



تحت الرعاية السامية لصاحب الجلالة الملك محمد السادس

Under the High Patronage of His Majesty, The King Mohammed VI



Artificial Intelligence, Digital Transition,

Energy and Connectivity in Africa

Prospects for International Cooperation

In partnership with



CAFRAD

ORGANIZES WITH

**The Ministry of Digital Transition  
and Administrative Reform**

THE 1ST EDITION OF THE  
**INTERNATIONAL FORUM**

Artificial Intelligence, Digital Transition, Energy and Connectivity  
in Africa

**Prospects for International Cooperation**

RABAT: MAY 11 TO 13, 2026

المملكة المغربية  
ROYAUME DU MAROC



رئيس الحكومة  
CHEF DU GOUVERNEMENT

وزارة الانتقال الرقمي وإصلاح الإدارة  
Ministère de la Transition Numérique et de la Réforme de l'Administration

## International Forum

### Artificial Intelligence, Digital Transition, Energy and Connectivity in Africa - Prospects for International Cooperation

---



Africa is now led by a new generation of confident leaders. They are working towards stability, political openness, economic development, and social progress for their people.

His Majesty, The King Mohammed VI before the 28th African Union (AU) Summit in Addis Ababa

# Index

---

- Information.....4
- Introduction.....5
- Organizer.....6
- Organizer's Message.....7
- Organizing Committee of the Forum.....8
- Objectives.....9
- Topics & Panels / Day 1.....10
- Topics & Panels / Day 2.....11
- Expected Results.....12
- Partners in the Forum Proceedings.....13
- Participating Foreign Personalities.....14/15



# Informations

---

- International Forum
- Theme: Artificial Intelligence, Digital Transition, Energy, and Connectivity in Africa: Prospects for International Cooperation
- Organizer: African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (CAFRAD)
- Participants: Government Institutions, NGOs, Private Sector, Experts, Financial Institutions, International Private Groups Specializing in AI
- Location: Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco
- Date: MAY 11 TO 13, 2026 :

# Introduction

---

The world is undergoing rapid transformation driven by the digital revolution and the development of artificial intelligence technologies. These changes are reshaping the global economy as well as energy production and management methods. It is in this context that the Kingdom of Morocco is hosting a three-day international forum bringing together international experts, government officials, researchers, and economic stakeholders to examine the challenges of digital transition, artificial intelligence, energy, and connectivity in Africa, and to explore opportunities for international cooperation to support these transformations.

The organization of this forum comes at a time when the African continent is facing complex development challenges, while simultaneously having increasing opportunities to strengthen innovation, leverage renewable energies, and develop modern digital infrastructure. Thanks to its dynamism in the field of digitalization and its pioneering investments in clean energy, Morocco provides a strategic platform for exploring ways to strengthen regional and international cooperation in the digital and energy sectors.

Participants will examine the role of artificial intelligence in improving economic performance, optimizing services, and supporting decision-making. They will also address issues related to digital governance, data security, and human skills development. A significant portion of the forum will be dedicated to exploring the role of modern technologies in energy management, improving the efficiency of electricity grids, and promoting investment in renewable energy.

This forum presents a unique opportunity to strengthen dialogue and the exchange of experiences between African and international stakeholders, and to build partnerships capable of supporting a balanced and sustainable digital and energy transition aligned with Africa's development priorities.

# Organizer

---



H.E. Prof. Amal El Fallah Seghrouchni, Delegate Minister to the Head of Government in charge of Digital Transition and Administrative Reform, Chairperson of the Board of Directors of CAFRAD.



Dr. Coffi Dieudonné ASSOUVI,  
Director General of CAFRAD

The African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (CAFRAD) is a pan-African intergovernmental organization, established in 1964 by African governments with the support of UNESCO, making it the first pan-African training and research centre on the continent dedicated to improving public administration and governance systems in Africa. Its headquarters are located in Rabat, Morocco. CAFRAD currently has 38 member states.

CAFRAD's mission is to serve as a centre of excellence and support for the actions of governments and related organizations in capacity building and innovation in public administration to improve services to citizens.

The CAFRAD Governing Council is the supreme authority, empowered to ensure the control, supervision, and overall direction of the centre. It is composed of ministers of public service from the member states. The Governing Council meets in ordinary session once a year, and in extraordinary session as needed. It is chaired by the Minister Delegate to the Head of Government in charge of the Modernization of the Administration.

# Message from the Organizer,



Dr. Coffi Dieudonné ASSOUVI, Director General of CAFRAD

Digital technologies and artificial intelligence (AI) undoubtedly represent undeniable technological advances of the 21st century. They are revolutionizing our daily lives, our work methods, our consumption patterns, interpersonal relationships, and transforming organizations, both public and private. In reality, a new world is being built before our very eyes: a world of humans or connected objects? Augmenting human capabilities and intelligence to achieve unprecedented feats in all sectors of the economy, society, culture, and politics has become possible, but it also raises questions about human conscience and the ethics of artificial intelligence. While AI enhances human potential and offers numerous advantages and opportunities, it also carries many risks: the era of the exclusion of others, of indistinction, a fluid world, fluid love, hybrid warfare, cybercrime, energy consumption, the commodification of life, as well as the frantic race for technology and the development of digital skills and talents for which countries of the Global South are not yet prepared... UNESCO has made this a priority. On November 23, 2021, it published its Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence. In September 2024, the United Nations adopted the Global Compact for the Future, comprising 56 measures, to which the Global Digital Compact and the Declaration on Future Generations are annexed. Some states and international and regional organizations are establishing frameworks or reference documents for digital skills and AI.

However, the comprehensive, holistic, and human-centered approach to addressing these technological innovations still needs to be rethought and reinvented. It is essential to combine economic transformation, the digital, ecological, and energy transitions, as well as social inclusion and intragenerational and intergenerational equity.

To prevent the digital and technological divide between and within countries, CAFRAD, a pan-African intergovernmental organization, in line with the South-South Cooperation Vision of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, may God protect, preserve, and glorify him, is organizing an international forum in may 2026 entitled: "Artificial Intelligence, Digital Transition, Energy, and Connectivity in Africa: Prospects for International Cooperation."

The aim is to mobilize key decision-makers, experts, and researchers to develop a roadmap for Africa's future, "The Africa We Want," the African Union's Agenda 2063.

# Organizing Committee of the Forum

---



- **Coffi Dieudonné ASSOVI**  
Chair of the Organizing Committee  
Director General of CAFRAD



- **AZIZ Ben DOUKALI**  
Executive Director of the Forum  
Protocol Department



- **Dounia TAHIR**  
General Coordinator of the Forum  
Protocol Department



- **Najat YAHICH**  
Assistant to the Director General  
Coordinator of Operational Activities  
of CAFRAD



- **Abdelhadi MEZRARI**  
Forum Administrator  
Journalist, Author & International Relations  
Expert



- **Bai KENDRICK BLYDEN** Member of the  
CAFRAD International Outreach Support  
Group (GARIC)  
International Energy Consultant



- **Mustapha BAKHALEK** Member of the CAFRAD  
International Outreach Support Group  
(GARIC)  
CEO Incore – MOROCCO



- **Hasnaa EDDAALITI**  
Head of Administration and Finance of  
CAFRAD

# Goals

---

- Strengthen digital infrastructure in Africa.
- Support policies related to Artificial Intelligence.
- Invest in renewable energy.
- Support academic and scientific cooperation.
- Consolidate cybersecurity.
- Create regional innovation hubs.
- Fund startups.
- Strengthen international partnerships.
- Support the digitalization of public administration.
- Launch training programs for young people..

# Topics & Panels / First day

---

- Words of the official guests
- Digital Transformation in Africa – Realities and Challenges
- Artificial Intelligence for Development – Opportunities and Risks
- Africa at the heart of global digital and energy transformations
- Artificial intelligence in the service of the energy transition
- Legislative frameworks in the fields of energy and digitalization in Africa.

## Topics & Panels / Second day

---

- The African Digital Economy and its Industrial Prospects
- International Cooperation – Towards Effective Partnerships Between Africa and the World
- Pioneering National Experiences – Lessons Learned
- The Future of Work and Education in Africa in the Age of Artificial Intelligence
- A Common Roadmap for a Digital and Energy-Powered Africa

**The third day is dedicated to business networking sessions.**

# Expected results

---

- Official recommendations.
- Signing of agreements.
- Launch of projects.
- Strengthening of economic diplomacy.
- Final communiqué.

# Partners in the Forum Proceedings

---

- Ministry Delegate to the Head of Government in charge of Digital Transition and Administrative Reform.
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) UNESCO.
- ISESCO: World Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
- Embassies of African countries in Morocco.
- International private groups specializing in AI.

# International Personalities Participating in the Forum

---



**Dr. Mark Jack** Senior Data Scientist | Senior Machine Learning Engineer | Quantum Physicist | Faculty Member in Data Science, Machine Learning and AI at the Institute for Insight, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA



**Dr. Lonnie Johnson**

Founder & Chairman at Johnson Energy Storage, Inc.  
Inventor & Engineer, Founder of Johnson R&D



**Mr. Rob Stupay**

Developer Relations Lead, Soundboard / Remix Labs



**M. Sameer Hamoush,**

Consultant chez Centric Ltd.

# International Personalities Participating in the Forum

---



**Dr. Pathmanathan (Pat) Naidoo, Ph.D., Pr.Eng**

International HV Transmission Systems Eskom / African HVDC & HV Systems Expert



**Dr. Robin Podmore**

International Grid Operations Co-Founder, IEEE Smart Village; Founder, IncSys



**Dr. Bai K. Blyden**

International Energy Consultant

IEEE Life Ambassador / IEEE Smart Village / Founder and CEO BBRM Group, LLC



**Dr Brahim El Bhiri,**

Responsable de la Recherche et du Développement et Directeur du Centre CEIRA



**Dr Stella-Maris Orim,**

Coventry University School of Science - United Kingdom. AI Governance and Data Management

Dr. Stella-Maris Orim PhD SFHEA FCMI CMgr AIGP CIPT

# International Personalities Participating in the Forum

---



**Dr. Kalyan Sen** Elected IEEE SSIT President Elect 2025 – 2026 IEEE Technology and Society

Dr. Sen has a long and distinguished record of IEEE service. He has been an IEEE Power & Energy Society (PES)

Distinguished Lecturer since 2002



**Dr. Scott Kennedy** Renewable Energy Expert | CEO & Co-Founder at ClearSky Power | Research Manager at Massachusetts Institute of Technology Renewable Energy (MIT)



**Dr Alexander Jittu,**

senior Consultant at AIJ Engineering Consulting LLC – USA



**Mr Keith Moore,**

President and CEO of KDM & Associates, LLC - USA. / Business Development Government Affairs and Public relations firms – Founder of Open Government TV. (OGTV) - USA

# International Personalities Participating in the Forum

---



**Dr Tim Webb**

Founder at Green Power Ventures – Founder at Freedman Green Bank Trust.

Deal Advising, Structured Finance, Financial Engineering



**Dr Reginald Parker**

Founder and CEO Optimal Tech – Trustee & Chairman of the Board for Freedman Green Bank & Trust.



**Mr David Wei**

Chairman and CEO US Solargy PPA LLC.

# Academic Speakers

---

- Dr. Kais Hammami, Director of the Center for Foresight and Artificial Intelligence, Expert at ICESCO
- Dr. Houedey Calixte, PhD in Sociology and Anthropology, Benin
- Dr. Najib Kettani, Former Minister, Vice-President of Theisen International Partner Group and President for Africa of the Group
- Mrs. Zineb Theisen-Louah, President of Theisen International Partner Group
- Karim El-Assefry, Head of the Sustainable Energy Division, Ministry of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development
- Prof. Nicaise Mèdé, International Consultant, Benin
- Mrs. Hélène Guiol, Head of the Education Sector at UNESCO

**Under the High  
Patronage of His  
Majesty, The King  
Mohammed VI**

**CAFRAD  
ORGANIZES THE 1ST  
EDITION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL FORUM**

Sous le Haut Patronage de Sa Majesté le Roi Mohammed VI



**Forum International**  
**INTELLIGENCE ARTIFICIELLE,  
TRANSITION NUMÉRIQUE,  
ENERGIE ET CONNECTIVITÉ EN AFRIQUE**  
PERSPECTIVES DE COOPERATION INTERNATIONALE



Artificial Intelligence, Digital Transition,  
Energy and Connectivity in Africa  
Prospects for International Cooperation

INTELLIGENCE ARTIFICIELLE  
TRANSITION NUMÉRIQUE  
ENERGIE DURABLE  
CONNECTIVITÉ TECHNOLOGIQUE  
COOPERATION INTERNATIONALE

**11 - 13 MAI 2026**  
**RABAT**

EN PARTENARIAT AVEC



Ministère de la Transition  
Numérique et de la Réforme  
de l'Administration



**Artificial Intelligence,  
Digital Transition, Energy  
and Connectivity  
in Africa  
Prospects for International  
Cooperation**

**RABAT: MAY 11 TO 13, 2026**