

FINANCING THE FUTURE OF AFRICA

Jobs and innovation for sustainable transformation



**AFRICA
BUSINESS
FORUM**
2026

FINANCING THE FUTURE OF AFRICA
Jobs and Innovation for sustainable transformation

| 16 - 17 FEBRUARY 2026 |

AFRICA BUSINESS FORUM 2026 will serve as the continent's leading platform for mobilizing partnerships, investment and blended finance to accelerate the African youth economy under the theme "Financing the future of Africa: jobs and innovation for sustainable transformation".

The Africa Business Forum is anchored in the integrated delivery cycle of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA),

working in concert with the **Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, the Africa Development Impact Forum, and the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development** to help translate commitments into measurable results.

#ABF2026

FLAGSHIP MECHANISMS

A visibility and accountability platform will be deployed to track public and private sector commitments announced at the Forum. The display will be regularly updated and progress towards delivery will be monitored over time.

✓ **Jobs wall
commitments tracker**

● The specific objectives of the Forum are:

- Mobilize and showcase partnerships and blended finance that create jobs, spur innovation, and unlock the productive and creative potential of Africa.
- Launch the jobs wall commitments tracker to capture, display and follow up on Forum commitments, with periodic updates and an annual scorecard.
- Link the outcomes and commitments of the Forum with the wider ECA implementation architecture (the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, the Africa Development Impact Forum and the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development).

● Who should attend?

- Government leaders and senior policymakers who shape reforms and investment priorities for youth jobs and innovation
- Development finance institutions, global asset managers and other investors that support youth employment and finance enterprises
- Corporate entities and technology platforms, including enablers of digital enterprise and social commerce
- Foundations and philanthropic partners that support jobs, innovation and resilience
- Accelerators, enterprise support programmes and innovation intermediaries that promote digital inclusion
- Leaders of the creative economy (film, music, fashion, sports, arts) and youth-led enterprises
- Media and knowledge partners supporting transparency, learning and accountability



16 and 17 February 2026



9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.
(East African Time, UTC+3),
followed by a reception



**Economic Commission for Africa
United Nations Conference Centre
Addis Ababa**

All participants must register at:

<https://indico.un.org/event/1021548/registrations/24160/>

**Registration must be approved before the start of the Forum
Please note that participation in the Forum will be self-sponsored**

For additional information, please contact **eca-abf@un.org**