

Tech Ignite

Summer School 2026

Theme: Inclusive Engineering for Sustainable and Connected Societies

2nd–4th September 2026

Strathmore University, Nairobi

DRAFT PROGRAMME

DAY ONE · WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

Ideas, Keynotes & Technical Tracks

08:00–08:30

Arrival Time

Name tags, swag and ambient energy

08:30–09:15

Official Opening Ceremony

IEEE welcome · Partners highlight · Theme reveal · Energiser

George · Co-Chair · Chair

09:15–09:35

Keynote 1 · Tied to the summer school theme

George Kibuku — Verst Carbon

09:35–10:00

Keynote 2 · Industry partner keynote

Amy Robinson & Evans Koskei — BasiGo

10:00–10:45

Tea Break

10:45–11:45

Design Thinking Workshop

Hosted by IBAFA

Robert

11:45–12:00

Transition · Ice breaker

12:00–13:00

Women in Engineering Panel

Hosted by Gearbox · three panellists

Moderator: Anthony Mwangi

13:00–14:00

Lunch

14:00–16:00

Technical Tracks · Three parallel sessions

Renewable & Power Systems / Motion Control — Michael Omolo

AI & Machine Learning — Bethwel

IoT & Embedded Systems — Ubuntu WaterHub, Nicholas Kimali

16:00–16:30

Hackathon Briefing & Team Formation

Problem statements released · Judging criteria · Teams lock

Abigael Mwangi

DAY TWO · THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

Build, Pitch & Invest

Two industry keynotes and two concurrent technical workshops, then the hackathon pitches in front of the judging panel, investment talks and the closing ceremony.

08:30-08:45

Keynote 3

Samuel Ouko — Oracle

08:45-09:00

Keynote 4

Martin — Nokia

09:00-10:00

Concurrent Workshops

MTT-S Transmission Workshop — Dennis

APS Exclusive Workshop — Tangus

10:00-10:45

Tea Break

10:45-13:00

Hackathon Pitching

10:45-12:00 — Teams presenting working prototypes

12:00-13:00 — Judging & deliberation

13:00-14:00

Lunch

14:00-15:00

Pitching · Proposed ideas

Teams presenting concepts and proposals

15:15-16:00

Investment Talks

Pauline Kiema

16:00-17:00

Closing Ceremony

Awards, partner remarks and vote of thanks

JUDGING PANEL

Pauline Kiema

Bethwel

Michael Omolo

Judges score both prototype and proposal pitches.

DAY THREE · FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Industry Immersion

Four concurrent site visits take participants into working engineering environments across Nairobi.

08:00–08:30

Meeting & Group Briefing

Groups confirmed, transport assigned, safety brief

09:00–12:30

Industry Visits · Four sites concurrently

Participants travel in assigned groups — see the site panel below

12:30–13:30

Lunch on site or en route

13:30–17:00

Social Activity

Volunteers and attendees only.

THE FOUR SITES

Actom

09:00–12:30

BasiGo

10:00–11:00

Ubuntu WaterHub

09:00–10:00

Octavia Carbon

10:00–11:00

Welcome — and let's get ready to ignite.

Timings are indicative and may shift on the day. Session leads will confirm rooms at registration.