



Future
Ready ●

GHANA YOUTH TECH SUMMIT REPORT 2025

FUTURE READY: LEADING THROUGH
INNOVATION, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP.

AN INITIATIVE BY

Nova
IMPACT

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We extend heartfelt appreciation to everyone who contributed to the success of the 2025 Ghana Youth Tech Summit. The 2025 event brought together young innovators, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and technology enthusiasts to empower youth through innovation and digital transformation.

Special thanks go to our sponsors, partners, and speakers for their invaluable support and insights, and to the organizing team and volunteers for their dedication and teamwork. We also appreciate the participants and media partners, whose engagement and coverage amplified the summit's impact nationwide.

Together, we have demonstrated that Ghana's youth possess the creativity, vision, and determination to drive the nation's technological growth and sustainable future.

To all who supported, thank you.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ghana Youth Tech Summit 2025 convenes young innovators, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and industry stakeholders to explore the transformative power of technology in shaping Ghana's future. Anchored in the theme "Leading Through Innovation, Artificial Intelligence, and Entrepreneurship," this year's summit highlights the pivotal role of youth in driving digital transformation, fostering economic resilience, and redefining the nation's innovation ecosystem.

Organized by Nova Impact, a technology-driven not-for-profit organization committed to youth development, digital security, climate action, and social inclusion, GYTS 2025 builds on a strong foundation of empowering marginalized communities, especially persons with disabilities, to succeed in a digital world. Nova Impact's broader mission of innovation, inclusivity, and collaborative problem-solving shapes the summit's strategic direction, ensuring the program responds to the emerging needs of Ghana's youth.

The 2025 summit provides participants with practical exposure to AI applications, entrepreneurial insights, and tech-enabled opportunities across multiple sectors. It also strengthens connections between young people and key institutions championing Ghana's digital transformation. Through keynote speeches, capacity-building workshops, panel discussions, exhibitions, founder showcases, and networking sessions, GYTS 2025 reinforces the necessity of preparing youth for a future defined by rapid technological advancement.

This report captures the highlights, outcomes, and insights from the summit, reflecting not only the passion and creativity of Ghana's youth but also the urgency of investing in their capacity to lead. As Ghana navigates global shifts in technology, climate resilience, and economic competitiveness, the Ghana Youth Tech Summit stands as a strategic platform where the next generation gains the skills, knowledge, and confidence to innovate, influence, and lead.



ABOUT THE SUMMIT

The Ghana Youth Tech Summit (GYTS), organized by Nova Impact, aims to position the Ghanaian youth at the forefront of the digital age. Rooted in the belief that young people are catalysts for innovation and national transformation, the summit empowers youth to become leaders in digital innovation, artificial intelligence, entrepreneurship, and social impact.

The 2025 edition, themed “Leading Through Innovation, Artificial Intelligence, and Entrepreneurship,” continues to build on this mandate by equipping young Ghanaians with the tools, knowledge, and networks needed to lead Ghana’s digital future. Through curated sessions, hands-on learning, policy dialogues, startup exposure, and community-driven innovation, the summit fosters a culture of creativity and impact-oriented thinking among young people.

Since its inception, GYTS has emerged as a robust platform that supports youth agency in a rapidly evolving digital landscape. The summit has consistently cultivated an environment where ideas grow into initiatives, initiatives become enterprises, and enterprises create lasting societal change. Over 2,000 young people, including students, entrepreneurs, digital professionals, and policy leaders, have engaged with the summit since its launch. More than 150 beneficiaries have received training in AI tools, digital marketing, and cybersecurity, while over sixteen organizations have partnered with the summit to advance digital inclusion and innovation nationwide.

Collectively, the summit’s impact has generated over 500,000 digital impressions and established GYTS as a leading convening space for emerging innovators reshaping Ghana’s technological future.



A woman with long dark hair, wearing a light-colored short-sleeved button-down shirt, is speaking into a microphone at a wooden podium. The background is a blue wall with white text that is partially visible, including "ling", "vation", and "end".

OPENING REMARKS

Celestina Aidoo

Nova Impact's Executive Director, Celestina Aidoo, opened the Ghana Youth Tech Summit 2025 by underscoring the year's theme, "Future Ready: Leading Through Innovation, AI, and Entrepreneurship." She emphasized that the summit is a call for young people to take bold leadership in shaping Ghana's digital future with creativity, resilience, and purpose.

She highlighted Nova Impact's work through programs such as STEMInist, EmpowerHer, and its mentorship and career-mapping initiatives, which have directly supported over 200 youth and reached more than 2,000 indirectly. Celestina stressed that the next phase of impact requires stronger partnerships to expand innovation hubs, deepen digital and STEM training, and work toward the goal of training one million youth in STEM by 2040.

Looking to the future, she shared Nova Impact's plan to explore youth opportunities in climate and environmental technology, energy transitions, digital assets, and entrepreneurship. This, she noted, reflects the realities young Africans are responding to using technology to address challenges in climate change, clean energy, and sustainable development.

She called for collaboration across government, private sector, academia, and civil society to build systems that fund ideas, support women in technology, strengthen ethical innovation, and scale youth-led solutions.

Celestina ended by encouraging participants to dream boldly, build with empathy, and collaborate with intention, reminding them that the journey to a future-ready Ghana begins with the commitments made at this summit.

Session Highlights



Keynote Address

Divine Selasi Agbeti

Acting Director Cybersecurity
Authority - Ghana

KEYNOTE ADDRESS



Divine Selasi Agbeti delivered an inspiring message on the critical role of young people in securing Ghana's digital future. He reminded participants that while the digital age offers immense opportunities, it also comes with real risks from cyberattacks to misinformation and data breaches. Building a safe and trusted digital Ghana, he emphasized, will depend on the vision, responsibility, and leadership of today's youth.

He noted that Ghanaian young people are already demonstrating readiness through national competitions, regional cyber training, and growing interest in digital careers. Highlighting recent achievements from students winning the National Cybersecurity Challenge to youth participating in cyber forensics and monitoring programs, he reinforced that young innovators are not just users of technology but emerging leaders in cyber resilience.

Divine encouraged participants to take their place in safeguarding the country's digital space by adopting responsible practices, pursuing skills in cybersecurity, and using technology to solve national problems.

He also urged them to network, collaborate intentionally, and seize opportunities to partner with institutions shaping Ghana's digital growth.

Divine closed with a reminder that Ghana's secure digital future will rise on the leadership, creativity, and commitment of its young people, "the architects and guardians of our cyber resilience

Divine Selasi Agbeti

Acting Director Cybersecurity
Authority - Ghana

A woman with dark, curly hair, wearing a teal long-sleeved blouse and a black ruffled skirt, is smiling and holding a tablet. She is standing in front of a blurred background that appears to be a stage or a modern interior.

Guest Speaker's Address

Angela Kyerematen-Jimoh

SPECIAL MESSAGE



Angela Kyerematen-Jimoh
Founder & CEO, BrainWave AfricaTech

Angela Kyerematen-Jimoh delivered a compelling message on the power of youth-led innovation in shaping Africa's technological future.

She emphasized that challenges should not be seen as barriers, but as catalysts for problem-solving. For her, innovation begins with mindset, not machines. Across Africa, young people are already proving this by designing fintech apps in dorm rooms, winning robotics competitions, and building community solutions from the ground up. She stressed that Africa's transformation will not be imported; it must be built locally, by Africans, for Africans.

Through initiatives such as Brainwave Africa Tech Academy and the AI Explorers Club, she highlighted how young learners, as early as age eight, are being introduced to machine learning, chatbots, and coding not as abstract theory, but as tools to solve everyday problems.

Angela noted that for innovation to thrive, three principles must guide the youth: First, curiosity to ask "what if?" Secondly, Courage to try despite obstacles, and Collaboration, because the future will be built through collective intelligence, not individual brilliance.

On artificial intelligence, she described AI as "the great equalizer", a tool that can empower Africa if the continent chooses to shape it instead of being shaped by it. She urged young people to understand AI ethics, protect Africa's data, and ensure that local languages, stories, and identities are represented in future algorithms.

She also emphasized entrepreneurship as the bridge between ideas and real impact. Every young person carries a spark, she said, and Ghana's growing digital economy provides fertile ground for youth-led solutions. Entrepreneurship, in her view, is not about owning a company; it is about owning one's potential, taking risks, and acting now rather than waiting for perfect conditions.

Angela concluded by reminding the audience that Ghana's future will be shaped by the boldness, creativity, and values of its young people. With the right mindset and ecosystem, Ghana can move from being future-ready to future-leading.



Panel Discussion Highlights

**Emerging Tech and the Entrepreneurial Mindset:
What Future-Ready Youth Need to Succeed**

Speakers: Maud Ashong Elliot-President Internet Society Ghana Chapter, Fareed Gombilla-Social Dev't & Disability Specialist, Thomas Eghan Ekuban-Head of Business Operations at TECHAiDE, King A. Wellington- Founder, Done By Us - **Moderator:** Alice Yakubu



Emerging Tech and the Entrepreneurial Mindset: What Future-Ready Youth Need to Succeed

The panel explored what it truly means for young innovators to be future ready in an era shaped by emerging technologies. The discussion centred on one key message: innovation must begin with mindset and must include everyone.

Fareed Gombilla stressed that technology becomes stronger and more impactful when it is designed with persons with disabilities (PWDs) in mind. He reminded participants that many technologies we rely on today, such as text-to-speech, were originally designed for people with visual impairments before becoming mainstream. Inclusive design, he emphasized, is not charity; it is good innovation that broadens access and increases product value. He urged young developers to involve PWDs from the beginning rather than treating accessibility as an afterthought.

Maud Ashong Elliot highlighted the need for intentional strategies to include more women in technology and leadership roles. She shared her own experiences navigating male-dominated spaces and encouraged women to build competence, confidence, and consistency. True inclusion, she noted, requires policies and environments that deliberately bring women to the table, and women themselves must take advantage of these opportunities and prove their capabilities.

Thomas Eghan Ekuban spoke on the entrepreneurial habits young people must cultivate. He urged innovators to identify their potential points of failure early, build with other people rather than attempting to succeed alone, and focus on solving real problems instead of holding on to "founder syndrome." He encouraged youth to move away from the mindset of total ownership and instead embrace collaboration, shared ideas, and shared investment.

King A. Wellington expanded the conversation by reflecting on mentorship, regulation, and the right time to seek funding. He cautioned against rushing to investors without piloting, testing, or proving concepts. Many startups fail, he said, not because the ideas are bad, but because the foundation is weak, with no user base, no clear market, and no regulatory readiness. Mentorship and networking, in his view, are essential tools that help young founders avoid costly mistakes and open doors to new opportunities.

The panel collectively emphasized the importance of responsible technology use, personal investment, and building sustainable systems. They encouraged youth to take ownership of their growth, use the internet productively, invest in their own ventures, seek feedback, and develop solutions that respond to real needs in society.

KEY ACTION POINTS

- Build technology and innovation products that fully include persons with disabilities, ensuring accessibility from the start.
- Develop policies and programs that intentionally bring women into tech and leadership roles.
- Encourage women in tech to grow competence, confidence, and resilience, not just rely on positional titles.
- Train young innovators to overcome founder syndrome, embrace teamwork, seek feedback, and prioritize real-world solutions.
- Integrate mentorship and collaboration into innovation programmes to enable sustainable growth.
- Cultivate a mindset that learns from failure and builds with others for wider impact. Promote digital responsibility, mindful technology use, and ethical innovation.
- Encourage youth to personally invest time, effort, and resources in their ventures before seeking external funding.



Founders Series

An Inspiring Conversation with Young Innovators

The Founders Series highlighted the ingenuity, resilience, and purpose-driven innovation of three young Ghanaian innovators who are transforming the country's digital ecosystem. Their shared message was clear: innovation begins with solving real problems and building solutions that truly serve people.

Speakers: Nana Abokoma Sika Antwi Co-Founder & COO, Intelli,
Ike Agyei Mensah, Founder-Deaf Can Talk, Jonathan Kennedy
Sowah Founder - InovTech STEM Center



Leading Through Innovation Artificial Intelligence and Entrepreneurship.

Nana Abokoma Sika Antwi
Co-Founder & COO, Intelli

Sika introduced Intelli, a customer communication platform helping businesses respond to clients quickly and efficiently across multiple channels. She identified a major gap in Ghana's business environment of slow and inconsistent customer engagement and built a solution that improves customer experience while boosting sales for organizations. Sika encouraged young innovators to start with the problem, validate it, and build solutions that users are willing to pay for. Innovation, she stressed, must be grounded in real needs, not assumptions.



Jonathan Kennedy Sowah

Founder, InovTech STEM Center

Jonathan showcased KodeVR, a virtual robotics and coding platform that equips young people with practical STEM skills without requiring expensive physical kits. His innovation was born from a simple observation: many students lose access to robotics after outreach programs because they lack equipment at home. KodeVR bridges this gap by helping learners practice coding, AI, and robotics offline. Jonathan shared his vision of training one million young people, especially girls, in coding and robotics over the next five years, highlighting powerful ripple effects already seen in communities.

During the conversation, Sika also spoke about the opportunities available for women in the digital space. She encouraged young women to embrace curiosity, willingness to learn, and collaboration, noting that supportive male allies and tech communities often open doors. Her message to young women was simple: don't be intimidated, get involved, ask questions, and take up space.

Future Ready

Lead Inno Inter Entr

Ike Agyei Mensah Founder, Deaf Can Talk

Ike shared the story behind Deaf Can Talk, an AI-powered accessibility platform that supports deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals in classrooms, hospitals, and everyday communication.

The platform provides speech-to-text and text-to-speech translation, AI-assisted note-taking, and sign-language learning materials. It also includes DeafCare, an interpreter-assisted medical support feature that improves communication between deaf patients and health professionals. Ike emphasized that inclusion is not charity, it's innovation, and that solutions built for persons with disabilities ultimately benefit everyone.

From Idea to Execution: Advice to Young Innovators

The young founders shared practical guidance for turning ideas into impactful ventures:

- Identify and validate real problems before building solutions.
- Engage users early and build what they need, not what you imagine they need.
- Start early, expect failure, and learn from it.
- Build with people rather than trying to succeed alone.
- Have a strong personal “why” that keeps you grounded through challenges.
- Don't wait for perfect conditions to begin with what you have.

KEY ACTION POINTS

- Promote and fund assistive AI and accessibility-focused innovations in education and healthcare.
- Integrate STEM, robotics, and coding into mainstream learning and national youth programs.
- Establish inclusive innovation hubs that empower young entrepreneurs and include persons with disabilities.
- Build gender-inclusive mentorship networks to support women and girls entering the tech ecosystem.
- Strengthen collaboration across academia, government, and industry for digital skills development.
- Provide training in design thinking, market validation, and user-centred design to help startups build sustainable solutions.
- Offer grants and impact-based investment for socially beneficial, inclusive technologies.
- Foster a culture of early innovation, curiosity, and digital responsibility among youth.



Panel Discussion Highlights

AI and the Ghanaian Workforce: Reshaping Skills, Jobs, and Entrepreneurship

Speakers: Abraham Nii Odoi-Chief Technology Officer, Npontu Technologies, , Emmanuel Morka-Regional Chief Information Officer, Access Bank, Nachiket Apte-Director of Software Engineering & AI, AmaliTech, Nana Adjoa Khartey -Senior Partner Afrimore Advisors
Moderator: Jormor Botchway

The final panel explored the fast-changing relationship between artificial intelligence, work, and entrepreneurship in Ghana. The discussion centered on how young people can adapt, stay relevant, and seize emerging opportunities in an AI-driven economy. Across all speakers, a unifying message emerged: AI will not replace the Ghanaian workforce. Ghanaians who understand AI will.

Nachiket Apte emphasized three pathways through which youth can participate meaningfully in the AI economy:

- Building Africa's own AI models and research capacity, reducing reliance on Western-built systems.
- Developing software powered by existing AI models, a more accessible entry point that requires only a laptop, internet, and strong engineering skills.
- Mastering AI tools and prompt engineering, a non-technical but highly valuable skill that enables people to produce better work faster.

He stressed that Ghana must not only consume AI but also contribute to shaping it, especially through reading national AI policy proposals and providing feedback.

Abraham Nii Odoi encouraged young people to adopt AI as a daily productivity tool. Employers, he noted, increasingly prefer candidates who demonstrate mastery of AI-enabled workflows, coding assistants, and automation tools. The industry no longer has patience for slow manual work; competence now means efficiency, versatility, and the ability to think alongside machines. His central advice:

“Adopt AI. Use it for everything you do not because you are lazy, but because you understand its power.”

Balancing Skills, Ethics, and Human Judgment

Nana Adjoa Khartey provided a refreshing perspective on how to prepare for the future of work. Using the analogy of three “skills buckets,” she outlined:

- Skills AI will replace (mundane, repetitive tasks)
- Skills AI can enhance (creative, analytical, or technical work supported by AI tools)
- Skills AI cannot replace (moral judgment, imagination, empathy, real-time human reasoning)

She encouraged the audience to strengthen uniquely human abilities, critical thinking, adaptability, and ethical reasoning, and use AI to amplify rather than diminish their capabilities.

Discipline, Collaboration, and Adaptability

Emmanuel Morka stressed that discipline, focus, and collaboration remain the foundations of success in the AI era. He urged the youth to embrace learning, overcome fear of failure, and leverage networks rather than attempt to build alone. His message was both practical and emotional:

“Start small, stay disciplined, and grow with intention. Success is a journey of stages, not a rush to buy a Ferrari.”

Closing the session, Nachiket offered a simple but powerful reminder, “You can just do things. You don’t need permission. You already have the tools.” The panel concluded with a shared belief that Ghanaian youth are not merely preparing for the future; they are capable of shaping it.

- Treat AI as a strategic partner in work, entrepreneurship, and national development.
- Promote continuous upskilling, especially in AI literacy, prompt engineering, and software development.
- Strengthen soft skills, professionalism, discipline, communication, and teamwork to complement technical competence.
- Engage actively in shaping Ghana’s AI policy frameworks through public consultation and informed feedback.
- Invest in local AI development, including Ghanaian and African language models.
- Empower entrepreneurs to use AI tools confidently for productivity, innovation, and cost efficiency.
- Foster human-centered values such as moral judgment, responsibility, and multi-perspective thinking in AI adoption.
- Build a culture of adaptability, resilience, and strategic collaboration across sectors.



Ethical and Societal Impacts of AI in Higher Educational Institutions: A Landscape Analysis with Strong Global South Perspectives

*Speaker: Prof. Delali Kwesi Dake, Head, Department of ICT Education
University of Education, Winneba*

The concluding session of the Ghana Youth Tech Summit 2025 spotlighted the rising ethical concerns surrounding generative AI in higher education. Prof. Delali Kwesi Dake, Head of ICT Education at the University of Education, Winneba, delivered a compelling reflection on how excessive reliance on AI is shaping student behavior, academic culture, and national academic standards. Drawing on findings from a 14-country African study conducted under the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) working group, he emphasized that Ghana urgently needs clear ethical frameworks to protect academic integrity as AI becomes deeply embedded in learning.

Prof. Dake expressed concern that many students now default to AI for assignments, quizzes, and even examinations, sometimes bypassing institutional controls, leading to declining analytical skills and weakened independent reasoning. He highlighted the growing difficulty lecturers face in distinguishing genuine student work from AI-generated content, especially as detection tools evolve alongside student evasion tactics. Without strong standards, he cautioned, institutions risk producing graduates who cannot think critically, analyze information responsibly, or validate sources, skills essential for Ghana's long-term development.

Central to his message was the need for ethical literacy, not prohibition. He advocated for honest documentation of AI use, responsible prompting techniques, and cross-checking of AI outputs with traditional research methods. Students, he argued, must demonstrate transparency by recording prompts, responses, and processes, while educators themselves must upgrade their digital competencies to guide responsible use. With national AI policy discussions underway, Prof. Dake urged academia, policymakers, and students to collaborate in creating ethical, inclusive, and context-appropriate standards for the Global South.

ACTION POINTS

- Develop national ethical guidelines for the use of AI and digital tools across higher educational institutions.
- Require clear documentation of AI prompts, processes, and outputs in student submissions to ensure transparency.
- Promote inquiry-based learning approaches that deepen understanding rather than encourage shortcuts.
- Invest in faculty upskilling to strengthen educators' capacity to supervise responsible AI use.
- Establish verification standards for checking citations, references, and AI-generated academic material.
- Strengthen institutional systems for detecting plagiarism and AI misuse.
- Integrate digital ethics and academic integrity modules into curricula at secondary and tertiary levels.
- Encourage sustained dialogue among students, teachers, technologists, and policymakers to support ethical digital learning.



WORKSHOP SESSION

**Leading with Intelligence: AI as a
Tool for Future-Ready Leadership**

Speakers: *Speaker: Dr. Samuel Atuahene
Research Scientist | Data Scientist | AI Consultant*



Dr. Samuel Atuahene delivered an efficient workshop on how young people, entrepreneurs, and emerging leaders can harness Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a strategic tool for leadership in a rapidly changing digital economy. He explained AI as “man-made thinking power” technology designed to perform tasks that traditionally require human intelligence and highlighted how Africa is already experiencing its transformative impact across key sectors such as agriculture, healthcare, finance, and public administration.

He emphasized that AI is not a distant concept but an active force reshaping livelihoods through digital income opportunities. Tools such as Jasper, Writesonic, Shopify, Canva, and DeepL are enabling content creation, automation, e-commerce, tutoring, and freelancing at scale. For Ghanaian youth, the challenge is no longer access, but mindset. Dr. Atuahene stressed that future-ready leadership demands an entrepreneurial approach: identifying local problems, spotting inefficiencies, automating repetitive tasks, and building ethical, community-centered solutions that address real needs.

His session encouraged participants to see AI not as a replacement for human potential but as a multiplier, an innovation engine that can expand opportunities, increase productivity, and unlock new economic pathways when used responsibly and creatively.

- Promote AI literacy and offer structured skills training across schools, tertiary institutions, and innovation hubs.
- Encourage development of sector-specific AI solutions in agriculture, health, finance, governance, and public services.
- Support youth to monetize AI tools through writing, tutoring, automation, e-commerce, and other digital services.
- Establish AI innovation labs to drive locally relevant, context-sensitive, and ethical technology development.
- Provide funding, incubation, and mentorship programs for startups building community-centered AI solutions.
- Build an entrepreneurial culture that prioritizes creativity, problem-solving, and social impact through AI.
- Strengthen collaboration between government, academia, private industry, and civic tech communities to advance Africa's AI ecosystem.



WORKSHOP SESSION

Hosted by Ghana Internet Safety Foundation

**Guarding Against Cyberbullying,
Sextortion & Misinformation**

Speakers: *Gabriel Ofori Appiah, Emmanuel Adinkrah*



This practical, safety-focused workshop addressed the growing risks young people face in the digital world, emphasizing the urgent need for responsible online behavior, digital wellness, and informed decision-making. The facilitators highlighted cyberbullying, sextortion, misinformation, and online blackmail as some of the most common and damaging threats affecting today's youth, often occurring silently and with long-term emotional, social, and financial consequences.

Gabriel Ofori Appiah and Emmanuel Adinkrah stressed that digital citizenship carries real responsibility. As technology reshapes communication and identity, young people must learn to balance their biological, spiritual, and digital lives, using the internet wisely without compromising their safety or values. The facilitators called on parents to adopt active digital parenting monitoring, guiding, and educating children on safe technology use through open conversations rather than fear or punishment.

Participants were encouraged to remain SMART online: avoid strangers, use strong passwords, guard personal data, verify information before sharing, and resist the pressure to exchange private content. They also highlighted the importance of reporting threats, extortion attempts, and harmful online behavior to trusted adults, school authorities, or institutions such as the Cyber Security Authority (CSA) and Ghana Internet Safety Foundation (GISF). The workshop reinforced that safety is a shared responsibility and that with awareness and discipline, young people can enjoy the benefits of technology without falling prey to digital harm.

ACTION POINTS

- Strengthen digital parenting education to help parents guide and protect children online.
- Promote ethical and responsible technology use among youth through school programs and community workshops.
- Encourage SMART online behavior: avoid strangers, use strong passwords, verify sources, and limit sharing personal information.
- Raise awareness about sextortion, blackmail, and cyberbullying through targeted digital safety campaigns.
- Advocate for a healthy balance between biological, spiritual, and digital life to reduce risks tied to excessive screen time.
- Support digital wellness initiatives addressing internet addiction, especially among youth who spend long hours online.
- Encourage reporting of sextortion and cyber-related threats to authorities such as GISF and the Cyber Security Authority (CSA).

NOVA VENTURE FUND PITCH REPORT

The Nova Venture Fund Pitch Session was one of the most impactful highlights of the Ghana Youth Tech Summit 2025, showcasing the creativity, discipline, and problem-solving capacity of Ghana's rising generation of entrepreneurs. As a new introduction, the pitch attracted significant interest across the youth innovation ecosystem, receiving 45 applications from early-stage founders nationwide. After a rigorous screening and evaluation process, 15 high-potential ventures were shortlisted, with 10 ultimately pitching live on stage to an audience of industry leaders, investors, and partners.

The quality of the submissions demonstrated that Ghana's youth are building bold, practical, and scalable solutions across diverse sectors. Their innovations addressed critical challenges such as agricultural waste management, digital efficiency, scientific household safety, education technology, enterprise resource planning, and climate-friendly packaging. The founders displayed an impressive understanding of local market needs, user experience, and social impact, affirming the growing maturity of Ghana's startup landscape.

The companies that presented during the final pitch included: **SlimFile, Mcket, Evrima, Radsцен, Tonitel, Sua Pa, Testnasium, Awoyaa ERP, Biospace Gh Ltd, and Gen Z Solution.**

Several ventures stood out for their strong market readiness, technical clarity, and investment potential. Solutions ranged from AI-driven productivity tools to sustainable manufacturing innovations such as converting plantain waste into biodegradable egg crates and scientific processes for reducing harmful household substances. Others introduced platforms improving customer service efficiency, enterprise operations, and access to STEM learning tools for young people.

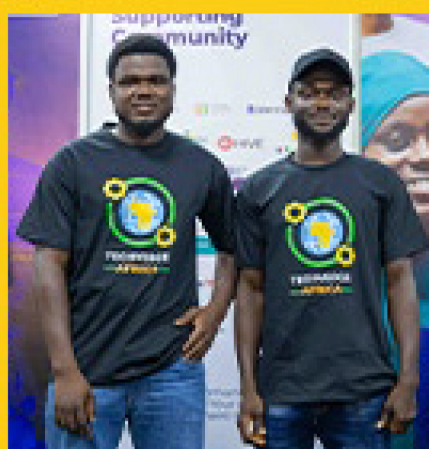
The Done by Us and Nova Impact team identified four ventures, Mcket, Testnasium, Biospace GH Ltd, and SlimFile, as priority candidates for deeper due diligence, mentorship, and potential seed funding. These teams demonstrated not only technical competence but a clear social and economic value proposition capable of scaling with the right support.

The pitch session reaffirmed the urgent need for targeted capital, structured mentorship, and long-term ecosystem support for youth-led ventures. Many of these startups are already demonstrating early traction but require the financial runway, technical guidance, and business development support that an institutional seed fund can provide. The Nova Venture Fund is positioned to fill this gap by offering catalytic early-stage investment that helps transform promising ideas into market-ready, sustainable businesses.

The Ghana Youth Tech Summit 2025 made one point abundantly clear: Ghana is not lacking innovation, only the resources to scale it. By investing in the Nova Venture Fund, partners and donors have the opportunity to unlock the potential of hundreds of young innovators whose solutions directly support national development priorities such as job creation, digital transformation, environmental sustainability, and inclusive economic growth.

Nova Impact remains committed to nurturing these ventures beyond the pitch through continuous follow-ups, mentorship, technical assistance, and future investment opportunities. The organization welcomes collaboration with development partners, corporate investors, foundations, and ecosystem actors who share the vision of empowering Ghana's next generation of tech leaders.







Career Hub – Activity Report

Hosted by Jobberman Ghana

Jobberman Ghana delivered a highly impactful employability intervention during the Ghana Youth Tech Summit 2025, held at the Accra Digital Centre. Targeting a diverse audience of tertiary students, fresh graduates, National Service personnel, and young tech professionals, Jobberman provided practical, skills-centered support aligned with the summit's theme: "Future Ready: Leading Through Innovation, AI, and Entrepreneurship."

Jobberman Ghana set up an interactive booth that served as a hands-on career support centre throughout the summit. Core activities included:

- Personalized CV reviews, offering participants immediate guidance to strengthen their employability.
- Career coaching sessions covering interview preparation, soft skills, workplace expectations, and navigating recruitment processes.
- Job opportunity sharing, providing direct access to available roles on the Jobberman platform.
- Engagement with tech-focused youth, ensuring tailored insights and industry-relevant advice.

The booth attracted continuous footfall, with strong interest from young innovators seeking career direction. Participants actively engaged with the facilitators, reflecting the high relevance of the services offered. A notable success emerged when one participant, registered at the summit, proceeded through a Jobberman recruitment process, demonstrating a direct, measurable outcome of Jobberman Ghana's intervention.

Jobberman Ghana's participation significantly advanced its mission to enhance youth employability, providing real-time support, practical guidance, and tangible job opportunities. The strong engagement and successful recruitment outcome underscore the value of Jobberman's presence at youth-focused tech events.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The closing ceremony of the Ghana Youth Tech Summit 2025 concluded with remarks delivered by Yasmin Rafat, who extended heartfelt appreciation to all participants, partners, speakers, and volunteers for contributing to a successful convening. Reflecting the summit's theme, "Future Ready: Leading Through Innovation, AI, and Entrepreneurship," her remarks emphasized the urgency and responsibility placed on young people to lead Ghana's digital transformation.

Yasmin highlighted that the future is no longer a distant concept; it is present and actively shaped by the youth who continue to embrace technology as a tool for innovation and leadership. She noted that the summit served as a dynamic platform for learning, networking, and discovery, bringing together young professionals, students, and innovators aligned with Ghana's broader digital development agenda.

Expressing appreciation, Yasmin thanked partners and sponsors for their commitment, as well as the speakers who dedicated their time to share knowledge and practical insights. She also commended the organizing team and volunteers, whose efforts and coordination ensured the summit's smooth execution.

In her address, she encouraged participants to carry these lessons into their personal and professional journeys. According to her, "being future ready" extends beyond technology; it requires resilience, a willingness to unlearn and relearn, and the confidence to pursue solutions that meet real-world challenges.

Yasmin concluded by reaffirming Nova Impact Africa's commitment to advancing youth leadership and technological inclusion. She invited participants to remain engaged, continue building, and return for the Ghana Youth Tech Summit 2026. Her closing message reinforced that the digital future is already unfolding and the responsibility to shape it rests with today's youth.

SUMMIT OUTCOMES

The Ghana Youth Tech Summit 2025 delivered a highly successful convening that amplified youth innovation, expanded digital capacity, and strengthened collaboration across Ghana's technology ecosystem. The summit achieved its core objective of equipping young people to become future-ready—leveraging innovation, artificial intelligence, and entrepreneurship to drive national development.

The outcomes of the summit demonstrate significant progress in youth engagement, employability support, startup development, and multi-sector partnership.

For Participation and Reach, the summit attracted strong national interest from young innovators, students, partners, and ecosystem actors. Which Key numbers include:

- 1,300 registrations recorded ahead of the summit
- 600 participants in attendance
- 25% female representation, reflecting steady growth in women's participation in the technology sector
- Participants drawn from universities, training institutions, startups, development organizations, corporates, public sector agencies, and community tech hubs across Ghana. However, this level of engagement signals a rising appetite for digital transformation and youth inclusion—consistent with the trends observed in the 2024 GYTS reports.

Strengthening Youth Skills and Employability. The summit delivered hands-on training, mentorship, and capacity building tailored to the needs of young professionals. Key highlights include:

- Participants engaged in CV reviews, career coaching, and job-matching support through the Jobberman Ghana Career Hub
- Multiple job applications and one confirmed recruitment pipeline initiated directly from the summit engagement
- 300 participants attended practical skills sessions covering AI literacy, responsible digital behavior, cybersecurity, leadership, and entrepreneurship combined.
- Exposure to industry expectations and future-of-work competencies. These interventions significantly improved participant readiness for Ghana's evolving digital economy.

1. Startup Development and Innovation Support - The Nova Venture Fund Pitch highlighted the bold innovations emerging from young founders across Ghana. Key outcomes include:

- 45 applications received, screened down to 15 shortlisted ventures, with 10 finalists pitching in person
- Youth-led startups showcasing solutions in Edtech, Agritech, Sustainable manufacturing, Accessibility technology, Enterprise software, and AI-driven productivity
- Four ventures identified for follow-up due diligence, mentorship, and potential seed investment
- Strengthened pathways for young innovators seeking funding, incubation, and enterprise development support. However, the quality of the pitches affirmed that Ghana's youth are building practical, scalable, and socially relevant innovations that respond directly to national priorities.

2. Knowledge Sharing and Thought Leadership - The summit hosted over 20 speakers, including industry leaders, educators, young founders, cybersecurity experts, investors, and policy actors, whose insights shaped dialogue on AI, tech governance, ethical innovation, and the future workforce. Key thematic contributions covered:

- AI as a tool for leadership and productivity
- Cybersecurity and digital safety for youth
- Ethical considerations in AI use in higher education
- Inclusive innovation, disability accessibility, and women's leadership
- Entrepreneurship readiness, collaboration, market research, and mentorship
- Emerging job opportunities and talent development pathways

These conversations contributed to a broader national dialogue on building a safe, inclusive, and future-ready digital ecosystem.

3. Ecosystem Collaboration and Partnerships - The summit strengthened linkages between youth, government institutions, private sector actors, and civil society. Through interactive sessions, panel discussions, and partner booths:

Participants engaged directly with employers, founders, and technical experts

Despite the overall success of the Ghana Youth Tech Summit 2025, several operational and strategic challenges emerged. These challenges provided important lessons for future planning and highlighted areas requiring strengthened coordination, investment, and ecosystem support.

- **Limited Funding and Sponsorship Support** - Securing adequate funding remained a major constraint throughout the summit planning process. Although the event achieved strong participation and program outcomes, the organizing team had to operate within tight financial limits. This affected several components, including the scale of publicity, the range of partner activations, and the ability to expand logistical support for speakers, volunteers, and participants.
- **While the summit attracted interest from private and development partners**, many potential sponsors were constrained by budget cycles, delayed commitments, and competing priorities. This challenge underscores the need for earlier sponsorship engagement, stronger multi-year partnership agreements, and a more robust fundraising strategy, especially as the summit continues to grow in national relevance.
- **Limited Gender Balance in Participation**- While the summit attracted 25% female participation, the representation of women, though growing, remains below target. This challenge reflects broader gaps in the national tech pipeline. Addressing this requires intentional programming, inclusive outreach, and targeted partnerships to encourage higher female participation in future editions.
- **Limited Structural Support for Youth-Led Projects** - A major concern raised across sessions was that many youth-led initiatives collapse once initial funding ends. Participants emphasized the absence of long-term institutional support, incubation pipelines, and policy frameworks that help young innovators sustain and scale their projects.
- **Restricted Access to Accurate Information and Digital Tools** repeatedly highlighted the difficulty in accessing reliable information on tech opportunities, training programs, and scholarships. Additionally, high subscription fees for essential AI tools limit the ability of young innovators especially students to build, experiment, and compete globally.
- **Barriers Faced by Women, Rural Youth, and Persons with Disabilities** - Despite strong interest in tech, many groups remain excluded from full participation. Women continue to face confidence, mentorship, and representation gaps. Rural youth struggle with connectivity and device access. Persons with disabilities encounter accessibility barriers in design, training, and innovation spaces.

- **Funding Bottlenecks and Complexity** - Youth founders reported that complex funding procedures, short-term donor cycles, and rigid eligibility requirements make it difficult for early-stage ventures to apply for or confidently access financing. As a result, many high-potential ideas stall before reaching market readiness.
- **Skills Mismatch Between Academic Training and Industry Needs** - Speakers and participants highlighted a persistent gap between university curricula and the practical digital, entrepreneurial, and technical skills required for emerging green and tech jobs. Graduates often lack hands-on experience, making the transition into the workforce challenging.
- **Limited Youth Inclusion in Decision-Making** - Although youth are frequently consulted in national programs, their involvement rarely translates into decision-making power or long-term roles. This gap limits policy continuity and prevents the integration of youth perspectives into national tech and innovation strategies.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Ghana Youth Tech Summit 2025 highlighted clear opportunities for strengthening youth leadership, AI adoption, digital inclusion, and institutional support systems. The following recommendations are directed at government, policymakers, development partners, private sector institutions, academia, and youth innovators.

1. For Government and Policy Makers

- Develop a National Youth Technology and Innovation Framework that provides long-term support for youth-led projects beyond initial funding cycles.
- Subsidize or negotiate national access to essential AI tools (e.g., cloud credits, AI subscriptions) to reduce financial barriers for students and early-stage innovators.
- Establish policy incentives for inclusive innovation, ensuring products and services are accessible to women, rural youth, and persons with disabilities.
- Integrate AI governance and digital ethics into national education policies, ensuring responsible use in schools and universities.
- Create sustainable funding programs, including grants, tax incentives, and innovation vouchers, to help youth ventures scale.
- Strengthen local government involvement, especially in rural regions, to facilitate community-level innovation and digital hubs.

2. For Development Partners and Donor Agencies

- Shift from short-term project funding to multi-year capacity-building models that enable youth-led enterprises to mature and scale sustainably.
- Simplify funding application procedures to accommodate first-time founders, young innovators, and emerging grassroots initiatives.
- Prioritize investments in digital infrastructure, especially in underserved communities, to close the rural-urban innovation gap.
- Support programs that enable youth to access global AI tools, including scholarship-based licenses and regional AI training.
- Champion intersectional inclusion, ensuring women, PWDs, and rural youth benefit meaningfully from funded initiatives.

3. For Private Sector and Industry Leaders

- Expand mentorship and corporate startup partnerships to provide young innovators with practical experience, market insights, and technical support.
- Offer internship pipelines and apprenticeships tailored to AI, software engineering, digital marketing, cybersecurity, and green tech.
- Co-invest in youth innovation funds, including the Nova Venture Fund, to accelerate job creation and enterprise growth.
- Lead in inclusive design, ensuring products and digital platforms are accessible to all populations.
- Support national digital literacy and employability programs through CSR and corporate volunteerism.

4. For Academic Institutions

- Revise and modernize curricula to reflect real-world industry skills AI, data analysis, coding, cybersecurity, entrepreneurship, product design, and green innovation.
- Strengthen university–industry collaboration, providing students with internship opportunities and hands-on learning.
- Integrate design thinking, research skills, and inquiry-based learning to bridge the gap between theory and applied innovation.
- Establish on-campus innovation hubs and entrepreneurship labs to nurture early-stage ideas and support student-led ventures.
- Adopt institutional guidelines for responsible AI use, ensuring academic integrity and ethical digital behavior.

5. For Youth, Students, and Innovators

- Adopt a continuous learning mindset - actively pursuing AI tools, digital skills, and global opportunities.
- Engage in collaborative innovation, avoiding isolated project development by partnering with peers, mentors, and technical experts.
- Document and validate ideas through research, ensuring solutions address real market needs and user experiences.
- Pursue ethical tech development, prioritizing accessibility, inclusivity, and community impact.
- Seek out funding opportunities early, preparing pitch decks, prototypes, and business plans ahead of deadlines.
- Actively participate in national consultative processes, shaping policy decisions that affect youth in technology.

6. For Civil Society and Innovation Ecosystem Actors

Strengthen community-based tech training, especially for marginalized groups.

Champion inclusive digital rights, safety, and cybersecurity awareness to protect youth online.

Facilitate coordination between hubs, universities, and private companies to build a seamless talent and innovation pipeline.

Support local language and culturally relevant tech content to ensure broader accessibility and understanding.

NEXT STEPS / WAY FORWARD

The Ghana Youth Tech Summit 2025 reaffirmed that Ghana's digital future will be shaped by bold ideas, ethical innovation, and meaningful collaboration. Building on the momentum of this year's success, Nova Impact will pursue a structured, multi-year strategy to strengthen youth innovation, expand AI literacy, and deepen national impact. The following actions outline the path forward.

- Expand the Summit into a three-day experience beginning in 2026, integrating Climate and environmental technology, Finance, digital assets and investment, masterclasses, exhibitions, innovation labs, and more hands-on training activities.
- Formalize a multi-year investment structure that includes micro-grants, pre-seed capital, mentorship, and incubation support for youth-led startups.
- Partner with impact investors, banks, and corporate tech firms to expand the fund and support more enterprises annually.
- Establish follow-up programs and monitoring mechanisms to track startup progress post-investment and prevent post-funding project collapse.
- Strengthen the STEMInist program & Conference and Disability-Inclusive Innovation Track at the Summit to increase participation of women, PWDs, and rural innovators.
- Champion policies that simplify funding processes for youth-led enterprises and incentivize long-term support structures.
- Contribute to national discussions on AI ethics by sharing summit insights, research, and youth perspectives with policymakers.
- Grow the Career Hub in partnership with Jobberman Ghana to deliver year-round career coaching, job-matching, employer engagement, and professional development workshops.
- Create a digital talent pipeline system linking trained youth to jobs in software development, AI, cybersecurity, digital marketing, and green innovation.
- Facilitate internships and apprenticeship placements through private sector and ecosystem partners.
- Develop a Monitoring and Evaluation framework for tracking the summit's annual impact, including participation, job placements, startup growth, and ecosystem partnerships.
- Publish an annual Youth Tech & Innovation Insights Report based on trends, feedback, and national priorities.
- Co-create satellite events such as roadshows, innovation clinics, and regional youth tech meetups.
- Preparing for GYTS 2026 - Guided by feedback from this year's participants and speakers, the 2026 summit will focus on: technology + sustainability + entrepreneurship, digital inclusion, and climate-aligned innovation. Planning begins immediately, intending to deliver an expanded summit experience that accelerates Ghana's position as a leader in youth-driven digital innovation.

CONCLUSION

The Ghana Youth Tech Summit 2025 marked a significant step forward in shaping a digitally empowered, innovation-driven future for Ghana. The summit successfully convened over 600 participants, uniting young innovators, students, educators, tech professionals, policymakers, development partners, and private sector leaders under the theme "Future Ready: Leading Through Innovation, AI, and Entrepreneurship."

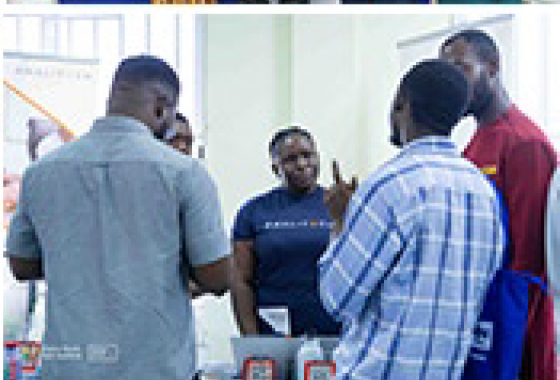
Across keynote sessions, workshops, pitch presentations, panel discussions, and partner activations, the summit demonstrated the extraordinary potential of Ghana's youth to drive national development through technology, creativity, and enterprise. From AI-enabled solutions and accessibility tools to robotics, sustainability innovations, and emerging digital careers, young Ghanaians showcased the ingenuity and strength needed to build a living digital economy.

The event also illuminated the structural and systemic challenges that youth confront, ranging from limited access to AI tools and funding barriers to gender inequalities and gaps in skills alignment. These insights reaffirm the urgent need for stronger policy support, ecosystem collaboration, and inclusive investment models that sustain youth-led solutions beyond initial funding cycles.

As Nova Impact looks ahead, the commitment is clear: to scale the summit into a multi-day, multi-regional platform; strengthen the Nova Venture Fund; expand AI and digital skills training; and deepen partnerships with government, academia, civil society, and the private sector.

The Ghana Youth Tech Summit 2025 has laid a solid foundation for this journey. The energy, ideas, and passion exhibited throughout the program reflect a youth population ready to lead and a nation ready to embrace their contributions. With continued collaboration, intentional investment, and strategic follow-through, Ghana can build a digital future, creating opportunities accessible to all.





Thank you to our
supporting partners &
community.





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AN INITIATIVE OF NOVA IMPACT