



Dear friends and colleagues,

Through sheer commitment, consistency, and faith in the diaspora, the African Diaspora Network has become a premier convener, sharing resources and knowledge as an organization since 2010. ADN has elevated the visibility of the Diaspora’s impact during these years.

We have activated multilateral and public-private partnerships through 1) mobilizing strong networks to invest in economic opportunities and mentor next generations, 2) harnessing the intellectual capacity of Africans and enhancing their impact, 3) accelerating and raising the visibility of new businesses that focus on innovation and impact, and 4) building bridges among high-level leaders to engage in key development areas.

The work continues and it is with great delight that I share our impact in the first six months of this year and our plans for the future:

- **Supporting African and U.S.-based entrepreneurs and innovators** through the Builders of Africa’s Future and Accelerating Black Leadership and Entrepreneurship programs
- **Convening Africans, Diasporans, and friends of Africa** in-person and virtually to discuss topics that are pertinent to the continent and the communities in which we live
- **Changing the narrative of diaspora investment** by amplifying the important role and contribution of the African diaspora from remittances to investment through convening and knowledge-sharing.

We give special thanks to our board, funders, ecosystem partners, and team for their continued support and commitment to our organization. We look forward to working with you to activate the African diaspora and friends of Africa for the development of Africa and communities around the world.

As always, thank you,

Almaz Negash  
Founder and Executive Director  
African Diaspora Network

# 6 Months of Impact

## U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit (ALS)



In **December 2022**, African Diaspora Network and the U.S. Department of State hosted the “Beyond Remittances” working group at the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit. ADN also co-hosted a session with the Center for American Progress (CAP), Africa-America Institute, and The Africa Center about advancing a collaborative U.S.-Africa foreign policy.





Recognizing the importance of the discussions in D.C., in January ADN incorporated the session, “Blueprints for Africa: Diaspora Engagement and Beyond Remittances” into the African Diaspora Investment Symposium 2023 session lineup.

[Learn More](#)

## African Diaspora Investment Symposium 2023 (ADIS23)



**March 22-24, 2023** African Diaspora Network hosted the eighth annual African Diaspora Investment Symposium 2023, with 300 people in attendance from 25 countries, including 20 African youth and 40 esteemed speakers who shared their expertise in the areas of entrepreneurship and investment, diaspora engagement beyond remittances, food security, agriculture, climate change, healthcare, education, workforce development, fintech, and ESG.



[Learn More](#)

## Skoll World Forum Marmalade Festival 2023



On **April 13, 2023**, African Diaspora Network, Global Diaspora Insights, and AFFORD hosted the “Beyond Remittances” session at the 2023 Skoll Marmalade Festival. Attendees from across the globe explored new approaches to diaspora engagement beyond remittances and approaches to sustainable investment.



[Learn More](#)

## The Lauder Institute’s Africa Futures Symposium

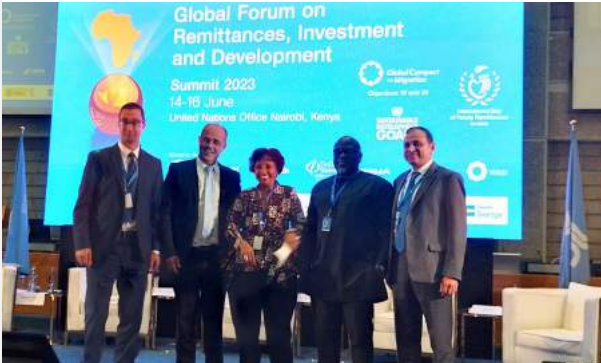


On **April 28, 2023**, Almaz Negash, Founder and Executive Director of African Diaspora Network, continued the diaspora investment discussion at the Skoll World Forum as part of the panel session, “African Economies Ahead: Aid, Trade, Debt & Diaspora” at The Lauder Institute’s Africa Futures Symposium.



[Learn More](#)

## 2023 Global Forum on Remittances, Investment, and Development (GFRID)



**June 14-16, 2023** the African Diaspora Network participated in the GFRID summit in Nairobi, Kenya. GFRID brought together leaders from the private, public, government, academia, and NGO sectors together to address remittances and investment within the context of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). ADN participated in key conversations around diaspora investment and will continue to advance the conversation within the context of SDGs at UNGA23 and ADIS24.



[Learn More](#)

## The Role of Youth in Shifting Narratives of Africa Session



Recognizing the representation of African youth at the African Diaspora Investment Symposium 2023, African Diaspora Network and Africa No Filter organized a session on “The Role of Youth in Shifting Narratives of Africa” on **June 7**. Attendees from 36 countries joined to hear young diasporan panelists share how they promote a positive narrative of Africa. Their stories included their daily interactions with fellow students and professors, creating impact-driven businesses with the continent in mind, and intentionally engaging in cultural experiences where they can be part of conversations around Africa. ADN is committed to inviting more African youth to ADIS24.

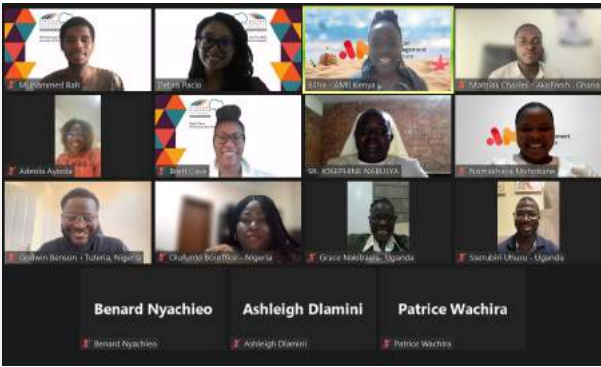


[Read the Summary Report](#)

[Watch the Recording](#)

## Builders of Africa’s Future (BAF)





**June 13** marked the launch of ADN's 2023 Builders of Africa's Future (BAF) program, composed of 10 entrepreneurs from Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, and Uganda. All participating enterprises in the cohort are 100% African-led and owned in the areas of Education, Recycling, Health Tech & Innovation, Poultry Farming, FinTech, Green Energy, and Coffee Farming.

We are grateful to our funders, the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation (CHF) and the United States African Development Foundation (USADF), who make this program possible, and our academic trainer, the African Management Institute (AMI).

[Learn More](#)

## Accelerating Black Leadership and Entrepreneurship (ABLE)



On **May 16**, we opened our call for applications for the third cohort of the Accelerating Black Leadership and Entrepreneurship (ABLE) program. We look forward to announcing the 15-20 U.S.-based Black founders in the fall. We are proud to continue to provide this no-cost, no-equity accelerator to Black entrepreneurs to help close the opportunity gap.

We greatly appreciate the support of our funders, BILL (lead funder), Makahakama Foundation, Silicon Valley Community Foundation (seed funder), California Black Freedom Fund, KLA Foundation, and BlackRock Foundation, all of whom make this program possible. We look forward to beginning the training in the fall with our academic partner, the Silicon Valley Executive Center at Santa Clara University.

[Learn More](#)

## What to Look For

# ADN 6 Month Calendar



## July-August 2023

ADN Board and Team will be working a five year strategic plan.



## September 2023

The African Diaspora Network will host a side event during the United Nations General Assembly 2023 in New York City.



## September 2023

Builders of Africa's Future Cohort Six Graduation and Pitch Session.



## October 2023

Accelerating Black Leadership and Entrepreneurship (ABLE3) Graduation and Pitch Day.



## October - December 2023

We will focus our attention on convening, engaging, and activating the diaspora locally, nationally, and globally. Be on the lookout for: Grand Challenge Senegal, SOCAP23, and ADIS24 Registration, among others.

## Community News



A.C.T. AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER

A World-Premiere Musical



HIPPEST TRIP

THE SOUL TRAIN MUSICAL

BOOK BY DOMINIQUE MORISSEAU

CHOREOGRAPHED BY CAMILLE A. BROWN

DIRECTED BY KAMILAH FORBES

Journey back to 1971's Chicago, when Black entrepreneur and radio DJ Don Cornelius transformed the pop culture landscape by recognizing the lack of Black musical artists on television. Elegant, determined, and complicated, Cornelius set trends for nearly 40 years by giving a stage—and a camera—to the artists who created the soundtrack of multiple generations and became superstars. Don't miss this world-premiere musical event that will have you dancing in the aisles and leave you with "love, peace, and soul" in your heart.

BOOK YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

LEARN MORE AND GET TICKETS AT [ACT-SF.ORG/SOULTRAIN](https://act-sf.org/soultrain)

AUG 25–OCT 1 | A.C.T.'S TONI REMBE THEATER

American Conservatory Theater is thrilled to be launching the world premiere of the highly anticipated, Broadway-aimed production, *Hippest Trip – The Soul Train Musical*. Based on the iconic TV show that brought Black music, dance, and style into every living room in America, this new work will transport you to 1971’s Chicago as it celebrates one of the nation’s longest-running televised music and dance series.

Get Tickets

## Support African Diaspora Network

A photograph of three individuals standing together in a large, modern indoor space with high ceilings and exposed ductwork. On the left is a man with a beard and glasses, wearing a grey blazer over a black shirt. In the center is a woman with dark hair, wearing a white shirt and a blue and white patterned shawl. On the right is a woman with long dark hair, wearing a grey blazer over a floral patterned top. They are all smiling at the camera. In the background, other people are visible, suggesting a social event or gathering.

Looking to have a more active role as a member of African Diaspora Network?



Learn more about ways to engage:

- Invite a friend to subscribe to our newsletter by sending them the link [here](#)
- Follow us on social media: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#)
- Subscribe to our [YouTube channel](#)
- Give Through Silicon Valley Community Foundation ([SVCF](#)) Donor-advised fund
- Mentor entrepreneurs participating in our ABLE and/or BAF programs. Contact Brett Cave, Entrepreneurship Programs Manager at [brett@afRICANDiasporaNetwork.org](mailto:brett@afRICANDiasporaNetwork.org) to learn more.
- Be an organizational sponsor and support the African Diaspora Network to bring together diverse people from around the world to collaborate and work together. Support ADN [HERE](#)
- Fill out the ADN Engagement form [here](#).

Engagement Opportunities

## A Special Thank You to Our Funders

See full list [here](#).



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GATES *foundation*



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## Media Coverage

See full list [here](#).



[Visit our Website](#)



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