



November 28, 2017 Munich

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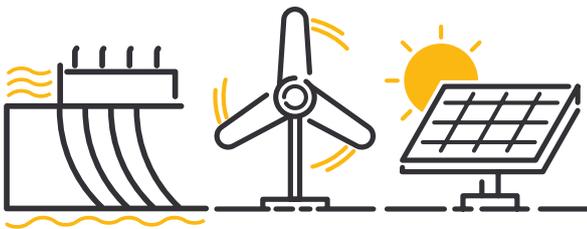


Bavarian State Ministry
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GABF brings together entrepreneurs, opinion leaders and social influencers, CEOs, selected politicians and NGOs to develop fresh commercial and social concepts. GABF participants aim to shape business relationships, as well as economic thought and institutions in Germany and African nations.



THE MEETING PLACE FOR GERMAN-AFRICAN TRADE & INVESTMENT

Through a series of events, the Germany Africa Business Forum (GABF) draws together African business and political leaders with Germany's preeminent companies and policymakers in order to:

- Strengthen the relationship between German and African business communities.
- Forge stronger trade and investment ties by capitalizing on the tremendous potential to increase commerce, create jobs, build economic partnerships and promote sustainable development.
- Develop fresh commercial and social concepts that shape business, as well as economic and political thought and institutions.



THE PROGRAM

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9:00-10:00 / WELCOME REMARKS & KEYNOTES



10:00-11:00 / PANEL: FINANCIAL SERVICES IN AFRICA

The financial technology (fintech) sector is disrupting conventional banks and financial institutions worldwide, but in Africa fintech actually meets the fundamental needs of consumers who, up to now, may have had no exposure to financial instruments. On a continent where less than a third of people have bank accounts, the mobile phone often substitutes as a wallet for many consumers. So emerges a vast ecosystem of financial transactions that stands in stark contrast to the formal banking methods of the industrialized world. Payment and remittance companies account for 41.5 percent of new African startups. This points both to the economic trajectory of the continent and to the capital demands of the sector over the coming years.

• How do traditional financial institutions adapt to these trends to ensure they stay ahead of the curve?

• What role do German banks and investors have in enabling the growth of African fintech startups?



11:00-11:30 / NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK



11:30-12:00 / COUNTRY FOCUS: ETHIOPIA

H.E. Dr. Mebrhatu Meles
State Minister of Industry

Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia



12:00 – 13:00 / PANEL: FOOD SECURITY & AGRO-TECHNOLOGY

Agriculture is the predominant source of employment and livelihood in much of Africa, accounting for as much as 60 percent of the workforce. The sector is crucial to economic diversification, with strong links to other segments of the economy and the potential to increase overall production, create jobs and reduce poverty. Explosive population growth and rising land values are placing enormous burdens on the African food system to create sustainable food security. Africa, however, is faced with great challenges throughout the food supply chain, from food processing to the logistics behind keeping stock fresh. Food is often wasted along the supply chain for many reasons, but German companies can provide many turnkey solutions. Certainly, the growth opportunities for farmers and agriculture value-chain actors, supported by improved market access to food and higher food prices, are greater than ever.

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- How is government policy in Africa affecting access to markets and enabling private investment into the sector?
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- How can Germany's agro-technology enterprises help increase productivity, strengthen transport links and provide investment in critical areas such as farming technology and food processing throughout the value chain to minimize food waste?
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- How do farmers and the logistics supply chain respond to the sheer scale of food demand to support rapid growth in urban populations?



13:00 – 14:30 / SPONSORED LUNCH



14:30 – 15:00 / COUNTRY FOCUS: GHANA

Hon. Ibrahim Mohammed Awal
Minister For Business Development
Republic of Ghana



15:00 – 16:00 / PANEL: THE SILICON SAVANNAH TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

The forces that drive Africa's economic growth are vastly different than those of the developed world. And so the innovations and new technologies that are supporting that growth are different too. From mobile transactions as a substitute for traditional banking to blockchain technologies in the place of conventional currencies to "crowd-farming" technologies to support the livestock industry, technologies are cropping up in unpredictable but commonplace sectors. In this panel, we explore the mindset that German investors must adopt to thrive in this exciting but complex business setting, and we reveal the dynamic African enterprises that are breaking the mold in a fast-changing market.

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- Does Africa have the infrastructure to reach its "fourth industrial revolution" and where can German technology have a place?
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- Where are Africa's tech hubs and start-ups and what are the next leapfrogging technologies?



16:00-16:30 / NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK



16:30 - 17:30 / GERMAN ENGINEERING GOES TO AFRICA

“Made in Bavaria” is synonymous with quality and manufacturing excellence. Industry is the engine of economic development in Bavaria, where more than 25 percent of gross value added comes from 7,000+ manufacturing enterprises that call the state home. Well equipped to fulfill the promises of the “Fourth Industrial Revolution,” Bavaria’s companies deliver technologies such as big data, cloud computing, cyber-physical systems, machine-to-machine communication, RFID chips and more. Conversely, Africa’s manufacturing base is chronically underdeveloped. A lack of productivity, scale, infrastructure and skills are the main challenges to overcome, but they also point to huge opportunities. In consumer industries like food and beverage, construction and the local beneficiation of natural resource sectors like oil, gas and mining, sub-Saharan Africa shows significant upside.

- How can German manufacturing enterprises contribute to increasing innovation and the application of advanced technologies to create value-added products
- Where is the base for Bavarian and African collaboration in skills development and joint investments?
- Where can German technology aid in local beneficiation of natural resources for independent power generation and supply stabilization?



19:00 / NETWORKING COCKTAIL

HOSTED BY BAVARIAN STATE MINISTRY
OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND MEDIA, ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

MUNICH RESIDENZ
RESIDENZSTRASSE 1, 80333 MÜNCHEN



THE OPPORTUNITY



THE OPPORTUNITY



If the German state of Bavaria were its own country, its economy would be the tenth largest in the entire European Union. With a GDP of more than 500 billion Euros, it has one of the highest levels of purchasing power in the world. In addition, Bavaria is one of the world's leading technology incubators, home to more than 11,500 tech companies in construction, electronics, energy, mobile and IT industries. Until now, exports within Europe, to the US and China have underpinned Bavaria's foreign trade. Fifty years ago, Bavaria was a heavily agricultural economy and today it is a thriving high-tech hub. Sub-Saharan Africa, where agriculture still dominates many economies, is undergoing a tech renaissance today not unlike what Bavaria experienced decades ago.

On November 28, GABF is in Munich to unite two ideal trade partners – Bavaria and Africa. Hosted by UniCredit Bank and endorsed by the Bavarian State Ministry of Economic Affairs and Media, Energy and Technology, GABF Munich presents a fresh and unique platform for enhancing trade and investment between both sides and fostering long-term relationships.



THE ADVANTAGES



THE ADVANTAGES

- First of its kind: The Germany Africa Business Forum is the first privately held event series exclusively dedicated to strengthening trade and investment ties between Germany and the African continent.
- Enabling investment: GABF has hand-selected an elite assemblage of like-minded political and business figures on both sides of the investment equation. We connect the right people within an intimate environment with careful consideration to investment profile and macro trends.
- Results-oriented: GABF is a benchmark for high-level discussion, giving every participant the context and opportunity for long-term engagement. We ensure the impact of our efforts, with each gathering delivering clear outcomes and action points.



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