



Innovation Hub Programme FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions

This document answers common questions about the Lebone Marang and Summer Innovation Hub Programme, including how the programme works, what participants gain, and what is expected from applicants.

1. About Lebone Marang and Summer

1.1 What is Lebone Marang and Summer?

Lebone Marang and Summer is a technology-driven skills development organisation focused on preparing young professionals for starting their ventures and careers in the digital economy.

The organisation focuses on developing capabilities in areas such as:

- Artificial Intelligence
- Cybersecurity
- Data Science
- Systems Development
- Digital Transformation
- Technology Research and Innovation

Our programmes combine technical training, soft skills training, real-world projects, coaching, mentorship and research development to prepare cohorts for careers in entrepreneurship, IT consulting, product development and academia.

1.2 What is the vision of Lebone Marang and Summer?

Our vision is to build a sustainable pipeline of globally competitive African tech entrepreneurs who can lead the continent's digital transformation.

We aim to empower young professionals to contribute meaningfully to:

- Global technological innovation
- National digital policy development
- Technology entrepreneurship
- Socio-economic transformation

1.3 What is the mission of the organisation?

Our mission is to tackle youth unemployment by equipping IT graduates with advanced technology skills, entrepreneurial capability, and real-world exposure to the global digital economy.

We aim to:

- Equip youth with future-ready digital skills
- Build world-class technology talent
- Contribute to digital transformation across Africa
- Provide access to global technology networks and opportunities

1.4 Who founded Lebone Marang and Summer?

The organisation was founded by Lebogang Khunou, a leader committed to youth empowerment, technology innovation and digital transformation.

1.5 Where is Lebone Marang and Summer based?

Lebone Marang and Summer operates from South Africa and works with partners across the public sector, private sector, and the broader technology ecosystem.

2. About the Training Programme

2.1 What is the Lebone Marang and Summer Training Programme?

The programme is a high-impact information technology training and professional development programme designed to prepare participants to start their ventures and for careers in:

- Technology consulting
- Artificial intelligence
- Cybersecurity
- Data science
- Systems development
- Digital transformation

Participants learn through hands-on projects, coaching, mentorship, research, and collaboration with specialists and organisations.

2.2 Who can apply to the programme?

The programme is open to young unemployed IT graduates who:

- Have an interest in technology
- Are passionate about innovation
- Are committed to personal development
- Are willing to work on real-world projects

Typical applicants include university graduates, TVET College graduates, final year students, self-taught technologists, young professionals seeking career transition, and entrepreneurs interested in technology innovation.

2.3 Is the programme full-time?

The programme is intensive and requires a strong commitment of time. Participants are expected to dedicate substantial time to training, research, project work, and collaboration.

2.4 How long is the programme?

The programme may run for up to 24 months depending on project cycles, participant progress and industry collaborations.

Phases may include:

- Phase 1: Foundation Skills
- Phase 2: Technical Specialisation
- Phase 3: Real-World Project Work
- Phase 4: Research and Innovation
- Phase 5: Industry Collaboration and Commercialisation

3. Programme Benefits

3.1 What will participants gain from the programme?

Participants gain access to:

- International information technology academy resources
- Hands-on experience in real-world technology projects
- Mentorship from technology professionals
- Access to global research
- Opportunities to publish articles
- Technology innovation projects
- Exposure to digital transformation initiatives
- Opportunities to commercialise technology solutions

3.2 Will the programme help me get a job?

Yes. The programme is designed to strengthen employability and venture creation.

Participants develop project portfolios, industry exposure, and professional references that strengthen their employability in fields such as IT consulting, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, data science, software engineering, and technology research.

3.3 Will participants receive mentorship?

Yes. Participants will receive mentorship from corporate leaders, specialists, business owners and researchers. Mentorship includes career guidance, technical coaching, professional development support and project leadership guidance.

3.4 Will participants work on real projects?

Yes. Participants will work on real-world projects including AI solutions, cybersecurity frameworks, data analytics systems and digital transformation initiatives.

3.5 What is the first project in the programme?

One of the early projects involves the digital transformation of an entity within a municipality or community in the North West Province.

Participants may analyse existing systems, propose digital improvements, and develop technology solutions that support improved service delivery.

4. Stipends and Financial Support

4.1 Does the programme provide stipends?

At the start of the programme, stipends are not guaranteed while the initiative is in its pilot phase.

Participants gain access to:

- High-value training in emerging technology fields
- Professional development and mentorship
- Real-world project experience
- Opportunities to participate in innovation and technology development
- Potential to earn from commercialised technology products or ventures created through the programme

4.2 Will stipends be introduced in the future?

Yes. Lebone Marang and Summer is actively working toward securing funding partnerships, establishing stipend programmes, and creating revenue-generating technology initiatives to support future cohorts.

4.3 Can participants earn income through projects?

Yes. Participants may benefit financially through:

- Revenue generated from commercialised technology products
- Startup ventures developed through programme projects
- Collaborative technology initiatives

5. Learning and Research Opportunities

5.1 Will participants have access to research materials?

Yes. Participants will have access to global IT research, digital transformation insights, and technical learning resources relevant to their projects and studies.

5.2 Will participants publish articles?

Yes. Participants are encouraged to publish thought leadership articles, research papers and technical documentation, which can support postgraduate studies and professional credibility.

11. Programme Expectations

11.1 What is expected from participants?

Participants are expected to pursue continuous learning, demonstrate professionalism, collaborate effectively, and contribute actively to programme projects.

11.2 What values guide the programme?

- Collaboration and resilience
- Integrity and accountability
- Excellence in execution
- Innovation and entrepreneurial thinking
- Inclusivity and equitable opportunity

11.3 Is the programme accredited?

The programme includes structured training and professional development aligned with industry and skills development frameworks. Accreditation partnerships with relevant training authorities are being developed as the programme grows.