



The AU Youth Start-Up Pavillion at IATF2025

Programme

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY / INAUGURATION OF THE FAIR

Launch

Thursday, 4 September

09:00 - 15:30

ARRIVAL OF OFFICIALS

ARRIVAL OF HEADS OF STATE

NATIONAL ANTHEMS

- Algerian National Anthem
- African Union Anthem

OPENING REMARKS

Official Opening of IATF2025 Exhibition

Unveiling of Sponsors' Wall (both conference and exhibition areas)

Official Photo session with Heads of State

01

Friday, 5 September

Welcome and
Opening Ceremony
of the AU YSP

10:00 - 11:00

**Official African Union Youth Start-Up Programme
Opening Ceremony**

Confirmed Speakers:

H.E. Nardos Bekele-Thomas, Chief Executive Officer of the AUDA-NEPAD Exhibition Area

H.E. Wamkele Mene, Secretary-General of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat

H.E. Daren Tang, Director General; World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

H.E. Ahunna Eziakonwa, UNDP's Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Africa

H.E. Ouadah Nour Eddine, Minister of Knowledge Economy Startup and Micro Enterprise, Government of Algeria

Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade,
Tourism, Industry and Minerals (ETTİM); African Union
Commission

H.E. Amb. Selma Malika Haddadi, Deputy Chairperson
of the African Union Commission

TBC:

Dr. Benedict Oramah, President and Chairman of
the Board of Directors of the African Export-Import
Bank (Afreximbank)

11:05 - 11:10

MOU Signing Ceremonies AU // WIPO

11:10 - 11:30

**High-Level Speakers to visit the exhibitions of the
Youth and Women booths**

11:30 - 11:45

Health Break

11:30 - 11:45

**Panel Session: Ignite Tech Startups - The Future of
Africa**

Moderator: Souheil Guessoum

Speakers:

Christopher O. Fallah, Founder of Annita Store LLC
(Liberia)

Salimatou Sannoh, Founder of GISQO Limited
(Gambia)

Vitalis Haupindi Founder of YYeni AI (Namibia)

Mr. Benosmane Morad, CEO of Benos Technologie

Ms. Regina Hammond, AfCFTA Liaison Advisor (ITC)

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch Break

14:00

**Panel Discussion: From Startup to Scale-Up – Lessons
from Africa's Unicorns and Success Stories**

Moderator: Fouad Boustouane ; Co-founder & COO
of InterspectAI

Speakers:

Abdenour Haddou; CEO Deepmind Startup

Lotfi Belkheri; CEO of Irigreen Startups

Deborah Kemi Adedigba; CEO Healthvest
Samira Alhassan Sani; Head of Operations
Acentrium

Lead: Government of Algeria

02

Saturday, 6 September

Digital Transformation
and Innovation
Venue: Start-Up
Exhibition

10:00 - 12:00

Master Class: Corporate Venture Capital (CVC) and Early-Stage Investment

Facilitator: Moussaoui Mohamed : Adviser to the
Minister of startups (Algeria)

Speakers:

Yacine Rahmoun (Casbah Business Angel)

Lead: Government of Algeria

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch Break

03

Sunday, 7 September

Empowering Female
Entrepreneurs
Venue: Start-Up
Exhibition

10:00 - 12:00

Workshop / Panel: Women Shaping the Future of Tech Overcoming Barriers for Female Entrepreneurs

Moderator: Ms. Edith-Casely Fodjoe, Programme
Analyst - Inclusive Growth and Youth Development,
UNDP, Nigeria.

Speakers:

Ms. Yumiko Addey, Manager at Mago Motors Ltd

Mr. Amadou Tall, CEO of Nimba SMS

Ms. Abir Affane, Founder of AI & NLP

Government Official from Nigeria (TBD)

Lead: UNDP

12:00 - 13:00

Interactive Panel Discussion: Women and Youth in Trade Policy Brief Launch – Advancing Inclusive Trade for Female Entrepreneurs

Speakers: TBC

AGUENI Safia; Co-Founder of HealthSeed

Lead: WGYD

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch Break

15:00 - 16:00

Networking

04

Monday, 8 September

**Policy Advocacy and
Ecosystem Development
Venue: Start-Up
Exhibition**

10:00 - 11:30

Fireside Chat (Intergenerational Dialogue): "The Future of African Start-ups"

Moderator: Mrs. Precious Agaecheta; African Union Commission

Speakers:

Nardos Bekele-Thomas; CEO for AUDA-NEPAD

Mrs. Ron Osman; Director for IMET (ETTİM)

Nassima Arhab; Secretary General the Permanent Secretariat of the ASC (African Startup conference)

Elvis Sedah; CEO of Quantum Solutions Ltd (Rwanda)

Lead: AUC-ETTİM

11:30 - 12:00

Promotion of the Africa Start-Up Conference (ASC)

Moderator: Cerbah Kamelia

Speakers:

Mr Ouadah Noureddine, Minister of Knowledge Economy Startup and Micro Enterprise, Government of Algeria

Ms Nacima Arhab, SG of the Permanent Secretariat of the ASC

M. Freddy Mpinda Mukenge, membre du Secrétariat permanent

M. Borel Deby Gassaye, membre du Secrétariat permanent

Mme Eman Fathi, membre du Secrétariat permanent

Lead: Government of Algeria

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch Break

14:00 - 15:30

Panel: Building a Supportive Ecosystem for Start-ups

Moderator: UNDP Timbuktoo Representative (TBC)

Speakers:

Oswald Osaretin Guobadia; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Dr Odiong Akpan; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Dr Patricia Nzolantima; Bizzoly Holdings

Alicia Stephens; International Finance Corporation (IFC)

Joseph Wekesa; Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Freddy Mpinda; Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister of the DRC

Roberta Blankson; African Development Bank (AfDB)

Lead: UNDP Timbuktoo

05

Tuesday, 9 September

Crafting the Perfect Pitch

Venue: Start-Up Exhibition

10:00 - 12:00

Create a pitch for your business

Facilitator: Mr. Gideon Okibe

Lead: Google Hustle Academy

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch Break

14:00 - 17:00

Pitch Competition

5-minute pitches followed by 10-minute Q&A

Jury:

Ody Akhonoba, Director SME Development ; Afreximbank AfDB – Head of ENOVA

Mouloud Khelif, President of the Scientific Council of Algeria Venture

Google Hustle Academy

UNDP Timbuktoo

Pitch Coordinators:

Regis Tade & Precious Agaecheta ; AUC

Yacine Rahmoune; Angel Business; Algeria

17:30 - 18:00

Pitch Awards (TBC)

06

Wednesday, 10
September

Awards and Closing
Ceremony
Venue: Start-Up
Exhibition

10:00 - 12:00

**Panel: The role of the 1 Million Next Level Initiative
in promoting Innovation through its five flagships
(WGYD) and WIFEI**

Speakers: TBC

Moderator: Mohamed Kimbugwe, Innovation Lead,
WGYD

Keynote Speaker/Panelist: Daniel Adugna, WGYD

Panelist: Daniel Duke Odongo, Ushahidi

Panelist: Rym Ben Slah, WG

Lead: WGYD

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch Break