

Africa Industrialisation Day is celebrated on November 20 each year. It is a time when governments and other organizations in many African countries examine ways to stimulate Africa's industrialisation process. It is also an occasion to draw worldwide media attention to the problems and challenges of industrialisation in Africa.

The 20th November was proclaimed Africa Industrialisation Day by the 25th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in 1989. The same date was set aside annually as Africa Industrialisation Day by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 1989. The 20th November has since been observed each year as Africa Industrialisation Day. Since 2018, the Africa Industrialisation Day has been commemorated through a weeklong event involving the private sector, diaspora, African governments, youth, women, international cooperation partners; among several stakeholders.

As a part of marking this day, FirstCode Corporation has organised the Africa Industrialisation Awards in partnership with various stakeholders as a way to recognise key stakeholders and service providers in the industrial sector in Africa for the gallant efforts, innovations and tangible growth that they have demonstrated as a part of Africa's industrialisation drive intended to turnaround the socio-economic fortunes of the continent and spur the \$3.4 trillion intra-trade potential as envisaged in the enacted AfCFTA protocols and make a significant contribution to the world's annual 19 trillion dollar trade.

The awards also have a component that highlights the role of youth in the industrialisation agenda for posterity through the Youth Industrial Innovation Awards. FirstCode recognises the critical role of the youth and skills development play to drive industrialisation. In this regard, the organisation has a special category for youth under The Youth Industrial Innovation Awards for young innovators and engineers in

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Africa Industrialisation Week (AIW) whose main objective is to bring together various stakeholders involved in Industrialisation on the Continent.

