



DJIBOUTI FORUM

Gateway of Opportunities

12 - 14 May 2024, Ayla Grand Hotel

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Djibouti's vision for tomorrow

Djibouti is a small but strong country – a gateway to the economies of East Africa and the half a billion people that live in this dynamic region. Its currency, the Djibouti Franc, is stable and has been pegged to the U.S. dollar since 1949. Djibouti has no foreign exchange restrictions, and businesses are free to repatriate profits.

With a surface area of 23,200 square kilometres, Djibouti is approximately 33 times larger than Singapore, whose economic model inspires the Djibouti Government and its Sovereign Wealth Fund.

Djibouti's ports are strategically located at the crossroads of one of the busiest shipping routes in the world, linking Europe, the Far East, the Horn of Africa and the Persian Gulf. They are consistently ranked top among the continent's most important ports and are critical to refuelling and transshipment. Expansion plans will make them even more strategically important.



Djibouti has the marine resources to increase fishing and seafood exports, and the infrastructure for submarine telecommunications cables to facilitate new digital activities and services.



H.E. Ismail Omar Guelleh,
President of Djibouti

The country is host to six overseas military bases, emphasising its highly secure and strategic location – as well its exceptional diplomatic relations with partners from the global North, global South, and the Arab World.

Djibouti is a country with a rich cultural tapestry too. It has set itself a target of 500,000 visitors annually by 2035. Tourism is expected to play a key role in the country's economic diversification goals under the Djibouti Vision 2035.

At the crossroads of Africa, the Middle East and Asia, Djibouti offers real and immediate opportunities, making it the ideal destination for the forward-thinking investor.



Connecting Visionary Leaders in Investment and Development at the Crossroads of Asia, Africa and Europe

Day 0 - Welcome & Cocktail Reception

Sunday, May 12th 2024

Networking Cocktail Evening at the Djibouti Exhibition Centre (Escale International Hotel)

Day 1 - Unlocking Investment Opportunities in Djibouti

Monday, May 13th 2024

Timetable**08:00-09:00****Registration, Networking, Coffee****09:00-09:20 (Plenary Hall)****Welcome Address**

Dr. Slim Feriani, Chief Executive Officer, Djibouti Sovereign Wealth Fund on how Djibouti is fostering economic growth through strategic investments and by emphasizing collaboration and global partnerships that unlock its clear potential - and that of the region.

09:20-09:30 (Plenary Hall)**Opening Remarks**

H. E. Ilyas Moussa Dawaleh, Minister of Economy, Finance and Industry, on Djibouti's geopolitical significance and the Government's approach to economic development.

09:30-10:00 (Plenary Hall)**Presidential Remarks**

H.E. Ismail Omar Guelleh, President of the Republic of Djibouti, highlights Djibouti's 2035 Vision and the country's commitment to creating an attractive investment climate.

10:10-10:30 (Plenary Hall)**The Global Perspective: Africa and the World**

Mr. Charlie Robertson, Head of Macro Strategy at FIM Partners, on the economic and investment landscape in Africa, as well as a look at the drivers of growth in the region. He is followed by **Dr. Donald Kaberuka**, Co-Founder of Southbridge and former President of the African Development Bank, who will discuss the global geopolitical landscape and where Africa should position itself to accentuate its strengths and accelerate growth.

10:30-10:45 (Plenary Hall)

Focus on Djibouti

Fireside chat with **Mr. Youssouf Moussa Dawaleh**, President of Chamber of Commerce for Djibouti, will walk you through the country's investment readiness and share how 'Djibouti is Open for Business' alongside insight from **Dr. Mohamed Ashraf Iqbal**, the Chairman of Malaysia's Waafi Bank.

10:45-11:00 (Plenary Hall)

Connecting Continents: Djibouti's Ports as Global Trade Gateways

This Fireside Chat with **Mr. Aboubaker Omar Hadi**, Chairman, DPFZA and GHIH, covers Djibouti's ports and logistics - and his \$10bn investment plans.

11:00-11:30

Coffee and Networking Break

11:30-11:40

Spotlight: Ground-Breaking Innovation & Technology

A spotlight on Liquidstar, presented by **Scott-Salandy Defour**, Co-Founder Liquidstar.

This Pilot Project is the first of its kind anywhere in the world. It is backed by the U.S. and supported by USAID, and leverages Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) and micro data centres to make off-grid projects more sustainable. It does this by using the data centre as an anchor-buyer for electricity generated by a waypoint in the grid.

On the AI front, Liquidstar has recently successfully tested a locally hosted large language model that acts as a teacher's assistant at a school in the area of Kalaf.

11:45-13:00 (Plenary Hall)

Co-Investing in Africa: Pan-African Institutional Investors Viewpoint – Why Africa is Ripe with Investment Opportunities

This session delves into the exciting yet complex realm of co-investing in Africa, exploring the opportunities that the continent presents for institutional investors. The session further unpacks co-investing as a catalyst for establishing robust capital markets and the partnerships between DFIs, private investors and government in amplifying the impact of investments.

Keynote Address

- **Mr. Obaid Amrane**, Chairman of the IFSWF and ASIF, CEO, Ithmar (Moroccan Sovereign Wealth Fund)

Speakers

- **Mr. Admassu Tadesse**, President and Managing Director, Trade and Development Bank Group
- **Mr. Peter Maila**, Co-Chief Investment Officer, FMO
- **Mr. Rene Awambeng**, Founder and Managing Director, Premier Invest
- **Mr. Osaruyi Orobosa-Ogbeide**, Senior Vice President, Project Development & Investment, Africa Finance Corporation
- **Ms. Jasmin Johnson**, Executive Vice President, PEMANDU Associates

13:00-14:30

Lunch and Networking Break

Room 1 - Lunch Served

SWF Roundtable Lunch (By Invitation Only)
Opening Remarks

- **Mme. Safia Mohamed Ali Gadileh**, Secrétaire d'État des Investissements et du Développement

Participants

- **H.E. Ilyas Moussa Dawaleh**, Minister of Economy, Finance, and Planning
- **Mr. Obaid Amrane**, Chairman of the IFSWF and ASIF, CEO, Ithmar (Moroccan Sovereign Wealth Fund)
- **Mr. Admassu Tadesse**, President and Managing Director, Trade and Development Bank Group
- **Mr. Peter Maila**, Co-Chief Investment Officer, FMO: Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank

10X'ing Investments into the Horn of Africa Roundtable:
The Role of Sovereign Wealth Funds – Lessons from Leading African SWFs

This session looks at the transformative impact of Sovereign Wealth Funds in amplifying investments and will spotlight a compelling case study examining the strategies and successes of the most impactful Sovereign Wealth Funds on the African continent.

The panel will analyse the pivotal role these funds have played in driving economic growth, fostering stability, and attracting global investments. Through an in-depth exploration of real-world case studies, participants will gain valuable insights into the mechanisms employed by successful African SWFs to catalyse sustainable development and position their respective nations as prime investment destinations.

Discussion led by **Djibouti Sovereign Wealth Fund**.

14:30-16:00 (Plenary Hall)

Breakaway Session 1 - Technology, Connectivity & Data Centres

Sequence 1: Case Study on Djibouti's data centre by Wingu.Africa – the only carrier-neutral data centre facility in East Africa with access to every major international fibre optic system connecting Europe, the Middle East and Asia Pacific with Africa. With Mr. Nicholas Lodge, Co-Founder and Chief Strategy Officer, Wingu.Africa.

Sequence 2: Panel Discussion on digital economies and fintech. This talk will expand on models for developing digital economies and cashless societies. It will look at the successes of those fintech giants on the continent that are shaping inclusion, boosting economic activity and migrating more and more emerging markets to cashless transacting.

Speakers

- **H.E. Mariam Hamadou Ali**, Minister of the Digital Economy and Innovation, Djibouti
- **Mr. Mohamed Assoweh**, Director General, Djibouti Telecom
- **Mr. Nicholas Lodge**, Co-Founder and Chief Strategy Officer, Wingu.Africa
- **Mr. Wouter van Hulten**, Chief Executive Officer, PAIX Data Centres
- **Ms. Lucy Coddington**, Investment Director: Project Finance, Africa50
- **Mr. Yann Jaffré**, Associate Director, Tactis

Sequence 3: Presentation by **Mr. Jean-André Dja Gbarssin**, Chief Investment Officer at Djibouti Sovereign Wealth Fund and **Mr. Wouter van Hulten**, CEO, PAIX Data Centres.

Breakaway Session 2 - Energy & Renewable Resources

Sequence 1: In Conversation – a 15-minute overview of Djibouti's energy sector and its geothermal energy project.

Speakers

- Mr. Jean-André Dja Gbarssin**, Chief Investment Officer, Djibouti Sovereign Wealth Fund
- **Ms. Tas Anvaripour**, Chief Executive Officer, Neo Themis

Sequence 2: Panel Discussion - Driving for solutions. This is an open discussion session bringing renewable energy experts to discuss solutions for Djibouti to establish alternative energy generating sources and infrastructure, reducing its reliance on imported electricity.

Speakers

- Dr. Barakat Ahmed**, Regional Head Programmes - Africa, International Solar Alliance
- **Mr. Osaruyi Orobosa-Ogbeide**, Senior Vice President, Project Development & Investment, Africa Finance Corporation (AFC)
 - **Mr. Anthony Murungaru**, Investment Officer – Energy & Infrastructure, East Africa, Proparco
 - **Mr. Sean Thomas**, Chief Executive Officer, Bio2Watt

16:00-17:30 (Plenary Hall)

Plenary – Deepening Financial Markets

Sequence 1: In Conversation – Presenting Djibouti's capital markets – with the Djibouti Sovereign Wealth Fund.

Speakers

- **Dr. Slim Feriani**, Chief Executive Officer, Djibouti Sovereign Wealth Fund
- **Mr. Frans VanSchaik**, Chief Executive Officer, African Asset Finance Company

Sequence 2: In Conversation – a country-based Case Study of Malaysia's successful model for structuring deep capital markets and thriving financial services.

Speaker

- **Dr Mohamed Ashraf Iqbal**, Chairman, Waafi Bank

Sequence 3: Panel Discussion - Driving for Solutions.

This discussion draws on practical examples of capital market structures such as default rates, risk premiums, and policies. The session explores policy frameworks, regulatory enhancements, and innovative approaches that foster vibrant and resilient capital markets, driving economic growth and attracting global investments.

Speakers

- **Mr. Abdallah I. Abdallah**, Premier Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce for Djibouti, and Deputy Managing Director of BCIMR
- **Mr. Frans VanSchaik**, Chief Executive Officer, African Asset Finance Company (AAFC)
- **Dr Mohamed Ashraf Iqbal**, Chairman, Waafi Bank
- **Ms. Natalie Payida Jabangwe**, Executive Secretary, Timbuktoo
- **Mr. Oscar Onyema**, Board Member, The World Federation of Exchanges and Former CEO, Nigerian Exchange Group

17:30-18:00

Wrap up of the Day

20:00-22:30

Gala Dinner at the Ayla Hotel

Day 2 - Djibouti Investor Day

Tuesday, May 14th 2024

Timetable**08:45-09:45****Breakaway Session 1 – Agro-Processing at Port**

Sequence 1: A 15-minute Case Study on ports, agro-processing and just some of the success stories surrounding these in Djibouti.

Speaker

- **Mr. Paulo Gomes**, Founder, Orango Investment Corporation

Sequence 2: Panel Discussion - Driving for Solutions.

This session will discuss how Djibouti can leverage its strategic location in the agro-processing and fisheries value-chain. Speakers will discuss how efficient logistics and strategic access to Middle Eastern and African markets can unlock opportunities for transforming agriculture and fishing.

Speakers

- **Mr. Paulo Gomes**, Founder, Orango Investment Corporation
- **Mr. Ramesh Moochikal**, Chief Executive Officer, Africa Improved Foods
- **Mr. Joss Taylor, Director**, Czarnikow East Africa Limited
- **Mr. Nouredine Amribet**, Head of Shipping & Supply Chain Management, OCP

Breakaway Session 2 - Ports & Logistics

Sequence 1: A 15-minute Project Showcase exploring Djibouti's strategic location in global trade and logistics. This presentation is an information sharing avenue to understand the success of Djibouti's ports sector.

Speaker

Mr. Djama Ibrahim Darar, Director General, PDSA & DMP

Sequence 2: Panel Discussion- Driving for solutions.

This is an open discussion session to deliberate on solutions Djibouti can implement to accelerate maritime efficiencies, infrastructure development, financing vehicles and policy structures for its ports and logistics sector.

Speakers

- **Mr. Djama Ibrahim Darar**, Director General, PDSA & DMP
- **Mr. Julien Li, Regional Head**, China Merchant Group
- **Mr. Jason Reynard**, Regional Managing Director, East Africa, Africa Global Logistics
- **Mr. Rene Awambeng**, Founder and Managing Director, Premier Invest

09:45-10:00**Coffee and Networking Break****10:00-10:15 (Plenary Hall)****A Macroeconomic Lens on Africa**

Presentation on the current macroeconomic trends globally and in Africa, honing in on Djibouti.

- **Dr. Sampawende Tapsoba**, Deputy Chief Economist & Director, Data Management & Model Development, Afreximbank

10:15-10:45 (Plenary Hall)

Spotlight: Future Africa

- **Spotlight Timbuktoo:** Presented by Ms. Natalie Payida Jabangwe, Executive Secretary, Timbuktoo
- **Spotlight Tourism:** Presented by Mr. Samba Bathily, Founder, ADS Group

12:45-11:30

Innovative Horizons: Navigating Emerging Trends for Investor Success

This session looks at the global and continent's investment landscape, unpacking innovative solutions for capital deployment across Africa.

Moderator: Mr. Omar Ben Yedder, Publisher, *African Business*

Sequence 1: The Investor's Take
Fireside Chat: South-South Investments

- **Mr. Abdou Bensouda, Managing Director,** FinanceCom International
- **Mr. Adil Jabri, Deputy Managing Director,** Finattech

Sequence 2: Panel Discussion: Global Investment Sentiment

- **Mr. Andrew Skipper,** Founder and CEO, Polymetis Professional Solutions
- **Mr Theo Ntawiheba,** Vice President: Investment Banking, Citigroup

11:00-12:15

SME Financing in Africa

Africa's SMEs are at the forefront of driving innovation and entrepreneurship. With the adoption of digital technologies and increased connectivity, these enterprises are leveraging innovative solutions to address local challenges and meet the evolving needs of their communities. Whether it's developing mobile applications for financial inclusion or embracing sustainable practices in agriculture, SMEs are playing a pivotal role in shaping a more resilient and inclusive economy.

Moderator

Ms. Hannane Ferdjani, Journalist

Speakers:

- **Hon. Ilyas Moussa Dawaleh,** Minister of Economy, Finance, and Planning, Djibouti
- **Mr. Georges Joseph Ghorra,** Principal Country Officer, International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- **Mr. Didier Acouetey,** President and Founder, AfricSearch Group
- **Dr. Ayòbámi Olúfadéji,** MD: Global Development, Redesign Health

12:30-12:45

Closing Fireside Chat with **Dr. Slim Feriani** and **Mr. Charlie Robertson**

12:45-13:30

Lunch and departure to Site Visit or B2B opportunities

13:45-16:00

Departure to Project Site Visit (one of the below):

- **Group 1** Expansion of the Doraleh Multipurpose Port then visit to PK23
- **Group 2** Expansion of the Doraleh Multipurpose Port then visit to Damerjog
- **Group 3** Visit to the new Wingu CLS and Datacentre
- **Group 4** Exploration of the country's tourism potential - visit to the Moucha Islands

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Great Horn Investment Holding

Great Horn Investment Holding (GHIH) is playing a central role in transforming Djibouti into a major economic hub for East Africa. It was established by presidential decree in 2016, with a fixed capital of 15 billion Djiboutian Francs (\$85 million USD). It is wholly owned by Djibouti Ports and Free Zones Authority (DPFZA).

GHIH administers key assets in the maritime, aviation and logistics sectors. Furthermore, it is currently developing the infrastructure needed to transform Djibouti into the logistics hub of the region.

Africa is the next driver of global growth, and GHIH will be a gateway and leading partner for investment in the continent.

Djibouti's ports are strategically positioned to facilitate trade between Africa, Europe, Asia and the Middle East, and its ports have a total capacity of 18 million tonnes.

GHIH owns the majority of the national carrier: Air Djibouti. Furthermore, it is currently developing two new airports to complete our logistic offer for sea-air cargo.

Capitalising on its strategic location, Djibouti has developed state-of-the-art multimodal infrastructure and is currently developing Africa's largest free trade zone.

Djibouti is planning to meet 100% of its power demands with renewable energy – a central part of its Vision 2035 development plan.

www.ghih.dj

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Djibouti Ports & Free Zones Authority

Djibouti Ports and Free Zones Authority (DPFZA) is a governmental entity that manages the administration, directives and operations of Djibouti's ports, Free Zones, Special Economic Zones and many other main infrastructures.

Djibouti Ports and Free Zones Authority was created by the amended decree n°2003-0207/PRE of October 9, 2003 (providing that the "l'Autorité de la Zone Franche de Djibouti" becomes "l'Autorité des Ports et des Zones Franches de Djibouti")

Djibouti is at the center of global trade routes and on two of the three busiest shipping routes in the world, and its location connects Africa to Asia, Europe and America.

To take advantage of our strategic location, we have invested more than \$1.1 billion in modernizing existing infrastructures and developing new world-class facilities, such as the Doraleh Multipurpose Port (DMP), the electric railway linking Djibouti to Ethiopia, and the Djibouti International Free Trade Zone (DIFTZ) which, when completed, will be the largest of its kind in Africa.

Our mission is to establish Djibouti as a trade and transport hub for Africa. Through Great Horn Investment Holding (GHIH), DPFZA contributes to, and leads on, several other projects including the planning, construction and investment of new airports, new Highways, power plants, and more.

Our projects aim to strengthen Djibouti's role as a logistics and infrastructure hub and to unleash the economic potential of africa.

www.dpfza.gov.dj

Platinum Sponsor



Salaam African Bank is one of the leading providers of financial products and services in the East African region that are fully adherent to best business ethics.

It was founded in 2007 and commenced business operation in December 2008. The Bank is regulated by the Central Bank of Djibouti.

Salaam African Bank strives to be the pioneer of business ethics compliant services through the use of state-of-the-art technology and up-to-date financial services.

Since its inception in 2008, the bank has made tremendous growth with extensive nationwide branch networks, ATMs; offering interest free products and services including Current accounts, savings, Investment Deposit Accounts, Assets Financing, Joint Venture, Capital Investment, documentary credits and letters of guarantees. It also offers, visa cards, master cards, POS, phone banking, utility payments and SMS notifications and electronic banking. We have partnered with other related financial services providers like Master Card, VISA, and relevant associated merchants.

For over a decade, the Diasporas and the local entrepreneurs in Djibouti have been actively looking to establish reliable connections with financial institutions throughout the region.

www.banksalaam.com

Platinum Sponsor



Salaam Real Estate is a registered full service real estate company in Djibouti. The company is part of The Salaam Group, one of the largest and most reputable companies in the region.

Our projects are a combination of residential high-level luxury homes, affordable properties and prime commercial real estate in the heart of Djibouti.

As a professional real estate agency in Djibouti, we offer an innovative approach towards property services by using new and progressive marketing platforms and methods, particularly within the ever-expanding digital area of marketing.

www.salaamres.com

Gold Sponsor

CAC International Bank opened its doors in 2009 in the Republic of Djibouti and has been providing exceptional banking and financial services to diverse customers and businesses ever since.

Over the past few years, it has grown to become the third leading financial Institution in Djibouti under the direct guidance and control of a highly experienced board of directors.

The bank is subject to the financial legislation enforced by the government of Djibouti and regulated by its Central Bank. Our policies supported by various committees such as Internal Audit, Credit & Risk committee, Asset-liability Committee (ALCO) along with a robust compliance program are all well integrated and drawn up in accordance with the country's laws.

The bank pioneered to become the leading institution to introduce and implement digital banking services. We provide our corporate and retail customers a wide range of high-tech innovative products such as e-banking, mobile banking, card transactions, etc, covering all commercial banking services.

www.cacintbank.com

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Djibouti Telecom is a leading strategic centre for international telecommunications services in East Africa. It has an underlying network infrastructure comprised of seven international submarine cables, with direct connection to over 90 countries, and two terrestrial cables.

In order to enhance network resilience, the company has built two cable landing stations; the highest number of cable landing sites in Sub-Saharan Africa.

www.international.djiboutitelecom.dj

Gold Sponsor



Born from the initiative of a group of local traders on August 4, 1906, the Djibouti Chamber of Commerce was not officially recognized until February 11, 1907 by the colonial governor at the time.

The CCD has since evolved in its Statutes to become in 2002, thanks to the latest reforms, the Institution representing the private sector on a national scale.

The Chamber of Commerce is headed by a President, who is its executive body, and who represents the Institution legally and officially, in all administrative acts. He is assisted in this task by a Bureau composed of eight (8) members elected within the General Assembly.

All elected members serve on a voluntary basis and receive no remuneration or compensation.

The CCD Services therefore benefit from the experience of volunteer businessmen and women, driven by concern for the general interest, experienced in business management and control of the development of commercial activities.

A true voice for businesses, the CCD supports entrepreneurs and traders in the promotion and development of their activities. In this sense, the Consular Institution has two main missions; to represent, advise and support businesses by providing services and benefits that meet their needs and to contribute to the economic growth of the country by advising public authorities on the business environment and contributing to the promotion of the country.

Associate Sponsor



SVAMC is a private limited company that was established in the Horn of Africa over forty years ago. From its Djibouti headquarters, it provides several services including selling and repairing of cars, trucks, forklifts, minibuses, motorcycles and air conditioning equipment.

The spare parts department is equipped to repair any and all equipment it sells, including a wide range of washing machines, refrigerators, freezers, and stoves, as well as large and small generators which are on display in the extensive showrooms.

Additionally, it owns two retail stores with fashion clothing, home goods, shoes, toys and baby items, perfumes and beauty products. SVAMC Djibouti employs over 110 staff members, including repair technicians, who are experts in servicing repairing, and installing SVAMC's products.

From its office in the free zone area, all items are sold on a duty-free basis.

www.svamcdjibouti.com

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Djibouti International Free Trade Zone (DIFTZ), the largest free trade zone in Africa, and presents dynamic opportunities for businesses across the globe, which is co-developed and operated by DPFZA and China Merchants Group.

DIFTZ is a model of China-African cooperation in this new era, and an important carrier to undertake China's OBOR initiative.

DIFTZ has been acting as an important gateway to Africa since it was officially inaugurated in July 2018 under the auspices of the heads of state of Djibouti, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Sudan, and Somalia as well as the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, and key shareholders such as China Merchants Group. Nowadays there are more than 190 world-famous enterprises from various industries registered in DIFTZ.

The pilot zone, comprising 240-hectares, consists of three functional blocks in the vicinity of Djibouti's major ports. The full free zone will focus on the development of industries ranging from logistics, marine, construction, automotive to home appliances industries, etc.

DIFTZ is equipped with advanced facilities including high-speed telecommunications, power and water supplies, one-stop service centre, office building, hotel, a customs office, roads and parking lots. The pilot zone has four industrial clusters focusing on trade and logistics, export processing and business support.

www.diftz.dj

Associate Sponsor



Founded in 1872, China Merchants Group (CMG) is a comprehensive enterprise with diverse business operations. In recent years, member companies of CMG have cooperated with partners in Djibouti to complete and put into operation a number of influential infrastructure projects, such as Doraleh Multipurpose Port (DMP), Djibouti International Free Trade Zone (DIFTZ), and East Africa International Business Zone (EAIBZ).

DMP was put into operation in 2017. After the completion of the port, the bulk and general cargo throughput capacity doubled, which comprehensively enhanced the competitiveness of the Port of Djibouti and provided better services to customers and shipping companies.

DIFTZ was officially inaugurated in 2018. It has developed into an internationally competitive trade and industrial service platform integrating trade, logistics, export processing and business support facilities.

EAIBZ, also known as Red Sea World, is planned to be built for promoting the development of local commerce, cross-border transportation, import and export trade and other emerging industry in Djibouti. Its pilot project Djibouti Special Exhibition Complex (SPC) includes Djibouti International Exhibition Centre and Escale International hotel.

Djibouti Transport & Shipping Sarl (DTS) is founded and operated by Sinotrans, provides customers with customs clearance, customs transfer, shipping agency, port operation, domestic transportation in Djibouti, cross-border transportation from Djibouti to COMESA member states and other services.

www.cmhk.com

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AFC was established in 2007 to catalyse pragmatic infrastructure investment across Africa. AFC's approach combines specialist industry expertise with a focus on financial and technical advisory, project structuring, project development, and risk capital to address Africa's infrastructure development needs and to drive sustainable economic growth.

Seventeen years on, AFC has developed a track record as the partner of choice in Africa for investing and delivering on instrumental, high-quality infrastructure assets that provide essential services in the core infrastructure sectors of power, natural resources, heavy industry, transport, and telecommunications. AFC has 43 member countries and has invested US\$13 billion across Africa since inception.

www.africafc.org

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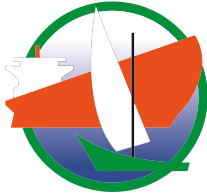
Bank Of Africa Group (BOA Group) is currently present in 18 countries: 8 in West Africa (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Togo and Senegal), 8 in East Africa and the Indian Ocean region (Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania), 2 in central Africa (Africa the Democratic Republic of Congo and Congo) and France. The BOA Group network of 19 commercial banks, 1 global holding company, 2 regional holding companies, 1 investment company, 2 technical support subsidiaries, 2 processing and IT support companies, and 1 representative office in Addis Ababa.

Since 2010, the Bank Of Africa Group has been majority-owned by BMCE Bank (whose name recently changed to BANK OF AFRICA), the 3rd largest bank in Morocco. BMCE Bank brings strong strategic and operational support to the Bank Of Africa Group, as well as direct access to international markets in view of its presence in Europe and Asia.

Established over 35 years ago in Mali, BOA Group currently has a total of about 6,500 employees. In the year ended 31 December 2022, the Group recorded a consolidated balance sheet of EUR 10.2 billion and consolidated net income of EUR 216.6 million.

www.bank-of-africa.net

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PORT DE DJIBOUTI S.A.

The Port of Djibouti S.A. is located at the southern entrance to the Red Sea, at the intersection of major international shipping lanes connecting Asia, Africa and Europe. The port is a minimal deviation from the principal East-West trade route and provides a secure regional hub for transshipment and relay of goods.

Since 1998, the port handled 100% of Ethiopia's maritime traffic, which moves to and from Addis Ababa by truck and rail. To accommodate this important business, the Port has made an additional 20 ha of dry yard area available. The port of Djibouti is ideally located to serve the COMESA market, linking 19 countries and 380 million people.

The port evolved out of Ethiopia's search for a maritime outlet to its railway line, and Djibouti's coastline provided both easy access and sheltered anchorage. Work on the railway began in 1897, as did the initial construction of the port. Once the line was completed, in 1917, the port grew rapidly. Between 1960 and 1970, port activity was developed as part of an international maritime exchange network. Bunkering traffic quadrupled in the ten years from 1954, reaching a peak of 1.8 million tons in 1965.

www.portdedjibouti.com

Associate Sponsor


**DORALEH
MULTI-PURPOSE
PORT**

Founded in May 2017, the Doraleh Multipurpose Port (DMP) was designed to relieve congestion at the former port of Doraleh, and in under a year, waiting time to discharge goods was reduced from weeks to days.

The DMP accommodates vessels with up to 100,000 dwt and boasts some of the most modern facilities in Africa. It boasts a range of terminals including bulk, break, container and RoRo, 1,200 meters of quay line, accommodating 6 berths with a depth of 15.3m, 690 hectares of land for industries, an average performance of 90 units discharged per hour (RoRo) and 31 containers per hour (LoLo), and a direct connection to the Djibouti-Addis Ababa railway. The investment totalled \$590 million, and there are plans to expand the DMP further, to reach 4,130 meters of quay line, and 17 berths.

www.dpfza.gov.dj/facilities/DMP

Associate Sponsor



The Banque pour le Commerce et l'Industrie Mer-Rouge (BCIMR) is a Franco-Djiboutian bank, the first and only European bank in the Horn of Africa. BCIMR has been operating in Djibouti since 1954, with a share capital of DJF 3,592,500,000, of which 33% is held by the Djiboutian state, 51% by the Groupe BRED Banque Populaire (Groupe BPCE) and 16% by Yemen Bank for Construction and Development. Its core business is commercial banking, operating in all market segments: individual, corporate, public and institutional. It offers its customers a wide range of commercial banking products and services: loans and financing, deposit and cash management, payment methods, trade finance, local and international guarantees.

In collaboration with the French Development Agency, BCIMR has financed major regional projects such as the electricity interconnection between Djibouti and Ethiopia, with a view to solving Djibouti's significant energy problem, and also by supporting Great Horn Investment Holding (GHIH) in financing the construction project of the Damerjog oil jetty, which will allow the supply of the storage zone for petroleum products and derivatives thanks to two berthing stations with depths of 13.5m and 16.5m, respectively, enabling ships of up to 110,000 tonnes to be accommodated.

BCIMR is present in all regions of Djibouti: Tadjourah, Dikhil, Obock, Ali Sabieh and Arta. It also has a representative office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

www.bcimr.dj

Associate Sponsor



Launched in 2010 and licensed by the Central Bank of the Republic of Djibouti, the Bank was established to deliver the highest standards of banking services.

Offering a broad range of products designed for individuals and small businesses as well as large corporations, East Africa Bank is the right choice for those looking for excellence in managing their finances.

We combine world-class customer service, the highest standards and cutting-edge technology, to bring cost-effective products and services to our customer. EAB operates in an important and rapidly growing East Africa niche market and throughout the years, we have shown impressive growth in terms of balance sheet size and networks and the ever-increasing demand for our products is a testament to our success.

www.eastafricabank.com

Associate Sponsor



Marill Group is a family, versatile and independent Group that has been based in Djibouti since 1896. At its creation by Paul Marill, the Marill&Garrigue Cie, based in both Harar and Djibouti, traded goods with Ethiopia including leather and coffee, and then in 1912 specialized in the trade of pure pearl industry button. The trochus success symbol became the emblem of Marill Establishments.

After the Second World War, driven by André Marill, the Marill Establishments embarked on the transport of goods and luggage. Over the years, Marill has diversified by investing in new businesses such as distribution and leasing of vehicles, insurance, information technology, and real estate. Strengthened by a century of experience, Marill Group, currently headed by Luc and Thierry Marill, has retained the spirit of its bold entrepreneur founder Paul Marill, showcased by the recent developments of the regional group.

www.groupe-marill.com

Associate Sponsor



D-Money is a Djiboutian company with patriotic and civic values. It offers an affordable electronic wallet service to all social categories in Djibouti, both in the capital and in the country as a whole. D-Money is a platform where mobile phones are used to access a range of financial services. It is a practical, fast, secure and easy-to-use mobile payment and money transfer solution. It represents an end-to-end digitisation of operational processes and a digital revolution leading to behavioural changes.

Subsequently, D-Money has naturally made a great breakthrough into Djiboutian society, with a significant increase in the number of users in a very short space of time.

This is why, at D-Money, the growth in the volume of mobile financial transactions is becoming increasingly noticeable, and it sees its clientele increase day by day. This can be explained, among other things, by the convenience and simplicity of using a phone to carry out financial transactions, and by the vast distribution network spread throughout the country. Through its proximity marketing strategy, D-Money has gradually and surely established itself in the Djiboutian commercial space and even in its users' daily lives.

D-Money has a significant advantage: it can be used by everyone, everywhere, from small traders to large operators, including the vast majority of local businesses. Thus, for both Djiboutians and foreign residents, D-Money is the solution that offers the best advantage, and the most inclusivity.

www.d-money.dj

Associate Sponsor



The International Finance Corporation (IFC) improves the lives of people in developing countries by investing in private sector growth. We connect economic development with humanitarian needs to create real progress for the people and places that need it most.

For more than 60 years, we've leveraged the power of the private sector for global good. Today, we're using that experience to transform ideas into investments for green growth, inclusive jobs, and impactful projects.

Our vision is simple - the private sector drives progress. For over 60 years, we've transformed this belief into reality throughout the developing world.

As pioneers in impact investing, we fuel growth where it's needed most. Our strategic capital empowers visionary entrepreneurs to bring sustainable solutions to scale while our expertise builds successful business environments and creates opportunities for all.

Yet our impact extends beyond dollars and policy reforms. We plant seeds of human potential in the world's toughest soil. Our investments generate jobs, unlock innovation, and cultivate markets that lift millions out of poverty. We mobilize a global community of partners united by a shared purpose - to create opportunity where it's needed most.

For us, a job is more than a paycheck. It is dignity. It is hope for a better future. Opportunity by opportunity, we are building that future - one where inclusive, sustainable growth empowers all people to achieve their aspirations.

www.ifc.org

Associate Sponsor



HALT Group, where passion and vision come together to make a lasting impact. We were founded in 2007 with the goal of positively impacting our nation of Djibouti and the world. Our drive and dedication have helped us become one of the largest companies in Djibouti, with a presence in the region and internationally.

At HALT Group, we believe in casting our vision for a better future and working towards it every day. We are committed to growth, prosperity, and success, and we invite you to join us on our journey. Our team is made up of dedicated professionals who possess the expertise and experience necessary to make a lasting impact.

We take pride in our ability to not only meet but exceed our client's expectations. We are passionate about the work we do, and it shows in the finished product. Browse our portfolio to see some of our past projects and see for yourself the level of quality and craftsmanship we bring to every job.

Thank you for considering HALT Group for your business needs. We would be honored to work with you to make a lasting impact. Contact us today to schedule a consultation and let's make a difference together.

www.haltgroup-djibouti.com

Supporting Partner

Wingu is a specialist carrier-neutral data centre operator focused on East Africa and providing international and local enterprise customers with cost-effective commercial colocation solutions and access to a growing and dynamic ecosystem.

Established over a decade ago and successfully operating the Djibouti Data Centre, where Wingu provides world-class colocation services to leading international telecoms companies, Wingu now has Tier III standard, carrier-neutral data centres in Ethiopia, Somaliland, and Tanzania and is adding a second facility in Djibouti.

In each market, the Wingu facilities are the first of their kind and represent key digital infrastructure that enables economic growth and the rise of the global digital economy.

www.wingu.africa

Supporting Partner

La Poste de Djibouti is the postal service of the Republic of Djibouti. It was created in the year 2000 following a restructuring of the former Post and Telecommunications Office, but has been in operation since the first postal service appeared in Obock in 1862. The main post office was officially opened in the Djibouti City in 1896. Its modern operation include cargo, express and standard mail delivery.

www.laposte.dj

Supporting Partner



New ideas open up new horizons.

These have been our values for 40 years. In 1979, two brothers, Ibrahim and Omar Abdallah, developed a recipe for a bean dish and opened their first restaurant, Randa. The restaurant quickly became an extraordinary success.

In 1991, the two brothers set about creating a supermarket. The business gradually grew and diversified its products to become the leading Napoléon Group in the Djibouti market, with over 10,000 items in its portfolio.

In 2012, Mr Ibrahim Abdallah sold all his shares in the Napoléon Group and created BSH Holding, a company comprising 8 subsidiaries.

Within the BSH Group, we cultivate the values of openness, quality and credibility. We are currently the market leader in Djibouti in the sale of pharmaceutical products, air conditioning and DIY.

The success achieved by BSH Holding since its creation is the result of a clear and precise business philosophy. The desire to satisfy and the end consumer is the principle that guides the Group's choices.

Today, it is increasingly important to manage customer relationships well, and this goes far beyond the simple technical and commercial aspects. At the same time, it's vital to understand market trends as quickly as possible. So we need to give ourselves the means to meet the challenges posed by these changes as effectively as possible, while at the same time seizing the opportunities that arise.

The result is a company capable of generating a flourishing business in all the market segments in which it operates.

Supporting Partner



We are a global network of accountancy firms. Our 214 members operate under the PKF brand in 150 countries across five regions. We have over 21,000 professionals united under the PKF brand worldwide. Our brand represents our promise of a consistent experience for our clients and a common understanding by our firms of what we do, how we do it and the values that drive our behaviour.

We are at the forefront of compliance regulations and specialise in providing high quality audit, accounting, tax and business advisory solutions to both national and international organisations.

Rest assured, wherever you are in the world and whatever your accounting and business advisory requirements, our network will collaborate to deliver solutions in a timely and professional manner.

The individuals within our network are passionate about quality. They are leaders in their fields, are highly regarded by their peers and yet they remain hands on. We believe in having real conversations to achieve the best results.

We attract and retain the very best members for our network and provide practical tools that make a real difference to our firms. We continue to connect and build personal relationships with our members to understand and realise their needs and goals.

www.pkf.com

Supporting Partner

At Inclufin, we are convinced that our mission is to mobilize financial resources, local and international, to promote sustainable and inclusive growth in Djibouti on the economic, social and environmental levels.

We have therefore set 3 objectives:

First of all, we want to offer an opportunity to talented and visionary Djiboutian entrepreneurs to realize their ideas. We believe in their potential to stimulate the economy and create sustainable jobs. By supporting their projects through crowdfunding, we seek to encourage the emergence of a dynamic entrepreneurial culture in Djibouti.

Then, Inclufin aims to encourage investment in strategic areas of development in Djibouti, such as digital, infrastructure, renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, education and health. We are convinced that these sectors play an essential role in building a prosperous future for Djibouti.

Finally, our added value lies in our collaborative and inclusive approach. We bring together investors, entrepreneurs and local stakeholders to create a strong ecosystem that promotes the development of Djibouti. We encourage transparency, accountability and engagement at every stage, ensuring that each project supported has a measurable and lasting impact.

Inclufin benefits from the support of the FSD - Sovereign Fund of Djibouti, which gives it solid foundations while being aligned with the "Vision Djibouti 2035" plan.

Join us on Inclufin and contribute to the financing and development of innovative, creative and solidarity projects in Djibouti.

www.inclufin.dj

About the organisers



FONDS SOUVERAIN
DE DJIBOUTI

Established in March 2020, the Sovereign Wealth Fund of Djibouti was created to improve governance, diversify the economy and catalyse greenfield investments in strategic sectors of the economy such as sustainable natural resources and energy, telco and digital infrastructure, financial services, general infrastructure, technology, tourism, healthcare and education.

The Fund aims to diversify and modernise the country's economy as well as boost the growth of the country by relying on a competitive private sector and generating wealth for future generations. Key state-owned enterprises from utilities, and logistics to telco, now feature in its portfolio to drive their modernisation. Its mission also consists of increasing investment and developing economic partnerships in the Horn of Africa region.

The Fund is under the stewardship of CEO, Dr. Slim Feriani, who has more than 25 years of experience in international capital markets, and previously served as a Minister in Tunisia where he led two portfolios, focusing on industry and SMEs, as well as energy, mining and renewable energy.

www.fsd.dj

African BUSINESS

African Business magazine is the biggest-selling, English language Pan-African publication. Read by decision makers, business leaders and policy shapers alike, led by a highly experienced editorial team, the magazine has a reputation of exposing the African narrative from an African perspective with special monthly reports, which offer invaluable expertise to organisations.

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