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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 13, 2013 8:24 PM  
**To:** Jeffrey Epstein; Tom Pritzker  
**Subject:** Kenya Primed For Wide-Scale Bitcoin Adoption

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> Guest Post: Kenya Primed For Wide-Scale Bitcoin Adoption By Noel Jones  
> June 12 2013  
> <<http://www.thegenesisblock.com/guest-post-kenya-primed-for-wide-scale-bitcoin-adoption/>>  
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> As we witness bitcoin's continued growth around the world, one locale stands out as particularly primed for widespread adoption: Kenya. Africa today has one of the fastest growing mobile phone markets in the world with 20% annual growth and 93% of Kenyan households owning mobile phones. What makes Kenya a particularly unique case for bitcoin is that it is also a world leader in mobile payment usage.  
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> In 2007, Safaricom, one of Kenya's leading telecommunications companies, launched a mobile payment service called M-PESA. Today, two thirds of Kenyans use the service and more than 30% of Kenya's GDP flows through it. The benefits to the Kenyan population are astounding as well, with M-PESA's rural adopters often seeing dramatic income increases after adopting the program. Such incredible growth has piqued the interest of some big names in the technology sector as well.  
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> Africa's Ballooning Tech Presence  
> "The Internet in Africa will be primarily a mobile one," said Eric Schmidt, Executive Chairman of Google. Google has alluded to plans for building technical infrastructure in Kenya and other parts of Africa, including the potential use of wifi blimps or weather balloons to provide internet service. They further elaborated in a blog post earlier this year about the technology that it's, "Well-suited to provide low cost connectivity to rural communities with poor telecommunications infrastructure, and for expanding coverage of wireless broadband in densely populated urban areas." Google is also making moves in the digital payment arena. They recently introduced attaching Google Wallet payment in emails and announced an investment from Google Ventures in OpenCoin Inc.—the company behind Ripple, a new digital ledger technology with similarities to Bitcoin.  
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> Google isn't the only entity preparing for major moves in Africa. China has been investing in Africa substantially for the last decade and is a major shareholder in much of the African telecom industry. With the telecom industry in Africa booming and Kenya targeting 100% internet penetration by 2017, change is on the horizon.  
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> [snip]  
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