

# Quick Start Guide - CMU-Africa Information Assistant

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## Application is Running!

Your CMU-Africa Information Assistant is now running at: **http://localhost:8501**



## Configuration Steps

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### Step 1: Get Your API Keys

You'll need API keys from two services:

#### OpenAI API Key

1. Go to [OpenAI Platform](https://platform.openai.com/) (<https://platform.openai.com/>)
2. Sign up or log in
3. Navigate to API Keys section
4. Create a new API key
5. Copy the key (starts with `sk-`...)

#### Pinecone API Key & Environment

1. Go to [Pinecone](https://www.pinecone.io/) (<https://www.pinecone.io/>)
2. Sign up or log in (free tier available)
3. Create a new project (if you haven't already)
4. Go to "API Keys" section
5. Copy your API Key
6. Note your Environment (e.g., `us-east-1`, `us-west-1`)

### Step 2: Configure in the Application

In the sidebar (left side of the screen):

1. **OpenAI API Key:** Paste your OpenAI API key
2. **Pinecone API Key:** Paste your Pinecone API key
3. **Pinecone Environment:** Enter your Pinecone environment (e.g., `us-east-1`)
4. Click "**Save Configuration**" button

**Note:** The application will automatically:

- Connect to Pinecone
- Create an index if it doesn't exist
- Load the sample CMU-Africa knowledge base

This may take 15-30 seconds on first setup.

## Using the Chat Interface

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Once configured, you can:

1. **Ask Questions** in the chat input at the bottom:
  - "What are the shuttle bus timings?"
  - "What Master's programs does CMU-Africa offer?"
  - "Tell me about the MSEAI program"
  - "Are there scholarships available?"
2. **View Sources**: Click on " Sources" below responses to see where the information came from
3. **Provide Feedback**: Use  or  buttons to rate responses
4. **Change Language**: Select from English, Français, or Kinyarwanda in the sidebar
5. **Manage Chats**:
  - Click " New Chat" to start fresh
  - View previous sessions in the sidebar
  - Delete old chats with 

## Admin Panel

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Access the Admin Panel from the sidebar navigation to:

- **Add Documents**: Add new information to the knowledge base
- **Bulk Upload**: Upload multiple documents via JSON file
- **View Feedback**: See user feedback and statistics
- **Manage Knowledge Base**: Delete outdated documents

## Multi-Language Support

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Switch between languages in the sidebar:

-  English
-  Français (French)
-  Kinyarwanda

The UI and responses will adapt to your selected language.

## Sample Knowledge Base

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The application comes pre-loaded with information about:

-  Bus/Shuttle Services
-  Degree Programs (MSIT, MSECE, MSEAI)
-  Faculty & Research
-  Campus Facilities
-  Admissions & Scholarships
-  Career Services
-  Contact Information

## Troubleshooting

### Application won't start

```
cd /home/ubuntu/code_artifacts/cmu-africa-assistant
streamlit run app.py
```

### Can't connect to Pinecone

- Verify your API key is correct
- Check your environment name matches Pinecone dashboard
- Ensure you have an active Pinecone account

### OpenAI errors

- Verify your API key is valid
- Check you have credits available
- Ensure API key has proper permissions

### Configuration not saving

- Re-enter all three fields (OpenAI key, Pinecone key, Environment)
- Click “Save Configuration” button
- Wait for success message

## Updating Knowledge Base

### Via Admin Panel

1. Go to Admin Panel (from sidebar)
2. Fill in document details
3. Click “Upload to Knowledge Base”

### Via JSON File

1. Edit `data/cmu_africa_knowledge_base.json`
2. Add new entries following the format
3. Use Admin Panel > Bulk Upload to reload

### JSON Format:

```
{
  "id": "unique_id",
  "title": "Document Title",
  "category": "Category",
  "content": "Your content here...",
  "keywords": ["keyword1", "keyword2"]
}
```

## Security Tips

- **Never share your API keys** publicly
- **Use environment variables** for production

- **Monitor your API usage** on OpenAI and Pinecone dashboards
- **Rotate keys** regularly for security

## More Information

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For detailed documentation, see:

- **README.md** - Comprehensive documentation
- **Data Folder** - Sample knowledge base files
- **Source Code** - Well-commented Python files

## Next Steps

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1.  Configure API keys
2.  Test the chat interface
3.  Try different languages
4.  Add custom CMU-Africa data
5.  Share with your team
6.  Deploy to production (see README.md)

## Tips for Best Results

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- **Be specific** in your questions
- **Use natural language** - the AI understands context
- **Check sources** to verify information
- **Provide feedback** to help improve responses
- **Update knowledge base** regularly with latest CMU-Africa info

## Need Help?

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- Check **README.md** for detailed troubleshooting
- Review application logs in `/tmp/streamlit_output.log`
- Contact CMU-Africa IT support for assistance

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Enjoy using your CMU-Africa Information Assistant! 