

ADYFE

African Diaspora Youth Forum in Europe
Empowerment and Business Development Solution



4th African Diaspora Youth Forum in Europe (ADYFE)

In partnership with: United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

And Erasmus+

Presents:

“Business Solution Forum for Youth: Entrepreneurial Leadership for Decent Job Creation”

1st-4th June 2016, in Vienna Austria

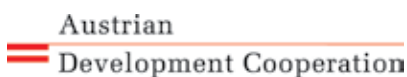
Vienna International Center –VIC, C_Building, Room C- 1, 2nd floor

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Aide Memoire

This years 4th African Diaspora Youth Forum in Europe focuses on “**equipping every youth with knowledge and skills to get jobs that create more jobs**”.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in his remarks to the ‘Entrepreneurship for Development’, General Assembly Thematic Debate on the 26th June 2013 said that an estimated 425 million young women and men would join the labour force between 2016 and 2030. He also underlined that in 2013 about 73 million young people would be underemployed, which means that “the world will need about half a billion jobs by then”. Yet, it is crucial to remember that the importance of access to jobs goes far beyond numbers and economical features: it defines human dignity and has an immense impact on an individual’s confidence, motivation, improvement/development of skills and furthermore the willingness and capability to assertively overcome various obstacles and crises one might face.

The well-being of the youth within a society does influence the society as a whole. Therefore the future of a society can be seen as being dependent on the future, opportunities and future perspectives of young people This undermines the importance of discussing topics such as access to qualitatively good jobs, entrepreneurship, economic development and investments. Furthermore aspects in regards to gender equality must be addressed. In order to create a better future for all members of the society, it is very crucial to approach these issues and try to find possibilities to overcome the obstacles. Special focus should be put on vulnerable and (socially) disadvantaged groups, such as youngsters within the African Diaspora in Europe.

Background:

ADYFE is the largest Diaspora Entrepreneurship Forum in Europe toward Africa. ADYFE puts great effort into the mobilization of youngsters within the African Diaspora in Europe in order to support each other to increase the access to qualitatively good jobs, enhance entrepreneurship and an inclusive sustainable industrial development for everyone. ADYFE stands for the empowerment of the African Youth Diaspora as well as the support of a sustainable economical development of Africa.

Our mission is to provide a space for consultations, discussions between youth and decision makers with the aim to foster industrialization, to encourage entrepreneurship in order to decrease the unemployment rate among youth.

The African Diaspora Youth Forum in Europe is organized every year by VAS and ADYNE, in collaboration with UNIDO, Erasmus+ and the Austrian government as well as with the support of DreikönigsAktion. Due to its’ unique model and its’ expertise and long-standing commitment towards African entrepreneurs and youth, ADYFE has been able to provide sustainable technical support to diaspora start-ups and entrepreneurs. During the last three years ADYFE reunited young people and experts from all over the world coming from different international organizations, NGOs, and so on, to discuss the needs and concerns of

the African Youth Diaspora. This resulted in the creation of a platform for youth to speak up for themselves, be heard and participate in national decision-making processes regarding their needs and interests of employment. This years 4th ADYFE, which will once more take place at the UNIDO`s headquarter in Vienna, puts great emphasis on how to stimulate investments and business creations from Europe towards Africa.

Objectives of the 4th ADYFE

Provision of programs that will facilitate the creation of decent jobs for the youth. A great focus will be put on the development agendas including policies to meet the SDGs. Further objectives and aims of the 4th ADYFE include:

- Strengthen the capacity building of youth by facilitating the access to training programs and information through two trainingsessions.
- Organizing panel discussions, which will promote businesses, incubation centers and innovation needed in Africa in order to accelerate the knowledge transfer.
- Contribute positively in the support and empowerment of young entrepreneurs by providing a sustainable space for business development solutions and networking for youth through B2G meeting (start-ups and youth in African diaspora meeting the government and representatives), B2B meetings, sharing of good practices and the implementation of a mentoring program.
- Enhance funding through a competition pitch which will facilitate liaison and collaboration between youth in diaspora with their African countries by providing space for individual business development and investment.

Participation:

This years forum is going to take place from the 1st - 4th June at the United Nations Headquarters Vienna. It will gather experts, leaders, business-owners, change makers and more than 200 young people from all around Europe and the globe for the cause to address and support the development of Africa, as well as to tackle unemployment among youngsters within the African diaspora.

Themes:

The 4th African Diaspora Youth Forum In Europe will be divided into 2 different thematic areas:

Area 1: Career and Innovation Development Academy:

Most trainings of the Career and Innovation Development academy (**CIDA**) program, are developed by ADYFE specifically for the youth within the African diaspora (leaders, start-ups, entrepreneurs, etc)It focuses on capacity building of these young people in order to support them on their way to becoming better entrepreneurs and social entrepreneurs. The CIDA

helps them to develop their entrepreneurial skills and enable them to make their contribution to the social and economical growth here and there (Europe and Africa) This year the focus is on “Developing the entrepreneurial skill of the African leaders, entrepreneurs and start-ups”. Furthermore, we focus on the creation of innovation itself. The above outlined objectives are going to be met through the following 2 training sessions:

A- Diaspora Start-up Week

The Diaspora start-up week pitch competition is great way to create new innovative entrepreneurs and social entrepreneurs. Surrounded by smart, passionate people and with the best tools and approaches at their disposal, each selected company and start-up will be given the unique opportunity to work closely with scaling managers, experts and mentors within the respective fields. In addition, they will be provided with insights in regards to knowledge, innovation, funding opportunities, and skill development.

At the Diaspora Start-up Week, young entrepreneurs will be immersed in the ideal environment for start-up magic to happen by taking a giant leap toward creating a business, becoming a founder, and connecting with the right people and resources.

Further objectives of the Diaspora Startup Week are: business linkages and cluster building and winning a grant to start a new venture.

B- Training for new established companies, start-ups and youth leaders

Together with our partners we will be able to assist the young entrepreneurs and support them (throughout workshops, discussion sessions, sharing of good practices and business modeling). They will be able to create solution for their businesses taking into account different perspectives and to master challenges efficiently as well.

Each selected company, start-up and youngster will be given the unique opportunity to work closely with scaling managers, experts and mentors within the respective fields who will provide them with insights in regards to knowledge, innovation, funding opportunities, and skill development.

Other objectives of the training are: business linkages and cluster building

Area 2: Annual Conference

The conference is the first of its kind held in Europe and presents a significant opportunity for African leaders and youngsters, to network and work closely together in order to coordinate international dialogue amongst important stakeholders for African development especially, through panel discussions, B2B meetings, lectures and exchange sessions. This year we are going to tackle topics such as: entrepreneurial leadership, access to qualitatively good jobs and technology, diaspora entrepreneurship towards Africa, economical development, Africa-Europe development Cooperation and so on.

The Conference is going to focus on 3 parts:

The main focus will be put on how to unlock the potential of the Youth as well as the role of leadership in the management of the company. Those objectives would be achieved through different activities such as panel discussions, diaspora business talks and B2B meetings.

A- Panel Discussions

The panel discussions will be organized around two different topics: **“Incubation centers, creation of qualitatively good jobs and entrepreneurship development for youth”** and **“Enabling diaspora entrepreneurship”**.

Africa has increasingly been labeled as the world’s youngest continent with an estimated amount of 200 million youngsters. 70% of Africa’s population is aged below 25. Therefore high rate of youth unemployment is a nightmare for the continent. The discussion is going to focus on the role and the challenge of the private sector, incubators and other multipliers in regards to sustainable job creation. We are going to share good practice from some African ventures and countries, creating frames and policies which will enable a strategic funding partnership between diaspora enterprises, African companies, and the different development cooperation agencies of Europe and European companies as well.

B- Diaspora Business Talks

The Diaspora Business Talk is a new concept of ADYFE aiming at spreading ideas related to diaspora businesses. The exclusivity of this concept is that it focuses on the African diaspora and Africa itself, covering broad topics, from the role of business to innovation, which are delivered by successful and prominent personalities in the respective fields..

While this year’s topic is leadership, speakers will focus on the role of leadership in business or entrepreneurship. Valueable, Inspiring, motivating, and awareness raising good practices and experiences will be shared.

C- Business To Business (B2B)

A vast majority of diaspora entrepreneurs and businessperson in Europe and in Africa lack information on appropriate business links and mapping. It is therefore important to create space which enables these two continents with their distinctive entrepreneurs, public and private sectors to develop new comparative advantages and to provide young people with innovative ideas and funding opportunities. A mechanism is needed for collecting and disseminating knowledge in regards to entrepreneurship, investment promotion, business linkages and clustering as well. This event will foster business linkage and clustering and boost the economic participation of young businessmen and women.

The purpose of B2B is to not only to justify the need for clusters in European and African economies, but also to focus on cluster-based actions that are able to provide business solutions to young people and to promote investment. This will in turn promote the investment capacity in Africa and Europe.

The B2B will create networking opportunities for European and African companies which will enable the transfer of information and ideas between companies and individuals.

Draft Agenda:

The preliminary agenda is the following. This is subject to change.

Vienna International Centre (VIC), conference Room C- 1, 2nd floor C – Building

Training CIDA

Training	Training for Youth Leaders, new established companies and startups (25 participants)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Entrepreneurship and Social entrepreneurship, skill development and innovation
	Trainers: UNIDO Technical support
Training	Diaspora Startup Week (25 participants)
	Innovation + Strategy Designer I Social Venture Development
	Trainer: Theodore A. Khoury, Ph.D Assistant Professor, Management & Strategy School of Business Administration Portland State University
Time: 19H	Welcoming Cocktail

Annual Conference

Moderation: Managing Director, ADYFE

08:45 – 09:30	Opening Ceremony
	ADYFE Management – ADYFE
	Name to be confirmed - UNIDO Director General (oriented towards private and public sector partnership development)
	Name to be confirmed – US Ambassador to Austria
	Name to be confirmed – Guest of honor
09:40 – 11:00	Panel Discussion
	Cedric Atangana – Founder of Infinity Space
	Topic 1: Incubation centers, quality job creation, and Entrepreneurship

	development for Youth
Moderator: Samir Abdelkrim StartupBRICS Entrepreneur, Consultant, Blogger	
Cafe break	
11:00 – 11:20	
11:20 – 12:30	Panel Discussion
	Topic 2: Enabling Diaspora Entrepreneurship
speaker TBC - Austria	
Gibril Fall – Interim Director ADEPT (TBC)	
Karim Saafi – ADYFE	
Charles Kwenin – Senior Regional Adviser for Sub-Saharan Africa, OIM (TBC)	
Teresa Widmer – International Relations Manager, SECO Entrepreneurship Program, (Swiss Foundation for Technical Cooperation) Swisscontact (TBC)	
(Stephanie) – German Development Cooperation, GIZ (TBC)	
Moderator: Valerie Wolff - ICMPD	
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch Break
14 :00 – 17 :00	Diaspora Business Talks: Entrepreneurial LEADERSHIP
Speaker 1 : Intergenerational Dialogue, Agenda 2063 (H.E. Anatole Collinet MAKOSSO)	
Speaker 2: Malamine Koné – Founder and Director Airness TBC	
Speaker 3: ASHISH J THAKKAR – Founder of Mara Group	
Speaker 4 : Achieving your highest potential (Salma Prodanovic 1millionstartups TBC)	
Speaker 5 : Entrepreneurship and Leadership development in Africa, woman empowerment and entrepreneurship skills development (Ndidi Nwuneli – LEAP TBC)	
Speaker 6 : Leadership , a way to make a difference (Fred Swaniker - Cro-Founder and Chairperson of African Leadership Academy TBC)	
Moderator: ADYFE	
17.15 – 19.15	Reports and presentation of projects to investors
	B2B/B2G Cocktail Reception

Potential Questions to Panelists

Panel 1: **Incubation centers, quality job creation, and Entrepreneurship development for Youth**

- Initiatives and policies that can be adopted to enhance the role of the private sector
- Role of Incubators and Diaspora enterprises in reducing youth unemployment in Africa or on a local level
- Challenges faced by young people in Africa and solutions to how the number of companies and innovation Startups in Africa and in the Diaspora can be increased

Panel 2: **Enabling Diaspora Entrepreneurship**

- Enabling diaspora entrepreneurship: through access to adequate financial schemes towards Diaspora in their country of destination, towards Africa (enterprise creation in Africa) in partnership with Europe.
- Fostering the transnational entrepreneurship and boosting the private sector development
- Funding and policy mechanisms

Presentation of VAS & ADYNE

The Association of African Students in Austria (VAS Austria) is a pier association of ADYNE (African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe), which currently comprises 7000 members and reunites 120 associations.

We work with different organizations to:

- Enhance youth participation and reinforce the development of ADYNE's and VAS' platform,
- Reach out to policy makers in implementing youth policies,
- Help shape the life of young African immigrants living in Europe.
- Offer Strategic Support for capacity-building, networking and Good Practices.

ADYNE and VAS offer seminars, training courses and publications/ reports which try to improve and better represent the interests & needs of young Africans; as well as increase their active participation by carrying out capacity-building programs & activities.

African students studying abroad face several challenges: bordering on networking, culture, and language, as with most European countries, English is not the first language. The facility of employment, integration issues and the contribution of those young people in the development of Africa is the fundamental idea of ADYNE and VAS.