



YOUTH CONNEKT

**AFRICA
SUMMIT '17**

19 - 21 July 2017

Kigali | Rwanda

From Potential to Success

19 - 21 July 2017 | Kigali Convention Center | Rwanda

“

We need a new generation
of problem solvers, who see
further and work smarter.

”

H.E. Paul Kagame, President of
the Republic of Rwanda



Realising Africa's **Youth Potential**

Over the last decades, Africa has been experiencing rapid technological and economic development creating new opportunities for millions of people all over the continent.

However, with more than 226 million people aged between 15-24¹, Africa has the youngest population – and the highest youth unemployment rate (60%²) – in the world.

Lack of employment opportunities, low levels of education and skills combined with limited access to sexual and reproductive health services, have resulted in a generation of young people with limited association to the formal job market.

However, Africa's youth represent a significant asset for sustainable growth if the demographic transition (characterized by an increase in the working age population) is appropriately harnessed.

YouthConnekt Africa is a result of a highly successful initiative launched in 2012 by the Government of Rwanda and UNDP. In 2016, 14 countries in Africa expressed interest in the scale up of the initiative. In partnership with UNCTAD and UNDP, the Government of Rwanda is hosting the inaugural YouthConnekt Africa Summit to initiate the rollout of the program across the continent.

The YouthConnekt Africa Summit 2017 will be held from the **19 to 21 July 2017 in Kigali, Rwanda** under the theme **From Potential to Success**. The summit will mark the launch of the **YouthConnekt Africa Hub and the YouthConnekt Africa Empowerment Fund**.

YouthConnekt Africa is designed to realize Africa's demographic dividend by combining elements of skills development, entrepreneurship, access to jobs and finance, awareness raising on issues related to youth development, and promotion of youth citizenship and leadership. By changing mindsets, engaging youth in national policy, fostering solidarity, engaging youth in delivering SDGs, YouthConnekt Africa will empower 200 million African Youth to take a more proactive role in shaping their future.

Sources: ¹UNDP and ²The World Bank

Fact

Africa has the youngest population in the world of **226 million people** aged between 15 & 24.

It is anticipated that the number will increase by **42% by 2030 & 50% by 2055**.

Our goals

Jobs & entrepreneurship

Create 10 million jobs by 2020 in sustainable job environments in emerging industries.

Education / Skills

Create 25 Million opportunities through training & enrolment in workplaces.

Civic participation & Leadership

Identify, nurture & grow 1 million leaders that provide solutions, participate in advocacy & become role models in their communities.

Gender

Develop sustainable initiatives & policies that reduce gender inequality in education, jobs, technology & leadership.

Technology & Innovation

Form the Hub of Hubs that connects all incubation hubs across the continent to give access to markets, innovation friendly capital from partners and partnership opportunities with peers across the continent. Nurture 5,000 digital ambassadors in each country to collectively help connect & digitally empower 100,000,000 Africans allowing skills to be transferred to their local communities

About YouthConnekt Hub & Fund

.....

The inaugural YouthConnekt Africa Summit will mark the launch of the YouthConnekt Africa Hub and the YouthConnekt Africa Empowerment Fund.

.....

What is the YouthConnekt Hub?

The YouthConnekt Africa Hub will offer regional support to national YouthConnekt Programmes including:

- Management and coordination of the YouthConnekt Africa empowerment fund
- Exchange of best practices between YouthConnekt national programmes
- Seeking South-South synergies between successful YouthConnekt initiatives
- Nurturing of a regional network of YouthConnekt experts and Hubs in Africa
- Continental communication about the YouthConnekt initiatives
- Providing resource mobilization and partnership support to YouthConnekt national programmes
- Connecting national YouthConnekt innovators and community leaders with regional and global mentors
- Facilitation of the Youth for Africa and SDGs platform
- Supporting youth volunteering platforms across Africa

What is the YouthConnekt Empowerment Fund?

The YouthConnekt Africa Empowerment Fund is an initiative to empower young people in Africa to impact their communities. Supported by private sector, donors, national governments, foundations and civil society organizations, the Fund will offer regional support to Youth empowerment initiatives including:

- Offer grants, financing and training to youth-led projects and social enterprises that advance the Global Goals for Sustainable Development and the African Union Agenda 2063 across Africa
 - Invest in the creation of innovative and highly scalable start-ups and SMEs, grassroots, community innovative projects.
 - Provide seed funding for the establishment of national YouthConnekt initiatives, infrastructure, equipment, software, ICT and other similar logistical support.
-

Join the **YouthConnekt Hub**

Our mission is to promote youth friendly policies, design programs and provide a platform for partners to join efforts in bridging the gap between youth's aspirations and opportunities.

What does it mean to become a partner?

A Hub partner is international public, private or not for profit organization whose mission and vision are aligned with the goals of YouthConnekt Africa Hub which are:

By partnering with the Hub, you will be able to leverage a large network of like minded partners and access the largest pan African youth network to rapidly scale up your impact and/or market.

Your flagship programs, products and services may be implemented, promoted and or distributed by the Hub partners and member youth networks.

The YouthConnekt also offers a platform to engage & connect with policy makers, business influencers, champions of youth & other like minded professionals.

Long-term partnership with YouthConnekt Africa

The overall objective of the long term partnership for YouthConnekt Africa is to raise USD 60 million by 2020 to achieve the goals set out by YouthConnekt Africa. To this end, we have three categories for which we seek support:-

Financial Contribution: Financial donation from private sector, government partners, foundations, civil society organizations, donors and philanthropists could be earmarked to geographical location, thematic area of interest or specific groups of youth. Examples of such groups include girls, youth with disabilities, youth living with HIV, etc.

Technical: Technical support includes but is not limited to expertise, mentorship and training packages

Material/In Kind: Material support includes but is not limited to provision of infrastructure, equipment, software, ICT and other similar logistical support.

How we **work with partners**

Policies

We will embark on bridging the gap between the different nations by bringing together government leaders & policy influencers implementing youth policies to share knowledge & ideas that can assist others in achieving their own goals for their youth.

Programs

We will identify existing programs aligned to YouthConnekt goals and facilitate a platform to work together to achieve our common goals. These programs will further assist in measuring, monitoring & maintaining successful initiatives aligned to YouthConnekt objectives.

Partnerships

We will seek partnerships with private sector, government institutions & NGOs that will be responsible for helping deliver programs, bringing other partners on board, innovating & providing solutions for implementation challenges.



YOUTH CONNEKT AFRICA SUMMIT '17

19 - 21 July 2017 | Kigali Convention Center | Rwanda

About the YouthConnekt Africa Summit

Held from the 19 - 21 July 2017, the YouthConnekt Summit will focus on establishing the three drivers that will guide us to our goals. Namely **policy, programs & partnerships**.

Hosted by **H.E. President Paul Kagame**, President of the Republic of Rwanda, the inaugural YouthConnekt Africa summit will bring together Heads of States & special guests that include **Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi**, Secretary General of UNCTAD, **Jack Ma**, Special Advisor to UNCTAD on Young Entrepreneurs & Small Business Founder and Executive Chairman of Alibaba Group, and **Abdoulaye Mar Dieye**, UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa.

The summit is expected to attract more than 2,500 guests that include top executives from multinational companies that operate in Africa, leaders of civil society organizations, Africa's development partners, members of the academia and most importantly successful entrepreneurs, artists and youth opinion leaders from across the continent.

Over 2,500 delegates will be invited to:-

- Initiate **Policy**
- Establish **Programs**
- Form Sustainable **Partnerships**

“

We need a new generation of problem solvers, who see further and work smarter.

H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda

”



H.E. Paul Kagame
President of Rwanda



Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi
Secretary General of UNCTAD



Jack Ma
Special Advisor to UNCTAD on Young Entrepreneurs & Small Business Founder and Executive Chairman of Alibaba Group



Abdoulaye Mar Dieye
UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa.

19 July 2017

09:00 – 20:00 Registration & Accreditation

Rwanda parliament

17:30 – 19:30 Meet the African changemakers (Kigali Innovation Village)

16:00 – 22:00 I am Kigali Concert (Open event)

20 July 2017

09:30 – 11:00 Plenary - How do we get to 50 million jobs by 2020?

11:00 – 11:30 Break

11:30 – 13:00 Youth Driving SDGs Seminar & Workshops

Connekted Girls: Implementing Smart Women & Girls Declaration

Access to finance: Where is the money?

"Hack the Future" Hackfest begins (all day event)

Job Connekt begins (all day event)

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 15:30 Harnessing Youth's Potential through Health

Enterprise Hub

Youth Konverse

15:30 – 16:00 Break

16:00 – 17:00 Plenary: Demographic Dividend: Are we ready to win?

19:30 – 22:00 Opportunity Raising Gala Dinner (by invitation)

21 July 2017

09:00 – 10:00 B2B Breakfast Roundtable by RDB (by invitation)

Plenary: Youth & Politics

10:00 – 10:30 Break

10:30 – 11:30 Plenary Youth Konverse: Diaspora, the 6th Region

11:45 – 12:30 Plenary Youth Konverse with Patrice Mustepe

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 14:45 Plenary Youth Konverse with Jack Ma

14:45 – 15:00 Short Break

15:00 – 16:30 Meet the Leaders - Expanding Opportunities for Youth

16:30 – 17:00 Press Conference (Media only)

17:00 – Send off Cocktail

Conference **Streams**



Plenary Sessions



Youth Driving “SDGs”



Connekted Girls



Job Connekt



Enterprise Hub



Youth Konverse



Hacking the Future Hackfest

Plenary Sessions

The main plenary will feature high level sessions where all delegates will have the chance to engage with government officials, business leaders, youth entrepreneurs and policy experts on key issues. The main plenary will also feature 'Spotlight' sessions where notable champions of youth will engage in one on one interviews & in depth interactive sessions with the audience. Key sessions include:-

- How do we get to 10 million jobs by 2020?
- Demographic Dividend: Are we ready to win?
- Meet the President
- Spotlight with Jack Ma, Special Advisor to UNCTAD on Young Entrepreneurs & Small Business Founder and Executive Chairman of Alibaba Group

Youth Driving "SDGs"

Africa has the youngest population in the world of 226 million people aged between 15 & 24. It is anticipated that the number will increase by 42% by 2030 & 50% by 2055. Africa's youth, therefore, are the most pertinent factor in achieving Africa's SDG goals. The **"Youth Driving SDGs"** program will facilitate conversation between economic policy experts, youth leaders, business influencers and policy makers

Set in a 'discussion' style environment, the participants in the program will be tasked with developing resolutions to educate, empower & support youth initiatives that will positively impact Africa's SDG mandate. These ideas will then be used to inform key aspects in the overall YouthConnekt Program.

Connekted Girls

Connekted Girls will challenge mindsets and drive discussions around the implementation of the recently launched Smart Africa Women & Girls declaration.

Set in plenary type format, the session will feature successful women & girls in Africa as well as champions for their empowerment through lively & engaging discussions.

Recommendations arising from this session will be used to inform key gender aspects in the overall YouthConnekt Program.

Job Connekt

Job Connekt will feature employers & financial agencies from across Africa promoting opportunities in the private sector. Designed for reach, Job Connekt will be featured live on several platforms including Youtube & Facebook live.

Youth across Africa and those in attendance will be able to engage with different job opportunities as well as existing youth friendly financial institutions directly.

Enterprise Hub

E-commerce makes up one to three percent of GDP in Africa, and is predicted to make up 10 percent of total retail sales in key markets by 2025, with 40 percent annual growth over the next 10 years.

Africa has a rapidly growing communications infrastructure, with broadband fiber optic cables being deployed along the coast and 4G networks rolling out internet to the interior. The smartphone market is also growing rapidly, allowing an increasing portion of the population (which is growing and getting richer) to use those networks to their full capacity.

This represents massive economic growth prospects for e-commerce in Africa and highlights the need to educate and impart skills to the youth that will help them benefit from this vertical.

Coming from the Empretec network, young entrepreneurs from Gambia, Uganda and Tanzania will share their experiences and exchange with the audience on how new products and policies can be introduced for young entrepreneurs, taking advantage of technologies.

Youth Konverse

A common thread evident throughout discussion around the socio economic growth of Africa's youth is 'ideas'. Driven by hope & motivated by Africa's positive outlook, the next generation is poised to be the most innovative & solution driven work force yet.

However, ideas that come to fruition only do so when they are truly solving problems efficiently and whose 'owners' are possessed with the will to work hard and smart.

Many have achieved this and their stories are worth sharing. Youth Konverse will feature talks from Africa's achievers who will share their journey from the idea to success. Streamed live, Youth Konverse speakers will impart lessons, motivate and show how to overcome failure to our YouthConnekt audience in the summit as well as the network across the continent.

Hacking the Future Hackfest

Incubation hubs, education institutes and employers have set the scene to nurture bright young minds and equip them with skills required to harness the opportunities that the digital era brings. ICT continues to present unparalleled opportunities that can bridge the gap between millions of youth & limitless opportunities that the continent has to offer.

Hacking the Future is a large multi platform hackathon that will feature youth from Rwanda and across the continent, in intensive collaborative projects with specific focus subjects directly related to building platforms that promote trade and create jobs.

The sponsored challenge will see the winner of the hackathon awarded with the first YouthConnekt Hacking & YouthConnekt HackQueen Champion awards.

Afriwalk

Learn More About **Where It All** **STARTED**



The Rwandan experience **THE YOUTHCONNEKT INITIATIVE**

YouthConnekt was initiated in 2012 by the Government of Rwanda through the Ministry of Youth and ICT (MYICT) under the One UN's Youth and Women Employment Programme - and a number of other partners from the public and private sector.

With an overall objective to reduce unemployment among youth and promote active citizenship, YouthConnekt empowers the youth through Job creation, ICT innovations, Skills development and Citizen Engagement

The YouthConnekt platform enables young women and men aged between 16-30 to connect with leaders, role models, peers, skills and resources to promote employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.

YouthConnekt is implemented through a set of interwoven strategic components:



YouthConnekt Hangouts
YouthConnekt Convention
YouthConnekt Champions & CRYWA Awards
YouthConnekt Boot Camps & Awards
YouthConnekt Month & Holiday Programmes
YouthConnekt National & Community Dialogue



4,000,000

between age 16-30 reached through campaigns, social media events, TV shows.

4,000

new off-farm jobs have been created!

450

Youth have been provided with entrepreneurship & social innovation skills for the scalability of their businesses.



YOUTH CONNEKT AFRICA SUMMIT '17

www.youthconnektafrica.org



YouthConnektAfrica



YouthConnektAf

