

The World Economic Forum would like to thank the Africa Commission and FedEx for their invaluable support of this Report.



The Africa Commission was launched by the Prime Minister of Denmark in 2008 to help Africa benefit more from globalization. The Commission consisted of Heads of State and governments, politicians, experts, and representatives from international and regional organizations as well as the business community, civil society and the academic world. The majority of the Commissioners were from Africa, which reflected the Commission's overriding commitment to ensure African ownership of its recommendations and initiatives.

The Africa Commission presented its findings in the report *Realising the Potential of Africa's Youth*, which was published in May 2009. Drawing on existing analyses and best practices, the Africa Commission presented specific policy recommendations and launched five international initiatives aimed at creating jobs for young men and women in Africa through private sector-led growth and improved competitiveness of African economies. Special emphasis was given to creating decent jobs, fostering entrepreneurship, and providing greater opportunities through education, skills development and access to finance.



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