researcher, consultant and mentor in entrepreneurship for over a decade, I have witnessed the evolution of these programmes and the immense impact they can have on students, lecturers and entrepreneurs. I have been privileged to guide many aspiring entrepreneurs, helping them turn their ideas into real-world businesses. In addition to my academic role, I have facilitated entrepreneurship workshops across Africa, offering mentorship to students and seasoned entrepreneurs. The insight I have gained through these workshops has reinforced my belief that the academic environment must continue to adapt and innovate to meet the marketplace's evolving needs.

Several African universities are already leading the charge in this space. For example, the University of Cape Town (UCT) has a world-renowned Graduate School of Business that has been instrumental in fostering leadership and entrepreneurial innovation. Similarly, Strathmore University in Kenya and the Tshwane University of Technology in South Africa have each developed an Entrepreneurship Centre that is a hub for aspiring business owners, offering hands-on training, resources and funding opportunities.

### The Role of Governments and the Private Sector

To effectively implement entrepreneurship education across the continent, it is essential for governments to collaborate with the private sector. Governments must commit to policies integrating entrepreneurship into national curricula and invest in teacher training. The private sector, in turn,

can play a pivotal role by providing mentorship, funding and real-world experiences for students.

Take Nigeria's Central Bank, for example, which runs a Youth Entrepreneurship Development Programme to support young entrepreneurs with seed capital and mentorship. Such public-private partnerships are essential for creating a holistic entrepreneurship education framework that prepares students for the complexities of the global economy.

### Conclusion: A Future-Ready Africa

Africa's youth represents its greatest potential and by aligning entrepreneurship education from kindergarten to university, we can unlock this potential. As Aliko Dangote, one of Africa's most successful entrepreneurs, once said, "The key to success is to start before you are ready". By starting early, African students will be equipped with the skills and mindset necessary to lead the continent into a new era of economic growth.

When we align entrepreneurship education across all levels of schooling, we lay the foundation for an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports individual success and collective progress. With the right policies, resources and vision, Africa can become a global leader in entrepreneurship, transforming its challenges into opportunities for innovation and prosperity.

The time to act is now. The future of Africa depends on the entrepreneurial spirit we nurture in our children today. Let us make it happen.

"An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest".  
— Benjamin Franklin

### Note

This article was published on LinkedIn on January 21, 2025. The author's permission has been sought to publish this article in Jambo Journal: <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/how-entrepreneurship-education-africa-should-aligned-from-mutoko-sju8f/?trackingId=DY1EUImMSwq%2BTodEpW9bCw%3D%3D>

### About the author

Dr Wilbert Mutoko is a senior lecturer for Entrepreneurship, Strategy and Change Management at TUT, Department of Management and Entrepreneurship. He has over 2 decades' experience as a business consultant, executive coach and facilitator. He writes in his own capacity. For any correspondence, you can reach him on wilbertmutoko@gmail.com or WhatsApp +27637026753.



# GRADUATION INTERVIEW

By Anaclet Lukasa Mukendi

**1. What is your name?**

Foula-Motassi Bebey Murielle.

**2. Where do you come from?**

Cameroon.

**3. Which course were you enrolled for at Tshwane University of Technology (TUT)?**

Diploma in Law.

**4. Which modules did you enjoy the most?**

I enjoyed Deeds Registration (DRE316) and Administration of Deceased Estate (ADE316).

**5. What are some of the challenges that you experienced during your studies and how did you overcome them?**

Multitasking was a significant challenge. However, dedication and being able to work under pressure kept me going.

**6. Who is your role model and why?**

I have a list of role models, but I would choose Mr Katlego Arnold Mashego, one of my lecturers. He inspired me a lot.

**7. Where do you see yourself in five years' time?**

I see myself, running a remote legal firm while in pursuit of higher degrees.

**8. How has your stay been in South Africa so far?**

I have had the opportunity to immerse myself in new environments, learn from different perspectives and grow both personally and professionally. It has been really amazing.

**9. What is your personal mantra?**

With resilience and determination, I rise above challenges to achieve greatness.



Foula-Motassi Bebey Murielle

**10. What are some of the achievements at TUT that you are proud of?**

Having gained leadership certificates from International Students' Organisation (ISO), which will always make my CV stand out. Additionally, multiple debate achievements as the best judge/adjudicator at HEIPA FEST, Top 10 best speakers and the runner-up adjudicator at the TUT Inter-Campus Debate Tournament. Most importantly, being a TUT graduate is the biggest achievement that I will always be proud of.

# GRADUATION INTERVIEW

By Anaclet Lukasa Mukendi



**Laurriane Mujinga**

**1. What is your name?**

Laurriane Mujinga.

**2. Where do you come from?**

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

**3. Which course were you enrolled for at Tshwane University of Technology (TUT)?**

Computer Systems Engineering.

**4. Which modules did you enjoy the most?**

Electronics, Mathematics, Database Systems, Network Systems and Programming 3.

**5. What are some of the challenges that you experienced during your studies and how did you overcome them?**

I had a few problems in university, but my biggest one was during my first year. I had trouble managing my time. I became frustrated because I was unsure of where to

begin and when to finish. I had a lot to do for every topic and class until late. I was stressed and anxious because of my lack of sleep. I resolved this issue by creating a schedule for myself and determining what should be prioritised.

**6. Who is your role model?**

I look up to my father. My father instilled in me the belief that anything can be achieved with perseverance and faith in God. He showed me the importance of confidence in oneself. He taught me to be responsible because he knew that if I did not have this talent, I would lose many things in life, no matter where I went or where I ended up. He always led me to the correct path. The significance of consistently choosing God's methods and the correct path above the masses. He demonstrated to me that you can achieve great success in life if you choose the correct course. He inspired me to strive for excellence, develop myself and create a bright future for myself.

**7. Where do you see yourself in five years' time?**

Great places are where I picture myself. I have a lot of dreams, some of which are frightening due to their size. However, I envision myself at vast heights. Why not run for the DRC president one day?

**8. How has your stay in South Africa been so far?**

My experience in South Africa has been excellent. I have met some wonderful people who have supported me. In addition to studying South African culture, I learned about other nations, such as Nigeria.

**9. What is your personal mantra?**

While falling does not make one a loser, remaining down does. Keep your eyes on the finish line and you will ultimately reach it, even if the individuals you started the race with finish before you. Above all, love yourself, for no one else will love you as much as you do. Life can be compared to a battlefield where the outcome is what counts, not the number of obstacles. The difficulties you have encountered become history. Do not let the surroundings distract you from achieving the goal. Each of us has a destiny. Let God take care of the rest while we do what we can. Being patient is essential for success.



# ISO STUDYTHON

## (ISO Soshanguve campus study groups)

By Anaclet Lukasa Mukendi



1. (a) What necessitated the formation of the study groups?

- To help students better understand the course material.
- Examination preparation.
- Share resources.
- Skills development.
- Increase the motivation for students' studies.

(b) Which units do you have study groups for?

We have subjects' group for:

- Principle of programming A
- Computational Mathematics
- Discrete Mathematics

2. (a) When did you start the study groups?

We started the study groups in March 2023.

(b) Who facilitates in the discussions in the various groups?

Three of us are leading the group discussions.

3. Apart from virtual sessions, do you have face-to-face sessions?

Yes, we meet with students in person or through contact sessions.

4. (a) How have students responded to the study groups?

Positive feedback has been received. Many students are inspired and involved in working with us to achieve academic success.

5. (b) What is the feedback that you have received so far?

Students have so far given us positive feedback on their performance in various subjects, with some passing with distinction.

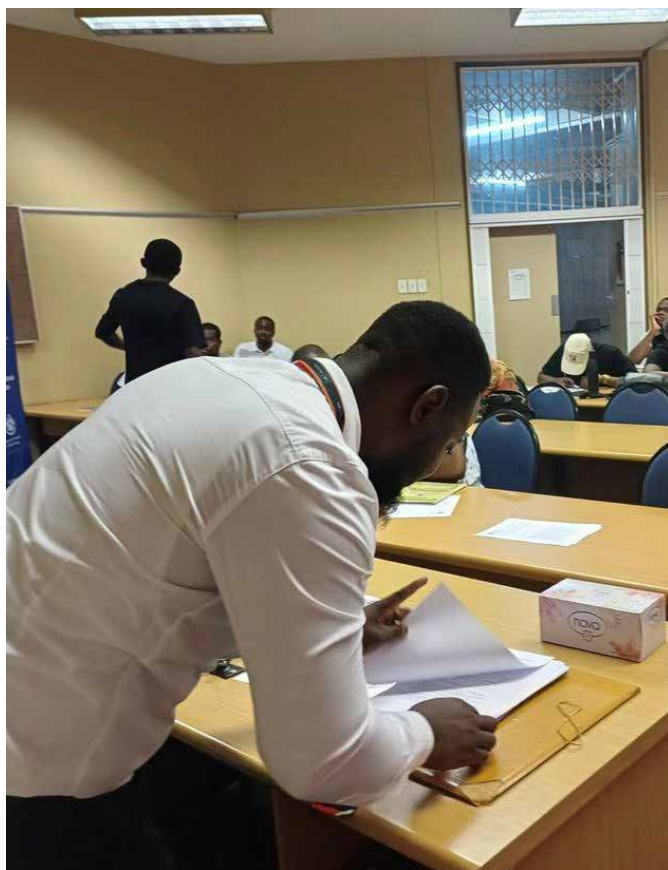
6. Any other comments on the study groups?

Study groups are a great way for students to improve their learning experience and succeed academically; therefore, we encourage them to join. We began a project called "ISO Studython" because our vision for the ISO Soshanguve campus in 2023 was to enhance and give a little more attention to the academic aspect of student life. Students were surveyed to determine which modules they found most challenging. This project's objective was to provide in-person tutoring to students who were having difficulty with particular modules. International students who excelled in the identified modules were among the tutors we chose and assigned students to assist. These tutors were divided into groups based on the modules that students found most difficult, such as programming and digital electronics.

# Visa Facilitation Services (VFS) on campus

By the editorial team

The International Students' Organisation (ISO) central committee organised so that officials from the VFS to come on campus on 30 and 31 October 2024. International students who needed to renew their study permits were informed in advance and they renewed their permits on campus (Pretoria Campus).



“Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today,”

by Malcolm X



# COCO CRAFT:

## Our Journey as International Student Entrepreneurs

By Isnela Gbetin and Edlie Boubanga, Coco Craft Founders



Isnela Gbetin



Edlie Boubanga





# COCO CRAFT:

## Our Journey as International Student Entrepreneurs

Hello, I am Isnela Gbetin, and together with my business partner, Boubanga Edlie, we have built something truly special—Coco Craft. As international students, originally from Benin (me) and Gabon (Edlie), starting a business in South Africa has been a rewarding and transformative journey. Coco Craft is more than just a business for us—it is a space where creativity and community come together.

### What we do at Coco Craft

Coco Craft focuses on providing unique art and craft workshops, with tufting at the heart of what we do. Tufting is a hands-on art form in which participants design and create custom rugs. It is a fun, creative and therapeutic process that allows people to bring their artistic visions to life.

However, our workshops do not stop there. We have also ventured into other creative experiences such as resin art and terrazzo crafts, offering our clients a chance to explore various artistic expressions. Each workshop is designed to be inclusive, enjoyable and memorable—for individuals, friends, families, or corporate team-building events.



### Our values

Coco Craft is built on values that are close to our hearts:

1. Creativity: We believe that everyone has an artist within them and our goal is to bring that artist out.
2. Inclusivity: Our workshops are open to all, regardless of background or experience.
3. Sustainability: We care about the environment and make conscious efforts to use eco-friendly materials.
4. Community: We want Coco Craft to become a place where people can connect and bond through art.
5. Empowerment: For us, Coco Craft is not just about making art—it is about inspiring people to believe in their potential.









## Why we started Coco Craft

From Benin and Gabon, both Edlie and I have always had a deep appreciation for creativity and cultural expression. When we arrived in South Africa as students, we saw an opportunity to share our passion for art in a way that would bring people together. We wanted to create something that combines art, connection, and sustainability, and that is how Coco Craft was born.

Starting a business as an international students was not easy, but it has been one of the most rewarding things we have ever done. It has been incredible to see our workshops not only bring joy to our clients but also create opportunities for local artists and artisans.



## Looking ahead

We have big dreams for Coco Craft. In the future, we want to expand our offerings, collaborate with more artists and hold workshops beyond Gauteng. We are also deeply committed to giving back to the community and inspiring others—especially other international students and young entrepreneurs—to pursue their own creative ventures.

For us, Coco Craft is more than a business. It is a way to connect with people, share our passion for creativity and make a positive impact. If you are looking for a fun, meaningful and unforgettable experience, we would love to welcome you to one of our workshops.



## COCO CRAFT CONTACT DETAILS

 coco\_craft\_za

 @coco.craft.studio

 +27 (0)71 857 6166

 +27 (0)67 903 9340



# Pan-African Leadership in the Face of Conflict: A Call for Unity and Progress



By Dr M.E. Migabo

**Mandela Rhodes Scholar, PhD (CS), DEng (EE)**  
**Senior Lecturer Electrical Engineering, Tshwane University of Technology**

The ongoing conflicts across Africa, including the recent instability in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), highlight the pressing need for visionary leadership, reconciliation and education. As the continent moves towards greater economic and political integration, African leaders should adopt a pan-African approach to resolving disputes, fostering unity and ensuring sustainable development. The lessons learned from these challenges should serve as catalysts for a renewed commitment to self-determination, collaboration and progress.

## **Leadership: Guiding Africa towards Unity and Stability**

Africa's leadership must rise above regional disputes and personal ambitions to champion the collective interests of the continent. The era of fragmented decision-making driven by foreign influence and political rivalry must give way to a renewed sense of African solidarity. True leadership is about fostering peace, creating economic opportunities and ensuring that governance is founded on transparency and accountability.

A key element of effective leadership is commitment to democratic principles. Armed groups and political factions should recognise that power should only be obtained through legitimate processes, not through violence or foreign-backed interventions. The African Union (AU) and regional organisations such as the East African Community (EAC) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) must strengthen their role in mediating conflicts, enforcing democratic transitions and preventing the recurrence of crises. A united Africa cannot afford to allow destabilisation in any of its regions, as instability anywhere on the continent threatens collective progress.

In addition, leadership should focus on economic empowerment. Many conflicts in Africa are rooted in economic disparities and struggle over resources. Investing in industries, technological advancements and intra-African trade through initiatives such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) can help create employment, reduce poverty and weaken the appeal of militant movements.

## “A Call to Action: The Future of Africa Lies in Our Hands”.

### Reconciliation: Healing Historical Divides for a United Africa

Reconciliation is an essential pillar of lasting peace. Many conflicts in Africa are deeply rooted in historical grievances, ethnic divisions and colonial-era boundaries that have contributed to tensions among communities. True reconciliation requires honest dialogue, justice and policies that promote inclusivity.

Africans should recognise that the era of blaming external actors alone for internal struggles should be replaced with proactive solutions. While foreign intervention has played a role in intensifying conflicts, African nations must also take responsibility for fostering unity. This can be achieved through truth and reconciliation commissions, grassroots peace-building initiatives, and inclusive governance structures that ensure the representation of all ethnic, political and social groups.

Regional cooperation is also vital to the reconciliation process. The free movement of people across African borders should be accompanied by policies that encourage cultural exchange, economic partnership and diplomatic engagement. African nations should support each other in peacebuilding efforts, ensuring that conflicts are resolved through dialogue rather than force. The concept of Ubuntu—the African philosophy of interconnectedness—should guide policies aimed at healing divisions and building a strong continental identity.

### Education: Empowering a New Generation of African Thinkers

Education is the cornerstone of Africa's future. If the continent is to break free from cycles of violence and underdevelopment, it must prioritise investment in knowledge and skill development. African education systems should go beyond colonial-era curricula and focus on equipping young people with critical thinking skills, technological expertise and leadership qualities needed to shape the future.

A pan-African education system should emphasise African history, governance and economic self-sufficiency. Institutions such as the African Union should work towards the harmonisation of education standards across the continent, fostering collaboration between universities and research centres to address Africa's unique challenges.

Moreover, education should be accessible to all, particularly in conflict-affected regions. Schools should not be battlefields and children should not be deprived of learning because of instability. Governments and the private sector should work together to create mobile and digital learning solutions, ensuring that no child is left behind due to displacement or war.

Higher education institutions should also take an active role in peacebuilding by encouraging intellectual discourse on African development, governance and security. Programmes focusing on mediation, leadership training, and entrepreneurship can provide young Africans with alternatives to conflict and economic hardship.

### A Call to Action: The Future of Africa Lies in Our Hands

The challenges facing Africa are immense, but so are the opportunities. A strong, united, and self-reliant Africa can only be achieved through bold leadership, meaningful reconciliation and a commitment to education. African leaders should rise to the occasion and place the continent's interests above short-term political gains. The people of Africa must reject division and work together towards a future where prosperity, dignity and self-determination define the continent.

As Africa moves forward, let us embrace the spirit of Pan-Africanism, ensuring that no nation, community, or individual is left behind. The dream of a strong, peaceful and developed Africa is within reach—if we, as Africans, choose to make it a reality.



# BREAKING THE SILENCE:

## Congo's resources are not for stealing



By Kevin Bashizi, a Congolese patriot

We cannot stay silent as our country, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), continues to suffer because of Rwanda's attacks and the greed of our neighbouring countries. For many years, Rwanda has been helping rebel groups in the eastern part of Congo, causing war, pain and destruction for millions of our people.

However, the real reason for this violence is not about protection or fear. It is about taking what belongs to us: "our minerals". Our neighbours, including Rwanda, are stealing Congo's natural resources. They take our wealth and profit from it, leaving us poor and struggling.

Congo is one of the richest countries in the world in terms of minerals. We have gold, diamonds, cobalt, and other precious metals that are used to make things such as phones, computers and electric cars. However, instead of using these minerals to improve the lives of our people, they are being stolen by rebel groups and sold for profit, often with the help of Rwanda.

Imagine you plant a garden and work hard to grow fruits and vegetables only for a neighbour to steal all your harvest and sell it while you and your family go hungry. This is exactly what is happening in Congo. Our minerals are stolen and we are left with nothing.

### The Pain of War and Greed

Because of Rwanda's attacks and the stealing of our resources, millions of Congolese are suffering:

- Families lose their homes: Armed rebels supported by Rwanda attack villages, kill innocent people and destroy communities. Families are forced to leave their homes and live in camps with no hope of the future.
- Women and children are victims: Many women and girls are raped as weapons of war, causing lifelong pain. Congo loses billions of dollars: Instead of using the money from our minerals to build schools, hospitals, and roads, it is stolen by rebels, corrupt leaders and other countries. As one elder from Congo said, "Congo's wealth is a curse when it's in the hands of thieves".

### Rwanda's Role in Congo's Suffering

There is no denying that Rwanda is causing much of our suffering. Since the 1990s, Rwanda has supported armed groups such as the M23 rebels, who have hurt our people and stolen our resources. Rwanda says it is protecting itself, but the truth is clear: they are after our minerals, not peace.

What is worse, these countries – Rwanda, Uganda and others – are not just hurting Congo. They are betraying Africa by stealing from one another. Instead of helping each other as neighbours, they are tearing our country apart for selfish ends.

### Responsibility of the World

The world cannot keep ignoring what is happening in Congo. Many countries and companies benefit from our

**“We also need to take responsibility for our future. We must demand fairness and justice from both our leaders and the world ”.**

stolen minerals, but they do not care about the pain we suffer to obtain them. The world must now act:

- Hold Rwanda and others responsible: The world must stop supporting Rwanda until it stops interfering in Congo's affairs.
- Stop buying stolen minerals: Companies that use Congo's minerals must ensure that they are not buying from rebels or other thieves.
- Help Congo's people: Instead of funding wars, the world should invest in peace, education and help the country build a better future.

### **Congolese Must Rise**

We also need to take responsibility for our future. Our leaders must protect our country, defend our borders and ensure that our minerals benefit everyone in Congo. We must demand fairness and justice from both our leaders and the world.

Congo's past has been full of struggles, but our future can be different. Congo is not just a land of minerals; it is also a land of hope, strength and resilience. We are a people who have survived many challenges and we will rise again.

### **A Message to Africa and the World**

Africa will not be free until Congo is free. The wealth of Congo belongs to its people, not to Rwanda, Uganda, or any foreign country. As Africans, we must stand together and protect the dignity and independence of every nation. To the world, we say: Congo's suffering is not just our problem; it is a problem for all humanity. If you believe in justice, stand up for us. Speak out against Rwanda's attacks and the stealing of our resources.

### **Conclusion**

We speak of these words with both pain and hope. We believe that one day, Congo will rise from the destruction of war and greed. We believe our minerals will no longer be a curse, but a blessing that will help all of Congo. We believe the world will remember this time as the moment we stood up for what was right and reclaimed our future.

Let us never forget the words of Patrice Lumumba: “Congo will not be great because of its minerals, but because of its people”. The time for change is now. Let us fight for a free and prosperous Congo.





# AFRICA: THE INDISPENSABLE CONTINENT



By Aloisia Loubah

Africa is at a pivotal stage in history with untapped potential. As the birthplace of human civilisation, this vast continent has shaped humanity's journey since its earliest days. With over 1.4 billion people, abundant natural resources, and the world's youngest population, Africa has the potential to emerge as a global powerhouse.

Africa's youth population represents one of its greatest strengths, with immense potential to drive both the continent's development and global progress. As one of the fastest-growing workforces in the world, African youth have the power to spark sustained innovation and economic growth for years to come. Their energy, combined with increasing access to education and technological advancements, creates an ideal environment for entrepreneurship and transformative solutions that can address both local and global challenges. Young people are not only architects of Africa's future but also key contributors to global progress. Their fresh perspectives, creativity and determination are indispensable in shaping a more sustainable and prosperous global society. Africa's youth are far more than a demographic advantage: they are a vital force for innovation and change, with the ability to influence the trajectory of the continent and the broader world.



**“Africa’s youth population represents one of its greatest strengths, with immense potential to drive both the continent’s development and global progress.”**

While Africa’s mineral wealth is well-documented, from gold in Ghana to diamonds in Botswana and rare earth elements in various regions, the continent’s true wealth extends far beyond these traditional resources. Today, the world’s technology is powered by African resources such as cobalt from the Congo, which is essential for smartphones, and platinum from South Africa, which is crucial for computers. It has a wealth of advantages that make it one of the world’s most promising and strategically significant continents. Just to name a few:

It has the world’s largest reserve of arable land, with the potential to feed not only itself but also much of the global population.

The vast renewable energy potential of solar power can be theoretically met by the Sahara Desert alone for global electricity demands.

Rich biodiversity could be crucial for developing new medicines and sustainable agricultural practices.

Beyond its natural resources, Africa’s cultural influence profoundly shapes global art, music, fashion and philosophy. Senegal’s vibrant art scene has significantly impacted modern European aesthetics, Ghana’s Kente cloth designs continue to inspire fashion houses worldwide, and Afrobeat has transformed global music tastes, uniting people from diverse cultures on the dance floor.

While other continents may excel in specific areas, Africa’s remarkable combination of attributes from its vast natural resources and rich cultural heritage to its unmatched demographic advantage positions it uniquely on the world stage. These assets are no longer neglected as they once were; on the contrary, they underline Africa’s growing importance and its irreplaceable role in shaping the world’s future.

This unique combination is not just a competitive advantage, but a defining characteristic that sets Africa apart from all other continents. Its young population, dynamic creativity and untapped economic potential offer immense opportunities for sustainable development and global impact. By strategically leveraging these assets, Africa can meet its challenges, elevate its nations and make significant contributions to the global community.

The continent’s ability to harness these assets effectively will benefit not only its people but also the world as a whole, stimulating innovation, cultural exchange and global progress. Africa’s future is not only bright but also essential to the shared future of humanity.

Success requires patience, determination, and, most importantly, belief in Africa’s capacity to chart its own course. With strategic planning, unified action, and committed leadership, Africa can move beyond being seen as merely the cradle of humanity to become the catalyst for humanity’s next great leap forward.



# African Creativity and Identity: A Vibrant Tapestry of Expression



By Bandile Dlamini

The creativity and identity of Africa are woven from a tapestry rich in culture, tradition and history. Be it the colourful textiles of West Africa or the intricate bead work of Southern Africa, creative expression is very much part of African identity. This article explores different forms of African creativity and examines how they create and reflect African identity.

## The Power of Tradition

Traditional creativity is deeply Afrocentric. From music and dance to art and craft, traditional practices have transcended generations to date, each playing a role in the development of cultural heritage on the continent. In so many African cultures, creativity is not only a way of self-expression but also one of connecting with the ancestors, paying homage to the divine and celebrating community.

For instance, wood carving among the Yoruba people of Nigeria has a strong tradition because for them, it is not merely an end but rather a means to the divine. Intricate carvings on doors, masks and figurines in Yoruba are given

spiritual significance in which not just the carver but even he who sees it attains the state of becoming one with the divine.

## The Impact of Colonialism

The transatlantic slave trade and colonialism had a massive impact on African creativity and identity. Most of their traditional practices were suppressed and African cultures were forced to prove themselves by European standards. With all these challenges, creativity in Africa would not be quenched; it continued underground or through codes.

For instance, in the slave trade, enslaved Africans resorted to the use of music and dance to aid their communication, resistance and survival. The rhythmic and melodic elements of African music are sent as messages, stories, feelings and means of preserving cultural identity.

## Modern African Creativity

Today, creativity in Africa is vibrant and diverse. From Afrobeat music to Nollywood films, creators are constantly

**“One of the most wonderful aspects of African creativity and identity is fashion. From the bright Ankara prints to the elegant lines of Maasai beadwork, African fashion has much to talk about its rich cultural heritage.”**

pushing the boundaries of what it means to be African, challenging stereotypes and redefining the very idea of blackness.

The African diaspora has been one of the most powerful forces shaping contemporary African creativity. Artists such as Kendrick Lamar, Beyoncé and Wizkid increasingly draw from their African heritage; they incorporate elements of African music, dance and visual aesthetics into their work.

### **Fashion and Identity**

One of the most wonderful aspects of African creativity and identity is fashion. From the bright Ankara prints to the elegant lines of Maasai beadwork, African fashion has much to talk about its rich cultural heritage.

Top of the radar in recent times has been the brilliant designs of African fashion designers such as Maki Oh, Lisa Folawiyo and Sika'a, who have integrated traditional African aesthetics with modern styles and techniques.

### **The Role of Technology**

The effect of technology has revolutionised African creativity—offering artists new platforms to showcase their work, connect with audiences and access global markets. Social media platforms such as Instagram, Twitter and YouTube have created a space where the democratisation of African creativity finds fertile ground: artists can share their work with a global audience, and online marketplaces such as Etsy and eBay provide opportunities for artisans across Africa to sell their work throughout the world.

### **Challenges and Opportunities**

With all these opportunities and successes, African creativity and identity still have much to overcome. Some of

these challenges include cultural appropriations, intellectual property theft, and inadequate funding and infrastructure to develop African creative industries.

However, they also foster opportunities for innovation, collaboration and growth. In so doing, African artists, policymakers and entrepreneurs will collaborate to develop a creative economy that represents Africa's rich cultural heritage in ways of nurturing its economic development.

### **Conclusion**

The creativity and identity of Africa are the bright tapestries of expression that are woven from its rich diversity of cultures, traditions and histories. From traditional practices to modern innovations, African creativity continues to shape and reflect African identity.

With the constant growth and development of the continent, there is an urge to appreciate the value and essence of African creativity and identity. Supporting and celebrating African artists is a way that policymakers can help create a thriving creative economy that will contribute to the economic development of the continent while showing its abundant culture to the rest of the world.

To summarise everything: African creativity and identity are special and unique. They are shaped by African cultures, traditions and histories. From music and art to storytelling and fashion, African creativity can be expressed in many ways. It is a way for Africans to connect with their past, present and future. By celebrating African creativity, we can learn more about African cultures and appreciate their beauty.



# SOCIAL MEDIA: To Post or Not? Children?



By Kutyla Lamas Alfredo

From 1997, when Six Degrees, one of the first “social media” platforms was established, its basic goal was to enable interaction and the sharing of information beyond geographical barriers. That goal has flourished, with social media becoming a workspace, a source of entertainment, and, unfortunately, a hiding place for many.

With current trends showing how social media shapes the lives of its users, the perfect way to describe its influence is through the famous proverb: *Social media is a great servant but a cruel master*. It has helped many families, friendships and relationships sustain intimacy while being physically distant. Whether through texting, voice, or video calls, or even through sharing posts, it helps people remain connected. It is undeniable that social media is an important tool in our current fast-moving technological world.

However, as a cruel master, social media has also been at the core of many issues, including addiction, obsession, stalking, cyberbullying, depression, and even crimes such as identity theft and murder. This duality raises an important

question: should we post or not? What about children on social media?

## Should we post or not?

Whether to post or not depends entirely on the reasons for using social media. For many, a profile picture is enough to create an online presence. Posting unnecessary details about your life, such as your location, personal issues, or every event you attend, can make you vulnerable to risks. A quote from filmmaker Mark D. Griffiths says, “*Social media has given us the illusion of knowing everything while being blind to the consequences of oversharing*”.

For instance, in 2017, a family’s real-time vacation photos led to a robbery when thieves, aware of their absence, broke into their home. This serves as a reminder to think twice before sharing sensitive information.

Should children use social media?

Should children have access to social media? Yes, but only for people aged 16 and above. Early exposure to social

**“Social media has given us the illusion of knowing everything while being blind to the consequences of oversharing.”**

media can severely shape young minds in ways that they may not fully understand. Social media, when introduced too early, often becomes a breeding ground for harmful comparisons, unrealistic expectations and exposure to inappropriate content. For example, studies have shown that teenagers who spend more than three hours daily on social platforms are more likely to experience symptoms of depression and anxiety.

Moreover, platforms such as TikTok and Instagram have become arenas for trends that can either empower or endanger. While some trends promote creativity and positivity, others, such as dangerous challenges, can have tragic outcomes. In 2021, the “Milk Crate Challenge” caused severe injuries worldwide, predominantly among younger audiences.

Parents should not only delay their children’s access to social media but also monitor and guide them when they eventually join. Implementing boundaries, such as setting

screen time limits and ensuring that children follow age-appropriate accounts, can mitigate potential harm while fostering a healthier relationship with technology.

### **Conclusion**

Social media, when used responsibly, can be a powerful tool to connect, inspire, educate and even make money or launch a career. However, its misuse or premature exposure to children can lead to severe consequences. To post or not and whether children should have social media access are questions that require thoughtful consideration. The key lies in striking a balance between enjoying the benefits of this powerful servant and avoiding the pitfalls of making it a cruel master.

As the saying goes: *“With great power comes great responsibility”*. Let us use social media wisely and teach the next generation to do the same. After all, in a world in which every post leaves a digital footprint, are we truly considering the long-term effects on ourselves and our children?





CompCare taking care of your health while you focus on your study

Most affordable  
at only **R565** and high  
quality service

## Psychosocial support for international students

Recognising the unique emotional challenges faced by international students while away from home, CompCare offers excellent psychosocial support:



**Unlimited telephonic counselling:** Our Wellness Care Centre provides a safe and supportive environment for students dealing with stress, cultural adaptation or other difficulties.



**Professional referrals:** Students can also access three annual sessions with psychologists or counsellors at no additional cost, when needed.



**Culturally sensitive support network:** Our team is trained to provide culturally respectful support, ensuring students feel understood and supported.



UNLIMITED  
hospitalization



REPARATION COVER  
Via Universal 360



RADIOLOGY Check  
x-ray for visas purposes



UNLIMITED  
Doctor Visits



PLAYING SPORT?  
We've got you covered



ORAL CONTRACEPTIVES  
R180 per month



EXCELLENT OUT  
OF HOSPITAL benefit



EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE  
including airlifts



Rich LIFESTYLE and PREVENTATIVE CARE,  
Unlimited telephonic counselling sessions –  
3 referrals for one-on-one session per annum

Visit [www.studentplan.co.za](http://www.studentplan.co.za), call us on 0860 73 53 63, or email [student@universal.co.za](mailto:student@universal.co.za).

**Complete Cover. Committed Care. CompCare.**

With your health well covered, you're all set to make the most of your 2025 academic journey!



# Quantum Computing and AI: Transforming Pharmaceutical and Health Sectors for Sustainable Development Goals in Africa



By O.C. Adekoya

**Doctoral Student, Department of Chemical,  
Metallurgical and Materials Engineering,  
Polymer Division, Tshwane University of Technology**

In recent years, quantum computing and artificial intelligence (AI) have emerged as transformative technologies with the potential to revolutionise pharmaceuticals and healthcare, particularly in Africa, where limited access to medical services and infectious diseases such as malaria, HIV/AIDS and Mpox present ongoing challenges. The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim for a healthier, more equitable world by 2030, and the synergy of quantum computing and AI could significantly contribute to this vision by addressing Africa's pressing health issues. This article explores how these technologies can accelerate drug discovery, enhance diagnostic precision, optimise treatment plans, and improve healthcare systems in Africa, supporting SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure).





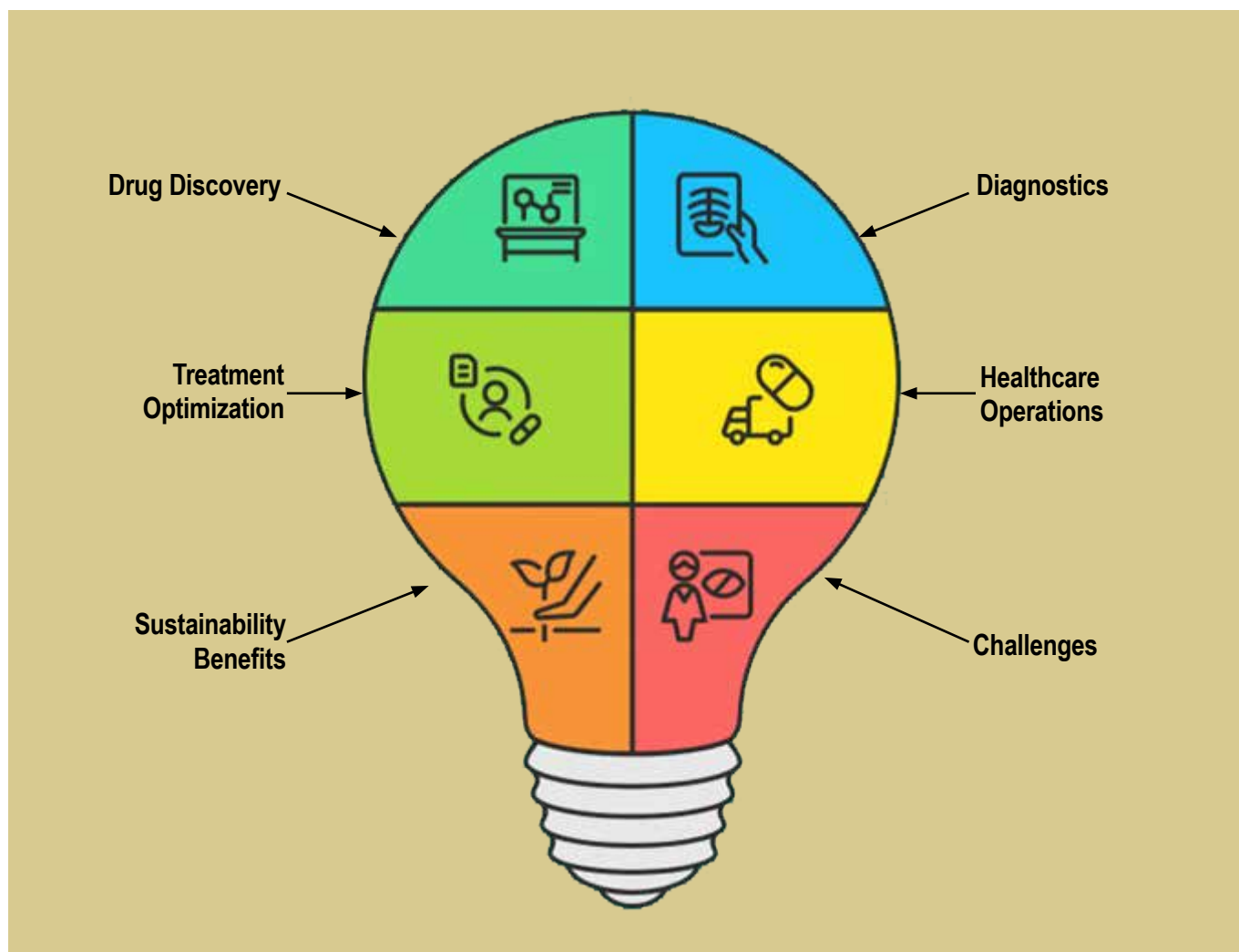


Figure 1: Transforming Healthcare with Quantum and AI.

### A Technological Leap Forward

Quantum computing harnesses quantum mechanics principles—superposition, entanglement and tunnelling—to process information far beyond classical computing's capabilities (Blunt *et al.*, 2022). Unlike classical bits, which represent either 0 or 1, quantum bits (qubits) can exist in multiple states simultaneously, enabling vast parallel

computations. AI complements this power through advanced data analysis and pattern recognition (Hosny *et al.*, 2018). Together, they offer unprecedented computational strength, poised to transform healthcare delivery and pharmaceutical innovation.

In Africa, healthcare disparities are stark: over 50% of the population lacks access to essential services, and



infectious diseases dominate, with malaria alone causing over 600,000 deaths annually, predominantly in sub-Saharan regions. Infrastructure deficits intensify these challenges—only 30% of health facilities have reliable electricity—making traditional approaches inadequate. Quantum computing and AI can provide scalable, efficient solutions, bridging gaps in resource-limited settings and offering hope where conventional methods falter.

### Revolutionising Drug Discovery

Africa's pharmaceutical sector struggles with high costs and lengthy drug development timelines, often exceeding a decade (He et al., 2019). This delay is untenable given the urgent need for treatments against malaria, HIV and emerging threats such as Mpox, which experienced significant outbreaks in 2024. Quantum computing can accelerate this process by simulating molecular interactions with high precision on current noisy intermediate-scale quantum (NISQ) systems (Blunt et al., 2022). Such simulations could model the binding of potential drugs to disease targets, thereby reducing the reliance on resource-intensive laboratory trials that are scarce in Africa.

Artificial intelligence enhances this by leveraging regional data—such as the genetic profiles of African populations—to identify promising drug candidates (Owoyemi et al., 2020). For instance, resistance to anti-malarial drugs, such as artemisinin, is a growing concern in Africa, and an AI-driven, quantum-validated approach could optimise existing drugs or develop new ones faster. This localised, *in silico* strategy aligns with SDG 9 by fostering innovation suited to Africa's unique health landscape, cutting development time and costs significantly.

### Enhanced Diagnostic Capabilities

The diagnostic capacity of Africa is significantly limited by shortages of trained personnel and equipment, which delay critical interventions for diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis. Quantum computing's ability to process complex datasets—such as genomic sequences or medical imaging—offers a breakthrough (Blunt et al., 2022). In rural areas, where 90% of the global rural population resides, quantum-enhanced tools can enable portable diagnostics, delivering rapid, accurate results despite limited infrastructure.

Artificial intelligence's pattern-recognition strengths amplify this potential, allowing mobile devices to detect disease markers with precision (Owoyemi et al., 2020). For example, analysing genomic data from African cohorts could identify malaria resistance genes rapidly, whereas AI-powered imaging could identify infections early in under-equipped clinics. This capability supports SDG 3 by improving health outcomes in remote, underserved regions and directly addressing access disparities.

### Personalising Treatment Strategies

Treatment planning in Africa is complicated by high patient numbers and scarce resources. Quantum computing can optimise multidimensional problems, such as adjusting HIV dosages to combat resistance, a persistent issue across the continent (Blunt et al., 2022). In oncology, where only 29% of African countries have adequate radiotherapy facilities, quantum algorithms could maximise treatment efficacy with constrained equipment, ensuring better outcomes.

Artificial intelligence further personalises these plans by predicting patient responses based on local health data,

such as HIV adherence patterns (Owoyemi *et al.*, 2020). This tailored approach minimises side effects and boosts survival rates, directly advancing SDG 3 by addressing both infectious and non-communicable disease challenges in Africa.

### Enhancing Healthcare Delivery Systems

Africa's healthcare systems face inefficiencies—only 28% of facilities have reliable power—limiting digital health solutions. Quantum computing and AI can optimise resource allocation and predict outbreaks, such as the 2024 Mpox surge, ensuring timely delivery of medicines, such as anti-malarial drugs, to remote areas (Blunt *et al.*, 2022). This efficiency strengthens SDG 9 by building resilient infrastructure tailored to Africa's needs.

Cyber security is becoming increasingly vital as Africa adopts digital health platforms such as telemedicine. Quantum-resistant cryptography can safeguard patient data, whereas AI monitors for breaches in real time (He *et al.*, 2019). This dual approach enhances trust and system reliability, which are critical in the face of ongoing health crises.

### Supporting Sustainable Development Goals

This technological convergence directly supports SDG 3 by reducing Africa's health disparities and SDG 9 through innovative infrastructure. Additionally, quantum computing's potential energy efficiency could contribute to SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and SDG 13 (Climate Action), minimising the environmental footprint of research in resource-scarce settings, a pressing concern as Africa grapples with climate-related health impacts.

### Challenges and Pathways Forward

Adopting these technologies in Africa faces significant hurdles: limited access to quantum hardware, a STEM graduate rate of approximately 4% in sub-Saharan Africa and data infrastructure deficits (Blunt *et al.*, 2022). Ethical concerns, including data privacy and AI bias from non-African datasets, necessitate region-specific regulatory frameworks to ensure equitable benefits.



Future progress relies on initiatives such as Flapmax's HPC AI Forum (2024), which trains African researchers with advanced computational tools. Investment in digital infrastructure—such as expanding electricity access—and education is essential to harness the potential of quantum AI. Collaborative efforts between governments, technology firms and academia could drive pilot projects to test these technologies in real-world African healthcare settings.

## Conclusion

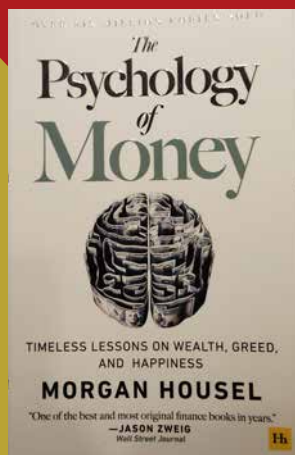
The integration of quantum computing and AI offers Africa a powerful opportunity to overcome longstanding healthcare challenges, from combating infectious diseases to enhancing access to remote areas. These technologies promise sustainable solutions that could transform lives across the continent. While significant barriers remain—technological, educational and infrastructural—the rewards of a healthier, more equitable Africa justify the investment and collaboration required to make this vision a reality.

## References

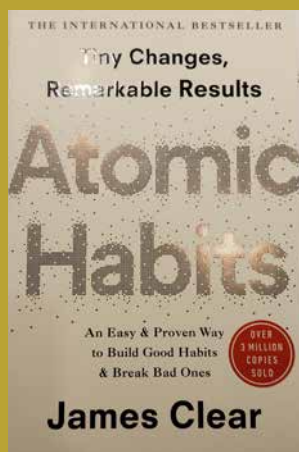
- Blunt, N.S., Camps, J., Crawford, O., Izsák, R., Leontica, S., Mirani, A., Moylett, A.E., Scivier, S.A., Sunderhauf, C., Schopf, P. and Taylor, J.M. (2022). Perspective on the current state-of-the-art of quantum computing for drug discovery applications. *Journal of Chemical Theory and Computation*, 18(12), p. 7001-7023. doi: 10.1021/acs.jctc.2c00803.
- He, J., Baxter, S.L., Xu, J., Xu, J., Zhou, X. and Zhang, K. (2019). The practical implementation of artificial intelligence technologies in medicine. *Nature medicine*, 25(1), p. 30-36. doi: 10.1038/s41591-018-0307-0.
- Hosny, A., Parmar, C., Quackenbush, J., Schwartz, L.H. and Aerts, H.J. (2018). Artificial intelligence in radiology. *Nature Reviews Cancer*, 18(8), p. 500-510. doi: 10.1038/s41568-018-0016-5.
- Owoyemi, A., Owoyemi, J., Osiyemi, A. and Boyd, A. (2020). Artificial intelligence for healthcare in Africa. *Frontiers in Digital Health*, 2, p. 6. doi: 10.3389/fdgth.2020.00006.

By the editorial team

## The Psychology of Money

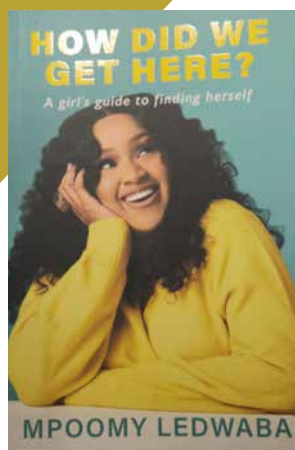


The book *"The Psychology of Money"* by Morgan Housel is an intriguing examination of how human behaviour affects financial choices. The book highlights the fact that money management is a deeply ingrained psychological and personal habit that goes beyond simple knowledge and formulas. Housel illustrates important ideas through compelling storytelling, including the value of saving, the part luck and risk play, and the distinction between becoming and remaining wealthy. He contends that avoiding catastrophic mistakes rather than pursuing exceptional gains is frequently more important for financial success. All readers, regardless of their financial literacy level, can benefit from this book, which is an invaluable tool for anyone trying to better manage their finances. You should read this book if you want to learn about the behavioural and emotional aspects of money management.



## Atomic Habits

James Clear's book *"Atomic Habits"* explores the science of habit formation and is a transformative self-help book. The focus of the book is on how gradual, minor adjustments—what Clear refers to as "atomic habits"—can produce amazing outcomes. Clear offers a useful framework to create a supportive environment for positive change, employing techniques such as habit stacking and the Two-Minute Rule and breaking bad habits. The book is full of real-world examples of successful applications of these concepts, ranging from business executives to Olympic athletes. Clear also emphasises the value of concentrating on systems rather than objectives because systems foster long-term advancement. For anyone wishing to enhance their daily routines and achieve long-term success, this is an encouraging and practical manual.



## How Did We Get Here?

*How Did We Get Here?* by Mpoomy Ledwaba is an incredibly moving and personal memoir that delves into the themes of self-discovery, empowerment and resiliency. As Wisdom & Wellness' founder, Mpoomy talks about her experience overcoming major obstacles in her childhood to become a wife, mother and entrepreneur. She reframes her decision to leave university as a turning point in her life and other significant moments are included in her candid storytelling. The book offers readers a road map for overcoming their own obstacles by fusing her life lessons with her milestones. A major theme in Mpoomy's story is her faith, which serves as a beacon of hope during difficult times. She urges readers to embrace their identities and passions unapologetically and highlights the value of purpose and community. This memoir invites readers to consider their own views, values and avenues for personal development in addition to recounting her life.



# “I Choose to Live”

By Stafford Osuri Osuri

There's a kind of life that's worse than death  
I choose not to lead it

Unripe mangoes I've seen  
That can, but mayn't be eaten with salt  
I choose to wait for them to ripen

There are hurdles that are on my path  
I choose to jump over them, not to avoid them

There are currents so surely strong, though I am swept by them  
I choose to wait for low tide if I should, not must

There's food to be eaten  
I choose to wash my hands

There are many lanes on the highway of life  
Fortunately, I don't have to choose the fastest

It's hot in the desert

Many a pilgrim has drunk from the oases  
I choose to wait for the sure proverbial desert rain  
I choose not to let the weather decide me

I choose to avoid decoys I see, but pretend not to  
Those vultures awaiting my demise may not feast

What you don't know doesn't kill you  
But I choose to know as  
The fear is worse than the pain

There's a school of thought that says  
What doesn't kill one makes one stronger:  
I choose not to die  
Before I'm dead  
I choose to live





**International student**

For students from outside of South Africa

**2025**

**more health and wellness**

**for more Students**

**for less**



From  
**R589pm**  
Income of less than  
R1 500pm

**SA's No. 1**

medical aid choice  
for more than  
1 million students  
over 34 years



Scan this  
QR code  
**to join**



Scan this  
QR code  
**to get a  
quote**



**Want to join?**



**0860 102 493** *WhatsApp*



**studenthealthcare.co.za**



**studenthealth@momentum.co.za**



**0860 102 493** *Customer care*



WhatsApp us on **+27860102493** or go to  
**studenthealthcare.co.za** and click on the  
help icon to use our web chat facility

**momentum**  
medical scheme

**Momentum Medical Scheme's Ingwe Option provides:**

- ✓ **Unlimited** access to private hospitals
- ✓ **Unlimited** access to any doctor on your chosen Ingwe Network
- ✓ Cover for **medication, dentistry and optometry**
- ✓ **Emergency/trauma and specialist** benefits
- ✓ **3 Virtual GP consultations** per year
- ✓ **Unlimited emergency** medical transport via Netcare 911
- ✓ Preventive care benefits: **FREE health assessment**
- ✓ **HPV PCR screening benefit** for female members aged 21 to 65



**PLUS** many **FREE** complementary lifestyle benefits  
from Momentum

Visit **studenthealthcare.co.za** for more information

+ Momentum Medical Scheme members may choose to make use of additional products available from Momentum Group Limited and its subsidiaries as well as Momentum Multiply (herein collectively referred to as Momentum). Momentum is not a medical scheme and is a separate entity to Momentum Medical Scheme. Momentum products are not medical scheme benefits. You may be a member of Momentum Medical Scheme without taking any of the products offered by Momentum.