



Creating impact together.

Young Africa Works Summit

Advancing Dignified and Fulfilling Work for Young People

June 29, 2026 | Kigali

Agenda

Summit Moderator: Nozipho Mbanjwa Tshabalala

09:00 – 09:15 **Summit opening**

Session I: The State of Play: Why Dignified and Fulfilling Work Matters Now

- 09:15 – 09:30 **Welcome and Framing**
Set the context, frame the discussions, and outline Summit goals.
- 09:30 – 10:20 **What We Are Learning from Implementing Young Africa Works**
Ground the Summit in practical lessons from seven years of implementation, highlighting what has helped young people access dignified and fulfilling work, where progress has been fragile, and what these lessons suggest about system-level changes still required to achieve impact at scale.
- 10:20 – 11:10 **Powering Dignified and Fulfilling Work at Scale: Leadership Perspectives**
The leaders will have an open conversation about the major economic, demographic, technological, and policy shifts that will shape employment opportunities for Africa's young people over the coming decade and identify the system-level actions required to expand access to dignified and fulfilling work at scale.
- 11:10 – 11:30 **Coffee break**

Session II: Unlocking Opportunity at Scale: Sectors, Systems, and Pathways to Dignified and Fulfilling Work

- 11:30 – 12:20 **Which sector and system shifts are needed to unlock employment opportunities at scale?**
Identifying the sectors and system shifts that can unlock the highest employment and enterprise growth opportunities for young people.
- 12:20 – 13:10 **Education, Skills, and Workforce Transitions**
Explore how education systems can align with employers, governments, and training institutions to equip young people with the skills, experience, and pathways to succeed in evolving labour markets.
- 13:10 – 14:10 **Working Lunch: A Taste of Dignity**

Session II (cont'd): Unlocking Opportunity at Scale: Sectors, Systems, and Pathways to Dignified and Fulfilling Work

- 14:15 – 14:45 **Entrepreneur Realities: Scaling Youth Enterprises**
Open discussion among young entrepreneurs on the realities of building and scaling youth-led enterprises in Africa.

14:45 - 15:15

Financing Pathways to Dignified and Fulfilling Work

Explore how different forms of capital can support enterprise growth, job creation, and pathways to dignified and fulfilling work for young people, and identify what financial actors can do differently to better support youth-led enterprises and inclusive economic growth.

Session III: From Dialogue to Action

15:15– 16:30

Turning Dialogue into Action: Priorities for Enabling Dignified and Fulfilling Work [Plenary + Facilitated Group Discussion]

Bring together insights from Pre-Summit country dialogues, Summit discussions, and participant perspectives to identify the priorities, shifts, and enabling conditions needed to accelerate access to dignified and fulfilling work for young people.

16:30 – 16:45

Closing and Next Steps

18:30

Community Dinner