

PEER-TO-PEER EVENTS

2021

INFRASTRUCTURE, 24 NOVEMBER, 9:00-16:00 CET

VIRTUAL EVENT

Organizer:



Main partners:



ABOUT THE PEER-TO-PEER SERIES

To start building and growing Swiss-African communities around specific sectors, the Swiss-African Business Circle has launched a series of Peer-to-Peer events. This format will allow for attendees to get to know each other through thematic sessions, the virtual exhibition area as well as bilateral networking opportunities which allow for in-depth exchange on specific projects and partnerships.

Starting with Agribusiness and Infrastructure in 2021, each event will bring together around 100 participants (representatives of companies, institutions, and government departments) with activities on the African continent and a link to Switzerland.

TOPIC OVERVIEW

Infrastructure as a catalyst for sustainable growth on the African continent: what role for Swiss companies?

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a massive impact on the global economy and subsequently led to a shift in priorities and fiscal constraints for African Governments. At the early stages of the pandemic, projects were put on hold due to lockdowns and the closing of borders while uncertainty led to decreased investor appetite for new projects. However, with borders opening and a loosening of strict lockdown measures, there has been a revival in the infrastructure sector which will be essential to Africa's economic recovery in two main ways: firstly, its potential to boost manufacturing and trade within African markets which supports the ambitions of the African Continental Free Trade Area AfCFTA and secondly, the effects that it can have on communities and individuals to improve their overall wellbeing by supporting improved services. This recovery will be a critical factor in addressing demographic shifts that have already been putting pressure on existing infrastructure, including rapid urbanization and a burgeoning youth population.

What infrastructure needs are there on the African continent and how are they being met by the public and private sectors in Switzerland and Africa? How can Swiss companies effectively manage project risks in the infrastructure space? How are funding gaps being addressed by the private sector on the African continent? What role can companies play in driving the development of local infrastructure sustainably? Despite the infrastructure financing gap, how is the private sector actively contributing to meeting infrastructure needs in African markets? What technologies are Swiss companies offering in their respective sector?

PROGRAM

SABC PEER-TO-PEER SERIES - INFRASTRUCTURE

09:00	Explore the platform / Meet & Greet
09:45	Welcome Representative Swiss-African Business Circle
09:55	Setting the scene - Infrastructure in Africa: Status and recent developments <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marcel Brühwiler, Manager Infrastructure Department Southern Africa, Nigeria and East Africa, International Finance Corporation (IFC) – World Bank Group
10:15	Session 1 - The new Team Switzerland global infrastructure push: a conversation with the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), Swiss Export Risk Insurance - SERV, Switzerland Global Enterprise and Swissmem <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rita Stupf, Head Liaison Office Infrastructure Projects, SECO• Carsten Böhler, Head Client Acquisition, SERV• Stefan Barny, Director Global Network, Switzerland Global Enterprise• Adrian Vogel, Head of Industry Sectors, Swissmem
10:45	Short health break
11:00	Session 2 - Manufacturing, energy and transport: how can gaps in business-critical infrastructure be overcome? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expert• Gregor Binkert, Board Member, Moz Parks• Company 2• Michele Molinari, CEO, Molinari Rail AG
11:40	Morning session Q&A With all morning session speakers
12:10	Networking break / digital peer-to-peer meetings

PROGRAM

SABC PEER-TO-PEER SERIES - INFRASTRUCTURE

14:00	<p>Session 3 - Case studies in building resilient water & sanitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Philippe Valahu, CEO, Private Infrastructure Development Group• Georg Fischer Piping Systems• Richard Bieler, Head of International Engineering, Geberit International Sales AG• EPC <p>Session partner:</p> 
14:40	<p>Session 4 – Workshop: Project Development & Financing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thomas Anger, Managing Partner / Project Finance & Investments, Bayswater Capital• Carsten Böhler, Head Client Acquisition, Swiss Export Risk Insurance SERV• Gabriel Moreira, Structured Finance and Business Development, JG & Polo
15:20	<p>Afternoon session Q&A With all afternoon session speakers</p>
15:50	<p>Closing remarks</p>
16:00	<p>End of event / digital Peer-to-Peer meetings (with possibility to fix further Peer-to-Peer online meetings for 3 days after the event)</p>

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