Issue #4 July 2020



zodaj monthly



Monthly Newsletter of ZODAJ Africa

If you're new to us...

ZODAJ is a company whose mission is to improve the standards of living in Africa through the use of technological innovation. Check out our monthly newsletter for regular updates about our current projects!

Member Highlight!

This month we want to highlight Michelle Davies, a first generation undergrad student at Cornell University studying electrical engineering. Her passion about the social impact that Vertex can have really shines through her work and her contributions to the website team have been really amazing!

Join Us!

ZODAJ is always looking for additional sources of funding. To get in contact with us about possible contributions, visit www.zodaj-africa.com to leave a message on our contact page or email us at zodaj.africa@gmail.com to discuss potential project ideas with us!

Launching VERTEX-Our Contact Tracing Technology

ZODAJ is now in the final stages before the initial launch of Vertex. Our teams have been working hard all summer with the support of our partner, CS Strategies, to develop the contact tracing technology in a timely manner. As seen in numerous counties all over the world, it's evident that COVID-19 will take time to combat longterm. Our hope is that our technology will provide a safer, more controlled environment in the meantime—starting with Senegal.

Vertex to launch in Senegal this month!

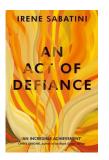
Vertex's three part system— consisting of a mobile application, textbot, and website— will be finally launching before the end of July. Vertex will be providing data-based support and data analytics for its users by collecting self-reported locational and symptomatic information as well as official information from hospitals. In preparation for the launch, ZODAJ has also set up a server on the ground in Senegal to support a large number of users both in rural and urban areas.

How our technology developed over the months

As announced in last month's edition, ZODAJ has been following the initial plan to create Vertex's three part system; however, there have been several developments since last month that have further bolstered its technology. Firstly, Vertex has grown to encompass a government portal on the website. The government portal, which is accessible only for government officials, will present organized self-reported and collected user data along with hospital data to easily analyze large amounts of data and information collected from various sources. Additionally, Vertex's

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This Month's Read: An Act of Defiance



An Act of
Defiance written
by Irene
Sabatini, Winner
of the 2010
Orange Award
for New Writers,
follows the story
of Gabrielle, a

newly qualified lawyer seeking justice who falls in love with Ben, a charming junior diplomat with the American embassy, during the political turmoil of Zimbabwe in 2000. This political drama which takes place during Zimbabwe's political crisis under Robert Mugabe explores the dehumanizing effects of political violence on love and relationships. Author Sabatini, who grew up in Bulawayo, the second largest city in Zimbabwe, sheds light on Zimbabwe's economic and political crisis at the time while weaving legal drama and romance throughout the novel. Read An Act of Defiance, a fast-paced story filled with excitement, emotion, and pain, and learn more about Zimbabwe's history through Sabatini's honest and moving storytelling.



Check out our website at vertex-africa.com!!! website will now be hosting a business portal in order to allow more accurate contact tracing in locations without internet or smartphone access. This business portal will be responsible for assigning unique alpha numeric and QR codes to businesses which non-smartphone users will use to specify their location through texting.

ZODAJ, Incorporated!

This month ZODAJ is finally incorporated two years after its founding! This summer our company has been developing at an incredible speed with Vertex's launch along with projects under Eko and The ZODAJ Foundation solidifying under the team's strengthened efforts. With our progress and renewed plans for the coming months, our staff members at ZODAJ Inc. are excited to create more innovative products and to grow our audience to support more people in Africa.

EKO: New developments in the works Eko's partnership with Robert's Charity Foundation and their new educational program!

This summer, Eko is working with Robert's Charity Foundation (RCF) to create a novel educational textbot program. RCF is a youth-driven foundation in Nigeria that focuses on giving children in public schools more opportunities by providing educational material, academic scholarships, and vocational training. With Eko's great team and RCF's resources, Eko will be able to reach over 200 Nigerian children on their initial launch and even more in the later months in this joint project.

There's more! Eko is also developing a standardized curriculum of its own to be used all across Africa. This academic program, led by Eko's CEO Dominique Aruede, will be one of Eko's major projects in supporting students through their academic journey. The curriculum, which is currently under way, is inspired by the International Baccalaureate (IB) program and will be fine-tuned by Carnegie Mellon University professors to ensure its success. Look forward to more updates regarding the curriculum and Eko's educational development programs which will be delivered in the coming editions!