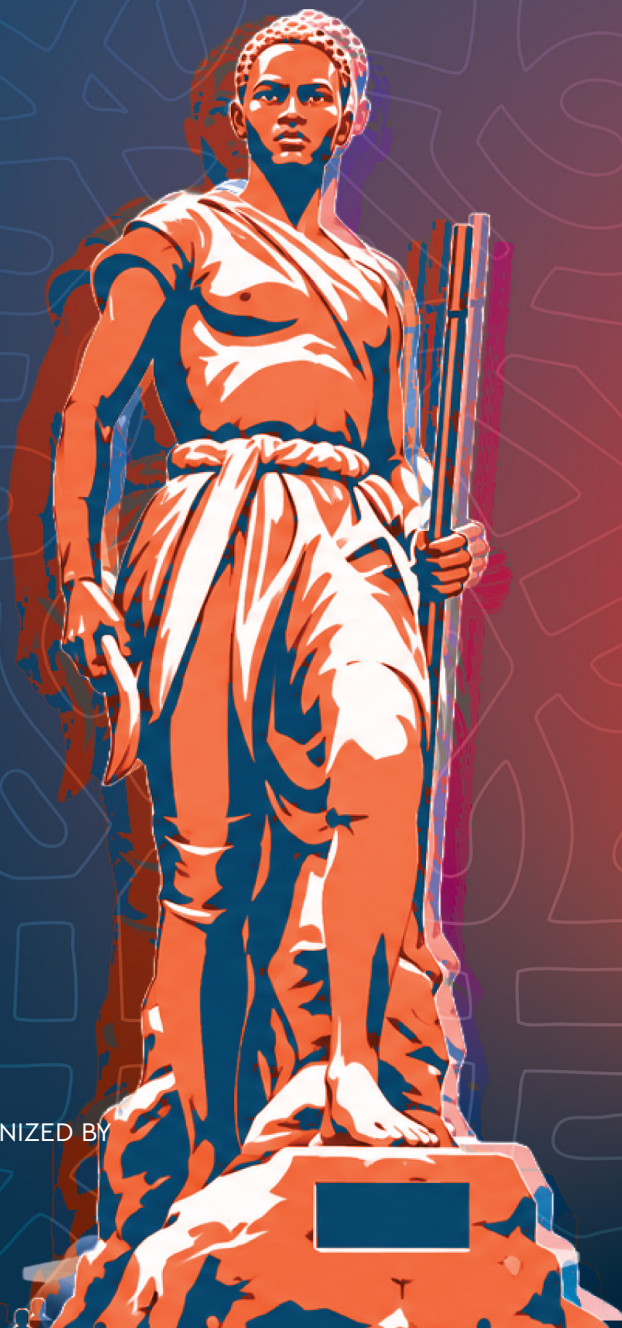




AFRILABS
ANNUAL
GATHERING

AfriLabs Annual Gathering 2026

Cotonou, Benin Republic.



AAG2026 – EVENT ORGANIZED BY



AfriLabs



ABOUT AFRILABS

AfriLabs is the largest pan-African network of technology and innovation hubs, entrepreneurs, researchers, and ecosystem builders dedicated to fostering a culture of creativity and entrepreneurship. AfriLabs serves as the cornerstone for innovation hubs and stakeholders across diverse African nations. Founded in 2011, AfriLabs exists to support innovation centers across the continent, strengthen the capacity of Africa's digital economy, and enable homegrown solutions that create jobs, improve livelihoods, and stimulate sustainable socio-economic growth.

With a membership of over 500 innovation hubs across 53 African countries, AfriLabs serves as the continent's most influential convening and capacity-building platform for the innovation ecosystem connecting startups, policymakers, venture funders, corporates, academia, and development agencies to collaborate at scale.

Our Vision

Our vision is a thriving innovation economy in Africa, driven by the power of our community.

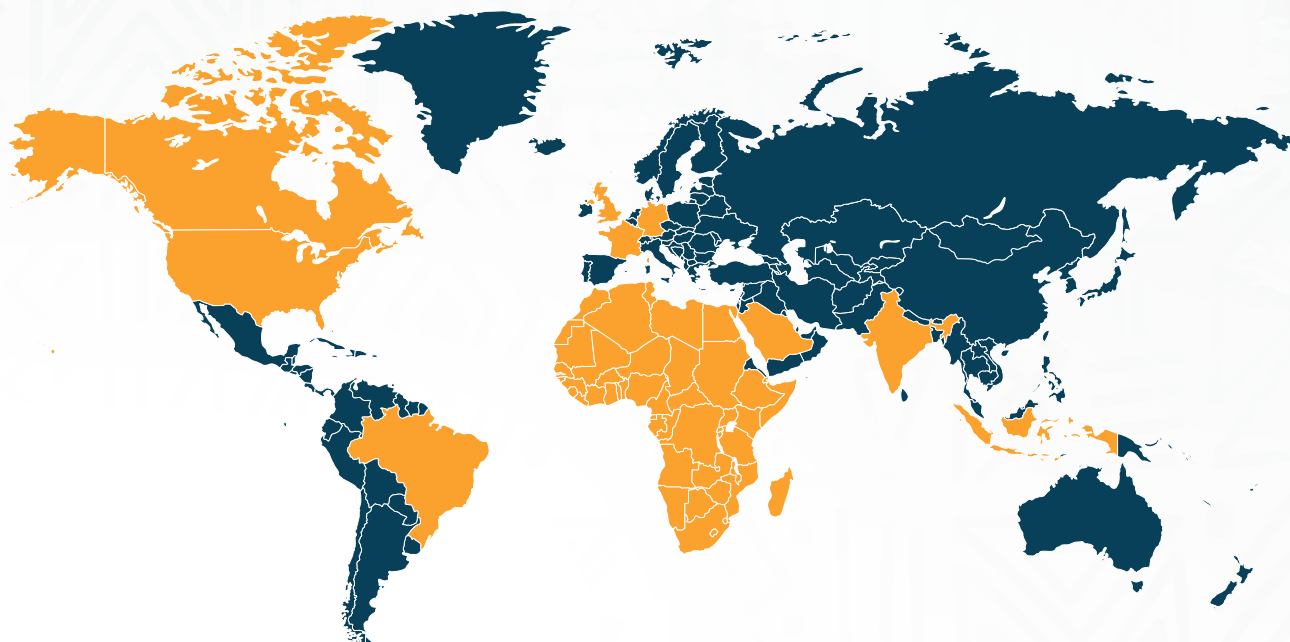
Our Mission

Our mission is to support innovation hubs and their communities to raise high-potential entrepreneurs that will stimulate economic growth and social development in Africa. We achieve this through capacity building, financing, networking, policy advocacy, and providing insightful, reliable data.

MAP OF AFRILABS PRESENCE IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES



COUNTRIES REPRESENTED AT THE 2025 AFRILABS ANNUAL GATHERING



AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

1. Algeria
2. Angola
3. Benin
4. Botswana
5. Burkina Faso
6. Burundi
7. Cabo Verde
8. Cameroon
9. Central African Republic
10. Chad
11. Comoros
12. Congo-Brazzaville
13. Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo)
14. Cote d'Ivoire
15. Djibouti
16. Egypt
17. Equatorial Guinea
18. Eritrea
19. Eswatini
20. Ethiopia
21. Gabon
22. Gambia
23. Ghana
24. Guinea
25. Guinea-Bissau
26. Kenya
27. Lesotho
28. Liberia
29. Libya
30. Madagascar
31. Malawi
32. Mali
33. Mauritania
34. Mauritius
35. Morocco
36. Mozambique
37. Namibia
38. Niger
40. Nigeria
41. Rwanda
42. Sao Tome and Principe
43. Senegal
44. Seychelles
45. Sierra Leone
46. Somalia
47. South Africa
48. South Sudan
49. Sudan
50. Tanzania
51. Togo
52. Tunisia
53. Uganda
54. Zambia
55. Zimbabwe

GLOBALLY

1. Australia
2. Brazil
3. Canada
4. China
5. France
6. Germany
7. India
9. Indonesia
10. Japan
11. Lithuania
12. Mexico
13. Netherlands
14. Poland
15. Spain
16. Switzerland
17. United Kingdom (UK)
18. United States (US)

MAJOR STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2025 AFRILABS ANNUAL GATHERING

In-person Attendance –
Over 1,200 leaders, builders
and decision makers in the
African tech innovation
ecosystem

Virtual Attendance
– **Over 2,500**

Female Attendance
– **52%**

Male Attendance
– **48%**

Actual Countries
Represented – **71**

Organization Type in Attendance

- Academia – **4.44%**
- Arts, Fashion & Entertainment – **3.70%**
- Corporate – **8.15%**
- Entrepreneur Support Organization – **10.21%**
- Foundation – **4.36%**
- Government Agency – **6.26%**
- Hub – **15.72%**
- Investor – **8.31%**
- Media – **5.76%**
- Multilateral Organization – **10.12%**
- NGO – **10.21%**

Partnership

- **19** Partners and Sponsors
- **20** Track champions
- Over **6,200** of cross-ecosystem collaboration
- Over **\$350,000.00** raised through cash and in-kind sponsorship

Media Reach

- Total Digital/Tech Media Reach of **152,306,735** impressions
- Total TV & Broadcast Reach of **21,530,669** viewers
- Total Community Media Reach: **163,634** impressions
- Total **175,001,696** Impressions

Event Content

- **1** Ministerial Roundtable
- **8** Thematic Tracks
- Over **20** Plenary Sessions
- Over **60** Thematic Sessions
- Over **200** Speakers across all sessions
- **51%** Female Speakers
- **49%** Male Speakers

ABOUT THE 2026 AFRILABS ANNUAL GATHERING

The AfriLabs Annual Gathering is the AfriLabs' flagship global convergence of the African innovation ecosystem, bringing together entrepreneurs, investors, government leaders, academia, development agencies, corporates, technology practitioners, and media stakeholders for dialogue, collaboration, and knowledge exchange.

Regarded as Africa's premier innovation convening, the Gathering has become a launchpad for strategic partnerships and investment, high-level policy dialogue, showcasing innovations and startup exhibitions, thought leadership and ecosystem research, capacity development through masterclasses, technical labs, and sector tracks and cultural immersion and celebration of African creativity and talent.

The 2025 AAG saw the birthing of a UN-level strategic co-hosting with timbuktoo (UNDP), strengthening global recognition of Africa's innovation agenda, with representation from all 54 African countries and over 70 countries globally, reaffirming its position as the continent's most influential technology convening.

The 2026 Gathering will mark the 11th edition of this flagship event and will take place in November 2026 in Cotonou, Benin Republic. The event will showcase Benin's growing leadership in digital transformation and innovation, while strengthening collaboration across Africa, advancing enabling policy frameworks, and fostering strategic partnerships to position the

continent as a global leader in innovation.

By participating, your organization can tap into the expansive AfriLabs network 500+ hubs across 232 cities in 53 African countries, representing a combined community of over one million innovators. The event also offers significant visibility through AfriLabs' extensive media reach, including:



56,000 AfriLabs email newsletter subscribers.



400,000 member hubs' social media reach



122,000 on AfriLabs Secretariat social media

64,000 monthly reach



4,000 average unique monthly website visitors

The 2026 edition provides unmatched access, reach, and partnership opportunities within Africa's innovation landscape.

WHY BENIN REPUBLIC?

Benin Republic is emerging as one of Africa's top destinations for digital innovation, entrepreneurship, and technology-driven economic transformation. Under the leadership of the Ministry of Digital Transformation and Innovation, the country has made significant investments in strengthening its digital economy, modernizing public services, and creating an enabling environment for startups, innovators, and private sector investment.

Strategically located in the heart of West Africa, Benin serves as a gateway to both Francophone and Anglophone markets, providing seamless access to regional and continental innovation ecosystems. Its political stability, business-friendly reforms, expanding digital infrastructure, and commitment to regional integration make it an ideal destination for convening Africa's leading technology and innovation stakeholders.

The host city, Cotonou, is the country's commercial and economic capital and a vibrant center for entrepreneurship, trade, and innovation. The city is home to a growing community of startups, innovation hubs, technology companies, universities, and development partners working together to accelerate digital transformation and inclusive economic growth. Its modern infrastructure, international connectivity, and thriving entrepreneurial culture provide the perfect setting for meaningful collaboration and cross-

sector partnerships.

Benin's innovation ambitions are further reflected through national initiatives that promote digital skills development, startup growth, smart infrastructure, and innovation-driven public services. The country's investments in digital governance, entrepreneurship support, and initiatives such as Sèmè City demonstrate its long-term vision of becoming a regional hub for innovation, talent development, and knowledge exchange.

Hosting the 2026 AfriLabs Annual Gathering in Benin Republic represents more than a change of location, it reflects the country's growing role in shaping Africa's digital future. Bringing together entrepreneurs, policymakers, investors, academia, corporates, development partners, and innovation hubs from across the continent, the Gathering will strengthen cross-border collaboration, unlock new investment opportunities, foster policy dialogue, and showcase African innovation on a global stage.

For organizations seeking to engage with Africa's next wave of innovation, Benin Republic offers a compelling platform to build partnerships, discover emerging opportunities, and contribute to the continued growth of one of the world's fastest-evolving innovation ecosystems.



PAST SUPPORTERS OF THE AFRILABS ANNUAL GATHERING

Multilateral Organizations



Government Institutions and Diplomatic Missions



Corporates



Donor Institutions



PAST SUPPORTERS OF THE AFRILABS ANNUAL GATHERING

Hubs, Investor Communities, and Networks



and all AfriLabs member hubs

Academia

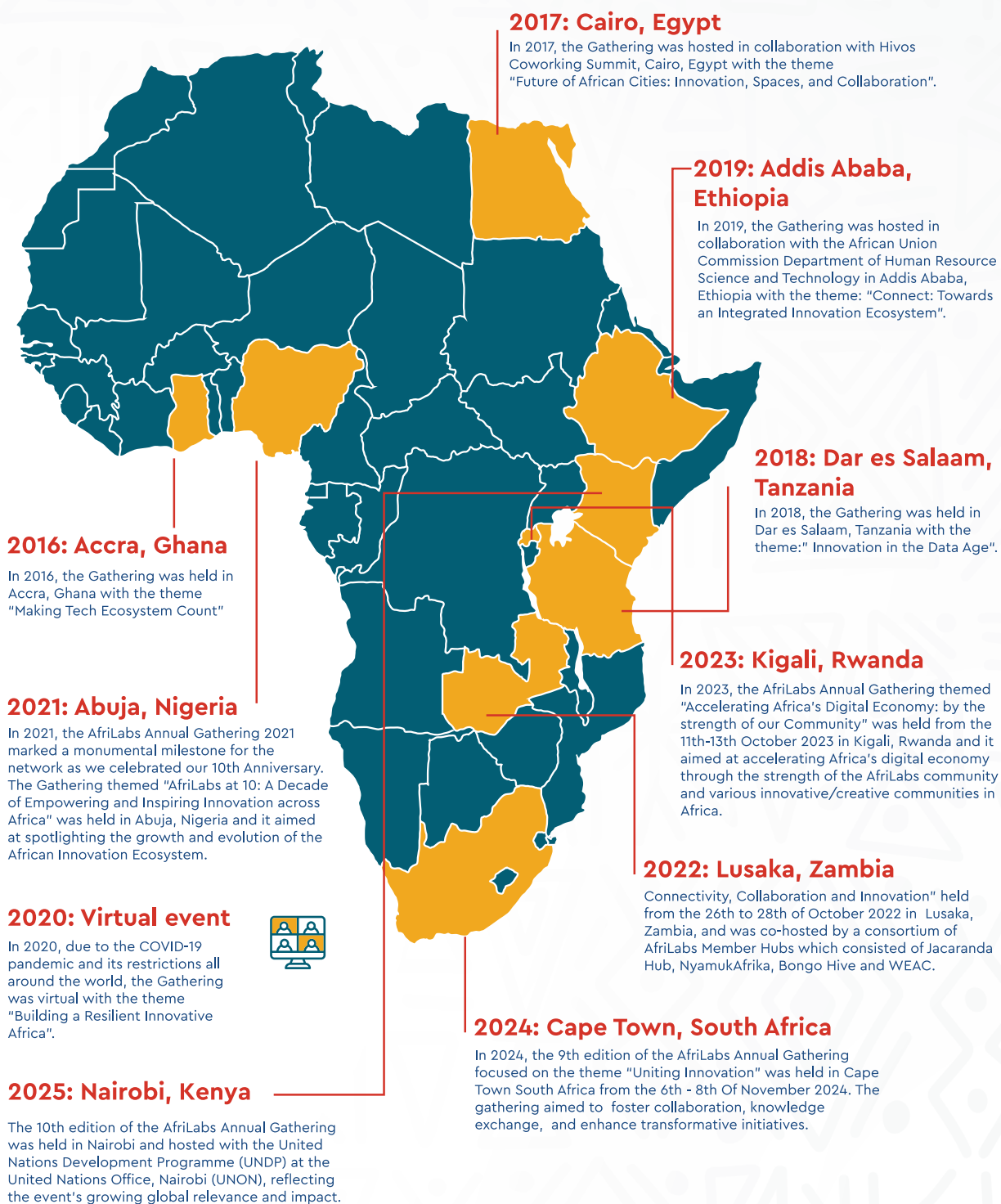


2025 AAG Partners and Sponsors



THE AFRILABS ANNUAL GATHERING OVER THE YEARS

The AfriLabs Annual Gathering has been held across different African countries in collaboration with member hubs, national and local governments, and the private sector.



WHAT TO EXPECT

An Engaged Pan-African & Global Audience:

Connect with a vibrant community of innovators, leaders, and thinkers committed to shaping Africa's innovation future.

Inspiring Keynotes: Hear from influential voices driving technology, entrepreneurship, and policy across the continent and globally.

Interactive Workshops: Explore practical, future-focused topics—from AI and emerging technologies to sustainability, creativity, and social impact.

Ministerial Roundtable: Engage in high-level, policy-shaping discussions with key decision-makers from governments, multilateral institutions, corporates, academia, and innovation hubs across Africa, with the goal of aligning policy frameworks with real-world ecosystem experiences.

High-Level Panels & Dialogue: Participate in sharp, relevant discussions on the trends, challenges, and opportunities defining Africa's innovation landscape.

Networking Opportunities: Build meaningful relationships with investors, founders, policymakers, corporate leaders, and ecosystem builders.

Exhibitors & Creatives: Experience cutting-edge solutions alongside dynamic creative showcases that highlight the economic power of Africa's creative industries.

Gala Night: Celebrate excellence at a memorable evening of entertainment, recognition, and high-level networking.

Cotonou Innovation Ecosystem Tour: Immerse yourself in the vibrant culture, innovation spaces,

and rich heritage of Benin republic through specially curated excursions and hub visits across Cotonou and beyond. and beyond.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

How to engage and interact with our online community.

Channels

Zoom

Facebook

LinkedIn

Youtube

Instagram

Twitter

Hashtags

#AAG2026 #AfriLabs #Innovation
#Entrepreneurship #Ecosystem
#DigitalEcosystem

AfriLabs Annual Gathering 2026 at a Glance:

Date: November 2026

Venue: Cotonou, Benin Republic

AFRILABS ANNUAL GATHERING 2026

AT A GLANCE:

Theme

AFRICA'S INNOVATION ERA: Building Sustainable Institutions for Global Influence and Continental Impact

Date

November 2026

Location

Cotonou, Benin Republic



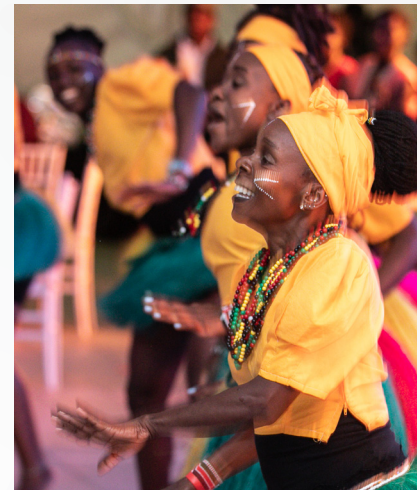
Attendees

- 7+ Sitting and Former Heads of States & Ministers
- 100+ Pan-African Government Officials & Pan- African Bodies
- 150+ speakers and moderators and translators
- 500+ CEOs, Start Up Innovators and Captains of Innovation
- 70+ Community of Investors
- 40+ Journalists
- 50+ Exhibitors
- Over 500 AfriLabs community members
- 70+ Creatives



Who should attend (Stakeholder Categories)

- Venture Capitalists and Investors
- Entrepreneurs / Start-ups
- Hub Leaders
- Representatives of development agencies
- International Development partners
- International Organisations/UN Agencies
- Government representatives & policymakers
- Corporate Organisations
- Media Agencies
- Academia Persons interested in Africa & International Development



BE A PART OF THE 2026 AFRILABS ANNUAL GATHERING

Leverage on the
largest network
of technology and
innovation hubs
across Africa



TRACKS AT THE 2026 AFRILABS ANNUAL GATHERING

Participate in the tracks at the AfriLabs Annual Gathering 2026 as a Track Lead or Track Champion. This role offers the opportunity to curate track content, nominate and engage speakers, oversee track sessions, and help shape the conversations driving Africa's technology and innovation ecosystem in 2026 and beyond. You will also be recognized for your leadership and contribution to advancing the continent's innovation agenda.



**Policy, Data
and AI**



Makerspaces



**Catalyzing
Investments in Health**



**Green and Blue
Economy**



**Hub
Solutions**



**Investor /
Investment**



**Creative Digital
Economy**



**Gender
& Inclusion.**

Contact bede@afrilabs.com and peter@afrilabs.com to know more.



2026 AFRILABS ANNUAL GATHERING SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

Sponsorship opportunities are available for organizations seeking to demonstrate their commitment to advancing innovation, entrepreneurship, and technology development across Africa.

By partnering with the AfriLabs Annual Gathering 2026, sponsors gain unique access to a powerful network of technology hubs, startups, investors, policymakers, corporates, and development partners shaping the future of Africa's innovation ecosystem.

PLATINUM SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE

\$150,000.00 (XOF 82,500,000.00)

The Platinum Sponsorship package offers premier visibility and high-level engagement opportunities throughout the AfriLabs Annual Gathering.

Strategic Visibility & Speaking Opportunities

- One Keynote Address slot during the Gathering
- Opportunity to nominate one speaker for a Main Stage Panel
- Opportunity to deliver a featured presentation during the Gathering
- Opportunity to host a side event (workshop, masterclass, parallel session, networking event, or sector-specific convening)

Exclusive Branding & Event Ownership

- Branding of the AfriLabs General Meeting Soirée dedicated to AfriLabs hub members
- Branding presence across the physical event venue and virtual event platform
- Branding at the Gala Dinner
- Opportunity to brand and host the Investors' Lounge

Ecosystem Engagement

- Opportunity to exhibit during the Gathering
- Direct engagement with members of the African technology and innovation ecosystem, showcasing your organization's commitment to the growth of the network

Media & Communications Visibility

- Recognition across all conference materials (agenda, gift bags, event backdrops, roll-up banners)
- Visibility across AfriLabs communication channels (newsletter, social media, press releases, website)
- Media exposure in pre-event and post-event PR coverage
- Featured article on the event website
- Feature in the AfriLabs Annual Report, distributed to hubs and ecosystem stakeholders across Africa and globally

Additional Benefits

- One-year Corporate Affiliate Gold Membership, providing:
- Unlimited access to the AfriLabs network
- 20% discount on AfriLabs services
- Right to distribute corporate literature or branded gift packs during the event
- 5 complimentary Nile tickets for event attendance
- Access to the exclusive Ministerial Roundtable

Sponsorship Recognition

- Official recognition as a Platinum Sponsor of the AfriLabs Annual Gathering 2026

GOLD SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE

\$100,000.00 (XOF 55,000,000.00)

The Gold Sponsorship package provides strong brand visibility and meaningful engagement opportunities with key stakeholders across Africa's innovation ecosystem during the AfriLabs Annual Gathering.

Speaking & Thought Leadership Opportunities

- Opportunity to speak on a Main Stage Panel
- Opportunity to deliver a presentation during the Gathering
- Opportunity to host a side event such as a workshop, masterclass, parallel panel, networking session, or sector-specific convening

Branding & Visibility

- Branding across the physical event venue and virtual event platform
- Branding presence at the Gala Dinner
- Recognition across conference materials (agenda, gift bags, event backdrops, roll-up banners)
- Visibility across AfriLabs communication channels (newsletter, social media, press releases, and website)

Ecosystem Engagement

- Opportunity to exhibit during the Gathering
- Opportunity to engage directly with members of the African technology and innovation ecosystem, demonstrating your organization's commitment to supporting innovation and entrepreneurship across the continent

Media & Communications Exposure

- Media visibility through associated PR coverage before and after the Gathering
- Feature in the AfriLabs Annual Report, distributed to hubs and ecosystem partners across Africa and globally

Additional Benefits

- Six-month Corporate Affiliate Gold Membership, providing:
 - *Unlimited access to the AfriLabs network*
 - *20% discount on AfriLabs services*
- Right to distribute corporate literature or branded gift packs during the event
- 5 complimentary Nile tickets for event attendance
- Access to the exclusive Ministerial Roundtable

SILVER SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE

\$75,000.00 (XOF 41,250,000.00)

The Silver Sponsorship package offers valuable brand exposure and meaningful engagement with Africa's technology and innovation ecosystem.

Speaking & Thought Leadership Opportunities

- Opportunity to speak on a Main Stage Panel
- Opportunity to host a side event such as a workshop, masterclass, networking session, or sector-specific convening at one of our member hubs within the host city

Branding & Visibility

- Branding across the physical event venue and virtual event platform
- Branding presence at the Gala Dinner
- Recognition across conference materials (agenda, gift bags, event backdrops, roll-up banners)
- Visibility across AfriLabs communication channels (newsletter, social media, press releases, and website)

Ecosystem Engagement

- Opportunity to exhibit during the Gathering
- Opportunity to engage directly with members of the African technology and innovation ecosystem

Media & Communications Exposure

- Media visibility through associated PR coverage before and after the Gathering
- Feature in the AfriLabs Annual Gathering Report, distributed to hubs and ecosystem stakeholders across Africa and globally

Additional Benefits

- Six-month Corporate Affiliate Silver Membership, providing:
 - *Unlimited access to the AfriLabs network*
 - *20% discount on AfriLabs services*
- Right to distribute corporate literature or branded gift packs
- 3 complimentary Nile tickets for event attendance

BRONZE SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE

\$35,000.00 (XOF 19,250,000.00)

The Bronze Sponsorship package provides organizations with opportunities for targeted visibility and engagement with the AfriLabs network.

Speaking Opportunities

- Opportunity to speak on a parallel panel session
- Opportunity to host a side event such as a workshop, masterclass, networking event, or sector-specific session at a member hub within the host city

Branding & Visibility

- Branding across the physical event venue and virtual event platform
- Recognition across conference materials (agenda, gift bags, event backdrops, roll-up banners)
- Visibility across AfriLabs communication channels (newsletter, social media, press releases, and website)

Ecosystem Engagement

- Opportunity to exhibit during the Gathering
- Opportunity to engage directly with members of the African technology and innovation ecosystem

Media & Communications Exposure

- Media visibility through associated PR coverage before and after the Gathering
- Feature in the AfriLabs Annual Gathering Report

Additional Benefits

- Right to distribute corporate literature or branded gift packs
- 3 complimentary Nile tickets

ONYX SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE

\$20,000.00 (XOF 11,000,000.00)

The Onyx Sponsorship package provides targeted brand visibility within one of the thematic tracks of the Gathering.

Speaking Opportunity

- Opportunity to speak within a track of the sponsor's choice

Branding & Visibility

- Recognition across conference materials (agenda, gift bags, event backdrops, roll-up banners)
- Visibility across AfriLabs communication channels (newsletter, press releases, social media, and website)

Ecosystem Engagement

- Opportunity to exhibit during the Gathering
- Opportunity to distribute corporate literature and branded gift packs

Media Exposure

- Media visibility through associated PR coverage before, during, and after the Gathering

Additional Benefits

- 2 complimentary Nile tickets

TRACK SPONSOR

\$100,000.00 (XOF 55,000,000.00)

Track Sponsorship offers organizations the opportunity to shape and lead conversations within a dedicated thematic track at the Gathering.

Leadership & Content Curation

- Opportunity to lead the design and development of a thematic track
- Opportunity to deliver a Track Keynote Address
- Opportunity to host a session (workshop, masterclass, presentation, or panel discussion)
- Opportunity to bring partners on board to co-curate the track

Branding & Visibility

- Branding across the physical event venue and virtual event platform
- Branding across the Main Stage and Track Stages
- Recognition across conference materials (agenda, track backdrops, roll-up banners)
- Visibility across AfriLabs communication channels

Ecosystem Engagement

- Opportunity to engage directly with members of the African technology ecosystem
- Opportunity to exhibit during the Gathering
- Opportunity to distribute corporate literature and branded gift packs

Media & Communications Exposure

- Media visibility through associated PR coverage before, during, and after the Gathering
- Feature in the AfriLabs Annual Gathering Report

Additional Benefits

- Six-month Corporate Affiliate Gold Membership
- Right to distribute corporate literature or branded gift packs
- 5 complimentary Nile tickets
- Access to the exclusive Ministerial Roundtable
- Official recognition as a Track Sponsor

GALA DINNER SPONSOR

\$30,000.00 (XOF 16,500,000.00)

Branding & Visibility

- Priority branding across the Gala Dinner venue
- Brand promotional video showcased during the Gala Dinner
- Branding across Gala communication materials

Engagement Opportunities

- Opportunity to deliver remarks during the Gala Dinner
- Opportunity to use event content generated during the Gala Dinner

Additional Benefits

- 3 complimentary Nile tickets
- 3 Gala Dinner passes
- Recognition across conference materials

REGISTRATION SPONSOR

\$10,500.00 (XOF 5,775,000.00)

Branding Opportunities

- Lanyard branding featuring the sponsor's logo
- Badge branding, ensuring high visibility across the event
- Priority branding of the registration area

Visibility

- Recognition across official conference materials including programs, signage, and digital communications

Additional Benefits

- 2 complimentary Nile tickets

WIFI SPONSOR

\$5,000.00 (XOF 2,750,000.00)

Branding Opportunities

- Branded Wi-Fi network name
- Custom Wi-Fi login page featuring sponsor branding

Visibility

- On-site signage across networking areas
- Exclusive Wi-Fi sponsorship category

Additional Benefits

- 2 complimentary Zambezi tickets

COFFEE/TEA BREAK SPONSOR

\$5,000.00 (XOF 2,750,000.00)

Branding Opportunities

- Prominent signage across tea break areas
- Verbal recognition on main stage and track stages

Visibility

- Recognition across event programs, website, and digital communications
- Social media recognition during event coverage

Additional Benefits

- 2 complimentary Zambezi tickets

GOODY BAG SPONSOR

\$5,000.00 (XOF 2,750,000.00)

Branding Opportunities

- Exclusive branding on attendee goody bags
- Opportunity to include branded merchandise or marketing materials

Visibility

- Recognition across event program, website, and digital communications
- Sponsorship exclusivity within this category

Additional Benefits

- 2 complimentary Zambezi tickets

EVENT APP SPONSOR

\$5,000.00 (XOF 2,750,000.00)

Branding Opportunities

- Sponsor logo displayed on the event app homepage
- Custom banner or push notification during the event

Visibility

- Recognition as the Official Event App Sponsor

Additional Benefits

- 2 complimentary Zambezi tickets

Kindly note, that official exchange rate for CFA payment is at 550CFA for 1 Dollar

2026 AFRILABS ANNUAL GATHERING

EXHIBITION BOOTH OPTIONS



STANDARD EXHIBITION BOOTH

\$5,000.00 (XOF 2,750,000.00)

- 3x3 shell scheme booths
- Fascia names
- LED screen
- 1 Information Counter
- 2 Foldable Chairs, 1 Round table
- 1 Brochure stand
- Electricity
- Spotlights
- Brand Visibility at the AfriLabs Annual Gathering 2025
- 1 Nile ticket (1st tier)
- 1 Kagera ticket (basic)

2026 AFRILABS ANNUAL GATHERING

EXHIBITION BOOTH OPTIONS



BASIC EXHIBITION BOOTH

\$3,500.00 (XOF 1,925,000.00)

- 3x3 shell scheme booths
- Fascia names
- 1 Information Counter
- 2 Foldable Chairs, 1 Round table
- 1 Brochure stand – Electricity
- 1 Zambezi ticket (2nd tier)
- 1 Kagera ticket (basic)

IN-KIND SPONSORSHIP

The equivalent of Cash Sponsorship can be provided in kind. This includes (but is not limited to):

- Food
- Internet
- Venue
- Accommodation (Hotels)
- Transportation
- Flights
- Translating devices and Rappoteurs
- Event collateral
- Entertainment.

Inkind sponsors will also be listed on the AfriLabs Annual Gathering Website as a Partners.

CREATE A CUSTOM PACKAGE

We recognize that our partners have diverse objectives and priorities. As such, we are open to collaborating with you to develop a customized partnership package that aligns with your goals and budget, while remaining consistent with the overall objectives of the AfriLabs Annual Gathering 2026.



CONTACT

AFRILABS EVENTS AND ECOSYSTEM ENGAGEMENT TEAM

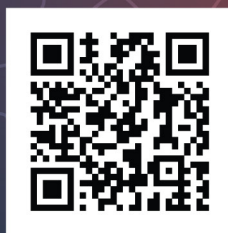
Send an email to events@afrilabs.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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www.afrilabsgathering.com