

EU-Ethiopia Business Forum April 2026

EU - ETH Global Gateway Forum: Unlocking the Global Gateway Potential

April 20-22, 2026, Venue: Hilton Hotel Addis Abbaba

DRAFT PROGRAMME

DAY 1

Time	Event	Description
08:30–09:30	Registration & Coffee	Arrival of participants and opening of the Business Global Village (stands, networking lounges, fireside chats).
09:30–10:45	Opening Ceremony & Visibility Ceremonies	<p>Opening speeches from EU Commissioner, Ethiopian Representative (Prime Minister – TBC) Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs. AfCFTA SG (tbc)</p> <p>Visibility Ceremonies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EU-Ethiopia Digital Economy Package: A landmark agreement under the Global Gateway, supporting Ethiopia’s inclusive digital transformation 2. Investments in energy, rural development and Intermediated Lending operations with EIB 3. MoU AfCFTA 4. Resumption of Budget Support (tbc)
10:45–11:35	High Level Panel	Panel discussion on Building Ethiopia’s human-centric digital transformation and the EU Tech Business Offer , with keynote address by Commissioner Síkela, Ethiopian Minister of Innovation and Technology, Telco, Nokia, Ericsson (tbc), EIB VP (tbc)
11:35–12:00	Coffee Break	Networking
12:00–12:30	Investment Pipeline Showcase	Investment Pipeline Showcase – Presented by the Ethiopian Investment Commission (EIC) and EuroCham, this session will showcase the Forum's investment pipeline and DealBook, highlighting concrete opportunities and reinforcing a strong investor-focused dynamic.
12:30–13:15	Global Gateway Financing Workshop	Presentation of EU financial instruments, EIB mechanisms, and Team Europe investment tools, with EIB (VP, TBC), European Commission, AFD, FMO...
12:00–13:15	Pitch Session Round 1	Pitch Round 1 TBC
13:15–14:30	Networking Lunch	Networking

Time	Event	Description
14:30– 15:45	Thematic Panels (Parallel) & Pitch session (Round 2)	<p>Agri-business Panel Session</p> <p>With Deputy Director Ethiopian Agricultural Authority, Director Ethiopian Horticulture Producer Exporters Association, CEO Lucy Agricultural Development, CEO Alema Koudjis Company, Heineken Country Director</p> <p>Health Panel Session</p> <p>With EIB, Netherland, President of Local Manufacturer Association, Siemens Healthineers Representative, Bayer - Public Government Affairs Manager Africa</p>
14:30– 15:45	Pitch Sessions (Round 2)	Pitching opportunities for participating compagnies
15:45– 16:15	Coffee Break	Coffee break.
16:15– 17:30	Thematic Panels (Parallel) & Presentation session (Round 3)	<p>Clean Energy Panel Session</p> <p>With Electricity utilities (Project Director for Transmission, Ethiopian Electric Power Government (Electrification and Energy Information Lead Executive Officer, Ministry of Water and Energy) Development Partners (AFD Group Energy Task Team Leader), Trusted vendor (COO Africa Meridiam), Trusted vendor (INDRA Company Representative)</p> <p>Connectivity Panel Session:</p> <p>With Director of the Logistics Transformation Office (LTO) within Ethiopia Maritime Authority Country Director Trademark Africa Ltd. MSC Representative; Logistics Coordinator cold Chain, Flying Swans, President Ethiopian Freight Forwarders and Shipping Agents Association</p>
17:30– 19:00	Evening Reception	Networking cocktail with cultural showcase.

DAY 2

Time	Title	Description
08:30– 09:00	Arrival & Coffee	Re-opening of the Business Global Village.
09:00– 10:30	Thematic Panel & Pitch Sessions (Round 4)	<p>Business Climate Session</p> <p>With EIC Commission, EuroCham’s President, Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce and Sectorial Associations, GIZ Head of Private Sector Development, European Business Organization Worldwide Network</p>

Time	Title	Description
10:30–11:00	Coffee Break	Networking
11:00–12:45	B2B/B2G Matchmaking & Presentation Session (Round 5) & Pitch Session (Round 6)	Speed-Dating Networking: structured B2B/B2G matchmaking (via platform the various participants interested in B2B and B2G may schedule dedicated time –15 minutes, or as needed—to enable a proper flow of exchanges).
12:45–14:00	Networking Lunch	Informal networking
14:00–15:30	Thematic Panels (Parallel)	<p>Trade Facilitation Panel Session</p> <p>With EU-TAF Project Manager, Ministry of Trade and Regional Integration, SG AfCFTA, Pan-African Chamber of Commerce, BASF Country Director</p> <p>Mining & CRM Session</p> <p>With European Commission, Czech Geological Survey, CEO of mineral resources exploration in Geological Institute of Ethiopia, Austria, TEM Company CEO</p> <p>Water Session</p> <p>With EIB Expert, Grundfos Regional Business Acceleration Lead, Ethiopia, The Netherlands Embassy Water Expert, Minister of Water and Energy Project Manager, SEDA Consortium CEO</p>
15:30–16:15	Coffee Break	Networking
16:15–17:45	Thematic Panel, Visibility Ceremonies, & Presentation Session (Round 7)	<p>Capital Markets Session</p> <p>With Ethiopian Capital Markets Authority CEO, Africom CEO, EU Finance Expert, Ethiopian Investment Holdings CEO, BDO Consulting PLC CEO</p> <p>Visibility Ceremonies</p> <p>Unveiling and Launching Events on Programmes on Tax & Customs (with DE Ambassador and Representative of MoR) and Capital Markets Programme (with French Ambassador and Ethiopian Capital Market Authority Commissioner)</p>
17:45–19:15	Closing & Cocktail	Closing remarks followed by networking reception and cultural performance.

DAY 3 – Field Visits (Optional)

Time	Title	Description
09:00– 12:30	Field Visits (Parallel)	Site visits showcasing investment opportunities: agribusiness, health (Kilinto Industrial Park), manufacturing (Bole Lemi), incubation hubs, and digital/creative sectors.