

The Baobab Network Report for ZENMONDO Members [Teaser version]

**Baobab Weekly - News, views and analysis on technology and VC
in Africa**

3rd September 2019

Issue #8



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Hello!

Kenya's sixth national census is going digital - Everything you should know

Kenya's 6th [national census](#) was carried out last week. For the first time, the enumeration process was carried out electronically using a tablet.

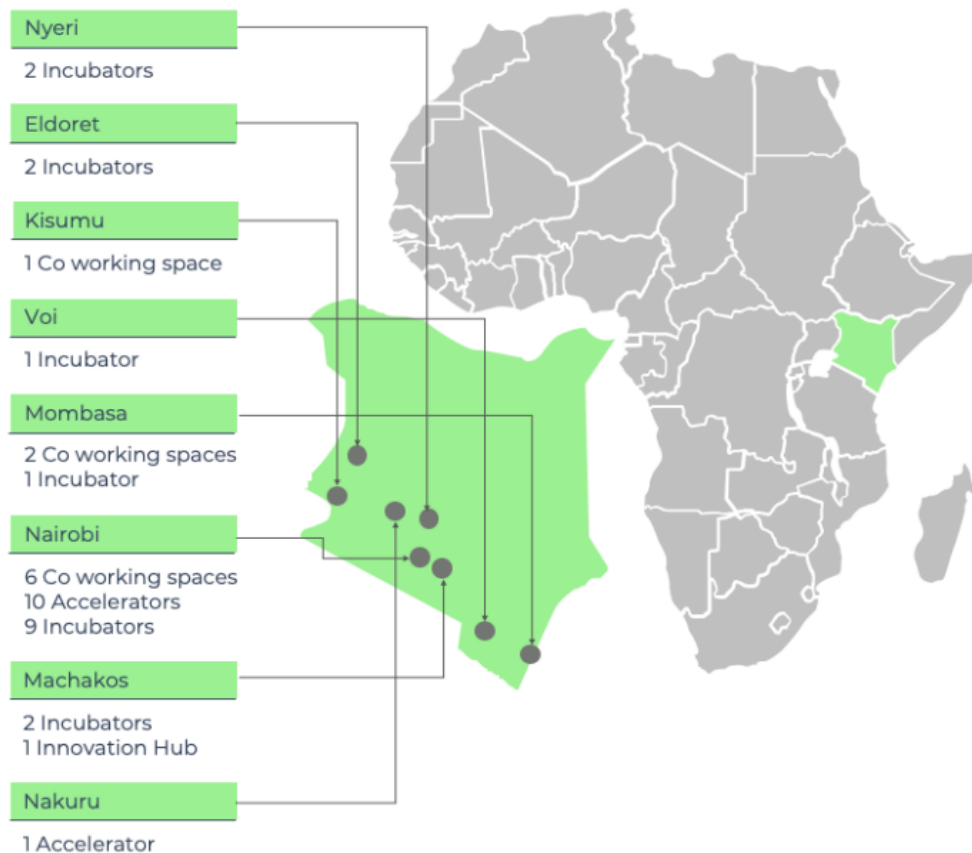
The census focused on eight key areas: population characteristics, disability, education, labour force, ICT, livestock, agriculture, housing conditions and amenities as well as household assets.

Results will be released as follows: preliminary – within 3 months, basic – within 6 months, detailed – within 1 year after the census's completion.



Image source: [The Washington Post 2019](#)

Since it is Kenya's census season, we decided to conduct our own research and identify the number and location of technology hubs in the country:



Source: [Baobab Insights 2019](#)

News

Standard Bank invests \$4m USD in South Africa's Nomanini

[Nomanini](#) is an SA-based FinTech start-up. They have developed a digital platform connecting global distributors and service providers to informal market entrepreneurs across Africa.

[Standard Bank](#) has invested \$4m in SA's Nomanini in a strategic partnership move. They plan to expand across the continent through a mobile app launched by Standard Bank. The app offers access to new lines of business, credit and savings services to millions of informal merchants across 14 African countries.



Image Source: [Nomanini](#)

Japan continues to invest in technology in Africa

As the 7th [TICAD](#) wrapped up on Friday, Japan expressed their interest in infrastructure and human development in Africa. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced that Japan's private sector will invest \$20 billion over three years in the continent.

Japanese corporates continue to lead this investment as [Bboxx](#) raised \$50m USD in series D funding round led by Mitsubishi. The company has installed more than 150,000 solar home systems, with a strong presence in Rwanda, Kenya, the DRC and Togo.

Deals

[Proteinea](#), a Biotechnology Egyptian start-up, has secured \$90,000 USD in grant funding from Changelabs accelerator programme.

[Hospitalia](#), a Cairo-based HealthTech start-up offering an on-demand healthcare web-based platform, has secured \$30,000 USD in grant funding from Changelabs accelerator programme.

Kenya's [MPost](#), an application that converts your phone to a mobile post office has raised \$100,000 from Leapfrog Ventures founder Takuma Terakubo.

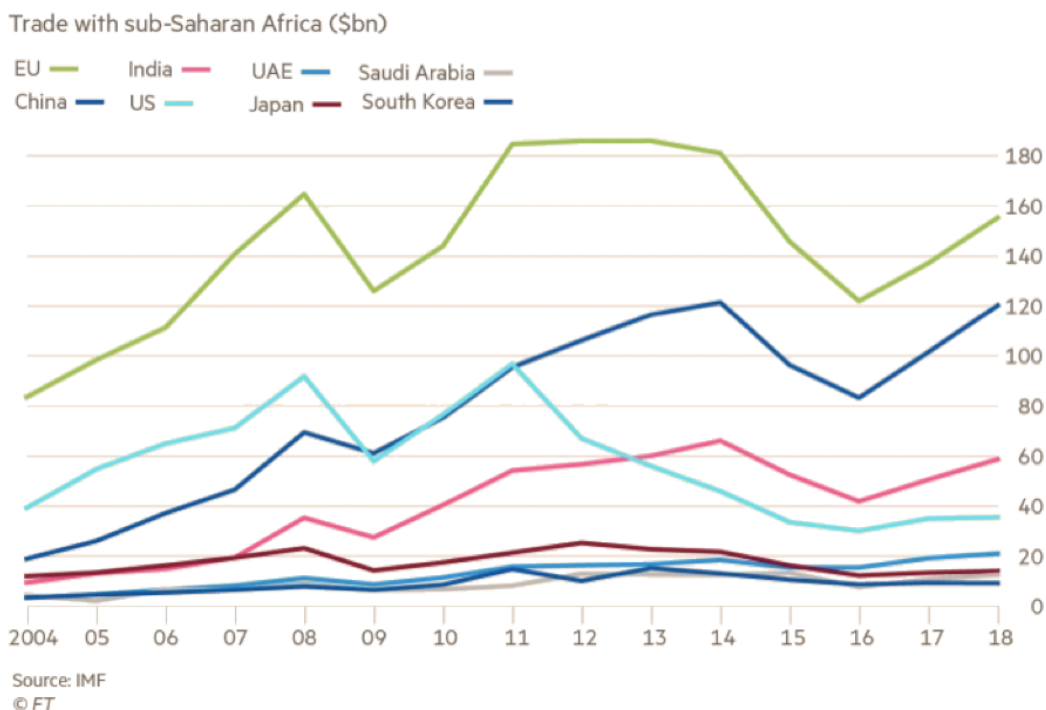
[NowPay](#), an Egyptian FinTech start-up has raised \$600,000 in seed funding from Silicon Valley's Endure Capital and 500 Startups.

[Fincheck](#), a South African FinTech start-up, has acquired local competitor FundingHub.

South African FinTech start-ups [Zande Africa](#), [Bright On Capital](#) and [Livestock Wealth](#) have raised a total of \$1.5m in debt financing from AlphaCode. Zande Africa and Bright On Capital have received \$654,000 each while Livestock Wealth has received \$131,000.

Chart of the week

Following this week's announcements from Japan, our chart of the week looks at global FDI into Africa from the biggest global economies:



Source: [Financial Times 2019](#)

Start-up spotlight

As Kenya's census is making headlines our choice for this week's start-up is [Survey 54](#). Survey 54 is a mobile survey platform focusing on Africa and the Middle East. The start-up helps governments, organisations and companies reach audiences in emerging markets. This is achieved through SMS and android enabled phones.

We asked 156 youth in West Africa what their greatest challenges with entrepreneurship were

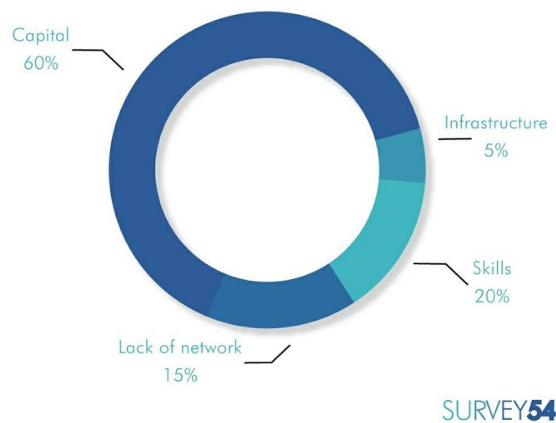


Image Source: [Survey54](#)

Know a company building something cool?

Nominate them for our weekly spotlight at team@baobabinsights.com.

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