

20-23 March 2019

Silicon Lagoon Mission

Discover Africa's fastest growing tech startup ecosystem in Lagos, Nigeria

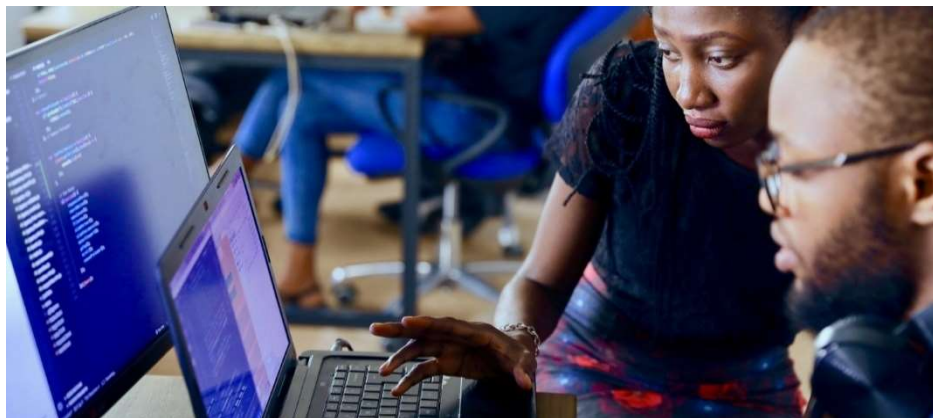


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THE
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THE DIGITAL
DIVIDE

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Program



Welcome Word

Dear Participant,

We are thrilled you are interested to join our Go Global ‘Silicon Lagoon mission’ to discover the booming Nigerian startup ecosystem! **Startups.be** and **Close the Gap** have joined forces again to organize this truly unique mission to one of the most entrepreneurial countries in Africa, with a startup scene that attracts developers and investors from all over the world.

We’re honored that **Minister De Backer**, Minister of the Digital Agenda, Telecommunications and Post Office (responsible for administrative simplification, the fight against social fraud, the protection of privacy and the North Sea), will be joining accompanied by a large press delegation. We are also excited by the interested **participants** representing leading Belgian start-ups, corporations, NGOs and academics.

This program will enable you to discover one of the most thriving tech ecosystems in the world, learn more about business opportunities in Africa, meet the local players, pitch to local and international investors and mingle with fellow entrepreneurs.

Frederik Tibau

Director of International Relations

Startups.be & Scale-Ups.eu

Olivier Vanden Eynde

Founder & CEO

Close the Gap



Detailed Program

Tuesday 19 March: Arrival Day

From 14:00 Check in at the Eko Garden Hotel (1415 Adetokunbo Ademola Street, Victoria Island) No dinner planned as most participants will arrive late in the evening. We'll welcome you at the pool bar.

Wednesday 20 March: Discovering the entrepreneurial landscape

7:00-8:15 Breakfast at the Eko Hotel

8:30-9:00 Bus Transfer

9:00-11:00 **"Doing business in Nigeria: opportunities and pitfalls" at MEST Incubator** (19B Adeyemi Lawson St, Ikoyi, Lagos): The session will provide an overview of the tech and startup scene, include advice on legal, bank and tax-related info and testimonials of Belgian, European and Nigerian Startups. Confirmed speakers from **MEST, the Nigerian Belgian Chamber of Commerce, Digital African Women, TechCabal and Webmonks**

11:15-11:40 Bus Transfer

12:00-15:00 Visit of **Wecyclers** offices (149 Bamgbose St, Lagos Island, Lagos): social enterprise empowering social change using the environment and

technology to allow low-income communities to capture value from their waste.

The visit will be followed by a **ceremony, press conference and lunch celebration** in honor of the prestigious **King Baudouin Foundation prize** awarded to Wecyclers this year.

- 15:00-15:30** Bus transfer
- 15:30-17:30** **Interactive “Pow-wow”** hosted by and at **The Elumelu Foundation** (1 Macgregor Rd, Ikoyi, Lagos)
Introduction by Tony Elumelu (one of the most important African entrepreneurs and investors), keynote by Minister Philippe De Backer, and local government officials, along with pitch sessions of local and Belgian startups
- 17:30-19:00** **Garden cocktail** at The Elumelu Foundation with local tech influencers, investors, and a delegation of Nigerian entrepreneurs
- 19:30** Bus transfer back to the hotel

Thursday 21 March: Deep Dive in Yaba

- 7:00-8:15** Breakfast at the Eko Hotel
- 8:30-9:00** Bus Transfer
- 9:30-11:30** **Co-creation workshop** hosted by and at **CcHub** (The 6th floor, 294 Herbert Macaulay Way, Sabo. Yaba, Lagos, Yaba 101212, Lagos)
Nigerian startups will be linked to Belgian startups by industry/theme. The different groups will co-create exciting business ideas and will discuss opportunities to collaborate.
- 12:00-13:30** Lunch and visit of **Facebook Artificial Intelligence Hub** at **NG_Hub** (8 Montgomery Rd, Sabo Yaba 100001, Lagos)
- 14:00-16:00** **Immersion sessions** at local startups:
LifeBank (Healthtech) (1, Connal Road, Yaba, Lagos) and **Blackbit Energy** (Sustainable Energy) (Colt 1, Ground Floor, 3 Force Road, Tafawa Balewa Square, Onikan, Lagos)
- 16:30-17:30** Bus Transfer

19:00 - 21:30 **Embassy Reception** with networking with local industries hosted by the Belgian Ambassador H.E. Mr. Daniel Dargent at **The Sky Terrace** of the Eko hotel

Friday 22 March:

7:00-8:15 Breakfast at the Eko Hotel

8:30-9:00 Bus Transfer

9:30-11:30 **Investor session** organized by and at **IFC Worldbank** (7th Floor, Alliance Place, 33A, Alfred Rewane Road, Ikoyi, Lagos)
This session will provide participants with an overview of the local VC scene. Some of our Belgian startups will pitch for a jury composed of investors (**IFC Venture Capital, Tlcom Capital, Signal Alliance, Venture Garden Group, GreenHouse Capital, Binance Labs**)

12:00-13:30 Bus Transfer and short lunch at the **Cactus Restaurant** (20, 24 Ozumba Mbadiwe Rd, Victoria Island, Lagos)

13:30-16:00 **“Building a Viable Hardware Ecosystem in Nigeria”** hosted by **Youth for Technology Foundation 3D Africa** in partnership with **GE Garages**. (Mansard Place, Bishop Aboyade Cole Street, Victoria Island, Lagos)
Learn about what it takes to build a hardware ecosystem, the role emerging technologies like 3D printing play and listen to Nigerian hardware startups and scale-ups present their companies and solutions

16:00-17:00 Bus Transfer

From 18:30 Dinner at the **Moist Beach Club**

Saturday 23 March: Optional Leisure Program

9:00-12:00 Visit of Tuberculosis Clinic (managed by Damien Foundation partner)
(General Hospital Gbagada, Gbagada, Lagos)
Note that the *World Tuberculosis (TB) Day* is March 24. The Damien Foundation has world leading expertise in TB, regroups many operations in Nigeria, and is an enthusiastic stakeholder of the Belgian Digital for Development project and piloting a new e-learning platform.

Alternative: Lekki Nature Conservation

(19 Lekki - Epe Expy, Lekki Peninsula II)
Nature park which offers a pristine natural habitat of interesting flora and fauna. Canopy walk and picnic area. **Cost: TBD – not included**



Lekki Market Visit

The “place to go” to get a taste of the rich African culture, ranging from souvenirs, art work, beads, paintings and food.

Program organized with the generous support of the
Nigerian-Belgian Chamber of Commerce



Itself supported by the following local Nigerian sponsors:



Visa and Vaccination Checklist

For your visa, first apply and pay your business visa online (with credit card in your name) and print your application via <http://nigeriabrussels.eu/business-visa/>

Once done, you'll need to PRINT the documents below and go to the Nigerian Embassy in Brussels (see address and opening hours below) without appointment. If it's your first time to Nigeria, you will be interviewed by an Immigration Attaché.

- ☐ Your passport that is valid at least 6 months after your return date (thus min Oct 1, 2019). Bring a copy too.
- ☐ Proof of online payment of your visa.
- ☐ Two recent passport-sized (35/40mm) color photograph with white background.
- ☐ Copy of Identity Card (front and back) or Residence Permit (for foreign nationals living in Belgium or Luxembourg).
- ☐ Copy of confirmed return ticket.
- ☐ Evidence of sufficient funds (Screenshot of one of your private bank accounts showing recent activity or proof of salary)
- ☐ A certificate of **yellow fever vaccination**. It is **mandatory** for all travelers going to Nigeria. Travelers should ensure that their international health vaccination is updated. Therefore, it's important to plan ahead & schedule an appointment with a [vaccination center](#) asap.

Here are the documents prepared for you and **downloadable on www.close-the-gap.org/nigeriainfo**

- ☐ Letter of Sponsorship and request for Business Visa from the sending company (Close the Gap/Startups.be) to the Embassy. (Includes evidence of hotel reservation in Nigeria)
- ☐ Letter of Invitation from Nigerian host (Nigerian-Belgian Chamber of Commerce) (Includes the Copy of host company's Certificate of Incorporation)
- ☐ Copy of passport of Nigerian host (Mr Olawale)
- ☐ Supplementary IMM/22B Form for Business visa

Embassy of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; Avenue de Tervuren 288, 1150 Brussels, +32 2 7625200. Open from Monday to Thursday between 9:30 and 12:30 (closed Friday) info@nigeriabrussels.eu.

Your visa will be ready about a week later. No need to pick it up in person if you give a special mandate with passport copy.

Practical information

If you haven't already registered, please do so **before March 1** on close-the-gap.org/Nigeria or on startups.be



Airport

Don't forget to **book your own flight ASAP**.

You will arrive at the Murtala Muhammed International Airport in Lagos. Transportation will be arranged.

Please communicate your flight number, arrival/departure time, and passport number to Marie.verbreyt@close-the-gap.org (We need it for the Nigerian Embassy)



Hotel

Accommodation at the **Eko Garden Hotel***** is foreseen for four nights. Each participant is responsible to pay onsite for any additional charges to the room with their own credit card.

Address: 1415 Adetokunbo Ademola Street, Victoria Island, Nigeria +234 1 277 2700 (see p. 13 for the map of the hotel)



Transportation & traffic

All local transportation will be organized with 2 **coaster buses** and mobile police will be present in each bus. Nigeria suffers from huge **traffic congestion**. While we have carefully prepared our program accordingly and limited the locations, unforeseen traffic conditions may occur.



Temperature & dress code

Temperature of that time of year in Lagos is hot! On average min 27C to max 35C with rain. (An umbrella will be handy.)

The dress code during the duration of the trip is **smart casual**.



Other practicalities

The currency in Nigeria is the **Nigerian naira**. 360 Nigerian naira = \$1 or 0,8€.

The time zone of Nigeria is the same as Belgium.

Hotel – Eko Suites Compound

The *** star Eko Garden hotel is conveniently located on Victoria Island, within the Eko Hotels Suites compound. This secured site hosts 4 hotels, 9 restaurants, bars, a swimming pool and a gym. It's THE meeting place for businesses in Lagos. Address: 1415 Adetokunbo Ademola Street, Victoria Island, Lagos

This is where you'll have breakfast

This is where you will be sleeping



Organisation team



Olivier Vanden Eynde

Founder and CEO

Close the Gap

Olivier.vanden.eynde@close-the-gap.org

+32 478 284 084



Frederik Tibau

Director of International Relations

Startups.be

frederik.tibau@startups.be

+32 497 25 56 01



Julie de Bergeyck

Impact and Engagement Director

Close the Gap

Julie.de.bergeyck@close-the-gap.org

+32 474 99 71 16

Close the Gap is an international social enterprise that aims to bridge the digital divide by offering high-quality, pre-owned computers donated by large-and medium-sized corporations or public organizations to educational, medical, entrepreneurial and social projects in developing and emerging countries. Close the Gap also powers [Worldloop](#) (sustainable e-waste recycling), the [Leap2 program](#) (supporting entrepreneurship and innovation), and the [Digital for Development platform](#), all contributing to creating impact in Africa and other developing countries. www.close-the-gap.org.

Startups.be is the one-stop-shop for Belgian tech entrepreneurship. They partner with startups to achieve their global ambition, facilitate joint innovation with business partners worldwide, and are the independent reference center of excellence in the Belgian startup ecosystem. www.startups.be

D4D-Be Platform : First of its kind Belgian [Digital for Development platform](#), initiated by the Belgian Development cooperation (DGD), launched in September 2017, and coordinated by Agoria and Close the Gap. Its focus is to bring all actors of development together by creating and facilitating an eco-system for all stakeholders, existing projects and opportunities using digital in development. Ultimate goal is to build a **bridge between the Belgian private sector and the development sector in realizing the Sustainable Development Goals** and create new partnerships.

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