

Re: Introduction of the TILA Tourism Club and Invitation for Applications

Dear University/College Representatives, Students, and Stakeholders

We are thrilled to share the completion of the 2024 **Bridging the Digital Divide (BDD) Project**, a milestone that underscores TILA's commitment to fostering innovation, sustainability, and capacity development in Africa's tourism industry. As we reflect on this year's achievements, we are excited to introduce a transformative initiative that aligns with our mission: **The TILA Tourism Club**.

What Is the TILA Tourism Club?

The TILA **Tourism Club** is a dynamic platform dedicated to empowering the next generation of tourism innovators. It is open to passionate students from diverse academic backgrounds and institutions who aim to design, innovate, and implement sustainable, environmentally friendly solutions to address challenges in the tourism and hospitality sectors.

As a member of the TILA **Tourism Club**, students will:

- Collaborate on real-world projects and community-driven tourism initiatives.
- Develop leadership, entrepreneurial, and technical skills through workshops, hackathons, and mentorship programs.
- Gain exposure to global platforms, including participation in competitions like the Sustainable Hospitality Challenge and enterprise innovation programs.
- Connect with industry leaders, mentors, and peers to build invaluable professional networks.

Who Can Apply?

We welcome applications from students enrolled at universities, colleges, and vocational institutions across Africa, especially those pursuing degrees in:

- Tourism and Hospitality**
- Environmental Sciences**
- Technology and Innovation**
- Business and Entrepreneurship**
- Creative Arts**
- Other related disciplines**

Applicants should demonstrate an interest in sustainable tourism practices, innovation, and community development.

How to Apply

Students interested in joining the TILA Tourism Club can **complete the Online Application Form**:

<https://6ppsi4d9xjo.typeform.com/to/PgY8KvCO>

Provide One Academic or Professional Reference (optional but encouraged).

Join Us in Shaping the Future

At TILA, we believe in the transformative power of youth-driven innovation to create sustainable solutions for the tourism industry. Through the **TILA Tourism Club**, we aim to provide a platform where students' creativity and passion can leave a lasting impact on their communities and the global tourism landscape.

We encourage institutions to share this opportunity widely with their students. Should you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact [**phaka@tourismlab.africa**](mailto:phaka@tourismlab.africa) or [**preston@tourismlab.africa**](mailto:preston@tourismlab.africa).

We look forward to welcoming your students to the TILA **Tourism Club** and embarking on this exciting journey of innovation and sustainability together.

Warm regards,

Phakamile Hlazo

Founder

