



April, 2026

NEWSLETTER

REGIONAL

Africa Forward Summit: France and Kenya co-host landmark partnership summit in Nairobi

The Africa Forward Summit opened in Nairobi on 11 May with French President Macron and more than 30 African Heads of State or Governments, generating over USD 1 billion in deals during the preceding state visit. Across both days, total France–Africa investment announcements were [EUR 23 Billion](#), spanning energy transition, green industrialisation, digital infrastructure, logistics, and health manufacturing. The Business Forum at the University of Nairobi, co-organised by Proparco, Bpifrance, and Business France, brought together over 2,500 CEOs, investors and entrepreneurs for B2B matchmaking and sector-focused discussions. The summit concluded with the adoption of the Nairobi Declaration, whose outcomes are set to feed into the French G7 Presidency in Evian in June 2026.

NUMBER OF THE MONTH

27 Md USD

This is the total of investment announcements during the Africa Forward Summit.

See more on the left

KENYA AND TANZANIA SIGN EIGHT MOUS ON ENERGY, TRANSPORT AND TRADE

On May 4–5, 2026, during President Ruto's state visit to Dar es Salaam, Kenya and Tanzania signed eight MoUs in the presence of Presidents Ruto and Suluha Hassan. The agreements cover energy, railways, agriculture, legal cooperation, maritime cooperation, and standards harmonisation. The energy MoU advances the Isinya–Singida transmission line and establishes a joint working group on renewable energy projects, while the railway MoU commits both governments to revive the Voi–Mwatate–Taveta line, linking it to the Standard Gauge Railway to cut freight time to Moshi and Arusha. Addressing the Tanzanian Parliament in Dodoma, President Ruto also highlighted progress on the Kenya–Tanzania Power Interconnector, a 400-kilovolt transmission line stretching over 500 kilometers. A feasibility study for a Dar es Salaam–Mombasa gas pipeline was also included among the agreed initiatives. On the trade side, bilateral exchanges reached USD 860.3 million in 2025, representing nearly 40% of all intra-EAC commerce, yet both leaders acknowledged that the ceiling remains far higher. Both governments set a June 30, 2026 deadline for the elimination of all remaining non-tariff barriers, with President Ruto noting that these barriers had cost the two countries close to USD 100 million in lost trade between 2024 and 2025.



RENEWABLE ENERGIES

MAURITIUS

405 MW WILL BE ADDED TO THE ELECTRICAL GRID

The Mauritian authorities announced a project to add 405 MW of electrical capacity, mostly renewables, within 3 years as to reduce the energy dependence to the international market. The installed capacity of the grid was up to 882 MW in mid-2024, which implies an increase of +46% by 2028. This project has property, administrative and financial issues to deal with. As to secure the investments, the State has put a guarantee mechanism in place (Government Support Agreement), which cover the payments risks of the Central Electricity Board. Several projects are underway, including ten 10 MW solar plants with storage (expected commissioning by end of 2027), three 40 MW projects, and a floating photovoltaic plant (17.5–20 MW) under study. The development of agrivoltaic is also considered. In this project, 18 agreements have been signed, representing 80 MW. The capacity of the wind farm of de Plaine-des-Roches (9 MW) could also be raised to 15-20 MW by 2028.

ETHIOPIA

THREE SOLAR MANUFACTURING UNITS AND INDUSTRIAL GAS PLANT AT HAWASSA INDUSTRIAL PARK OPENED

On April 25, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed inaugurated four new projects at the Hawassa Industrial Park in the Sidama region: three photovoltaic manufacturing units — an extension of Japanese group Toyo's existing plant, alongside two new facilities developed by Chinese groups Origin and Lumintech — and the HZ Gas industrial gas plant, expected to produce 900 tons of oxygen, 40,000 tons of nitrogen, and 7 tons of hydrogen per year. While these projects will generate jobs and align with the industrial acceleration and energy transition agenda pursued by Ethiopian authorities, solar panel production remains, at this stage, exclusively export-oriented. The inauguration marks a significant shift for Hawassa Industrial Park, historically dominated by the textile sector, as it seeks to diversify towards

technology-intensive industries, particularly in the renewable energy space.

SOUTH SUDAN

EUR 5 MILLION FOR THE SOLARIZATION OF TELECOM SITES

Thanks to EU funding in South Sudan, telecom operator MTN has implemented a project to replace diesel power at its communication towers. Financed with EUR 5 million, the initiative equips these sites with hybrid systems combining solar energy and batteries. According to MTN, 90% of the sites have already been converted, cutting diesel dependence by half. The project also aims to reduce outages caused by power cuts and fuel supply difficulties, especially for sites in hard-to-reach areas due to poor road conditions. While the project has significantly improved service quality, telephone costs for users have not changed so far.

SUSTAINABLE CITY



UGANDA

540 M USD FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT FROM THE WORLD BANK

The Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development Judith Nabakooba announced on the 7 April the launching of the second phase of the UCMID (Uganda Cities and Municipalities Infrastructure Development) program. Fund by the World Bank of up to 540 M USD (460M of loans and 80 M USD of donations), the UCMID II aims to: reinforce the institutional capacity and performances of the locals and national governments, increase the access to sustainable urban infrastructures and employment and improve the economic opportunities of refugees. It will cover 49 local governments, which represent 5.6 M of people who stand to benefit. This program is in keeping with the first act (2019-2024), which contribute to build 208,4 km of roads and 11 555 solar lightnings.

BURUNDI

USD 5.9 MILLION DEAL TO EXTEND RURAL TELECOMS COVERAGE

Burundi has signed a USD 5.9 million agreement between the Executive Secretariat for Information and Communication Technologies and the state-owned telecoms operator ONATEL Burundi. The agreement falls under the Digital Economy Foundations Support Project, a World Bank-funded initiative worth USD 92 million. The project provides for the deployment of telecommunications infrastructure across 92 rural hills currently without 2G or 3G coverage. It is expected to benefit nearly 370,000 people, including users of schools and health facilities. The initiative aims to strengthen digital sovereignty and improve equitable access to connectivity across the national territory. According to the World Bank, internet penetration in Burundi remains below regional averages., with rural areas particularly constrained by high infrastructure costs and low commercial attractiveness for operators.

RWANDA

THE AfDB FINANCES THE EXTENSION OF THE MUVUMBA WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

The African Development Bank's Board of Directors has approved additional financing of EUR 45.4 million to support the Muvumba Water Resources Development Programme. This financing, comprising a concessional loan from the African Development Fund and an AfDB loan, will enable the development of a climate-resilient irrigation system covering more than 3,000 hectares of agricultural land. With this contribution, the Bank Group's total support to the programme reaches nearly EUR 167 million, out of an estimated overall cost of EUR 176 million. Construction of the dam and hydroelectric power plant, the project's major components, began in 2023 and had passed the halfway mark by early 2026. The programme aims to support the development of the water-energy-food security nexus, notably through electricity generation, drinking water supply, agricultural irrigation, and the development of local economic activities.

KENYA

AFC OPENS REGIONAL OFFICE IN NAIROBI, TARGETING USD 2 BILLION IN REGIONAL INVESTMENTS

In April 2026, the Africa Finance Corporation (AFC), a multilateral financial institution established by African sovereign states to address the continent's infrastructure deficit and investment climate constraints, signed a host country agreement with the Government of Kenya to establish AFC's first regional office in Nairobi, strengthening its capacity to scale up investments in infrastructure and industrial development across East Africa. The AFC plans to mobilise over USD 2 billion in the region over the next three to five years, targeting transport corridors, energy, special economic zones, and digital infrastructure. This expansion builds on AFC's already significant footprint in Kenya, where it has invested over USD 1.3 billion since 2017.

COMOROS



SIGNATURE OF THE 2026 UNITED NATIONS ANNUAL WORK PLAN

The 2026 annual work plan of the United Nations System (UNS) was signed on April 20 in Moroni by Minister of Economy Moustoifa Hassani Mohammed and UNS Resident Coordinator James Bot. It provides for the implementation of 330 interventions with a total budget of USD 32.9 million, a slight decrease compared to 2025 (-3.2%). Planned actions focus primarily on sustainable development and the environment, which account for 46% of interventions and 47% of the budget, with an emphasis on biodiversity conservation, water access, renewable energy development, and climate resilience. The economic component includes initiatives related to the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), youth and women's entrepreneurship, and blue economy development.

SOMALIA

SIGNING OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH CHINA ON THE USE OF SATELLITE DATA

Somalia's Department of Space and Satellites and China's Land Satellite Remote Sensing Application Centre signed a memorandum of understanding establishing cooperation on the use of satellite data and remote sensing systems. The signing took place at the African Space Conference, held in Libreville between April 20 and 22. The MoU aims to support the exploitation of geospatial data within Somalia's national systems, covering environmental monitoring, infrastructure planning, land use assessment, and national development programmes.



TENDERS

South Sudan – World Bank

CONSULTING FOR CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION SERVICES IN ELECTRICITY NETWORK

The South Sudan energy sector Access and Institutional Strengthening Project (ASSIST), intends to apply the financing of World Bank in a consulting mission for densification and expansion of the Juba distribution network.

Deadline: May 26, 2026 – 12:00 am (local time)

[For more information](#)

Mauritius – AFD

PROCUREMENT OF GRID-TIE ROOF-MOUNTED SOLAR PV SYSTEMS AND CENTRALISED BESS

The Central Electricity Board is inviting bids through the Government e-Procurement System for the Procurement of Grid-Tie Roof-Mounted Solar PV Systems for a total cumulative capacity of 4 MWp with BESS on public buildings in the Republic of Mauritius.

Deadline: June 2, 2026 – 13:30 (local time)

[For more information](#)

Ethiopia – World Bank

CONSULTING FOR CONDUCT RESETTLEMENT PLAN FOR ADDIS ABABA POWER SUPPLY AND REINFORCEMENT POWER TRANSMISSION PROJECT.

Under the Power Sector Reform, Investment and Modernization in Ethiopia (PRIME-1), Ethiopia intends to apply the financing of World Bank in a consulting mission about Addis Ababa power supply and transmission.

Deadline: June 3, 2026 – 14:00 am (local time)

[For more information](#)

Ethiopia – AFD

INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION FOR ADDIS ABABA BUS RAPID TRANSIT B2 (BRT B2) SYSTEMS & NETWORK MANAGER

The Addis Ababa Transport Bureau (AATB) has received financing from the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) for the Addis Ababa Bus Rapid Transit B2 (BRT B2) Project. The AATB intends to hire a single, independent Systems & Network Manager responsible for the integrated management of the project.

Deadline: June 5, 2026

[For more information](#)

Tanzania and Uganda – AFD

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR COMPANIES OFFERING CLEAN COOKING SOLUTIONS

Under the *Biomass Energy Africa* programme, AFD aims to identify a technical assistance to support a cohort of 5-8 companies commercializing clean cooking solutions in Tanzania and Uganda that have strong potential for commercial growth.

Deadline: June 9, 2026 – 00.00 (local time)

[For more information \(Tanzania\)](#)

[For more information \(Uganda\)](#)

Kenya – World Bank

PROCUREMENT OF SINGLE PHASE PRE-PAID METERS AND MINIATURE CIRCUIT BREAKERS FOR THE KENYA OFF- GRID SOLAR ACCESS PROJECT.

Invitation for bids from the Kenya Power and Lighting Company Ltd.

Deadline: June 16, 2026 – 10:00 (local time)

[For more information](#)



PRESENTATION OF CLUB MEMBERS : GROUPE LEGRAND

Thank you for presenting your company in the newsletter ! Could you please introduce your company's activities, your sectors of operations, and your collaboration?

Operating worldwide, Legrand works to enhance electrical and digital building infrastructures, embracing the shift to digital technologies while contributing to reduced carbon footprints. Legrand solutions are used in residential and non-residential buildings, as well as in datacenters, industrial spaces and infrastructure.

In Eastern Africa we collaborate with 12 Distributors to ensure safety first. The subsidiary office in Nairobi Westlands area has a complete team to support these distributors in Projects, Retail, Trainings and Marketing.

We are proud of our latest collaboration with Davis & Shirliff. Through their vast network in the country we are hoping to reach good numbers with the newly launched British Standard switches and sockets from Indoasian, a brand of Legrand. Plyra and Onza are already launched in this market and are doing well amongst other ranges.

Could you talk about the projects you currently have underway and the support you receive from the French Treasury in the region?

Data centers are the physical infrastructure powering Artificial Intelligence (AI) and cloud computing, resulting in an unprecedented construction boom. From Legrand's perspective, East Africa has become a strategic region for digital infrastructure, driven by cloud adoption, fintech growth, AI readiness, and regional connectivity. We are involved in a live project within a colocation data center facility. This project focuses on supporting reliable, scalable, and energy efficient infrastructure to meet the growing demand from cloud service providers, enterprises, and regional customers.

Legrand is contributing through critical power distribution and white space infrastructure, containment and solutions designed for scalability, uptime, and operational efficiency, which are essential in colocation environments.

Legrand's approach is to work closely with local contractors, consultants, and operators, ensuring solutions are adapted to local grid conditions, climate and cooling challenges and long term scalability and operational resilience. Legrand benefits from strong global partnerships with hyperscalers and Global Key Accounts (GKA) worldwide. These long-standing relationships allow us to align local projects with global data center standards, transfer proven architectures, best practices, and design philosophies and support customers who operate consistently across multiple regions.

This global exposure and credibility directly strengthen Legrand's capability and trust in the East African market, helping us support both international operators entering the region and local players scaling their infrastructure.

Do you have any advice to give to other club members, or any information you would like to share?

Global partnerships—such as those with hyperscalers and GKAs—create real value only when combined with local knowledge, local partners, and local execution. Invest in Skills and Knowledge Transfer. Projects move faster and operate better when local engineers and contractors are trained, best practices are shared openly, technology is demystified rather than restricted.

At Legrand, we value training and local capability building. Data centers are long term infrastructure investments: decisions made today around power distribution, energy efficiency, and modularity will impact operations for the next 15–20 years. Planning for growth from day one is essential.

Sustainability and efficiency are now business enablers: customers increasingly expect data centers to be resilient and efficient. Energy monitoring, optimized power architecture, and future ready designs are no longer optional.

Kenya is a strategic entry point for French companies, Kenya offers an excellent base to serve East Africa and neighboring regions, especially in digital infrastructure and critical facilities.



“Water for all” – OpT Training course

MANAGEMENT

of the urban water,
wastewater,
and solid waste services

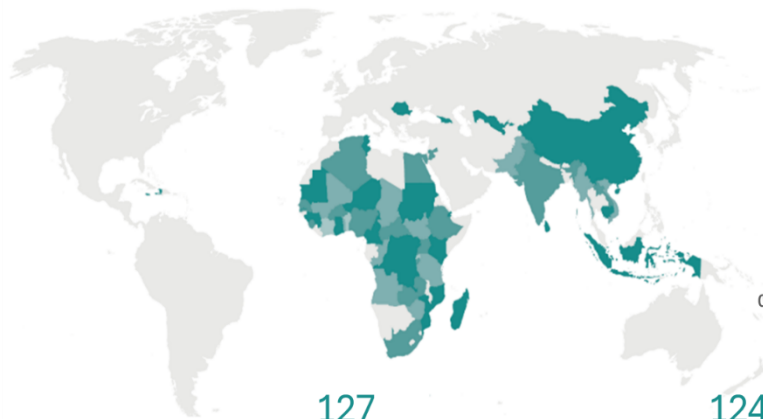
“ Address the operational and strategic management of the challenges facing urban services in Africa and Asia ”



since 2009

56 countries

319 managers trained in the International Executive Master “Water for All” developing a 360-degree strategic and managerial perspective on urban water or wastewater services



127

Managers trained through short trainings and certification-based, in France & in partners countries

124

DG and top managers skill-building seminars

5

Action-Research programs, conducted in the field with local partners



THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF LIFE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES AND INDUSTRIES “AgroParisTech” is a public scientific, cultural and professional institution, part of Paris-Saclay University which leads the AgroParisTech-SUEZ “Water for All” Chair of Teaching and Research. Since 2009, the Chair has offered various educational programmes for continuing professional development (so-called “Executive” training) for engineers and managers, for over 500 managers in 56 countries (Africa/Asia and Central Europe).

The International Executive Master OPT “Water for All” - OpT is the chair's flagship program. This MBA-style master's program trains and supports managers in developing a 360-degree strategic and managerial perspective on their urban water or wastewater services.

New in 2026 : Executive training program on solid waste management

Improving solid waste management is a critical issue in the countries where we operate - from health problems and pollution of natural resources to increased flooding and a deterrent effect on investors. Led by a team of academic and industry experts, our formation draws on real-world case studies, workshops, and site visits to provide a highly practical and engaging experience. Each manager receives individualized support to understand the mechanisms and value chain of an efficient waste management service, and to develop an ambitious yet pragmatic action plan that they can effectively implement. Some focus on the circular economy, plastics, digitalization, and the “waste-to-energy” cycle...

The first session was held for French-speaking executives: one month of online classes and three weeks of in-person instruction at the University of Lomé, our partner institution.



The second session is scheduled with the University of Nairobi for October and November 2026, in English and following the same format.

Our target audience:

Institutional, financial, or organizational managers in the waste sector who have the experience and ability to drive a local transformation plan.

Companies wishing to fund training for their staff and partners, or seeking visibility among managers during our programme.

Additional information:



Contact : opt@agroparistech.fr

Sandra Ceschin / Clotilde Fressinet



Promotion AWATE-OBERTI – session 2026 – Togo



UPCOMING EVENTS



NUCLEAR ENERGY INNOVATION SUMMIT FOR AFRICA

NEISA-KIGALI 2026

RWANDA, KIGALI, 18TH – 21TH MAY 2026

Nuclear Energy Innovation Summit for Africa (NEISA)

The summit is organised in collaboration with leading international and regional partners, including the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the Nuclear Energy Agency, the World Nuclear Association and World Nuclear Exhibition.

The second edition of the Nuclear Energy Innovation Summit on Africa will convene governments, regulators, financiers, industry, and technology partners at a critical moment to move from ambition to execution.

Location : Kigali, Rwanda

Learn more : [NEISA](#)



MOMBASA, 16TH – 18TH JUNE 2026

Our Ocean Conference 11

In 2026, Kenya will host the 11th Our Ocean Conference in Mombasa and Kilifi Counties on the vibrant Swahili Coast. As the first Our Ocean Conference held on African soil, the conference will place a global spotlight on ocean action and leadership across Africa and highlight the unique coastal communities, biodiversity, and ecosystems of Kenya and East Africa.

Guided by the theme “Our Ocean, Our Heritage, Our Future” the conference will focus on the essential role that the ocean plays in shaping culture, communities, and livelihoods. Under Kenya’s leadership, the eleventh Our Ocean Conference will unite governments, communities, innovators, and businesses to move the global ocean agenda from dialogue to delivery, placing jobs, equity, and healthy oceans at the center of international cooperation.

Location : Mombasa

Learn more : [OOC 11](#)



INNOVATE CITIES



NAIROBI, 21^{RST} – 24TH JUNE 2026

2026 Innovate4Cities Conference

Nairobi will host the fourth Innovate4Cities Conference (I4C26) at UN-Habitat's Global Headquarters from 21 to 24 June. Co-hosted by UN-Habitat and the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (GCoM), I4C26 brings together local, regional and national governments, academia, civil society, and industry to close priority knowledge gaps and provide an evidence base that can be used to deliver city climate action.

The conference is guided by the theme of multilevel governance and partnerships, exploring how cross-sectoral collaboration can turn global climate commitments into local action. A core focus will be connecting local leadership to global climate ambition and managing overshoot risks, accelerating the transition toward resilient, low-carbon urban futures.

Under Kenya's leadership, I4C26 will unite city leaders, researchers, innovators, and climate experts to connect science, policy, and practice on a single platform. Placing jobs, equity, and sustainable cities at the centre of international cooperation, the conference aims to move the global urban climate agenda from knowledge to action.

Location : Nairobi

Learn more : [Innovate4Cities](#)



WORLD ENERGY COUNCIL | KENYA

NAIROBI, 20TH – 22TH JULY 2026

World Energy Council Kenya: Powering Futures 2026 Conference – Nairobi

Co-hosted by the Kenya and South Africa Member Committees of the World Energy Council, the conference is aimed to provide a collaborative space for designing an actionable agenda that connects energy access and equity with industrial competitiveness and global stability. The focus will be on implementation, coordination, and system design, ensuring that ideas translate into real progress.

The conference in Nairobi will try to help establishing the foundation of a continental platform for renewable and hydrogen cooperation and inform Africa's collective contribution to the World Energy Congress in Riyadh. It is a moment meant to shape solutions that elevate shared opportunity and expand the possibilities of a more secure and resilient global energy future.

Location : Nairobi

Learn more : [World Energy Council Kenya](#)



GLOC 2026

IAF GLOBAL SPACE
CONFERENCE ON
CLIMATE CHANGE

KIGALI, 2TH – 4TH JULY 2026

The IAF Global Space Conference on Climate Change (GLOC 2026) – Kigali

Organized by the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) and hosted by its member the Rwanda Space Agency (RSA), both the IAF and RSA are committed to contribute to the global efforts to better understand and battle climate change through the use of space-based services and applications. The conference will facilitate discussions on a wide range of programmatic, technical, and policy issues related to climate change, promoting collaboration, tackling challenges, sharing insights, and paving the way for future cooperation among stakeholders engaged in climate resilience.

abstracts will be presented as interactive presentations, utilising state-of-the-art infrastructure to foster engaging discussions. Additionally, these presentations will have the opportunity to compete in the prestigious IP Competition, with awards recognising outstanding contributions.

Location : Kigali

Learn more : [The International Astronautical Federation \(IAF\) Global Space Conference on Climate Change](#)



INFORMATION

We would like to highlight members' news and achievements in a dedicated section. If you would like to present your company or share your experience, please feel free to write to the following address :

aristide.boucher@dgtresor.gouv.fr

Don't hesitate to share with us upcoming events or any information that may interest Club members !

CONTACT

The French Club for Renewable Energies is an informal group bringing together French private and institutional actors to highlight French expertise on these themes and promote collaboration to offer an integrated development offer.

Follow us on our [Linkedin](#) and [X](#) accounts !

For more information or registration to the newsletter :

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