

The Baobab Network Report  
for  
ZENMONDO Members  
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**Baobab Insights weekly round-up**  
**News, views and analysis on tech and VC in Africa**

24th March 2020

Issue #36



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Starting today in the new **Healthcare Hacks** section of our newsletter, each week we'll be sharing how entrepreneurs, businesses and VCs in Africa are using technology to combat the spread of Coronavirus. If you have any stories to share please do get in touch.

In this roundup we've also got all the usual news and analysis pulled together by our team in Nairobi, including YC's latest Africa batch, an Egyptian fitness start-up and a healthcare chart of the week.

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## **Healthcare hacks.**

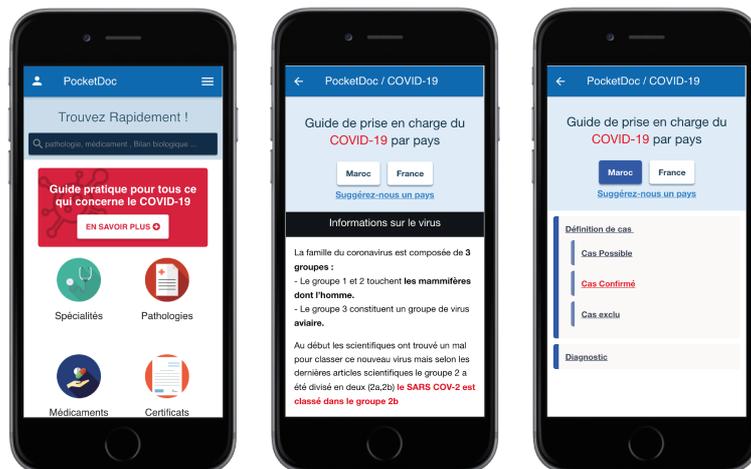
**There have been some fantastic initiatives launched in Africa in the last week in support of the global fight against Coronavirus. Here are some of our favourites:**

In Ethiopia, where the government has shut schools and universities nationwide, edtech start-up [Yhow](#) has team teamed up with [IceAddis](#) to offer educational software products to students and teachers for free. Read the full announcement [here](#).



In Nigeria and Kenya, [CcHub](#) will offer funding and engineering support to tech projects aimed at curbing the economic and social impact of COVID-19. The focus will be on last-mile communication, support for the infected and the most vulnerable, production of key medical supplies and support for disrupted food supply-chains. Read the full story on [Techcrunch](#).

Moroccan healthcare start-up [Pocketdoc](#) are providing free information and advice on COVID-19 through their app, helping hospitals, health services and governments track and better respond to the pandemic. Pocketdoc's [app](#) has been downloaded by 25,000 healthcare practitioners in Francophone countries all over the world since going live last year.

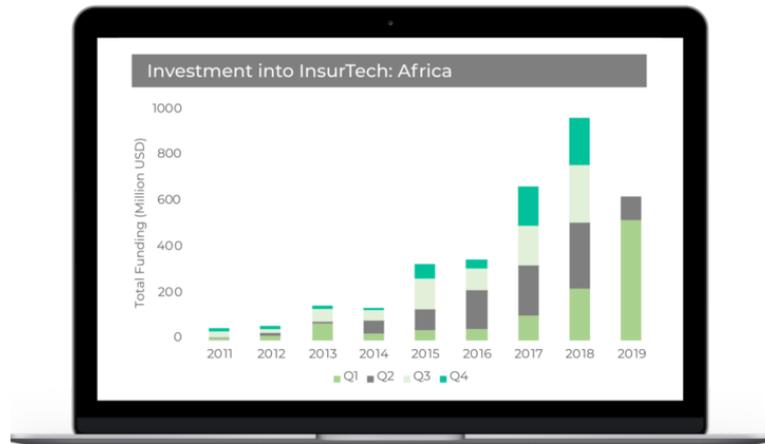


And a story from the retail sector, e-commerce giant [Jumia](#) is adapting its digital retail network to curb the spread of COVID-19. The company [has announced](#) that it will donate certified face masks to health ministries in Kenya, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Nigeria and Uganda, drawing on its supply networks outside Africa. Read the full story on [Techcrunch](#).

Please do keep sending your stories in.

## Platform updates

In the last two weeks we've uploaded hundreds more VC deals onto the [Baobab Insights](#) platform, covering Pre-Seed to Series B raises in Africa from the last five years. Access all the data [here](#).

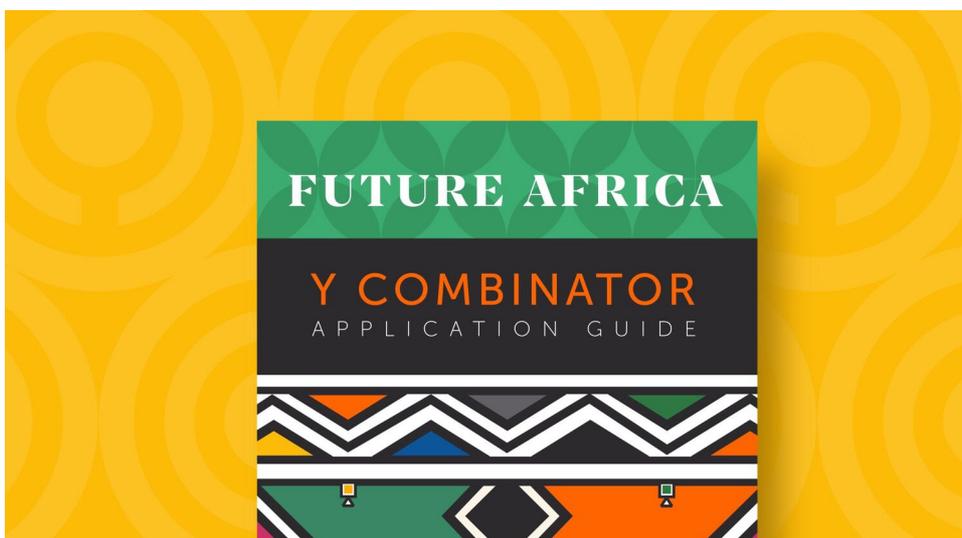


## News

### YC backs 13 Africa-focused tech start-ups

13 Africa-focused tech companies have banked \$150k in seed funding from [Y Combinator](#), having taken part in YC's most recent [W20 batch](#).

Five of the companies are from Nigeria, namely retail-tech [CrowdForce](#), logistics start-up [SEND](#), online investment brokerage [Bamboo](#), credit start-up [Swipe](#), and business management platform [Termii](#).



Three Kenyan companies also took part, namely retail supply platform [NUMI](#), payroll processing start-up [WorkPay](#), and e-health start-up [Tambua](#).

Algerian ride-hailing app [Yassir](#), Cameroonian e-health start-up [Healthlane](#), and Ethiopian drone delivery network [Avion](#) completed the list. Thanks to our friends at [Disrupt Africa](#) for

the story.

Source: [Disrupt Africa](#)

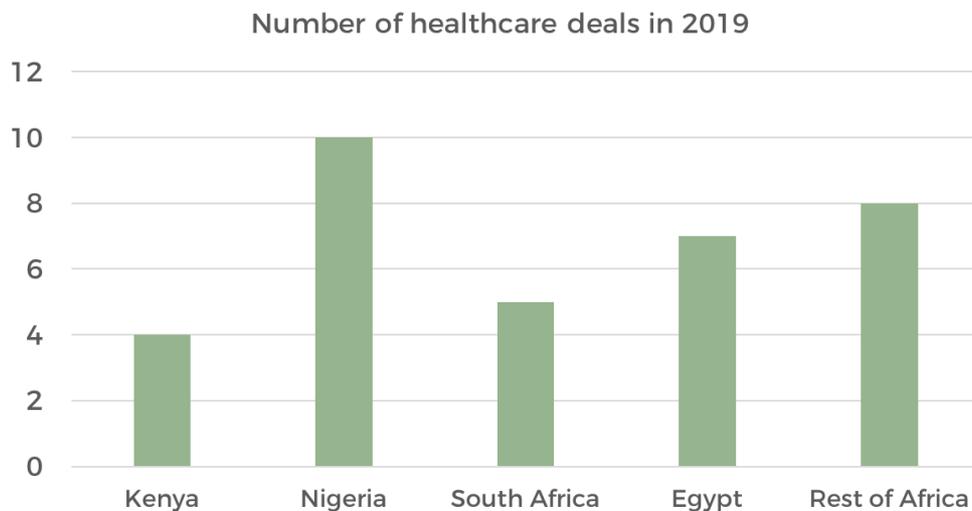
## Deals

- [Kijenzi](#), [Alight Uganda](#) and [Wekebere](#) have all raised \$20k from [Villgro Kenya's](#) healthcare [accelerator](#).
- Egyptian fitness start-up [Elcoach](#) has closed a round of funding led by [Endure Capital](#) and [500 Start-ups](#).
- SA based accelerator [Grindstone](#), a platform run by [Knife Capital](#), has raised [\\$1.5m in funding](#) from the [SA SME Fund](#).

Source: [Baobab Insights](#)

## Chart of the week

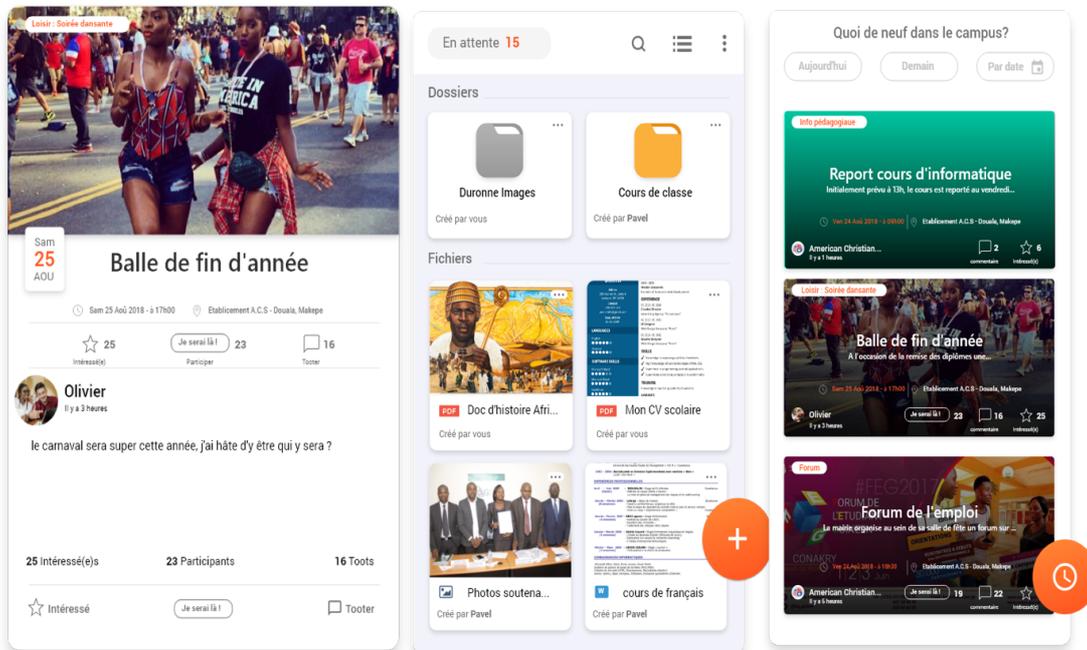
Sticking with our healthcare theme, this week we dug into our [2019 VC funding report](#) and looked at the number of healthcare deals that we tracked in some of our key markers last year:



Source: [Baobab Insights](#)

## Start-up spotlight

[Tootree](#) are a Cameroon based edtech start-up connecting students, parents and schools to drive better learning outcomes. Launched in 2019 by [Audrey Ekollo](#), the platform has been going from strength to strength in the last 12 months, and has recently started operations in Côte D'Ivoire. One to watch!



Source: [Tootree](#)

## Know a company building something cool?

Nominate them for our weekly spotlight at [team@baobabinsights.com](mailto:team@baobabinsights.com).

## Get in touch

Want to learn more about our content or send us feedback? Email us on [team@baobabinsights.com](mailto:team@baobabinsights.com).



Data in this newsletter comes from [Baobab Insights](#). Join Standard Chartered, Sanofi, Zephyr Acorn, Bluehaven Initiative, Johnson & Johnson and tonnes of other clients to get access to Africa's best VC data.

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