



## **AFRILABS ANNUAL GATHERING**

The AfriLabs Annual Gathering is an Annual Meet-Up of African Tech Hubs and Technology Conference that focuses on the grassroots innovation ecosystem, their funders and the local Governments. It also provides a platform for stakeholders in the Tech Ecosystem to collaborate, innovate and ideate coherent action points on how to support the African tech ecosystem.

The maiden edition of the AfriLabs Annual Gathering in Africa was successfully held in 2016 in Accra, Ghana. It was hosted by [iSpace Foundation](#) at the Alliance Francaise d'Accra.

The 2016 AfriLabs Annual Gathering had about 250 persons in attendance from different regions in Africa such as Tanzania, Cameroon, Nigeria, Kenya, and Egypt as well as participants from USA, Philippines, and Asia, amongst others. The Annual Gathering included keynote addresses by Ben White (Founder of VC4A), Dr. Ashraf Abdel Wahab (Chief Technology Officer, 4Afrika Initiative at Microsoft), Dr. Fletcher Tembo (Director, Making All Voices Count). The Annual Gathering had 9 engaging panel sessions cutting across various topics that affect the African Tech Ecosystem.

The second edition of the AfriLabs Annual Gathering (2017) held in Cairo, Egypt. The Gathering was co-organized by [AfriLabs](#), [Hivos International](#), and [District](#) in collaboration with [Progrss](#), [Wasabi](#) with sponsorship from Facebook, The French University in Egypt, American University in Cairo, and Ethiopian Airlines.

The stakeholders of the Gathering included over 50 tech hubs and co-working spaces, corporate organizations, government representatives and academia across Africa and the MENA region. We had over 200 guests attend the Gathering and about 80% were from outside Egypt.

### **The Hub host for the 2018 Annual Gathering stands to benefit the following:**

- The chance to propose the themes for the Gathering as pertains to their Tech Ecosystem while also being relevant to the African Tech Ecosystem - Final theme would be voted by hub members among options provided by the Hub host.
- Design and moderate at least one panel session with topics – relevant to theme and ecosystem - and panelists of their choice.
- A keynote address and welcome address – to be aired live on the AfriLabs website for viewers globally.

- Be fully involved in the entire programme design and have decision making influence on activities, speakers and content.
- Opportunity to host and have access to a vast and diverse network of key stakeholders in the African Innovation space. The Hub host will be able to reach out to any organization, person or government in Africa and Internationally to support, speak at or be involved in the Annual Gathering with support from AfriLabs and its members.

AfriLabs Secretariat commitments are:

- Fundraising
- Engaging the Pan-African Ecosystem and AfriLabbers
- Sponsoring AfriLabbers to attend (subject to funding)
- Recommending Speakers, Panelists, and Masterclass Contributors
- Funds Management
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Co-creating the agenda and theme of the event with hub host
- Marketing and Awareness in Africa Hub

Host Hub commitments are:

- Advising on budget expenditures/allocations
- Selecting the best internet service providers/vendors in host country
- Securing a sponsored venue for the Gathering
- Willing to negotiate the best price possible for a 5 Star hotel that can accommodate expected number of Annual Gathering Attendees (150-200)
- Local Transportation & Entertainment mapping out for the event, AfriLabs members and guests from other locations
- Engaging your local ecosystem; key stakeholders who are Investors, Academics, Corporates, Government, Hub Managers and Startups that will attend and participate in the sessions during the Gathering.
- Providing volunteers from your hub/ecosystem during the Annual Gathering
- Marketing and awareness in host country
- Additional fundraising which would go into adding to the experience of the gathering and any additional activities (however, this is AfriLabs primary responsibility)
- Co-creating the agenda, theme and activities of the gathering with the Secretariat
- Co-planning and coordination for entire event (budget would be included for professional corporate event planners that may need to be hired)
- Providing information on tourist sites for guests. The 2018 Annual Gathering will provide an opportunity to showcase the Host Hub's ecosystem to Africans and the world and attract partnerships and investment into the African Tech Ecosystem.





