Regional Agenda

World Economic Forum on Africa
Meeting Overview

Cape Town, South Africa 3-5 June 2015
Then and Now: Reimagining Africa’s Future

In 2015, the World Economic Forum on Africa will mark 25 years of change in Africa. Over the past decade and a half, Africa has demonstrated a remarkable economic turnaround, growing two to three percentage points faster than global GDP. Regional growth is projected to remain stable above 5% in 2015, buoyed by rising foreign direct investment, particularly into the natural resources sector; increased public investment in infrastructure; and higher agricultural production.

With the world’s largest youth demographic, Africa’s working-age population is expected to double to 1 billion in the next 25 years, surpassing both China and India. The year 2015 is also significant for Africa, as it marks the end of global, regional and local efforts to meet the Millennium Development Goals aimed at eradicating poverty.

Double-digit growth is now needed for sustainable development, and the onus is on leaders to address systemic structural changes that can boost investment, enhance competitiveness, strengthen risk resilience and harness opportunities arising from technology adoption in all sectors. This growth is also necessary to diminish vulnerability to commodity price fluctuations, capital market volatility, mounting public debt, climate change and persistent development challenges.

“A bright future beckons. The onus is on us, through hard work, honesty and integrity, to reach for the stars.”

Nelson Mandela
Programme Objectives

Under the theme, Then and Now: Reimagining Africa’s Future, the World Economic Forum on Africa will convene regional and global leaders from business, government and civil society to take stock of progress over the last 25 years, share insights on the present landscape and identify innovative approaches to accelerate inclusive growth to bring about sustainable development in the future by addressing the following issues:

Marshalling Resources
- How can governments increase and sustain access to international capital markets?
- How can natural resources be developed to deliver genuine shared value?
- How will countries expand and deepen tax bases?
- How will new models of blended finance plug infrastructure gaps?
- What innovations in payment systems are driving financial inclusion?
- How can open data and smart government improve regional governance?
- What can governments and businesses do to stem illicit financial outflows?
- How can the private sector support the post-2015 development agenda?
- How will catastrophe insurance pools increase resilience to natural disasters?

Enabling Markets
- How will inclusive business models drive agriculture value chains?
- What structural reforms are boosting global competitiveness?
- How can regional markets improve their attractiveness to investors?
- How will growth be sustained in the face of creeping global protectionism?
- What new industries are transforming the jobs landscape and growing incomes?
- How can local enterprises increase intra-African investment?
- How can labour market efficiency be balanced with inclusive growth?
- How will Africa realize the internet revolution?
- How can Africa overcome barriers to talent mobility and close its skills gap?

Inspiring Creativity
- How will the emerging middle class drive sustainable consumption?
- How can design-led thinking address social and environmental challenges?
- What are the innovations that are scaling up healthcare delivery?
- How can Africa’s creative industries compete on the global stage?
- How will smart cities and urbanization drive economic growth?
- How can gender diversity in leadership stimulate entrepreneurship?
- What new clean energy technologies are lighting up the continent?
- How will the inventiveness of the informal economy be scaled up?
- How can art and culture bridge socio-political divisions?
Meeting Information

We have further improved the interactive, outcome-oriented format of Forum discussions. Speeches are strongly discouraged and all participants are invited to contribute actively to constructive, lively debate.

Interactive sessions address key issues on the regional agenda in an informal panel setting. There are no prepared remarks and the moderator encourages active discussion among the panellists. Participants in the audience have the opportunity to pose questions to the panellists. Plenary sessions are broadcast on the Forum website. Televised sessions are co-designed with a media partner and broadcast to a global audience.

WorkStudios promote interaction between discussion leaders and participants on a compelling challenge or complex issue. They are facilitated group discussions that focus on providing structured interventions from discussion leaders, capturing direct feedback from participants and building consensus on priorities and solutions.

Workshops are facilitated group discussions focusing on a compelling challenge or complex issue, designed with specific tasks and objectives to provide the highest level of interaction.

New Solutions sessions highlight the creative approaches of the Forum’s communities to solving some of the region’s most intractable issues. Each speaker presents an idea for impact, followed by a facilitated discussion on required collaboration and scalability.

One-on-One sessions elicit insightful and challenging perspectives on Africa’s transformation from global and regional thought leaders. Each session introduces a guest who is an inspiring individual from business, government, academia or civil society.

Arena sessions offer interactive debate with top government, business and civil society leaders. Prepared remarks by the panel are kept to a minimum in favour of intensive discussions under the guidance of a moderator. The panel is surrounded by the audience, creating an intimate and stimulating atmosphere.
## Programme at a Glance

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<td>Cultural Soirée Hosted by the Government of South Africa</td>
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FAQs

Where will the meeting take place?
The meeting will take place at the Cape Town International Convention Centre, Cape Town, South Africa.

Where will I stay?
PublicisLive, the Forum’s operations and logistics provider, will arrange accommodation at the hotels below. You will receive a hotel booking form upon confirmation of your registration.

The Westin Cape Town*****
Convention Square, Lower Long Street
8001 Cape Town, South Africa
Tel.: +27 (0)21 412 9999
Fax: +27 (0)21 412 9001
Website: http://www.westincapetown.com/

The One & Only Cape Town*****
Dock Road, Victoria and Alfred Waterfront
8001 Cape Town, South Africa
Tel.: +27 (0)21 431 5888
Fax: +27 (0)21 431 5230
Website: http://capetown.oneandonlyresorts.com/

Southern Sun The Cullinan****
1 Cullinan Street
8001 Cape Town, South Africa
Tel.: +27 (0)21 415 4000
Fax: +27 (0)21 418 3559
Website: http://www.tsogosunhotels.com/hotels/the-cullinan/pages/overview.aspx

Southern Sun Waterfront Cape Town****
1 Lower Buitengracht Street
8001 Cape Town, South Africa
Tel.: +27 (0)21 409 4000
Fax: +27 (0)21 409 4666
Website: http://www.tsogosunhotels.com/hotels/waterfront-cape-town/pages/overview.aspx

What does registration include?
The registration fee (CHF 3,500 for Members, CHF 5,000 for non-members) includes access to all sessions.

What is the working language of the meeting?
Sessions will be held in English. Simultaneous interpretation in French will be available in some sessions.

By when do I need to register?
We recommend that you register before 3 May 2015.

Do I need a visa?
Please check with your closest South African embassy and consulate regarding your visa requirements. The World Economic Forum is not responsible for providing visas.

Where can I find additional information about the programme?
Basic information on the programme can be found on the Forum website, http://www.weforum.org/events/world-economic-forum-africa-2015
When you register, you will receive access to TopLink, the Forum’s online collaboration and interaction platform.

Who do I contact for more information?
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The World Economic Forum is an international institution committed to improving the state of the world through public-private cooperation in the spirit of global citizenship. It engages with business, political, academic and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas.

Incorporated as a not-for-profit foundation in 1971 and headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, the Forum is independent, impartial and not tied to any interests. It cooperates closely with all leading international organizations.