

High-Level Forum Africa-Europe 2018

“Taking cooperation to the digital age”

Vienna, Austria, 18 December 2018
Venue: Austria Center Vienna (ACV)
(Entrance via Platz der Vereinten Nationen, 1220 Vienna)

Austria is holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union in the second half of 2018. In line with the conclusions of the European Council of June 28 2018, Europe needs to take the extent and the quality of its cooperation with Africa to a new level, moving beyond focusing on migration as a common challenge. Austria wants to contribute to this aim.

President Kagame of Rwanda is the Chairman of the African Union for 2018. As an advocate for the advancement of an African single digital market, he has emphasised that a pathway to prosperity for all Africans, especially young people, can only be achieved by infusing African economies with technology and by collaborating with Africa’s private sector.

Therefore, President Kagame and Chancellor Kurz have decided to call for a High-Level Forum to provide a space for European and African leaders, together with CEOs of major global companies, innovation champions, start-ups and other stakeholders, to reflect and act on what needs to be done to secure prosperity and competitiveness on both continents as well as to deepen the relationship in all its aspects with a specific focus on taking our cooperation to the digital age.

The High-Level Forum will promote **innovation and digitalisation** as important enablers of our future development, so that everyone can benefit from the ongoing digital transformation. It aims at assessing how current partnerships between Africa and Europe contribute to this goal, complementing the ongoing implementation of the joint declaration of the 2017 Abidjan Summit between the African Union and the European Union, which, among other things, highlighted the importance of unlocking the potential of the digital economy for Africa and Europe. It also aims at contributing to the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs announced by President Juncker in his recent State of the Union speech.

The High-Level Forum will highlight the untapped potential for deepening the partnership in technology exchange and trade as well as their importance for economic growth, creating employment opportunities, building resilient societies and fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals. In order to harness this potential, political will is crucial for creating the necessary conditions for investment and innovation.

Participants will consist of European and African heads of state and government accompanied by relevant ministers, CEOs of highly agile and innovative European and African companies, representatives of start-ups and innovative companies, investors, bilateral and multilateral development partners, including the United Nations and the International Financial Institutions, and civil society representatives.

MONDAY 17 DECEMBER 2018

19:00 **WELCOME DINNER**
Hosted by HE Chancellor KURZ
for Heads of Delegation (by invitation only)

TUESDAY 18 DECEMBER 2018

08:30-10:00 **POLITICAL LEADERS MEETING**
(Closed session)

10:15 **FAMILY PHOTO**

10:30-11:00 **OPENING OF THE HIGH-LEVEL FORUM**
Hall A Open meeting & press

HE Sebastian KURZ, Federal Chancellor of Austria
HE Paul KAGAME, President of the Republic of Rwanda
HE Jean-Claude JUNCKER, President of the European Commission
HE Moussa FAKI MAHAMAT, African Union Commission Chairperson
HE Antonio TAJANI, President of the European Parliament

11:00-13:30 **HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE**
Hall A **“Taking cooperation to the digital age”**
Open meeting & press

African and European Political leaders, representatives of international organisations and CEOs of major companies will be invited to share their vision on the current and future cooperation between Africa and Europe regarding innovation and digitalisation.

13:00 **PRESS CONFERENCE**
Hall K HE Sebastian KURZ, Federal Chancellor of Austria
HE Paul KAGAME, President of the Republic of Rwanda
HE Jean-Claude JUNCKER, President of the European Commission
HE Moussa FAKI MAHAMAT, African Union Commission Chairperson

Signing Ceremony – European Commission

13:30-14:30 **LUNCH**
Hosted by HE the President of Austria Alexander VAN DER BELLEN
for Heads of Delegation (by invitation only)

16:15-16:45 CLOSING OF HIGH-LEVEL FORUM
Hall D

ROUND TABLE PROGRAMME

09:00-16:15

Round tables (RT) on key themes linked to innovation for the digital age in Africa

09:00-10:30 RT 1: AGRICULTURE 4.0

Hall E2 In cooperation with the Austrian Development Agency

Disruptive technologies for agriculture – how digitalisation boosts agricultural output and how cooperation between Africa and Europe can support this development. Business-as-usual farming is not the right way forward when addressing traditional problems such as low productivity, food waste, weather and bad infrastructure. A rapid increase in agriculture 4.0 start-ups (also known as smart or precision agriculture) are developing new products and adapting business models to increase efficiency, sustainability and productivity and are making farms' field operations more insight-driven and efficient. Emerging technologies and big data are paving the way towards a new way of farming. The final recommendations of the EU Task Force Rural Africa "Strengthening our partnership in food and farming" will be the starting point of the round table discussion.

- Mr Phil HOGAN, Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission
- Mr Neven MIMICA, Commissioner for International Cooperation & Development, European Commission
- Ms Josefa SACKO, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission
- Mr Gilbert F. HOUNGBO, President, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- Mr Elhadj AS SY, Secretary General of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- Mr Stefan FÜRNSINN, Senior Vice President, Head of Digital Farming, Yara International
- Mr Rodger VOORHIES, Executive Director, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Mr Rotimi WILLIAMS, CEO Kereksuk Rice Farm (African Start-up)
- Moderation: Ms Natasha WALKER, NW Associates

09:00-10:30
Hall F2

RT 2: FINTECH IN AFRICA

In cooperation with the Austrian Ministry of Finance

Africa is very advanced in the extension of financial services to the underserved. How can FinTech help to further expand the African financial sector and achieve more financial inclusion? Greater financial inclusion using mobile phone technology and other digital technologies that facilitate easy money transfers, other financial services and micro-credits has already started to transform African countries. But emerging online platforms as peer-to-peer alternatives to the traditional credit system, as well as online crowdfunding and financial pooling platforms are also already demonstrating their huge potential, in particular for businesses and for closing the SME credit gap.

- Mr Christian ANGERMAYER, Apeiron Investment Group
- Mr Curt CHADHA, Managing Director, Wirecard CEE
- Mr Adrian DINCSOY, Financial Systems Development Southern Africa and Regional Funds, KfW
- Ms Jekaterina GOVINA, Adviser to the Board Member at Bank of Lithuania
- Mr Alexander KOPPEL, CEO, Riddle&Code
- Ms Wiebke SCHLÖMER, Director Europe and Central Asia, International Finance Corporation (IFC)

- Moderation: Ms Rita ISIBA, Founder, Aphropean Partners

13:00-14:30
Hall E2

RT 3: JOBS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY – Skills, qualifications and the digital potential

In cooperation with the Austrian Federal Ministry for Digital and Economic Affairs

Digitalisation is changing the labour market structure and the types of skills and competencies needed in the economy and society – in traditional industrial economies in Europe as well as in emerging countries in Africa. Demographic growth has given Africa a substantial asset: its young, increasingly educated and technologically-savvy population. Thus, by 2035 Africa will already be home to the world's largest workforce and a substantial pool of young talent, innovation and creativity. Reaping the economic dividends of the youth demographic will also depend on Africa's ability to offer its young men and women adequate education, skills and conducive business environments in order for them to engage in decent and productive jobs – today and in the future.

- Opening Statement: HE Mr Mark RUTTE, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
- Opening Statement: Mr Harald KRÜGER, Chairman of the Board of Management, BMW AG
- Ms Mariya GABRIEL, Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society, European Commission
- Ms Ursula OWUSU-EKUFUL, Minister of Communications, Republic of Ghana
- Mr Ludwig BAYERN, CEO and co-founder, Learning Lions and Startup Lions
- Ms Wendy KOPP, CEO and co-founder, Teach for All
- Mr Christoph LEITL, President of EUROCHAMBRES
- Mr Michael M. MURUNGI, Policy & Government Relations Manager East Africa, Google
- Mr Aphrodice MUTANGANA, General Manager, kLab Rwanda (African start-up)

- Chair and Moderation: Ms Margarete SCHRAMBÖCK, Federal Minister for Digital and Economic Affairs, Austria

13:00-14:30 **RT 4: INVESTING IN START-UPS – Innovative Business Solutions for Africa**

Hall F2

In cooperation with the African Business Angels Network – ABAN, the Austrian Angel Investors Association – aaia, and New Venture Scouting

Africa is in many respects a frontrunner regarding the digital transformation of society and economy. 70% of the African population is under 27 years of age and 70% of the African population uses a mobile phone. Africa is therefore increasingly recognised as a global source of talent and of innovative solutions offering promising market opportunities and new and innovative business models. The round table aims to introduce Africa as an investor case.

- Opening Statement: Mr Michael SCHERZ, Head of Innovation, Advantage Austria / Austrian Federal Economic Chamber
- Ms Paula INGABIRE, Minister of ICT and Innovation, Rwanda
- Mr Tomi DAVIES, President of African Business Angels Network – ABAN
- Mr Youssouf Simbo DIAKITÉ, Co-Chairperson, African Diaspora Youth Forum in Europe (ADYFE)
- Ms Alexandra FRASER, Director, Fraser Consulting / Dazzle Angels and ABAN Founding Member

- Mr Stefano MANSERVISI, Director-General of Directorate-General International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO), European Commission
- Ms Nora WOLLOCH, Project Manager, World Summit Awards
- Mr Faiz BASHIR, CEO and co-founder, FlexiSAF (African start-up)
- Mr Siya NTUTELA, CEO, Invoice Worx (African start-up)

- Moderation: Mr Werner WUTSCHER, Founder and MD, New Venture Scouting / Board Member of the Austrian Angel Investors Association – aaia

14:45-16:15
Hall F2

RT 5: SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ACCESS – Shifting to a digitalised, decarbonised, and democratised energy future

In cooperation with Sustainable Energy for All – SEforALL

Eliminating the energy access gap, achieving Sustainable Development Goal 7 by 2030 in the context of the Paris Climate Agreement, requires a reimagining of energy systems from the top-down centralised pathway of the past to an integrated pathway, with digitalised energy systems and decentralised renewables playing an important role alongside grid improvements. Demand for connectivity, information technology and entrepreneurs driving innovation are disrupting the traditional energy systems. The round-table session will provide an opportunity to discuss how digital innovations are revolutionising energy systems and offering opportunities for accelerated access to affordable, reliable, sustainable energy for all.

- HE Mr Alpha CONDÉ, President of the Republic of Guinea
- Ms Harriett BALDWIN, Minister of State for Africa at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office and Minister of State for International Development, United Kingdom
- Ms Karin KNEISSL, Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs, Austria
- Mr Giuseppe ARTIZZU, Executive Director and Chief of Strategy and Development, Engie - EPS
- Mr Stefano MANSERVISI, Director-General of the Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO), European Commission
- Ms Zouera YOUSOUFOU, Managing director and CEO, The Aliko Dangote Foundation
- Mr Bubacar DIALLO, founder and President, Benoo Energies (African Start-up)

- Moderation: Ms Rachel KYTE, Chief Executive Officer of Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All

14:45-16:15 RT 6: eGOVERNMENT

Hall E2

In cooperation with the European Commission

Digital solutions provide unique opportunities to guarantee transparency and inclusiveness, as well as to achieve economic growth, increases in productivity and better service delivery. Governments should ensure the best possible use of digital technologies for the benefit of the people and act as facilitators, enablers and regulators, involving all stakeholders through transparent cooperation. The round table “eGovernment” will identify new ways of Africa-EU cooperation on deploying eGovernment solutions, with a specific focus on implementing eID and eSignature.

- Mr Andrus ANSIP, Vice President and Commissioner for the Digital Single Market, European Commission
- Ms Margarete SCHRAMBÖCK, Federal Minister for Digital and Economic Affairs, Austria
- Mr Luís GOES PINHEIRO, Secretary of State Assistant and of Administrative Modernisation, Portugal
- Ms Isabella GROEGOR-CECHOWICZ, Global General Manager Public Services and Smart Cities, SAP
- Mr Edward OLOWO-OKERE, Director of World Bank Group’s Governance Global Practice responsible for Africa, Middle East and North Africa, and Europe and Central Asia, World Bank
- Mr Lanre OSIBONA, Senior Special Assistant to the President on Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Nigeria
- Mr Hamadoun TOURÉ, Founding Executive Director, Smart Africa
- Moderation: Ms Sasha RUBEL DIAMANKA, Regional Advisor for Communication and Information, UNESCO

14:45-16:15 RT 7: ACCELERATING eCOMMERCE IN AFRICA

Hall F1

In cooperation with the World Economic Forum

Africa needs to create 18 million jobs a year to absorb its unemployed and underemployed. The African Continental Free Trade Agreement (CFTA), which envisions the largest single market globally, is a unique opportunity to address this challenge. In the context of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the round table discussion will focus on strengthening eCommerce to create jobs by taking concrete action in the key areas of infrastructure/connectivity,

financing/payment systems, access to markets, gender as well as SME development.

- Opening Statement: Ms Martina LARKIN, Head of Europe and Eurasia, Member of the Executive Committee, World Economic Forum
- Ms Ann LINDE, Minister for European Union Affairs and Trade, Sweden
- Ms Vera SONGWE, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
- Ms Clare AKAMANZI, CEO of the Rwanda Development Board / Member of the Cabinet of Rwanda / Young Global Leader, World Economic Forum
- Ms Arancha GONZÁLEZ, Executive Director, International Trade Centre
- Mr Hannes PLINTE, Board Member of the Estonian Association of Information Technology and Telecommunications
- Mr Steven POPE, Vice President, Customs & Regulatory Affairs, Deutsche Post DHL Group / Steering Board Member, Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation
- Mr Felix STAERITZ, Founding Member, FACTOR 10

- Moderation: Ms Elsie KANZA, Head of Africa and Member of the Executive Committee, World Economic Forum

BUSINESS MEETINGS #AFRICAEUROPE2018 (B2B and B2G)

09:00-16:00

Foyer F

Organised by Advantage Austria / the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber (WKO)

The Forum will be accompanied by Business to Business (B2B) as well as Business to Government (B2G) meetings, where young entrepreneurs and innovators will exchange their concepts and solutions for the digital age. A lot of innovation is happening both in Africa and in Europe, with many creative start-ups providing solutions for different emerging challenges, and this will be an opportunity to showcase them.

Meetings can be booked here: <http://wko.at/aussenwirtschaft/africaeurope2018>

SIDE EVENTS

09:00-16:15

Side events will provide an opportunity for participants to exchange both ideas and information on what needs to be done to secure prosperity and competitiveness on both continents with a focus on cooperation strategies.

09:00-10:30 **DISRUPT COLLABORATION! – AFRICA AND
EUROPE IN THE DIGITAL AGE**

Hall F1

Organised by LivingLab/Kenya and ECOTEC/Austria

<https://ecotec.at/en/general/agile-african-european-collaboration-in-the-digital-age/>

The earth spins at 1670 km/h. The digital world spins faster, driven by agile teams all across the globe. The digital transformation is shaping both Africa and Europe, but in a different manner. In African countries, an absence of technology lock-ins and less vested interests allow for the creation of innovative solutions closer to human needs. And while Europe talks about its new entrepreneurial society and the need for agile mind-sets, African societies have shown great potential for entrepreneurship and agility. Practitioners and experts are calling for new ways of African-European collaboration that allow those involved to engage in mutual exchange, co-create and learn from each other.

- Ms Faith KEZA, CEO, Irembo Ltd
- Mr Kenneth OKWERO, Head of Corporate Strategy, Safaricom/M-Pesa (M-Pesa: disruptor and world market leader in mobile money)
- Ms Maryanne Akoth OWINO, Manager of the Incubation Hub TechBridge (TechBridge – topical business incubator in Mombasa)
- Mr Christoph STEINDL, founder and CEO, Catalysts (Catalysts - the software company which creates cells, everywhere in the world)

- Moderation: Ms Amollo Ambole LORRAINE, Strategy Lead, LivingLab / Mr Hans STOISSER, founder and Managing Director, ECOTEC

09:00-10:30 **AUSTRIAN-AFRICAN COOPERATION INITIATIVE IN
HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH**

Hall E1

Organised by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research

Considering the importance of science and research for sustainable development and prosperity and in the knowledge that international networks and partnerships in the area of higher education and research are the most promising way to achieve success, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research will launch an Austrian-African cooperation initiative in

higher education and research. From 2019 on the ministry will provide funding for setting up this initiative. A first concept for an Austrian-African Network of Higher Education and Research Institutions will be presented.

- Welcome and introduction: Mr Heinz FAßMANN, Federal Minister of Education, Science and Research, Austria
- Mr Khaled Abdel GHAFAR, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Egypt
- Ms Henrietta EGERTH, management board member, Austrian Research Promotion Agency - FFG
- Mr Hubert HASENAUER, Rector, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna
- Mr Ulrich HÖRMANN, OeAD – Austrian Agency for International Mobility and Cooperation in Education, Science and Research
- Mr Andreas MELCHER, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna

- Moderation: Ms Barbara WEITGRUBER, Director General, Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research, Austria

13:00-14:30

CONNECTING CITIES

Hall F1

Organised by Austrian Foundation for Development Research (ÖFSE) and the Austrian Development Agency (ADA)

In 2050, 70 % of the world population will live in cities. The process of urbanisation is particularly pronounced in developing and emerging countries. This implies a variety of challenges, regarding administration and urban development, the adequate supply of housing, water, mobility and food. The consequences of climate change are felt locally and must be dealt with locally. In view of these challenges, it makes sense for local authorities to work together to find solutions to similar problems, replicate best practices and share existing expertise. Municipal partnerships offer a good opportunity for this. This panel will address challenges that cities face and explore the potential of municipal cooperation in order to tackle those challenges.

- Mr Benno ALBRECHT, Professor of Architectural and Urban Design, University Iuav of Venice
- Ms Andrea BARSCHDORF-HAGER, Managing Director, CARE Austria
- Ms Maria HÅKANSSON, Managing Director and CEO, Swedfund
- Mr Alexander LESIGANG, European and International Affairs, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns
- Ms Nadia MRABIT, co-founder of the Business Club Africa and international project management consultant
- Ms Annelies VILIM, Director of Globale Verantwortung

- Mr Stefan WILHELMY, Division Manager, Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW)
- Moderation: Ms Karin KÜBLBÖCK, Senior Researcher, Austrian Foundation for Development Research (ÖFSE)

13:00-14:30

Hall E1

MOBILISING FINANCE FOR CLIMATE ACTION IN AFRICA

Organised by Brainbows/R20AWS

Climate change as well as adaptation strategies are already affecting the societies and economies of industrialised nations, even more so in developing and emerging countries. The aim of this debate is to inform participants and influence the development of best practices by way of international speakers and knowledge-sharing with the audience. Speakers will talk about the latest updates on financial instruments for climate action in Africa and will present examples of successful blended finance projects. Participants will have the opportunity to raise their needs with regards to mobilising finance for climate projects in Africa as well as to discuss their experiences.

- Welcome address: Mr Gunter SCHALL, Austrian Development Agency / Mr Michael OTTER, WKO Advantage Austria
- Mr Edem ADZOGENU, co-founder, Afrochampions
- Mr Martin HILLER, Director General, Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP)
- Mr Nanno KLEITERP, Chairman, European Development Finance Institutions
- Mr Christophe NUTTALL, CEO, R20 Regions of Climate Action
- Mr Patrick SCHEURLE, CEO, Blue Orchard
- Moderation: Ms Monika LANGTHALER, Director, R20 AUSTRIAN WORLD SUMMIT

14:45-16:15

Hall E1

CONNECTIVITY IN AFRICA

Organised by the European Investment Bank

A vital catalyst for sustainable economic development is the ability of people to connect with each other across different networks. Africa requires significant investment in its networks if it is to build the future that its population deserves: from harnessing the potential of mobile phones as a means for small businesses to start up and then evolve, through to solving the issue of electricity distribution and improving transport networks or public services. This side event will highlight the impact of projects that improve connectivity in Africa and will

demonstrate how the EIB in partnership with others will create opportunities for both EU and African companies to invest in the vibrant economies of the African continent.

- Ms Sabine GABER, Member of the Executive Board, OeEB
- Ms Boutheina GUERMAZI, Director of Digital Development, World Bank
- Ms Judith HARTMANN, CFO, Engie SA
- Mr Luca LAZZAROLI, Director General, European Investment Bank
- Mr Yonas MARU, CEO, Bandwidth and Cloud Services Group
- Mr Bernard YVETOT, Vice-President, International Strategy, Orange

- Moderation: Ms Judith HELFMANN-HUNDACK, Policy Director, German-African Business Association

SIGNING CEREMONIES

Hall K

13:00-13:30 **European Commission**
(as part of the press conference)

14:30-15:00 **European Investment Bank**

15:30-16:15 **ICMPD** (International Centre for Migration Policy Development)

The International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) with the support of private sector partners is launching the College of Practical Skills and Start-up Centre initiative. It will provide training and create jobs for youth, with a specific focus on women. Furthermore, the initiative will support young entrepreneurs with start-up capital and practical assistance. The initiative will roll out with a pilot project “The Nigerian College of Practical Skills and Start-up Centre”. A Memorandum of Understanding will be signed by the partners to launch the initiative.

OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE EU-AU DIGITAL ECONOMY TASK FORCE

08:00-10:00 (Closed session)

The European Union and the African Union are launching the Digital Economy Task Force in order to develop concrete recommendations on how to help build an integrated African digital market. The Task Force is composed of high level figures from the public and private sector. This session will be presided over by Mr Andrus ANSIP, Vice-President of the European Commission and Commissioner for the Digital Single Market; Ms Mariya GABRIEL, European Union Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society; Mr Neven MIMICA, European Union Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development; and Ms Amani ABOU-ZEID, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy at the African Union Commission. The Task Force will be co-chaired by Ms Ursula OWUSU-EKUFUL, Minister of Communications of Ghana, and Mr Pierre GUISLAN, Vice-President of the African Development Bank.

ACCREDITATION BADGE PICK-UP ON 18 DECEMBER 2018

07:00-15:00

at TECH GATE VIENNA (office tower) next to the entrance of the Austria Center Vienna. Taxi address: Platz der Vereinten Nationen, 1220 Vienna; underground line: U1, Station Kaisermühlen VIC.

