



AFRICAN DIASPORA INVESTMENT

DIASPORA CONNECT
Strengthening Ties, Building Futures

OVERVIEW

The African diaspora, estimated at over 170 million people, significantly impacts the African continent. Their contributions include remittances, investments, knowledge transfer, cultural exchange, and humanitarian assistance. The African Diaspora Investment and Property Expo is a crucial event that empowers diaspora members to invest in their home countries, fostering economic growth, social development, and cultural connections.

The African diaspora plays a vital role in the socio-economic development of the African continent. Recognizing the significance of diaspora engagement, there is a need to create a platform that fosters stronger connections, facilitates investments, and promotes collaboration between diaspora members and their home countries.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

United States

- Total African Immigrant Population: Approximately 2.1 million.
- Countries of Origin: Nigeria (251,000), Ethiopia (214,000), Ghana (177,000), Kenya (139,000).
- Educational Attainment: 40% of African immigrants hold a bachelor's degree or higher (compared to 30% of the overall U.S. foreign-born population).

Europe

- Total Population of African Descent: Approximately 9.6 million.
- France: About 3.5 million people of African descent.
- United Kingdom: Approximately 2.3 million people of African descent.
- Italy: Around 1 million people of African descent.
- Germany: Approximately 800,000 people of African descent.
- Netherlands: About 700,000 people of African descent.

Canada

- Total Population of African Descent: Approximately 800,000.
- Main Communities: Ontario (60%), Quebec (25%), Alberta (7%).
- Countries of Origin: Nigeria, Somalia, Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Sudan.

Australia

- Total Population of African Descent: Approximately 400,000.
- Countries of Origin: South Africa, Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Nigeria.
- Major Cities: Melbourne, Sydney, Perth, Brisbane.

Middle East

- Significant Populations: Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, and Lebanon.
- Countries of Origin: Egypt, Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea.



GLOBAL REMITTANCES TO AFRICA

Total Remittances: In 2022, remittances to Sub-Saharan Africa were estimated to be around \$53 billion.

Major Recipient Countries:

- Nigeria: Approximately \$20.9 billion.
- Egypt: Around \$31.5 billion (although technically part of North Africa, Egypt is often included in discussions about African remittances).
- Ghana: About \$4.5 billion.
- Kenya: Approximately \$3.7 billion.
- Senegal: Around \$2.5 billion.
- Uganda: Approximately \$1.5 billion.
- Ethiopia: About \$1.4 billion.

SOURCES OF REMITTANCES

- **United States:** The largest source of remittances to Africa, with significant contributions from African immigrants in the U.S.
- **Europe:** Countries like the United Kingdom, France, and Italy are major sources of remittances.
- **Middle East:** Saudi Arabia and the UAE are notable sources, especially for countries in the Horn of Africa and North Africa.
- **Canada and Australia:** Smaller but significant sources of remittances.

IMPACT OF REMITTANCES

- **Economic Development:** Remittances contribute to household income, healthcare, education, and small business investments.
- **Poverty Reduction:** They play a crucial role in alleviating poverty and providing a financial safety net for many families.
- **Foreign Exchange:** Remittances provide an important source of foreign exchange, stabilizing national currencies.
- **Investment:** Beyond immediate consumption, remittances are increasingly being used for investments in real estate, agriculture, and small businesses.



OBJECTIVES

1. **Facilitate Investments:** Create a platform for diaspora members to access comprehensive information on investment opportunities in various sectors, including real estate, agriculture, technology, and infrastructure.
2. **Promote Homeownership:** Highlight property investment opportunities and provide guidance on purchasing processes, financing, and legal requirements.
3. **Foster Economic Growth:** Encourage investments that lead to job creation, infrastructure development, and overall economic stability in African countries.
4. **Strengthen Cultural Ties:** Enhance the connection between diaspora communities and their home countries through cultural exchange and engagement.
5. **Provide Expert Guidance:** Offer advice on navigating investment regulations, managing risks, and understanding market dynamics.

CHALLENGES

1. Regulatory and Legal Barriers:

- **Complex Regulations:** Navigating the complex regulatory environments in many African countries can be difficult for diaspora investors.
- **Property Rights:** Issues related to property ownership and land rights can pose significant hurdles.
- **Taxation:** Unclear or high taxation policies can deter investment.

2. Lack of Information and Transparency:

- **Market Information:** Limited access to reliable market information and investment opportunities.
- **Transparency:** Corruption and lack of transparency in business dealings can discourage investment.

3. Infrastructure Deficiencies:

- **Basic Infrastructure:** Inadequate infrastructure such as electricity, roads, and telecommunications can hamper business operations.
- **Financial Infrastructure:** Limited access to financial services and credit can be a barrier to investment.

4. Trust Issues:

- **Business Trust:** Difficulty in finding trustworthy business partners and reliable local contacts.
- **Scams:** Fear of scams and fraud can deter diaspora members from investing.



5. Political Instability:

- Political Risk: Political instability and changes in government policies can affect the investment climate.
- Security Concerns: Safety and security issues can be a major concern for potential investors.

6. Currency Fluctuations:

- Exchange Rate Volatility: Fluctuations in local currency values can impact the profitability of investments.
- Currency Restrictions: Some countries have restrictions on the repatriation of profits, making it difficult to move money out of the country.

OPPORTUNITIES

1. Growing Economies:

- High Growth Potential: Many African economies are growing rapidly, offering significant investment opportunities.
- Emerging Markets: Increasing urbanization and a growing middle class are driving demand for goods and services.

2. Diaspora Bonds and Investment Funds:

- Diaspora Bonds: Some African countries offer diaspora bonds, providing a way for diaspora members to invest in national development projects.
- Investment Funds: There are funds specifically targeting diaspora investors, making it easier to pool resources and invest collectively.

3. Technology and Innovation:

- Fintech Solutions: Technology is making it easier to transfer money and invest remotely. Mobile money platforms and fintech innovations are reducing transaction costs and improving access.
- Startups and SMEs: Opportunities to invest in tech startups and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that are driving innovation.

4. Real Estate and Infrastructure Development:

- Property Investment: Real estate remains a popular investment choice, with opportunities in both residential and commercial property.
- Infrastructure Projects: Investing in infrastructure development projects such as roads, energy, and water supply.

5. Agriculture and Agro-processing:

- Agricultural Sector: Opportunities in agriculture, agro-processing, and agribusinesses due to the vast arable land and favorable climate.
- Food Security: Investments in agriculture can contribute to food security and economic stability.

6. Healthcare and Education:

- Health Sector: Investing in healthcare facilities and services to meet the growing demand for quality healthcare.



- Education: Opportunities in establishing educational institutions, vocational training centers, and e-learning platforms.

7. Government Initiatives and Incentives:

- Incentive Programs: Some governments offer incentives such as tax breaks, grants, and other support to attract diaspora investment.
- Diaspora Engagement: Increased efforts by African governments to engage with their diaspora communities and create favorable investment climates.

By addressing the challenges and leveraging the opportunities, African diaspora investors can play a crucial role in the development of their home countries while achieving profitable returns.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

- Increased diaspora engagement and investment in African economies, leading to job creation, economic growth, and infrastructure development.
- Strengthened partnerships between diaspora members, local businesses, and government entities for collaborative ventures.
- Enhanced knowledge transfer, cultural exchange, and advocacy efforts, leading to positive social and political impact in African countries.
- Promotion of homeownership and property investment among diaspora members, contributing to long-term wealth and financial stability.

By creating a platform for diaspora members to connect with opportunities, share expertise, and invest in their home countries, “Diaspora Connect: Strengthening Ties, Building Futures” aims to foster sustainable socio-economic development and strengthen the ties between the African diaspora and their homeland. This pan-African event will highlight the diversity and potential of the African continent, bringing together participants from across the globe to collaborate and build a prosperous future.

DATES AND EDITIONS

1. Australian Edition

22nd Feb - 9th March 2025

- Sydney
- Melbourne
- Perth

2. North America Edition

24th May - 8th June 2025

- Dallas, Texas
- Washington, D.C
- Ontario, Canada

3. Europe Edition

23rd Aug -7th Sept 2025

- London, UK
- Paris, France
- Frankfurt, Germany

4. Gulf Edition

27th Nov - 13th December 2025

- Dubai, UAE
- Doha, Qatar
- Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

