HacksHackers Nairobi Meetup: Drone Journalism- A game changer for Africa's reporting. Exploring potential, challenges, and demonstration!

Day: This Wednesday, **26 March 2014, 6:30pm**

Venue: 88mph Garage Nairobi, 4th Floor Piedmont Plaza, 671 Ngong Road.

Want to know about Drone Journalism? Are newsroom drones a technology that could revolutionize reporting in Africa? Are they affordable or even safe? Ever seen one?

Hacks/Hackers Nairobi is excited to reboot its activities with a not-to-miss talk by Dickens Olewe and Ben Kreimer on Drone Journalism. Dickens, a journalist at The Star Publications, founded African Skycam, Africa's first newsroom based drone journalism team. Based in Nairobi, Skycam is in the process of expanding across Africa. Ben is a journalism-technologist who works with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Drone Journalism Lab. The event will take place at 88mph Garage Nairobi, a seed fund in a creative co-working space that incubates technology and business startups in Nairobi!

Exploring their potential for reporting, Dickens and Ben are pioneers in the emerging field of drone journalism. Together, African Skycam and the Drone Journalism Lab are exploring responsible ways drones can be used for reporting, as well as the legal and ethical aspects of the emerging technology. They also work to engage with the public on the subject of civilian drones, challenging stereotypes and promoting the technology's enormous potential for journalism and societal goodwill. The two drone journalism projects are collaborating to gain experience in the field, share knowledge and produce content that demonstrates the utility of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) for journalism and other fields.

Dickens' African Skycam is a grantee of the African News Innovation Challenge (ANIC), the continent's largest fund for supporting new media experimentation and digital news startups in everything from data driven journalism, digital convergence and media business models. Ben develops innovative applications for drones and crowdsourced microcomputer sensor platforms. He is currently working with Columbia University on a sensor data journalism project, and recently spent 6 months

in India working on a documentary and producing content with his quadcopter, including coverage of a football tournament that was published by the Times of India.

On Wednesday, Dickens and Ben will show examples of their drone work, talk about the current struggles and future of drone journalism. They will provide an overview of available drone equipment and do a **flight demonstration** of the quadcopter system they are use.

Join us at 88mph Garage Nairobi, **this Wednesday**, **March 26 at 6.30pm to 8pm** to find out more about Drone Journalism. **Drinks and snacks will be provided** courtesy of HacksHackers Nairobi. For more information, go to the Skycam and Drone Journalism Lab websites. Event Twitter Handle: HHAfrica.
Hashtags: #hhnairobi #dronejournalism

RSVP, or get more information from:

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The African Media Initiative's (AMI) Digital Innovation Programmes manages HacksHackersAfrica, which form part of a global society of "news geeks" who bring together journalists, technologists, and designers to share skills and collaborate on projects. Each operational city chapter currently averages 100 members, and meets on a monthly basis for seminars, workshops, and hackathons. HacksHackers chapters also co-host some of AMI's major skills events (data Bootcamps) and its major co-creation events (Code4Democracy hackathons and DataLiberation scraperthons). HackHackers chapters also function as ideas labs for the African News Innovation Challenge (ANIC) and Code4Africa, and are spearheading new alliances between civil society, the media, and technologists. The pan-African membership is managed through the new IMAGE digital platform, helping innovators find compatriots across the continent and across industry / corporate boarders.