



Eastern & Southern Africa Private Sector Forum on Irrigation

5 – 6 October 2026 | Nairobi, Kenya

Accelerating Irrigation through Investment, Innovation and Partnerships in Eastern and Southern Africa

DAY 1 · MONDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2026

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS / FACILITATORS	ROOM
08:00 – 09:00	Registration and Networking Breakfast		Foyer
09:00 – 10:00	Opening Ceremony MC: Mwombeki Baregu	Keynote Address: • Amine Idriss Adoum, Director of Infrastructure, Industrialisation, Trade and Regional Integration, AUDA-NEPAD • Qimiao Fan, Division Director, Eastern and Southern Africa Region, World Bank Group • Eng. Eric Murithi Mugaa, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, Kenya	Main Plenary – Kenya 123
10:00 – 11:00	Plenary Panel: Continental Vision – The Private Sector as Driver of Irrigation Transformation	• CPA Ephantus Kimotho, Principal Secretary, State Department of Irrigation, Kenya • Brent Malahay, Equity Bank • Gillian Rogers, IFC • Sarah Mbago-Bhunu, IFAD • Dave Govender, Balton, Amirian Moderator: Pieter Waalewijn, World Bank Group	Main Plenary – Kenya 123
11:00 – 11:20	Coffee Break and Networking (Group photo)		Foyer
11:20 – 12:30	Country Investment Pitches – Parallel Breakout Sessions	• Kenya · Tanzania (Facilitator: David Wanyoike) • Uganda · Malawi (Facilitator: Richard Colback) • Ethiopia · Zimbabwe (Facilitator: Robert Peck)	Elgon 3 Chui Nyati

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS / FACILITATORS	ROOM
12:30 – 13:15		Lunch and Networking	Larder Restaurant
13:15 – 14:15	Panel: Closing the Missing Middle – Agricultural Lending, Risk Instruments, FinTech, and Matching Farmer Needs	• Erastus Njoroge, Kenya Development Corporation • Raphael Kuria, YAPU Solutions Kenya • Anne Njeru, Safaricom Digifarm • Madleine Mwithiga, ADAPTA Earth • CPA Ephantus Kimotho, PS-SDI, Kenya Moderator: Jane Jamieson, World Bank Group	Main Plenary – Kenya 123
14:15 – 15:00	Panel: The Upstream Ecosystem – Service Models, Technology, and Water Productivity	• Mikayla Czajkowski, SunCulture • Jacques Tuyishime, Holland GreenTech • Sergio Montesinos Fuster, AgriTechmurcia • German Martos, Lindsay Moderator: Lydia Onditi, Davis & Shirtliff	Main Plenary – Kenya 123
15:00 – 15:30	Ignite: Two Stories That Prove the Model	• Geoffrey Gitundu, Mwea Irrigation Scheme • Anthony Mabonga, SunCulture Moderator: Eng. Vincent Kabuti, State Department for Irrigation, Kenya	Main Plenary – Kenya 123
15:30 – 17:00	Deal Room Session 1: Extended Structured Matchmaking	• Country Pipelines (Facilitator: Abd-al-Malik Madina Ahmat) • Finance and Risk Instruments (Facilitator: Matthew Leonard) • Technology and Equipment Supply (Facilitator: Jonathan Denison)	Elgon 3 Chui Nyati
17:00 – 21:00	Evening Cocktail, Networking and Innovation Showcase	Demonstration Stands: AgTech and Agri-Finance companies	Alfresco Terrace

DAY 2 · TUESDAY, 6 OCTOBER 2026

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS / FACILITATORS	ROOM
08:30 – 08:45		Arrival and Networking	Foyer
08:45 – 09:00	Day 2 Welcome and Day 1 Recap MC: Synthesis and transition: Mwombeki Baregu (IFC) and Florence Ndai (State Department for Irrigation, Kenya)	Deal Room verbal reports: David Wanyoike; Richard Colback, Robert Peck (WBG)	Main Plenary – Kenya 123
09:00 – 10:00	Panel: Producers, Off-takers and Resilient Linkages – What Buyers Actually Need	- Sanjay Kumar Vasoya, ETG - Nicholas Kahiga, Kilimo Agropo Services - Peter Muthee, Frigoken Moderator: Mure Agbonlahor (AU)	Main Plenary – Kenya 123
10:00 – 10:40	Case Studies: What Works and What Lasts – Sustainable Integration Models at Scale	Cases: - Alexander Valetton, Farmbetter - Chris Mathews, Agricane - Abraham Ndambuki, Thrive Agric - Sandra Bos, Resilience BV Synthesis: Richard Colback, World Bank Group Sustainable Spotlight facilitator: Florence Ndai, State Department for Irrigation, Kenya	Main Plenary – Kenya 123
10:40 – 11:00		Coffee Break and Networking	Foyer
11:00 – 12:30	Deal Room Session 2: Extended Structured Matchmaking	- Market Linkages and Off takers (Facilitator: Mwombeki Baregu) - Technology and Precision Irrigation (Facilitator: Johnstone Mainya) - Finance and Value Chain (Facilitator: Patrick Macharia)	Elgon 3 Kenya 3 Chui
12:30 – 13:30		Lunch and Networking	Larder Restaurant

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS / FACILITATORS	ROOM
13:30 – 14:15	Policy Feedback Forum: What Governments Must Do to Unlock Private Irrigation Investment	• Prof. Ernest Ketcha, KHICS • Prof. Obert Jiri, Zimbabwe • Solomon Kando Wakgari, Ethiopia • John A Mulongoti, Zambia Facilitator: <i>Eng. Vincent Kabuti, State Department for Irrigation, Kenya</i>	Main Plenary – Kenya 123
14:15 – 15:00	Commitment Wall – Formal Pledge Session	Facilitators: • Dr. Ildephonse Musafiri, AUDA-NEPAD	Main Plenary – Kenya 123
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee Break / Free Networking		Foyer
15:30 – 16:00	Closing Ceremony	Remarks: Anna Wellenstein, Regional Practice Director, World Bank Summary and Close: Dr. Ildephonse Musafiri, AUDA-NEPAD	Main Plenary – Kenya 123