

Building Bridges Investor Delegation to the 2026 AVPA Conference

November 9-11, 2026 | Cape Town, South Africa

Context & Purpose

Building on the momentum of the 2025 AVPA conference and the 2024 Bridging Africa-Europe SDG Investment Summit both held in Nairobi, this delegation aims to reconnect international investors with Africa's dynamic sustainability and impact finance ecosystem. The delegation will attend the **2026 African Venture Philanthropy Alliance (AVPA) Conference,** a pivotal convening focused on **"Beyond Aid: Financing Africa's Future for Sustainable Impact."**

This year's engagement will offer synergies with local partners through the dedicated South Africa Impact Track, providing a unique opportunity to engage with the region's leadership in the **green economy**, **just energy transition**, and accelerate the deployment of capital into **social investments**. Beyond the AVPA conference, participants will also have the chance to meet key ecosystem stakeholders, explore innovative local pipelines, and visit leading regional impact projects with a strong emphasis on nature finance.

Objectives

- Enable strategic dialogue between philanthropic, public, and private capital providers to explore blended finance models and co-investment opportunities.
- Showcase investment-ready ventures and models to mobilise capital across key sectors such as clean energy, agriculture, health, education, and digital innovation.
- Meet relevant stakeholders to strengthen the ecosystem, accelerate collaboration and deliver action through targeted networking.

BUILDING BRIDGES
Aligning finance with sustainability

avpa AFRICAN VENTURE PHILANTHROPY ALLIANCE

In partnership with:

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

fsdafrica

The Nature Conservancy

AFRICAN NATURAL CAPITAL ALLIANCE

Why AVPA 2026?

The 2026 AVPA Conference will bring together about 600 high-level participants—investors, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and thought leaders.

The 2025 conference hosted 480 participants from 37 countries for 44 cross-sectoral sessions and 8 field visits.

Key Themes

- Unlocking Domestic Capital
- Catalytic and Blended Finance & Innovative Financing Models
- Strengthening Impact Infrastructure
- Philanthropy's Evolving Role

Cross-Cutting Themes

- Climate: Financing Nature-Positive & Resilient Economies
- Agriculture: Feeding a Growing Continent
- Health: Building Inclusive Health Ecosystems
- Education: Financing Africa's Growth Engine
- Technology & AI for Impact: Scaling solutions & improving efficiency

Why Cape Town? Why Now?

Cape Town is a **prime hub for impact investors** because it blends a vibrant nature finance ecosystem and advanced digital infrastructure with high-growth sectors like green tech, fintech, and renewable energy. It serves as a low-risk, innovative gateway for scaling sustainable solutions across Africa.

South Africa has emerged as a global pioneer in **natural capital markets**, offering Global investors highly sophisticated pathways to scale environmental allocations. The ecosystem features groundbreaking market instruments like the **Cape Water Performance-Based Bond** and critical institutional networks like the **African Bioeconomy Finance Hub**. Backed by strategic capital from institutions like the Development Bank of Southern Africa, the country provides a scientifically rigorous and robustly structured framework for pioneering the future of global biodiversity and conservation finance.

Logistics

Discounted fee (-15%) for the 2026 AVPA conference tickets.

Discounted rate for hotel rooms at the conference venue, the Century City Hotel.

Airline discount codes will be available upon request.

No visa required for Swiss and EU citizen (under 90 days)

Transportation will be arranged for all official programme activities.

**An organisational fee of CHF 300 will be charged to delegates.*



Tentative Agenda

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Sunday
8 November

Evening
AVPA Welcome networking cocktail - Special invitation for the Building Bridges delegation invited

Monday
9 November

The 2026 AVPA conference programme will be made of keynotes, panels, workshops, masterclasses and networking moments. More details on conference programme here.

Morning - sneak peek
Rethinking Development Finance: Africa's Moment to Unlock Domestic Capital
Catalytic Capital in Action: The Financing Models Already Building Africa's Future
From Savers to Nation Builders: Mobilising Pension Capital for Africa's Sustainable Future
Climate as an Investment Opportunity: Unlocking Capital for the Green Economy
Strengthening Agricultural Finance Infrastructure: From Subsistence to Sovereign Food Systems

Afternoon - sneak peek
AI and Tech for Good at Scale: Mobilizing Capital for Africa's Digital Future
Africa's Just Energy Transition: Financing the 300m People Opportunity
AfCFTA in Agriculture: Unlocking the Continental Food Free Trade Opportunity
From Wealth Preservation to Legacy Creation: The Family Office Opportunity in Impact Investing

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Evening programme
Networking Event hosted by the Swiss Embassy
Welcome for the visiting delegation members at the Consul General's residence, allowing for an informal setting to network with key actors in the local ecosystem.

Tuesday
10 November

The 2026 AVPA conference programme will comprise keynotes, panels, workshops, masterclasses and networking moments. More details on conference programme here.

Morning - sneak peek
From Data to Development: How can AI Transform Impact at Scale
Healthy Populations, Strong Economies: Investment Case for Healthcare and Role of Private Capital
Youth, Enterprise and Employment: Financing Africa's and the World's Future Workforce
Nature-Based Solutions: Financing Africa's Natural Capital
Mobilising Domestic Investment and Local Markets for Africa's Agricultural Value Chains

Afternoon - sneak peek
Who Pays for Africa's Future Workforce? Rethinking Education Finance
Powering Africa from Within: Domestic Capital Pathways to Closing the Energy Access Gap
From Remittances to Returns: Building Investment Pathways for Africa's Global Citizens
Strengthening the Enabling Environment: Policy, Regulation and the Infrastructure for Impact

leelafy

Evening programme
Dinner hosted by Leelafy Family Office
A networking dinner hosted by Fleur Heyns Family Office, Leelafy, in Constantia area. This dinner will be the occasion for the delegation to meet and exchange with local and international stakeholders investing with impact in South Africa and across Africa.



Tentative Agenda

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Wednesday
11 November

Day focused on African Innovations for Nature Finance

Morning - Investor Roundtable on Nature Investment Opportunities in Africa
Presentations of various African initiatives to scale investments in nature

- Africa Nature Impact Fund (ANIF) by FSD Africa
- Africa Conservation & Communities Tourism (ACCT) Fund by Thirdway Partners
- Cape Water Performance Based Bond by RMB & TNC (and upcoming bonds)
- REGEN derisking Facility (for regen ag and sustainable forestry) by FSD Africa
- Biodiversity Investment Facility by DBSA

Lunch in Babylonstoren
Site visit of the regenerative practices implemented by Babylonstoren and intimate conversations over lunch to deep dive with the morning presenters around the various innovations presented.

Afternoon - site visit
Visit of the Wemmershoek dam in Fynbos area, a small belt of natural shrubland or heathland vegetation located in the Western Cape and Eastern Cape provinces.

The area continues to face severe human-caused threats, but thanks to initiatives such as the Cape Water performance-based bond conservation efforts are being made to help restore it

Evening
AVPA Impact Disco - Closing celebration with music, networking, and entertainment.



Key Partners and Ecosystem Synergies

- **AVPA**: Convening platform around catalytic capital and social investment.
- **Swiss Confederation**: Continued engagement with regional actors involved in systemic investment efforts.
- **TNC, FSD Africa, ANCA**: Dedicated Nature Finance Day and field trip organised for the delegation to explore nature investment opportunities in Africa.

Opportunities for Delegates

- Participate in curated sessions on blended finance, catalytic capital, and climate-smart investments.
- Network with leading LPs, funds, DFIs, foundations, and policymakers.
- Join exclusive field visits and side events showcasing real-world impact finance in action.

For more information, please contact:

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Founding partners

FINANCE COMMUNITY

Sustainable Finance Geneva
Swiss Sustainable Finance
Fondation Genève Place Financière
Swiss Banking
Asset Management Association

PUBLIC AUTHORITIES

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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République et canton de Genève
Ville de Genève

INTERNATIONAL GENEVA

beyond lab
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UN environment programme finance initiative
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ATNi Nutrition Markets Impact
IISD International Institute for Sustainable Development
Nature Finance
PeaceNexus Foundation
WWF