



THE AFRICA DEBATE

CATALYSING THE CONTINENT'S TRADE POTENTIAL

11 May 2023 | The Guildhall, London

Headline Partner



Partners



#TheAfricaDebate www.theafricadebate.com

About Invest Africa

Invest Africa is a leading pan-African business platform that promotes trade and investment across the continent. With over sixty years of history, our network is made up of more than 400 global organisations, private investors, fund managers, family offices, policymakers, and entrepreneurs. Our vision is to play a central and influential role in Africa's socio-economic growth by guiding sustainable capital towards key prospects on the continent.

As the trusted entry point into Africa, we support and connect business and investment through a unique range of services and events, and our high standards consistently enact our belief that a responsible and profitable private sector has a crucial role to play in Africa's development.

About The Africa Debate

The Africa Debate is London's leading investment summit focused on Africa. Now in its 9th year, this year's programme will focus on the future of African trade, discussing the continent's trade profile in the wake of Covid-19 and a multitude of global economic shocks. The event will convene global businesses, private and public investment bodies, thought leaders, and policy makers for a series of conversations on the future of African trade.

Associate Partners



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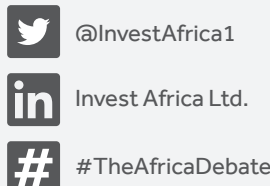
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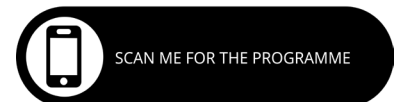
Please note that The Africa Debate will be filmed, and by attending the event you give your consent to being videotaped/ photographed.

Social Media



Networking

Register with Nunify - the networking app for the event. If you require assistance, please speak to a member of the Invest Africa Team.



Welcome

Distinguished guests,

On behalf of Invest Africa, I am delighted to welcome you to The Africa Debate '23 – London's leading investment summit focused on the continent.

Now in its ninth edition, The Africa Debate is Invest Africa's flagship event, bringing together leaders from across the continent and the broader international community to discuss ongoing challenges and opportunities in Africa's trade and investment landscape. Over the years we have tackled everything from the great post-COVID-19 reset to mobilising capital in Africa. This year's event will focus on the future of African trade, with an ambitious programme that seeks to influence and inform how investors can best support and prepare for a more integrated, and competitive, African trade environment.

Africa's trade outlook is at a crossroads. On the one hand, the pandemic, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the global economic slowdown, and rising protectionism paint a gloomy picture, affecting demand for certain African exports and exacerbating long-standing structural barriers to trade. However, the continent also finds itself perhaps more resilient to trade and economic shocks than ever before, with African countries aligning trade and investment policies behind the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) – boosted by accelerating digitalisation, an ever-vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem, and significant potential in un- and under-tapped industries from renewables to healthcare to tourism.

It is an honour to welcome His Excellency Hakainde Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia, to the Africa Debate. Invest Africa recently returned from a successful Investment and Trade Mission to Lusaka, affording our delegation of 27 companies a unique opportunity to meet with key stakeholders and gain a deeper understanding of Zambia's current investment and business climate. We look forward to building upon this momentum and driving new investment to Zambia and the continent writ large.

Our lead partner for today's event, The Africa Finance Corporation, plays a major role in catalysing the continent's trade potential. For over 15 years, AFC has worked hand in hand with governments, private companies, and other investors to provide financing for critical infrastructure projects across the continent. These investments boost transport networks and industrialisation, improve energy access, and directly help to facilitate intra-African trade to create a more conducive environment for the continent's trading landscape. Invest Africa is most appreciative of the sponsors who made today's event possible – all of whom have an important role to play in advancing African trade.

Since 1956, Invest Africa has been at the forefront of the United Kingdom's trade and investment relationship with the African continent. We are privileged to be hearing directly from His Majesty's Government today on the status of UK-Africa trade, and look forward to furthering our partnership – especially as we gear up for the UK-African Investment Summit in London on 23-24 April 2024. Invest Africa believes it is crucial for the private sector to play its role, in tandem with government, to advance UK-Africa commercial ties. We are committed to fostering and facilitating collaboration between the UK government and private sector as both work to strengthen trade relations with the continent.

On behalf of Invest Africa, I would like to thank our stellar line up of speakers and all of you for joining us today.



Karen Taylor

**Chief Executive Officer
Invest Africa**



Meet our partners



Africa Finance Corporation

AFC is a multilateral financial institution, created by African sovereign states to provide pragmatic solutions to Africa's infrastructure deficit and challenging operating environment. We actively pursue these solutions by developing and financing infrastructure, natural resources and industrial assets for the enhanced productivity and economic growth of African states.



Absa Group

We are a Pan-African group, inspired by the people we serve and determined to be a globally respected organisation of which Africa can be proud. We have operated in Africa for over 100 years. We are committed to finding tailored solutions to uniquely local challenges, and everything we do focuses on creating value for our stakeholders. As financial services provider, we play an integral role in the economic life of individuals, businesses, and nations. We empower and enable – from investing in our employees to uplifting our communities and enabling our customers' ambitions.



Afreximbank

At Afreximbank, our shared purpose is "to stimulate a consistent expansion and diversification of African trade so as to rapidly increase Africa's share of global trade; and in doing so, to operate as a first class, profit-oriented, socially responsible financial institution and a center of excellence in African trade matters" and our shared vision is to consolidate the Bank's position as "The Trade Finance Bank For Africa".



Africell

Africell is a fast-growing mobile network operator with a pan-African footprint. We provide fast and reliable mobile network coverage and related technology services to over 16 million subscribers. Through a mix of voice and SMS products, data services, and Afrimoney (our mobile money platform), we help sub-Saharan Africa share in the extraordinary long-term benefits of digital connectivity.



Africa Specialty Risks

Africa Specialty Risks (ASR) is a pan-African (re)insurance company focused on providing comprehensive, bespoke risk mitigation solutions to the African Corporate and Specialty market. ASR was established in 2020 by Mikir Shah former CEO of AXA Africa Specialty Risks in partnership with Helios Investment Partners Fund IV, whose underlying investors include British International Investment plc (the UK's development finance institution), and the International Finance Corporation (a member of the World Bank Group).



Bank of Africa United Kingdom plc

Bank of Africa United Kingdom plc, formerly known as BMCE Bank International plc, is a leading international bank specialising in African investment. We connect international institutions and investors with a diverse portfolio of investment opportunities on the continent.



Cassava Technologies

As a company that is firmly rooted in Africa, Cassava Technologies envisions a digitally connected future for every African. We are on a mission to use technology to transform the lives of individuals and businesses across the continent by enabling social mobility and economic prosperity. Our integrated ecosystem of digital solutions will dramatically increase access to digital tools and connectivity.



Control Risks

Control Risks is a global specialist risk consultancy that helps to create secure, compliant and resilient organisations. Combining unrivalled expertise, experience and reach with the power of data and technology, we provide the insight and intelligence needed to stay on track, realise opportunities and grow.

Meet our partners



DLA Piper

DLA Piper is a global law firm capable of taking care of the most important legal needs of clients wherever they do business. With offices throughout the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia Pacific, we represent more clients in a broader range of geographies and practice disciplines than any other law firm in the world. Our lawyers have wide experience in arbitration, banking, competition, and trade, as well as corporate crime and corporate finance.



Lagos Free Zone

Promoted by Singapore-based Tolaram, Lagos Free Zone is the first private free trade Zone in Nigeria. Centrally located in Lagos State, the commercial centre of West-Africa's largest economy, the zone covers an area of 830 hectares. It is fully equipped with world-class infrastructure, a single clearance window for ease of doing business, and integrated with the 90 hectares Lekki deep seaport, which will allow for access to regional and international markets.



Moody's Investors Service

We are a global integrated risk assessment firm that empowers organizations to make better decisions. Our data, analytical solutions and insights help decision-makers identify opportunities and manage the risks of doing business with others. We believe that greater transparency, more informed decisions, and fair access to information open the door to shared progress.



Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group

MUFG (Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group) is one of the world's leading financial groups. Headquartered in Tokyo and with over 360 years of history, MUFG has a global network with over 2,100 locations in more than 50 markets including the Americas, Europe, the Middle East and Africa, Asia and Oceania. The Group has over 160,000 employees and offers services including commercial banking, trust banking, securities, credit cards, consumer finance, asset management, and leasing.



Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG)

The Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG) mobilises private investment in infrastructure in frontier markets, with the aim of boosting economic growth and combating poverty. PIDG is a multilateral organisation governed by donors from seven countries and the World Bank.



Standard Chartered Bank

We are a leading international banking group, with a presence in more than 60 of the world's most dynamic markets. Our purpose is to drive commerce and prosperity through our unique diversity, and our heritage and values are expressed in our brand promise, Here for good. Standard Chartered PLC is listed on the London and Hong Kong Stock Exchanges.



Xcalibur Multiphysics

Xcalibur Multiphysics is a world leader in airborne and marine geophysical solutions, including value-adding data acquisition, data processing, data interpretation, data management, and specialized software. We offer natural resource mapping (Oil & Gas, mining, underground water and geothermal) to, sustainably, unlock the hidden wealth of the Earth and facilitate the decision-making processes of our clients.



4G Capital

4G Capital has supported micro-enterprises in Africa since 2013, providing financial literacy training with working capital loans to help small businesses grow sustainably. 4G Capital clients receive a bespoke programme of business training to help them use micro-loans to achieve much higher take-home earnings. 4G Capital's proprietary machine learning technology delivers high-fidelity insights from traditionally data dark sectors. We design scalable credit products and services optimized for clients' business risks, timescales, and affordability.

Programme

09:00	Opening Remarks Karen Taylor , Chief Executive Officer, Invest Africa
09:15	Country Spotlight: H.E. Hakainde Hichilema , President of the Republic of Zambia
10:00	Fireside Chat H.E. Wamkele Mene , Secretary General, African Continental Free Trade Area Secretariat & Samaila Zubairu , President & CEO, Africa Finance Corporation in conversation with Rt. Hon. Mark Simmonds , Chairman of Invest Africa Advisory Board
10:45	Networking Break
11:15	Welcome Remarks Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor Nicholas Lyons , City of London Corporation
11:20	Keynote Address Rt. Hon. Andrew Mitchell MP , Minister of State in the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office
11:35	Debate: African Trade: The Key to Boosting Industrialisation on the Continent <p>There has long existed an imbalance in Africa's trade relations with the rest of the world. While the continent's trade volume has increased over time, its trading relationships remain asymmetrical, with Africa mostly exporting basic commodities and importing manufactured goods. In this panel, speakers will discuss and debate the best path forward to accelerate the continent's industrialisation, advance regional value chains, and remedy Africa's trade imbalance with the rest of the world.</p> <p>Dr Christopher Marks, Managing Director & Head of Emerging Markets, Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (Moderator)</p> <p>Dolika Banda, Chairperson, ZCCM Investment Holdings Plc</p> <p>Dr Carlos Lopes, Professor at the Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance, University of Cape Town</p> <p>Dinesh Rathi, Chief Executive Officer, Lagos Free Zone</p> <p>Solomon Quaynor, Vice President, Private Sector, Infrastructure & Industrialisation, African Development Bank</p>
12:30	Lunch

13:30	<p>Africa in the Global Economy: Challenges and Opportunities</p> <p>From supply chain disruptions stemming from Russia's invasion of Ukraine to the lingering effects of COVID-19 to business and consumer price pressures, 2023 is sure to bring a multitude of challenges and opportunities to Africa. However, the continent is perhaps better placed to avoid an economic slump than in previous years – boosted by strong global commodity prices and continent-wide economic integration efforts. This presentation will unpack the major trends facing Africa in 2023.</p> <p>Robert Hutchinson, Partner, Africa, Control Risks</p>
13:45	<p>Debate: Building a Comprehensive Digital Trade Strategy for Africa</p> <p>Despite tremendous advancements in digital trade and e-commerce across Africa in recent years, the continent remains constrained by inadequate digital infrastructure, limited internet access, and high costs associated with digital services – among other challenges. An effective digital trade strategy could have multiple benefits for the continent's trade profile, including empowering small and medium-sized enterprises with access to new markets and customers and stimulating economic growth by promoting cross-border trade and investment. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and its e-commerce protocol could help in this regard, providing a framework for the harmonisation of digital trade policies, reducing regulatory barriers, and improving digital infrastructure.</p> <p>Michelle Chivunga N, Digital Trade Expert, AfCFTA, CEO & Founder, Global Policy House (Moderator)</p> <p>Wayne Hennessy-Barrett, Chief Executive Officer, 4G Capital</p> <p>Peter Njonjo, Chief Executive Officer, Twiga Foods</p> <p>Alex Okosi, Managing Director, YouTube EMEA, Emerging Markets, YouTube</p> <p>Toulay Oueslati, Head of Trade Finance & Commodity Trade Finance, Bank of Africa United Kingdom plc</p> <p>Hardy Pemhiwa, President & Group CEO, Cassava Technologies</p>

<p>14:45</p>	<p>Debate: Embracing ESG in African Trade</p> <p>From the expanding web of ESG regulatory initiatives to the spread of international finance taxonomies to the surge in government efforts to drive private capital and public funds to sustainable development initiatives, the ESG landscape is changing across Africa. Implications for African trade are significant, with the continent's trading system central to its efforts to stimulate economic growth and reduce poverty. But how are ESG pressures influencing African trade and how can governments and companies operating across the continent embrace ESG as a driver of sustainable development rather than a compliance tick box? In this panel, speakers will discuss and debate the interplay between ESG and African trade and the best way forward for a continental, ESG-embracing trade strategy.</p> <p>Mikir Shah, Chief Executive Officer, Africa Specialty Risks (Moderator)</p> <p>Ibukun Adebayo, Group Director - Sustainable Finance & Investment Strategy, The London Stock Exchange Group</p> <p>Punki Modise, Chief Strategy & Sustainability Officer, Absa Bank</p> <p>Hanan Sakr, Head, Private Sector Engagement, UAE Climate Change Special Envoy</p> <p>Marco Serena, Chief Sustainable Impact Officer, Private Infrastructure Development Group</p>
<p>15:45</p>	<p>Networking Break</p>
<p>16:00</p>	<p>Debate: Leveraging Critical Minerals to Advance African Trade</p> <p>Demographic trends drive the economy. For example, captains of industry like Aliko Dangote built hugely successful enterprises on the strength of the continent's infrastructure boom. Similarly, the ongoing global surge in demand for critical minerals brings with it opportunities for African corporates to strengthen their presence in critical minerals and metals value chains and, in turn, boost African trade. In this panel, speakers will discuss and debate Africa's role in the supply of critical minerals, the geopolitics of critical mineral supply chains, and how the continent can strengthen its presence along the critical minerals value chain and build downstream capacity.</p> <p>Sameh Shenouda, Executive Director & Chief Investment Officer, Africa Finance Corporation (Moderator)</p> <p>Tavraj Banga, Partner & Co-Head of Helios Climate, Helios Investment Partners</p> <p>Andres Blanco, Chief Executive Officer, Xcalibur Multiphysics</p> <p>Simon Gardner-Bond, Chief Technical Officer, TechMet</p> <p>Amb. J. Peter Pham, Distinguished Fellow, Atlantic Council</p>

<p>17:00</p>	<p>Debate: Investing in Africa's Future – Unlocking Finance to Drive Trade and Development</p> <p>Capital flows to African markets reached new highs during the pandemic, but that trajectory looks unlikely to continue with fears of a global recession on the rise and the continent's sources of external finance increasingly being called into question. What can be done to bolster capital flows to the continent? In this panel, speakers will discuss and debate innovative ways to strengthen Africa's financial sector to promote growth and trade.</p> <p>Tokunboh Ishmael, Co-Founder & Managing Director, Alitheia Capital (Moderator)</p> <p>Chris Chijutomi, Managing Director & Head of Africa, British International Investment</p> <p>Lina Osman, Regional Head - West, Standard Chartered Bank</p> <p>Francesco Soldi, Head of Relationship Management, Moody's Investors Service</p> <p>Admassu Tadesse, President Emeritus & Group Managing Director, Trade and Development Bank</p>
<p>18:00</p>	<p>Close</p>
<p>18:00</p>	<p>Drinks Reception in Partnership with Standard Chartered Bank</p>



Keynote speakers



H.E. Hakainde Hichilema

President of the Republic of Zambia Zambian Government

Hakainde Hichilema, a self-made successful businessman, was the energetic leader of the major opposition political party in Zambia the United Party for National Development (UPND), which won the elections held on 12th August, 2021.

Affectionately known as HH, he has carved out an impressive track record in business, both locally and internationally. A large commercial farmer, Hichilema is now the second biggest cattle rancher in Zambia on four ranches, and is one of the biggest suppliers of meat to the local Zambian market, as well as one of Zambia's biggest exporter of hard-currency-earning beef products. He also holds substantial investments in Zambia's tourism sector. He has run his campaigns throughout his career on a strong economic platform, arguing that Zambia needs a leader who understands business and can turn around the economy in order to unlock developmental benefits in health, education and elsewhere. His strategy of reaching out to the young voters who in most cases were first time voters, worked very well in the run up to the 2021 elections. He eventually earned his now famous moniker of "Bally" which further endeared him to majority youthful voters.

He is passionate about delivering improvements in Zambia's education system so that every young Zambian has that same opportunity he had to receive government support that can empower youths to launch a successful career in which they can earn a decent wage, provide for their family and help grow the Zambian economy.



H.E. Wamkele Mene

Secretary General African Continental Free Trade Area

Prior to being elected Secretary-General of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat, Wamkele Mene served as Chief Director: Africa Economic Relations, at the Department of Trade & Industry of South Africa. Here, he was South Africa's chief trade negotiator in the AfCFTA and Tripartite FTA negotiations. During his tenure, South Africa ratified both the AfCFTA and Tripartite FTAs agreements, providing new export markets in fast growing and dynamic markets in East and West Africa. Wamkele was also previously Director: International Trade Law & Investment Law at the Department of Trade & Industry. From 2010 until 2015, Wamkele represented South Africa at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in Geneva, Switzerland, during which Wamkele was elected by over 130 governments to the position of Chairman of the Committee on International Trade in Financial Services. Wamkele has written and lectured internationally on international trade law, international investment law and international business law. He holds a Bachelor of Arts (Law) degree from Rhodes University in South Africa, a Master of Arts in International Studies & Diplomacy (with specialization in International Economics) from the School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS), University of London and a LL.M. (Master of Laws) in Banking Law & Financial Regulation from the Law Department of the London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE).



Rt. Hon. Andrew Mitchell MP

Minister of State, Development & Africa | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office UK Government

Andrew Mitchell was appointed as a Minister of State in the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) on 25 October 2022. He was previously Secretary of State for International Development from May 2010 to September 2012. He was elected Conservative MP for Sutton Coldfield on 7 June 2001. Andrew was educated at Rugby School and Jesus College, Cambridge where he studied history and was President of the Union. He served in the Royal Tank Regiment before joining Lazard, where he worked with British companies seeking large-scale overseas contracts. After serving as a government whip between 1993 and 1995, Andrew served as Minister for Social Security from 1995 to 1997. While in opposition, he was Shadow Minister for Economic Affairs from 2003 to 2004 and Shadow Minister for Home Affairs from 2004 to 2005. He then served as Shadow Secretary of State for International Development until the 2010 election.

Keynote speakers



Samaila Zubairu
President & CEO
Africa Finance Corporation

Mr. Samaila Zubairu was appointed as AFC's 3rd President and Chief Executive Officer in July 2018, ushering in a new era of leadership in accelerating development impact with the development and implementation of a five-year corporate strategy which at its core, addresses the urgent mandate of increasing energy access for Africans, driving sustainable development of natural resources, transport and logistics infrastructure, heavy industries, and improving telecommunications/technology access. Key pillars of the strategy include: enhancing the capacity of the team and entrenching a high-performance culture; coherent ecosystem strategy for value-accretive beneficiation and import substitution; proactive risk and portfolio management to improve AFC's credit profile and diversifying its funding sources.



Corporate and Investment Banking

Expertise that powers the continent

Leading the energy transformation in Africa

We are proud to have provided advisory services and financing for Infinity Power's acquisition of Lekela Power, Africa's largest renewables-focused, independent power producer.

In this deal, Infinity Power acquired Actis and Mainstream Renewable Power's combined 100% stake in Lekela Power. We acted as Debt and Joint M&A Advisor on the transaction. Additionally we acted as sole Mandated Lead Arranger on the ZAR Acquisition Financing Facility and joint Mandated Lead Arranger on the USD Acquisition Financing Facility.

Consistent with Absa's commitment to driving energy transformation, we assisted Infinity Power on delivering on its COP 27 promise of being the fastest growing renewable energy company in Africa. Infinity Power's total capacity of operational projects after this acquisition will increase to 1.3GW, equating to a reduction of more than 3 million tons of CO2 emissions per year relative to using conventional power generation.

We are proud to have delivered a comprehensive solution for our client by combining our deep industry insight in renewable energy, our multi-product offering across all the pillars of our investment banking business, our experience in executing complex deals and our expertise in advising international businesses in making investments in Africa.

cib.absa.africa



Speakers



Ibukun Adebayo
Group Director, Sustainable Finance & Investment Strategy
London Stock Exchange Group

Ibukun is responsible for London Stock Exchange Group's growth and collaboration strategy in emerging markets with a key focus on India and Africa. He has driven key initiatives such as LSEG's "Companies to Inspire Africa" publication and also launched the Exchange's first International Advisory Group for Africa bringing together key business leaders, investors and African regulators to solve the challenges facing African capital markets. Prior to this Ibukun was Head of LSEG's equity listings business covering key markets in South Asia, Middle East and Africa.



Dolika Banda
Independent Consultant
Dolika Banda Inc.

Ms. Dolika E S Banda has extensive and deep experience in development finance, and is an Independent Consultant focused on accelerating impact-driven transformational economic development in emerging markets, with a particular focus on sub-Saharan Africa integration. Ms Banda is a globally exposed and versatile C-suite executive, bringing over 30 years of emerging markets development finance experience with a global purview. Ms Banda has served in various capacities including being the CEO of the African Risk Capacity Insurance Company (ARC Ltd) and worked for the IFC for 16 years.



Tavraj Banga
Partner & Co-Head of Climate Investments
Helios Investment Partners

Tavraj is a Partner & Co-Head of Climate Investment at Helios Investment Partners. He has 19 years of experience investing in developed and in emerging markets, across a range of industries including renewable energy, financial services, real estate, and technology. Prior to joining Helios in 2018, he worked at global private equity firm Terra Firma, focusing on both growth and leveraged buyout investing across a range of sectors.



Andres Blanco
Chief Executive Officer
Xcalibur Multiphysics

Andrés Blanco is currently CEO of Xcalibur Multiphysics Group, a leading company in airborne geophysics solutions. Xcalibur Multiphysics is a world leader in airborne geophysics. Its activity focuses on mapping natural resources, such as minerals, oil and gas, water and energy sources, including geothermal and hydrogen, through its geophysical systems installed on its fleet of aircraft. Its main customers are governments, public agencies and large and small mining, oil, energy and environmental companies.



Chris Chijutomi
Managing Director, Head of Africa
British International Investment

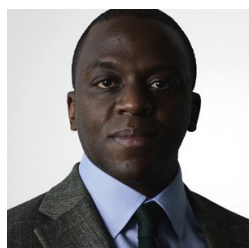
Chris Chijutomi leads the DFI's operations in Africa and work to further strengthen its longstanding presence across the continent. Chijutomi joined BII in 2017 as Investment Director in the Infrastructure Equity team before going on to head the business and was promoted in 2022 as an MD. He led some of BII's landmark infrastructure investments, most notably overseeing BII's joint venture with DP World; supporting the expansion and modernisation of ports and inland logistics in Africa, to accelerate the continent's potential in becoming a global trading powerhouse.

Speakers



Michelle Chivunga N
Founder & CEO
Global Policy House

Michelle is a globally recognised investor, Blockchain and Digital transformation expert working across emerging markets with a focus on Africa to support the flow of liquidity and implementation of Digital Transformation programs. Michelle owns and runs only black African female-led FinTechs (Global Policy House -GPH), focused on delivering solutions in Digital Economy (Ai, Blockchain, Data, Digital currency, and other digital asset solutions). She has been recognized as Digital Transformation Woman of the Year 2022, Top 10 Women in Blockchain in Africa, and one of the Top 40 Global Fintech4Good Fellows with the United Nations.



Robert Hutchinson
Partner, Africa
Control Risks

Robert Hutchinson leads & manages the Control Risks' East Africa business where he supports clients to be secure, resilient and compliant in their market entry, operations and growth across a footprint of ten countries. He is based in Nairobi, Kenya and specialises in advice to business leaders and investors on matters relating to enterprise risk, business resilience and crisis management. Before joining Control Risks, Robert served, as a commissioned officer in the British Army, for ten years and served on active duty on three operational deployments.



Simon Gardner-Bond
Chief Technical Officer
TechMet

Simon is a geologist by training but has spent the last 19 years in the world of mining finance: analysing, researching and investing in various sectors of the natural resource space. Having graduated from the Royal School of Mines (Imperial College), he moved into mergers and acquisitions in the metals and mining sector before spending time as a Mining Analyst for two stockbrokers, and a stint as part of the Natural Resources team at Investec Asset Management (now Ninety One) managing multi-billion dollar natural resource funds.



Wayne Hennessy-Barrett
Founder & CEO
4G Capital

Over 25 years of experience in frontier market operations, creating sustainable and scalable operations to deliver high shared value outcomes. Founder of 4G Capital, an award-winning provider of digital last-mile financing. 4G Capital is listed as one of the FT's fastest-growing companies in Africa in 2023 and Africa's highest scoring financial services B Corporation. 4G Capital is a US-Kenyan pathfinder company for US Ambassador Meg Whitman (former CEO EBay, Hewlett Packard). Listed as one of the top 50 Fintech CEOs,



Tokunboh Ishmael
Co-Founder & Managing Director
Alitheia Capital

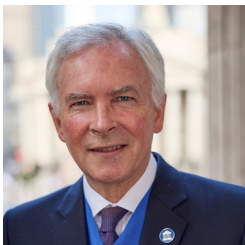
Tokunboh Ishmael is co-founder and Managing Director of Alitheia Capital, a female-led impact investing private equity firm, a Yale World Fellow, and a member of the inaugural cohort of the Aspen Institute's Finance Leaders Fellowship. 'Tokunboh was a Dragon Panelist on the popular Dragons Den Nigeria TV show and currently sits on a number of corporate boards. As a dynamic speaker she shares her over two decades of knowledge on topics including Private Equity and Venture Capital in Africa; ESG and Impacting Investing; Gender Lens Investing; and Diversity and Inclusion.wide.

Speakers



Dr. Carlos Lopes
Professor at Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance
University of Cape Town

Dr Carlos Lopes is Professor at the Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance at the University of Cape Town, Visiting Professor of Science Po Paris, Visiting Fellow at Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford and Associate Fellow of Chatham House. He served the United Nations in several prominent roles, the latest being the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, based in Addis Ababa (2012-2016).



Nicholas Lyons
Lord Mayor of the City of London
City of London Corporation

Alderman Nicholas Lyons was elected as the next Lord Mayor of the City of London on 29 September 2022. He took office as the 694th Lord Mayor on 11 November 2022. He previously served as Sheriff of the City of London in 2021-22 and in that capacity supported the then Lord Mayor, undertaking numerous engagements and activities at home and abroad. He is currently taking a sabbatical from being Chairman of Phoenix Group Holdings, the largest player in the UK retirement and long term savings industry and a FTSE100 company.



Dr. Christopher Marks
Managing Director & Head of Emerging Markets, Corporate Banking EMEA
Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group

Dr Christopher Marks has worked in the financial markets and financial sector advisory, across the public and private sector, for more than 20 years. He is Managing Director and Head of Emerging Markets, Corporate Banking EMEA, MUFG. Prior to his current role, Christopher served as Senior Advisor at the African Development Bank in Abidjan and continues to act as Expert - Capital Markets/Debt Management for the International Monetary Fund/AFRITAC.



Punki Modise
Chief Strategy and Sustainability Officer
Absa Group

Punki was appointed as the Group Chief and Sustainability Officer in July 2022. She joined Absa Group in 2008 and has held various senior management positions, including that of Chief Financial Officer: Retail and Business Banking since June 2016. Previous roles include Head: Transactional Banking, Chief of Staff: Retail Banking and Chief Financial Officer: Distribution Channels. Prior to joining Absa Group, she held positions at Standard Bank and Fedsure, having completed her articles at PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc.



Peter Njonjo
Co-Founder & CEO
Twiga Foods

Peter Njonjo is the Co-Founder and Group CEO of Twiga Foods, a B2B e-commerce company that focuses on food and grocery in informal retail. The company was named in Times Top 100 Most Influential Companies 2022 and selected as a Technology Pioneer by the World Economic Forum, both in 2020. Twiga is a B2B e-commerce company that builds fair and reliable markets for agricultural producers, food manufacturers and retailers based on transparency and efficiency. Njonjo was President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Kenya, a director of the American Business Council in Nigeria and has been voted among the top 100 young leaders in Africa by Forbes Afrique.

Speakers



Alex Okosi
Managing Director, Emerging Market EMEA
YouTube

Alex Okosi is Managing Director of YouTube Emerging Markets in Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA). A mission-driven leader with over 25-years experience across the media, entertainment and technology industries, he is responsible for driving the platform's growth and partnerships with creators, partners and media companies across key verticals such as music, gaming, TV, film, kids, news and sports in Russia, Africa, the Middle East and Turkey.



Toulay Oueslati
Head Trade Finance and Commodity Trade Finance
Bank of Africa United Kingdom plc

Toulay Oueslati is Head of Trade Finance and Commodity Trade Finance for Bank of Africa UK Plc. She has professional experience within Bank of Africa covering 22 countries on the continent in the Trade environment. She has experience in Debt Lending for Financial Institutions and Corporates in and out of Africa supporting trade flows in the continent. She also has financed flow in the primary and secondary markets. She has experience with working with DFIs, Alternative financing funds, and Insurers.



Lina Osman
Regional Head of Sustainable Finance, West
Standard Chartered Bank

Lina is the Regional Head of Sustainable Finance, West at Standard Chartered Bank, which encompasses the regions of the Middle East, Africa, Europe and the Americas. Lina has also developed a number of strong banking relationships with sovereign wealth funds and other financial sponsors in MENA, and advises clients on sustainable finance solutions and transition opportunities. She is also a board member of the MENA Clean Energy Business Council ("CEBC").



Hardy Pemhiwa
President & Group CEO
Cassava Technologies

Hardy is the President and Group Chief Executive Officer of Cassava Technologies. Hardy was Group Chief Executive & Managing Director of Econet for six years, one of the pioneers of the mobile telecoms industry in Africa. He is a seasoned board-level practitioner with extensive senior management experience across Eastern and Southern Africa in financial services, development banking, telecommunications, media, and infrastructure.



Amb. J. Peter Pham
Distinguished Fellow
Atlantic Council

J. Peter Pham is a Distinguished Fellow at the Atlantic Council. He previously served, with the personal rank of United States Ambassador, as the first-ever US Special Envoy for the Sahel Region of Africa (2020-2021) and, before that, as the US Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region of Africa (2018-2020). He is currently a Non-Executive Director of Africell Global Holdings and of Rainbow Rare Earths as well as a Strategic Advisor to dClimate, High Power Exploration, Bitt, and other companies.

Speakers



Solomon Quaynor
Vice President- Private Sector, Infrastructure & Industrialisation
Africa Development Bank

Solomon Quaynor is the Vice President for Private Sector, Infrastructure & Industrialization at the African Development Bank (AfDB). He joined AfDB in May 2020. He has over 25 years' experience in development finance and investment banking. From 2018-2020 after Mr. Quaynor left IFC to join the private sector, he provided specialized advisory services in emerging markets as: Senior Advisor to Rothschild Global Advisory for Africa (excluding SA); Senior Advisor to IFU (Danish DFI) for sub-Saharan Africa; Investment Committee member and Senior Advisor to a \$350 million African PE Fund; Senior Advisor to an African infrastructure fund; and, served on the boards of InfraCredit Nigeria and Verdant Ventures.



Dinesh Rathi
Managing Director & CEO
Lagos Free Zone (Tolaram Group)

Dinesh Rathi is a member of the leadership team at Tolaram, a Singapore-headquartered conglomerate with major interests in Africa. He is leading the infrastructure vertical in Nigeria which involves the development and operations of a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) which is deeply integrated with Lekki Sea Port. He has worked in Nigeria for 18 years in a variety of positions with a focus on finance, strategy, mergers and acquisitions, manufacturing, and projects.



Hanan Sakr
Head- Private Sector Engagement
COP28 UAE

Hanan Bakr Sakr is the Head of Private Sector Engagement team for the UAE Climate Change Special Envoy office for COP28. She is a former Finance Head with the UNFCCC High-Level Climate Champions and MENAT head of Energy Sector and Sustainability Lead for HSBC with a diversified experience in Banking, Climate Finance & ESG Advisory, FMCG, Oil & Gas, NGOs, and Governments.



Marco Serena
Chief Sustainable Impact Officer
Private Infrastructure Development Group

Marco provides leadership on driving sustainable development impact across PIDG companies. He oversees the early stage impact assessment of all PIDG investments, the process for monitoring and evaluating their impact and PIDG programmatic work to deepen sustainable development impact including on gender and climate. Marco has over 15 years of experience working in frontier markets to drive development impact through private investment. He joined PIDG from the UK Department for International Development where he most recently led their Impact Investing team.



Mikir Shah
Chief Executive Officer
Africa Specialty Risks

Mikir Shah has over 25 years of experience in Africa. Prior to ASR, he was the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of AXA Africa Specialty Risks. A highly skilled practitioner with extensive financial experience, Mikir has also previously held the position of Head of Insurance (UK) and Head of Financial Institutions (Africa) at Barclays Investment Bank. He started his career at ABN AMRO Bank N.V where he became Head of European and Emerging Markets before joining Macquarie Capital as Head of India showcasing his diverse market experience and skillset.

Speakers



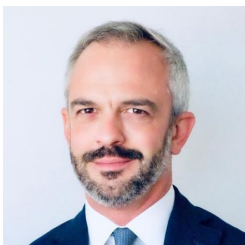
Sameh Shenouda
Executive Director & Chief Investment Officer
Africa Finance Corporation

Sameh Shenouda is the Executive Director and Chief Investment Officer. He leads origination, execution and portfolio management of transactions across a wide range of sectors and products. With over 27 years of experience in infrastructure investments, project development and fundraising in international capital markets, Mr. Shenouda has a deep knowledge of African markets, with specific experience in Power, Transport & Logistics, Industrial and Oil & Gas sectors. Prior to joining the Africa Finance Corporation, Sameh was the Chief Executive Officer of Zarou, a US\$1bn developer, owner, investor and operator of infrastructure projects in Africa, the Middle East and Asia. Zarou was 100% owned by the Blackstone Group, one of the world's leading private equity investors.



Rt. Hon. Mark Simmonds
Chairman
Invest Africa Advisory Board

Rt Hon Mark Simmonds was The Foreign & Commonwealth office Minister with responsibilities for Africa, the Caribbean, UK Overseas Territories, International Energy and Conflict Prevention and worked closely with UKEF. He served as a Member of the UK Parliament for 14 years. He was also a Senior Advisor to The Prime Minister David Cameron. He now has a number of international roles; senior advisor to an International emerging Markets Private Equity firm. Chairman of the Global Investment platform 'Invest Africa' and Senior Advisor to a Global Multi Strategy hedge fund.



Francesco Soldi
Head of Relationship Management
Moody's Investors Service

Francesco leads MIS Relationship Management team for Southern Europe, responsible to drive Moody's commercial strategy and MIS business in the region. Francesco has 20 years of experience in the financial markets building high performing teams and developing commercial strategies to drive growth and help customers make better business decisions. Francesco joined Moody's in 2004 in the Sub-Sovereign Group as rating analyst. In his career within the rating group Francesco covered various jurisdictions as rating analyst and then team manager.



Admassu Tadesse
President Emeritus & Group Managing Director
Trade and Development Bank

Mr. Tadesse is President Emeritus and Group Managing Director and serves as Chairman of the TDB Group Executive Management Board. Prior to this role, he served as CEO of TDB (2012-2022). He serves on the governing organs of several global and continental industry bodies, notably the International Development Finance Club, Finance in Common and the Africa Investment Forum. He also serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Financial Sector Deeping Ethiopia, a-not-for-profit financial sector development agency.



Karen Taylor
Chief Executive Officer
Invest Africa

Karen has been involved in promoting African trade and investment since 2014. She joined the Business Council for Africa in 2015 and in 2017 completed a merger with Invest Africa; creating the leading business and investment platform for Africa, in the UK. She has more than twenty years' experience in the events industry within private and listed events companies in the UK. Her background includes business development activity in acquisitions and joint ventures in the UK and in the developing markets of China, Russia, Africa and Dubai



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