



AFRICA **CEO** FORUM
ANNUAL SUMMIT



ABIDJAN

13 AND 14 JUNE 2022

OPENING CEREMONY

Master of Ceremonies

- Nozipho TSHABALALA /

Speakers

- Amir BEN YAHMED /
- Makhtar DIOP /
- S.E. Alassane OUATTARA /

CONVERSATION WITH | Abdul Samad Rabi

One of Africa's great industrialists, Abdul Samad Rabi, Chairman and CEO of Nigeria-headquartered conglomerate BUA Group, enjoyed surging profits under challenging conditions in 2021 after spinning off and publicly listing its food and cement businesses (BUA Foods and BUA Cement). In conversation with Eleni Giokos, anchor of CNN's Connecting Africa, Mr. Rabi outlines his vision of economic sovereignty on the continent and the business possibilities through the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Moderator

- Eleni GIOKOS /

Speakers

- Abdul Samad RABIU /

OPENING PANEL | Economic sovereignty: From ambition to action

COVID-19 has placed economic sovereignty back at the centre of the debate by underscoring the importance of access to vaccines, digital independence, and industrial outsourcing. Economic sovereignty has particularly caught on in Africa as the continent relies more heavily on the rest of the world than other regions with 84% of its trade coming outside its borders. Some countries have managed to reduce external reliance, such as Nigeria in the cement industry and South Africa in pharmaceuticals. What strategies can minimise Africa's dependency? Is greater self-sufficiency always the best solution? And how can Africa build economic sovereignty on a regional or even continental scale?

Key points

- Which sectors can best deliver economic sovereignty: agribusiness, energy, consumer goods?
- Market size: How can Africa set up value chains on a regional scale?
- From planning to implementation: What are the ideal forms of partnerships between governments and African champions?

Moderator

- Nozipho TSHABALALA /

Expert

- Acha LEKE /

Speakers

- Dr. Patrick NJOROGÉ /
- Kate KANYI TOMETI FOTSO /
- Karim BEGUIR /
- H.E. Mr Yemi OSINBAJO /
- Makhtar DIOP /
- S.E Mr Nana AKUFO-ADDO /

INDUSTRY OUTLOOK | INFRASTRUCTURE - Big projects: How to Africanise investments?

Less than 10% of infrastructure investments in Africa are from private sources, such as banks and private equity. Despite colossal needs of between \$100 billion and \$170 billion per year, and significant local resource availability (approximately \$2 trillion of local currency equivalent financing available in African pension funds, life insurance and sovereign funds), local sources of private capital are struggling to contribute. From insufficient ROI, risk allocation, regulations and capacity to ensure long-term loans, the obstacles are numerous. While power and telecoms projects have succeeded in attracting investors in recent years, how can local investors be encouraged to provide for other sectors?

Key points

- Local currency: How to mobilise the vast local currency resources on the continent
- Local banks: Innovating towards project finance transactions
- International investors: What are they looking for in local equity and financing partners?

Expert

- James WOODWARD /

Moderator

- Kanika SAIGAL /

Speakers

- Dr. Felix Nana SACKY /
- Tariye GBADEGESIN /
- Thierry DÉAU /
- John GANDOLFO /

PANEL | MACROECONOMIC OUTLOOK - How can Africa emerge from global shocks?

The continent's path through disruptions, from the pandemic to the conflict in Ukraine, remains uncertain. With inflation in OECD countries at its highest in 30 years (+7.7% in February) and interest rates trending upwards, pressure on African currencies is rising. Already up against supply chain disruptions, agricultural commodity inflation and rising public debt, Africa's room to manoeuvre towards economic recovery is shrinking. From revising fiscal policies to managing public debt and attracting foreign investment, how can Africa pull through?

Key points

- What public and fiscal policies are needed to avoid jeopardising recovery?
- Public debt increasingly held locally – good or bad news?
- Foreign direct investment: What can be done to lure investors back?

Moderator

- Eleni GIOKOS /

Speakers

- Albert ZEUFACK /
- Paul-Harry AITHNARD /
- Georges WEGA /
- Lionel ZINSOU /
- Bertrand BADRÉ /



STRATEGIC ROUNDTABLE | AGRIBUSINESS - Food insecurity: Can a joint private sector push build self- sufficiency?

Africa imports about 85% of its food (\$35bn) annually and is expected to import \$110bn by 2025. In some countries, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused over two thirds of adequately nourished households to fall into food insecurity by June 2020. Now climate change, food price increases, and population spikes present further challenges. Until now, siloed private sector investments have led to limited socioeconomic impact and have represented a fraction of total agricultural funding. During this closed-door session, key CEOs, private and development bankers and government representatives discuss how to coordinate a multistakeholder push, driven by local players, to ensure African countries meet their food needs.

Expert

- Denis Sireyjol /

Keynote

- Susan LUND /



Strategic Roundtable : Cybersecurity | How to implement robust governance

With Covid-19 and the increased digitalization, cybercrime has become a growing threat for the private sector. Due to compliance or regulatory reasons, organizations have been implementing technical safeguards such as firewalls or intrusion detection, but without always applying the proper security policies, governance or procedures. The result is inadequate practices that compromise safety and expose assets to significant risk. Cyber defense and effective risk management appears de facto as the cornerstone of effective security. How should we communicate in the event of a cyber-attack? How often should cyber crises exercises be performed? This roundtable will be the place to deepen reflections on the most effective information security and cyber governance for private sector's organizations to tackle cyber-attacks.

Moderator & Expert

- Franck KIÉ /



INVEST IN | Côte d'Ivoire

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Moderator

- Eric KACOU /

Keynote

- S.E. Patrick Achi /

Speakers

- Siandou FOFANA /
- Kobenan Kouassi ADJOUMANI /
- Bruno Nabagné KONE /
- Pierre N'Gou DIMBA /



CONVERSATION WITH | James Mwangi

Moderator

- Patrick DUPOUX /

Speakers

- Dr. James MWANGI /

PANEL | STATE-OWNED COMPANIES - Transforming state-owned enterprises into African champions

Out of sync with the market, overstaffed, poorly managed: state-owned enterprises have a bad reputation on the continent. However, there have been many success stories. Companies such as Ethiopian Airlines and OCP are recognised as major African players that have been growing steadily and pursuing a regional expansion policy. Both have become assets to their governments' economic policy and vehicles to reduce external dependence. What is behind their success? How is their relationship to the state structured?

Key points

- Social or business role: preparing a value creation strategy
- Choosing the right governance model to promote management transparency, independence and responsibility
- How can public enterprises duplicate their performance abroad?

Expert

- Moez AJMI /

Moderator

- Nicholas NORBROOK /

Speakers

- Patty KARUAIHE-MARTIN /
- Akim DAOUDA /
- Modou DIAGNE FADA /
- Nompumelelo MPOFU /

PANEL | FAMILY BUSINESS - Governance and growth: Leading with the best

Down the generations, family businesses are faced with the challenge of long-term viability and growth. Traditionally structured around a strong, stable core – the family – African family businesses are increasingly open to hiring outside talent for top positions. In 2020, 50% of African family businesses considered appointing a non-family member as CEO, compared to only 28% in 2018. According to several studies, outside leaders joining the board and the management team contribute new expertise, a different strategic vision and have an openness to international markets. How should family businesses go about selecting outside talent? How can companies reconcile family culture with an outside party?

Key points

- Vision, risk-taking, impact: What can outside board members bring to a family business?
- Governance: What role should outside leaders have in decision-making?
- At what stage in development should a family company bring in an outside leader?

Moderator

- Luc RIGOUZZO /

Expert

- Creagh Sudding /

Speakers

- Marieme NGOM /
- Seun ONI /
- Colin MUKETE /
- Yasmina FECHKEUR /

PANEL | CLIMATE CHANGE - Climate change adaptation: Finding appealing business models

Of the \$19 billion in climate financing channelled towards sub-Saharan Africa in 2020, 62% was focused on mitigation and only 38% on adaptation. Investors tend to shy away from such financing because of its tendency to generate no revenue, with little or no return. This is especially true for nature-based solutions like mangroves or forests, but less so for agriculture, where adaptation products and services (such as climate-resilient seeds) are easier to make commercially viable. How can all industries overcome the obstacles stifling profitability? What role can the private sector play in adaptation finance?

Key points

- Agriculture: Scaling up profitable projects with help from the private sector
- Resilient infrastructure: How to integrate climate risk into project financing?
- Biodiversity and ecosystems: How can the necessary funds be raised for seemingly unprofitable projects?

Moderator

- Patrice LEFEU /

Expert

- Chimdi ONWUDIEGWU /

Speakers

- Samaila ZUBAIRU /
- Patrick VERKOOIJEN /
- Sergio PIMENTA /
- Serge EKUÉ /
- Franziska HOLLMANN /
- Sidi Ould TAH /

LEADER'S VOICE

In this session, prominent political leaders will be interviewed by a leading African journalist on the new paths to growth for Africa. The major issues of the moment – from world trade to inflation, crisis management, COP27 and AfCFTA – will also be up for discussion.

Moderator

- Larry MADOWO /
- Marwane BEN YAHMED /

Speakers

- Don GRAVES /
- S.E. Patrick Achi /

WORKSHOP | FAMILY BUSINESS - Corporate philanthropy: How to guarantee long-term impact

Social and environmental action taken by African family businesses is gaining pace. Around 17% of African family businesses have a family foundation, 11% are considering establishing one, while 35% say they are actively involved in CSR. A workshop of African family business leaders pinpoints the best ways to approach philanthropy. From finding expertise, forming alliances for scale, financing and measuring impact, this workshop run by KPMG Private Enterprise guides one through the stages of philanthropic endeavours to identify best practices.

Expert

- Creagh Sudding /



STRATEGIC ROUNDTABLE | TRANSPORT-LOGISTICS - Rethinking African logistics in the race for carbon neutrality

Transport and logistics account for nearly a quarter of the world's greenhouse gas emissions each year. With many operators committed to carbon neutrality by 2050, the sector must now revolutionise the entire value chain. In Africa, where fleets and infrastructure have not evolved at the same pace as elsewhere, the challenges ahead are immense: from improving efficiency, delivering a technological leap, shortening routes and changing behaviors. This roundtable of leaders of the sector, members of government and multilateral bankers will explore the avenues that can be pursued collectively to achieve a sustainable African logistics industry.

Chair

- Thomas THEEUWES /

INVEST IN | Gabon

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Moderator

- Erik WATREMEZ /

Keynote

- Rose Christiane OSSOUKA RAPONDA /

Speakers

- Yves Sylvain MOUSSAVOU BOUSSOUGOU /
- Nicole ROBOTY /
- Loise TAMALGO /
- Gagan GUPTA /
- Hugues MBADINGA MADIYA /
- Akim DAOUDA /



CEO TALK | The Africa we want

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted Africa's dependence on the rest of the world. In 2020, the continent saw its worst recession in 50 years, with foreign direct investment plummeting 16% and exports falling 8.5%. This has resulted in renewed calls for intra-African trade (~15% of total trade) and local manufacturing to underpin Africa's growth strategy. But how do business leaders perceive this ambition? And how can they help deliver on a strategy for economic sovereignty? The continent's top CEOs share their visions of a more shock-resilient Africa.

Key points

- Does the quest for economic sovereignty threaten private sector competitiveness?
- AfCFTA: Breaking the deadlock
- How can the private sector become more involved in defining national strategies?

Moderator

- Acha LEKE /

Speakers

- Jean-Marie ACKAH /
- Karim BERNOUSSI /
- Mary WAMAE /
- Kabiru RABIU /

INDUSTRY OUTLOOK | MINING - Green minerals: How to fully seize on a historic opportunity?

A global clean energy shift is creating huge prospects to mine more 'green minerals' such as copper, lithium, cobalt, bauxite, graphite and nickel. Used for EV batteries and solar panels, the prices of these minerals exploded in 2021 with cobalt up 120% and aluminium rising 40%. Africa holds rich reserves of most green minerals. But to reap the full rewards, the continent will have to reassure investors about the sector's historically criticised governance, guarantee a sustainable supply chain and develop local processing. How can public authorities and mining companies together wholly capitalise on the green revolution?

Key points

- Investors, buyers and international regulations: Keeping pace with expectations
- Poor governance: Does an efficient 'green mineral' value chain hinge on government mining administrations?
- Local value addition: From refining metals to manufacturing EV batteries

Moderator

- Gaëlle ARENSON /

Expert

- Christian MION /

Interview en virtuel

- Mark BRISTOW /

Speakers

- Hon. Samuel A. JINAPOR /
- Philippe BOURDEAUX /
- Naoual ZINE /
- Geoff STREETON /
- Souleymane TRAORÉ /

PANEL | AFRICA FINANCIAL INDUSTRY SUMMIT - AFIS - Can technology finally resolve inclusive finance in Africa?

COVID-19 accelerated mobile money usage and saw governments rush to provide financial relief through digital channels. Around 1.2 billion adults have gained access to financial services in the last decade, in part aided by financial technology. But MSMEs, especially informal and female-owned businesses, have been hard-hit by the pandemic and will need to undergo a digital transformation to stay competitive. How can the financial industry best deploy technology to meet the current and future needs of individuals and businesses?

Key points

- How can stakeholders scale up adoption of the technologies required to spur financial inclusion?
- What's holding back wider use of financial technology for the unbanked and under-served?
- What roles should regulators, development partners and other actors play to overcome these barriers?

Moderator

- Larry MADOWO /

Speakers

- Diane KARUSISI /
- Makhtar DIOP /
- Dr. James MWANGI /
- Michael FROMAN /
- H.M. Queen Máxima of the Netherlands /

BUSINESS CASE | Building credible ESG Strategies

The private sector is facing a dilemma: delivering impact in Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) while meeting fiscal targets. As the continent hosting 60% of those in extreme poverty, the most child labourers (72m), and the largest annual rate of net forest loss of the last decade, Africa and businesses operating within its borders are under heightened scrutiny on the international scene. From navigating regulatory obligations, establishing optional targets against the 2030 Agenda, and using digital tools to measure and communicate progress, Bureau Veritas and two leading CEOs examine how businesses in Africa can deploy a credible ESG strategy that delivers impact without jeopardizing the bottom line.

Moderator

- Marc ROUSSEL /

Speakers

- Jean-Claude LASSERRE /
- Patricia POKU DIABY /

STRATEGIC ROUNDTABLE | ELECTRICITY - Reaching the unserved: Making off-grid renewables attractive to the private sector

Off-grid solutions have brought electricity to 60m Africans in the last decade while powering services and industries. Yet it remains costly to establish mini-grids and solar home systems (SHS) and see a return on investment for small-scale projects targeting low-income consumers. Decentralised renewables in Africa are meanwhile recovering from COVID-19, which caused funding shortages and delays. Some big players are already active, but 72% of sub-Saharan Africa's rural population and 22% in urban areas still lack power. In a roundtable hosted by Deloitte, public-private actors discuss how to entice the private sector to support the SDG target of universal energy access by 2030.

Speakers

- Sidy DIOP /

FUTURE OF | Disrupters club

For this unprecedented one-hour session five CEOs of Africa's most promising start-ups try their hand at forecasting. Each will deliver a dynamic and interactive 10-minute speech laying out a vision of their sector's future.

- What will financial services look like in 10 years?
- How far can artificial intelligence go to support decision making?
- Can digital technology revolutionise access to health services?
- What impact will the digital economy have on the creative arts?
- What lies ahead for Africa's urban transport?

Moderator

- Nicholas NORBROOK /

Keynote

- Aida DIARRA /

Speakers

- Karim BEGUIR /
- MILKA KOUAKOU /
- Noureddine TAYEBI /
- Zineb DRISSI KAITOUNI /
- Alloysius ATTAH /

INDUSTRY OUTLOOK | ELECTRICITY - Energy transition: What place for African natural gas in the future mix?

Debates are raging around gas. A polluting fuel, a key transition resource or a green energy? At COP26, 39 countries pledged to stop foreign financing of fossil fuel projects, including gas, by the end of 2022. Two months later, the European Commission proposed, subject to conditions, to classify gas financing projects as 'green investments'. For Africa, where 40% of electricity production comes from gas, this debate is crucial. Despite progress in clean energy, renewables (excluding hydro) will only provide 10% of the continent's electricity in 2030. How can African gas, an offshore resource and primarily exported raw, contribute to Africa's electricity mix amid a green revolution?

Key points

- Batteries and green hydrogen: How are technological innovations impacting investments in African gas?
- How to finance offshore gas projects to contribute to Africa's electricity mix?
- Non-producing countries: Should they bet everything on renewable energy?

Expert

- Guillaume ESTAGER /

Moderator

- Ikaba KOYI /

Speakers

- Ahmadou BAKAYOKO /
- Linda MABHENA-OLAGUNJU /
- Yetunde TAIWO /
- Ronan HUITRIC /

INDUSTRY OUTLOOK | AGRIBUSINESS - Can the new wave of special agri-processing zones be a gamechanger ?

Sub-Saharan Africa ships the majority of its \$40bn annual agricultural exports raw without value addition (cocoa 74%, cotton 70% and cashews 95%) and imports much of its food. To remedy this, dozens of agricultural processing zones are being developed across the continent – eight of which are in Nigeria with a total investment of \$570m. One of the objectives is to solve the sector's recurring problems, such as high freight costs, limited access to storage, electricity, and a traceable raw material supply. What is the recipe for these zones to become a real source of value that attracts agro-industrial leaders?

Key points

- Staple vs export crops – identifying national and regional priorities
- How should the zones operate? Governance, tax and a domestic company preference
- Route-to-market – how innovative approaches are fixing broken value chains

Expert

- Atsuko TODA /

Moderator

- Estelle MAUSSION /

Speakers

- Sebastien FAVIER /
- Rita Maria ZNIBER /
- Gagan GUPTA /
- Mohammed Anouar JAMALI /
- Ikenna NZEWI /

BUSINESS CASE | M&A: Keys to acquiring an SME

Though business acquisitions can help companies expand geographically, gain market share, add new skills and diversify portfolios, M&A operations are relatively rare on the continent. In this session, chaired by investment bank KeysFinance Partners, two business leaders recount the main challenges they met when acquiring another business, such as determining the target company, assessing its value in an uncertain environment, making the deal, and integrating the business post-acquisition.

Moderator

- Joël CADIER /

Speakers

- Abbas BADREDDINE /
- Ismael BELKHAYAT /

INVEST IN | Senegal

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Moderator

- Marc Fadel ALEXANDRENNE /

Keynote

- Amadou HOTT /

Speakers

- Aliou MAIGA /
- Mountaga SY /
- Baidy AGNE /
- Sophie GLADIMA /

CONVERSATION WITH | Mamadou Sangafowa Coulibaly & Luca Vignati

Last September, Côte d'Ivoire announced a "major discovery" of oil and offshore natural gas: 1.5 to 2 billion barrels of crude oil and 1,800 to 2,400 billion cubic feet of gas. Developed by the Italian giant Eni, this discovery comes at a time when, from COP26 to the Ukrainian crisis, gas has gone from being an energy commodity on the verge of being abandoned to a strategic asset. How can stakeholders take advantage of this gas windfall while accelerating the country's energy transition? Led by CNN journalist Larry Madowo, Côte d'Ivoire's newly appointed Minister of Mines, Oil and Energy, Mamadou Sangafowa Coulibaly, appointed at the end of April 2022, and Luca Vignati, Eni's head of upstream, discuss the opportunities that gas offers for Côte d'Ivoire and Africa.

Moderator

- Larry MADOWO /

Speakers

- Mamadou SANGAFOWA COULIBALY /
- Luca VIGNATI /

KEYNOTE | UN Climate Change High-Level Champion

COP 27: What's at stake for the African private sector?

There will be no room for “useless promises, pledges and buzzwords” at November’s United Nations Climate Change Conference 2022 (COP27) in Sharm El-Sheikh, according to UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for Egypt, Dr Mahmoud Mohieldin. Instead, the conference will be laser-focused on implementing climate projects. In this keynote address followed by an interactive audience Q&A, veteran economist and former Minister of Investment for Egypt, Dr Mohieldin, evaluates what’s in the balance as the world’s flagship climate conference returns to African soil.

Speakers

- Dr. Mahmoud MOHIELDIN /

WORKSHOP | WFC - What it takes to be a leader for gender equality

Despite abundant evidence that gender equality at board level is good for business, an overwhelming majority of organisations in Africa say advancing women into top board leadership roles is not a formal business priority. Yet diversity at the top is essential for a high-performing and innovation-oriented organisation. In this workshop you'll hear from some of the influential leaders on the continent who've made an impact on gender equality through their work. They will identify the components, opportunities and challenges to achieving gender justice at the top.

- How can we promote gender parity at board level as smart economics?
- What are key practices that can help African organisations close the gender gap in board leadership?
- How can we better monitor, evaluate and improve Gender Equality plans?

Moderator

- Valerie NEIM /
- Felicia DJIBO /
- Lamia MERZOUKI /

INDUSTRY OUTLOOK | FMCG - New tactics for conquering African consumers

A decade ago, the AfDB claimed that 300 to 500 million Africans belonged to the middle class. Such a figure, coupled with population forecasts, painted a rosy future for the retail and consumer goods sector. However, the reality proved to be more complex: nearly 70% of this so-called middle class is spending between \$2 and \$4 a day and the group's habits differ significantly from other geographies. Now COVID-19 has stalled the growth of this middle class and is putting pressure on daily spending, while driving more consumers online. How can market players adapt to the changed dynamics and deliver packaging, product sizes and prices tailored to the modest purchasing power and preferred shopping channels of the average African consumer?

Key points

- Their means and needs: Who is the African consumer?
- High costs vs. limited purchasing power: Getting the size of the offering right
- Digital banking and e-commerce: What are the consequences for points of sale?

Expert

- Julien GARCIER /

Moderator

- Madjissem BERINGAYE /

Speakers

- Claire BUENO RAGACHE /
- Marc BANDELIER /
- Abdul BEYDOUN /
- Rodrigue BILA /
- Yanis ARNOPOULOS /

PANEL | CITIES - Megacities: Challenges and opportunities in an era of rampant urbanisation

By 2050, 25% of the world's population (2.5 billion people) will live in Africa, over 1 billion of whom will live in urban areas. At a time when most African megacities are already heavily populated and seemingly unable to accommodate millions of additional residents (32 million estimated for Lagos by 2050), private sector investment opportunities are tremendous. From pollution control, a clean energy transition, and urban development planning to property rights reform, improved roads, digital infrastructure, and transport systems: what should be the urban planning priorities in Africa? And how should the private sector and national governments divide roles?

Key points

- Property and financing: Building cheaper and faster to meet growing housing demand
- Transport and infrastructure: Ensuring financial backers are aligned on city redevelopment projects
- Clean energy and road network optimisation: Could digital urbanisation change everything?

Expert

- Amaury DE FELIGONDE /

Moderator

- Tolu OYEKAN /

Speakers

- Marco DE ASSIS /
- Madani Maki TALL /
- Rania AL-MASHAT /
- Emmanuel NYIRINKINDI /
- Nialé KABA /



STRATEGIC ROUNDTABLE | FINANCIAL INCLUSION & TAXES - Digitalisation: How to capture Africa's \$100bn public finance improvement opportunity?

The digitalisation of financial and administrative services offers formidable tools to accelerate and enhance financial inclusion while also allowing nations to broaden their tax base. For Africa, where tax rates are on average 20% of GDP (compared to 34% in OECD countries), digital technology and the digital revolution have created unparalleled opportunities for value creation. This roundtable will bring together government representatives, CEOs, and multilateral bankers to discuss the opportunities offered by a formalised digital economy.

Chair

- Yaw AGYENIM-BOATENG /

INVEST IN | Mauritania

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Moderator

- Abdou DIOP /

Speakers

- S.E. Mohamed Cheikh EL GHAZOUANI /
- Aissata LAM /
- Ousmane Mamoudou KANE /
- Ahmed Yacoub NAMY /
- Tama MAOULOUD /
- Juan Carlos GARCIA /
- Gagan GUPTA /

CONVERSATION WITH | Soren Toft

Danish national Soren Toft took the reins at Swiss shipping giant MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company in December 2020 and finds himself leading what is set to become Africa's largest logistics enterprise. MSC this year signed a landmark deal to acquire Bolloré Africa Logistics for €5.7bn. In an interview with South African CNN anchor Eleni Giokos, Mr. Toft shares the company's strategy amid global supply chains disrupted by the pandemic and conflict in Ukraine.

Moderator

- Eleni GIOKOS /

Speakers

- Soren TOFT /

INDUSTRY OUTLOOK | TRANSPORT LOGISTICS - How the health crisis is revolutionising African logistics

The fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic caused port congestion, a shortage of empty containers and a spectacular increase of 126% in the volumes of maritime freight in 2021. The shock to logistics is so immense that it has brought about a massive reorganisation of supply chains, including a review of the type of goods packed in containers, a shortening of maritime routes and industrial outsourcing. Africa has seen fierce competition in logistics over the last decade and, in 2021, the launch of AfCFTA. Can it seize this opportunity to export higher added-value goods and expand its domestic market via overland routes? How can logistics specialists and carriers help deliver this transformation?

Key points

- Repositioning fleets and containers: How will this affect maritime capacities and African exports?
- How can the vertical integration of operators help Africa be part of future global supply chains?
- Governments: How can states put the sector's reorganisation to their advantage?

Expert

- Mokena MAKEKA /

Moderator

- Ciku KIMERIA /

Speakers

- Portia Joy DERBY /
- Uche OGBOI /
- David WILLIAMS /
- Ahmed BENNIS /
- Jumoke JAGUN-DOKUNMU /

INDUSTRY OUTLOOK | HEALTH - Technology transfers and economies of scale: Unlocking potential in Africa's pharma industry

The global pharmaceutical market is growing steadily and in 2020 surpassed €1 trillion in revenue. The African pharma market, with €15 billion generated in 2021 amid the pandemic, is timidly following this trend, despite the continent still struggling to access vaccines. To address this, many African governments are endorsing local production capable of meeting domestic needs, as well as exporting. But the sector in Africa remains constrained by a dependence on active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) imports, a shortage of qualified professionals, underdeveloped markets, and restrictive regulations. How can these barriers be overcome? What can be learnt from South Africa and Morocco, which cover 70 to 80% of their needs?

Key points

- Harmonising regulatory frameworks regionally: Recognising marketing authorisations and patents
- Technology transfers: How can African players form partnerships with the international private sector to promote knowledge sharing?
- Local workforce: Training and retaining the talent Africa needs

Moderator

- Kanika SAIGAL /

Expert

- Mathieu LAMIAUX /

Speakers

- Françoise LOMBARD /
- Racey MUCHILWA /
- Ramzi SANDI /
- Souleymane DIARRASSOUBA /

INDUSTRY OUTLOOK | DIGITAL - Digital data: Greater control and smarter use

Digital data sovereignty has become a global geopolitical concern as well as a considerable economic opportunity. In a market dominated by US and Chinese tech giants, the location of data centres and harnessing data are critical issues. In Africa, \$5 billion in annual investments are expected in the data centre market by 2026, a windfall that could enable governments and the private sector to regain control of the digital value chain. From regulation to harmonisation and data availability: how can stakeholders reconcile an independence strategy while protecting citizens and growing the digital economy?

Key points

- National or regional; neutral, or sovereign: What economic model is needed to develop and host data infrastructure?
- Data sensitivity: Balancing security with economic opportunity
- Creating a data ecosystem to aid African start-up development

Expert

- Adama Aristide OUATTARA /

Moderator

- Ciku KIMERIA /

Speakers

- Funke OPEKE /
- Nitin GAJRIA /
- Ebenezer ASANTE /
- Colin HU /
- Lacina KONE /

PANEL | WOMEN WORKING FOR CHANGE (WFC) - The last rung on the ladder

How women come to be underrepresented in top jobs – such as through cultural factors and informal networks dominated by men – is well documented. The proportion of African women in top leadership positions falls dramatically the higher one looks in corporate and institutional hierarchies. In 2021, only three women headed one of Africa's 50 most powerful corporations. Lack of diversity at the top has a high cost for the continent's prosperity. Numerous studies show that stronger women's representation in top leadership roles leads to greater success at private companies. How can barriers be turned into bridges for female leaders? What will it take to break inequality at the top?

Key points

- Success stories: Learning from women in top leadership positions across sectors in Africa
- How can gender parity at executive and board levels be promoted as smart economics?
- Filling data gaps on female leaders in African businesses and the benefits

Keynote

- Daphne MASHILE-NKOSI /

Expert

- Yaw AGYENIM-BOATENG /

Moderator

- Ikaba KOYI /

Speakers

- Elisabeth GOUATER /
- Massogbè TOURE /
- Marie-Chantal KANINDA /
- Yvonne IKE /
- Patricia OBOZUWA /

BUSINESS CASE | Data: How to get value from data and algorithms?

Data and AI have become a strong source of value creation and competitive advantage globally. In Africa, given the level of data maturity, the business potential, and possibilities to differentiate from competitors, is great. However, successfully leveraging data and integrating it into decisions and operations on the ground requires a transformation laden with challenges, from access to talent and investment in technology to compliance with ever-changing regulations and a focus on high-value use cases. Two leaders share their experiences on how they are making the most of data and how to build consumer trust.

Chair

- Hamid MAHER /

Speakers

- Coura SENE /
- Francis DUFAY /



STRATEGIC ROUNDTABLE | HEALTH - Initiatives and reforms for long-term e-health viability

E-health, widely regarded as a business of the future, finally seems to have taken off on the continent. Venture capital firms, having doubled investments in healthcare since 2015, are enthusiastically embracing digital apps, which have seen renewed interest on the back of COVID-19. Multilateral bankers, capital investors, entrepreneurs and lawmakers will meet for this roundtable to determine the priorities for achieving sustained growth in the e-health sector.

Chair

- Sam BOURTON /

STRATEGIC ROUNDTABLE | Waste Management : Accelerating the transition to the circular economy

African countries on average generate about 0.5 kg of waste per person per day, which is the lowest globally. However, aggregate waste generation is expected to exceed 500 million tons per year by 2050, compared to less than 200 million today. To improve the Solid Waste Management (SWM) system, countries increasingly rely on support from the private sector which has in some instances helped to relieve the financial pressure on municipalities and provided operational expertise. Nonetheless, the average collection rate is expected to remain below 70% by 2025. During this closed-door session, key CEOs, bankers and government representatives discuss how to coordinate a multistakeholder push to accelerate the transition to more sustainable systems.

Chair

- Lorentz Chidue NWACHUKU /
- Max-Henrik BLOM /

CEOs SURVEY

Moderator

- Eleni GIOKOS /

Speakers

- Emmanuel GADRET /



CEO TALK | The Africa we want

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted Africa's dependence on the rest of the world. In 2020, the continent saw its worst recession in 50 years, with foreign direct investment plummeting 16% and exports falling 8.5%. This has resulted in renewed calls for intra-African trade (~15% of total trade) and local manufacturing to underpin Africa's growth strategy. But how do business leaders perceive this ambition? And how can they help deliver on a strategy for economic sovereignty? The continent's top CEOs share their visions of a more shock-resilient Africa.

Key points

- Does the quest for economic sovereignty threaten private sector competitiveness?
- AfCFTA: Breaking the deadlock
- How can the private sector become more involved in defining national strategies?

Moderator

- Abdou DIOP /

Speakers

- Kuseni DLAMINI /
- Delphine TRAORÉ /
- Samba BATHILY /
- Abdelaziz MAKHLOUFI /



PRESIDENTIAL PANEL | Overcoming the crisis

Alerts are multiplying on security and stability in Africa. The Russian offensive in Ukraine, which came after two long years of a global health crisis, disjointed value chains and caused global shortages, pushing prices up, particularly wheat (+70% since January). This is worsening an already strained continental food situation, a consequence of excessive dependence on imports, the increase in extreme climatic episodes and a degraded security situation, particularly in the Sahel. Armed conflicts and food insecurity feed each other in a vicious cycle. Three African presidents are meeting to discuss ways to overcome the current and future food, security and climate crises.

Moderator

- Meriem AMELLAL /

Keynote

- Makhtar DIOP /

Speakers

- S.E Mr Macky SALL /
- S.E. Mohamed BAZOUM /
- S.E. Alassane OUATTARA /

CLOSING CEREMONY
