YCA '26 Summit Program

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

Accreditation
Date & Time: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm
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 (By Invitation Only) | **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

Generational 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 **Passing the torch: Civic action across generations**
Lead partner: ASG | **Format:** Cine Debate | **Room:** Auditorium

Parallel Breakout Sessions

- **Africa's Turn,** Unlocking Opportunities Within, Shaping the World Beyond
  Lead Partner: YCA Hub | **Format**: TED Talk Style | **Room**: MH3

- **Policy Roundtable** on Climate change and SRHR
  Lead Partner: UNFPA, AUC,Imbuto Foundation | **Format**: Policy Roundtable | **Room**: AD12

Health Corner | Connecting Zone | 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
  Venue: KCC Roundabout - Open to the public

- **Imagine Kigali Day**
  Format: Networking Activities **Hosted by:** Zaria Court
  Venue: Zaria Court - Open to the public

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

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
Venue: AD10

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

- **Thrive Africa: Investing in Innovative Youth Health, Education & Empowerment:Lead partner**: UNFPA,Imbuto Foundation ,African Union | **Format**: Intergenerational Fireside Chat & Youth Solutions Arena | **Room**: MH1
- **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 - Bassin du Congo** **Lead Partner**: YC Bassin du Congo | **Format**: Workshop | **Room**: AD12
- **Young Africans Shaping Safe and Inclusive Digital Futures** **Lead Partner**: AUC, UNWOMEN | **Format**: Workshop | **Room**: AD10

Health Corner | Connecting Zone

13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

14:30 – 16:00 **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 Enterprises** **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**: AD12
- **Health Corner | Connecting Zone | 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 – 10:00 **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

- **YouthConnekt Mano River Union Steering Committee Meeting**
  Lead partner: YouthConnekt Mano River Union | **Format**: Boardroom | **Room**: AD12

Health Corner | Connecting Zone | AUC Egumeni Hub

13:00 –14:00 **Lunch**

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

Day 4 - Saturday 28th November 2026

9:00 – 11:00: **National Umuganda**

13:00 – 15:00 **YouthConnekt Africa Steering Committee**
Format: Ministerial Meeting – by invitation only

Visit Rwanda Optional Activities
Format: City excursions | Optional