

Hapa Space

Annual Report 2023





Hapa Space.....	1
Annual Report 2023.....	1
Introduction.....	2
Key Achievements.....	2
Financial Performance.....	4
Impact and Community Engagement.....	4
Looking Ahead: 2024 and Beyond.....	5
Conclusion.....	6

Introduction



The year 2023 marked a period of significant growth and impact for Hapa Space, reinforcing our mission to empower youth, women, and entrepreneurs in Kumasi and beyond. Our commitment to fostering entrepreneurship and driving digital transformation was evident in the variety of successful initiatives and partnerships we engaged in. As we expanded our reach, enhanced our service offerings, and strengthened our strategic partnerships, Hapa Space

solidified its reputation as a leading innovation hub in Ghana. This annual report provides a detailed account of our achievements, financial performance, community engagement, and the strategic direction we are taking as we move forward into 2024 and beyond.

Key Achievements

1. Empowerment through Training and Development

Digital Skills Training:

- Hapa Space delivered digital skills training to over 1,000 individuals in 2023, with a strong focus on youth, women, and persons with disabilities (PWDs). These training sessions were designed to equip participants with the skills necessary to navigate and succeed in the increasingly digital economy.
- Programs like **Code4Girls** were instrumental in encouraging young women to explore careers in technology, while **R4DAC (Radio 4 Digital Adoption Campaign)**, sponsored by GIZ, specifically targeted digital literacy in underrepresented communities, reaching over 600 participants.



2. SmartWoman and R4DAC Projects:

The **SmartWoman** project, funded by GIZ, continued to be a cornerstone of our efforts to bridge the gender gap in technology. This initiative provided digital literacy and entrepreneurship training to women, empowering them to leverage technology for business growth. Over 300 women benefited from this program in 2023, gaining essential skills in digital tools, financial management, and business development.



3. R4DAC project

Launched in July 2023, targeted the adoption of digital tools among rural and semi-urban populations, with a special focus on women entrepreneurs. This project was particularly impactful in providing these communities with access to resources and training that would otherwise be inaccessible.

4. Strategic Partnerships and Collaborations

SEADE Project:

- Hapa Space played a pivotal role in the **SEADE (Strengthening Europe-Africa Digital Ecosystems)** project, a European Union-funded initiative. With a funding allocation of EUR 120,000, this project focused on enhancing digital innovation and fostering research collaboration between Europe and Africa. Hapa Space's contributions included conducting baseline research, developing digital tools, and facilitating partnerships between African and European innovators. The project's success underscored Hapa Space's capacity to operate on an international scale and contribute to global digital transformation efforts.

5. AfriConEU and STARTS4Africa:

- Our involvement in the **AfriConEU** project highlighted our commitment to building digital innovation hubs across Africa. Through this project, we facilitated knowledge exchange and capacity-building activities, helping to create a sustainable network of digital innovators.
- Additionally, the **STARTS4Africa** project, although smaller in funding (EUR 3,000), allowed us to engage with the intersection of science, technology, and the arts in promoting innovation. This project also provided opportunities for African artists and technologists to collaborate



on addressing local challenges through creative and technological solutions.

6. **Expansion of Services**

Co-working Space Utilization:

- Throughout 2023, Hapa Space saw a 25% increase in the utilization of our co-working spaces. This growth is a testament to the value we provide to the entrepreneurial community in Kumasi. Our co-working spaces, equipped with modern facilities and a collaborative environment, have become a preferred location for startups, freelancers, and small businesses looking to grow and innovate.

7. **Business Support Services:**

- We expanded our business support services to include more comprehensive mentorship and coaching programs. These services were tailored to meet the specific needs of startups at different stages of their development. For example, our mentorship program paired early-stage startups with experienced entrepreneurs who provided guidance on scaling, accessing funding, and navigating market challenges. Additionally, our workshops on financial management, marketing, and technology adoption equipped entrepreneurs with the practical skills needed to succeed.

8. **Hapa Space's Role in the Ghana Hubs Network:**

- Hapa Space continued to play a leading role in the **Ghana Hubs Network**, a collective of innovation hubs working together to support entrepreneurship across the country. Our involvement in this network facilitated collaboration between hubs, enabling us to share resources, knowledge, and best practices. This collective effort helped strengthen the



entrepreneurial ecosystem in Ghana, providing a supportive environment for startups and innovators.

Financial Performance

2023 was a year of strong financial performance for Hapa Space, marked by substantial inflows from ongoing and new projects. Our financial management practices, including rigorous audits by PwC and regular annual audits, ensured transparency and accountability in handling these funds.

- **Total Revenue:** \$150,000 from the World Bank via NEIP.
- **SEADE Project:** EUR 120,000 (EU-funded).
- **UNIHUBS Project:** EUR 48,000 (EU-funded, starting July 2024).
- **STARTS4Africa Project:** EUR 3,000 (EU-funded).
- **R4DAC Project:** EUR 65,000 (GIZ-funded, starting July 2024).

The rigorous financial management processes we have in place, including the biannual audits conducted by PwC over the past four years, have been crucial in maintaining the integrity and efficiency of our financial operations. This level of scrutiny has allowed us to manage these resources effectively, ensuring that funds are allocated appropriately to maximize impact.

Impact and Community Engagement

Hapa Space's impact in 2023 extended beyond training and financial metrics. Our community engagement initiatives created a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem, where ideas, resources, and expertise were actively shared. Through events, workshops, and networking opportunities, we fostered a collaborative environment that encouraged innovation and supported the growth of startups.



Building the Ghana Hubs Network:

- Our leadership in the **Ghana Hubs Network** was instrumental in enhancing collaboration among hubs across the country. This network provided a platform for innovation hubs to connect, share best practices, and work together to address the challenges faced by entrepreneurs in Ghana.

AfriLabs Network Participation:

- As an active member of the **AfriLabs network**, which connects over 400 innovation hubs across Africa, Hapa Space leveraged this platform to foster international collaborations. Our participation in AfriLabs has not only increased our visibility across the continent but also provided opportunities for our members to connect with peers, mentors, and potential investors from other African countries.

Community Events and Workshops:

- In 2023, we hosted numerous events and workshops that brought together entrepreneurs, industry experts, and investors. These events included pitch competitions, hackathons, and panel discussions on topics ranging from digital transformation to sustainable business practices. These gatherings were not only opportunities for learning and networking but also platforms for showcasing the innovative work being done by startups in our community.

Looking Ahead: 2024 and Beyond

As we move into 2024, Hapa Space is poised for further growth and impact. We have already secured additional funding for significant projects that will begin in 2024 and 2025, positioning us to expand our reach and deepen our impact:



- **UNVEIL Project:** EUR 200,000, starting January 2025, focusing on innovative digital solutions.
- **AFRICADEU Project:** EUR 2 million, starting in 2025, an EU-funded initiative aimed at fostering digital innovation and collaboration between Africa and Europe.
- **Continued Growth of Ongoing Projects:** We anticipate continued funding and support for ongoing projects like SEADE, UNIHUBS, and others, which will enable us to build on the successes of 2023.

Our strategic focus for 2024 will include expanding our service offerings, deepening our community engagement, and strengthening our partnerships. We will continue to prioritize inclusivity and sustainability, ensuring that all members of our community, particularly those from underrepresented groups, have access to the resources and support they need to succeed.

Conclusion

2023 was a year of significant achievements for Hapa Space, marked by impactful projects, strong financial performance, and continued community engagement. We have made great strides in our mission to empower the next generation of entrepreneurs and innovators, and we are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead in 2024 and beyond. As we look to the future, Hapa Space remains committed to fostering a culture of innovation, inclusion, and sustainable economic growth in Kumasi and across Africa.