

Innovent Labs Africa (ILA) Editorial Policy Guidelines

Introduction

Innovent Labs Africa (ILA) is a Ugandan firm offering advisory and enterprise support services aimed at growing and strengthening the innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem across Africa. ILA intends to facilitate the growth of an innovative knowledge-based ecosystem that rewards its entrepreneurs and innovators, while supporting the creation of sustainable enterprises. It hopes to achieve this through among other things sharing of news and information about its events, projects and undertakings. ILA's content is tailored to reach Governments and Civil Society, Funding Organizations, Private and Public Sector players, researchers, innovators and the general public, including the marginalized groups of people.

Below are some ways in which ILA distributes its information:

- Website and Blog posts
- Twitter
- LinkedIn
- Facebook
- Email Channels
- Individual and Organizational Partner Profiles
- Challenges
- Graphics and Podcasts

The philosophy of Innovent Labs Africa (ILA)'s information outlets is shaped by the editorial guidelines and objectives outlined below. These have been discussed and adopted by the Directors of ILA, and comprise the broad rules governing all editorial content in our media platforms.

ILA aims to give its readers a comprehensive view and compelling analysis of current events and issues relating to innovation and enterprise development in Africa as a whole.

Guiding principles

1. Style and tone

The style and tone aim to be conversational and easy for readers to understand and relate to. We welcome readers to provide their own views and opinions, in addition to their expert analysis of a given topic, when appropriate. ILA's news and information will differentiate clearly between views and opinion on the one hand and news and reportage on the other. The former, whether they are the opinions of external/guest contributors or of the Group itself, will be clearly identified in designated columns or programmes.

2. Format and design

The typographical layout of ILA's information on all its platforms, including the online editions, will aim to be of necessity, change from time to time, but the fundamental principle, which applies to print, broadcasting and to online presentations, is to present editorial content in an attractive but disciplined, sober, consistent and non-sensationalist format.



3. Accuracy and fairness

ILA will aim to report fairly, accurately and without bias on matters of public interest. Should an inaccurate, misleading or distorted report be published, ILA will endeavor to have it corrected promptly. Corrections will report the correct information and not restate the error except when clarity demands. Ideally, corrections will be made in a regular format and similar position as promptly as possible after the error has been detected.

4. Confidentiality

In circumstances where complete confidentiality is assumed as a condition of obtaining the story, ILA will have a moral obligation to protect confidential sources of information, according to the existing legal framework.

5. Plagiarism

Using someone else's work without attribution - whether deliberately or thoughtlessly - is a serious ethical breach. However, borrowing ideas from elsewhere is considered a fair practice so long as the source is acknowledged. Words directly quoted from sources other than the writer's own reporting will be attributed.

6. Language and expressions

Specialized language and expressions (e.g. such as in medicine, economics, religion) will be accurately and carefully interpreted into British English. In addition, ILA will be mindful of spelling, grammar and vocabulary in the dissemination of its information. Graphics and visual aids will also be used to complement the text.

7. Neutrality on political, religious issues

While recognizing the fact that as individuals, organizations would ordinarily have their own political views and/or political party affiliations or religious affiliations, parties working for and with ILA are expected to subordinate their individual political or religious views and to remain apolitical and neutral on religious matters.

8. Advertisements

ILA will not allow any advertisement or commercial that is contrary to these ethical principles.

Disclaimer

The opinions and views expressed in the contributions published on ILA's website and platforms are those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent the official policy or position of the organization.

The Editorial Policy Guidelines will, under the ILA Directors' guidance, be subjected to periodic reviews from to time. Authors should regularly refer to these guidelines to assist them in structuring their writing, production and presentation to the required standard.

END

