

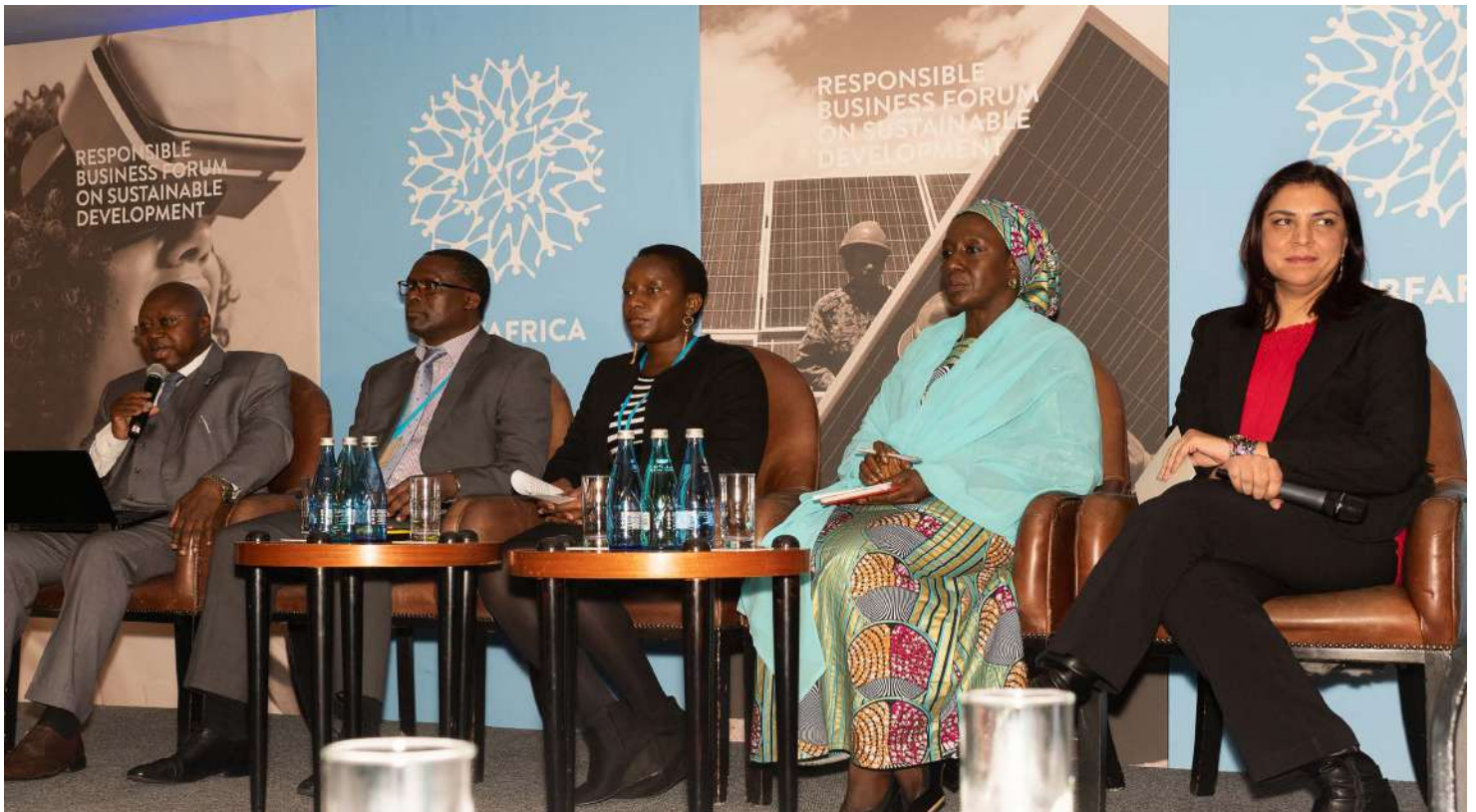


**RESPONSIBLE
BUSINESS FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**

**JOHANNESBURG
25 - 27 JUNE 2018**

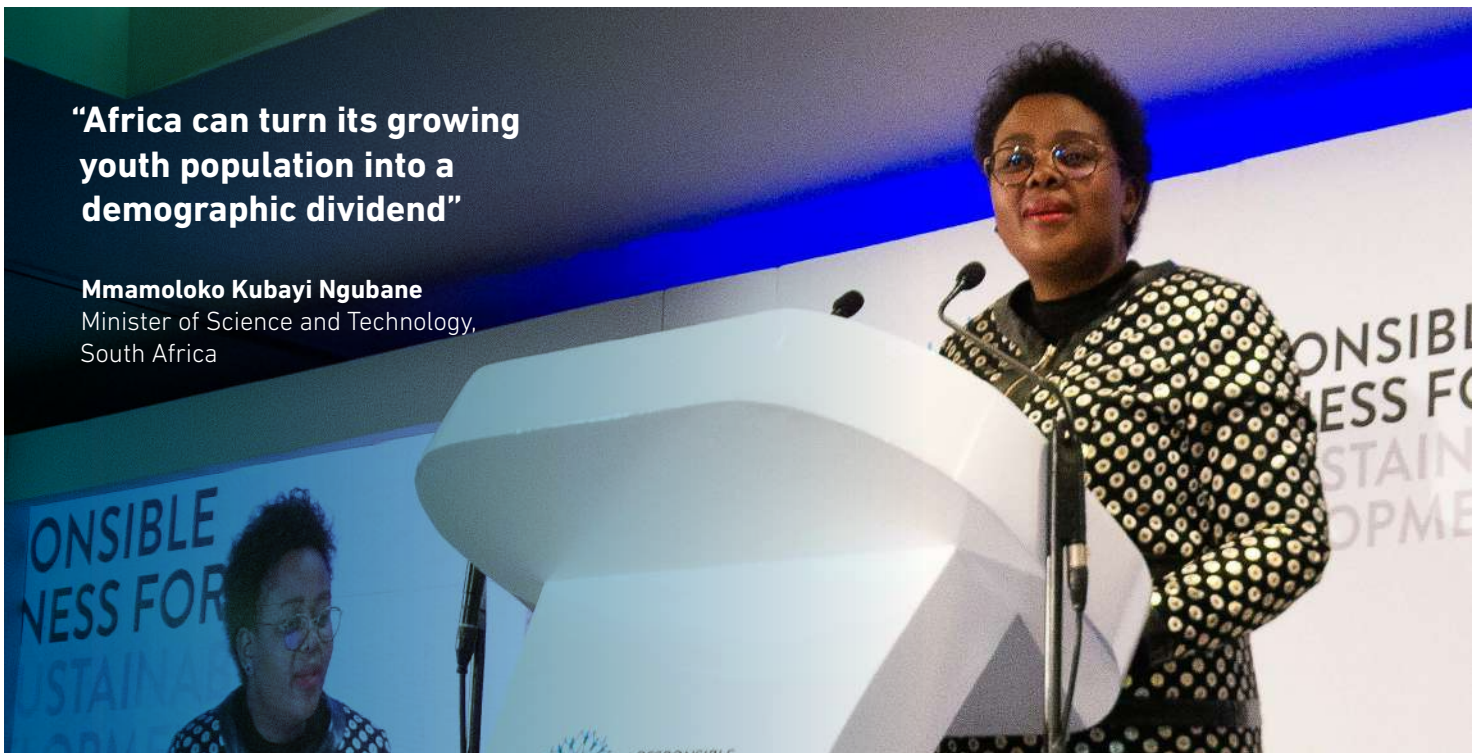
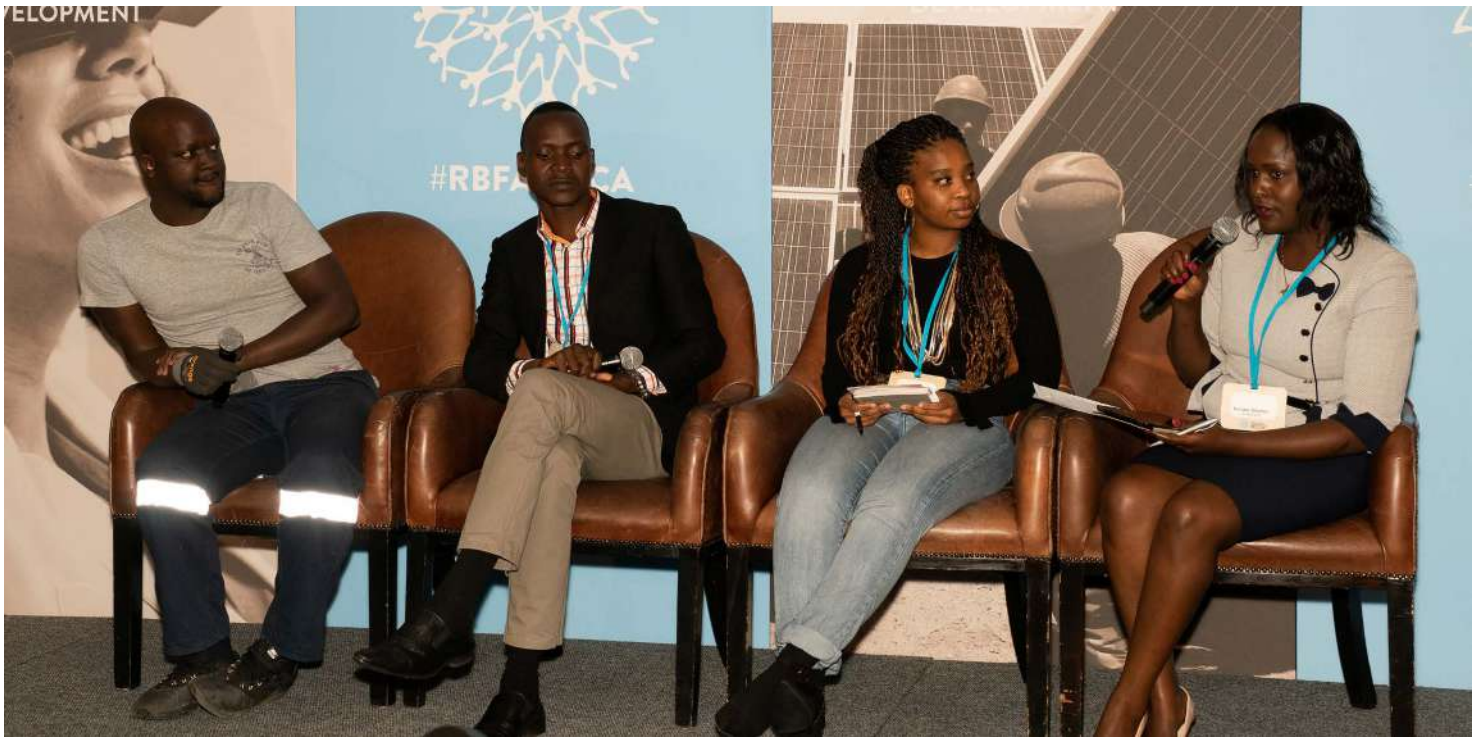


TRANSFORMING AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INNOVATION, YOUTH AND TECHNOLOGY



OUTCOME REPORT





"Africa can turn its growing youth population into a demographic dividend"

Mmamoloko Kubayi Ngubane
Minister of Science and Technology,
South Africa

“We are very confident that RBF Africa will assist to overcome the constraints that hold our continent”

Nardos Bekele-Thomas

United Nations Resident Coordinator and
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“The SDGs are the engine to promote economic growth”

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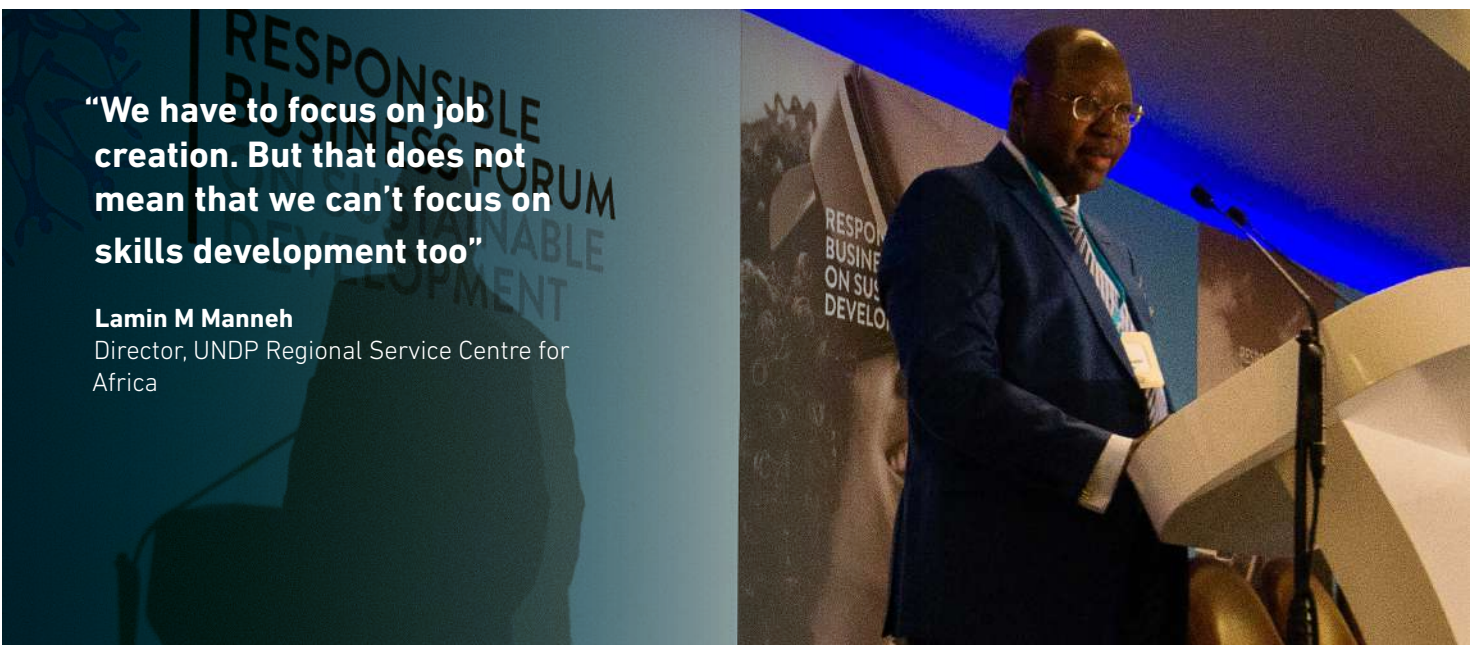
Executive Chairperson, Afropulse &
Chairperson, Primedia Limited



“We have to focus on job creation. But that does not mean that we can't focus on skills development too”

Lamin M Manneh

Director, UNDP Regional Service Centre for
Africa







EVENT SUMMARY

There has been some progress on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa since their introduction in 2015, but to achieve the equitable and prosperous future that the continent strives for, progress must be transformational. Technology, innovation and youth will be key drivers in this transformation.

The Responsible Business Forum on Sustainable Development (RBF), held on the 25th - 27th June 2018 was co-organised by Global Initiatives and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in collaboration with the National Business Initiative and WWF South Africa. Under the theme 'Transforming Africa's Development through Innovation, Youth and Technology', the Forum brought together over 400 international business, government and NGO leaders at the Hyatt Regency in Johannesburg.

On the 25th June, approximately 100 delegates joined RBF for either the YAS! (Youth for Africa and the SDGs) Innovators Workshop, or the Impact@Africa general assembly, side events both hosted by UNDP. The YAS! Workshop brought together over 30 young entrepreneurs from across Southern Africa for a master class to help these young innovators turn ideas into scalable and commercial businesses. The Impact@Africa meeting helped to raise awareness of the Africa wide network which supports the development of impact investment across the continent and to assist in financing the SDGs.

Throughout the RBF programme, senior government officials from South Africa, Nigeria, Namibia & across the region provided country perspectives on the 17 SDGs, to delegates representing more than 25 nations with the aim of improving cross-border partnerships and collaboration. The Forum gave companies a better understanding of the opportunities available in supporting government and the UN to achieve the Global Goals. There was a strong call for business to support youth in attaining the skills for employment, especially in areas like technology and green jobs where there are expected to be growing opportunities.

The critical need for technologies that improve access to healthcare, finance & education as well as improve productivity in our food systems, was a message echoed a number of times at RBF. Companies including Standard Bank, Vodacom, Old Mutual, Syngenta, HP and Proctor & Gamble presented case studies on how they are contributing to the development of these technologies and how innovation is helping their business's thrive, and in turn contributing to the attainment of the SDGs.



EVENT SUMMARY

In addition to high level plenary panel discussions on topics such as 'Fashion and the SDGs' and 'Innovation, entrepreneurship and the SDGs', the Forum also played host to ten different parallel sessions that allowed delegates in an interactive dialogue to contribute their ideas and recommendations. For example, in the session on 'Africa's urbanisation challenge: Reimagining our cities', the audience was asked to ideate and agree on three recommendations for how organisations can support innovation, technology and youth to achieve sustainable growth of African cities and such ideas as using blockchain technologies to provide services to communities were debated.

Africa is starting to see the rise of e-healthcare, online education and off-grid solutions to energy access. Mobile money systems also continue to thrive, providing financing to the traditionally unbanked. These innovations, among many other new technologies, highlights the progress being made on the biggest challenges to face the continent. The young generation of Africa is helping to drive transformation required to achieve the SDGs so supporting the development of their job skills will be critical. The overall positivity and optimism at RBF demonstrated the commitment of the private sector to the future leaders of the continent.

PLENARY SUMMARIES



Transforming Africa's development through innovation, youth and technology

Moderator: **Lynette Ntuli**, Chief Executive, Innate Investment Solutions

Joanne Yawitch, Chief Executive Officer, NBI South Africa

William Mzimba, Chief Officer, Vodacom Business

Brett Wallington, Senior Manager, Sustainability, Standard Bank

Daniel Zaire, Deputy Director of Energy, Ministry of Mines and Energy, Namibia

This panel discussed the innovations that are most crucial for progress on the SDGs and asked for greater private sector involvement in sustainable development on the continent. It addressed the barriers to progress, including unemployment and lack of financial capital and considered private sector's involvement in designing innovative development solutions, supporting policy makers and empowering Africa's youth to pave the way for the continent's economic transformation.

The SDGs provide bigger markets and compelling growth for the private sector. The private sector can provide a platform for youth to work together and remove the obstacles, using technology and innovation. The panel touched on the opportunities that are required and can be given to Africa's burgeoning youth population. It also discussed scaling up Africa's innovation capacity through further incubation and support from financial institutions.



Empowering Africa's Future: Launch of YAS! UNDP's 'Youth for Africa and SDGs' online portal

Moderator: **Pabi Moloi**, Actress

Sandiso Sibisi, Open Innovation Africa Lead Accenture

Tyron Reddy, Chief of Staff for Alternative Business Models, ABSA Bank

Rachel Sibande, Founder & Director, mHub

Priscilla Chimwele, Programme Specialist, UNDP

The YAS! Online portal launched at the Responsible Business Forum (RBF). The main objectives of this launch event were to officially launch the online portal YAS! and kick-start its operations through the award of grants and challenges for African Youth Entrepreneurship. A number of grants were awarded to entrepreneurs in idea, seed or established stage at RBF.

The launch also helped to raise the awareness of African youth and relevant stakeholders of the existence and services offered by YAS!, what it is and what it seeks to achieve in the entrepreneurship eco-system. It also aimed to engage potential entrepreneurship eco-system stakeholders to participate on the YAS! portal-platform by announcing a call to action for the audience to sign up.



PLENARY SUMMARIES



A practical approach to SDG implementation

Moderator: **Malcolm Preston**, Adjunct Professor, Kellogg Business School & Guest Faculty, Harvard Business School

Lamin Manneh, Director, Regional Service Centre for Africa, UNDP

Jean Marc Ricca, Chief Executive, BASF West Africa

Temitope Iluyemi, Associate Director, Global Government Relations, Africa, P&G

Tashmia Ismail, Chief Executive, Youth Employment Services

Three years on from the creation of the UN's Global Goals, this panel reflected on the varying stages of an organisation's SDG implementation journey. The panel addressed some of the common challenges with implementation, including the local and regional policy context, financial investment, lack of coordination and resource constraints. The speakers considered how organisations, despite these challenges, are accelerating SDG achievement through their strategy and operations and also how this is measured and reported.

It is widely understood that the positive social and environmental contribution of the SDGs will translate to a healthier bottom line for businesses and faster economic growth. The discussion focused on how the SDGs can act as a roadmap for doing business, setting targets and creating positive societal impact. It also highlighted examples of how multi-stakeholder projects and initiatives have helped to drive the development agenda forward in each of the panellists' organisations and more broadly.

Fashion, textiles and the SDGs

Moderator: **Lynette Ntuli**, Chief Executive, Innate Investment Solutions

Craig Jacobs, Creator and Founder, Fundudzi

Mandla Nkomo, Managing Director, Solidaridad, Southern Africa

Ron Osman Omar, Senior Industry Policy Officer, African Union

The creative industries in Africa provide opportunities for job creation and economic growth. Not only are local designers flourishing in international markets, but a number of MNCs are exploring or have already opened manufacturing hubs in the region, particularly in Kenya and Ethiopia. The workforce in fashion and textiles is predominantly made up of women and there are strong prospects for young people, making it an inclusive industry with the potential to boost economic empowerment and increase both skilled and unskilled jobs.

The development of Africa's fashion industry does not come without its challenges. Fashion and textile manufacturing has a history of controversy over poor working conditions, child labour, low wages and also the significant environmental impacts of 'fast fashion'. However, with concerted, coordinated efforts between civil society, business and governments, addressing these concerns is achievable. Supply chains have never been more transparent and human rights policies more advanced.

The fashion and textiles industry has the potential to accelerate the achievement of several SDGs, including 'Decent Work and Economic Growth', 'Innovation, Industrialisation and Infrastructure' and 'Gender Equality' to name a few. This panel addressed how the creative industries are helping to further inclusive growth, job creation, industrialisation and skills development. The speakers discussed how African design can be showcased to the world and how this can contribute to economic growth.

PLENARY SUMMARIES



Employers, Innovators & Drivers of Sustainable Development: Harnessing the Private Sectors' role in the Global Compact for Migration

Moderator: **Jason Theede**, Senior Labour Mobility and Human Development Specialist, Southern Africa, IOM

Presentation: **Nardos Bekele-Thomas**, United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, South Africa

Panellists: **Phumza Manqindi**, Liaison Officer to the AUC and UNECA, IOM

Stephanie Winet, Head of Business Mechanism, International Organization of Employers (IOE)

Presentation of the IOM MigApp: **Alex Dougan**, MigApp Project Manager, IOM



On 19 September 2016 Heads of State and Government came together to discuss, at the global level within the UN General Assembly, issues related to migration and refugees. This sent an important political message that migration and refugee matters have become major issues in the international agenda. In adopting the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, the 193 UN Member States recognised the need for a comprehensive approach to human mobility and enhanced cooperation at the global level.

The Responsible Business Forum Africa was an opportunity for IOM to foster partnerships and build dialogue between multilateral institutions, government and private sector to allow for the wholistic approach needed for effective migration management within the continental integrative agenda of Africa.



Launch: Impact @ Africa

Special presentations by representatives of Impact @Africa network, governments, institutional Investors and UNDP

Introduction: **Salma Seedat**, Interim CEO, Impact@Africa

Lamin Manneh, Director, UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa

Duncan Onyango, Board Member, Impact@Africa

Judith Shoniwa, Programme Manager, Swiss Economic Cooperation and Development (SECO)

Aisha Abubakar, State Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Nigeria



Since 2013, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), through its Regional Service Centre for Africa (RSCA), has been supporting the development of impact investment in Africa in collaboration with the AU and with generous support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) in an effort to facilitate the sector's contribution towards the attainment of the SDGs and the AU's Agenda 2063.

In 2016, UNDP, working together with a task force of industry stakeholders, convened an Africa Impact Investment Action Plan Implementation Kick-off Meeting in Nairobi, Kenya to discuss and conclude the formulation of the Action Plan as well as commit to beginning its implementation. The kick-off meeting brought together 40 key stakeholders to review the Action Plan; develop a clear roadmap; and identify roles, responsibilities and resource contributions. In order to ensure the successful implementation of the Action Plan, meeting participants agreed to establish an industry-wide coordinating network to serve as the continental voice in the impact investment sector - called Impact@Africa.

Impact@Africa, to much anticipation, was officially launched at the Responsible Business Forum in Johannesburg. The public launch introduced the Network to industry stakeholders and highlighted the activities of Impact@Africa within the Africa impact investing community.

PLENARY SUMMARIES



Innovation, entrepreneurship and the SDGs

Moderator: **Lynette Ntuli**, Chief Executive, Innate Investment Solutions

Mthandazo Ngwenya, Africa Director, Intellectap

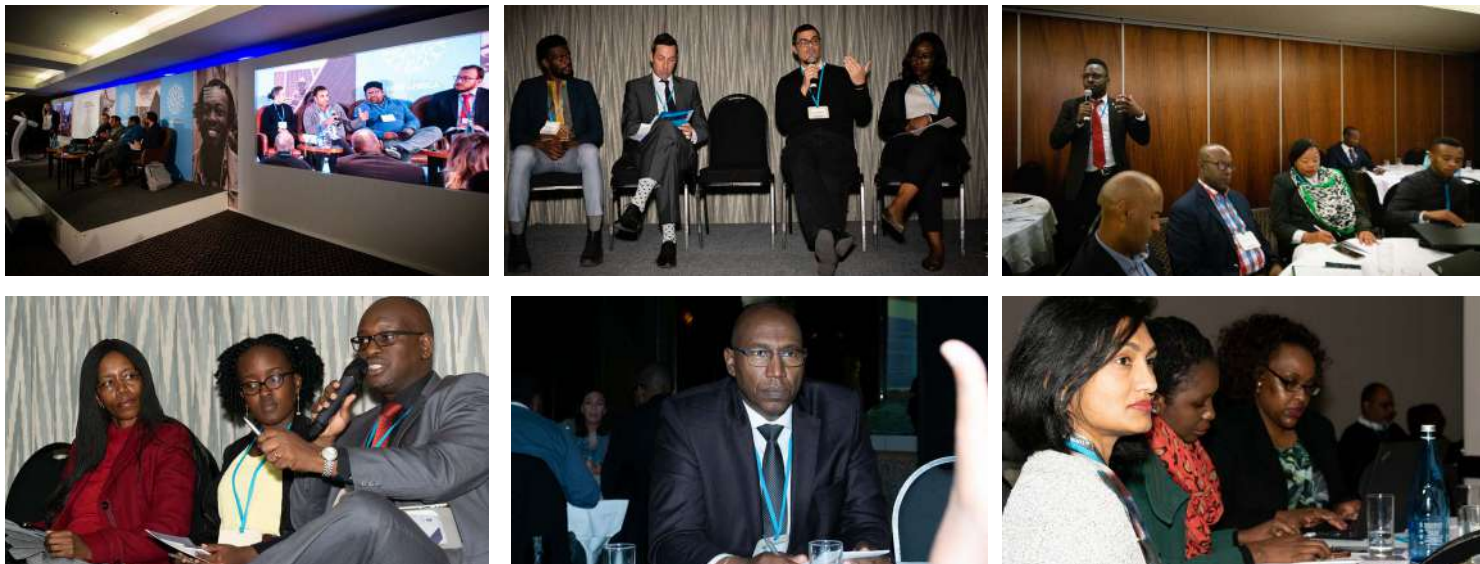
Rachel Sibande, Programme Director, Digital Impact Alliance

Michele Malejki, Global Head, Strategic Programs, Sustainability & Social Innovation, HP

Mfanufikile Motha, Head of Enterprise Development, Standard Bank

The AfDB's African Economic Outlook reports that at 22 percent, the proportion of Africa's working-age population that have started new businesses is higher than anywhere else in the world. SMEs with less than 20 employees and less than 5 years-experience are the largest provider of formal jobs in sub-Saharan Africa. With a growing youth population, expected to increase by 42% by 2030, there is a pressing need for entrepreneurship and innovation in order to create much needed employment opportunities.

However, this panel discussed the need for support for African entrepreneurs to ensure their businesses are viable and sustainable. Providing adequate financial capital and helping new businesses with skills and resources was highlighted as critical for Africa's budding innovation and technology entrepreneurs. Accordingly, panelists raised that investors and governments alike should be motivated to provide this support, not only because of role of entrepreneurship in catalysing economic growth, but also because entrepreneurship has been shown to provide solutions to development challenges. Innovation and entrepreneurship has the potential to shape the African continent and help to achieve the SDGs.

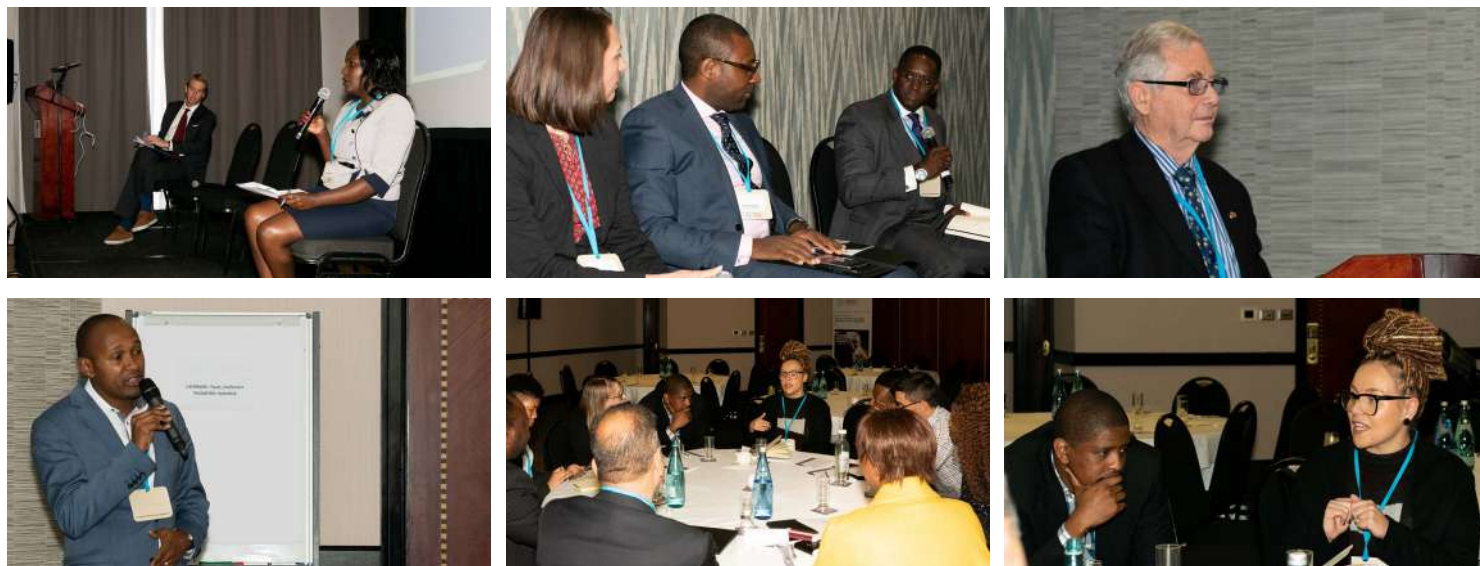


Innovation, youth and technology: Parallel session recommendations

This year at RBF Africa, parallel sessions aimed to find collaborative approaches to Africa's development priorities through innovation, youth and technology. Ten parallel sessions were held across the two days of the event, under the following titles: *'Sustainable energy for all: Empowering Africa through clean energy'*; *'The future of farming: Advancing technological solutions for food security'*; *'Scaling education access through digital learning'*; *'Africa's urbanisation challenge: Reimagining our cities'*; *'Disrupting development: Designing for a circular economy'*; *'Connecting Africa through mobile technology'*; *'Shaping a future without hunger: the innovations accelerating agricultural growth'*; *'Impact investment: A catalyst for sustainable development in Africa'*; *'The leapfrog model: Innovations in healthcare'*; and *'A systems approach to plastic waste in the oceans'*.

Each parallel session incorporated perspectives from young innovators, entrepreneurs and technologists, in addition to stakeholders from companies, governments and NGOs. Delegates had an opportunity to share their ideas and agree on three priority recommendations or actions on their given topic. These three priority recommendations were presented to the entire RBF audience in a summary and feedback session. The audience then voted on the recommendation they thought was the best solution with the ability to scale.

Threaded through the recommendations, was a push for policy makers to support young people, through 'providing access to markets, knowledge and finance' for farmers, developing 'innovation think tanks and millennial boards' to support smart cities and through 'developing ecosystems that enable entrepreneurs and SMEs to thrive'. Other recommendations that ranked highest among voters were to build financial investment through 'community equity for energy infrastructure projects', 'improve digital technology infrastructure and access' to enable more students to take advantage of e-learning' and to 'launch an agriculture literacy curriculum in middle schools in Africa.'



Innovation, youth and technology: Parallel session recommendations

Delegates were asked how organisations can better support innovation, youth and technology generation to drive development and the full list of recommendations developed is included below.

Sustainable energy for all: Empowering Africa through clean energy

- Build together: Community equity for energy infrastructure projects
- Keeping pace: Energy industry e-learning for all
- From consumers to change agents: Energy driven business leaders

The future of farming: Advancing technological solutions for food security

- Public funding to enable access to agricultural data & improve access to funding
- Crowdsourcing for a platform where young people provide shared services to farms
- Technology that enables better access to markets, knowledge & finance simultaneously

Scaling education access through digital learning

- Improve digital technology infrastructure and access
- Design a more intentional curriculum
- Establish vital partnerships across interested parties

Africa's urbanisation challenge: Reimagining our cities

- Form proactive legislation and urban policy which enables innovation
- Collaborate through Public Private Partnership initiatives to fund infrastructure
- Value the youth input through innovation think tanks & millennial boards

Disrupting development: Designing for a circular economy

- Incorporate indigenous communities into solution development
- Companies should practice responsible marketing to influence positive behavioural change
- Develop ecosystems that enable entrepreneurs and SMEs to thrive



Innovation, youth and technology: Parallel session recommendations

Connecting Africa through mobile technology

- Develop an ecosystem to address barriers to access
- Consider generational differences in the development of technology
- Build an African Union, or continent wide platform of data

Shaping a future without hunger: the innovations accelerating agricultural growth

- Banks should devote a percentage of their portfolio to farmer loans
- Develop a mobile platform to score political commitments to agriculture development
- Launch an agriculture literacy curriculum in middle schools in Africa

Impact investment: A catalyst for sustainable development in Africa

- Allow for multiple types of capital through the value chain
- Ensure that business development services support the impact investment value chain
- Broad stakeholder engagement & create generational dialogue

The leapfrog model: Innovations in healthcare

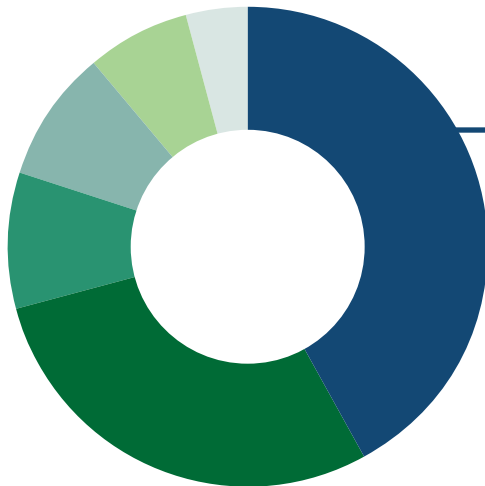
- Redesign the concept of Community Social Investment and Aid
- Invest in technology and the knowledge of young people in the industry
- Help government to change policies and create enabling environments

A systems approach to plastic waste in the oceans

- Businesses to promote consumer action on reducing use of plastic and correct disposal
- Government to create economically enabling environment & enforce regulations
- Businesses commit to accept end-use products back into their value chain



AUDIENCE PROFILE

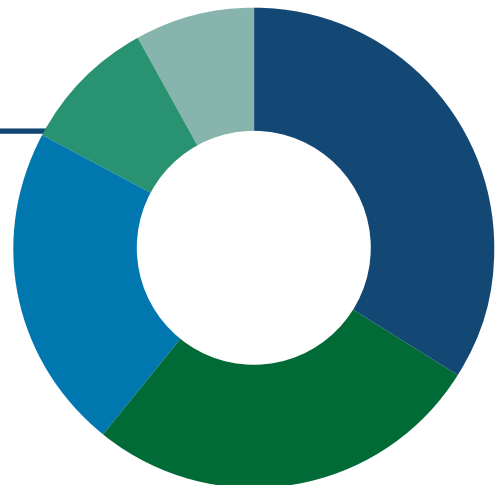


Audience Profile by Organisation

Business	42%
IO / NGO	29%
Government	9%
Other	9%
Academic Institution	7%
Association	4%

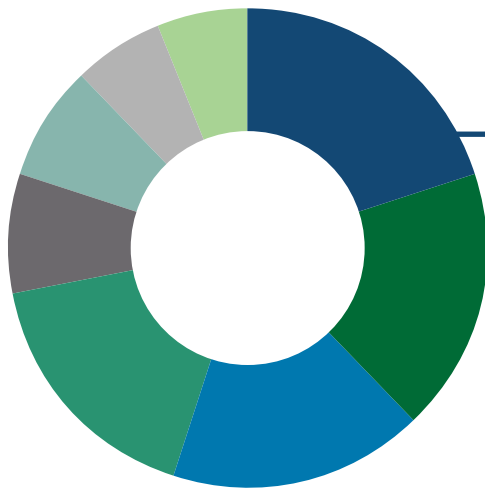
Audience Profile by Level

Head of department / Director	34%
Manager	27%
CEO / Managing Director	22%
Student / Volunteer	9%
Consultant / Advisor	8%





AUDIENCE PROFILE



Audience Profile by Industry

Banking & Finance	20%
IT, Electronics, Telecomms	18%
Food, Beverage & Agriculture	17%
Other	17%
Consumer goods, services	8%
Energy & Renewables	8%
Environmental services	6%
Oil, Gas & Mining	6%

Audience Profile by Countries

Delegates were drawn from 36 countries:

Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, India, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Switzerland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States, Vietnam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

SPEAKER HIGHLIGHTS



“Tackling food insecurity on the continent is a staggering challenge and we can’t do it alone”

Angus Kelly

Head of Business Sustainability, Africa, Middle East, Syngenta



“We need to reimagine African cities in ways that are consistent with our culture”

Jane Afrane

Regional Head, Africa Network, World Green Building Council



“We have to focus on job creation. But that does not mean that we can’t focus on skills development too”

Lamin M Manneh

Director, UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa



“In RSA, 6 million youth between the age of 18 and 35 are unemployed. 60% of the unemployed live in townships and rural areas”

Temitope Illuyemi

Associate Director, Global Government Relations, Africa



“We need to change the question from what are the jobs, to what are the opportunities?”

Michele Malejki

Global Head, Strategic Programs, Sustainability & Social Innovation, HP



“We need to step up our technology and our reach thereof in rural areas”

Taki Netshitenzhe

Chief Officer, Corporate Affairs, Vodacom Group



“The SDG’s provide us with a message that it’s not business as usual”

Cecilia Njenga

Head, UNEP Office in South Africa and Regional Programme Coordinator, Southern Africa



“We have to start actively engaging and leading change as young people”

Priscilla Chimwele

Programme Specialist, UNDP



“The youth must drive our thinking. We can’t think short-term, we need to think long-term”

Brett Wallington

Senior Manager, Sustainability, Standard Bank



“We are very confident that RBF Africa will assist to overcome the constraints that hold our continent”

Nardos Bekele-Thomas

United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, South Africa

SPEAKER HIGHLIGHTS



“The SDGs are the engine to promote economic growth”

Phumzile Langeni

Executive Chairperson, Afropulse & Chairperson, Primedia Limited



“Technology is the ticket out of major environmental impact”

Mandla Nkomo

Managing Director, Solidaridad, Southern Africa



“The youth has the greatest energy that the African continent has ever seen”

Daniel Zaire

Deputy Director of Energy, Ministry of Mines and Energy, Namibia



“Migration matters to all, it matters to government, it matters to the individual and it matters to society”

Jason Theede

Senior Labour Mobility and Human Development Specialist, Southern Africa, IOM



“When it comes to energy access, there is a difference between having lights and being electrified”

Charity Wanjiku

Chief Operating Officer, Strauss Energy



“Impact investing is a very good opportunity for sustainable development in Africa”

Salma Seedat

Interim CEO, Impact@Africa



“There is a lot of power in government and private sector”

Mfanufikile Motha

Head of Enterprise Development, Standard Bank



“Designing a circular economy is about transforming environmental risks into job opportunities”

Alexandra Russell

Vice President, Strategy, Policy & Sustainability, Sasol



“Africa can turn its growing youth population into a demographic dividend”

Mmamoloko Kubayi Ngubane

Minister of Science and Technology, South Africa



“Transformation and change are an inside job”

Lynette Ntuli

Chief Executive, Innate Investment Solutions



AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT

In line with our efforts to limit the waste generated at RBF Africa, for the second year in a row, the RBF Connect App was instrumental in providing an integrated digital experience for our delegates. With access to the agenda, speakers & sponsor details and attendee lists, RBF Connect was well utilised by the participants at the forum. Delegates had important forum information at their fingertips, and live updates on the schedule. The app also worked as a digital concierge in arranging meetings between the delegates at the forum and helped maximise networking and discussion opportunities. The app also provided a platform for delegates to interact with the speakers through the Q&A feature, as well as participate in the polls and survey. Lastly, RBF Connect was successful in providing a space for delegates to share their updates, images, new relationships and backstage preparation from the forum, which raised the engagement on the app to a higher level.

Activity Feed

2006

views

Agenda

1249

views

Speakers

466

views

SOCIAL MEDIA



#RBFAFRICA

**TRENDING
TOPIC**
on Twitter in
Johannesburg

626,000

times delivered on other people's timelines

133

Number of tweets posted

57,000

Number of tweet impressions

305

Number of retweets

528

Number of tweets liked



STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

As an Academic partner of the Responsible Business Forum, 2018, the University of Pretoria worked closely with the Global Initiatives team to identify a group of 30 students who lent their time to assist with registering guests and speakers and to help take notes, photos and quotes from all of the Forum's sessions. The students came from a range of academic backgrounds including law, economics, business studies and international relations and were instrumental in adding a youth perspective to each of the workshops and plenary discussions. Global Initiatives is grateful for the University's support and will look forward to hosting even more students next year.

THANK YOU!



Global Initiatives would like to thank you for supporting the Responsible Business Forum on Sustainable Development Africa 2018.

We look forward to welcoming you to the next forum.

RBF China on Climate Innovation

15 – 16 January 2019

RBF Thailand on Food and Agriculture

March 2019

RBF Africa on Sustainable Development

July 2019

RBF Singapore on Sustainable Development

November 2019



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