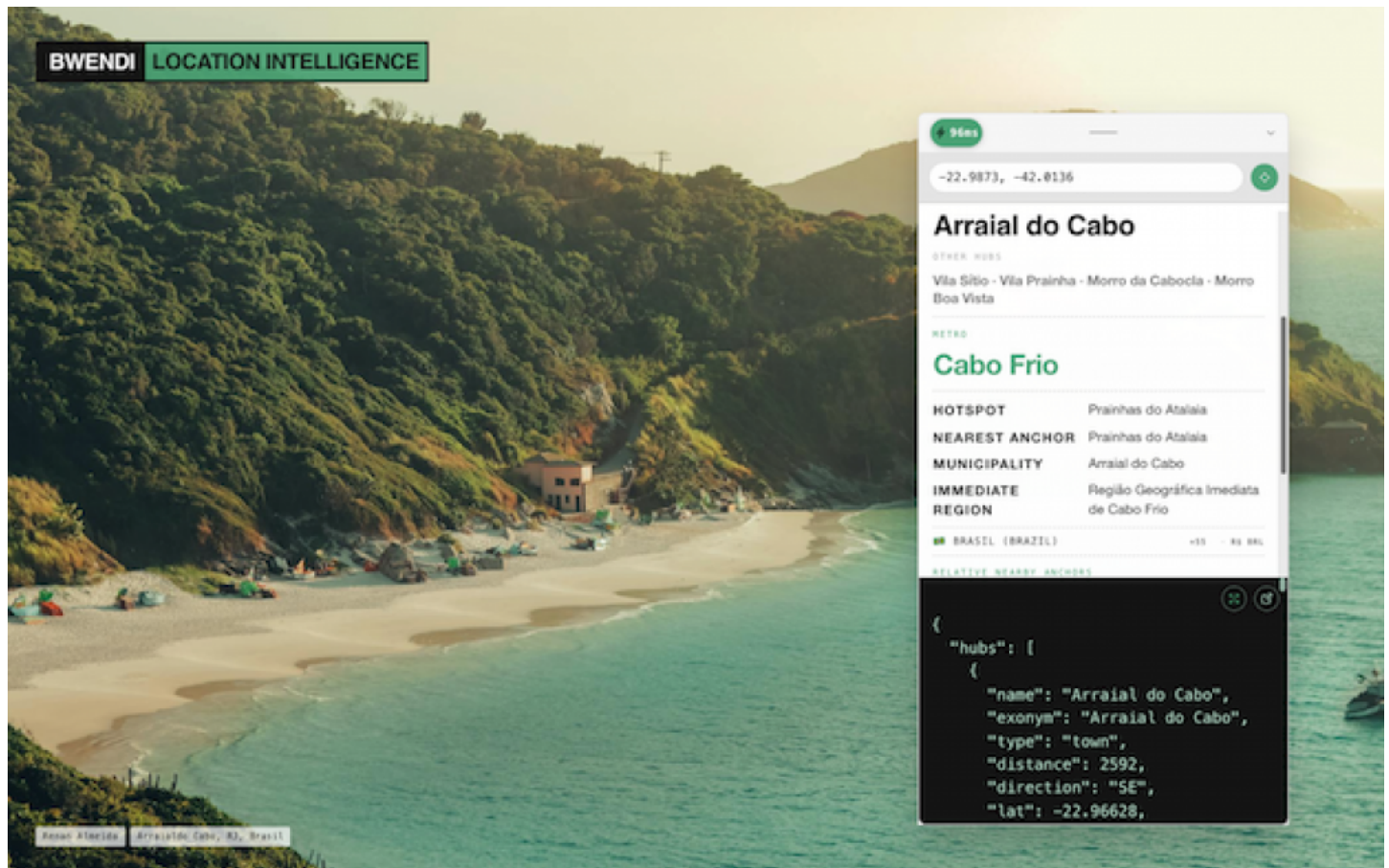


# The Startup That Finally Fixed Africa's Addressing Problem

For decades, the global digital economy has tried to verify, route, and serve 1.4 billion people across 54 countries without a working address layer. Today, a single startup has ended that wait.



**Bern, Switzerland Apr 5, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com))** - For decades, the global digital economy has tried to verify, route, and serve 1.4 billion people across 54 countries without a working address layer. Today, a single startup has ended that wait.

**Bwendi**, a Swiss-based location intelligence firm, has officially deployed the infrastructure required to provide a verifiable digital address to the 99% of the African continent currently operating without formal postal codes. By bypassing the need for physical street signs and government-mandated zip codes, Bwendi has effectively eliminated the "geography penalty" that has stifled African innovation for generations.

## The Infrastructure Gap Nobody Fixed

In Africa, the real address system runs on landmarks: *"Pass the church, turn at the blue-painted pharmacy."* This works for human movement, but it breaks completely for KYC (Know Your Customer), e-commerce checkout, and credit underwriting.

Bwendi resolves this by turning any GPS coordinate into a "commercial truth." In under 20 milliseconds, the Bwendi API identifies market hubs, economic tiers, and local landmarks in over 30 African

languages. It doesn't just give a location a code; it provides the **economic context** that makes a person or business legible to the global economy.

## Rebuilt to be Ungovernable

The story of Bwendi is one of resilience. In 2019, founder **Francis Osih** led Cameroon's national digital addressing project. The system worked, but it was eventually shut down by corruption.

"I didn't just want to build an app; I wanted to build an infrastructure layer that no single state could stop," says **Osih, Executive Lead at OSIH**. "We rebuilt Bwendi in Switzerland to be neutral, production-grade, and entirely independent. Today, any developer can drop a coordinate anywhere in Africa and get back a verified address string and its economic reality. We have finally fixed the map."

## Bridging the 3% Gap

African startups receive less than 3% of global venture capital—not due to a lack of talent, but due to a lack of trust-based infrastructure. By providing a verifiable address-of-record, Bwendi is empowering a new wave of African fintechs, logistics operators, and marketplaces (including OSIH's own construction materials platform, **CamerDeals**) to scale across borders without friction.

## Key Bwendi Statistics:

- **1.4 Billion:** People covered across all 54 African countries.
- **30+ Languages:** Responses returned in local scripts (Hausa, Swahili, Lingala, etc.).
- **~20ms Latency:** Decision-grade context delivered at the edge.
- **19 Million+:** Commercial points of interest (POIs) indexed to drive "commercial gravity."

## Availability

The Bwendi Addressing API is now open for integration. Developers and enterprise partners can access the infrastructure today at: <https://bwendi.com/en/africa/>

## About Bwendi

Bwendi (an OSIH company) is the location intelligence layer for the African continent and beyond. Based in Wynigen, Switzerland, Bwendi resolves the commercial and economic reality behind any coordinate on Earth to power global products, operations, and AI systems.

## About OSIH

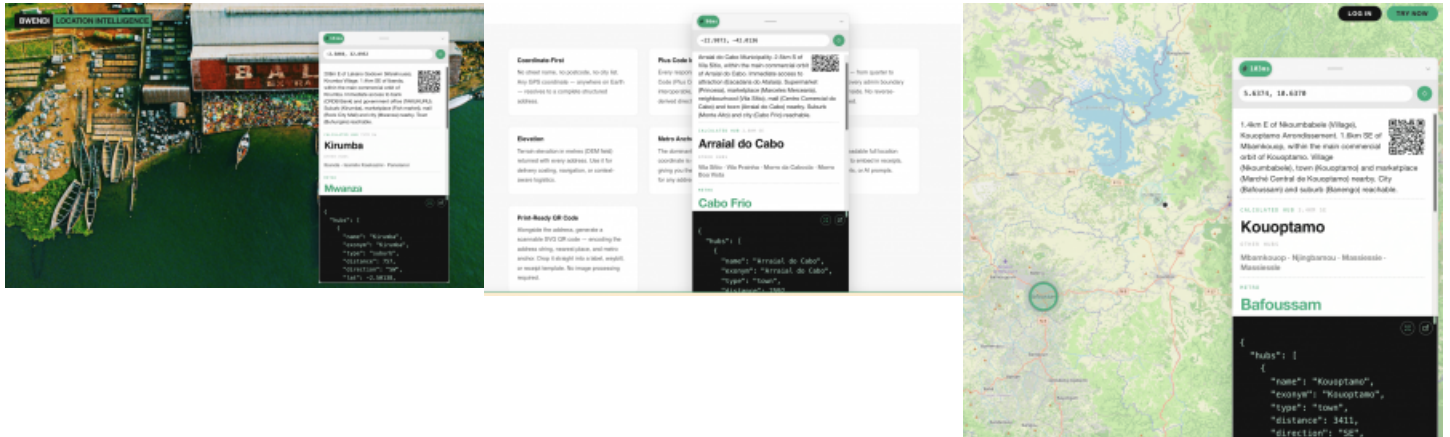
OSIH (CHE-249.165.749) is a Swiss-registered digital infrastructure entity dedicated to building the foundational tools—including Bwendi and CamerDeals—required to bridge the gap between global capital and emerging African markets.

## Media Contact:

**The Bwendi Team** [team@bwendi.com](mailto:team@bwendi.com)

89 Kappelenstrass, 3472 Wynigen, Switzerland

[www.bwendi.com](http://www.bwendi.com)



## Media Contact

Bwendi

\*\*\*\*\*@bwendi.com

89 kappelenstrasse 3472 Wynigen, BE

<http://bwendi.com>

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