

HI4Kenya 2015 Hackathon

The University of Nairobi, under a USAID funded project called AfyaInfo, organized a Hackathon, from 20th to 22nd November 2015. The aim of the Hackathon was to increase the pool of National Health Information Systems (NHIS) developers and champions while also exposing the students to real-life challenges faced in the health sector.

42 students registered for the three day hackathon with majority being third and fourth year students from the School of Computing and Informatics. There was one student from Technical University of Kenya. The teams were given tasks derived from challenges faced by various stakeholders in health care- Ministry of Health, Mhealth, Intellisoft and AfyaInfo, who were also sponsors of the Hackathon.

Working in groups of not more than three people, 5 teams out of the 13 that registered, emerged as winners, with their solutions being considered the most innovative. The winning team- duo core, developed a health messaging android mobile application for people with attacks such as epilepsy, panic attacks, fainting and asthma attacks, to immediately notify their next of kin. They walked away with Ksh 35,000 while the first, second, third and fourth runners up were awarded Ksh 20,000, Ksh 15,000, Ksh 5,000 and Ksh 5,000 respectively.

Jonathan Ndede, from Mhealth and Steve Wanyee from Intellisoft were among the judges for the Hackathon. They noted that there is a lot of potential in all the students that attended the Hackathon and therefore creates an opportunity for industry and academia to brainstorm on solutions together. A Hackathon is a test of problem solving skills not coding skills.

HIKenya 2015 Hackathon in Pictures





