

Agenda

Day 1: Monday, 20 April 2026			
Program Director: Prof Nkem Khumbah, Director, STI Policy and partnerships, AAS			
Time	Programme	Description	Speakers
10:00 - 10:50	Welcome and Opening Remarks	Africa in the Global Semiconductor Surge	• Dr. Stephen Mtwiwa, ED AAS • Ms. Marie Ottosson, Head of the Kenya Development Cooperation Section, Embassy of Sweden • Robert Sun, President, American Chinese CEO Society • Dr. Kaven Naidoo, Group Executive, Business Excellence and Integration. CSIR SA • Nardos Bekele-Thomas, CEO, AUDA NEPAD (Virtual)
10:50 - 11:00	Keynote Address	Global chip demand forecasts, and African market growth (mobile, IoT, automotive)	• Prof. Brando Okolo, Head of STI, AUDA-NEPAD

Agenda

11:00 –12:00	Panel 1: Financing Africa's Industrial Transformation: From Mineral Wealth to Semiconductor Markets	Africa holds the mineral endowment. What is missing is the integrated financial architecture to convert that wealth into manufactured value and continental market share. This panel makes the case for funding Africa's semiconductor-led industrialization as a single, coherent investment thesis — from critical mineral processing through chip design and fabrication to end-market deployment. Panellists will address how DFIs, Local capital and private capital co-invest across the full value chain, what AfCFTA integration unlocks in terms of market scale, and how early-stage investment in minerals and design creates the conditions for downstream manufacturing to follow.	• Prof. Brando Okolo, Head of STI, AUDA-NEPAD • Franklin Amoo, Co-Founder, Baylis Emerging Markets • Phillips Griffiths, Principal, TLcom, capital • Prof. John Ouma-Mugabe, Professor of Science and Innovation Policy, Graduate School of Technology Management (GSTM), University of Pretoria • Prof. Mmantsae Diale: Department of Physics, University of Pretoria. • Moderator: Dr. Happy Sithole, Centre Manager for the National Integrated Cyberinfrastructure Initiative (NICIS), CSIR
12:00 – 12:15	Tea Break		

Agenda

12:15 – 13:15	Panel 2: Chips for the Connected Continent — demand-side case for Local Semiconductor Manufacturing	The focus is on Africa's largest chip consumers — telecoms, automotive, data centres, IoT — and whether they can be converted into anchor customers for locally produced chips. This is the demand-pull argument: that Africa's consumption base, if organised through procurement commitments and policy signals, is large enough to justify local manufacturing at viable scale. The panel should answer three questions. What chip categories does Africa actually consume at scale today and what is the growth trajectory? What procurement commitments or offtake signals would anchor investors need to see from large African enterprises and governments? And what policy instruments — local content requirements, preferential procurement, tax incentives — accelerate the shift from import dependence to local supply?	• Prof. Lars Palm, Senior lecturer, The Swedish Chips Competence Centre (SCCC), The Faculty of Engineering at Lund University • Dr. Eng. Anthony Githinji, CEO, Semiconductor Technology Ltd (STL) • Ola Fadiran, Founder and CEO, ChipMango • Shehu Tijani, CEO of AMAL Technologies • Moderator: Mr Llanley Simpson Chief Director: Socio-Economic Partnerships, DSTI
13:15 – 14:15	Lunch and Networking		
14:15 - 14:40	Value Chain Mapping Presentation	Present a concise, evidence-based map of Africa's current semiconductor assets — mineral processing capacity by country, existing design houses and fabrication facilities, demand-side consumption data, and the critical gaps at each stage of the chain. This is the pre-competitive intelligence that every participant needs before any financing conversation can be productive.	NINA JOJER Africa
14:40 - 15:00	Closing Session:	Summary of the day, Commitments and Next Steps	• Mr. Lukovi Seke: Programm Officer, STI AUDA NEPAD • Palesa Kganane: Programme coordinator CSIR

Agenda

18:00 – 20:00	Gala Dinner for the delegates on AAS
---------------	---

Day 2, Tuesday 21 April 2026 <i>Policy & Partnerships for Impact</i>			
Prof Nkem Khumbah, Director, STI Policy and partnerships, AAS			
Time	Programme	Description	Speaker(s)
10:00 - 10:10	Welcome	Overview or Recap of Day 1 and expectations of Day 2	Ms Palesa Kganane, Program Coordinator, CSIR / Mr Lukovi Seke, Program Officer, STI AUDA NEPAD
10:10 - 10:20	Keynote Address	Industrial Strategy: AfCFTA representative outlines continental strategy (integration, regulatory alignment) for high-tech manufacturing.	Mohamed Ali, Director of Trade in Goods and Competition, AfCFTA(YTC)
10:20 – 11:20	Panel 1: Global Partnerships for Integration and development	Global Partnerships: Perspectives from multinational chipmakers, Western tech funds, and development agencies on collaborating with African entities (tech-transfer, joint ventures).	• Brent E. Omdahl, SVP Government Affairs, Global Wafers • Travis Mosier, Executive Advisor for Technology Partnerships, Public Policy & Strategy, Silicon Compass • Ryan Hollowell, Commercial Counselor, U.S. Embassy Kenya U.S. Department of Commerce • Muhammad Aminu Lawal, NITDA • Dr Kamau Gachigi, Gear Box, Semiconductor Founder Kenya • Moderator: Nii Simmonds, Executive Director Diaspora County Index
11:20 – 11:30	Tea Break		

Agenda

11:30 – 12:30	Roundtable:1 Building Africa's Semiconductor Talent Pipeline — From Classroom to Cleanroom	Africa's semiconductor capacity will not scale without a workforce that does not yet exist at the required depth or breadth. This roundtable is scoped to one practical question: what are the highest-leverage points in the talent pipeline where targeted investment in the next three years would produce the most immediate impact on Africa's semiconductor capacity? The discussion will focus on two outputs only. First, a mapping of the most critical workforce gaps — by skill level, discipline, and geography — that participating universities, R&D centres, and industry partners collectively identify as the priority intervention points. Second, agreement on the institutional partnerships needed to begin closing those gaps, with specific reference to what university-industry compacts and cross-border academic arrangements are viable and ready to move.	• Prof. Eng. Peter Muchiri, Vice Chancellor, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology • Prof Ray Kekwaletswe, PhD, CEO RAY MK Holdings (Pty) Ltd Botswana • Prof Trudi Joubert, PhD, PrEng, SMIEEE; Director: Carl and Emily Fuchs Institute for Microelectronics (CEFIM) • Prof. Dr. Abebe Geletu, German Research Chair, AIMS Rwanda • Moderator: Joy Lawal, NINA JOJER Africa
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break and Networking		
13:30 - 14:30	Roundtable: From Signal to Structure: Designing the Financial Architecture for African Semiconductors	Three financing instruments — first-loss guarantees, an AU Chip Fund, and structured debt-equity pools — each stress-tested against a specific value-chain segment identified on Day 1. The objective is instrument-level proposals, not blended finance theory.	• Sylvie Mahieu, Head of Private Sector Operations – East Africa, African Development Bank • Ms Tinyiko Ntshongwana: Deputy Director Africa Multilateral cooperation DSTI • Robert Sun, President, American Chinese CEO Society • Nii Simmonds, Executive Director, Diaspora Country Index • Hon. Chukwuemeka Ujam, Phd mni, NINA JOJER Africa Facilitator: Dr Bhekani Mbuli,

Agenda

			NINA JOJER Africa
14:30 – 14:45	Closing Session: Commitments and Next Steps	Summary of agreed action items. Announce the formation of a follow-up “Africa Semiconductor Advisory Group” (with AAS & CSIR lead) and schedule for progress review.	- Ms Palesa Kganane, Program Coordinator, CSIR - Mr. Lukovi Seke: Programm Officer, STI AUDA NEPAD
15:00	Departure to Gear Box facility	Gear Box Facility Visit	All Delegates
18:00 – 20:00	<i>Dinner for delegates: Carnivora</i>		

Day 3, Wednesday, 22 April 2026			
Site Visits			
Departure time	Return time	Institution	Address
08:30	18:00	Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, Nyeri, Kenya	Kiganjo / Mathari, B5, Nyeri, Kenya
Program of the day to be shared by DKUT			