


Nation Media Group
Media of Africa for Africa


True & Timeless



The Next 60 Years in Africa

STORIES. INSIGHTS. MOONSHOTS

2019



INTARE CONFERENCE ARENA



KIGALI, RWANDA

“

Africa will continue to be a leader, in drawing on its historical experience, in building resilient, pluralistic, economically-strong, and environmentally-sound communities, rooted in solid values and communal support structures that societies in the West and elsewhere will admire and emulate in years to come. The rest of the World has much to learn from Africa.”

- His Highness the Aga Khan

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The rest of the world has much to learn from Africa

His Highness the Aga Khan

THE story of Africa's journey is inspirational. We see around us every day compelling evidence that Africa is today a continent of opportunity, of hope, and of confidence.

Africa's strength has always been her peoples. Their resilience, sense of community and self-help, ingenuity and resourcefulness in innovating fresh solutions—often in the most difficult circumstances—is responsible for the continent's progress and exciting prospects.

The fastest growing economies in the world are in Africa—many of them projected to grow above five per cent per year.

Here, there is also a growing youth population—an impressive 60 per cent of Africa's population is under the age of 25 years—a significantly higher proportion than in the West.

The continent is also poised to provide a new market for goods and services at a time when the population in the West is diminishing. Imagine the opportunities for employment and investment in Africa!

All of us recognise that there is much work to be done.

We have an opportunity—and responsibility to assist people and communities to construct strong, resilient foundations, to ensure sustainable progress and lasting, positive change and to support and lift the hopeful voices of the continent's youth.

Sound development rests on learning from, and working with, people at the grassroots to help them articulate and realise their aspirations. It requires good governance and forging a better appreciation of the importance of pluralism across all sectors of society.

I am confident that Africa will continue to be a leader, in drawing on its historical experience, in building resilient, pluralistic, economically-strong, and environmentally-sound communities, rooted in solid values and communal support structures that societies in the West and elsewhere will admire and emulate in years to come. The rest of the World has much to learn from Africa.

**Excerpt from message delivered by Dr Azim Lakhani, Aga Khan Development Network Diplomatic Representative for Kenya at the Kusi Ideas Festival.*



If we dare imagine a bold future, we can grasp it and make it happen

Wilfred Kiboro

NATION Media Group (NMG), which is the second-largest publicly listed media house in Africa, created the Kusi Ideas Festival platform to explore the place of Africa in the world today, and to create a body of ideas that will help the continent make the outcomes of its future as glorious it can possibly be.

The launch of the first Kusi Ideas Festival in the Rwandan capital, Kigali, under the theme “The Next 60 Years in Africa” marks both our 60th anniversary, and is homage to the 60th anniversary of Africa’s collective independence.

We aim to study the meaning of those past decades, and to draw inspiration from them to fashion our future.

Africa is mostly a bittersweet experience. It has been plagued by quite a few difficult spots and conflicts, famines, corrupt and brutal rule; and suffered as a playground of the global superpowers, especially during the Cold War period.

But it has also known many happy moments and is well placed to create a great future for itself. Today, more Africans live in freedom—and longer—than at any other period of our continent’s recorded history.

If one looks around, one sees great

stories everywhere. In East Africa, Uganda achieved Africa’s first successful post-conflict recovery, anchored in one of the most radical economic reforms the continent witnessed in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Tanzania was the first on the ladder in constructing a new “tribeless” society. Kenya represents the most contentious political environment, which churns out creativity in record numbers.

Rwanda, where we are holding this festival, is a remarkable story of African resilience and progress. After facing the second worst genocide of the 20th century—in 1994—after the Holocaust of the Second World War, the country has emerged from that agonising experience to become one of the poster boys—or girls—of post-conflict recovery and economic as well as social success.

Today, it has the highest percentage of women in the world in its parliament and the highest number of them in Africa—just over 52 per cent—in its cabinet. And though still a work in progress, Rwanda represents the possibilities that societies everywhere in Africa, particularly those with a less painful history, can achieve.

But the challenges we have to overcome are many. It is very likely that by 2050,

most of the 60 per cent of Africans falling under the age of 24 years could become a bomb that explodes in our faces if the present jobless growth trend in most of the continent’s economies continues.

Furthermore, in one of the greatest paradoxes, the majority of Africans today have access to a mobile phone service, but fewer than two-thirds have access to piped water.

Also, we are already in a climate change crisis, with extreme and destructive weather conditions and attendant droughts, floods, landslides, and water crises happening today.

We could be struggling to feed the continent’s billions and construct the infrastructure to enable them to make meaningful opportunities for themselves, so we need new radical ideas to deal with these challenges.

But it could also be a very different story. A happy story. There are glimmers of hope that in the decades to come, a borderless Africa will become reality.

If we dare to dream and imagine a bold future, we can grasp it and make it happen. The Kusi Ideas Festival is our contribution to the dream of a great Africa.

Wilfred Kiboro is Chairman of the Board of Directors of Nation Media Group.



Reflections by Kusi Ideas Festival host President

Q. Today, Rwanda is held up as a success in post-conflict recovery and an example in several areas. However, looking ahead, the United Nations projects that by 2050 Rwanda's population could be nearly 19 million. There's a view that 19 million would be beyond Rwanda's "carrying capacity". What is Rwanda doing to ensure that these numbers are not a crisis in 25 years?

President Paul Kagame (PK): Nineteen million Rwandans only by 2050? I am hoping they will be more! Those concerns are valid, but they assume that the Rwanda of 2050 will be as it is today. That the country and society will not have transformed.

The challenges of the future are not going to be more complicated than they are today. With the investments being made in education, the spread of technology, and more people living in urban areas, we are doing what it requires for Rwanda to be a very different society by then.



“Africa has to define itself, not just by geography but by history, culture, business, trade.”

Q. What will be the next “killer apps” for Africa’s development?

PK• The “killer apps” for Africa’s development have to be the ones that help it solve the problems that keep it from realising the opportunities awaiting it. Africa has to define itself, not just by geography but by history, culture, business, trade. There are things we need to identify that form good reason for us to come together and identify the opportunities – but, also, the challenges we face in common.

While we talk African unity, there is another song on the other side saying, “No, don’t allow them to come together, divide them, because if they come together and address their challenges they will be a problem for us, they will be a competitor, we will deprive ourselves of where to go and dump things.” That is another threat.

Climate challenges are a given. It is not whether you want it or not, even if you are doing the best yourself in one country, what somebody else is doing wrong will come and affect you.

We have to think of working collectively because so many problems are cross-border. In northern Mozambique, there are reports that terrorists who have launched attacks there in recent times are from all over Africa and neighbouring regions, from Somalia to Yemen.

There are so many killer apps we need, sometimes you ask, which of these problems do you solve first? But you can see how wider integration can stand us in good stead in dealing with most of these issues.

Q. You have been very critical of “liberal democracy” and its “Western limitations”, and argued that politics, ultimately, makes sense if it’s rooted in the unique conditions of peoples and countries. From that view, every country should have its own “unique democracy”. If one accepts that, surely it is still possible to broadly speak of “African democracy”. How would you describe the shape and characteristics of that “African democracy” – if it’s still evolving? How might it look when it’s mature in, say, 15 years?

PK• I am still to be proven wrong over my critique of liberal, or Western, democracy. Democracy is not a stand-alone product. It must fulfill a purpose. It must work for a people.

Does it deliver good results? If it does, then surely it has served that society well and it’s valuable. If it is successful, how can it be undemocratic?

Sometimes in developed societies, they will even explain dysfunction and say this is democracy. Democracy is not dysfunction; it must allow things to be delivered.

What is democracy supposed to provide if not a level of satisfaction people are feeling in the sense of security and prosperity. How are these separable? If it is democracy, then it is a democracy that works and delivers results. Democracy has to put food on the table, and security.

I have been told many times that “democracy is messy”. That dysfunction is democracy – no matter the [political] cost. How can a mess and dysfunction be good? You can’t be striving to be delivering democracy that is a mess. That cannot be an objective. So, my view simply is that democracy is that which delivers good results for a society.

-Excerpts from an “Africa in 2079” interview in *The EastAfrican*.



“
The future
will be about
our “beauty,
resilience,
enterprise,
ingenuity and
excellence.”

- Isaac Oboth



Festival in the land of a thousand hills

OVERHEARD AT KUSI

Africans are endowed with intellect just like anyone, from anywhere. Let us not set our goals too low or underrate ourselves. A story is told of an eagle that was raised among chickens and never learned to fly. Let us not behave like chickens when we are eagles. We must soar!

~ Wilfred Kiboro

The Kusi Ideas Festival was held in Kigali, Rwanda, on December 8-9, 2019. Bringing together thought leaders, envoys, academics, activists, industrialists, business leaders, artists and two presidents, the festival was, in many ways, an experiential piece of time travel – looking back at Africa over the past 60 years and setting the pace for the next 60 years.

The Rwanda miracle

The choice of venue was not incidental – perhaps more than any other African country, Rwanda, the land of a thousand hills, represents the possibilities that societies everywhere, particularly those with a painful history, can achieve.

Rwanda is the place all of us in Africa should hold up as a benchmark for progress and for what is possible with committed leadership, empowered women and youth, economic and

institutional reforms,” said NMG Chairman Wilfred Kiboro. “The country has achieved so much in 25 years, including the highest percentage of women in parliament, and one of the highest percentages of women in cabinet. Rwanda realised the steepest drop in child mortality ever recorded, and is making progress on all fronts.”

The film *Black Panther* starred Oscar-winning Kenyan actress Lupita Nyong'o, and in a nod to her parents, who were in the audience, Kiboro mused, “Rwanda is building itself into a Wakanda.”

Featuring insightful speakers, challenging ideas, and curious attendees, the Festival was a courageous charting of the way forward for a continent that has underperformed in so many ways, but one that continues to astonish, in the words of Ugandan filmmaker Isaac Oboth, with its “beauty, resilience, enterprise, ingenuity and excellence.”


01

A CONTINENT'S DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND





Lopes



Okumu



Gachigi



Kaberuka

Speakers:

- > [Dr Kamau Gachigi](#)
- > [Dr Fredros Okumu](#)
- > [Sylvia Mulinge](#)
- > [Dr Donald Kaberuka](#)
- > [Carlos Lopes](#)
- > [Maximilian Jarrett \(moderator\)](#)

Africa's unique demographic moment

"Africa's demographic transition is like no other in history," said Carlos Lopes in this opening Festival. "First, the population boom is not because of higher fertility rates – fertility rates are actually going down – rather, it is because people are living longer and healthier lives."

"It is also unique because other countries are aging very fast. There are 70,000 Japanese, for example, who are 100 years and older; much of Europe also has a median age in the 40s or even 50s. It means that Africa's youth could be considered a 'global

public good," said the former executive secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).

"The third reason why Africa's demographic transition is unique is because it is happening in the context of technology that is completely transforming the way societies work. This gives Africa an opportunity to harness productivity gains in a way that was not available to other countries that have undergone similar demographic transitions."

Africa must become more economically complex

In order to harness the demographic opportunity, African governments have to intentionally create and support innovation systems. Micro innovation is already thriving, at the *jua kali* level or as talented individual Africans reach senior positions in tech companies. But by and large it has been by happenstance, not strategy.

"Africa has to find a way to become more economically complex, which means manufacturing competitively as



Mulinge

THE DIGITAL ECONOMY REPRESENTS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR AFRICA TO HARNESS ITS DEMOGRAPHIC POTENTIAL

Sylvia Mulinge

AIDS DEATHS **60%** ↓

DATA DIVE

Between 2000 and 2019 the number of AIDS deaths went down 60%, and the price of treatment has dropped from \$10,000 to just \$60. Yet 1 million new HIV infections are recorded each year, concentrated among excluded and marginalised communities.

well as creating a wide base of manufacturers. It is not enough to have one or two mega-industries per country,” said Dr Kamau Gachigi, executive director of Gearbox.

Director of science at Ifakara Health Institute in Tanzania, Dr Fredros Okumu, underscored this point, that African industries are sorely needed and must be embedded in the real needs of the communities they serve. “Of the 20 WHO-approved mosquito bed nets, only two are manufactured in Africa,” he pointed out.

However, tinkering with technical issues will not deliver the kind of change that the continent needs – the transformation must be broad, inclusive, and systemic.

“The world has 1.5 times the food it needs, yet 300 million Africans sleep hungry each night. Their hunger is not about lack of means in absolute terms, but about lack of access,” said Dr. Donald Kaberuka, former president of the African Development Bank (AfDB). “We must have inclusive politics and inclusive economics; focusing on technical matters is not enough.”

“The digital economy represents a unique opportunity for Africa to harness its demographic potential, said Sylvia Mulinge, chief customer officer of Kenyan telco giant Safaricom. “Africa can leverage its youth, literacy, curiosity and creativity, and provide much-needed skills for an ageing world,” she said.





02

FEEDING AFRICA'S BILLIONS:

ONE DAY AFRICA COULD
FEED THE WORLD





Hussain



Karusisi



Wood



Kyobutungi



Asiiuwe

DATA DIVE

Africa accounts for 60% of the world's arable yet uncultivated land. As climate change impacts agriculture globally, we should consider this arable yet uncultivated land as a gift to the world. Or perhaps – if we are to be more ruthless – Africa should consider leasing out land to land-scarce countries to grow food, and then we keep a small percentage of it, say 10-20%.

Speakers:

- > Sarwat Hussain
- > Diane Karusisi
- > Catherine Kyobutungi
- > Graham Wood
- > Jacqueline Asiiuwe
- > Nozipho Mbanjwa (moderator)

The promise – and pitfalls – of technology

There are many new technological developments that Africa can harness to feed itself, including genome changing technology, and Blockchain.

However, technology is not scale or effects neutral, the Festival heard.

“Technology benefits elites first, and has the potential to lock out those excluded in a cycle of long-term marginalisation,” said Sarwat

Hussain, senior adviser, African Media Initiative.

This means that transformation should not focus only on the land – via technology or irrigation – or on the market, by building warehouses, roads, and so on.

“Africa’s agricultural problems are not simply infrastructural. We should transform the farmer as well. Our farmers need meaning and dignity,” said Diane Karusisi, CEO of the Bank of Kigali.

Policy efforts must be socially-conscious and human-centred; only then do they have the potential to blunt the unequal effects of technology, and result in a more just and dignified population.

Busting dominant narratives

The dominant narrative on food in Africa has been around scarcity and undernutrition,

AFRICANS IN THE
WORLD BY 2080

3.5BN

DATA DIVE

In 60 years 3.5 billion people will be African, that's ¼ of the planet.

By 2080, six of the world's major cities will be in Africa, this means more people will be living in cities.

City farms will be a reality, and if so, cities must be designed and prepared for urban agriculture – in whatever form it may exist in the future.

hence discourse is dominantly on more and more production, the Festival heard.

It is also assumed that planet earth has infinite capacity to support the human population. With advances in health, remarkable progress has been made in reducing mortality and prolonging life. But are planet's resources really infinite?

"These dominant ways of thinking need a reality check," said Catherine Kyobutungi.

"First, many countries in Africa are undergoing a nutrition transition that has resulted in over-nutrition coexisting with undernutrition. Some countries have seen a two-to-three fold increase in obesity in the last 25 years."

The second reality check is that food production is a significant contributor to serious environmental changes, which in turn affect production. Agriculture is a victim and perpetrator of shifting environmental changes. There is actually a tipping point at which food production will be impossible.

"Feeding Africa's billions in the next 60 years will require a balance between quantity, quality and safety of food on the one hand and environmental sustainability on the other.

It can't be only about producing more food. The food must be healthy and safe," said Kyobutungi.

According to CEO of the Aga Khan Foundation, Graham Wood, 'In 60 years 3.5 billion people will be African, that's ¼ of the planet. By 2080, six of the World's major cities will be in Africa, this means more people will be living in cities, so are city farms a possibility? And if so, cities must be designed and prepared for this.'

Civ Source Africa CEO Jacqueline Asiimwe emphasized Africa's cultural relationship with food and how this is already a factor in the story of Africa's food security.

"Food is central to our social life and relationships in Africa. In most families, there must always be food in the house in case a visitor passes by. We Africans give a lot of food away," said Asiimwe.

"It is the centre of African philanthropy, which is typically not led by big donors but by ordinary households every day of the year. We need to measure our giving and harness its power, to redirect it to those who need it the most," she stressed.

POPULATION SHARE



IN **60** YRS

3.5 billion people will be African, that's ¼ of the planet.

MAJOR CITIES



BY **2080**

six of the world's major cities will be in Africa

URBAN FARMING



BY **2080**

City farms will be a reality that must be designed and prepared

03

GUARDING AFRICA'S
GATES, WATERWAYS
AND THE BLUE
ECONOMY





From Left: Nyong'o, Zakor, Chinje, Kalibata

DATA DIVE

Most movements by African migrants was from one country to another within the African continent. Specifically, of the 41 million migrants, 19 million moved from one African country to another -- with 17 million residents outside the continent -- and the continent accommodated 5.5 million from the rest of the world – UNCTAD 2017

Speakers:

- > [Prof. Anyang' Nyong'o](#)
- > [Eric Chinje](#)
- > [Dr Agnes Kalibata](#)
- > [Bintu Sarah Zakor](#)
- > [Murithi Mutiga \(moderator\)](#)

The freedom of the seas

The region's waterways are a crucial and underutilized resource, the Kusi Ideas Festival heard, that can be harnessed for increased transformation and shared prosperity.

But it isn't a simple matter of giving out more fishing licences or reviving ferry services – although that wouldn't hurt. It is also about being more intentional and strategic with maritime resources.

“There are three main pillars holding up the global economy – production, transportation and markets,” said Eric Chinje, former CEO of the African Media Initiative. “The bulk (95%) of Africa's trade goods are exported by water. But the continent's maritime presence is negligible, which means we don't control the transportation pillar.

In essence, Africa remains a slave. “We just work to produce coffee, tea, sugar, cocoa, which are then exported in their raw form on ships that we don't own and don't have a stake in. Until this changes, we will remain slaves of the system,” said Chinje.

Ethiopia presents a different way – the country is landlocked yet has the largest maritime presence in Africa using Djibouti as its port. A country that has a maritime presence can influence the transportation pillar of trade and get better prices for goods; the Festival heard.

Away from the ocean, Lake Victoria is Africa's largest lake, essentially an inland sea crucial to the countries in its vicinity and even far beyond – seeing that it's the reservoir for the world's longest river, the Nile. The lake's health, and future, is an existential issue for the region. Lake Victoria is undergoing environmental degradation, with a lot of effluent and silt going into the lake, resulting in booms of water hyacinth, and a reduction in aquatic life,” said Governor of Kisumu County, Prof. Anyang' Nyong'o.



OVERHEARD AT KUSI

Tanzania developing its railway is not a blow to Kenya, and should not be framed as such. Any country developing or growing is not a threat to another country. The idea that there should be one nation having a single railway is very colonial. In fact, there should be railways crisscrossing all countries.

~ Anyang' Nyong'o

MIGRATION



19M

Migrants moved from one African country to another

MAJOR CITIES



95%

Africa's trade goods exported by water

FOOD SECURITY



↓ 21%

Reduction of food insecurity in Rwanda in just three years

Sustaining the blue economy requires sustaining water, said Prof. Nyong'o, and this can only be achieved through prioritising the lake's health, as well as greater integration, connectivity and growth in knowledge.

The unlikely young farmer

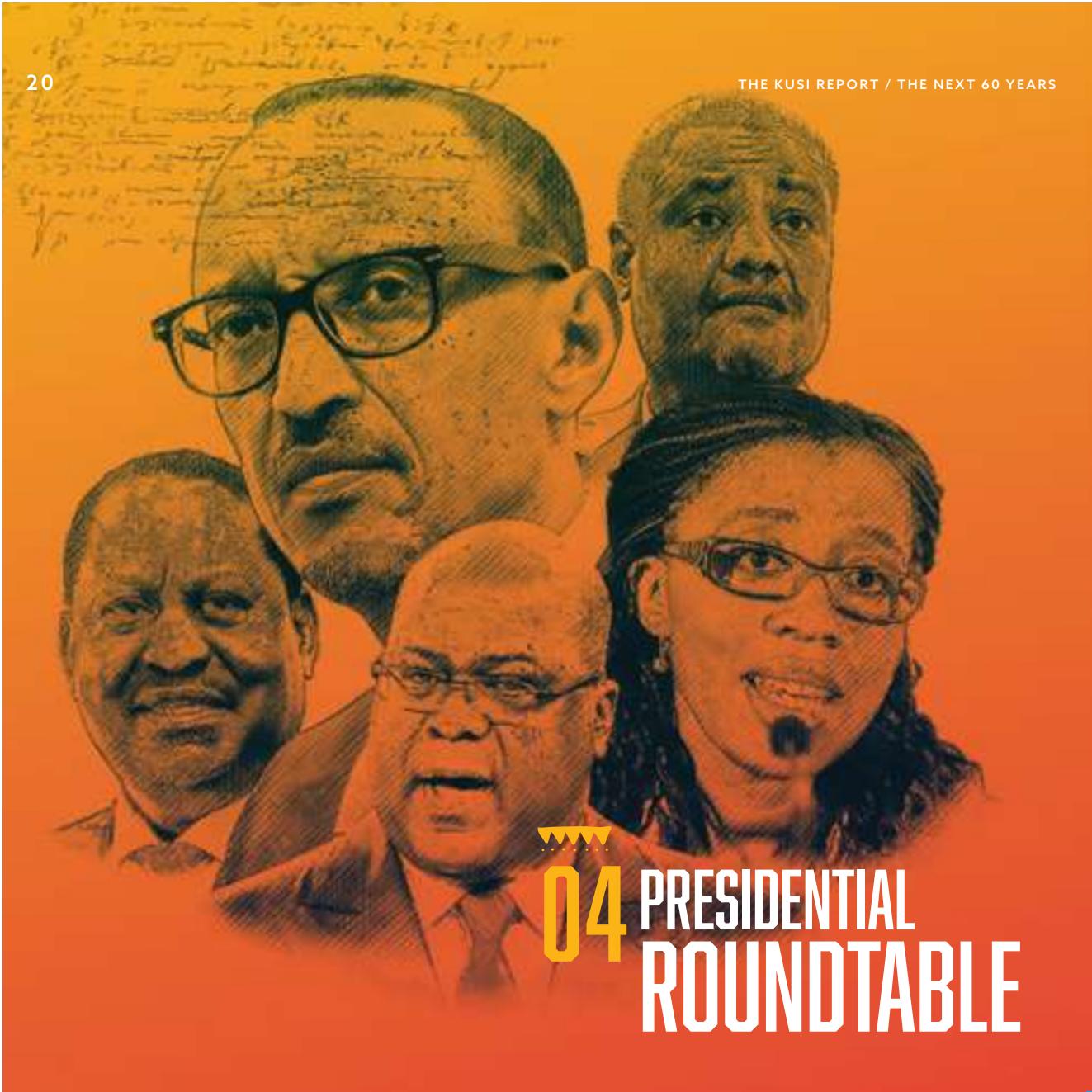
Sustaining the lake means sustaining the economies of the people who live around the lake, the majority of whom are rural farmers. It was a surprise to hear that the average age of a farmer in Africa is 35 years and not 60 as one might believe them to be.

"If he/she was 60 years old, no-one would have food to eat! Just because farmers in Africa look old doesn't mean they are old," said Dr. Agnes Kalibata, president of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA). "In order for young people to see a future in farming we have to invest heavily in the agricultural sector." On this front, Rwanda is an exemplar in promoting food security.

"The number of people who are food insecure in Rwanda has reduced from 55% to 21% in just three years, in a country where the average land holding is less than 0.3ha. The knowledge is out there - we just need the political will," said Kalibata.

"In fact, Thailand exports more food than the entire continent of Africa. Africa's food insecurity is purely a factor of political inaction," she said.

No discussion on the Blue Economy would be complete without reference to conflict, which, according to panelist Bintu Zahara Zakor, has reduced in Africa and can best be preserved by communities taking ownership of conflict prevention and mediation methods, protecting its resources and amplifying the voices of African women. Zakor is a researcher and data analyst, at the Peace Research Institute Oslo.



04

PRESIDENTIAL
ROUNDTABLE



AFRICAN
POPULATION IN
THE WORLD **30%**

DATA DIVE

Thirty percent of the world's population will be African by 2079. This represents a huge labour pool for the world, as well as an opportunity to feed the world. It will be a huge consumer market as the rest of the world declines – already, more children are born in Nigeria per year than in the whole of western Europe combined.

Speakers:

- > President Paul Kagame
- > President Felix Tshisekedi
- > Raila Odinga
- > Vera Songwe
- > Moussa Faki
- > Nathalie Munyampenda (moderator)

Imagine a bag of Kenyan coffee that must get to Bangui, Central African Republic, to be served with a fresh croissant for breakfast. There is only one country between Kenya and the Central African Republic [that is, South Sudan], yet to export coffee from Kenya to CAR you have to put it on a ship that must sail around the Cape of Good Hope and land in the port of Krigi, Cameroon. Before you get there, the French would have long arrived with Nescafé, made from coffee they don't produce," said Raila Odinga, the African Union's Special Envoy for Infrastructure, and former prime minister of Kenya.

Africa has a serious infrastructure problem, but there are nine transcontinental highways that have been identified as high priority for Africa, the Festival heard, which are:

Tripoli > Cape Town 9,610km	Cairo > Cape Town 8,860km	Cairo > Dakar 8,636km
Lagos > Mombasa 6,260km	Dakar > Lagos 4,760km	Algiers > Lagos 4,504km
Djibouti > N'djamena 4,220km	Dakar > N'djamena 4,500km	Beira > Lobito 3,520km

President Felix Tshisekedi of the Democratic Republic of Congo turned the room's attention to the sleeping giant that is the DRC, which is now awakening. The Inga Dam is now a priority not just for the DRC, but for all of Africa. It has a hydropower potential of 110,000MW, yet the DRC's domestic demand is 20,000MW at the most.

"Inga coming on board will allow Africa to tap into its own hydropower potential and bring down the cost of power," said President Tshisekedi. "Congo is in the middle of Africa, and people never thought it would be possible to connect north, south, east and west through the Congo. But now, it is possible. Congo can be that beating heart of Africa, a marketplace that connects the whole continent."



OVERHEARD AT KUSI

“We need to mobilise and work in unity and cohesion; we need to believe in what we’re trying to achieve and I believe projects such as AfCFTA can radically change the trend in Africa.”

~ *Moussa Faki Mahamat*

Ideas rule the world

“It’s a tragic irony that Africa is the richest continent in terms of natural resources but the poorest in terms of living standards. It is time we changed this narrative, and added value to the things we produce. We should be exporting steel instead of iron ore, copper cables instead of copper ore, and aluminium finished goods instead of bauxite,” said Odinga.

Vera Songwe, executive secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), spoke powerfully to the value of ideas.

“Africa’s share of global trade is just 3%. This means that Africa’s share of ideas to the world is just 3%,” said Songwe. “The same goes for intra-African trade, which is just 12%. This represents how much we assign value to the ideas of other Africans – 12%. When we don’t buy from each other it means we don’t value each other’s ideas.”

The US is the marketplace for ideas, and has recently posted 110 months of zero unemployment. This reflects ideas that have worked for 110 consecutive months. “I believe in 60 years this will be the norm for Africa,” she said.

Leadership is key

“Leadership can only be effective and deliver inclusive growth when it is accountable, and collaborative with citizens. Leaders must rally people around a common cause, sell the vision to them, and take the lead in actualising the people’s ideas, dreams and vision. Some of what Rwanda has achieved may have perhaps been by luck, but luck seems to favour those who are already trying something,” said President Kagame of Rwanda.



Faki

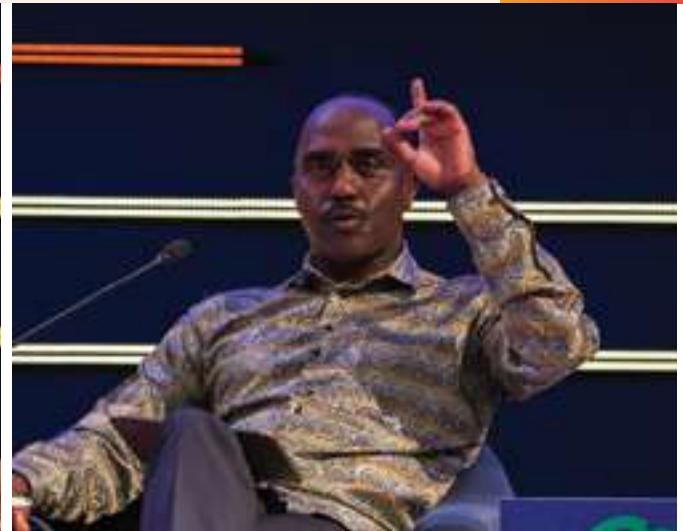




05 A BORDERLESS AFRICA



Kituyi



Gitahi

“TO COMPETE IN THIS NEW REALITY, AFRICA MUST CREATE DIGITECHNICS (DIGITAL TECHNICAL SCHOOLS) AS WELL AS INVEST HEAVILY IN R&D, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION, AND THE CREATIVE ARTS.”

Linus Gitahi

Speakers:

- > Claire Akamanzi
- > Linus Gitahi
- > Mukhisa Kituyi
- > Samuel Rutinu
- > Nozipho Mbanjwa (moderator)

Rwanda, on embodying the borderless reality

Two themes that ran through almost every discussion at the Festival were about young people and African integration. This excitement was high when panelists came together to look at what a borderless Africa could mean for the continent over the next 60 years. Setting the tone was CEO of Rwanda Development Board, Clare Akamanzi, who used her country as an example of the kind of gains that a borderless Africa could result in.

“For the past five years, Rwanda has had a visa-free/ visa-on-arrival policy. There were fears that this would lead to an increase in crime, or terror. This hasn’t happened, and there is no reason for African countries to fear opening up their borders,” said Akamanzi. Rwanda has also actively attracted elite universities to set up in the country, including Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), the African Leadership University (ALU) and the African Institute for Math and Sciences (AIMS).

“Rwanda as a small country has offered itself as a laboratory for Africa where innovators can test their ideas for proof of concept. For example, the country welcomed Zipline drones to test their concept in Africa. It worked, and now Zipline is transporting blood and other medical supplies by drone in Ghana and elsewhere.”



Akamanzi



Rutinu

Creating industries of the future

Several Asian Tigers developed by taking up certain labour-intensive sections of global supply chains, and their advantage was cheap labour. However, this might not work for Africa because of advances in robotics and Artificial Intelligence. This is why cotton production is going back to the US, for example in Georgia and Texas – robots are doing the work.

To compete in this new reality, Africa must create digitechnics (digital technical schools) as well as invest heavily in R&D, intellectual property protection, and the creative arts, said Linus Gitahi, board member of Msingi East Africa and a former CEO of Nation Media Group.

“Right now, there are many innovation hubs around the continent, but they are still quite niche. To go to the next level they must become mainstream. No one knows for sure the jobs of the future, but we can get prepared for it,” he said.

Will the future take us to a borderless Africa, or will a borderless Africa take us to the future? Perhaps neither – in some ways, the borderless Africa is already here.

Mukhisa Kituyi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD, highlighted this reality: “Almost 53% of migrant movements is intra-African; we should take advantage of this. Migrants are good as they bring new skills and human resources, we need to encourage that.”

For Kituyi, African millennials are keen on collaboration rather than competition. They overlook physical and analogue boundaries, therefore governments need to create policies that will allow them to move with ease across the continent.

Also on the panel was Samuel Rutinu, who shared his dream as a young African for a borderless continent. Rutinu challenged young people to change their mindsets and support local industries and local talent, over and above foreign brands.

DATA DIVE

Africa’s economy is a mere 3% of the global one, yet the continent carries 17% of the world’s population and 25% of the global burden of disease.

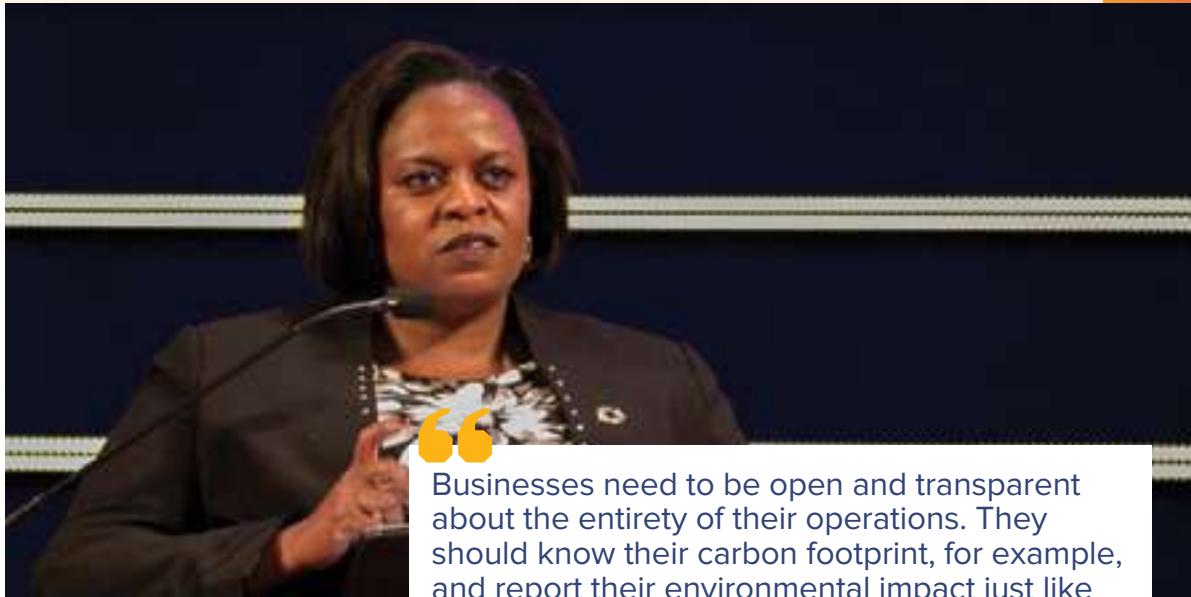


'AKDN in Africa' exhibition depicting 100 years of AKDN Contribution to Africa's development in various sectors



**06 ONE
ENVIRONMENT,
MANY
FUTURES**





“Businesses need to be open and transparent about the entirety of their operations. They should know their carbon footprint, for example, and report their environmental impact just like the way they do for profit and loss.”

Sanda Ojiambo

Speakers:

- > Sanda Ojiambo
- > Ikal Angelei
- > Francis Okomo-Okello
- > Maximilian Jarrett (moderator)

Finding different way of measuring business success

How can Africa harness its natural resources while respecting the environment? How do we decolonise climate change solutions? How do we look at nature and the environment as

a collective?

These were some of the questions that were explored during this session, and one of the ideas that came forth strongly was that businesses cannot succeed if the environment around them is failing.

“Businesses need to be open and transparent about the entirety of their operations. They should know their carbon footprint, for example, and report their environmental impact just like the way they do for profit and loss,” said Sanda Ojiambo.



**OVERHEARD
AT KUSI**

Contrary to the well-known African adage, it is not our children that are the future, it is the environment we leave for them that's the future

~ Francis Okomo-Okello



Okomo-Okello

It is a misconception that industrialisation is an enemy of environmental conservation, the Festival heard. The two don't have to be mutually exclusive – it can be a complementarian relationship. Businesses have an interest in conserving the environment because industry depends on the environment for raw materials.

“Economic growth has to be fair, inclusive and sustainable,” emphasized Ojiambo.

Decolonising the narrative

The ‘development world’ uses clichés and buzzwords on climate change, which creates a narrative that climate change is an elite concern, when in fact it isn't. Communities on the ground are living with the reality of climate change every day, therefore they actually know it intimately.

“Climate change solutions and conservation are not new; we've been

doing it for years, it's not about Prince Harry telling us what to do,” said Ikal Angelei, director of Friends of Lake Turkana.

Still, the topic of climate change is highly underrated in the minds of many urban Africans.

“Many African nations think that climate change is a foreign concept. It is not. The media needs to tell the stories of young people demanding change and for their voices to be heard particularly on matters of climate change. We have to start including young people in the conversation and stop speaking for them,” said Francis Okomo-Okello, Chairman of TPS Eastern Africa PLC (Serena Group of hotels, resorts and lodges).

“Young people,” he suggested, “should also be challenged to use the creative arts to drive climate change messages and secure Africa's future.”

“Climate change is already exacerbating sub-Saharan Africa's food and nutrition security challenges, reducing both the quantity and quality of food. Without adaptation, Africa will suffer particularly severe yield declines by 2030, including in important maize growing areas such as southern Africa.

With better soil management techniques and a greater push to minimise soil degradation and desertification, sub-Saharan Africa, with its 200 million hectares of usable but uncultivated land, has the potential to become the world's laboratory for soil-based carbon management and sequestration techniques.”

- Sarwat Hussain

DATA DIVE

With the exception of South Africa, Africa's energy system is stuck in the 19th century.

Between 75 and 97% of sub-Saharan Africa's population depends on biomass in the form of wood, charcoal, and animal residue to meet their basic energy needs.



On the cost of industrialisation

The Kusi Ideas Festival had a lot of talk about sustainable growth, but sustainable for whom?

“What communities get out of industrialisation is so skewed – the vast chunk of benefits goes to the industries and not to local communities,” said Angelei. “There is a renewed push for Inga Dam, even here at Kusi. But the communities around Inga live in deplorable conditions that we don’t want

to talk about.”

Infrastructure must be relevant to our context, the Festival heard; Africa needs to build infrastructure that has meaning for us, not copying bridges and tunnels from westerners.

“We need to support the poor, especially women, who are facing challenges getting fuel and managing waste. We must centre the concerns not only of big business or cartel economies, but of informal regional supply chains,” said Ojiambo.



07

MEDIA AND THE GREAT DEMOCRACY RACE





Munyeshuli



Monare

Speakers:

- > Mutuma Mathiu
- > Moshoeshoe Monare
- > Aggrey Oriwo
- > Fatma Karume
- > Jeanine Munyeshuli
- > Louise Kanyonga (moderator)

Soon to disappear?

The media in Africa has undergone great upheaval in the past six decades, going from agitating for independence, working closely with government for the purpose of ‘nation-building’, pressing for multiparty democracy and governance reform, and even being government mouthpieces. In some African countries, the same media house has, at different times, fallen in all these categories.

But as media houses grapple with the digital age and work to find viable business models – with variable success – the possibility of traditional media disappearing entirely in the next 60 years is not altogether farfetched.

“Traditional media still thinks it has a few more decades to survive. But audiences are

not going to depend on the media for news; our grandchildren will not understand why the world relies on a journalist to tell them what’s happening in the world,” said Moshoeshoe Monare, of Times Media Group.

Social media has democratised media, the Festival heard. It is no longer an editor sitting down giving people information one-way – it is now two way communication. In the past, if you wanted to react to a story or communicate to the editor, you had to write a letter, go to the post office and buy a stamp – a highly inconvenient process. But today, a tweet is three seconds away.

“We have to relook at our regulatory frameworks, laws and codes of ethics because the audience will be expressing themselves and not waiting on the media to mediate,” said Monare.

Here to stay, but not in it’s current form

Throughout history, people have always thought that new technology would not co-exist with old ones, but this hasn’t been the case. Radio did not replace newspapers, and

“
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on a journalist to
tell them what’s
happening in
the world.”

Moshoeshoe Monare



TV did not replace radio. Pundits have predicted the death of radio before, the death of magazines and the death of newspapers on more than one occasion but on every occasion, they have adapted and come back.

“What’s different about the digital age is the ubiquity and low cost of technology,” said Mutuma Mathiu, Editorial Director of Nation Media Group. “Consumption by appointment is a thing of the past. In the next 60 years, the Internet of Things [IoT] will make it possible to have personalised news, a constant info stream, and computer-generated and algorithm-driven news. It means that adaptation alone may not be enough,” he said.

A collaborative yet perilous enterprise

Journalism as an organised activity in truth-seeking, fact-checking, and storytelling is becoming better



Oriwo



Mathiu

OVERHEARD AT KUSI

Enlightenment philosophers did not consider Africans fully human, and this resulted in scientific racism and justified colonialism, slavery and subjugation. Still, just because they thought that doesn't mean that we discard their ideas in their entirety. We are human, and we must find a way to exist with dignity outside of this framework.

~ Jeanine Munyeshuli in conversation with Fatma Karume

because of converged technologies, Mathiu asserted.

"Social media cannot really play the role of the media in its entirety. Social media is good at mobilising but traditional media has rigour and structure to produce an informed citizen."

In the future, news has to be a collaborative enterprise between newsrooms and audiences, the Festival heard. There has to be transparency, in which media professionals bring the audiences into the newsroom, for example, for them to see how the news gathering and production process work. Still, there are perils. Does democratisation of ideas mean that every view is valid?

"People's points of view are important, at least give them the opportunity to express themselves, then you can decide if you want to consume it or not. How can you tell that an idea is not worth your time if you don't sit and listen to it?" posed Fatma Karume.

On his part, Mathiu raised the red flag that social media has been weaponised to rig elections. "Fake news is a major concern for us in the newsrooms and we have put in place measures to ensure that we don't fall for it."

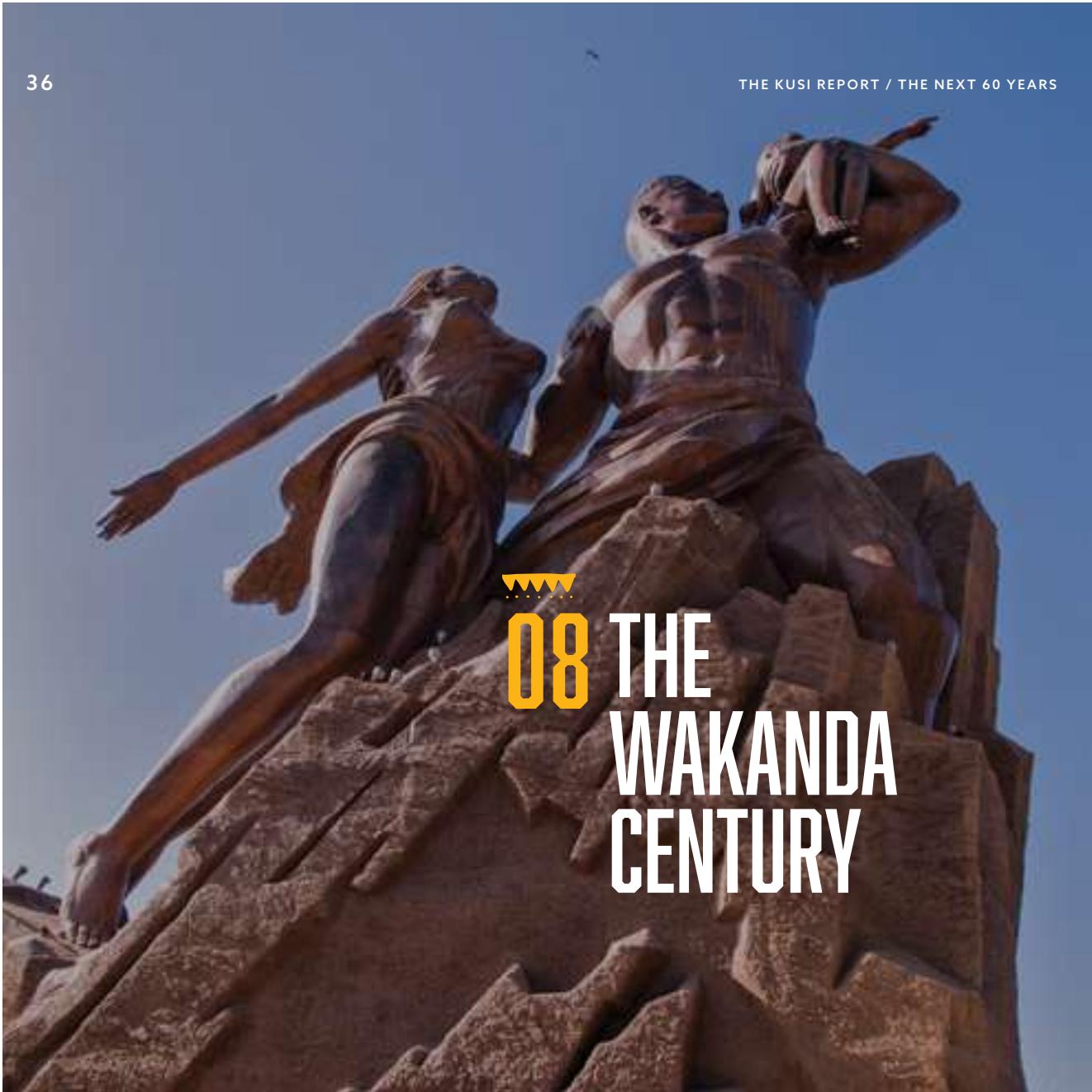
The connected generation

Millennials and especially the generation after them have been born in connectivity. You can't use traditional audience segmentation methods to reach them, because for this generation, media consumption is all about personalization. "They are very well connected internationally and they understand global brands, highlighted Aggrey Oriwo. "To reach them, we must talk to them in a language they can understand, which we could call Africanese. It would be a version of pidgin as in Amos Tutuola's *The Palm Wine Drinkard* – their every day, heterogenous version of Englishes, Frenches and local languages."



08

THE WAKANDA CENTURY





“

In the next 60 years, we would have entered the realm of the ancestors. At that time, African stories will be told by people living a different life from ours.”

Joy Mboya

Speakers:

- > Isaac Oboth
- > Joy Mboya
- > Sheila Ochugbojo
- > Clementine Dusabijambo
- > Diana Mpyisi (moderator)

Not just entertainment

There's a stereotype of the culture panel being parked at the end of the programme in conferences, as a kind of entertainment, or relief at the end of a long day – and Kusi was guilty of this by putting this panel at the end of the two-day programme.

So it was with great vigour that this panel insisted that culture must be **at the centre** of any discussion about transformation, and Africa must think about leveraging the richness of African culture as our way of cultivating soft power.

“This is already happening in some ways,” asserted Joy Mboya, before outlining the cultural revival of pan-Africanism and the black diaspora at the moment.

“Ghana declared 2019 the Year of Return. The idea that the West drives narratives around what art represents is being challenged. The work that we do as African artists is coming into the radar. We're seeing African stars like Chimamanda Ngozi, Burna Boy, Wizkid, Wangechi Mutu, and Lupita Nyong'o get global recognition. There's also the push to return African artefacts; Africans are reclaiming and rediscussing that past.”



From Left: Oboth, Dusabijambo, Mboya, Ochugbojo

In the next 60 years, filmmaker Clementine Dusabijambo said Africans would be “reclaiming and living their own narrative.”

A conscious search

In a dazzling and energetic presentation at the beginning of this panel, Isaac Oboth outlined his vision of the 60 years.

“Africans will be unapologetic about who they are; they will embrace their culture, customs and traditions. Kente, shweshwe and kitenge will be the universal standard for what is cool,” said Oboth. “The future will be about our beauty, resilience, enterprise, ingenuity and excellence,” he said, to hearty applause.

Flashing back to 50 years ago, a conference in Algiers declared that culture should be a conscious search for the people’s consciousness — informed, educated, mobilised and responsible. It is time to implement that vision, the Festival heard.

“In the next 60 years, we would have entered the realm of the ancestors. At that time, African stories will be told by people living a different life from ours. We therefore need to preserve our culture for posterity,” said Mboya.

Touching on the concerns around why young Africans are leaving the continent and the importance of providing incentives to keep them at home in order for them to flourish, Sheila Ochugbojo said, “The opportunity and challenge we have now is to tell young people why we are building the Wakanda Continent and encourage them to be a part of.”

Open borders are crucial to this vision, said Ochugbojo: “Home in Africa should be anywhere that is open and welcoming. It should not be about geography, citizenship and borders.”

The barriers to making a living as an artist and creative have come down in the recent past, the Festival heard, including prices of equipment. However, just because something is African doesn’t



Oboth



OVERHEARD AT KUSI

**In the next 60 years Africa will no longer be synonymous with war, famine, and disease. But it will rather be known for beauty, enterprise, excellence, ingenuity and resilience
Ibambe!**

~ Isaac Oboth

mean it has to be sub-par.

"As an artist and practitioner you must learn the tools, build your skill, raise your profile and portfolio," emphasized Oboth.

Artists and mental health

The question of artists and their mental health was also touched on in this conversation, coming at a time with rising reports of depression and anxiety, especially among young people.

"The creative person is often highly strung and ultra-sensitive. When things don't go right they can react negatively, but also there are a number of other factors that can come into play," said Joy Mboya. "Many times the environment does not create conditions for the artist to thrive: one struggles with accessing capital, financial management and even enforcement on intellectual property rights."



We have all made Mother Africa proud

Stephen Gitagama

When we set out to create a festival of African ideas, the idea was to look into the future of our continent so that we can manage the likely attendant risks of its transformational journey and, accordingly, seize the opportunities along the path.

We have ended up with more than we hoped for - and dreamt of - because we were wading in uncharted waters.

We got goose bumps, hearing the many outside-the-box ideas about how to harness the great promise of Africa; the new roads that are possible; and just how large the body of ideas on making the continent work for its people, especially the youth, are. And we were rewarded with some very contrarian ideas; on feeding the continent's billions, on its debt, on how technology can reshape our prospects, and the nature of the challenge climate change poses, and on how culture can express the best things about us.

We learnt the meaning of fruitful partnership from the Rwanda government and its agencies' engagement with us on the conference, and relished the pan-East Africanness and pan-African experience.

We relished and treasured the voices and perspectives from around the continent, and commit that at the next Kusi Ideas Festival, we must bring and hear more of them.

We thank, in a special way, all our partners.

Ideas remain just that unless they are translated into action. As a media company, we will continue to spotlight these ideas and encourage you to do your part in ensuring that we do indeed live to see a "Wakanda century".

We appreciate the support of the Nation Media Group Board, and thank the technical team and crew that worked tirelessly and long in making this inaugural Kusi Ideas Festival happen.

Everyone who participated, and all those who put their hands and minds on Kusi, have been wonderful.

We have all made Mother Africa proud.

- Group CEO, Nation Media Group

KUSI MOONSHOTS | Policy Ideas Worth Trying



01

CITY FARMS

By 2080, six of the world's major cities will be in Africa, this means more people will be living in cities. City farms will be a reality, and if so, cities must be designed and prepared for urban agriculture – in whatever form it may exist in the future.

Countries could mandate tax breaks for city residents growing their own food



02

CHAKULA BOND

Food is central to our social life and relationships in Africa. In most families, there must always be food in the house in case a visitor passes by. Giving food away is centre of African philanthropy, which is typically not led by big donors but by ordinary households every day of the year.

The Chakula Bond will measure our giving and harness its power, to redirect it to those who need it the most



03

CRYOGENICS

Many of the older generation think they will not be alive in 60 years, and so the transformation agenda is not really theirs. But perhaps technology by then will allow us to live for up to 150 years. Perhaps we will exist as clones of current selves

Countries should have cryogenics policies especially for leaders who fail to fulfil their campaign promises



04

MARITIME CHAMA

A country that has a maritime presence can influence the transportation pillar of trade and get better prices for goods.

Landlocked countries can come together and in the style of 'chamas/ merry-go-rounds secure ships that would shore up their negotiating power in world markets



05

TRAVELLING ARTS FESTIVAL

Panelists desired a Kusi II festival that expresses the African reality in song, story and dance as well as in vernacular languages, which is in harmony with the environment, where youth are clearly an asset, and one that balances profit, capitalism and social good.

Multi-lateral arts collectives could institute a travelling workshop and whole year art festival in the vein of the Venice Biennale, showcasing the best of African visual arts

READOUTS from “Africa in 2079”, *The EastAfrican*



In Kenya] the confluence of mobile money and the internet of things (IoT) has meant that almost 1,000,000 homes are now solar-powered through the implementation of a pay-as-you-go model of retail, which is akin to hire purchase on steroids.

- *Kamau Gachigi* is Chief Executive Officer of Gearbox.
From “To catch up with 4IR, we need our own systems”, *Africa in 2079, The EastAfrican*.

If there is a word that best describes the past 60 years of African music, then it has to be “transformative”. Geographic and linguistic barriers have been shattered and African musicians are today listed among the world’s biggest stars.

- *Billy Odidi*, East African music critic.
From “Artistes of yore launched unique traditional sounds fused with modern beats”.



Today, 1.2 billion people reside in Africa, a figure set to quadruple by the end of the century. That will be nearly 5 billion mouths to feed; a monumental figure, but one that doesn’t frighten me.

This is why: in 1957, the population of Africa was 250 million, less than a quarter of what it is today, and if our fathers were able to cope with that scale of growth, then I am convinced that we can too.

An incredible rise in education and technological opportunities means we have the necessary resources and are now the most educated generation in history.

- *Strive Masiyiwa*, Founder and Chairman of Econet Wireless and Former Chairman of the Board of AGRA.
From “Farming by choice: This is what will drive food security and prosperity”



As Africa projects 60 years into the future, it must embrace the fact that its industries will be grappling with a radically different reality whose shape is simply not known. What matters is whether we can create competitive, inclusive, and resilient industries where there are opportunities, knowing we have to go beyond being observers of trends and be active builders.

- *Diana Mulili*, interim Chief Executive Officer of Msingi East Africa
From “There is great potential in production and consumption”



The concept of “brain drain” is an oxymoron. The economic incentive for people not to depart is not possible because many African countries have constitutions that permit dual citizenship and this means that when domestic policy and political conditions are not ideal, then professionals will depart.

The solution to Africa’s ability to keep its most productive people in the continent is both economic and political. If it fails in both, then African countries will have to be content with the remittances from professionals who left, and this is the dividend of the brain drain. Brain drain is not a problem, but development is.

- *Kwame Owino* is the Chief Executive Officer of the Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA), and *Leo Kemboi* is an economist at IEA. From “Brain drain? Just give them incentives to stay.”



In May 2019, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) came into effect, creating the world’s largest free trade area.

The African Union’s Agenda 2063 serves as a blueprint for transforming Africa into a global powerhouse of the future. More importantly, it signals the political will for a pan-African drive for unity, self-determination, freedom, and collective prosperity.

So, what could stand in the way of achieving this aspirational African renaissance? Two words: climate change.

- *Sarwat Hussain* is Senior Advisor, African Media Initiative. From “Climate change is a real threat to our growth agenda and must be defeated.”



Let us not forget, the 21st century presents a world of limits. Our energy investments must now factor in not just the needs of a growing population, but also climate instability, decreasing biodiversity, less water, and more pollution.

Africa must invest in building a new, low-carbon model of modernity. We must leapfrog from the 20th century energy system directly into a more sustainable future, with an energy mix heavily sourced from renewables, both small and large-scale, both decentralised and centralised.

- *Amayo Passy*, Programme Officer leading the Sustainable Energy Futures Programme at the Society for International Development (SID). From “New model will power growth, transformation.”

READOUTS from “Africa in 2079”, *The EastAfrican*



Is Africa a continent or a country?” Eki went to the streets of Brisbane, Australia, to ask. He and his friends from other countries in the continent were surprised to find that most of the respondents thought Africa was a country.

Whether ignorance or misinformation, this speaks volumes about what other people around the globe think about us. They see Africa as one market. Many times, you will hear the international media talk about “Africa” while in fact they mean a particular country in the continent. Why then can’t we turn this negative African narrative into a beautiful story of oneness?

- *Rutinu Samuel*, Nairobi-based freelance content writer and digital marketer, author, and enthusiast of African conversations. From “Yes, let us turn this negative narrative into a beautiful story of our solidarity.”



In Africa, average life expectancy was around 30 years, rising to 40 years by 1960. In Kenya specifically, one was expected to live about 47 years around 1960.

It’s 2019, life expectancy in Africa is about 64 years, and 67 years in Kenya. On average, Africa has added about 1.1 years every three years to life expectancy, and Kenya 1.2 years, accounting for the scourge of the 1980s and 1990s.

If I were to do back-of-the-envelope calculations using these rough figures, I would say the life expectancy of a person born in Africa’s in the year 2079 will be 83 years while that of a person born in Kenya will be 90 years.

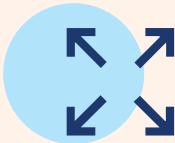
- *Dr Githinji Gitahi* is the group Chief Executive Officer of Amref Health Africa and Co-chairman of UHC2030. From “Technology is sure to turn the tide on our health woes.”



The signing of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) in January 2018, and its ratification, is an important development milestone for the continent.

It has taken Africa almost 30 years since the signing of the Abuja Treaty in 1991 to reach this stage. But the continent cannot afford to wait another 30 years to translate AfCFTA and the potential it holds into reality. The time to capitalise on this potential for Africa’s youth to benefit from this \$2.5 trillion promise is now.

- *Dr Mukhisa Kituyi* is the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. From “Borderless continent, that is where the future lies.”



We are now in 2039, and the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is an ordinary reality. This is how the long-dreamed-of “borderless Africa” looks like:

I have just come back from visiting my son and his family in Guinea. It was a relatively easy trip to Conakry from Dar es Salaam. I flew from Dar to Yaoundé, and then onwards to Conakry. Guess how many times I had to show my passport? None!

At each boarding gate, I'd simply swipe my national identity card and was allowed access to the flight. When I landed in Conakry, no one asked me where I was coming from or what my business was in Guinea. I simply collected my luggage and walked out of the restricted area to meet my welcoming party.

- *Arthur Muliro* is the Deputy Managing Director of the Society for International Development working out of Rome and Nairobi. He is a futurist thinker. -From “We'll be truly united when all colonial borders cease to exist.”



During the next 80 years, we will increase in number from 1.3 billion to an eye-watering 4.3 billion souls. In 2100, every second baby born on the planet is African.

Between 2020 and 2050, Africa's infrastructure buildout is impressively integrationist. The Addis Ababa-Lagos high-speed rail, operational from 2035, connects the largest cities in two of the most populous countries.

In 2050, the Grand Inga Dam is commissioned to become the largest in the world.

A team of young Kenyan and Tanzanian coders teach autonomous vehicles' AI systems how to “see” and avoid running into dark-skinned people with 100% accuracy.

From 2035, China's xG standards are used by over two billion Africans and are the de facto global standard for hyper-fast digital connectivity.

- *Aidan Eyakuze*, is a Tanzanian Economist, Scenario Maker, and Executive Director of Twaweza East Africa. From “Africa in 2079 is unrecognisable - it is digitally connected and is helping to set global standards.”



AFRICA IN 2079

Appreciation to Kusi Ideas Festival Speakers

Name	Title
H.E. Paul Kagame	President of the Republic of Rwanda
H.E. Félix Tshisekedi	President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo
H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat	Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
H.E. Rt. Hon Raila Odinga	High Representative for Infrastructure Development in Africa, African Union; Former Prime Minister, Republic of Kenya
Prof Anyang' Nyong'o	Governor, County Government of Kisumu, Kenya
Bintu Sarah Zakor	Researcher, The Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)
Catherine Kyobutungi	Executive Director, Africa Population & Health Research Centre
Clare Akamanzi	Chief Executive Officer, Rwanda Development Board
Clementine Dusabijambo	Film Maker
Diana Mpyisi	Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Blue Oceans
Dr. Agnes Kalibata	President, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)
Dr. Carlos Lopes	Former Executive Secretary UNECA; Honorary Professor at Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance, Faculty of Commerce, University of Cape Town; Visiting Professor at Sciences Po, Paris, and Associate Fellow at Chatham House, London; 2017 Fellow at Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford.
Dr. Diane Karusisi	Chief Executive Officer, Bank of Kigali PLC
Dr. Donald Kaberuka	Chairman/Managing Partner at Southbridge Group Inc.; former President, African Development Bank
Dr. Fredros Okumu	Director of Science, Ifakara Health Institute, Tanzania
Dr. Kamau Gachigi	Chief Executive Officer, Gearbox , Kenya
Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi	Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Geneva, Switzerland

Name	Title
Dr. Sheila Ochugboju	Co-founder & Director, Africa Knows
Dr. Vera Songwe	Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Eric Chinje	Senior Director, Greystone Global Strategies; Senior Advisor, African Media Initiative
Fatma Karume	Senior Partner, IMMMA Advocates, Tanzania
Francis Okomo-Okello	Chairman, TPS Eastern Africa PLC (Serena Group of hotels, resorts and lodges); Director, Nation Media Group PLC
Graham Wood	Chief Executive Officer, Aga Khan Foundation
Ikal Angelei	Environmentalist and 2012 Goldman Prize Recipient
Isaac Oboth	Chief Executive Officer, Media256, Uganda
Jackie Asimwe	Chief Executive Officer, CivSource Africa
Jeanine Munyeshuli	Chief Operations Officer, SouthBridge, Rwanda
Joy Mboya	Chief Executive Officer, GoDown Arts Centre, Kenya
Linus Gitahi	Chairman, Msingi East Africa
Monare Moshoeshoe	Deputy Managing Director Arena Holding, and former MD, Times Media Group, S.A.
Muriithi Mutiga	Project Director, Horn of Africa, International Crisis Group
Mutuma Mathiu	Group Editorial Director, Nation Media Group PLC
Sanda Ojiambo	Head of Sustainable Business, Shared Value & Technology, Safaricom PLC, Kenya
Sarwat Hussain	International Development and Strategic Communications Specialist, formerly with the World Bank;
Sylvia Mulinge	Senior Advisor, African Media Initiative and African Media Leaders Forum Chief Customer Officer, Safaricom

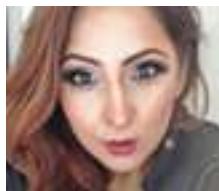
Kusi Ideas Festival Organizing Committee and Secretariat

Name	Title
Dr. Wilfred Kiboro	Chairman, Nation Media Group PLC
Dennis Aluanga	Director, Nation Media Group PLC
Wangethi Mwangi	Director, Nation Media Group PLC
Stephen Gitagama	Group CEO, Nation Media Group PLC
Richard Tobiko	Group Finance Director, Nation Media Group PLC
Mutuma Mathiu	Group Editorial Director, Nation Media Group PLC
Clifford Machoka	Head of Corporate & Regulatory Affairs, Nation Media Group PLC
James Sogoti	General Manager-Commercial, Nation Media Group PLC
Charles Onyango-Obbo	Kusi Consultant; Journalist, Former Editor of <i>Mail & Guardian Africa</i>
Washington Gikunju	Managing Editor, <i>The EastAfrican</i> , Nation Media Group PLC
Judy Njoroge	Group Financial Reporting Manager, Nation Media Group PLC
Kinya Gitonga	Corporate Affairs Manager, Nation Media Group PLC
Bernadette Namata	Branch Manager – Rwanda, Nation Media Group PLC
Mercelline Maroma	Production Manager, NTV, Nation Media Group PLC
Susan Nyamai	Communications Manager, Nation Media Group PLC

Rapporteurs



Christine Mungai



Samira Sawlani

Moderators



Maximilian Jarrett



Nozipho Mbanjwa



Nathalie Munyampenda



Diana Mpyisi



Murithi Mutiga



Louise Kanyonga

09 ABOUT NATION
MEDIA GROUP



Nation Media Group
Media of Africa for Africa



True & Timeless

Nation Media Group's dream began 60 years ago when the world and indeed Africa was going through a great transition. From the challenges of the cold war to independence across the continent, the wind of change was blowing across the world. It was during this time of political turbulence, struggle for independence and Pan-Africanism that the Nation was born, on March 20, 1960.

In marking our 60th anniversary this year, the Nation Media Group (NMG) has much to be proud of. From a small newspaper company, with only one title, Taifa, a Swahili publication, we have grown to become the largest multi-media house in East and Central Africa with operations in print, broadcast and digital media all of which attract and serve unparalleled audiences across the continent and the world.

NMG was founded by His Highness the Aga Khan on the bedrock of a set of core values whose central theme was to promote independent voices, diversity and freedom of expression as enshrined in our editorial policy. Another critical element in these values - and the purpose for our establishment - was, and continues to be, a mission to be a trusted partner of African democracies, a champion of the ordinary person, a supportive voice for the rule of law and respect for human rights, and a strong advocate of free market economies. This mission has remained unchanged over the years. As we seek to positively influence society, we shall continue to be guided and to stand by the values of truth, independence, fairness, balance and accuracy.

We remain steadfast in the conviction of our

goal to fundamentally improve the quality of people's lives and to contribute to a sustainable world through our business. We will stay at the forefront, identifying and resolving the many issues critical to social transformation such as education, the environment and health. We will work with our stakeholders, customers, shareholders, supporters and the communities we serve to pursue a win-win growth strategy by going further together.

NMG's pursuit of its stated goals is driven by its deep conviction that ideas are central to human development. This was the essential purpose of predicating our anniversary celebrations on the Kusi Ideas Festival. As a company, we endeavor to deliver good quality journalism - as we have demonstrated over the past 60 years. This has indeed served as the foundation of our philosophy of serving the continent as we position ourselves as the Media of Africa for Africa.

Our celebration today becomes more meaningful as we continue to play our role as an agent of social change.

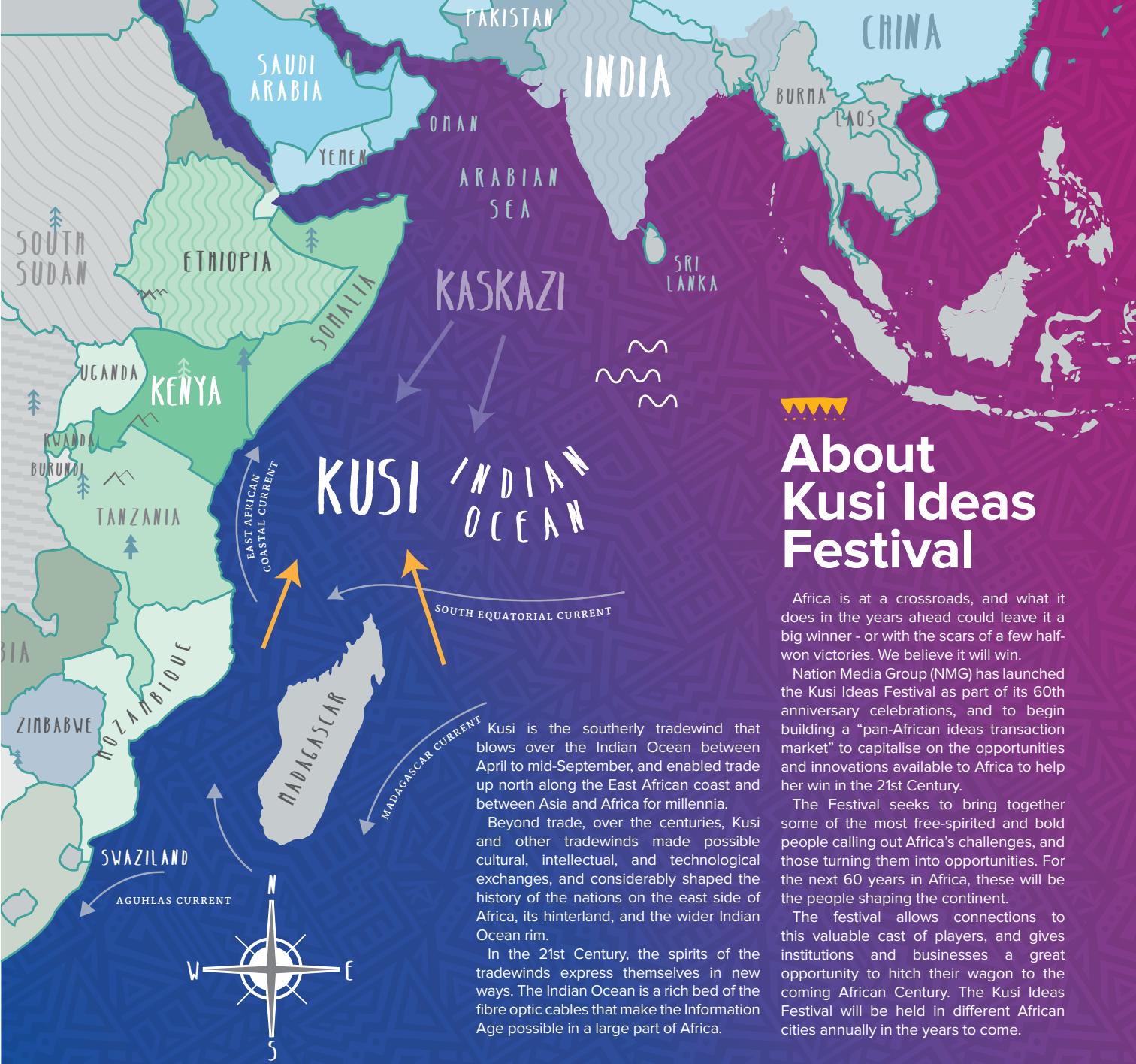
Thank you for joining us for the inaugural Kusi Ideas Festival.

Thank you to our partners



AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK





About Kusi Ideas Festival

Africa is at a crossroads, and what it does in the years ahead could leave it a big winner - or with the scars of a few half-won victories. We believe it will win.

Nation Media Group (NMG) has launched the Kusi Ideas Festival as part of its 60th anniversary celebrations, and to begin building a "pan-African ideas transaction market" to capitalise on the opportunities and innovations available to Africa to help her win in the 21st Century.

The Festival seeks to bring together some of the most free-spirited and bold people calling out Africa's challenges, and those turning them into opportunities. For the next 60 years in Africa, these will be the people shaping the continent.

The festival allows connections to this valuable cast of players, and gives institutions and businesses a great opportunity to hitch their wagon to the coming African Century. The Kusi Ideas Festival will be held in different African cities annually in the years to come.

Kusi is the southerly tradewind that blows over the Indian Ocean between April to mid-September, and enabled trade up north along the East African coast and between Asia and Africa for millennia.

Beyond trade, over the centuries, Kusi and other tradewinds made possible cultural, intellectual, and technological exchanges, and considerably shaped the history of the nations on the east side of Africa, its hinterland, and the wider Indian Ocean rim.

In the 21st Century, the spirits of the tradewinds express themselves in new ways. The Indian Ocean is a rich bed of the fibre optic cables that make the Information Age possible in a large part of Africa.

