



**17<sup>th</sup> CII Exim Bank Conclave on India-Africa Growth Partnership**  
***Creating Shared Futures***  
**1 - 3 June 2022: Taj Palace Hotel, S P Marg, New Delhi**

**Draft Programme Structure**  
**(All timings are in IST)**

**DAY ZERO**  
**TUESDAY, 31 May 2022**

**0900 - 1600 hrs: REGISTRATION**

**DAY ONE**  
**WEDNESDAY, 1 JUNE 2022**

**1200-1300 hrs: INAUGURAL SESSION**  
**“India-Africa : Reinvigorating Growth Partnerships”**

*As the world transitions to post-pandemic optimism, India and Africa have emerged as twin centres of growth and are poised to transform their multi-faceted economic relationship. Expanding on project exports, growth will be the new mantra to propel the India-Africa economic partnership to new heights. This scene-setting session will present a big-picture view of the economic prospects of India and Africa despite continuing global headwinds and map out the “shared future” of their partnership in this year and beyond.*

**Focus**

- *Discuss the growth engines shaping the future of the India-Africa economic partnership?*
- *What are key challenges facing the economies of India and Africa in the near term?*
- *Which sectors need to be prioritized to scale up bilateral trade and investment?*
- *What role can the governments play in creating an enabling policy environment for acceleration of India-Africa trade and investment?*

**1300-1415 hrs : Networking Lunch**

**1415-1530 hrs : PLENARY I : Building Financing Partnerships**

India, through EXIM Bank's LOCs, is playing an increasingly significant role in financing development projects across the African continent. This session will explore various mechanisms of innovative financing to address constraints related to trade finance and finance for infrastructure and other sectors. This session will also discuss the growing role of multilateral DFIs and national DFIs in plugging the financing gaps in the continent. With high growth seen in many African economies and optimistic projections for the continent, sustaining that growth will require steady flow of finance, specially for small and medium enterprises, which are increasingly becoming an important component of the value chain.

**Focus**

- What role can Indian financing institutions play in meeting the financing needs of MSMEs and SMEs?
- What steps are needed to enhance collaboration between EXIM Bank and AfDB on co-financing of projects?
- How can one promote a bigger role for export credit agencies in bridging the finance gap?
- How can innovative mechanisms like escrow accounts help in evaluating financing of future projects?

**1545–1700 hrs : PLENARY II: Connect Africa- Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy Solutions”**

Accelerating India-Africa partnership through sustainable infrastructure and green energy collaboration can spur eco-friendly growth in the continent. The session will provide an overview of the infrastructure and energy profile of the continent in sectors such transport, rail, road, and affordable housing and help map focus areas for collaboration which require urgent attention especially financing deficit. The session will also explore new mechanisms of financing of infrastructure and connectivity projects, including the role of development banks, Indian Lines of Credit, regional financial institutions, and triangular partnerships to promote sustainable infrastructure and energy choices in the continent. India has emerged as the preferred provider of high-quality and sustainable infrastructure to various African countries, with 211 Line of Credits (LoCs) amounting to \$12.85 billion extended to various African countries in diverse infrastructure projects such as power plants, hydroelectricity, power transmission & distribution networks, dams, roads, railways, and ports.

**Focus**

- What policy changes are needed to enable Indian companies to play a bigger role in infrastructure & power sector in the region?
- What can be done to enhance the role of public-private partnerships (PPP) in infrastructure & power sector in Africa?
- What role can International Solar Alliance play in augmenting renewable energy collaboration between India and Africa?

**1800 -1915 hrs : SPECIAL PLENARY SESSION WITH TRADE MINISTERS: Building B2G Bridge**

While businesses will drive the India-Africa economic partnership, the governments of the day will have to step up to the plate in providing an enabling policy framework for trade and investment to thrive. In recent years, economic and governance reforms, as reflected in

*improved ranking of several African countries on the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index have brought much cheer to investors. The launch of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AfCFTA), which commits countries to remove tariffs on 90 percent of goods and progressively liberalize trade in services, has fuelled hopes for the expansion of intra-African trade through better harmonization and coordination of trade liberalization among signatories. While these are hopeful signs, there are still issues relating to policy and procedural constraints that need to be addressed to scale up trade and investment. In this regard, enhanced B2G interaction between the government/policy makers and the business community will play a crucial role in taking the India-Africa growth partnership to the next level.*

**Focus**

- *What can be done to enhance interaction of Indian business with African policy-makers to familiarise them with new reforms?*
- *What policy changes are needed by African countries to scale up India-Africa trade and investment?*
- *What steps can be taken by the governments to facilitate the establishment of Regional Value Chains (RVCs) and diversification?*
- *How do African ministers evaluate the possibility of FTA between India and their countries/RCEs?*
- *What sector-specific policy changes are needed to enhance Indian investment in various African countries?*

1930 hrs onwards: **Networking Dinner**

**DAY TWO**  
**THURSDAY, 2 June 2022**

1000 - 1115 hrs: **Plenary III: "Strengthening Value Chains in Agriculture & Food Processing Sector"**

*Amid the changing agricultural landscape in the continent and the Russia-Ukraine war sparking fears of food security for Africans, enhancing India-Africa collaboration in agriculture and food-processing sectors have acquired a note of urgency. Africa's food market growth is estimated to be of USD 1 trillion by 2030 and it translates to twice as much demand for food by 2050 in Africa. This presents an opportunity for Indian industry and other stake holders to build and promote with Africa a sustainable partnership in agri-businesses sector. Africa's agricultural transformation needs strengthening of the value chains especially in-farm mechanisation, irrigation, food processing technologies, inputs & nutrients, and agricultural research & development for which India can be a major partner by promoting the use of Triple A technologies -appropriate, affordable, and adoptable.*

**Focus**

- *In what concrete ways can Indian technology and expertise boost value chains related to agriculture and food processing in Africa?*
- *How can Indian research institutes and industry help develop smart and resilient agriculture in African countries by offering customized solutions in areas of agriculture and food processing?*
- *How can the Indian government, the private sector and research institutes support African countries in increasing mechanisation, productivity, irrigation solutions,*

*processing technologies, capacity building, and training in areas of agriculture and food processing?*

- *What are key solutions for reducing wastage of agricultural products by offering cold chains solutions, farm gate processing, innovative packaging, pest control and other measures.*

**1130-1245 hrs : ROUNDTABLE: SERV Africa - Healthcare & Pharmaceutical Sector**

*India has been the third-largest investor in Africa's healthcare sector during the period 2010 to 2019, accounting for a share of 19%. The cumulative global investment in Africa's healthcare sector during this period was \$1.1 billion, with India accounting for \$210 million. Almost 20% of India's pharmaceutical exports, valued at US\$ 17 billion, are to Africa. In the context of the vaccine inequity in the continent and growing pressure on the public health system, this session will look at ways to enhance collaboration between Indian health care providers and African partners in areas such as capacity building, establishment of hospitals and investment in telemedicine. The joint ventures in health care delivery through increased collaboration in clinical research in the pharmaceutical sector will help create a conducive ecosystem for deepening India-Africa partnership for health security. This session will examine urgent public health issues facing the African continent, including accessibility of healthcare facilities, affordable healthcare facilities and availability of equipment for medicine and human resources development in the healthcare sector.*

**Focus**

- *How can Indian companies assist African countries in augmenting health infrastructure in various African countries?*
- *How viable are plans for Indian assistance in setting up of pharma manufacturing facilities in Africa?*
- *What are realistic prospects of Indian companies and institutes setting up vaccine manufacturing facilities in Africa?*
- *In what ways can leading Indian health institutions contribute to training and skill development in the health sector?*

**1300-1400 hrs : Networking Lunch**

**1400-1515 hrs : ROUNDTABLE: SERV Africa - IT & IT enabled services sector**

*India's ongoing digital transformation has direct relevance for Africa's digital empowerment and economic prospects. India is ready to share with its African partners technology and know-how relating to the successful launch of Aadhar, the world's largest biometric digital identification program. Digital identity can help promote good governance and delivery of social benefit programmes in African countries. Currently, India's digital economy generates about \$200 billion of economic value annually. The launch of e-Vidya Bharti and e-Arogya Bharti network in 2019 on tele-education and tele-medicine underscores far-reaching possibilities of digital empowerment. Newly digitising sectors in Africa, including agriculture, education, energy, financial services, healthcare and logistics can enormously benefit from India's experience in upgrading and innovating digital economy.*

**Focus**

- *In what concrete ways can Indian companies help in bolstering Africa's digital infrastructure?*
- *What concrete initiatives are being planned to enhance India's assistance in development of biometric identification programmes?*

- *How can Indian companies help in bridging the digital divide in Africa and reduce internet inequity?*
- *How can India reinforce Africa's Digital Transformation Strategy by helping the continent to create a harmonized environment necessary for investment and financing to close the digital infrastructure gap?*
- *What more can be done to enhance India-Africa collaboration in digitisation of financial services?*

**1400-1515 hrs : PARALLEL SESSION: Country Session- Ghana\***

**1530-1645 hrs : ROUNDTABLE: SERV Africa- Higher Education & Skill Development Sector**

*India's emergence as a knowledge power with expertise in education and training can play a transformative role in harnessing Africa's most precious resource: more than a billion people of the continent, a majority of them young and itching for new opportunities. India, with its world-class higher education institutions and global education brands such as IITs and IIMs, is ideally equipped in partnering Africa in building higher education infrastructure and skill development in the continent. Over the last decades, India has been empowering Africans through a number of capacity building programmes under the ITEC scholarships, ICCR scholarships for Study in India programme and other training programmes under IAFS-III. With the aspiration curve rising in Africa, India can take its partnership in the fields of higher education and skill development with the African continent to the next level.*

**Focus**

- *How can African countries incentivise Indian higher education institutions to open their branches in the continent?*
- *How can Skill India mission be replicated in Africa and what forms of collaboration can be forged in skilling African youth for jobs of the future?*
- *How online education programmes can help in providing affordable higher education.*
- *Discuss the opportunities and challenges such as regulatory issues, quality of education, trade barriers, joint research programs*

**1530-1645 hrs : PARALLEL SESSION: Country Session- Zambia\***

**1700-1815 hrs : ROUNDTABLE: "Creating Regional Production Networks (RPNs) for Common Markets"**

*Given the sheer size and diversity of Africa, taking a region-specific approach will help Indian companies harness complementarities of regional economies and markets. The Indian government has concluded MoUs with RECS, including Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD). Developing RPNs will help increase value-added manufacturing and the consumption of African products, boost competitiveness and exports. Forging RPNs can also help in important substitution, thereby saving precious foreign exchange for various African countries. This session will explore how Indian companies can lock into RCEs and RPNs to optimise their returns from investment and leverage RPNs to set up high-end manufacturing in different regions in Africa. The establishment of AfCFTA has also paved the way for the development of intra-regional value chains.*

**Focus:**

- *How can regional markets help promote industrial growth and create synergy through exploiting the complementarity of the region's economies?*
- *How can Indian government and companies intensify their engagement with RECs?*
- *What initiatives are needed to boost India-Africa trade through RECs?*
- *In what ways can Indian companies leverage RPNs to promote value-added manufacturing in Africa?*
- *In what ways can RPN help promote SMEs in various African countries?*

**1700-1815 hrs :** PARALLEL SESSION: tbc

**1900 hrs :** Networking Dinner

**DAY THREE  
FRIDAY, 03 JUNE 2022**

**1030-1145 hrs :** ROUNDTABLE- "Exploring New Frontiers for Indian Consultancy Industry"

*With a steady growth in Indian investment in Africa and India-assisted projects under Lines of Credit, there is a compelling case for increasing involvement of consultancy services and consultants for project management and execution in Africa. Value-added consultancy services are not only needed to explore opportunities, prepare DPRs and feasibility studies, but also to chart time-bound action plan that can help accelerate execution of projects. This will help reduce delays in starting and completing the project, thereby preventing cost escalation. Indian consultancy services need to be promoted and encouraged due to their familiarity with the business and socio-economic landscape in Africa.*

**Key Issues**

- *What unique strengths can Indian consultancy companies bring to India-assisted projects in Africa?*
- *Can Indian consultancy companies work with similar companies from other countries in Africa?*

**1030-1145 hrs :** PARALLEL SESSION: "Trilateral Partnerships- Enhancing Stakeholders Interest in Africa"

*In view of Africa's growing demand for financing and appropriate technologies, trilateral partnerships involving India and a developed country will play an increasingly important role in enabling the continent's economies to move up the value chain. In trilateral cooperation, India will offer its experience of working in Africa for decades and its expertise in training and capacity building while the developed country partner will help generate the flow of capital, technological and managerial support to African countries. Trilateral cooperation among likeminded countries will contribute to African development, but its implementation requires specific bilateral arrangements and involvement of development agencies, companies and funds on either side. This session will review progress in trilateral partnerships involving India and developed countries, including US, Japan, France, Germany, UAE and UK.*

**Focus**

- *What initiatives are needed to forge trilateral joint ventures in Africa?*
- *Identifying key areas/sectors for trilateral partnerships*
- *Joint development of major projects based on a project agreed upon by 2 or more Governments.*
- *Fast-tracking identification of appropriate projects where India and the partner country can pool in their respective strengths.*

**1200-1245 hrs : Valedictory Session- “ Way Forward”**

*The India-Africa partnership will become increasingly more important not just for economic resurgence of the two regions, but also for the world at large. The session will focus on advancing manufacturing resurgence and forging of resilient supply chains in the continent. The session will also take a close look at prospects of India negotiating mutually beneficial FTAs with African countries and Regional Economic Communities. As India takes over presidency of G20 towards the end of 2022, India has an opportunity to place Africa on the agenda and explore prospects of plurilateral and multilateral partnerships to enhance India-Africa economic relations.*

**1300-1400 hrs Networking Lunch****B2B Meeting Continues****1600 hrs : Close of the Conclave**