

Tunga factsheet

About Tunga

The organisation

Tunga is a Dutch company with a network of over 400 African software developers spread across Uganda, Nigeria and Egypt. The platform meets the worldwide demand for software developers by offering local young African tech-talent. Tunga supplies high quality software developed by African experts in a quick and affordable way, done by technicians that are smart, capable and professional.

Key facts

- Started pilots in 2015, officially launched in January 2017.
- The founder & CEO of Tunga is Ernesto Spruyt (44, Dutch).
- Service offering consists of 1) hiring out dedicated developers and 2) executing software outsourcing projects.
- Tunga works exclusively with African based developers, who are also African passport holders.
- Tunga has its commercial headquarters in Europe (Amsterdam, the Netherlands) and its operational headquarters in Africa (Kampala, Uganda). They also operate a service centre in Lagos, Nigeria.
- 140+ customers have been served since inception in twelve countries, mainly in Europe and the United States.
- Tunga has a pool of 400 freelance software developers (40% Ugandan, 40% Nigerian, 5% Egyptian, 15% other). All the developers have been extensively tested on technical skills and soft skills (e.g. communication and working method). At any given moment, around 15% of them work on a project for Tunga.
- Tunga has a partnership with WeAreBits.org, to enlarge the participation of vulnerable youths. WeAreBits has a network of several thousand alumni across Africa (Kampala: Kampabits, Lagos: Ekobits).

(Software) outsourcing done right

Impact sourcing

Tunga offers IT staffing services to businesses around the world. Tunga works by means of Impact Sourcing: the deployment of workers from low-employment areas into the processes of businesses worldwide. This is done through outsourcing or by setting up remote or virtual teams using digital technology. Tunga aims to provide higher-income employment and access to new income opportunities to workers that otherwise might not be employed in that particular sector. Clients come from all over the world, but the developers exclusively come from Africa – at this stage mainly Uganda, Nigeria and Egypt. This is partly due to the infrastructure, availability of developers and the knowledge and use of the English language, but also because Tunga can make a huge impact in these countries where youth unemployment is soaring.

Why it works

The main reasons why companies choose to work with Tunga, is the quick and flexible access to excellent software developers for a very affordable fee (€26 per hour). Usually, a developer can start a project within two weeks after Tunga receives the clients outline – this includes interviews and the decision process on the clients' side.

Tunga's developers work in the same time zone and speak proper English, since that usually is the national language of the country developers are in.

What they do

Tunga offers full stack developers, able to work with all popular modern frameworks, such as Angular, React (Native), Node, Django/Python, .NET/C#, PHP/Laravel, Flutter and many more. If need be, Tunga can easily and rapidly source new developers from its network, experienced in any framework.

From dream to solution

Our dream: equal opportunity for all youths

Tunga believes that what you make of your life is your own responsibility, but would like for everyone, especially the youth that holds the world's future, to be free and able to take control of their own destiny.

The problem: African youths don't have the same opportunities

The reality is that in many parts of the world, the opportunity you have to determine your own destiny is limited by circumstances. By factors outside of your own control. In our search for software developers, Tunga ended up on the African continent. Many young Africans that are as brilliant and skilled as their counterparts from other parts of the world, but have limited access to interesting, worthwhile and well-paying work.

Our mission: 21st century jobs for African youths

With the support of institutions like Dioraphte, Oxfam, the DOEN Foundation, Edukans and Triodos Bank, Tunga was founded to help talented African youths get access to the cool tech jobs that define this generation. So that they can become independent and make their mark in the international economic marketplace.

Our solution: link African software developers to international teams and projects

Tunga believes in the power of business to transform society. Probably the most attractive area for creating high skilled jobs and skills development for today's ambitious youths is software development. As production methods from the open source community are increasingly adopted in the industry, software is often already produced in virtual teams. There is a huge shortage of software developers around the world, resulting in an infinite demand for software development skills. Tunga was set up as a platform to remove all barriers for these youths to participate in international software teams and projects.

More information

- Long read on how Tunga sees the impact software outsourcing can make in Africa <https://blog.tunga.io/tech-for-good-will-impact-sourcing-be-the-new-fair-trade-61e8c8d3dcce>
- Short videos https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_Pl6wmR-t9Zv9z7_s1aWNg
- Whitepaper: Best African countries for sourcing software developers in 2019 https://tunga.io/files/BestAfricanCountriesForSourcingSoftwareDevelopersIn2019_Tunga.pdf
- News articles <https://tunga.io/news#news-articles>