YCA '26 Summit Program

Pre-Summit - Monday 23rd to Tuesday 24th November 2026

Accreditation
Date & Time: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm
21st – 23rd Nov 2026 for local delegates | Venue: Gasabo District Hall
22nd – 25th Nov 2026 for international delegates | Kigali Convention Center

YouthConnekt Africa Technical Committee Meeting
Format: Workshop, Hosted by the YCA Hub | **Venue:** Ubumwe Grande Hotel | by invitation only
Date & Time: 23rd -24th November 2026 , 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

YouthConnekt Africa Export Accelerator Bootcamp
Format: Workshop | **Venue:** Ubumwe Grande Hotel | by invitation only
Partners: YCA, UNDP, AfCFTA, AUC
Date & Time: 23rd -24th November 2026 , 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Mashariki Creatives Workshops
Format: Workshop | **Venue:** Mashariki Arts Academy
Partners: MFF, MAA
Dates: 23rd -24th November 2026

Generative AI Masterclass
Format: Workshop | **Venue:** UNIPOD – UR, CST
Partners: UNDP
Dates: 23rd -24th November 2026

Day 1 - Wednesday, 25th November 2026

8:30 – 10:30 **Arrival of delegates**
Format: Networking and entertainment - DJ

11:00-12:30 **Official Opening Ceremony**
Venue: Auditorium – Kigali Convention Center (KCC)
Format: High-Level Plenary

Presidential Xchange
Format: Moderated conversation with Heads of State
Theme: **"Shaping the Generational Mission"**

Launch of Youth Spaces
Marketplace: Youth innovations/products Marketplace

13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

14:30 -16:00 **Financing Africa's Future Mission**

Format: Open conversation with an Eminent Personality **| Room:** Auditorium

Parallel Breakout Sessions

- **Passing the torch**, Civic action across generations
  Lead partner: ASG **| Format**: Cine debate | **Room**: MH3

- **Policy Roundtable** on Climate change and SRHR
  Lead Partner: UNFPA, AUC,Imbuto Foundation | **Format**: Policy Roundtable | **Room**: MH4

Health Corner | Connecting Zone - AD12 **| AUC Egumeni Hub -** AD10

18:00 – 20:30: **Gala Dinner**

Format: Banquet **Hosted by:** GoR **| by invitation only**

Kigali Immersion Activities

- **Film Screening**
  Format: Outdoor film screening **Hosted by:** Mashariki Film Festival

- **Imagine Kigali Day**
  Format: Networking Activities **Hosted by:** Zaria Court

- **UNIPOD Demo Evening & Social Mixer**
  Format: Networking Activities **Hosted by: UNDP Venue: UNIPOD UR- CST**

Day 2 - Thursday, 26th November 2026

8:30 – 09:30 **Arrival of delegates**

Format: Networking and entertainment – DJ

8:30 – 9:30 **Securing the Future of Africa's University Innovation Pods**

Format: High-level Ministerial Breakfast Meeting **| Hosted by: UNDP |** by invitation

9:30 – 11:00 **The Future of Jobs**

Format: Mix of TED Talk and Interactive Panel **| Hosted by: UNDP | Room:** Auditorium

Beyond the City: Building Resilient Livelihoods 4 Rural Young Women (Part 1)
Lead Partner: BRAC | **Format**: Workshop | **Room**: MH2

11:30-13:00 **Buy from Youth: Turning Green Livelihoods into Green Markets**

Room: Auditorium **| Lead partner**: FAO,WFP,AGRA**| Format:** High-level interactive Panel Engagement

Parallel Breakout Sessions

- **Beyond the City:** Building Resilient Livelihoods 4 Rural Young Women (Part 2)
  Lead Partner: BRAC | **Format**: Workshop | **Room**: MH2

- **Influencing the Change: Youth leadership in Africa**
  Lead Partner: YAC | **Format**: TED Talk | **Room**: MH3

- **Green Opportunity Lab**
  Lead Partner: YC Bassin du Congo | **Format**: Workshop | **Room**: MH4

Health Corner | Connecting Zone - AD12 **| AUC Egumeni Hub -** AD10

13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

14:30 – 16:00 **Legacy vs NextGen:** Reimagining African Creativity

Venue: Auditorium **| Format:** Generational Debate with eminent personalities

Parallel Breakout Sessions

- **YouthConnektXRegions**
  Lead partner: YouthConnekt Mano River Union and Sahel Regional Forum | **Format**: Learning Spotlight | **Room**: MH1

- **Making Finance Work for Rural Youth Entreprises**
  Lead partner: Catholic Relief Services | **Format**: Learning Spotlight and Youth Fireside | **Room**: MH2

- **ACET Youth Policy Lab**
  Lead Partner: ACET | **Format**: Policy Lab | **Room**: MH3

- **Policy Roundtable on Inclusive Trade**
  Lead partner: YCA Hub,UNDP | **Format**: Roundtable | **Room**: MH4

- **Health Corner | Connecting Zone -** AD12 **| AUC Egumeni Hub -** AD10

17:30 – 19:30 **Youth Talent Night**

Venue: Auditorium **| Format:** Mix of entertainment activities

Day 3 - Friday, 27th November 2026

8:30 – 9:30 **Arrival of delegates**

Format: Networking and entertainment – DJ

8:30 – 9:30 **Secondary Education in Africa (SEA) Launch Report**

Format: High-level Breakfast Meeting **| Hosted by: Mastercard Foundation** | by invitation

9:30 – 11:00 **Legacy vs NextGen:** the Future of Sports Economy

Lead partner: YCA Hub, Minisports| **Format**: Generational debate | **Room**: Auditorium

11:30 – 13:00 **Trajectories of Dignified Employment**

Lead partner: Mastercard Foundation **| Venue:** Auditorium **| Format:** High-level session

Parallel Breakout Sessions

- **YouthConnekt Southern Africa: Pitch Your Country**

Lead partner: YouthConnekt Zambia,UNDP ECoWYERT Project | **Format**: Generational debate with eminent personalities | **Room**: MH1

- **The Next Tech Africa Giants**
  Lead partner: Smart Africa | **Format**: Ted Talk and Interactive Panel | **Room**: MH2

- **Africa's Creative Wealth** : Creatives4Peace
  Lead partner: UNDP | **Format**: TedTalk | **Room**: MH3

- **Thrive Africa: Investing in Innovative Youth Health, Education & Empowerment:**
  Lead partner: UNFPA,Imbuto Foundation,African Union | **Format**: Intergenerational Fireside Chat & Youth Solutions Arena | **Room**: MH4

- **YouthConnekt Mano River Union Steering Committee Meeting**
  Lead partner: YouthConnekt Mano River Union | **Format**: Boardroom | **Room**: AD7

Health Corner | Connecting Zone | AUC Egumeni Hub

13:00 –14:00 **Lunch**

14:30 – 16:00 **Official Closing Ceremony**
Venue: Auditorium

17:30 – 19:30 **Kigali Night Run**
Venue: Nyarutarama Green Carpet

Day 4 - Saturday 28th November 2026

9:30 – 14:30: **YouthConnekt Africa Steering Committee**
Format: Ministerial Meeting – by invitation only

Visit Rwanda Optional Activities
Format: City excursions | Optional