

Inside Facebook's 4 Cs for innovation

 By [Elouise Kelly](#)

23 Jul 2019

It felt quite surreal to be invited to spend the morning with the world's biggest and most influential social platform to celebrate 15 years in existence. It's hard to believe, but Facebook has been around for 15 years.

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Africa's changemakers are blazing a trail for the rest of the world

Nunu Ntshingila 10 Jun 2019



Some people can't remember a world before it and, if you were at the event, you could be forgiven for thinking it'll be around long after we're gone. Looking to the future, Nunu Ntshingila, head of Facebook Africa, took us through the four Cs – which are key trends directing their business for the next few years.

Curation

We've been seeing how important content has become and Facebook will continue enabling this, especially between brands and users. Content has always been king, but since the power to create is literally in the hands of each of us, it is far more important.

“ We're feeling inspired this morning at FB@15, Facebook's inaugural agency summit celebrating 15 years of the social media giant pic.twitter.com/COIjk2d4TB— Popimedia (@PopimediaSocial) [July 16, 2019](#) ”

Of course, Facebook will want to drive how content is curated and distributed, especially for relevancy, allowing for bespoke servings.

Community

We can't argue that Facebook reaches far and wide but, ironically, more and more of its users want to feel a sense of connection to the community around them. This is what Facebook engenders so well.



Facebook has grown its momentum and increased its investment in Africa (Infographic)

19 Dec 2018



Whether it's for the local market, the church group, your favourite brand or, here in South Africa, the neighbourhood community policing forum, Facebook allows for information to be shared and discussions to be had. Future platforms aim to enhance this and, hopefully, help us build more connected communities.

Conversation

When you look at the stats, you know why Facebook wants to continue driving conversations. Messenger is the second most popular app on iOS (after Facebook), while WhatsApp and Instagram Messaging have also grown phenomenally over the past few years.



Messenger platform evolution

APR 2017

Discovery and Chat Extensions

JUL 2017

Handover Protocol and Built-in NLP

NOV 2017

Customer Chat and Media Template

FEB 2018

New Quick Replies and Messaging Insights

APR 2019

Appointment Booking Functionality in Beta

Messenger by the numbers

More than

1.3 billion

people use Messenger each month

410 million

users use video chat on Messenger monthly

Approximately

300,000

developers on the platform

20 billion

messages sent between people and businesses on Messenger each month

40%

year over year growth in the amount of time spent in video chat on Messenger

17 billion

photos shared in Messenger each month

40 million

monthly active businesses on Messenger

300,000

active bots on Messenger

Messenger is the second **most popular** iOS app of all time, behind Facebook*



MARCH 2019

Dark Mode

OCT 2018

The New Messenger

APR 2018

360 Degree Photos & HD Video

MAR 2018

Messenger Lite Video Chat

*App Annie <http://blog.appannie.com/most-popular-iphone-ipad-apps-all-time/>

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Messenger

*Source: Andrew Hutchinson, SocialMediaToday, 1 May 2019 from F8 conference.

The big drive will be expanding on how businesses and people can converse far easier. There are already 20 billion messages sent between people and businesses worldwide on Messenger each month, so it's hard to imagine this increasing drastically, but if it will get us better service, decrease time spent resolving queries and provide a more efficient platform to shop, then I'm all for it.

Commerce

The subject of shopping is, of course, the fourth trend discussed at FB@15. When full PayPoint integration lands then you'll have very little reason to leave Facebook, Instagram or WhatsApp.

It makes you wonder what will happen to the brands' e-commerce platforms.

Thankfully, us South Africans won't have to grapple with it right now as most of it will be trialled in America first. The upside is that when we finally have the function, it should provide seamless user experiences, bringing each of us closer to our favourite brands and them closer to us.

Technology-driven engagement is what most brands are embracing, some better than others, ultimately, it will be for agencies, brands and platforms to ensure that this is people-centred – serving the most relevant and interactive content.

From what the Facebook team showed us, they will continue to build the bridge between us and brands, futureproofing themselves to be more relevant than ever.

ABOUT ELOUISE KELLY

Prior to joining Ogilvy South Africa in April 2018, Eloise Kelly worked at some of the most prominent companies locally and abroad. As a Branding, Communication and Business Strategist, she revamped content for channels, launched brands, handled budgets of up R250 million, led various teams and successfully increased companies bottom-line in accordance with their objectives, including TopTV, MTV Networks Africa (Viacom), MTN Irancell, M-Net and brands within the SABC stable.

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