



AUDA-NEPAD
AFRICAN UNION DEVELOPMENT AGENCY



AFRICA-EUROPE HIGH-LEVEL ROUNDTABLE ON CATALYSING CAPITAL FLOWS AND INVESTMENTS

**AU-EU Business Forum (AEBF) – Private Sector Engagement Segment
in the sidelines of the 7th African Union-European Union (AU-EU) Heads of
State Summit**

25 November 2025, Luanda, Angola, 11:00-12:30
InterContinental Hotel, Room Crystal 2

BACKGROUND

On 24–25 November 2025, leaders from across the African Union and the European Union will convene in Luanda, Angola, for the 7th AU–EU Summit.

As 2025 marks 25 years of Africa–Europe cooperation, the Summit comes at a decisive moment for both continents to demonstrate concrete progress in advancing shared priorities — from accelerating the green transition to unlocking inclusive growth and investment.

Against this backdrop, the **Africa–Europe Foundation (AEF)**, together with strategic partners, including **AUDA-NEPAD** and **UNIDO**, will host an **Africa-Europe High-Level Roundtable on Catalysing Capital Flows and Investments** at the AU-EU Business Forum (AEBF), on the sidelines of the 7th AU–EU Summit.

The Roundtable will provide a platform to discuss capital flows and emerging investment opportunities between Africa and Europe, drawing on the insights of experts and practitioners. It will also provide a moment to showcase AEF action research on an Africa-Europe Investment Catalogue for Transformative Projects in Africa; the AfCEN-led Project Preparation Facility (PPF); and the UNIDO-led ACP Investment Platform

Beyond presenting innovative products and solutions, the discussion will explore how to mobilize stronger support for projects to reach full bankability and close the last-mile financing gap—paving the way for a new generation of Africa–Europe investment partnerships.

The meeting will serve as a timely discussion in the context of **#RoadtoLuanda25 and the 7th AU-EU Heads of State Summit**, an AEF-led cross-continental initiative advancing fresh policy ideas and bold investment initiatives to revitalise the Africa–Europe Partnership and strengthen the two continents’ competitive interdependence.

CONTEXT

As Africa and Europe mark 25 years of partnership, both the AU and EU reaffirm their shared commitment to **mobilising investment for transformative projects across Africa**. The upcoming **7th AU–EU Summit in Luanda** offers a timely opportunity to advance a more strategic and mutually beneficial partnership.

Investment-ready projects across Africa — particularly in energy, infrastructure, and industrial development — remain both limited and underexposed to international investors. Existing pipelines and financing initiatives, including on closing the last-mile bankability gap, fall short of the scale required to drive transformative outcomes. Gaps in infrastructure, financing instruments, and institutional capacity continue to constrain project implementation, regional integration, and local value creation.

Africa and Europe must adopt a **new investment paradigm** that links Europe’s technical and financial capacity with Africa’s transformative potential. This requires mobilising and acting faster to advance strategically prioritised projects across the bankability spectrum — from near-ready to fully bankable — ensuring that high-impact opportunities reach investment closure and deliver measurable results.

ROUNDTABLE DESCRIPTION

The 90-minute roundtable will be **highly interactive**, providing opportunities for invited participants to engage throughout the session and share their perspectives on investment opportunities and challenges.

Held on the sidelines of the **7th AU–EU Heads of State Summit**, this High-Level Investment Roundtable will convene prominent figures from Africa and Europe, including policymakers, project implementers and financiers.

Designed to inform and guide both policy and financial decision-makers, the roundtable will generate **insights and recommendations** on how to mobilise capital and strengthen Africa–Europe partnerships around priority transformative projects.

The meeting will be **closed-door and by invitation only**, providing a space for candid and open discussion. Participants are encouraged to speak freely, ensuring a **frank, off-script dialogue** on how to advance investment-ready projects and create mutually beneficial opportunities across Africa and Europe.

RUN OF SHOW

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks – Africa-Europe Foundation (AEF)

Duration: 3 minutes

- Set the context for the session and its objectives
- Introduce the agenda and participating institutions

2. Opening Remarks – AUDA-NEPAD

Duration: 3 minutes

- Provide continental perspective on investment priorities

3. Presentation of the AEF-led Investment Catalogue – Dalberg

Duration: 5 minutes

- Overview of methodology and selection criteria
- Key findings and highlight of high-potential pipeline opportunities

4. Presentation of the Project Preparation Facility – AfCEN

Duration: 4 minutes

- Introduction to the Facility's mandate and value proposition and brief overview of current project portfolio and pipeline
- Explanation of how the Facility complements the Investment Catalogue (closing the last-mile bankability gap).

5. Presentation of the ACP Platform for Investment – UNIDO

Duration: 4 minutes

- Overview of the platform's objectives and services
- Opportunities for collaboration with African and European partners

6. Open Conversation with Stakeholders

Duration: 60–70 minutes

- Interactive dialogue with participating governments, development banks, private-sector actors, and regional institutions
- Discussion on investment needs, bottlenecks, and co-financing opportunities
- Exploration of pathways to accelerate implementation and financing of identified projects and pipelines

7. Concluding Remarks – Africa-Europe Foundation (AEF)

Duration: 3-5 minutes

- Summary of key messages and outcomes of the discussion
- Call to action for partners and investors

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS (as of November 18th):

- **H.E. Nardos Bekele-Thomas**, Chief Executive Officer, African Union Development Agency – NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD);
- **Yusuf Daya**, Director, AU/AfCFTA Relations and Trade Policy, African Export–Import Bank (Afreximbank);
- **Joseph Nganga**, Chief Executive Officer, Africa Climate and Energy Nexus (ACEN), former VP of GEAPP, and Envoy of the Mission 300 initiative;
- **Jean Van Wetter**, Chief Executive Officer, Enabel – Belgian Development Agency;
- **Pietro Toigo**, Country Manager, Angola, African Development Bank (AfDB);
- **Thouraya Triki**, Director of the International Partners Department at EIB Global Directorate;
- **Hubert Danso**, Chief Executive Officer, Africa Investor Group;
- **Brian Portelli**, Chief Technical Advisor at the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO);
- **Vicente Soares**, President of the Angolan Chamber of Commerce and Industry;
- **Carine Kiala**, Deputy Country Director for Angola, Tony Blair Institute;
- **Tiago Machado Graça**, Partner in the Lusophone Africa Team & Member of the CMS Africa Steering Committee;
- **Herman Marais**, Managing Partner, EXEO Capital
- **Heike Harmgart**, Managing Director for Sub-Saharan Africa at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
- **Ahmed Bennis**, Secretary-General of Africa Economic Zones Organisation (AEZO)
- **Maria Ogbugo**, Director of Programs, Africa Future Policy Hub (AFPH)
- A high-level representative from Dalberg

Additional participants will be added to this list.

CONTACT:

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