

The State of Social Enterprise Africa: A Conversation with the Builders of Impact

SUSTAINING IMPACT SUMMIT – FRIDAY 28 AUGUST 2026
16:00-17:30 (WAT) - VIRTUAL SESSION

Overview

The [State of Social Enterprise: Unlocking Inclusive Growth, Jobs, and Development in Africa](#) provides a major evidence base on the scale, contribution and challenges of social enterprises across the continent. This session, hosted as part of the African Social Enterprise Workshop's 2026 Sustaining Impact Summit, will bring those findings into conversation with the lived realities of social entrepreneurs, creating space for peer exchange, practical reflection and ecosystem learning. This is not designed as a traditional report presentation. It is a social entrepreneur-centred conversation that uses the report as a starting point, then invites participants to connect the findings to their own enterprises, questions and operating realities.

Session Type: Interactive Virtual Session

Session Slot: Friday 26 August 2026. 16:00-17:30 (WAT)

Speakers:

- Nyifamu Manzo – Founder of Farmatrix Agro (Nigeria), WEF Global Shaper
- Mariam Nourya Koné – Founder of Hackily (Côte d'Ivoire), WEF Global Shaper
- Adeyemi Adelekan - Director of African Social Enterprise Workshop
- Danson Gichini – Lead, Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship, World Economic Forum

Moderator:

- Shawn Theunissen – Chair, Social Enterprise Academy Africa

Session Objectives:

- Share key findings from the State of Social Enterprise in Africa report in a concise and accessible way.
- Bring the findings to life through the personal journey and enterprise model of a dynamic social entrepreneur.
- Enable participants to introduce their own work and connect with peers in small groups.
- Surface participant-led questions for the speaker on mission, markets, finance, regulation, impact and sustainability.
- Identify practical insights, ecosystem asks and follow-up opportunities for social entrepreneurs and partners.