



14 – 16 June 2023, Taj Palace, New Delhi

Draft Programme Outline

DAY ONE: WEDNESDAY, 14 JUNE 2023

1245 – 1345 hrs Networking Lunch

1345 - 1430 hrs Session I: Launching into a New Orbit with Space Sector Partnerships

India, one of the top 5 space-faring countries in the world, has taken a giant leap in this sector with Government of India unveiling the Indian Space Policy 2023 that encourages private enterprises to undertake end-to-end space-based activities in multiple domains like satcom, satellite launches, remote sensing, satellite navigation, etc. In recent years, India has also gained global recognition for its capability to produce affordable satellites and launch vehicles. Africa is now looking to develop its own space industry in a major way. India's partnership with Africa is now branching into the space sciences as well, illustrative of the bilateral agreement that was signed with South Africa in 2018 for cooperation in space sciences, and more recently with Egypt for cooperation in the space sector.

- *Is India poised for an instrumental role in the development of the African Space Agency?*
- *How India and Africa will collaborate to gain a larger share of the global space economy?*
- *What steps will bring private space companies across the two regions to collaborate for R&D and business, as well as enhance space tech applications in diverse fields?*

1445 – 1545 hrs Session II: Exploring New Models of Financing Growth

With African countries eyeing higher growth rates and more inclusive economies, the demand for financing trade, infrastructure and development is set to grow further in months to come. Currently, Africa's financing gap is estimated to be around US\$ 345 billion, according to IMF. Against this backdrop, this session will explore innovative models of financing that can help unlock the continent's huge economic potential. GOI-supported Lines of Credit extended by India Exim Bank is playing an important role in augmenting finance for development projects, but there is a need to go beyond the existing models to support the increasing financing requirements of the continent, for both infrastructure financing and trade financing. This session will examine pros and cons of new and alternative financing models to plug infrastructure deficit and bridge trade financing gaps. This session will also discuss the growing role of multilateral DFIs and national DFIs in plugging the financing gaps in the continent.

- *Can enhanced India-Africa cooperation help build capacity in the financial sector and improve trade financing infrastructure in both regions?*
- *How can one mobilise resources from other sources, such as bilateral and multilateral donors, to support development projects in Africa?*
- *How can engagements between Indian Banks and Banks of developing and emerging markets like Africa could be further strengthened for supporting higher infrastructure and trade finance flows?*
- *How can potential Indian investors handle African nations' legal and regulatory obstacles?*

- What initiatives are necessary to improve cooperation between the India Exim Bank and organisations like the African Development Bank and the Afreximbank in order to strengthen financing access in African nations?

1600 – 1700 hrs Session III: Transforming Infrastructure for Africa’s Development

Sustainable development of infrastructure holds the key to African economic resurgence. According to African Development Bank, the infrastructure deficit in Africa is estimated to be around \$100 billion. Post-pandemic, just as the infrastructure sector was bouncing back, the Russia-Ukraine conflict has complicated the international situation. But every crisis also contains seeds of opportunity. With their proven record of providing high-quality, long-lasting infrastructure to several African countries, Indian companies are equipped to seize emerging opportunities in this crucial area. India’s EXIM Bank has provided Lines of Credit for a host of infrastructure projects across the continent. To achieve the requirements of the host governments, the Indian government should help identify critical projects and assist Indian infrastructure companies in ensuring their successful completion.

- In what ways can India assist Africa in addressing capacity-building needs and soft infrastructure deficits?
- What should be done to encourage more triangular development cooperation or public-private partnerships (PPP) to improve African infrastructure?
- What policy reforms are required to allow Indian companies to participate more actively in the African infrastructure market?
- How can India partner with RECs to undertake infrastructure development at the regional level?
- Can the Indian government develop a single institutional organisation to consolidate and expedite infrastructure-related activities of many ministries?

1800 - 1930 hrs Inaugural Session: “India-Africa : Synergies for Shared Growth”

Inauguration of Exhibition

1900 hrs onwards Gala Dinner

DAY TWO: THURSDAY, 15 JUNE 2023

1000 - 1115 hrs Session IV: Fostering value chains in Agriculture & Food Processing

With 65% of the world’s uncultivated arable land, and accounting for almost 20% of Sub-Saharan Africa’s GDP, agriculture is critical to the health of Africa’s economy. Having made rapid strides in raising agricultural productivity, India is well-placed to spur an agricultural renaissance in the continent by strengthening of value chains, especially in farm mechanization, irrigation, food processing and agricultural research. India can play a pivotal role in promoting the use of AAA technologies, i.e., affordable, appropriate and adaptable in agriculture and food processing. Food-processing also presents a huge opportunity, with the continent’s food market expected to be around \$1 billion by 2030. Indian companies can also play an important role in making agriculture more environment-friendly and climate resistant in Africa.

- How can India support Africa’s goal of achieving a food-sufficient society and facilitate a holistic agricultural transformation in Africa?
- Given the importance of the upcoming African Continental Free Trade Treaty, how can India and Africa leverage better opportunities in agricultural cooperation while strengthening institutional linkages between the two?
- What are key focus areas for Indian investment in agriculture and food processing sectors?
- What are the high-impact priority areas to achieve immediate and sustainable returns in African agricultural growth story?

1000 - 1115 hrs Session V: Next Steps in India Africa Defence Industry Cooperation

With its security needs growing, African countries are increasingly looking at India as a reliable supplier of cost-competitive and quality defence equipment. The two sides are exploring new areas of convergence in the defence sphere, including capacity-building, training, cybersecurity, maritime security and counter-terrorism. As peace, security and development are becoming interrelated, India, with its growing defence industrial base, is ready to assist in modernization of Africa's defence as an equal and credible partner. African countries are looking at various kinds of equipment, including light combat helicopters, patrol vessels, small arms, shoulder-fired rockets, multi-barrel rocket launchers, and surveillance drones, among others. This session will explore the new steps in enhancing India-Africa defence collaboration in diverse areas such as co-development of weapons systems and advanced level of training and capacity building..

- *What opportunities exist for collaborative weapon manufacturing?*
- *What financing models are available to support Africa in acquiring security equipment? How can financing issues be addressed?*
- *What new mechanisms are needed to enhance defence cooperation between India and Africa?*
- *How can Indian defence companies customise products for the African market?*

1130 - 1245 hrs Special Plenary Session with Trade Ministers

1245 – 1400 hrs Networking Lunch

1400 - 1515 hrs Session VI: Manufacturing for African Common Markets

Expanding the manufacturing sector is often seen as a prerequisite to enhancing global trade. Manufacturing-based industrialization is also at the center of the African Union's Agenda 2063. With African countries looking to enhance manufacturing, Indian companies should step up their investment in setting up manufacturing facilities across the continent. Indian industry can play an important role in bolstering Africa's manufacturing given new opportunities unleashed by the African Continental Free Trade Area, which would provide direct access to the continental market of 1.3 billion people. In order to enhance the consumption of African goods, raise competitiveness, and increase exports, it is necessary to build regional value chains.

- *What new initiatives are needed to improve Africa's manufacturing capability, and how will this affect current patterns in foreign direct investment?*
- *Which countries and sectors are most important for India-Africa industrial cooperation?*
- *How will AfCFTA change the local or regional production networks?*
- *How can small economies be part of the process once AfCFTA becomes operational?*
- *How can a robust fund to support manufacturing activities be created?*
- *What steps should African governments take to promote more investment?*
- *What are the prospects of joint R&D and Manufacturing?*

1400 - 1515 hrs Session VII: Partnering on Technology to enable Digital Transformation

The outbreak of COVID-19 has accelerated the speed of digital transformation across the world. Businesses are quickly adapting to this "new normal". However, there hasn't been much of a shift in digital coverage, usage, and diffusion in most low-income African economies. Although Internet penetration rates have improved in many middle-income African countries, internet use remains below the world average. The prospects of Africa's digital emancipation and economic growth can considerably benefit from India's rapidly expanding digital economy. Under the framework of South-South cooperation, Africa

can learn from India's rapid digital revolution and benefit from it. The session will also cover other emerging areas such as the efficient, equitable rollout of 5G and gender equity.

- How can Indian companies collaborate to improve Internet penetration rates and bridge the digital divide in Africa?
- How can technology be used in Africa to increase last-mile access to public distribution, financing, and health care?
- What are the possibilities for developing collaborative digital platforms?
- What is the current internet standardisation process in different African countries? What are the regulatory and policy challenges?

1530 - 1645 hrs Session VIII: India Africa Partnership to harness Critical Minerals

Global demand for critical minerals, such as, lithium, copper, nickel, cobalt, rare earth elements is growing exponentially as countries around the world take strident steps to abide by the Announced Pledges Scenario and Net Zero goal, as also evidenced by their calibrated transition towards clean energy and green mobility solutions. These critical minerals are required for clean energy technologies that power wind turbines and electricity networks to electric vehicles. Africa, and in particular Democratic Republic of Congo, South Africa, Namibia, Ghana, and Zimbabwe, command large reserves of various critical minerals that are key to the global Net Zero transition. India, a strong advocate of green energy & mobility, is concomitantly securing robust supplies of critical minerals.

- How best can India play an instrumental role in helping Africa strengthen the downstream activities of critical mineral industry to ensure the value is captured within Africa itself?
- Would this partnership also accelerate Africa's own Net Zero transition?
- What kind of infrastructure and investment policy regime is required in order for Africa to attract more investments in critical mineral value added activities?

1530 - 1645 hrs Session IX: Creating Partnerships for Harnessing Human Potential

Africa is a continent of young people with over 70 per cent of Sub-Saharan Africa under the age of 30. India, with its world-class higher education institutions, is well-suited to partner Africa in skill development and fostering entrepreneurial culture. India and African countries should enhance collaboration in strengthening policy and regulatory reforms to improve job creation, innovation, creativity skills and entrepreneurship among the youth. India continues to fund several initiatives in the African continent including the ITEC programmes, ICCR scholarships and the Pan-African e-network Project. This session will explore concrete ways in which India can assist in training, capacity building and development of entrepreneurship across people of African countries.

- How can India help in bridging skills gap in African countries?
- What role can Indian private sector and civil society play in human resource development projects between India and Africa?
- How can Indian and African start-ups collaborate in building of joint projects?
- How can one facilitate regular interaction between Indian and African entrepreneurs?

1700 - 1815 hrs Session X: Session on Trilateral Partnerships

India has been coordinating with a growing number of other countries to promote growth and development in African countries. Trilateral mechanisms benefit Africa in terms of providing both finance and experience in order to achieve development goals in a sustainable manner. In recent years, the UAE has become an important investor in African infrastructure and services. The UAE has also pushed investments in the agriculture and agro-tech sector where Indian collaboration can complement well. One of the signature projects of India-UAE cooperation has been the establishment of IT Excellence Centre in Ethiopia. Countries like Germany have proposed programmes such as the "Compact with Africa" programme alongside its G20 partners. India and Germany have signed three projects to be implemented in Cameroon, Ghana and Malawi, mostly aimed at boosting local economy through job creation. India

and France consult each other on issues relating to North Africa and West Africa. India-Africa-UK triangular cooperation have looked at issues including energy and climate, health, investment, nutrition and education.

- How can these trilateral partnerships follow a more targeted approach while catering to the needs of the African people?
- How can the role of non-governmental actors, i.e, civil society, private sector and other entities be consolidated under the rubric of trilateral partnerships?
- How can the private sector of the three countries collaborate in trilateral mechanisms?
- How can these linkages be institutionalised to make the partnerships more effective?

1700 - 1815 hrs Session XI: Partnerships for Sustainable Water Security

With one in three Africans facing water scarcity, the continent is grappling with serious levels of water stress. Addressing the water crisis has become urgent due to the effects of climate change on the water cycle, which affects millions of lives. Mitigating water crisis is necessary to save agriculture, which remains largely dependent on rainfall and employs more than 60 percent of the continent's labor force. Against this backdrop, the session will explore ways in which India and African countries can collaborate in the sustainable use and management of water. India with its expertise in this area can help African countries to managed water resources, both surface and underground, to respond to Africa's existing and future needs. India can assist African countries in setting up effective water distribution infrastructure, restoring rivers and water bodies, and using technology to clean and purify water.

- How can Indian businesses contribute more to sustainable water management practices in Africa?
- What are the policy barriers for Indian companies to participate in African water infrastructure projects?
- Given the need for extensive capital investment, how can one mobilise finance for Africa's water sector?
- What is the status and prospect of community-based peer-to-peer (P2P) water solutions in Africa. What role can India play in this area?

1830 hrs onwards Gala Dinner

DAY THREE: FRIDAY, 16 JUNE 2023

1000 - 1115 hrs Session XII: India-Africa Health Partnership

Public health and economic fortunes are becoming increasingly interlinked. With India's emergence as the pharmacy of the world and its growing capability in health-related infrastructure, new avenues of collaboration between the two sides have opened up. Building on its record of providing necessary medications and made-in-India vaccines to multiple African countries during the pandemic, India can meet the needs of Africa's health systems thanks to its advanced infrastructure, technology, accessibility, and affordability in the healthcare industry. This session will focus on forging a targeted, win-win framework for healthcare cooperation with Africa that will enhance collaboration among Indian healthcare providers and African partners in areas like capacity building and the establishment of hospitals.

- What role can Indian companies play in augmenting the health-related infrastructure of African countries?
- What incentives can African governments provide to help the Indian healthcare industry to work smoothly in Africa?
- What are the prospects of joint R&D, vaccine or medicine manufacturing?
- What lessons can Africa draw from India to improve its healthcare distribution up to the last mile?
- What role can the Indian government play in supporting the pharmaceutical industry to expand its presence in African countries?

1000 - 1115 hrs Session XIII: Scaling up Green and Clean Energy Collaboration

Accelerating green energy transition has emerged as a key priority for Africa as the continent navigates modernization and industrialization. The energy security situation in Africa is, however, relatively unstable. Around 600 million Africans have no access to electricity and another 180 million rely on wood or charcoal for cooking. While African countries are rich in high-quality renewable sources of energy such as hydropower, solar, and wind energy, the action in the future will be on geothermal and green hydrogen. This session will explore prospects of enhancing India's assistance for strengthening Africa's energy security and identifying various approaches to improve energy collaboration between India and African countries. India's growing prowess in renewables can play the role of a force multiplier for the continent's green growth.

- *How can Indian businesses collaborate in sustainable energy technologies in Africa?*
- *What new opportunities exist for partnerships between African and Indian renewable energy companies?*
- *What role can the International Solar Alliance play in ensuring that everyone in Africa has access to clean energy?*
- *What kind of coordination is needed between India's Ministry of External Affairs and various energy ministries to strengthen renewable energy collaboration between India and Africa?*

1130 - 1300 hrs Valedictory Session

1300 – 1430 hrs Networking Lunch

Close of the Conclave