



ADIS21

AFRICAN DIASPORA INVESTMENT SYMPOSIUM
Leapfrogging Africa: Health Care, Education, Technology, and Finance

AGENDA DETAILS

Monthly Online Forums | July 2020 - January 2021

“ Every time I am at ADN, I see a new future for Africa. ADN is the place to find talents and boldness of entrepreneurs, the articulate passion and compassion for a continent that deserves be seen and heard in new ways. ADN forums are an experience that no other person can tell you about. You experience it and you know you have arrived at a place where Africans are proud of their talents and confident to be global players offering hospitality to all global citizens to use two days to focus on Africa! ”

–Dr. Musimbi Kanyoro,
Former CEO, Global Fund for Women

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ADIS2021

OVERVIEW

African Diaspora Investment Symposium (ADIS21) is the sixth annual global convening that celebrates and champions the entrepreneurial and innovative spirit of Africans, Diasporans and friends of Africa.

Hosted by African Diaspora Network, the symposium inspires participants to be agents of change and active contributors to Africa's development and the communities we live in. The conference activates the potential of partnership, drawing over 1,300 delegates from across the globe over the last five years.

CONTEXT

The ongoing pandemic has devastated the world and hit Africa hard. At the same time, it has forced a renewed focus on accelerating development across sectors. This focus presents an opportunity to leapforward African development, bypassing physical infrastructure that the continent has lacked for the most part of a century. We foresee acceleration across four areas: connectivity, education, healthcare, and finance. ADN intends to be at the forefront of this momentum.

OBJECTIVES

Join us as we build bridges among high-level, entrepreneurial leaders and bring speakers from Africa who are innovating to find solutions to pressing issues on the ground and leading the fight against COVID-19. Engage in dialogue on

the future of Africa leapfrogging via innovations, investments, and policies that accelerate the continent's progress in health care, connectivity, education and finance.

To prioritize community well-being in light of the current global health crisis, ADIS21 will be a monthly virtual forum beginning in July 2020. We invite you to join us to:

- Learn about how African countries and organizations are addressing the current COVID-19 crisis in the short-term and preparing for future pandemics
- Gain insight on economic development trends and investment opportunities in Africa
- Engage with leaders and organizations facilitating productive investments on the continent
- Participate in a movement that redefines the roles of the African diaspora
- Examine trends in innovation, entrepreneurship, and investment conditions
- Explore how we can engage key global stakeholders in the well-being of the continent



ADIS2021

THEME

LEAPFROGGING AFRICA: HEALTH CARE, TECHNOLOGY, EDUCATION, AND FINANCE

The historic COVID-19 pandemic has shifted the trajectory of the decade and remarkably shaped the priorities of the global community. As nations rise to meet the challenges and effects of the novel coronavirus, Africa stands at a unique inflection point in its history to accelerate changes that were already underway. Decades of development are anticipated to be concentrated in the next few years.

- What role do Africans, diasporans, and friends of Africa play as collaborators and global citizens in the fight against infectious disease?
- What programs and projects are combatting COVID-19 and infectious disease broadly that are led by Africans or Diaspoans?
- How do we most effectively channel our resources to support both the communities we live in and the African continent?

“Imagine the indomitable spirit and flair of the real African imagination being consistently brought to bear on serious science & technology development on a grand & global scale. It’s my belief that we shall usher in an age of abundance & vibrancy hitherto unseen at any point in human history...for the survival of the species, it’s a must!”

–Osh Agabi,
Founder & CEO, Kineku

- How do we improve access to health care, education, connectivity, and finance among the most vulnerable communities in Africa?

The sixth annual African Diaspora Investment Symposium explores the possibilities of accelerating key aspects of Africa’s infrastructure that are essential to individual, community, and national well-being.

BUILDERS OF AFRICA’S FUTURE AWARDS 2021

Builders of Africa’s Future (BAF) is a program that celebrates innovation and impact in early stage African enterprise. BAF serves to showcase and award entrepreneurs who are running early stage for-profit and nonprofits that are addressing Africa’s unique needs through technology or differentiated business models. These unique needs are in health, education, energy, financial inclusion, gender inclusion, nutrition, commerce, industrial development, and other socio-economic good.

In this crucial time, African Diaspora Network is committed to identifying 10 Builders of Africa’s Future awardees focused on technology and health care access and delivery. Our goal is to raise funding for the 2021 BAFs to receive a monetary award as part of their recognition.

TOPICS CALENDAR

Each session will be from 8 AM to 10 AM PST / 11 AM to 1 PM EST / 3 PM to 5 PM GMT

July 29, 2020 / Wednesday, 8:00 AM PST, 11:00 AM EST, 3:00 PM GMT

Leveraging the Private Sector: DFIs, Investment Vehicles, and Funding Responses

Dozens of development finance institutions (DFIs) and other investors in Africa are rising to the challenges presented by COVID-19 to create new funds that accelerate investment for post-COVID-19. What investments will be core to advancing the response and recovery of business? What economic impact is foreseen and how will government and international funders respond? This session examines a variety of investment vehicles and how we can leverage the private sector to deliver support across Africa.

August 26, 2020 / Wednesday, 8:00 AM PST, 11:00 AM EST, 3:00 PM GMT

Human Capital Development: From Health Care Access to Delivery

Africa has the opportunity to leverage its unique expertise in infectious disease, including HIV and ebola. What key lessons learned can inform global solutions? What best practices among the 54 countries are transforming systems of health care and access and delivery for communities? How can we adopt practices such as telemedicine that can positively shape systems in Africa in the midst of the 2020 global health crisis? This panel examines the intersection of human capital development and health care to address gaps in policy and infrastructure.

September 23, 2020 / Wednesday, 8:00 AM PST, 11:00 AM EST, 3:00 PM GMT

Digital Connectivity Across Africa

Digital connectivity across the continent is amplifying industry at all levels as the countries work to address the internet access gap. How is broadband cable progressing, particularly regarding inland access and delivery? How are smartphones becoming an integral part of business and everyday life? How can we create a system that helps innovators and entrepreneurs to quickly locate supplies and services in their area? What could Amazon or Alibaba for Africa look like? Are there nascent e-commerce solutions suited for the continent? Join this session to look at key examples of digital connectivity, including drone technology, mobile technologies, and the planning of Africa's roll-out plan of the SpaceX Starlink and the expansion of Google's Loon project.

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October 28, 2020 / Wednesday, 8:00 AM PST, 11:00 AM EST, 3:00 PM

Amplify Innovation and Investment Hubs in Africa

Across the continent, several countries have taken various approaches to building strongholds of investment and innovation. Rwanda is actively planning an innovation hub, Kigali Innovation City, to transform the country into a knowledge-based economy. In West Africa, Nigeria has partnered with U.S. officials to launch a West Africa Trade and Innovation Hub.

What public-private partnerships are advancing local economies? How can innovators from across Africa become a part of these developments? How do initiatives such as Africa50 provide a model for sustainability in innovation through infrastructure investment and place-based innovation centers?

This session invites panelists to speak on examples of burgeoning industries from the North, East, South, and Western regions of Africa and share opportunities for private-public partnership and collaboration.

November 18, 2020 / Wednesday, 8:00 AM PST, 11:00 AM EST, 3:00 PM GMT

Investment in Education and Online Learning in Africa

Prior to 2020, trends across sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia demonstrate the traction of online education as a cost-effective approach to making educational opportunities more accessible. Today, remote learning has transformed into a key component of the new normal, proving that wide-scale implementation is not only possible, but necessary.

Africa, thanks to technological innovation will be able to reduce accessibility barriers and bring millions of African students online for the first time. There is an unprecedented opportunity for Africa to accelerate education through technology, which is why investment in the sector is a priority for Africa. The global digital economy will enable millions of young Africans to partake and contribute to the sustainability of the continent's development.

How do we align the AU Continental Education Strategy for Africa with technological integration? What are the opportunities and challenges that the continent will need to address to systematize both in-person and remote educational opportunities? This panel seeks to explore models of online education and need for investment in catalyzing digital education to meet the immediate and long-term needs of the continent.

TOPICS CALENDAR

Each session will be from 8 AM to 10 AM PST / 11 AM to 1 PM EST / 3 PM to 5 PM GMT

December 16, 2020 / Wednesday, 8:00 AM PST, 11:00 AM EST, 3:00 PM

Innovation in Payments in Africa

The digital payment space has transformed everyday lives across the continent, from the introduction of mobile phones to the adoption of digital payment systems by merchants to streamline their finance systems. How does Africa continue to develop its digital economy through innovation? What existing and new models have provided game-changing tools in various industries?

How do digital processes reduce the cost of wiring for remittances reaching individuals? How do various payment systems boost the transparency and efficiency of investments in Africa? What policies are essential for a secure finance system online?

This panel takes a deep dive into examples such as Facebook with Libra, BitPesa Flutterwave, Chipper, PayPal, and Mastercard to examine how these technological solutions will further advance economic growth.

January 20, 2021 / Wednesday, 8:00 AM PST, 11:00 AM EST, 3:00 PM GMT

Builders of Africa's Future 2021

Builders of Africa's Future (BAF) is a session that celebrates innovation and impact in early stage African enterprise. BAF serves to showcase and award entrepreneurs who are running early stage for-profit and not-for-profits that are addressing Africa's unique needs through technology or differentiated business models. These unique needs are in health, education, energy, financial inclusion, gender inclusion, nutrition, commerce, industrial development, and other socio-economic good. This session invites the 2021 awardees to share their work and accomplishments with the broader ADN community and ADIS21 participants.