

PRESS RELEASE

VIRTUAL AFRICA HACKATHON 2020 WINNERS

The Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) announces the winners of the Virtual African Hackathon 2020 (the Hackathon). The top three winners were selected after a rigorous evaluation process that saw 15 shortlisted finalists pitch their solutions to an experienced panel of judges on the Demo Day on August 31, 2020. The theme of the Hackathon was "Harnessing Fintech in addressing COVID19 effects on healthcare, digital payments and economic recovery." The three winners are:

Position	Name	Country
1	SME Credit Pro	Cameroon
2	Miza A2F Platform	United Arab Emirates/Tunisia
3	MobiCash	Libya

The overall winner of the Hackathon, SME Credit Pro from Cameroon will participate in the Global Fintech Hackcelerator at the <u>Singapore Fintech Festival (SFF)</u> scheduled for December 2020. The SFF, the world's largest fintech event, is convened by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS). The 15 finalists will benefit from training, mentorship and collaboration opportunities from some of the Hackathon's partners.

The Hackathon witnessed an impressive array of innovative solutions in Healthcare, Digital Payments, Economic Recovery and General categories. The solutions presented targeted the health and economic dimensions of the pandemic. This included financing of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), cash transfers to vulnerable groups, enhancing agriculture value chains and COVID-19 contact-tracing. These solutions when scaled up will play an important role, not only in the context of the pandemic, but also in contributing to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The pandemic has been a setback in implementation of the SDGs particularly in health and education. Innovation will be critical as we recoup the lost ground in achieving the SDGs.

CBK will continue to work with MAS, fintechs, the financial sector and other stakeholders to support innovation in the battle against COVID-19 and implementation of SDGs.

CENTRAL BANK OF KENYA

August 31, 2020