

The Baobab Network Report
for
ZENMONDO Members
[Teaser version]



23rd February 2021

Hello,

This week it is blast-off at the African Space Tech Challenge, CleanTech is supporting smart agriculture, and we hear from founder and CEO of PocketDoc, Dr Imad Chakri, on his start-up journey so far.

Solar Powered Irrigation

This week [PEG Africa](#), a Ghanaian distributed energy firm announced that sales of their solar powered water pumps has passed \$1 million and is considering a move into the solar powered refrigeration space.

This follows news last week that Kenyan clean-energy start-up [SunCulture](#) has raised \$11 million USD funding from AfDB, the Nordic Development Fund (NDF) and the Energy Inclusion Facility (OGEF). SunCulture provide solar powered irrigation systems to farmers across Africa.



ADDITIONAL INSIGHTS:

Investment in Precision Agriculture Start-Ups in 2020: \$29.498 million (Disclosed investment)



Baobab Insights.

Back in January we took a closer look at precision agriculture companies. Our analysts took another look, here's what they found:

Precision Agriculture companies have already raised \$96.025 million USD in 2021.

Excluding debt financing, CleanTech companies raised \$178 million USD in 2020. 2021 has already seen \$47.563 million USD raised by solar energy and clean tech solutions. Including Series B raises announced by [Oolu](#) and [Daystar Power](#).



Download our Precision AgTech report

On the ground with PocketDoc:

In our "[On the ground](#)" series, our analysts connect with our community of founders across Africa and ask them to share their experience of building their business.

This week we head to Morocco and meet Dr Imad Chakri, founder of [PocketDoc](#), a healthcare start-up helping to support improved medical decision making.



Read our interview with Dr Imad Chakri

News

Finalists announced for African Space Tech Challenge

Hosted by multiple partners include the South African National Space Agency ([SANSA](#)) and [ZA Space Inc.](#), the Space-Tech Challenge aims to develop early-stage tech startups that are aimed at empowering Africa through space-tech innovation. This year, finalists have been selected from South Africa, Nigeria, Rwanda, Botswana and Zambia...to infinity and beyond!

Source: [VentureBurn](#)

The Sankalp Africa Summit heads online

The Sankalp Africa Summit, the region's largest annual inclusive development platform focused on entrepreneurship and impact investing, has announced it is heading online. This year, Sankalp is fully virtual on March 2-4, 2021. [Registrations are open now.](#)



Source: [Sankalp Africa Summit](#)



Access razor-sharp data on Africa's private markets

Deals

Ugandan AI-powered energy start-up [gnuGrid](#) has raised [\\$0.250 million USD](#) in venture funding from undisclosed investors based in the US to scale their solution and help simplify East Africa's fragmented solar industry.

Egypt based [Si-Ware Systems](#), a micro-electronics and deep-tech start-up, has raised \$9 million USD from [Sawari Ventures](#).

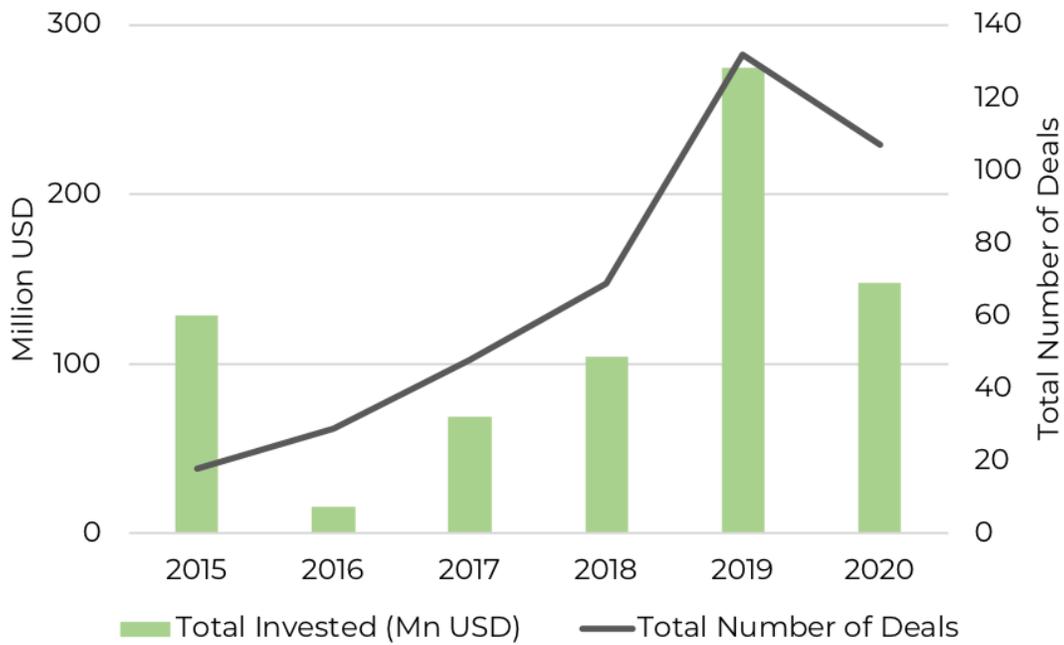


Access data on over 2,700 African VC deals

Chart of the week

Following on from this week's [interview](#) with Dr Imad Chakri, Founder and CEO of PocketDoc; our analysts looked at the VC funding data for all companies based in North Africa from 2015 to 2020.

Despite seeing a reduction in funding over 2020 (reducing from over \$275 million USD in 2019 to \$148 million USD funding in 2020), North Africa tech companies have had a busy Q1 2020. With the likes of [Sakneen](#), [Elmenus](#) and [Isqan](#) amongst a crop of companies to have announced funding earlier this year. Our analysts will be taking a closer look in the coming weeks, so stay tuned.




[Access our 2020 Funding Report here](#)

Start-up spotlight

 [RxAll](#) Inc is a Nigerian and US-based health-tech start-up founded in 2016 by  [Adebayo Alonge](#), Wei Lui, and  [Amy Kao](#) on a mission to increase access to safe drugs.

Research by the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that the counterfeit drugs industry is worth approximately \$200 billion USD.

With operations in Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria as well as a presence in Cambodia and Myanmar, RxAll Inc developed RxScanner, an AI-powered drug testing device. The device scans and tests the quality of over-the-counter medicine without destroying the sample.



The solution is used by hospitals, pharmacies, and big pharmaceutical companies, and the team joined [Founders Factory Africa](#) in September 2020.

Source: [RxAll](#)

This year, we've made a pledge to support more women-led companies through our start-up spotlight feature. Know a team that deserves recognition? You can nominate them for our weekly spotlight at team@baobabinsights.com.

Data in this newsletter comes from [Baobab Insights](#). Join DOB Equity, Amazon, Standard Chartered, Sanofi, Cargill, Newtown Partners, Johnson & Johnson and tonnes of other partners to get access to Africa's best VC market data.

Since last week, the Baobab Insights platform added:

19 deals | 30 companies | 10 funds | 1 market reports

[Schedule a demo](#)

[Subscribe to this newsletter](#)

Weekly newsletter #83 | Access our newsletter archive [here](#)



Where to find us: Pinetree Plaza, Kilimani, Nairobi

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

© The Baobab Network Ltd 2021