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The monthly newsletter of The Corporate Council on Africa
THE CORPORATE COUNCIL ON AFRICA
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Stephen Hayes, president and CEO, The Corporate Council on Africa, opens the conference. Panelists: David Picard, Regional Manager for Africa, Caterpillar (Moderator); Samuel Dossou, CEO, Petrolin Group; Gilberto Rodrigues, CEO, Mota-Engil Africa; Paul Sullivan, Director, International Business Development, Acrow Bridge and Angela Nalikka, Manager, Infrastructure Finance and PPP, African Development Bank

CCA HOSTS ITS 6TH U.S.-AFRICA INFRASTRUCTURE CONFERENCE

On October 7-9, CCA hosted its 6th U.S.-Africa Infrastructure Conference in Washington, D.C. This year's conference themed "Building Resilient Cities," highlighted how major metropolises in Africa are coping with rapid urbanization, and the needs of a steadily growing middle class. Workshops offered solutions for potable water, intermodal transportation, communication technology, on and off-grid electricity, natural and manmade disasters and coastal and high-end city infrastructure.

The opening plenary session entitled "*Laying the Foundation in Support of Africa's Infrastructure Growth*" highlighted how crucial it is for infrastructure projects to be implemented by local talent. By employing local engineers, technicians and contractors to build critical infrastructure, these projects will have impacts on the soft as well as hard infrastructure within countries. It was recognized that this entails a decades-long commitment to Africa - bringing innovative solutions to expand skills and capacity on the continent.

The second plenary "*Investing in the Great Lakes Region*" explored a region that presents a wide, integrated market of approximately 200 million people with prospects of a macro economic convergence constituting a single currency and no trade barriers between Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda,

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THREE TECH INNOVATIONS THAT ARE SOLVING YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT IN AFRICA

Sixty percent of unemployed Africans are between the ages of 15 and 24. All too often, university-educated young Africans tell a similar story—upon graduating with a diploma, they discover that either employers don't have entry-level positions, or their skills don't match the needs of the job market.

Three social innovations in Africa are rewriting this story. These tech-based strategies are improving the job prospects of young Africans, while sparking stronger local economies from within communities.

1) Powering Young Ambassadors of an Inclusive Digital Revolution – East Africa

Digital Opportunity Trust (DOT) activates a network of young university graduates who return to their home communities and deliver trainings in information and communications technology (ICT) skills, business skills, and life skills. DOT Interns enable their peers and fellow community members to "recognize the opportunities around them and to use technology in a local context to address local challenges and solutions," according to founder Janet Longmore.

Thus, DOT Interns are leading a system-wide shift toward digital citizenship, opening doors to job opportunities, and enabling community members to launch their own social enterprises and socially responsible businesses.

"We have leveraged technology to really create a network of people who are supporting each other's growth and skills development," Longmore said, during a recent Google+ Hangout on ICT for social change hosted by Ashoka. "This is a network of creativity and solutions—and importantly, it is a very safe space for young people to collaborate, solve problems, and share knowledge."

DOT has placed more than 4,000 interns and reached over 800,000 community members around the world. More than 90 percent of DOT Interns globally have found employment, or have started their own businesses upon completion of the program, and 71 percent have reported an increase in income.

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Modibo Touré, Assistant Secretary, General and Special Advisor, Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Regions, United Nations (Moderator); H.E. Maria Kiwanuka, Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, The Republic of Uganda; H.E. Faida Mitifu, Ambassador, Embassy of Democratic Republic of Congo; H.E. Liberata Mulamula, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Tanzania

CCA HOSTS ITS 6TH U.S.-AFRICA INFRASTRUCTURE CONFERENCE ...continued from front page.

which facilitates opportunities for investment.

"Building and Rebuilding for Resilience" highlighted the impact of women's role in building infrastructure on the African continent including how the challenges in African infrastructure have disproportionately impacted the quality of life for women and children, and that investment from the business community should focus on providing opportunities for women's leadership. In addition to discussion on women's issues, the panel stated that businesses tend to think about new investment from the private sector point of view instead of considering how efficiently current assets in-country are being used.

The conference closed with the panel entitled *"Aggregated Sources of Funding for Infrastructure Funding,"* which focused on ways in which investors can diversify and aggregate their sources of funding.

For more information and for recaps on each of the conference plenaries and workshops, please click **here**.

For a list of conference attendees, please click **here**.

The Corporate Council on Africa would like to thank its generous sponsors and supporters of the 2014 U.S. Africa Infrastructure Conference, including: **Platinum:** Petrolin Group, Symbion Power.

Paul Hinks, Chairman, The Corporate Council on Africa (Moderator); Kamran Khan, Vice President, Department of Compact Operations, Millennium Challenge Corporation; Amb. Robert Perry, Vice President, International Programs, The Corporate Council on Africa

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Presentation of the gift by Stephen Hayes to Charles Boamah, Vice President, Finances, African Development Bank on behalf of Donald Kaburuka, President, African Development Bank

Joyce Banda, Former President of Malawi

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CCA is hiring!

CCA is currently looking for qualified candidates interested in becoming the Director of the Agribusiness Initiatives Program.

Visit
www.africacncl.org/careers
for details.


Jonathan Bloch

DATA DEPLOYMENT: VALIDATING WHERE AFRICA IS RISING

Jonathan Bloch, founder and CEO of Exchange Data International (EDI), a global provider of aggregated economic and financial data, discussed with CCA members the essential role of good data as a tool in identifying risk and reward. Bloch explained that standard economic indicators such as inflation rates, unemployment rates and GDP growth tell a story, but also often miss a big part of the economy, which is informal. This underplaying of the size of African markets might discourage investors who fail to appreciate the extent of the opportunities in front of them. Bloch suggested companies examine other indicators such as growth in cell phone usage, number of new builds, and numbers of car license plate registrations to get a more holistic assessment of opportunities in Africa.

Dubbed “Data Deployment”, Bloch explained how access to reliable data can be an essential tool for distinguishing “difficult countries,” “embedded, long-term, instability countries,” “proceed with caution countries” and “rising countries” across Africa. Difficult countries being those where operating a business is problematic, few economic statistics are available, and central government is dysfunctional or has simply broken down. Embedded, long-term instability countries have increasing inequality that could lead to widespread social unrest, while in proceed with caution countries companies may invest, but to a backdrop of, for example, the fear of nationalization. Finally, rising countries have substantial inward capital flows, the importance of good governance is understood, and political support for investment is favorable. When making investment decisions companies cannot simply rely on data from international organizations such as the World Bank and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Furthermore, it was always the case that anybody monitoring risk and opportunity across the Continent must be prepared to spend many hours in obtaining and verifying African data, which often underestimates reality.

Believing that good decisions need good data, and good African data up to now has been highly laborious to obtain, EDI’s solution is its “AFED” service, a compiled database of economic and financial information on Africa, sourced from a multiplicity of international organizations as well as from African regional organizations such as the Southern African Development Community, Economic Community of West African States, and Africa Union; and finally from local African sources such as the central banks, government statistical bureaus, and ministries. Gathering this data can be challenging, but EDI has more than fifty full-time people working on its Africa data project to meet the needs of, amongst others, investment banks, brokerage houses, consultancies, custodians, data vendors, and government and their agencies, all of whom must assess and mitigate risk in Africa.

Sources are updated daily and clients can receive alerts when those they are monitoring have been refreshed. The AFED service also reports the daily activity of Africa’s capital markets and all of Africa’s 23 securities exchanges, including closing equity and bond prices, market indices, fixed income data, interest and foreign exchange rates and sovereign credit ratings. Alongside this, the economic data module contains more than 20,000 indicators grouped under 13 topics. The AFED service can help validate perceptions of where Africa is actually rising, bringing reality and judgement to both thought leadership and the common goal of enhancing an organization’s sustainable African footprint. CCA members can access a free, no obligation trial of this service by contacting Daniel Wolf, director of membership at CCA at **cca@africacncl.org**.

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CÔTE D'IVOIRE REVIEWS THREE PILLARS OF RECONSTRUCTION

Alassane Ouattara

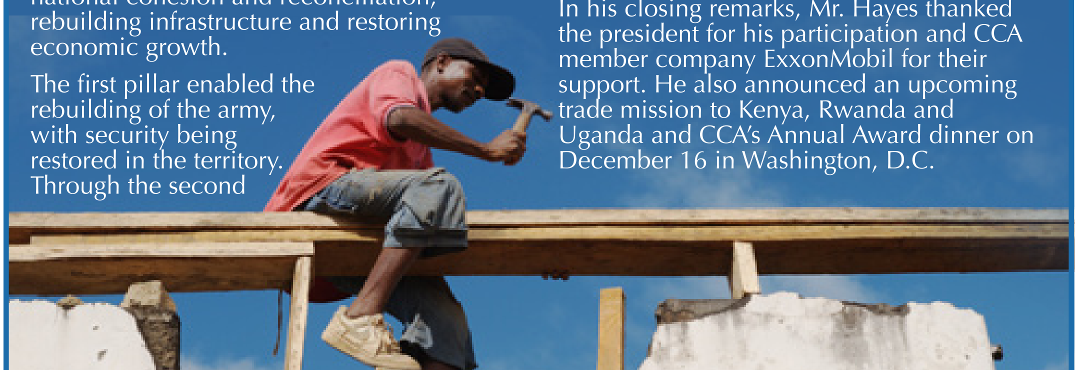
On Thursday, September 25, CCA hosted a presidential dinner with H.E. Alassane Ouattara, president of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire at the Metropolitan Club in New York. The dinner was opened by welcome remarks given by president and CEO of CCA, Stephen Hayes.

Following dinner, Mr. Hayes introduced the guest of honor. In his remarks, H.E. President Ouattara provided an overview of the massive reconstruction program his government developed under three pillars: Restoring peace and security; ensuring national cohesion and reconciliation; rebuilding infrastructure and restoring economic growth.

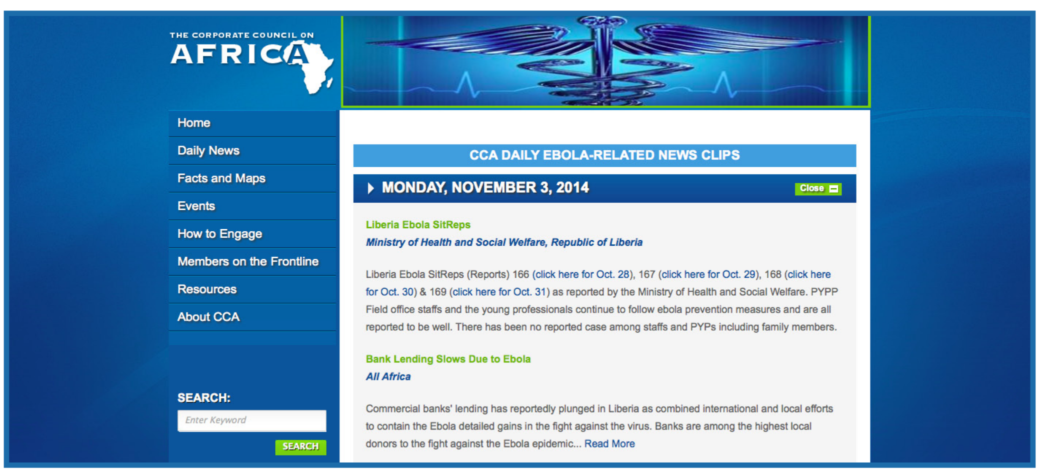
The first pillar enabled the rebuilding of the army, with security being restored in the territory. Through the second pillar, the Dialog, Truth and Reconciliation Commission was established to initiate the healing process, close the door on the painful post-election crisis and accelerate national reconciliation. A more peaceful political climate also enabled the restoration of internal political dialogue between political parties, in preparation for upcoming elections. The pillar of economic growth has enabled Cote d'Ivoire renewal, through a double-digit growth rate and improved business climate.

President Ouattara concluded by strongly stating that Côte d'Ivoire is back and open for business with an improved business environment, access to a larger market with Economic Community Of West African States, an abundant level of skilled labor, strong agricultural resources, potential natural resources and great investment opportunities in the infrastructure sector.

In his closing remarks, Mr. Hayes thanked the president for his participation and CCA member company ExxonMobil for their support. He also announced an upcoming trade mission to Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda and CCA's Annual Award dinner on December 16 in Washington, D.C.



CCA LAUNCHES THE EBOLA RESPONSE PORTAL



The Corporate Council on Africa's (CCA) Ebola Response Portal is a hub for information sharing - providing updated news clips, event listings, engagement opportunities and resources for both members and non-members. CCA's platform convenes key actors involved in the response to Ebola Viral Disease (EVD), including our member companies with operations in the affected countries and/or whose products and services align with country needs; U.S and African government officials; and other private sector initiatives responding to the crisis. It will serve as a meeting point for interested actors responding to the outbreak of EVD in West Africa. It will also highlight the work already being done by CCA members - both philanthropic and programmatic. For Daily Ebola-Related News, visit CCA's Ebola Response Portal by clicking **here**.

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Power and productivity for a better world™

ABB is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility, industry, transportion and infrastructure customers to improve their performance, while lowering environmental impact. The ABB Group of companies operates in roughly 100 countries and employs about 145,000 people.

ABB has a long history of engagement in Africa, most recently with the announcement that the company will partner with Vestas to bring clean wind energy to rural communities that currently lack any electric power infrastructure. This is not new for ABB—the firm has provided products and engineering expertise to numerous electrification projects in Africa over the past 20 years.

ABB has also worked for decades to make African industries more energy-efficient. From a turnkey natural gas treatment plant in South Africa to asset management software at Swaziland's national grid operator, ABB is helping move African business to the next level.

For more information, visit **www.abb.com**.

AMARANTE International

Amarante provides expert security and safety management services for asset and personnel protection. It also continuously conducts advisory field missions, delivering superior security planning, incident response and crisis management processes

Established in Paris in 2007, Amarante today also operates from its UK subsidiary, with a representative office in Washington D.C., and several branches worldwide. It stands now as an industry reference, primarily (but not exclusively) in Europe and Africa. Since its creation, the group has recorded an average 35 percent annual growth in revenue.

Amarante delivers its services through six business lines: Assesment of exposure to security risks; advisory, training and operational support for incident response and crisis management; personnel protection; protection of sites and installations; protection of technology and information; and health, safety and environment.

The group employs 180 permanent staff, consisting mainly of experts originating from French (and other foreign) military or police special forces, supported by hundreds of operators available for immediate, short or longer term assignments worldwide. They have invaluable expertise and decades-long experience in managing emergencies and crisis situations. Accordingly, the group enjoys an undisputed capacity to deploy in challenging environments, particularly in Africa, the Middle East and Latin America.

Amarante's staff has superior operational, multicultural and cross-industry knowledge of the African continent, including the Maghreb. This makes the group a highly dependable security partner for multinational corporations, especially in Francophone territories. The group has subsidiaries in Algeria, Senegal, Nigeria and Niger, while continuously conducting deployments throughout the region, with current emphasis on Cameroon, Angola, Gabon, CAR, Mozambique and DRC.

For more information, visit **www.amarante.com/en/home.html**.

FMN

Flour Mills of Nigeria Plc, a related portfolio of vertically integrated activities, is a household name in Nigeria. It is publicly listed, with a market capitalization of $12.5 billion (₦2 trillion) and sales of $2 billion (₦ 300 billion) in 2013/14 financial year, and has over 12,000 full and part time employees.

While the company may have its roots in flour milling it finds this identity limiting, as it anchors the company in the one dimension of wheat, while it is a multifaceted company that is proud of using locally sourced raw materials. Therefore the company has repositioned itself to be known as 'FMN'.

FMN will stand as a mark of quality and innovation for leading people in an ever-changing environment to a common destination of being the leading food company on the African continent. Its goal is to be recognized as having the confidence and determination to make things happen for the benefit of consumers, customers, employees and shareholders, while it is backwardly integrated into an agro allied business that is supportive of the Nigerian government's policies. FMN has been a great champion of the Nigerian people since 1960 and prides itself on being known as the "Home of Good Food."

For more information, visit **www.fmnplc.com**.

Inchcape Shipping Services

A World of Local Expertise.

Inchcape Shipping Services (ISS) is one of the world's leading maritime, cargo and supply chain service providers. Through its proprietary network of some 300 offices employing over 3,800 people across 66 countries, ISS provides its customers with an extensive range of solutions delivered globally and tailored to each customer's individual needs.

ISS' diversified customer base includes clients across the oil & gas, cruise, container and bulk commodity sectors as well as serving naval, government and inter-governmental clients. Additionally, ISS provides landside commercial and humanitarian logistics, transit, offshore support and other associated marine and cargo services.

The Company also provides a growing range of outsourcing services. These include terminal and depot management; supply and support of vessel operations; global crew and marine spares logistics; port agency management and commercial representation; as well as sophisticated Enterprise Resource Planning solutions through its subsidiary ShipNet.

Africa is a key region for ISS, where the company has an ambitious expansion strategy across all of its business streams. Currently operating in eight countries, there are plans to open in Mozambique before the end of 2014, with further launches planned for 2015.

ISS works closely and collaboratively with its clients to provide solutions that are built on getting the basic principles right. With its values built on HSSE, Quality Management Systems and a robust ethos of Compliance and Ethics, ISS embodies a culture where risks are effectively understood, owned and mitigated.

For more information visit **www.iss-shipping.com**, or email **ISSEnquiries@iss-shipping.com**.

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2) Attracting Young People to Farming Livelihoods through Tech – Kenya

The average age of the farmer in Kenya is 60 years old—yet, nearly 80 percent of Kenyans are younger than 35 years old. "More and more youths are abandoning the plough," according to M-Farm, a tech startup (founded by Ashoka Fellow Jamila Abass) whose mission is to make farmers more profitable through mobile tools.

M-Farm allows users to check real-time market prices for various crops—information that was previously very difficult to access. The transparency tool removes middlemen from the process and ensures that farmers get a fair deal. The service also connects small farmers to jointly market goods at volume and to use their collective buying power to get discounts on inputs like fertilizer. By equipping farmers with better access to markets and information, M-Farm is making agribusiness a more attractive option for young people – and dispelling the popular myth that farming is a "poor man's profession."

The first 686 farmers to use M-Farm's platform in 2012 doubled their profits on average. Today, nearly 7,500 farmers currently use M-Farm, which has an ambitious goal to reach 180,000 users by the end of 2015.

3) Co-Working Tech Hubs Spark Entrepreneurship & Team-Led Innovation - West Africa

Jokkolabs, founded by technology entrepreneur Karim Sy, is a network of collaborative working spaces where young entrepreneurs in West Africa come together to create social and business ventures. Why do co-working spaces fuel great ideas? According to Jokkolabs, "entrepreneurs are often considered crazy for engaging in such risk taking, and are generally discouraged" in the region. However, coworking spaces like Jokkolabs provide a community of support for entrepreneurs and interweave the spirit of entrepreneurship with the region's traditional values of interconnectivity. Thus, Jokkolabs' model is rooted in the African proverb: If you want to walk fast, you walk alone; if you want to walk far, you go together.

Inspired by many tech communities' open-source culture, Jokkolab entrepreneurs are encouraged to share resources and pursue even greater visions through joint ventures. "Jokkoworkers" are starting businesses and tackling pressing social issues in health, education, agriculture, open technology, media, and governance. For example, during Senegal's contentious 2012 presidential elections, "Jokkoworkers" organized an IT system (using the election monitoring platform, Ushahidi) that allowed community organizers to report on the safety and fairness at polling places in real time. As of 2014, Jokkolabs has welcomed more than 142 young Jokkoworkers, and Jokkolabs have been established in Mali, Burkina Faso, France, Senegal and Nigeria.

This article was provided by CCA member ***allAfrica.com****. AllAfrica Global Media is a multimedia content service provider, systems technology developer and the largest electronic distributor of African news and information worldwide.*

RECENT EVENTS

9/25: CCA hosts **luncheon in honor of H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya**

9/25: CCA hosts **dinner in honor of H.E. Alassane Ouattara, President of the Republic of Ivory Coast**

9/26: CCA hosts **luncheon in honor of H.E. Peter Mutharika, President of the Republic of Malawi**

10/7-9: CCA presents **U.S.-Africa Infrastructure Conference "Building Resilient Cities"**

9/25: CCA's **Africa Rising Working Group meeting** featuring speaker Jonathan Bloch, founder and CEO of Exchange Data International (EDI)

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The Corporate Council on Africa (CCA), established in 1993, is at the forefront of strengthening and facilitating the commercial relationship between the United States and the African continent.

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