



ECA



Africa  
Business Forum 2024

#ABF2024

## BOOSTING AFRICA'S TRANSFORMATION THROUGH EDUCATION, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

The seventh edition of the Africa Business Forum will be held on the margins of the thirty-seventh ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union.

The goal of the Africa Business Forum is to promote an ongoing dialogue between the private and public sectors in Africa to accelerate collective efforts towards realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union

The 2024 edition of the Forum will help build a positive momentum for partnerships with private sector to accelerate investment in education, science, technology, and innovation, as a means to boosting the continent's transformation. The recommendations emanating from this Forum will also form part of Africa's voice that will be fed into preparatory considerations of the UN Secretary General's Summit of the Future scheduled to take place in September 2024. The Summit of the Future will bring world leaders together to forge a new international consensus on how we deliver a better present and safeguard the future.

### The specific objectives of the Forum are as follows:

1. To provide a multi-stakeholder platform for the candid exchange of views among public and private sector stakeholders, including financial institutions, on challenges, opportunities and actions that must be taken to accelerate the transformation of Africa through education, technology and innovation and prepare young people in Africa for the future;
2. To facilitate the sharing of knowledge and good practices to support science, technology and innovation in Africa;
3. To discuss how to attract capital from investors with a view to scaling up innovations developed by technology start-ups and innovation hubs and to showcase digital innovations spearheaded by African start-ups and innovators;
4. To encourage the formulation of policy recommendations and partnerships that bring together business enterprises, research institutions, governments, development partners and financial institutions with a view to supporting robust science, technology and innovation initiatives that ensure that no one is left behind and that promote implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

### Who should attend?

- African leaders participating in the thirty-seventh ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union
- Representatives of the African Union Commission
- Representatives of private sector enterprises operating in the areas of education science, technology and innovation
- Representatives of multilateral development banks, investors and venture capitalists interested in supporting initiatives in science, technology and innovation
- Policymakers and thought leaders
- Researchers and representatives of non-profit organizations
- Youth representatives and representatives of small and medium-sized enterprises
- Media representative

### Date:

19 February 2024

### Time:

8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. (EAT)  
followed by a reception

### Venue:

United Nations Conference Center,  
Addis Ababa.

All participants must please register at the link below:

<https://indico.un.org/event/1009622/registrations/14154/>

Registration must be approved prior to the start of the Forum.

Please note that participation in the Forum is self-sponsored.

For further enquiries please contact: [eca-abf-2024@un.org](mailto:eca-abf-2024@un.org)