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SUSTAINABLE INNOVATION

Newsletter of the SWC INNOVATION HUB

THE SWC INNOVATION HUB ONE YEAR AFTER

The last year has been very eventful, to say the least. we have not only taken a bold step to relocate the Hub from the virtual space to a physical abode.

The decision was not an easy one as it was going to test both our resolve and our scarce resources. Moving into a space that will not only be 5 times our previous business space, but would also be a space to house over 20 businesses under the same roof. we all looked forward to it, albeit with fingers crossed.

Two Nagging questions stared ominously at us:

Can we raise the funds required to make this happen?

Can we do it in time (3 months)?

These questions contrived to heighten the anxiety. As we reflect now, we realise that we took a bold step of faith and we have all been handsomely rewarded for our willingness to launch out in Faith.

As a result, over 15 companies are housed here now. None of this would have been possible without the Partnership and financial support from Naventure Nordic. Through it all they relentlessly stuck with us and kept faith with our dream and not only help us raise most of the funds we needed, but also got personally involved in helping us make this happen. We are forever grateful.

**"THE SUSTAINABLE
WORLD
CORPORATION HUB
WAS LAUNCHED TO
SERVE AS A
STRONGHOLD FOR
BUDDING AND
BLOOMING
ENTREPRENEURS
TO BUILD, ENGAGE
AND SCALE THEIR
BUSINESSES UNDER
ONE ROOF".**

HUB ACTIVITIES

"We have been able to Host Trainings & Business development events.."

In the last One year, The Sustainable innovation Hub has played host to a lot of activities. We have been able to Host Trainings, Business development events.

In February of this year, the Itzinya Startup Academy one of the Hub occupants, commenced its trainings of young persons about 15 of them.

April brought in our Swedish Partners for the 2019 Business Week with Jenny & Annika who are facilitators and Consultants for Family Business Workshops which were usually held at other venues but are not being hosted within the Hub.

The Family Business workshop was attended by 10 families at various stages of business development.

As part of developing businesses the Business Week was also graced by Hakan Sandberg founder for Itzinya and Henrik Hall from Sweden.

We are still basking in the euphoria of the events and hope to host more in the future to generate income and promote sustainable businesses.



The Hub Training room Hosted several Trainings & Business Development events

THE SWC INNOVATION HUB FEATURES



BY OJOYI JAMES (Front Desk Admin Officer) For MERAKI

For any business hub, a Boardroom and a Conference room are a necessity for conducting business meetings, trainings and other business related events. The SWC Innovation HUB Boardroom has been an important feature in the last One year.

The SWC innovation hub Boardroom has made it very convenient for both the Hub occupants and clients from outside the hub to make use of the boardroom for their business events.

To access the boardroom, a booking process is prioritized and handled by the Front Desk Admin Officer. As the Front Desk Admin, my job description includes making reservations and making sure there are no clashes in the bookings.

My work is both important and enjoyable. I try to make the experience very pleasant and convenient for the prospective clients and Hub residents. Bookings can therefore, also be done online by clicking on calendly.com/merakisolutionsltd. After booking details is confirmed an invoice is sent to the client(s) and a receipt on payment.

The client(s) receive reminders on their scheduled booking dates via Whatsapp/Emails.

On the day of the event, the boardroom is set up according to the clients' request and visitors are directed to the event location. Other requests like tea/lunch orders are set up in the kitchen.

"the SWC innovation hub Boardroom has made it very convenient for both the Hub occupants and clients from outside the hub to make use of the boardroom for their business events "

By Iyanu Adebisi, Executive Assistant

FIKA has become a part and parcel of the Innovation Hub. Sometimes we stretch the idea to reflect what could now be referred to as the Nigerian Fika.

Such was the case on Wednesday 11th September, 2019 at 1:00 PM. The SWC HUB was agog with laughter and camaraderie as entrepreneurs, resident at the HUB, with staff and affiliates, gathered at the Kitchenette for a rendezvous to share ideas and jokes over FIKA.

After an hour of the gathering, everyone left inspired by the creativity, innovation and dynamism of each person they had the opportunity to engage with. The time spent together was worthwhile and an experience we hope to recreate in the nearest future.

As the Executive Admin assistant of the Hub, it is my Job Description to make such activities happen. In the last One year we have also celebrated Birthdays of Hub residents together, further building relationships and Network within the Hub. This has really become one of the features of the SWC Hub.



CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

By Glory O. Ejeh, Executive Administrator

Although it has been an interesting Journey and we have largely achieved our goal of moving under one roof and beginning the journey towards building a community of innovative entrepreneurs with Shared values and commitment, there's still a lot to be done.

First, the renovation is still uncompleted, one year after we moved in. The restrooms fittings and doors are still undone, the outside walls have not been renovated and painted. However, we have decided to work on these through cash flow from the HUB without further borrowing.

Furthermore, Occupancy is still below capacity as two offices are still unoccupied. Our priority for the next couple of months is to get those rooms Occupied and paid for.

The huge opportunity we see going forward is to strive to build a hub that promotes sustainability and sustainable innovations. As a result, we are still pursuing the goal of installing a clean energy source; Solar power. This will make us a model and also attract more people who share our passion. This will also guarantee uninterrupted power supply to the Hub.

Another opportunity lies in our ability to get a reliable source of internet service. Everyone in the Hub uses the internet for their work and communication. A reliable source internet within the hub will attract a good traffic and give us a good reputation as a Hub. We have since recognised this and started discussing the possibilities with several ISPs. Once this is achieved, the Hub can become an efficient and convenient work space.

"The time spent together was worthwhile and an experience we hope to recreate in the nearest future"