The Africa Roundtable

Roadmap to Africa: A Turning Point in Economic Relations

by the Global Perspectives Initiative

28 April 2023 | Nairobi, Kenya

An event hosted by the Global Perspectives Initiative, supported by the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, McKinsey & Co., the Federation of German Industries, and the Inter Region Economic Network
With The Africa Roundtable, the Global Perspectives Initiative (GPI) has established a high-level program that brings together decision-makers from Africa and Europe active in politics, business and civil society to develop joint, sustainable solutions.

The Africa Roundtable consists of three pillars: encounter, communication and research. It provides a dialogue platform for decision-makers and thought leaders and engages with current pressing issues and challenges of the neighboring continents as well as partnership-based approaches to solutions and models of future cooperation.

After the virtual inauguration in 2021, GPI welcomed more than 30 high-level representatives in Berlin in May 2022 and conducted the first-ever The Africa Roundtable on African soil in Dakar in September 2022 following an invitation by the Ministry of Economy, Planning & International Cooperation of Senegal.

This April, GPI is hosting The Africa Roundtable as a parallel event of the Ibrahim Governance Weekend in Nairobi, the Mo Ibrahim Foundation’s annual flagship event. Together with our partners from both continents, we want to debate perspectives deriving from geopolitical shifts around the world and how the need to decouple and diversify marks a turning point in European-African economic relations.

We thank all our partners for supporting The Africa Roundtable and making this event possible.
Dear participants of *The Africa Roundtable*,

Welcome to the 4th edition! This year, we are thrilled to be hosted in Nairobi alongside the prestigious *Ibrahim Governance Weekend (IGW)*, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to our partners and colleagues at the Mo Ibrahim Foundation for their invaluable collaboration over the years. To kick off the Roundtable, we are excited to have a candid conversation with Mo Ibrahim himself.

The theme of this year’s event, Global Africa, delves into Africa’s position in the world and the interests of global players on the continent. We will focus on a new economic roadmap for the collaboration between Europe and Africa, driven by the geopolitical changes unfolding rapidly. Together, we will explore the best options for economic cooperation and investments and discuss what policy-makers and business leaders from both continents can bring to the table to realize it. With increasing competition from various regions of the world, it is high time for a reboot of German and European relations with Africa.

*The Africa Roundtable* brings together a selected circle of decision-makers, opinion leaders and experts from politics, business and society, and we are delighted that representatives from Europe and Africa have accepted our invitation to engage in open and meaningful conversations. Our esteemed knowledge partner McKinsey has conducted an in-depth analysis on the crucial sectors for future investments, highlighting the potentials, risks, required investment volumes and necessary structural measures.
Preface

We acknowledge that there are challenges to be addressed, including complicated bureaucratic procedures and the complexities of political values and interests, which can make relations with Europe more cumbersome compared to other partners, as recognized by our African counterparts. The Nairobi-based think tank *Inter Region Economic Network* has summarized the African perspective on the relationship in a thought-provoking White Paper.

Realizing the economic opportunities in Africa requires a robust financial architecture that enables affordable loans and frontloaded investments. Honest and trusting cooperation between Africa and Europe will be pivotal in achieving our shared goals.

We look forward to engaging in intensive exchanges, fostering mutual understanding, and generating actionable recommendations during our time together at *The Africa Roundtable*. Let’s embark on this journey of exploring Africa’s economic opportunities with determination and enthusiasm!

Yours sincerely,
## Program

### Thursday, 27 April 2023

**at Noir Gallery, Nairobi (tbc.)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 pm EAT</td>
<td>Informal Networking Dinner with Start-ups</td>
<td>With inputs from:</td>
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<td><strong>H.E. Sebastian Groth</strong></td>
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### Friday, 28 April 2023

**at Mount Elgon II, Radisson Blu Upper Hill, Nairobi**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am EAT</td>
<td>Setting the Scene: Exchange with Mo Ibrahim</td>
<td><strong>Dr Mo Ibrahim</strong></td>
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<td><em>Entrepreneur, Founder &amp; Chair, Mo Ibrahim Foundation</em></td>
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#### Welcome

**Dr Ingrid Hamm**  
*Co-Founder & CEO, Global Perspectives Initiative*

#### Opening: New Roadmap to Africa

**Dr Jörg Kukies**  
*State Secretary & G7-Sherpa, Federal Chancellery*  
**Amadou Hott**  
*Special Envoy of the President, African Development Bank*
# Program

## 10:30 am EAT
**Unlocking a Common Economic Future**

With research inputs from:
- Olivia Robinson  
  *Associate Partner Nairobi Office, McKinsey & Co.*
- James Shikwati  
  *Founder & CEO, Inter Region Economic Network*

Included in an open discussion with all participants

## 11:15 am EAT
**The Partnership We Want: Charting a Path through Dynamic & Conducive Frameworks**

With inputs from:
- Koen Doens  
  *Director-General for International Partnerships, EU Commission*
- Dr Hanan Morsy  
  *Deputy Executive Secretary, UN Economic Commission for Africa*
- Wamkele Mene  
  *Secretary-General, African Continental Free Trade Area*

Included in an open discussion with all participants

## 11:50 am EAT
**Coffee Break**

## 12:10 pm EAT
**How To? Best Practices & Roadmap to Success**

Open discussion with all participants

## 1:30 pm EAT
**Lunch Reception**
Host and Moderator

Dr Ingrid Hamm
Co-Founder & CEO, Global Perspectives Initiative (GPI)

Ingrid Hamm is Co-Founder and CEO of GPI and deeply involved in the international dialogue on global development. She has worked in major German foundations for three decades, including fifteen years at the Bertelsmann Foundation. From 2003 to 2015, she headed the Robert Bosch Foundation. In addition, Ingrid Hamm serves on German and international boards, including the University Council of the University of Tübingen, the General Assembly of the Goethe Institute, and the Board of Trustees of the Karl Schlecht Foundation.

Christine Mhundwa
Brussels Correspondent & News Anchor, Deutsche Welle

As a journalist, Christine Mhundwa has covered current affairs, politics, and financial markets in Sub-Saharan Africa. She has worked for CNBC Africa as well as the Bloomberg Europe headquarters in London. Currently, she is based in Brussels, where she presents Germany’s international broadcaster Deutsche Welle’s flagship Africa News bulletin as well as general news programs.
Monika Beck
*Member of the Management Board, Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft mbH (DEG)*

Monika Beck has been a Member of the Management Board of DEG since July 2018. A graduate economist, she is at the helm of KfW’s Compliance department since 2015. From 2004 to 2015, she held various management positions at KfW Development Bank. Monika Beck joined KfW in 2001. Having studied Economics in Stirling and Cologne, she initially worked as a product manager at L’Oréal for three years and, between 1992 and 2001, was a Project Manager at the ProCredit Group in Latin America, which specializes in SME financing.

Christine K. Amira
*Sustainability & Communications Manager, WILO East Africa*

Christine Amira is the Sustainability and Communication Manager for WILO East Africa and has ten years of experience in improving public relations and communication strategies in Kenya, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Tanzania and Sudan. She holds a Bachelor’s Degree in International Relations and a Master’s Degree in Communication for Development & Digital Studies and is Head of the Training Committee Team of the Kenya Water Industry Association as well as the founder and host of the Women Today Show, a platform that seeks to empower and promote mentorships for young women.
Kabengele Heribert Bredt  
*Director Nairobi Office, Fichtner GmbH & Co. KG*

Kabengele Bredt graduated from RWTH Aachen University with a Master’s Degree in Engineering. Since joining the Fichtner Group in 2007, he has been the Director of the Nairobi Office since 2012. Fichtner is Germany’s largest independent engineering consultancy and has been working in East Africa for more than 35 years, active in the energy, environment, water & infrastructure, consulting and IT sectors.

Ndulela Canca  
*Head of Corporate Strategy, Volkswagen South Africa*

Ndulela Canca is the Head of Corporate Strategy of the Volkswagen Group South Africa and responsible for corporate strategy for the African continent. Between 2004 and 2013, she held various positions at VW South Africa within engineering and leadership, followed by a project lead in Germany in 2014. From there, she moved on to BBEE specialist, promoting the development of African-owned suppliers, and in 2019 became Head of Product Management. She is also the current lead for the African Association of Automotive Manufacturers (AAAM) strategy group.
Speakers & Participants

Edward Claessen
Head of Regional Hub for East Africa, European Investment Bank (EIB)

Edward Claessen is the Head of the European Investment Bank Regional Office in Nairobi, responsible for East and Central Africa. During his 18-year career at the EIB Group, he held various investment as well as managerial positions, including Deputy Head of Division “Public Sector Lending Western Europe”, and most recently, Head of Division “Equity & Microfinance” for EIB Global. Edward holds a Master’s Degree in Civil Engineering from Delft University of Technology and obtained a bilingual MBA from IESE Business School.

Nathalie Delapalme
Executive Director, Mo Ibrahim Foundation

Since 2010, Nathalie Delapalme has been the Executive Director of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation. Her previous position was General Inspector of Finances at the French Ministry of Economy and Finance. Prior to this, she served the French Government as an advisor for Africa and development in the offices of various Foreign Affairs Ministers. Nathalie Delapalme sits on the board of the Africa-Europe Foundation, the Institut Francais de Relations Internationales and the International Crisis Group.
**Amadou Diallo**  
*CEO MENA Region, DHL Global Forwarding*

Amadou Diallo has been CEO of DHL Global Forwarding Middle East & Africa since 2017, having previously held the position of CEO for DHL Freight and CEO Africa & South Asia Pacific for DHL Global Forwarding. He has more than 25 years of experience in the tourism, banking, express and logistics industries. Amadou Diallo is also the Founder of Saloodo! GmbH, Chairman of Amref in Germany and Member of the Boards of Welthungerhilfe, Africa 2.0 and Schiller International University.

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**Koen Doens**  
*Director-General for International Partnerships, EU Commission*

A Belgian diplomat, Koen Doens has served as Director-General for International Partnerships in the EU Commission since 2019. Prior to that, he has served as Head of Cabinet of the Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid as well as Head of the Spokespersons’ Service. Koen Doens has been part of the Belgian diplomatic service in Syria, Iran and the Russian Federation, as well as part of the Cabinets of the Belgian Minister for Foreign Trade, the Vice President and the Minister of Foreign Affairs.
Dr Benedikt Franke  
*CEO, Munich Security Conference (MSC)*

Benedikt Franke is Vice-Chairman and CEO of the Munich Security Conference. Prior to joining the MSC, he was the Strategy Officer of the CSU national leadership and, before that, the Personal Assistant to former United Nations Secretary-General and Nobel Laureate Kofi Annan. He holds a PhD from the University of Cambridge and regularly publishes on foreign and security policy issues, and sits on the Boards of Trustees of the International Charlemagne Prize Committee and the International Commission of the CSU.

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Kebour Ghenna  
*Executive Director, Pan African Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Kebour Ghenna is the Executive Director of the Pan African Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Prior to this, he served as Non-executive Director of the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia, Abyssinia Bank and the National Fertilizer Company, and led the Addis Ababa and Ethiopia Chambers of Commerce, the Ethiopian Business Coalition against HIV/AIDS and the Ethiopian Red Cross Society and has, as a consultant, been involved in the design and execution of development projects for UNECA, UNDP and the World Bank Institute.
Speakers & Participants

H.E. Sebastian Groth
Ambassador of Germany to Kenya, Somalia & the Seychelles

Sebastian Groth has been a member of the German diplomatic corps since 2001, when he started his first assignment at the German Embassy in Nairobi. From 2004 to 2022, he held various positions in the Federal Foreign Office, including Advisor for French-German Relations and Director for Policy Planning. Since 2022, he serves as Ambassador of Germany to Kenya, Somalia and the Seychelles, the UN Environment Program and UN-HABITAT.

Keith Hansen
World Bank Country Director for Kenya, Somalia, Rwanda & Uganda

Keith Hansen brings 30 years of World Bank experience, including multiple senior leadership positions. He most recently served as Vice President for Human Development, where he designed and oversaw the delivery of a strategy to elevate human capital on the development agenda. Prior to this, he was Co-Vice President for the World Bank Group’s Global Practices and Sector Director for Human Development in Latin America and the Caribbean. He graduated with a degree in Political Science from Yale and holds Graduate Degrees in Development from Princeton and Law from Stanford.
Speakers & Participants

Amadou Hott
Special Envoy of the President,
African Development Bank (AfDB)

Amadou Hott is the Special Envoy of the President of the African Development Bank on the Alliance for Green Infrastructure in Africa. Until his appointment, he was Senegal’s Minister for Economy, Planning & International Cooperation and, before joining the government, AfDB Group Vice President for Power, Energy, Green Growth and Climate Change. He has held various positions in investment banking, including Director of the Millennium Finance Corporation for Africa, CEO of UBA Capital and Founder and CEO of Senegal’s Sovereign Wealth Fund.

Dr Mo Ibrahim
Entrepreneur, Founder & Chair,
Mo Ibrahim Foundation

Telecommunications entrepreneur Mo Ibrahim is the Founder and Chair of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, which he established in 2006 to support good governance and exceptional leadership on the African continent. Born in Sudan, he has had a distinguished business career. In 1989, he founded Mobile Systems International, a world-leading cellular consulting and software provider, and in 1998 Celtel International, one of Africa’s leading mobile telephone companies which was acquired by Zain in 2005.
**Speakers & Participants**

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**Dr Jörg Kukies**  
*State Secretary & G7-Sherpa, Federal Chancellery*

Jörg Kukies is State Secretary and G7/G20-Sherpa at the German Chancellery. From 2018 to December 2021, he was State Secretary responsible for Financial Market and European Policy at the Federal Ministry of Finance. Previously, the economist was Co-CEO of Goldman Sachs AG and Managing Director of the Frankfurt branch of Goldman Sachs International. Jörg Kukies has also served as Head of Equity Derivatives for Europe, the Middle East and Africa for Goldman Sachs International.

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**Fabian Kyrieleis**  
*Chief of Staff, Office of Former Federal President Horst Köhler*

Fabian Kyrieleis serves as Chief of Staff to Former Federal President and IMF Director Horst Köhler. Previously, he worked as Head of Cooperation at the German Embassy in Botswana, as Deputy Head of the Department for Development Policy and Global Issues at the Federal Chancellery and served in several positions in the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.
Anders Lindgren has over 30 years of experience in international sales, marketing, and general management. Prior to joining Safal Group, he was Managing Director at Tetra Pak Egypt and Cluster Head Sales for GMEA, spending a substantial part of his career in the Middle East and Africa, managing multiple products from equipment, services and consumables to large manufacturing units and serving on several global steering groups and boards. He holds a degree in Business Administration from the International Marketing University of Lund.
**Speakers & Participants**

**Dr Stefan Mair**  
*Director, German Institute for International & Security Affairs (SWP)*

Stefan Mair is Director and Executive Chairman of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, focusing on German and EU foreign and security policy, geopolitical and geo-economic dynamics, as well as trade and foreign economic policy. From 2010 to 2020, he was a Member of the Executive Board of the Federation of German Industries (BDI) after having served as Research Director of SWP. He earned his PhD from the Ludwig Maximilians University of Munich and was a Scholar at the ifo Institute’s Developing Countries department.

**Wamkele Mene**  
*Secretary-General, African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)*

Wamkele Mene is the Secretary-General of the AfCFTA Secretariat. Prior to this, he served as South Africa’s Chief Trade Negotiator and was also the Director of International Trade and Investment Law at the Department of Trade & Industry. Furthermore, he was elected as the Chairman of the Committee on International Trade in Financial Services at the WTO. He holds an MA in International Studies and an LLM in Banking Law & Financial Regulation and has worked for law firms in London and Hong Kong and holds a Bachelor of Arts.
Speakers & Participants

Dr Hanan Morsy
Deputy Executive Secretary, UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

Hanan Morsy serves as Deputy Executive Secretary and Chief Economist at the UNECA. With extensive cross-country experience, she has worked in international organizations and the private sector, leading policy and development work while building partnerships. Previously, she was Director of Macroeconomic Policy & Research at the AfDB and worked in different departments at the European Bank for Reconstruction & Development and the IMF. Hanan Morsy holds a PhD in Economics from George Washington University.

Wolfgang Niedermark
Member of the Executive Board, Federation of German Industries (BDI)

Since October 2020, Wolfgang Niedermark has been a Member of the Executive Board of the BDI in Berlin. From 2006 to 2015, he served as Vice President at BASF, The Chemical Company, with main responsibilities for government relations as Head of the BASF Berlin Office. From 2016 to 2020, Wolfgang Niedermark was Member of the Board of the German Chamber of Commerce Abroad Greater China in his capacity as Delegate of German Business in Hong Kong.
Speakers & Participants

Karen Pfundt
*Head of Division, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)*

Karen Pfundt is Head of Division "Policy Issues of Cooperation with Africa" at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. Previously, she was Chief of Staff at the Office of former Federal President Horst Köhler, Head of the "Policy and Speechwriting" Division at the BMZ and a speechwriter at the Office of the Federal President of Germany. She is a trained journalist and has worked as a reporter and radio host.

Birgit Pickel
*Director-General, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)*

With more than 20 years of experience in international cooperation, Birgit Pickel is Director-General for Africa at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development with a thematic focus on global health, pandemic preparedness, One Health, gender, biodiversity and nature conservation and civil society. She holds an MA in Political Science and a Postgraduate Certificate in Development Studies. She sits on the boards of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and of the Global Financing Facility.
Speakers & Participants

Mildred Nadah Pita
Head Public Affairs Science & Sustainability for Africa Crop Science, Bayer AG

A business executive with over 19 years of experience, Mildred Nadah Pita is currently the Head of Public Affairs “Science & Sustainability” for Bayer Crop Science in Africa, responsible for developing, driving and leading Bayer’s engagements in public policy. Her prior roles include Head of Global Healthcare Programs for Middle Africa, where she led Bayer’s access to family planning products and knowledge for Sub-Saharan Africa, working closely with governments, international donor organizations, civil societies and youth groups around the continent.

Harald Pöltner

Harald Pöltner is a Partner in McKinsey’s Nairobi Office, leading the firm’s Social, Healthcare, and Public Entities hub (SHaPE) in Africa, bringing deep knowledge of economic development topics in emerging markets with a focus on early-stage project development, project financing and trade. He has 20 years of professional experience, of which more than 13 years with McKinsey after joining the firm in 2009 and transferring to Nairobi in 2016. Prior to McKinsey, he held different roles in finance and controlling in the European aerospace sector.
Speakers & Participants

Shollay Ramlaul
Country Cluster Head & Managing Director, BASF East Africa Ltd

With over 22 years of experience in chemical distribution in Africa, Shollay Ramlaul stands out for her expertise in strategy building, chemistry industry value chain, market mapping and sales execution. She has a degree in Microbiology and Business Management Certificates from business schools in Germany and South Africa. She has been with BASF for ten years as Sales & Industry Manager and Local Sales Manager “Chemicals Cluster Sub-Sahara Africa,” and three years at BASF East Africa Ltd, where she is currently the Country Cluster Head & Managing Director.

Olivia Robinson
Associate Partner Nairobi Office, McKinsey & Co.

Olivia Robinson has been with McKinsey & Co. for five years, working in the UK, Ethiopia and Kenya, where she is currently an Associate Partner in McKinsey’s Nairobi Office focusing on trade and economic development in Africa, including scaling intra-African trade and creating jobs under the AfCFTA. She holds an undergraduate degree from Cambridge as well as an MSc in International Public Policy from University College London.
Speakers & Participants

James Shikwati
Founder & CEO, Inter Region Economic Network (IREN)

James Shikwati is the Founder and Director of the Inter Region Economic Network Kenya, a think tank based in Nairobi. He established The African Executive online magazine in 2005 as well as IREN Growthpad, a social impact investment platform. The economist is a Richard von Weizsäcker Fellow of the Robert Bosch Foundation and has received the Jack Shewmaker Leadership Award 2015, the Walter Scheel Prize 2015 and was recognized as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum in 2008.

Hardeep Sound
Regional Director East Africa, SAP SE

Hardeep Sound is currently the Regional Director for East Africa at software giant SAP. Prior to this, he was Sales Director for Oracle in Kenya and has worked as a consultant for Deloitte, Infosys in Ethiopia and Microsoft.
Elhadj As Sy  
Chair of the Board, Kofi Annan Foundation

Elhadj As Sy is the Chair of the Kofi Annan Foundation and Member of the Board of Governors of the Wellcome Trust. The humanitarian aid expert previously served as CEO of IFRC from 2014 to 2019, as Africa Regional Director with The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and as UNAIDS Representative in New York. Before joining IFRC, he worked as Director of Partnerships and Resource Development for UNICEF and served as UNICEF Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa and Global Emergency Coordinator for the Horn of Africa.

Dr Youssef Travaly  
Senior Fellow for Digital, Africa-Europe Foundation & Co-Founder, EDPU Africa

Youssef Travaly is Senior Fellow for Digital at the Africa-Europe Foundation, Founder of the think tank AllSightsAfrica and Co-Founder of EDPU Africa, the first AI-enabled early detection and preventive health screening platform for NCDs in Africa. He has more than 20 years of experience working in science and public policy design with core expertise in semiconductor, ICT and healthcare technologies, climate economy and energy transition. He is Co-Founder of the Scientific African Journal and holds a PhD in Materials Science doubled with an MBA.
Global Perspectives Initiative (GPI)

As a non-profit and independent platform, GPI works towards enhanced engagement and responsibility for sustainable development by German and European decision-makers. At the same time, the initiative aims to strengthen African perspectives in policymaking.

To this end, GPI regularly brings together decision-makers from politics, business, civil society, academia and media to discuss new approaches, provide new impulses and raise awareness on the common opportunities and challenges the two neighboring continents are facing.

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Global Perspectives Initiative

We thank our partners for supporting this event

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