



**United States-Sub-Saharan Africa
Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum (AGOA Forum)
July 11-12, 2018, Washington, DC**

“Forging New Strategies for U.S.-Africa Trade and Investment”

Monday-Tuesday, July 9-10, 2018

Side Events:

AGOA Private Sector Forum
AGOA Civil Society Events
African Trade Ministers Meeting

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

- 07:30 – 08:45 am** **Arrival of Delegates / Registration**
(U.S. Department of State, 22nd & C Sts NW—Main Entrance)
- 08:45 – 09:00 am** **Seating of Delegates**
- 09:00 – 09:25 am** **Ministerial Opening Ceremony**
OPEN TO PRESS & LIVESTREAMING ON VIDEO.STATE.GOV
(U.S. Department of State, Loy Henderson Auditorium)
9h00-0905: U.S. National Anthem
9h05-9h15: Remarks by John Sullivan, Deputy Secretary of State
9h15-9h20: Remarks by H.E. Bernadette Legzim-Balouki, Minister of Commerce and
Promotion of Private Sector, Togolese Republic (Host of the 2017 AGOA Forum)
9h20-9h25: Remarks by H.E. Ambassador KwesiThomas Quartey, Deputy Chairperson,
African Union Commission
9h25-9h30: Remarks by Ambassador Robert Lighthizer, U.S. Trade Representative
- 09:30 – 09:35 am** **Readout from African Trade Ministers’ Consultative Meeting**
- 09:35 – 09:40 am** **Readout on Private Sector Meetings**
- 09:40 – 09:45 am** **Readout from Civil Society Meetings**
- 09:45 – 10:00 am** **REFRESHMENT BREAK**
(Delegates Lounge & Courtyard Tent)

10:00 – 11:45 pm **PLENARY 1 – Forging New Strategies for U.S.-Africa Trade and Investment**
(Loy Henderson Auditorium)

Co-Chairs:

Ambassador Robert Lighthizer, U.S. Trade Representative
H.E. Adan Mohamed, Cabinet Secretary for Ministry of Industry, Trade and
Cooperatives, Republic of Kenya

12:00 – 1:30 pm **VIP LUNCH** – Trade Ministers and Delegation Heads (By Invitation Only)
(Ben Franklin Room)

Theme: Spurring Private Sector Trade and Investment

Keynote Speakers:

Gilbert Kaplan, Under Secretary of Commerce
Edward Burrier, Vice President for External Affairs, OPIC

12:00 – 1:30 pm **BUFFET LUNCH**
(Courtyard Tent)

1:45 – 3:00 pm **BREAKOUT Sessions**

WORKSHOP 1 *(Breakout Room 1105)*

Empowering Women to Build Partnerships and Develop Effective Value-Added Supply Chains: Africa exports mainly raw agricultural commodities and stands to benefit greatly from the development of value-added processes. With women making up much of the informal agricultural workforce in Africa, improving women’s positions in agricultural value chains in the near term requires addressing barriers that women continue to face. The panel will explore examples of partnerships that have increased productivity through innovation and entrepreneurship.

Co-Chairs:

Manisha Singh, Assistant Secretary for Economic and Business Affairs
H.E. Alioune Sarr, Minister of Trade, Industry, and the Informal Sector, Republic
of Senegal

Panelists:

Michelle Bekkering, Senior Deputy USAID Administrator for Economic Growth,
Education and Environment
Sarah Thorn, Senior Director, Global Government Affairs Walmart
Greta Schettler, Chief Operating Officer, WEConnect International
Rahama Wright, CEO & Founder, Shea Yeleen
Amina Azia Ouro Agoro, Director Minagro Group, Togo

WORKSHOP 2 *(Breakout Room 1107)*

Maximizing Trade through Improved Workforce Development and Labor Rights:
This panel will discuss how to maximize trade through improved workforce development and decent work, focusing on leveraging workforce development and labor standards as a means to attract foreign investment and improve national development outcomes.

Co-Chairs:

Martha Newton, Deputy Undersecretary of Labor for International Affairs
Representative from Mauritius (invited)

Panelists:

Lewis Karesh, Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Labor Affairs
Kwabena Otoo, Director, Labour Research and Policy Institute Trade Union
Congress - Ghana
Sean Cady, Vice President for Responsible Sourcing, VF Corp

WORKSHOP 3 (*Loy Henderson Auditorium*)

Facilitating U.S.-Africa Small Business Trade Through e-Commerce: Strategies for increasing small business trade through ecommerce and consolidated shipments by simplifying trade rules and increasing access to information via online publication, small business consultations, and focus by National Trade Facilitation Committees on small business interests in accordance with the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement.

Co-Chairs:

Eugene Cornelius, Deputy Associate Administrator, Small Business
Administration
H.E. Lindiwe Zulu, South Africa (Department of Small Business Development)
(invited)

Panelists:

Lori Brock, Acting Director of Trade and Regulatory, USAID
Brian Bieron, Executive Director Public Policy Lab, e-Bay
Kati Suominen, Executive Director, Business Alliance for e-Trade Development

WORKSHOP 4 (*Dean Acheson Auditorium*)

Public Procurement and Reform: A Driver of Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa: This panel would discuss how best practices and policies in public procurement improves governments' capacity to make smarter, longer-term investments in infrastructure and other sectors that facilitate long-term growth and support trade and investment. Speakers would highlight USTDA capacity building efforts in Ethiopia and Botswana through the Global Procurement Initiative in partnership with the World Bank and the African Development Bank.

Co-Chairs:

Thomas Hardy, Director, U.S. Trade and Development Agency
H.E. Melaku Alebel, Minister, Ministry of Trade, Ethiopia

Panelists:

Azeb Asnake, CEO, Ethiopia Electric Power Corporation (invited)
Vinay Sharma, Director of Solutions and Innovation in Procurement, World Bank
(invited)
Paul Sullivan, Vice President, International Business Development, Acrow Bridge
Erik Bethel, U.S. Executive Director, World Bank (invited)

3:00 – 3:10 pm

REFRESHMENT BREAK

(Delegates Lounge & Courtyard Tent)

3:15 – 4:25 pm

BREAKOUT Sessions

WORKSHOP 5 *(Breakout Room 1105)*

Catalyzing Agriculture Sector for Growth: Although agriculture continues to be the dominant sector in most sub-Saharan African economies with significant growth in agricultural output, productivity growth in the region remains well below that of the other regions. Most agricultural output growth has been based on area expansion, but arable land is increasingly scarce and many countries are facing limits to further expansion. The panel would highlight efforts at sustainably increasing agricultural productivity and incomes to improve food security, expanded agricultural trade and inclusive agriculture-led growth and poverty reduction.

Co-Chairs:

Chris Runyan, Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator, USAID

H.E. Christopher Yaluma, Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Republic of Zambia

Panelists:

Michelle McKenzie- Senior Program Officer , USADF

Joseph Funt, Managing Director, Global Shea Alliance

Heather Kulp, Executive Director, Chevron/Niger Delta Partnership Initiative

Colin Christensen, Director of Government Relations and Policy, One Acre Fund

WORKSHOP 6 *(Breakout Room 1107)*

Regional Investments: Unlocking economic growth and reducing poverty through regional integration, trade and cross border collaboration: This session underscores the importance of cross border collaboration, trade and investment in Africa to accelerate economic growth for sustained poverty reduction. Speakers will discuss i) MCC's recently acquired concurrent compact authority which enables regional investments, ii) priority sectors for cross-border investments, iii) an inventory of regional investment opportunities in West Africa, and iv) success factors for regional projects.

Co-Chairs:

Jonathan Nash, Chief Operating Officer, Millennium Challenge Corporation

Moono Mupotola, Director of Regional Development & Regional Integration, African Development Bank

Panelists:

Riccardo Puliti, Senior Director for Energy and Extractives, World Bank

Nilmini Rubin, Executive Vice President, International Development, Tetra Tech

Stephen Cashin, CEO and Founder, Pan African Capital Group

WORKSHOP 7 *(Dean Acheson Auditorium)*

Trade Facilitation: How implementing the TFA can help increase GDP, connect to global value chains and attract FDI: This session would underscore the benefits from the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) particularly for developing and least developed

countries and encourage African countries to ratify the TFA and submit Category A, B and C notifications to the WTO. Speakers would highlight USAID capacity building efforts through bilateral and regional programs (trade hubs) and the ongoing work of the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation. The session would also cover primary gender issues relevant to trade facilitation.

Co-Chairs:

Peter Haas, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Trade Policy
Ambassador Chiedu Osakwe, Federal Republic of Nigeria

Panelists:

Mr Ade Adefeko, Vice President, Corporate and Government Relations, Olam International Nigeria
Paul Fekete, Senior International Trade Advisor, USAID
Mr Amgad Shehata, Senior Vice President, International Public Affairs and Strategy, United Parcel Service (UPS)
Lindsay Carter, International Trade Specialist, Office of Agreements and Scientific Affairs, Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA

WORKSHOP 8 (*Loy Henderson Auditorium*)

Preparing Future Entrepreneurs: By 2050, Africa is projected to have a quarter of the world's population. According to a 2016 World Economic Forum report, 65 percent of children entering primary school globally today will ultimately end up working in completely new job types that don't yet exist

Co-Chairs:

Oren Whyche-Shaw, Deputy Assistant Administrator, USAID
H.E. Alan Kyerematen, Minister of Trade and Industry, Ghana

Panelists:

Alexis Bonnell, USAID Democracy Lab Representative
Adekunbi Adeoye, YALI Mandela Fellow

4:45 – 5:45 pm **USTR Lighthizer Meeting with Trade Ministers**
(*Room 1107*)

4:30 – 7:00 pm **Reception Hosted by U.S. Government**
(*Courtyard Tent*)

Thursday, July 12, 2018

9:00 – 10:00 am **PLENARY 2 – A Conversation with U.S. Congressional Representatives**
(*Loy Henderson Auditorium*)
Moderator: Ambassador Robert Lighthizer, U.S. Trade Representative

10:00 – 10:15 am **REFRESHMENT BREAK**
(*Delegates Lounge & Courtyard Tent*)

10:15 – 11:25 am **BREAKOUT Sessions**

WORKSHOP 9 (*Dean Acheson Auditorium*)

Investing in Mobile Technologies to Improve Health and Trade: Mobile medical devices and information technology are being increasingly used in the health sector and have demonstrated their ability to improve health systems and health status of populations. Mobile diagnostic devices, such as those used during recent malaria and Ebola epidemics, saved many lives. Similarly, software applications particularly text messaging (SMS) are successfully being used by community health workers for communications and surveillance of diseases. Management information systems have shown the potential to improve governance. African countries have surpassed other nations in the use of mobile phones and applications for innovative purposes. Therefore, it is important for Africa to decide how existing trade policies, and sensible revisions as needed, can accelerate a continuous flow of innovative technologies (both products and services) to improve the health status of populations and thus help accelerate trade and economic growth.

Co-Chairs:

Garrett Grigsby, Director, Office of Global Affairs, Department of Health and Human Services

H.E. Vincent Munyeshyaka, Minister of Trade and Industry, Government of Rwanda

Panelists:

Dr. Raj Panjabi, CEO, Last Mile Initiative, Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School (and TED talk award winner)

Prof. Gibson Kibiki, Executive Secretary/CEO, East African Health Research Commission

David Ferreira, Senior Executive, Health & Education, International Finance Corporation

WORKSHOP 10 (*Breakout Room 1107*)

The Power and Pitfalls of Public Private Partnerships (PPPs): Bridging Africa's massive infrastructure and energy gaps to spur private investment, enhance trade and competitiveness, and unlock inclusive growth will depend, in large part, on the strength and quality of public investments. The private sector can play an important role as a partner to stretch resources and bring technical expertise, but PPPs are complex undertakings that also carry risks, including by generating significant public-sector contingent liabilities. This session will examine specific experiences and lessons learned from PPPs in sub-Saharan Africa, drawing on public and private sector perspectives and exploring tools to maximize mutual benefit and mitigate risks.

Co-Chairs:

Eric Meyer Deputy Assistant Secretary of Treasury

H.E. Souleymane Diarrassouba, Minister of Commerce, Craft, and SME Promotion, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire (invited)

Panelists:

Alexander Dixon, Senior Director and Finance, Investment, and Trade Practice Lead, MCC

Dr. Teshome Tafesse, General Director, Office of PPP Directorate General,
Ministry of Finance, Ethiopia (invited)
Geneviève Verdier, Deputy Division Chief, Fiscal Affairs Department, IMF
Justin DeAngelis, Partner, Denham Capital

WORKSHOP 11 (*Breakout Room 1105*)

Reinforcing the Enabling Environment for Energy Investment: This panel discussion will highlight the critical role of the enabling environment for attracting increased energy investment in sub-Saharan Africa. A healthy power sector enabling environment encompasses a broad range of characteristics, including clear legal and regulatory frameworks, private sector competition, commercially viable utilities, and long-term energy planning. Panelists will highlight recent examples of successful reforms as well as discuss existing enabling environment challenges and how they can be addressed.

Co-Chairs:

John McCarrick, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Energy Resources
H.E. Ragendra de Sousa, Minister of Industry and Trade, Republic of Mozambique

Moderator: Matt Rees, Deputy Coordinator, Power Africa

Panelists:

Pascoal Bacela, National Director of Energy, Ministry of Mineral Resources and
Energy, Republic of Mozambique (invited)
Lida Fitts, Regional Director for Sub-Saharan Africa, USTDA
Sam Kwon, Senior Director for Energy, MCC
George Pickart, Senior Director, Global Government Affairs & Policy, GE

11:30 – 12:25 pm

PLENARY 3 – (*Loy Henderson Auditorium*) **The Journey to Self-Reliance:**

This session will focus on the journey to self-reliance, meaning the concentrated effort to help African governments address the needs of their citizens without relying on foreign aid and become more able to collaborate with outside assistance in emergencies. The goal is to work with governments, their private sectors and their civil societies to guarantee a prosperous and just society for their own purposes and to attract robust foreign investment

Co-Chairs:

David Moore, Acting Deputy Administrator, USAID
H.E. Ragendra de Sousa, Minister of Industry and Trade, Republic of Mozambique

12:30 – 1:00 pm

Closing Ceremony

(*Loy Henderson Auditorium*)

Remarks by H.E. Mr. Souleymane Diarrassouba, Minister of Commerce, Craft, and SME
Promotion, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire (host of 2019 AGOA Forum)

Remarks by Acting Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Don Yamamoto