

All the winners from Digital Lab Africa Pitch

From among 500 applications from over 30 sub-Saharan countries, 10 creatives from countries such as South Africa, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Mali and Ghana were selected as winners of the Digital Lab Africa accelerator programme.



Image source: Gallo/Getty.

Digital Lab Africa (DLA), a springboard and incubation platform for African creatives in digital content, announced the 10 winning projects of this year's edition of the DLA accelerator programme, which was initiated by the <u>Embassy of France and French Institute in South Africa (IFAS)</u>.

DLA is managed by the South African technology hub <u>Tshimologong Digital Innovation Precinct</u>, with support from the <u>Agence Française de Développement (AFD)</u>.

Each of the 10 winners receive a R42,000 cash prize and a tailored-made incubation programme to accelerate their project development. This includes mentorship by French and sub-Saharan creative industries experts, a residence period in France within a digital cluster/hub, and participation at industry events in France and/or in sub-Saharan African region. These individuals stood out in the selection <u>committee</u> interviews based on their talent, creativity and ability to motivate their ideas.

Furthermore, following a period of public online voting, the DLA Audience Award has been awarded to Justus Macharia from Kenya for his work titled BABA. With 501 votes out of 3329 in total, Macharia's prize includes an invitation to one of

the DLA industry events in France or in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Winners by category

ANIMATION

<u>Ringa Mzansi</u> by Lwazi Msipha (South Africa) <u>Uzi</u> by Naddya Adhiambo Oluoch-Olunya (Kenya)

WEB CREATION

<u>Cartographie Des Régions Musicales Du Mali</u> by Tiécoura N'Daou (Mali) <u>Re/Member Your Descendants</u> by Xabiso Vili (South Africa)

DIGITAL MUSIC

<u>Swaggify</u> by Marvin Madyara (Zimbabwe) <u>Sunkambe</u> by Shaka Ramulifho (South Africa)

VIRTUAL REALITY

Trvlr by Komborerai Chapfika (Zimbabwe)

The Afrocyborg Vr Film Collective by Shmerah Passchier & The Afrocyborg Collective (South Africa)

VIDEO GAME

Mancala Plus by Setriakor Nyomi (Ghana)

<u>Precious Cargo</u> by Simone Beneke-Graham, Shannon Bennetts, Rowan Brough & Niall Graham (South Africa).

Created in 2016, Digital Lab Africa is an initiative of the French Institute and the French Embassy in South Africa, managed by the South African innovation hub Tshimologong Digital Innovation Precinct since 2018. The program is supported by the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), SACEM, Lagardère Studios, TRACE, DISCOP and a number of French and Sub-Saharan African partners.

Digital Lab Africa (DLA) is the 1st platform dedicated to creative content (web creation, virtual reality, video game, animation, digital music) linked with innovation in Africa. The very idea of DLA is to incubate emerging talent by offering them a springboard to jumpstart and accelerate their projects with the support of DLA partners & creative industries ecosystem (studios, events, producers, broadcasters, distributors, experts...).

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