

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

As if you heard the term “Silicon Havannah”, Kenya’s ICT services sector is thriving in recent years, with a growth rate of 8% per annum, which contributes as the fastest growing economic factor of the country(Akamanzi, et al., 2016). In fact, more specifically, the tech hubs are performing as drivers of innovation, social change, and economic opportunity within and beyond the African continent (De Beer, et al., 2016). As indicated by International Trade Centre, “Technology(innovation) hubs have emerged across Africa to serve as start-up creators and tech community builders” (2019). They are playing a more and more important role in the culture of innovation through supporting business development, community creation and local capacity building, promoting the extension of local innovation ecosystem and enhancing the linkage between governments, local markets and large groups(Akamanzi, et al., 2016).

1.2 Problem Introduction

This capstone project is aimed to explore the neighborhoods characteristics around the tech-hub centers in Kenya (i.e. innovation hubs and technology centers as latest recorded) , to further understand the fast development of the “Silicon Havannah” phenomenon, from a geographical perspective.

1.3 Stakeholders

This capstone project mainly faces to academic institutions, think tanks and NGOs, trying to provide some rough analysis results for their convenience of further research and discussion.

Regarding with wider range stakeholders, characterized based on the concept of open innovation and collaboration (Chirchietti, 2017), an innovation lab is not only established structure to assist young people in reaching their entrepreneurial potential (De Bastion, 2013) , but also a nexus point of local start-up community, investors, academia, technology companies and wider private sectors(Chirchietti, 2017), involving local governments and big more network operators (Haikin, 2018). Therefore, in this case, this capstone project is also expected to help with any discussion approach initialized by the large groups of stakeholders mentioned above.

References:

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