

Global AI Summit on Africa

📍 Kigali, Rwanda
3-4 April 2025

Home to the largest and fastest-growing workforce in the world, Africa is poised to play a consequential role in the global AI ecosystem. Maximising AI's tremendous benefits and mitigating its inherent risks will require multi-stakeholder engagement and inclusive dialogue.

In this context, the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Rwanda, in collaboration with the World Economic Forum, will host the **Global AI Summit on Africa** from 3 to 4 April 2025 in Kigali, Rwanda.

Under the theme "AI and Africa's Demographic Dividend: Reimagining Economic Opportunities for Africa's Workforce," the summit seeks to underscore the urgency to leverage AI to bolster Africa's growing workforce and advance Africa's leadership in the age of AI.

Fostering Connections between Africa and the Global AI Agenda

The two-day summit will convene thought leaders from various stakeholder groups to:

- Explore distinct opportunities for Africa to gain a competitive advantage
- Surface insights on how to best leverage global partnerships to mobilise investment in Africa's AI capabilities
- Identify the infrastructural and institutional challenges to accelerate access to opportunities and scale innovation
- Discern which governance approaches are most appropriate to address safety, inclusion, and innovation

The Programme

👁️ **The official programme will start with an opening plenary on 3 April featuring a presidential panel and close with a farewell reception on 4 April.**

The Summit will focus on how AI can be harnessed to create inclusive economic opportunities, foster innovation, and enhance the skills of Africa's workforce. The programme is formed around 7 thematic areas to guide dialogue and collaboration:

- **People:** Jobs, Skills, and Talent Mobility in the Global AI Economy
- **Infrastructure:** Barriers to Adoption and Building Blocks for the Future
- **Data:** A Strategic Imperative for Adoption, Equity, and Sovereignty
- **AI Models:** Gaps and Opportunities for Inclusive Development—Language, Culture, and Context
- **AI Applications:** Equitable and Human-Centric Use Cases to Transform Industries, Economies, and Societies
- **Entrepreneurship:** Bolstering Ecosystems of Talent, Knowledge, and Capital to Scale Innovation-Driven Enterprises
- **Governance:** Building Trust and Citizen Protection to Foster Investment, Innovation, and Development

Participants

1,000 leaders from the global AI ecosystem will convene in Kigali to advance an ambitious vision for Africa's leadership in the age of AI, including heads of state, ministers, industry titans, startups, investors, multi-lateral institutions, civil society, and academia.

Senior executives from the Forum's Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Network, the Artificial Intelligence Governance Alliance, and the Edison Alliance will also be among the participants at the summit.

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Participation is by invitation only.

About the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Rwanda

The Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Rwanda (C4IR Rwanda) helps stakeholders harness the full potential of technological progress to transform industries, economies, and societies in an equitable and human-centred manner.

As the future-oriented global platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue and cooperation, C4IR Rwanda explores exponential technologies and drives responsible adoption and application, leveraging a global network of 19 independent national and thematic centres.

Frequently Asked Questions

Where will the Summit take place?

The Summit will take place at the Kigali Convention Centre in Kigali, Rwanda.

What is the registration deadline?

The deadline for registration is Monday 3rd March 2025. We strongly recommend registering as early as possible due to limited capacity.

Where will I stay?

Participants are kindly asked to arrange their own travel and accommodation. A list of recommended hotels will be shared with registered participants.

Do I need a visa?

Citizens of all countries are allowed to get visas upon arrival without prior application. Citizens of the African Union, Commonwealth, and La Francophonie can get free visas upon arrival in Rwanda for a 30-day visit. Citizens of East African Community Member States can receive a visa free of charge upon arrival for a six-month stay in Rwanda.

Visitors from the following countries can be granted 90-day visas at no cost upon arrival in Rwanda: Angola, Benin, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, The Federation of Saint Christopher and Nevis, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Haiti, Mauritius, Philippines, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sao Tome and Principe, Singapore, and the State of Qatar.

Citizens of countries that are not visa-exempt can apply online or at the nearest Rwanda embassy or consulate before departure. Those applying online can pay online or upon arrival.

The visa fees are \$50 USD for single entry visa or \$70 USD for multiple entry.

Registration

Please register using the link in the email invitation you received. If you have any questions or need additional information, contact gaisafrica25@c4ir.rw

The registration desk for badge collection will be located at the Kigali Convention Centre.

Opening hours:

02 April 2025: 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM

03 April 2025: 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM

04 April 2025: 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM