

Team Members & Solution Summary

The Team

Name	Role	Responsibilities
Adetunji Akeem	Team Lead & Software Developer	Lead developer (Frontend/Backend), Aiken smart contract development, Architecture.
Salaudeen Muhammad Mustapha	Developer & Project Tester	Quality Assurance, Testing workflows, Frontend development support.
Benshak Tom	Project Management	Coordination, Documentation, Stakeholder engagement, "Stage 1" exploration lead.

Solution Summary: StemTrust (ScienceTrust Nigeria)

StemTrust is a blockchain-powered funding platform designed to restore trust in the Nigerian STEM research ecosystem.

The Problem

Research funding in Nigeria is plagued by:

1. **Opacity:** Donors cannot see how funds are utilized.
2. **Delays:** Bureaucratic "processing" times of 6-18 months kill innovation.
3. **Trust Deficit:** A lack of verifiable outcomes leads to reduced funding opportunities.

The Solution

We provide a transparent, milestone-based funding mechanism using the **Cardano** blockchain.

- **Smart Lock:** Funds are locked in smart contracts, not personal accounts.
- **Milestone Release:** Funds are released only when researchers submit evidence (photos, data) that is approved by the community/funder (75% vote).
- **Direct Access:** Bypasses administrative bottlenecks, connecting funders directly to verified researchers.

Technology: React (Frontend), Node.js (Backend), Cardano/MeshSDK/Aiken (Blockchain).