

July 10, 2025

Brochure



AFRICANTM INDUSTRIAL FORUM

AFRICA'S FUTURE

SHAPING GLOBAL INDUSTRIES THROUGH SMART
MANUFACTURING, AUTOMATION, AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



Welcome

By Prof. Rose-Margaret Ekeng-Itua

Founder, African Industrial Forum

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Distinguished Stakeholders, Partners, and Friends,

It is with immense joy and pride that I welcome you all to the launch of the African Industrial Forum, a vision that has been close to my heart, and one whose time, I believe, has truly come.

As Founder of this Forum, I stand before you with deep conviction and great hope. This platform has been established to provide a collaborative space where Industry, Academia, Government, and Youth can come together to reimagine and reshape Africa's future, not as a consumer continent, but as a global industrial leader.

Africa is rising, and with it comes an incredible opportunity and responsibility to ensure that this rise is built on sustainable, inclusive, and transformative growth.

The African Industrial Forum exists to facilitate critical conversations and foster meaningful partnerships that will drive the continent's industrialization, empower its youth, and position it as a competitive force in the 4th and 5th Industrial Revolutions.

This is not just a forum—it is a call to action.

We must build the pipelines that connect education to employment, policy to practice, and vision to implementation. We must come together to design and deploy solutions that prepare our youth for future-proof jobs, jobs that don't just exist today, but will thrive tomorrow in the ever-evolving industrial ecosystem.

The sectors represented here today—Manufacturing, Energy, Finance, Academia, Technology, and Youth groups—are all vital pillars of the Africa we envision. Your expertise, your voice, and your commitment are essential to ensuring that this vision becomes a reality.



I invite you to join the African Industrial Forum to contribute your insight, your innovation, and your influence. I especially encourage you to attend and actively participate in the first convening of the Forum, where together, we will chart actionable paths to make Africa a producing and manufacturing economy, not just for today, but for generations to come.

Let us be bold. Let us be visionary. Let us be united. And above all, let us be committed to shaping Africa's future by design, not by default.

Thank you, and welcome to the African Industrial Forum.

Mission

Our mission is to architect a technology-driven and policy-informed ecosystem that serves as a nexus for disseminating and implementing cutting-edge advancements in automation, artificial intelligence, robotics, machine learning, and industrial IoT in Africa. This integration is designed to address the continent's specific manufacturing challenges while transforming Africa from a predominantly consumer-driven economy to a robust, production-centric powerhouse.



Goals

01

Smart Manufacturing

To create a forum for the discussion and implementation of actionable items that ensures that Africa is at the fore front of Smart Manufacturing and Automation thereby moving from a consumer economy to a producing/ manufacturing economy.

02

Stakeholder Collaboration

To create a platform for stakeholders—including policymakers, industry leaders, entrepreneurs, and academics—to exchange knowledge, build partnerships, and co-develop solutions tailored to Africa's unique manufacturing challenges and opportunities.

03

Youth Empowerment

To start conversations that address the skills gap in smart manufacturing and automation while encouraging youth empowerment to boost Africa's GDP.

04

Manufacturing Investment

To encourage investments in local manufacturing ecosystems and technologies to stimulate economic growth, improve global competitiveness, and ensure sustainable industrial development across the continent.

05

Workforce Development

To bridge the skills gap in manufacturing by ensuring a vibrant, relevant workforce pipeline for the industry.

African Manufacturing: A need for Data-driven Industrial Revolution.

Colonial Era:

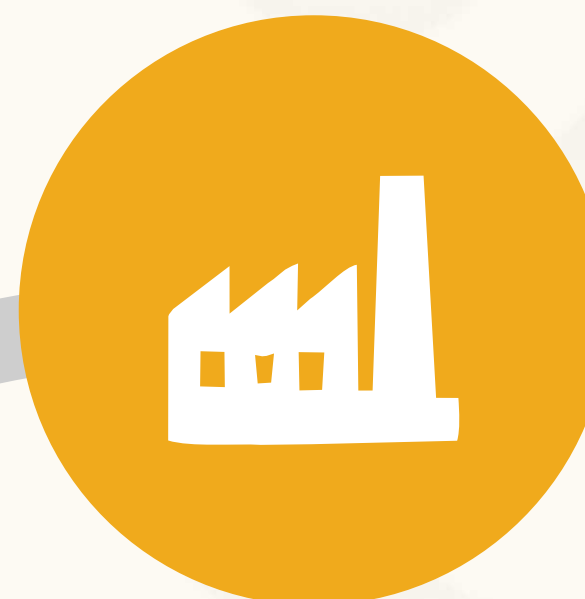
Manufacturing redirected to resource extraction; infrastructure built to export raw materials, limiting domestic industrial growth.

Pre-Colonial:

Indigenous artisanal production (textiles, metallurgy, ceramics) driven by local knowledge and resourcefulness.

Post-Independence:

Import substitution policies sparked early industrialization, later challenged by structural adjustments that exposed industries to global competition.



Historical
Evolution

Current State & Economic Impact.



African Manufacturing: A need for Data-driven Industrial Revolution

1

GDP Contribution:

Manufacturing contributes ~10% to many African GDPs. Nigeria's manufacturing sector added ~ 32.3 trillion (2018–2022), averaging 9% of GDP.

2

Export Trends:

Key Exports: Textiles, processed foods, automotive parts, chemicals.

Major Markets: European Union, China, United States. AfCFTA aims to boost intra-African trade, targeting a \$450 billion market by 2035.

3

Investments:

FDI surge in Nigeria: 67% increase in 2023, reaching ~\$1.59 billion.

Continuous domestic investments in infrastructure and skills are paving the way for modern manufacturing clusters.

Keynote Speaker.



**Prof. Rose-Margaret
Ekeng-Itua**



John Kamara
Keynote Speaker

Prof. Rose-Margaret Ekeng-Itua

Founder & CEO African Technology and Innovation
Institutes and Sabi Africa Network

John Kamara

Entrepreneur: Afyarekod Healthcare AI Centre of
Excellence Africa. Adanianlabs Africa Blockchain
Centre Skoll Fellow 2025

Speakers.



Dr. Akanimo Odon

President & CEO at African Center
for Economic Transformation
(ACET)



Kelechi Onyekachi Ofoegbu PhD

Executive Commissioner, Corporate
Services & Administration, Nigerian
Upstream Petroleum Regulatory
Commission



Edem Wornyo Ph.D., PMP, PMI-ACP

Cross-Functional AI Agile Product
Management Strategy Servant Leader,
Innovator, Engineer, Transformational
Leadership Coach, Speaker, Advisor,
Board Member



Ms. Ene Sandra Macharm

GET.transform: Head of Global
Partnerships

Agenda for African Industrial Forum (AIF)



Inaugural Convening

Theme:

AFRICA'S FUTURE:

Shaping Global Industries Through
Smart Manufacturing, Automation,
And Artificial Intelligence

Date: Thursday, 10th July, 2025

Time: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM WAT



Time	Session	Scan to Reg.
3:00 PM – 3:05 PM	Welcome Address Prof. Rose-Margaret Ekeng-Itua, Founder, African Industrial Forum	
3:05 PM – 3:15 PM	Opening Remarks Special Guest or Dignitary (TBC)	
3:15 PM – 3:30 PM	Keynote Address Title: "Africa's Industrial Renaissance: Vision and Action" Keynote Speaker: [TBD]	
3:30 PM – 4:30 PM	Stakeholder Panel Discussion Theme: "Collaborating Across Sectors to Future-Proof Africa's Workforce and Economy" Panelists: - Academia Representative, Finance Sector Leader, Energy Sector Executive, Manufacturing Sector Expert (Moderated by [Moderator Name])	
4:30 PM – 4:45 PM	Awards & Recognitions Honoring exceptional contributions to Africa's industrial advancement	
4:45 PM – 5:00 PM	Closing Remarks - Prof. Rose-Margaret Ekeng-Itua - Invitation to join the Forum and be part of future engagements	

Register: <https://aiforum.afritechi2.com/reg/>

Location: Virtual (ZOOM)



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