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## **African Economic Outlook 2017**

### **“Improving entrepreneurship for Industrialisation in Africa”**

Assolombarda, Auditorium  
June 22<sup>nd</sup> – 9:30-13:00  
Milan – ITALY  
26.05.2017

The African Economic Outlook (AEO) celebrates its 16<sup>th</sup> edition this year. A team of over 100 researchers, economists, statisticians and other experts from Africa and other world regions work together on this annual report. The 2017 edition shows how including high-potential entrepreneurs in industrial policies will help African countries meet their emerging market goals and sustain them after 2030. The publication covers all 54 African nations, with individual country notes and corresponding statistical annexes.

The African Union’s Agenda 2063 and the African Development Bank’s “High Five” priorities identify industrialisation as essential for achieving Africa’s vision for emergence, particularly for sustainable development, employment and fight against poverty. Past industrialisation strategies in Africa often failed because they have neglected the private sector, particularly high-potential entrepreneurs. Africa has the world’s highest share of new entrepreneurs, but most are trapped in non-tradable services. New industrialisation strategies can harness this untapped potential.

The African Economic Outlook 2017 proposes concrete steps to lift constraints met by Africa’s high-potential entrepreneurs:

- Carry out new industrialisation strategies that tap the potential of all economic sectors, avoid past mistakes, and promote high-potential private companies;
- Improve skills development to make African firms more competitive and innovative;
- Ensure economic clusters provide sufficient public goods to generate economies of scale, attract a skilled workforce, and generate economic linkages with different sectors and regions;
- Diversify the financial instruments available at different stages of start-up growth.

A special attention will be given to Italian and European companies that can play a key role in African growth, while harnessing promising development opportunities. The event will showcase those opportunities for participating in industrial clusters, fostering financial ecosystems, supporting local professional skills development, and co-operating with high-growth African companies.

The event will be conducted in Italian and English with simultaneous translation.

Please refer to the following programme for further details.

After the presentation we invite you to a networking lunch.

## African Economic Outlook 2017

### DRAFT AGENDA

Speakers (\*TBC)

- 9:00-9:30 *Registration*
- 9:30-9:50 *Opening session*  
**Licia Mattioli**, Vice President for Internationalization, Confindustria  
**Letizia Moratti**, President, E4Impact Foundation
- 9:50-10:50 *Presentation of the African Economic Outlook 2017*  
**Angelino Alfano\***, Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs  
**Louise Mushikiwabo**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Rwanda  
**H.E Zenebu Tadese**, Ambassador, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to Italy  
**Mario Pezzini**, OECD Development Centre Director and Special Advisor to the OECD Secretary General
- 10:50-12:30 *Panel discussion on “The contribution of Italian and European companies to Entrepreneurship in Africa”*  
Moderated by **Gianfranco Belgrano**, Africa e Affari, Editorial Director  
**Lapo Pistelli**, Eni, Executive Vice President of International Affairs: *Eni: investing in Africa for Africa*  
**Pietro Salini**, Salini Impregilo, President: *The role of European companies for African infrastructure*  
**Giorgio Squinzi**, MAPEI, President: *The reasons for a continental growth*  
**Francesco Paolo Fulci**, Ferrero S.p.A., President: *Food industry contribution to sustainable growth in Africa: opportunities and challenges*  
**Sergio Solero**, BMW Italia, Presidente e A.D.: *BMW Group and the Intercultural Innovation Award in partnership with UNAOC, BMW Italia and Building Bridges congress*  
**Andrea Novelli**, Simest, CEO  
**Matteo Codazzi**, CESI, CEO : *Electrification as a pivotal key to development*  
**Joseph Nkandu**, NUCAFE, Founder & Executive Director
- 12:30-13:00 *Closing remarks*  
**Mario Molteni**, E4Impact, CEO  
**Amb. Massimo Gaiani**, Director General for Global Affairs of Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
**Stefano Manservigi**, Director-General of the European Commission's Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO)  
**Enrico Cereda**, Assolombarda Confindustria Milano Monza e Brianza, Board Member for International activities
- 13:00-13:30 *Networking and Light Buffet*

### PARTNERS



Please [click on this link](#) to go to the registration page  
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