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— T H E M E —

Advancing Africa's Digital Transformation:
Inspiring Action. Accelerating Growth. Amplifying Impact.

22ND SEPTEMBER 2025 | 2:30PM
NASDAQ - NEW YORK, USA

Co - Host



Promoted by



Convening Partners



About The Symposium

Africa's digital transformation is at a critical moment. A connected and integrated digital economy is critical to unlocking intra-African trade, enhancing service delivery, reducing the cost of doing business, and attracting investment across key sectors. To achieve this, the continent must foster a digital ecosystem where data can flow seamlessly across borders, supported by interoperable digital identities, harmonized standards, and robust digital public infrastructure. This requires strong political leadership, private sector collaboration, and coordinated policy action.

Strategically set on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly, the Forward Africa Leaders Symposium serves as a premier platform to spotlight and advance Africa's Digital Transformation Agenda, particularly the attainment of an integrated Digital Economy as a catalyst for inclusive and sustainable growth through high-level dialogues to facilitate and drive investments, advance strategic partnerships and facilitate actionable collaborations between state and non-state actors.

Objectives

01

Spotlight Africa's burgeoning Digital and Financial Sectors to facilitate collaborations and investments for long term impact.

02

Highlight policy actions to promote favorable licensing regimes to advance cross-border data sharing and standardized digital identity for an effective and efficient digital economy.

03

Promote digital access and financial inclusion to foster women and youth development

04

Advance e-governance as a catalyst to accelerating the implementation of Africa's Digital Transformation Agenda.



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Thematic Focus



Spotlight conversations – Telling Our Stories:
Africa's digital revolution



Bridging Africa for Trade:
Leveraging Digital solutions for trade advancement



Pathways to digital prosperity:
Amplifying cross-border data flows, digital corporation, standardised identity
and harmonised digital policy frameworks.



Impact Investing:
Financing Strategic Digital Public Infrastructure for Digital Advancement.



Empowering people:
Enhancing financial inclusion and digital access for women and youth
development.



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The Steering Committee

The steering committee is made up of heads of key stakeholders and experts who provide strategic guidance, oversight and sets priorities for the symposium.



Dr. Amany Asfour

President, Africa Business Council



Fadilah Tchoumba

CEO, ABAN



Hannah Awuku

Executive Director and Founder
Forward Africa Leaders Symposium



Tonisha Tagoe

Founder, Baobab Intelligence (BI)



Moses Kanduri

Chairman Aceline BCNJ
Founder & Former CEO, Alexpay

Strategic Partners



The Africa Peer Review Mechanism is a specialized agency of the African Union established in 2003 as a voluntary self-monitoring instrument for African countries to assess governance performance. Operating as a mutually agreed instrument for self-monitoring, APRM enables participating African countries to regularly assess their progress in political governance, economic governance and management, corporate governance, and socio-economic development. With 44 member countries, the mechanism conducts comprehensive peer reviews through country assessment missions, stakeholder consultations, and detailed reporting processes.

APRM's mandate extends beyond assessment to supporting member states in implementing governance reforms through technical assistance, capacity building, and knowledge sharing platforms.



The Africa Business Council functions as a high-level platform representing the African private sector in continental discussions. Established under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) framework, it advocates for business interests across Africa's diverse economies.

The council focuses on trade policy development, removal of non-tariff barriers, and creating opportunities for pan-African business collaboration. Through its work, the Africa Business Council aims to enhance intra-African trade and position African businesses to compete effectively in the global marketplace.



Strategic Partners



ABAN is the Pan-African network organization for angel investors, established in 2015 by six pioneering angel networks. Serving as a key driver in Africa's early-stage investment ecosystem, ABAN connects over 75 member networks and 5,000 early-stage investors across 40+ African countries and the diaspora.

The organization is dedicated to identifying, educating, and supporting business angels, and channels over \$100 million annually into African startups. Through initiatives like Catalytic Africa (in partnership with AfriLabs), ABAN provides co-investment opportunities and matching funds, strengthening the continent's innovation and entrepreneurship landscape.



Baobab Intelligence is a research and advisory firm specializing in data-driven insights about African markets. Named after Africa's iconic tree, the company provides market intelligence, trend analysis, and strategic consulting for businesses operating or investing in African economies.

Their expertise covers sectors including technology, finance, consumer markets, and infrastructure. Baobab Intelligence is known for combining local market knowledge with sophisticated data analytics to deliver actionable business intelligence that helps organizations navigate Africa's diverse and rapidly evolving business landscape.



Why New York?

The United Nations General Assembly in New York is a melting pot for leaders, including private sector players and investors to discuss emerging global issues and align on how to address them.

Profile of Attendees



Heads of state and government



Representatives of the African Union and Regional Economic Commissions



Executives of African Central Banks and Development Financial Institutions



Regulators and policy makers from critical government institutions



Executives of Multi-National Network and Digital Service providers
Investors



Investors and Entrepreneurs



Innovators



CSOs and NGOs championing digital transformation in Africa



Development partners



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Event Highlights



Keynote Speeches



Power Panels and Fireside



Investor/Innovator Spotlight Presentations



Networking Reception



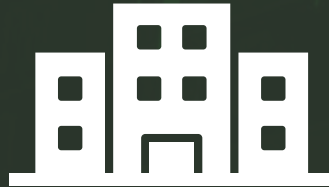
Open Forum



Why Attend



Connect with key stakeholders driving Africa's digital and financial landscape.



Contribute to shaping Africa's Digital Transformation Agenda.



Learn about investment opportunities in Africa's vibrant Digital ecosystem.



Engage new capital partners

The Venue

An excellent venue to drive investment and digital advancement

NASDAQ

Situated in Times Square, New York one of the most active trading markets and home to the tech community, the Nasdaq has been chosen as the host venue for the 2025 Forward Africa leaders Symposium.

We are convening Africa's leaders to spotlight the African Digital Economy for investments.



Programme Overview

Date: 22nd September 2025 | **Venue:** Nasdaq, New York, USA

2:00pm – 3:00pm	Registration & Networking
3:00pm	Spotlight Stage - A continental narrative of Innovation and Digital Advancement - Africa's Digital Potential: Investing for Impact
3:30pm	- Arrival of Heads of state and government - Nasdaq Bell Ceremony (By invitation)
4:00pm – 4:20pm	Break
4:20pm – 4:25pm	Statement of purpose
4:25pm – 4:30pm	Welcome Remarks
4:30pm – 4:40pm	Sponsor Spotlight
4:40pm – 4:50pm	Welcome Keynote by the President of APRM
4:50pm – 5:30pm	Plenary Pathways to digital prosperity: Amplifying cross-border data flows, digital corporation, standardized identity and harmonized digital frameworks.
5:30pm – 6:00pm	Keynote statements by Heads of state

Programme Overview

Date: 22nd September 2025 | **Venue:** Nasdaq, New York, USA

6:00pm – 6:20pm	Launch of the APRM E-governance initiative
6:20pm – 7:00	Plenary Bridging Africa for Trade: Leveraging Digital Solutions for trade advancement
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Connect Africa Networking Reception

How to Participate

Information – Registration – Sponsorships
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For more info.

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Website: www.forwardafricaleaders.com



Forward Africa Leaders Symposium