Total Number of Participants in 2021:
3000
NOTES

III TABEF 2023 platform hosted more than 3,000 Turkish and African business people, 1,600 of whom are from 45 African countries; The forum hosted the Vice President of South Sudan and Ministers of 34 African countries, the African Union Commission Commissioner and representatives of dozens of business organizations. III TABEF engaged various categories of investors to facilitate match making efforts with curated deals, and B2B meetings.
Türkiye-Africa Business and Economic Forum (TABEF) is a unique platform promoting investment and trade relations between Türkiye and African countries since 2016. TABEF, co-organized every two years by Turkish Ministry of Trade, African Union Commission (AUC) and Foreign Economic Relations Board of Türkiye (DEİK), is a vital source of information, support, guidance and networking, and provides the unique opportunity for the business circles of Türkiye and African countries to meet and interact, and discuss the policies, models and trends to encourage new business partnerships and deepen the collaboration.

The Forum is mainly aimed at promoting Turkish and African investments through analyzing trade and economic relations between Africa and Türkiye; evaluating Türkiye’s approach to investment in Africa; facilitating interaction between the two business communities and initiating dialogue between Turkish investors, the AU and the RECs. It is also aimed at highlighting the Expectations engendered by Agenda 2063 as a program for social, economic and political transformation that will make Africa a prosperous, united and economically independent Continent as well as AfCFTA that will boost intra-African trade and investments significantly.
The objectives of TABEF:

- Raising the awareness of Turkish/Africa business circles about the investment and business opportunities in Africa and Türkiye;
- Raising awareness on the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) and its reflections for public and private sector;
- Identifying possible future directions for Türkiye-Africa partnership within the trade, investments, technology and logistics nexus;
- Channeling private sector of Türkiye and of African countries towards commercial, industrial and technological partnerships;
- Increasing interaction among the business communities of Türkiye and Africa;
- Strengthening dialogue platform with African Regional Economic Communities.

The Forum provides an open space for eminent representatives of Public and Private sector actors, from both Türkiye and Africa to discuss and—build on their respective experiences—jointly identify a set of recommendations for scaling up private sector engagement and innovative catalytic Public-Private Partnerships for broad-based, sustainable, inclusive growth and development. TABEF brings together the political leaders and senior decision makers, ministers, heads of financial institutions and chambers, NGOs, diplomatic missions, mass media, academicians, company executives, and investors from Türkiye and African countries for new joint ventures, trade partnerships and investments.

The two-day event is enriched by the opening remarks of heads of the states, business award ceremony, G2B meetings where Ministers presents current investment environment and opportunities in their countries, the thematic panel sessions with hot topics and high-level experts where Turkish companies that have made significant investments in Africa will share their experiences, and the major investment projects with the financing instruments will be discussed. In addition, business to business meetings and networking sessions will be held simultaneously.
“AFRICA HAS AN EXCEPTIONAL PLACE IN OUR HEARTS”

Türkiye and Africa used to seem far away from one another unfortunately despite their shared history dating back more than a thousand years. There used to be many artificial barriers placed between Türkiye and Africa, with prejudices eclipsing the truth. We got started by first tearing down these prejudices. We have built bridges from heart to heart between our nation and the peoples of Africa. The essence of our relations with Africa is sincerity, brotherhood and solidarity. “I express on every occasion the exceptional place Africa has in our hearts. We prove by our works across the country that our affection towards our African brothers and sisters is not merely rhetoric. “Türkiye-Africa Business and Economic Forum (TABEF) is a great platform, which would contribute to the strengthening of the cooperation between Türkiye and Africa, to discuss investment opportunities in a wide range of areas, including but not limited to energy, agriculture, healthcare, banking system and innovation, and to share views on policies that would mobilize the potential between Türkiye and the countries in the continent. Besides the strong aspects of our cooperation, the topics that we should work on together are also discussed and assessed within the scope of the Forum.

“Türkiye-Africa Relations are Growing Stronger in a Multidimensional Manner”

While Turkish investors’ interest in the continent increases, our African friends discover Türkiye’s opportunities, particularly in the areas of tourism, healthcare, infrastructure and
production, and our African brothers and sisters, who have met Türkiye’s modern and high quality healthcare infrastructure, seek treatments for their illnesses at the hospitals in Türkiye. And the defense industry products produced by Türkiye contribute a lot to the border security of African peoples and their fight against terror.

We’re grateful that, the relations between Türkiye and Africa are gaining strength each day in a multidimensional way based upon equal partnership and win-win strategy. Today, many investments in Africa, from airports to ports, public buildings to roads and tunnels, bear the signature of Turkish contractors. Turkish companies have undertaken more than 1150 projects with a total value above USD 70 billion across the continent. The value of our investments continent-wide has also exceeded USD 6 billion. Our total trade with the region increased from USD 5.4 billion in 2003 up to USD 25.3 billion by the end of 2020. “Our target is to increase this volume primarily up to USD 50 billion and then to USD 75 billion. I believe we can achieve this goal, working hand in hand.”
The long-standing partnership and cooperation between Türkiye and Africa continues at an increasing pace. We aim to elevate the current partnership to higher levels with the contribution of business people from Türkiye and African countries. Türkiye is ready to provide any contribution to the development process of Africa. With this objective, the Forum provides a platform for the business people of Türkiye and African countries to meet and further develop cooperation in commercial and economic fields. This Forum would pave the way for strengthening of the economies of Türkiye and African Countries in the post-pandemic era.

“Africa is friendship, brotherhood, partnership and joint achievement for us”

The potential and the story of change in Africa is well realized by Türkiye. In this manner, Türkiye’s policy for Africa is shaped by a humanitarian approach aiming at development of continent rather than prioritizing economic opportunities like other actors turning towards this region today. Africa is not oil, diamond, gold, iron, copper or silver but friendship, brotherhood, partnership and joint achievement for us.

We achieved a trade volume of USD 20.7 billion increased by 27.2 percent on year-on-year basis in the first 9 months this year with Africa. Turkish contractors, who have
succeeded in several geographies around the world, have vastly contributed to the development of Africa with 1,683 projects amounting up to USD 77 billion. In the light of this information, we can observe that the relations between Türkiye and Africa have gained momentum, which we are dedicated to increasingly maintain.

“We will keep providing all kinds of supports for the development of Africa along with our private sector. Africa will win, and we will win together with Africa.”
The Forum provides us yet again with a golden opportunity to underscore the increasing socio-economic dynamism of Africa-Türkiye Cooperation hinged on a “win-win” principle. Moreover, it demonstrates the emerging role of Africa as a dynamic player in the global business landscape.

We are working jointly in shaping an economically progressive future of the people of Africa and Türkiye. We are also investing in logistics, which go hand in hand with trade and investment. Moreover, we underscore great importance in the market competitiveness of the countries of Africa and Türkiye through rapid development of logistics.

The private sector is a major source of growth and development. At the same time, the public sector has the key responsibility of creating the enabling environment for business to thrive. With an enabling environment, the private sector will be prepared to face the challenges of today’s stiff global competition by strengthening capacities, embracing innovation, and working hand in hand with governments to invest in areas that are critical to the socio-economic progress of the people of Africa and Türkiye.
“Let’s increase industrialization with mutual progress. Together, we are stronger”

1.3 billion people are living on the continent of Africa. This number will soon reach 1.7 billion. Activities performed in regards to high-quality infrastructure and digitalization make Africa attractive in investment and trade. We ask Turkish investors to benefit from these fields. There are investment opportunities in various industries such as transition to green economy, production, transportation, logistics, education, healthcare, construction and medical tourism. Let’s increase industrialization with mutual progress in these sectors. Let’s provide employment to our people in all our countries.
Since last year, we all have realized the importance of multilateralism and global solidarity. And, we have started to talk more about glocalization than globalization. In this regard, the strategic partnership of mutual-benefit and common development between Türkiye and African countries has continued and has been more prioritized.

Türkiye’s relation with Africa has been pivoted around win-win principle. As the Minister of Foreign Relations of Sierra Leone during the panel last year in Antalya Diplomacy Forum: “We do love you Turks because of your two characteristics: First, you have never been colonists in your history, which is quite important. And you do not act like hunters, like others. Hunter comes, aims, shoots and walks away with his prey. You are not like this; you are coming prepared to share with us.”, I think these identifications are our most valuable power.

“A new free market is being created by AfCFTA with a combined Gross Domestic Product of more than USD 3.4 trillion and 1.3 billion people”
Africa owns 60 percent of the cultivated lands around the world and has the potential to meet agricultural and food needs of the global population. And, a new free market is being created with Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement at USD 3.4
trillion and with a population of 1.3 billion. Turkish business world is already one step ahead of its competitors thanks to our courage, speed, price and quality.

Our primary goal is to increase our trade with Africa from USD 25 billion up to USD 50 billion. In order to attain this goal, delays and difficulties in visa processes need to be resolved, FTAs currently under negotiation should be finalized at once, Agreements on Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments should be concluded, and accordingly, the investments of our business world in Africa should increase, banking and financing facilities with Africa should be improved, and we should concentrate on know-how sharing and become a technical partner of Africa in industrialization, agriculture, construction, textile, and healthcare.
“WE NEED INVESTORS IN THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA”

We, as African private sector, feel honored to form a partnership, add value, provide employment and create the transformation of Africa continent together for the industrialization of Africa. Reminding the young population of Africa, Africa Continental Free Trade Area offers a substantial investment opportunity. Our first basis is consolidation of private sector, and our second basis is policy advocacy, creating a transformation in Africa continent and the third one is product development. Therefore, we need investors in the continent of Africa.
ABOUT TABEF

Türkiye and Africa have been demonstrating significant endeavors to pave the way for enhancing cooperation based on mutual benefits. In this context, inclusive growth and sustainable development goals, as central constituents of the Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations, provide a suitable framework and guidance for the direction the Türkiye-Africa partnership needs to further explore.

Meanwhile, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) will usher into a new era which presents its own opportunities for Türkiye and Africa. AfCFTA is expected to boost intra-African trade and investments significantly, thereby serving as a catalyst for economic growth and development as well as industrialization. The AfCFTA, is expected to create the favorable continental trade and investment environment, has the potential to help ever strengthen Türkiye-Africa partnership. Africa and Türkiye could well benefit from mutual exchange of expertise in efficiency and productivity in sectors such as infrastructure, energy, Technology, manufacturing, agriculture, transports and logistics.

While establishing direct trade links between Türkiye and Africa would benefit from improved partnerships, it is also vital for achieving the potential in these sectors. Logistics should come into play to maintain functioning and effective trade. In this regard, challenges stemming from transportation costs and inadequacy of infrastructure need particular attention. Türkiye and Africa therefore clearly need to further bolster their connectivity. Better connectivity between Türkiye and Africa through logistics will translate into increased investments and increased value-chain integration that will facilitate the spread of technology. The importance of agriculture in food and nutrition security, poverty reduction and overall economic growth is also critical, while transforming Africa's agriculture into a modern and dynamic sector faces major challenges.
These include limited investments, technologies, knowledge and infrastructure to link input and output markets across the continent. Rapid economic and population growth in Africa, particularly in the continent’s growing cities, are posing challenges for the energy sector. In the meantime, falling costs of key renewable technologies are opening up new avenues for innovation and growth.

Against this background, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to pose an immense global challenge and partnerships are ever more important for ensuring the resilience of the economies. The next level in Türkiye-Africa partnership may be achieved thorough exploration of trade, investment, and technology and logistics nexus.

In accordance with the decisions taken in the 2nd Session of Türkiye-Africa Partnership Summit held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in November 2014, Türkiye and Africa is organizing the Türkiye-Africa Economic and Business Forums periodically since 2016.

<table>
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<th>TABEF by Numbers</th>
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The Forum attracts thousands of participants from Türkiye and Africa.
Key Participants:

- President of the Republic of Türkiye
- Term President of the African Union
- Turkish Minister of Trade and Co-Chair of the Ministerial meeting
- Ministers of African Countries (Trade, Economy, Finance)
- Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC)
- AUC Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade, Industry and Mining and Co-Chair of the Ministerial Meeting
- AUC Commissioners
- AfCFTA General Secretariat
- International Organizations and Regional Economic Communities in Africa
- NGOs, Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Business Councils, Associations, Professional Organizations and Entrepreneurs from Türkiye and Africa, women and Young entrepreneurs
- Africa Development Bank (AfDB), Afreximbank and Turkish Eximbank
- Regional and International Banks & Financial Institutions
- African Diplomatic Missions to Türkiye
- Mass Media from Türkiye and Africa

Why Attend:

The Forum will be an excellent opportunity to update the current relations among the business people of participating countries and set new targets for the further development of our economic, commercial and business partnerships.

- Expand your business and discover trade & business opportunities
- Introduce your company and your projects, products & services
- Meet prospective partners and generate international exposure for your brand
• Establish relationships with Turkish investors, suppliers & contractors
• Connect with new buyers & distributors from Africa
• Engage with international media
• Access to major projects and financial instruments
• Learn about market insights, latest trade policies & opportunities
• Access to live networking with potential partners and relevant institutions
"Financing of Investment Projects in Africa: Infrastructure, Transportation, Energy"
Türkiye-Africa Economic and Business Forum jointly organized by Turkish Ministry of Economy, African Union Commission (AUC), and Foreign Economic Relations Board of Türkiye (DEİK) and with the contributions of Turkish Exports Assembly (TiM) was held under the auspices of President of the Republic of Türkiye H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and the Term Chairman of African Union, President of the Republic of Chad H.E. Idriss Déby Itno on 2-3 November 2016 in Istanbul, Türkiye.
50 top ranking officials (Economy, Trade, Investment and Finance Ministers and Deputy Ministers) of 42 African countries, chairs and presidents of Chambers, NGOs, business associations and professional organizations, senior representatives of African Union and African Development Bank and Secretary Generals of African Regional Economic Communities participated in the Forum, which brought together about 3,000 businesspeople and entrepreneurs from Türkiye and 49 African countries.

The two day-business matching sessions provided a platform for the representatives of companies in various sectors to develop new partnerships besides matching the priority projects of the countries to the right companies with financing tools during simultaneously B2G (Business-to-Government) meetings.
“New Perspectives, New Hopes in Agriculture”

The Agribusiness Forum held under the theme of “New Perspectives, New Hopes in Agriculture” on 27-28 April 2017 in Antalya brought together 48 Agriculture Ministers and 14 Deputy Ministers from 54 African countries, 46 representatives of international organizations, 184 bureaucrats and about 1,500 Turkish and African businesspersons. Main outcome of the Forum is that Türkiye-Africa Agricultural Cooperation Platform was decided to establish to develop a consultation mechanism with the participation of the representatives of both private and public sectors. This platform would provide transfer
of knowledge and technology to solve the issues such as R&D, aquaculture, animal husbandry and rural development.

The platform could also prepare sectoral reports and consultancies an action plan for contributing to increase the productivity and food security in Africa.

Another important result of the Forum is that Türkiye would like to make Africa a production base for agriculture.
(ECOWAS) Economic and Business Forum was held in İstanbul on 22-23 February 2018 and brought together more than a thousand business people and ministers from Economic Community of West African States. The two-day event was organized by Foreign Economic Relations Board of Türkiye (DEiK) in coordination with Turkish Ministry of Economy and in cooperation with ECOWAS Commission to deepen economic cooperation between Türkiye and ECOWAS. Forum brought together Ministers of Trade/Economy from ECOWAS countries, Chairpersons of the Chambers of Industry and Trade and Business Associations as well as members of the Turkish and African business circles, media representatives from 15 countries in West Africa. The Ministers of ECOWAS member states Benin, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast Cape Verde, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Republic of Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo participated to the forum. Main theme of the forum was “Think together, act together and win together”.
“Investment on the Sustainable Future Together”

In the scope of developing commercial and economic relations strategy with Africa, Türkiye-Africa II. Economic and Business Forum, which is hosted by Ministry of Trade of Türkiye with the coordination of African Union (AU) and which is organized by DEiK/Türkiye-Africa Business Councils and with the “Investment on the Sustainable Future Together” main theme, was realized on October 10-11, 2018, in Istanbul. To the event, which was honored by President of the Republic of Türkiye Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Mulatu Teshome, Republic of Rwanda President Edouard Ngirente, 26 Ministers from 43 African countries, 4 Deputy Ministers, members of parliament, Undersecretaries, Heads of Investment/Export Support Agency
and Ambassadors, including 245 official delegation members, 850 business persons from 47 African countries and 1,800 Turkish company representatives participated.


The Forum has continued with the G2B meetings in which the countries will make their presentations and with three panels with the subjects of “Textile Industry Investment Opportunities and Fashion in Africa”, “Cooperation Between Africa and Türkiye In The Fields of Construction, Infrastructure and Integration Efforts in Africa and Opportunities for Turkish Business World”.

Türkiye-Africa: Partners in Resilience in Post-Pandemic World

Türkiye-Africa Economic and Business Forum (TABEF), jointly organized online for the very first time by Turkish Ministry of Trade, the African Union and Foreign Economic Relations Board of Türkiye (DEiK), was opened on Thursday October 8, 2020 with the attendance of President of Türkiye H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Turkish Minister of Trade H.E. Ruhsar Pekcan (Former), Former Economic Affairs Commissioner of African Union Commission (AUC) H.E. Victor Harrison (Former), President of DEiK Mr. Nail Olpak and Coordinating Chairperson of DEiK/Türkiye-Africa Business Councils Ms. Bema Gozbasi.
The global, digital-first and two-day Forum provided access to hot business topics discussed during 10 panel sessions, more than 50 high-level speakers, live networking among 2,500 participants (from Türkiye and 81 countries (46 African countries) with 24,844 attendee interaction, G2B meetings and virtual exhibiting booths on October 8-9 2020. About 68,000 people watched the opening session of the Forum’s livestream on social media. Top 5 sectors of the participant companies were Agro-Industry, Building & Infrastructure, Trade & Distribution, Manufacturing and Energy. At the event, participants discussed post-pandemic economic relations between Türkiye and Africa, as well as several other topics such as e-commerce, agriculture, health partnership, impact investment, and industrialization and free trade agreements. Furthermore, “Türkiye-Africa Women Leadership Dialogue” was launched to create a platform for Turkish and African business women to talk about their experience in changing the face of business, share know-how and discuss about the cooperation areas and how to promote women-managed businesses and their access to finance.
“Deepening Türkiye-Africa Partnership: Trade, Investment, Technology & Logistics”

With the objective of building upon the outcome of its successful predecessors, the Third Session of TABEF was organized under the main theme of “Deepening Türkiye-Africa Partnership: Trade, Investment, Technology & Logistics” on 21-22 October 2021 in Istanbul, Türkiye. The Third Türkiye-Africa Economy and Business Forum, held in Istanbul on 21-22 October 2021, was honored by H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Türkiye, Emine Erdoğan, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan’s wife, Denise Nyakeru, First Lady of the Democratic Republic of Congo, H.E. Tshisekedi Tshilombo James Wani Igga, Vice-President of South Sudan, H.E. Jean Lucien Bussa Tongba, Minister of Foreign
Trade of the Democratic Republic of Congo (Term President), H.E. Mehmet Muş, Minister of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye, H.E. Albert Muchanga, Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade, Industry and Mining of the African Union Commission (AUC), Mr. Nail Olpak, President of Foreign Economic Relations Board of Türkiye (DEİK), Ms. Berna Gözbaşı, Coordinating Chairperson DEİK/Türkiye-Africa Business Councils, and Dr. Amany Asfour, Interim President of African Business Council (AfBC), 35 Ministers, 6 Deputy Ministers and more than 3000 business people from 45 countries.

“USD 75 Billion Targeted in Trade with Africa”
Organized biennially by the Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEİK) since 2016 with the cooperation of African Union and hosted by the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye, Türkiye-Africa III. Economic and Business Forum was held in Istanbul on 21-22 October 2021 with the aim of developing cooperation between Turkish and African countries and utilizing the economic opportunities.

Hosting more than 3 thousand visitors, Turkish and African, from 45 countries for two days, the forum included a press release with the participation of Ministers as well as Türkiye-Africa Women Leadership Dialogue panel organized by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan’s wife Mrs. Emine Erdoğan and the First Lady of the Democratic Republic of Congo Mrs. Denise Nyakeru Tshisekedi Tshilombo and 8 more panels and 4,900 bilateral B2B talks and 2 G2B sessions where trade, investment, cooperation opportunities and target industries in Africa have been addressed.

During the press release on the first day of the forum, a joint declaration was released stating that the lasting partnership between Türkiye and Africa should be enhanced to ensure development and economic integration. Addressing a closing speech for Third Türkiye-Africa Economic and Business Forum, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Türkiye stated “our target is to increase volume primarily to USD 50 billion and secondarily to USD 75 billion”.

Türkiye-Africa Bilateral Relations

“Türkiye’s win-win policy in Africa: A policy of mutual empowerment based on equality, transparency and sustainability” Türkiye has long-standing historical and cultural relations with the African continent, dating back centuries. 1998 is a significant milestone for Türkiye-Africa relations. This year, Türkiye launched “Africa Opening Action Plan”. Throughout the last two decades, relations with Africa constitute one of the prime orientations of Turkish foreign policy.

Being at the crossroad of Europe, Asia and Africa, Türkiye’s policy of opening up to Africa is not just the reflection of a transient economic expectation. On the contrary, it is the product of a process with strong historical and cultural aspects. It is, foremost, the expression and natural result of the firm feelings of friendship and partnership between Turkish and African peoples. Türkiye developed “Strategy for the Development of Commercial and Economic Relations with African Countries” in 2003. Main components of this strategy are promoting trade and direct investments, providing technical assistance, transfer of technology and sharing knowledge and experience.

The year of 2005 was declared as the “Year of Africa” in Türkiye. Türkiye targeted to develop economic and commercial relations with Africa and this interest has also shared by the African countries. Türkiye-Africa relations have gained a substantial momentum since the declaration of Türkiye as a strategic partner of the Continent by the African Union at its 10th Summit in 2008. In the same year, first Türkiye-Africa Cooperation Summit was held in İstanbul. “The Istanbul Declaration on Türkiye-Africa Partnership: Cooperation and Solidarity for a Common Future” and “Cooperation Framework for Türkiye-Africa Partnership”, which was adopted during the First Türkiye-Africa Cooperation Summit of 2008 established a follow-up mechanism. Second Türkiye-Africa Partnership Summit was held under the theme of “A New Model of Partnership for the Strengthening of Sustainable Development and Integration” in 2014 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea. In the same vein, Türkiye’s economic and commercial
opening up plan to Africa evolved to a Partnership Strategy that would mainly aim the integration of Turkish and African markets and create a business environment conducive to human development.

Türkiye’s 18-year Africa Initiative Policy has increased economic cooperation, while also bringing political relations to the next level. The experience of Turkish businesspeople has been transferred to the region and it has contributed to the development of African countries. Türkiye has been forging with Africa countries. While Türkiye’s engagement with North Africa dates back to the time of the Ottoman Empire, Türkiye has started to see more opportunities, particularly with trade and business, with countries south of the Sahara. The Turkish Government’s priority to engage with Africa has helped facilitate the growth of business and trade relations. Turkish SMEs have particularly started to invest as African markets have become more accessible.

“Africa’s rise is not just important to Africa, it’s important to the entire world. And Türkiye is the strategic partner, international promoter and supporter of integration of Africa.”

The Turkish Government has also used development aid to help facilitate commercial interactions. And the Turkish image and presence has been enhanced by the engagement of private companies, NGOs, and Turkish schools. Turkish companies are undertaking major infrastructure & superstructure (PPP & BOT) projects (roads, railways, airports, power plants, hotels, housing, conference centers etc.) and producing everything from cement, iron-steel, medicines and clothes to electronics and white goods in African countries. In addition, Türkiye has helped to create a significant number of jobs in Africa, unlike some other partnering countries who bring their own workers to Africa. Human trafficking between Türkiye and Africa has also increased. The number of Africans from Africa to Türkiye has increased fourfold. In order to build on existing relations, there is a need for more Turkish-African cooperation in the energy, digitalization, services, and security and health sectors.
Türkiye-Africa Partnership by Numbers

The trade volume between Türkiye and Africa which stood at 5.4 billion USD in 2003, reached 25.4 billion USD in 2020 despite the impediments brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic. The trade volume has reached 186.5 billion dollar in 9 years (2010-2019) and its 64.5 billion portion was generated with Sub-Saharan Africa. Turkish investments, mainly in the sectors of textile, food & agriculture, iron-steel, cement, energy, mining, consumer durable goods, tourism and hotel, have created over 100 thousand jobs along with vocational training and career. Just before the Covid-19, the more investment projects in textile, iron-steel and agriculture were on the line but it will continue after this situation. Investment in health systems and domestic production are also more important than ever. And Türkiye is ready to transfer of our experience to build a strong heath care system in Africa. The health field cooperation will also affect medical production and trade. Türkiye’s experience in medical equipment manufacturing and creating world-class products will increase its health supplies trade with Africa as well as domestic production.

Türkiye also offers knowledge-driven solutions and frugal engineering and construction experience to execute necessary infrastructure projects in an economical manner. Türkiye’s long term companionship with Africa on the win-win basis and the attainment of Africa
rising vision hinging on the motto of “African issues need African solutions” would form a meaningful cooperation by combining Turkish know-how with African resources. Africa is on the move the fastest-growing economies in the world are in Africa. From North to South, from East to West, Africans want to do business and grow businesses, and create value and companies that will last and that will help to build a great future for the continent.

**Economic Partnership:**

- The number of the countries with which Türkiye signed Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreements increased to 45 in 2017 while it was 23 in 2003. This agreement establishes a bilateral regular follow-up mechanism where several subjects stretching from trade, investment and finance to SMEs, health and technology.

- Health cooperation agreements with 20 African countries.
  - In Somalia, Sudan, and South Sudan, and in Ethiopia, Türkiye has made significant contributions to Health Sector.
  - In 2016, 360 thousand international patients came to Türkiye for treatment.
  - There are 1,220 hospitals in Türkiye.
  - In Türkiye, 34 urban hospitals with a total capacity of 43 thousand beds will be completed by 2018.
  - International Patients: 360 thousand
  - Hospitals in Türkiye: 1,220 (34 Urban Hospitals | 43 Thousand Beds)

- In 2016, Turkish services exports reached 37.2 billion dollars. Türkiye exports not only products but also contracting and international technical consultancy services, TV shows and motion picture films, and culture. Türkiye is the 28th largest services exporter in the world and Türkiye is the 2nd largest country exporting TV series (to 75 countries) in the world after USA.

- Free Trade Agreements with 4 African countries are in force now when it was literally none in 2003.
• Reciprocal Protection of Investment Agreements with 26 countries have been signed so far, however, Türkiye had this agreement with only 6 countries in 2003.
• Prevention of Double Taxation Agreements with 11 African countries is effective today in comparison with that it was only 4 in 2003.
• Share of African countries in the overall international business volume of Turkish contractors is around 21 percent (share of North Africa is 19%).
• According to a report published in October 2015 (Financial Times), Turkish investment in Africa creates the largest number of jobs in Africa (16,593 in 2014) compared to the other foreign direct investments in the continent.

Development Assistance:
• As an emerging donor country, Türkiye is keen to share its development experience with the countries in need of help. Türkiye gives 0.54% of its GDP to official development assistance.
• Türkiye’s approach is based on the combination of humanitarian and development assistance, with a holistic approach and without prioritizing either of the two.
• Türkiye has become the third-largest humanitarian donor in 2013 and 2014 in the world. Between 200- and 2019, Türkiye’s official development assistance to Africa was 2.5 billion USD.
• Türkiye also provided an annual support of 1 million USD to the African Union since 2009.
• Türkiye has been providing substantial number of undergraduate, graduate and doctorate scholarships to 8,000 African students since 1992. There are currently 5,437 students in higher education and 116 visiting professors/research assistants from African countries.
• In addition to many technical training programs undertaken by different Ministries and institutions, around 200 junior diplomats have attended to the “International Young Diplomats Training Program” organized by the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 1992.
• The hospitals built by Türkiye have been extending a helping hand to thousands of patients in different regions of Africa. Also, Turkish doctors have taken part in numerous health screening campaigns. Vocational training has been extended to African countries by the Turkish Ministry of Health.

• “Africa Handicrafts Center and Culture House” was also opened in the old town of Ankara under the patronage of the First Lady Emine Erdogan in 2016. At the center, handmade products are being sold to provide revenue for African women.

Diplomatic Missions
The number of Turkish embassies in Africa has increased from 12 in 2003 to 43 in 2021 while there are 37 embassies of African countries in Ankara. There are also 26 Turkish commercial offices in the continent.

Official Visits
Since 2003, as Prime Minister and then President, Turkish President H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan has visited 27 African countries, more than any other non-African leader. These visits have driven both economic and political connections.
Turkish Airlines (THY)
Turkish Airlines flying to 60 destinations in 40 countries in the continent. And, it provides air-cargo services even between some African countries. Human trafficking between Türkiye and Africa has also increased, while the total number of foreigners coming to Türkiye from 2006 to 2014 has doubled, while the number of Africans from Africa to Türkiye has increased fourfold. The share of Africans in foreigners coming to Türkiye in 2014 was close to %2.

While the share of Africans in foreigners coming to Türkiye in 2006 was less than 1%, the share of Africans as of the end of 2014 was close to 2%.

Turkish Cooperation & Coordination Agency (TiKA)
TIKA assists peoples in need and supports the development projects of countries through the projects it undertakes and supports in:

- Education (322 projects)
- Health (196 projects)
- Water & Sanitation (73 water well)
- Agriculture & Livestock
- Administrative & Civil Infrastructure
- Production & Economic Infrastructure
- Conserving Common Cultural Heritage

Türk Eximbank
Türk Eximbank currently supports Turkish exporters, contractors and investors through various credit, guarantee and insurance programs. Türk Eximbank is committed to confirming to the internationally accepted rules and regulations such as the OECD Consensus. Türk Eximbank makes efforts to improve its international relations with
export credit agencies (ECAs) and always seeks all available alternative opportunities for co-operation to provide financing for projects undertaken in cooperation with Turkish and foreign partners in third countries. Türk Eximbank also is in cooperation with AfDB, Afreximbank, ATI and ECOWAS.

Türk Eximbank’s first project in the continent was in the year of 2015. The support provided by Türk Eximbank is 793,17 million $. Together with the ongoing projects the support will reach 1,1 billion $. 624,16 million $ additional financing for the new projects in the pipeline.

Turkish Maarif Foundation (TMF)
TMF has currently 144 educational institutions with more than 9,000 students in Africa. TMF, established in 2016 by the Turkish Parliament, is the sole entity authorized to provide educational services abroad.

Yunus Emre Foundation (YEF)
YEF has cultural centers in 8 African countries. YEF is a public foundation to promote Türkiye, Turkish language, its history and culture and art and to improve the friendship between Türkiye and other countries and increase the cultural exchange.

Major Turkish Projects & Investment in Africa
In different African countries, they have undertaken numerous projects of road-bridge-tunnel, railways, business & conference centers, sport arenas, power plants, airports, hotels, shopping malls, harbors and housing. Some well-known projects: Japoma Stadium in Douala-Cameroon, Blaise Diagne International Airport in Dakar-Senegal, Diori Hamani International Airport in Niamey-Niger, Kigali Convention Centre in Rwanda, Awash-Weldia/Hara Gebeya Railway in Ethiopia, Tedzani Hydro Power Station in Malawi.
Year: 2016

Under the auspices of H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Türkiye and H.E. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the First Africa-Türkiye Economic and Business Forum was held in Istanbul, Türkiye on 02-03 November 2016.

The Forum was organized by the African Union Commission (Department of Economic Affairs) and the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Türkiye. The Forum was honoured by the presence of H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Türkiye and
H.E. Idriss Déby Itno, President of Chad, and current Chairperson of the African Union. In the spirit of closer relations between Türkiye and African countries, and considering the substantial momentum in Türkiye-Africa relations particularly since the declaration of Türkiye as a strategic partner of the African Continent in 2008 and the First and Second Türkiye-Africa Partnership Summits held in İstanbul in 2008 and in Malabo in 2014 respectively, it was agreed that it is prime to advance the AfricanTürkiye cooperation and build on what has been accomplished thus far.

The following countries, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and financial institutions were in attendance:

- Republic of Algeria, Republic of Benin, Burkina Faso, Republic of Burundi,
- Republic of Cameroon, Central African Republic, Republic of Chad,
- Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Côte d’Ivoire, Republic of
- Djibouti, Republic of Equatorial Guinea, Federal Democratic Republic of
- Ethiopia, Gabonese Republic, Republic of The Gambia, Republic of Ghana,
- Republic of Guinea, Republic of Kenya, Kingdom of Lesotho, Republic of
- Liberia, State of Libya, Republic of Madagascar, Republic of Mali, Islamic
- Republic of Mauritania, Kingdom of Morocco, Republic of Mozambique,
- Republic of Namibia, Republic of Niger, Federal Republic of Nigeria,
- Republic of Rwanda, Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe,
- Republic of Senegal, Federal Republic of Somalia, Republic of South Africa,
- Republic of South Sudan, Kingdom of Swaziland, United Republic of
- Tanzania, Republic of Tunisia, Republic of Uganda, Republic of Zambia.
- Arab Maghreb Union (UMA), Economic Community of Central African
- States (ECCAS), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

During the Forum, discussions touched upon issues related to “Business in Africa: Opportunities and Challenges” and “Financing of Investment Projects in Africa:
Infrastructure, Transportation, Energy” among others. The Forum noted with satisfaction that the Türkiye-Africa Partnership is growing, strengthening, deepening and getting diversified and the readiness of the Turkish Side to further intensify the economic and commercial ties with African countries. The Forum pledged that Türkiye-Africa partnership should be affected within the context of Agenda 2063 first ten year implementation plan. The Forum underlined the role of the RECs in promoting regional cooperation, consolidation of peace and stability in their region and supporting enhancement of political and economic relations with other regional and international organization. The Forum therefore expressed satisfaction about the establishment of the institutional relations between Türkiye and the RECs.

The Forum noted the increased cooperation in several fields envisaged by the Türkiye-Africa Partnership Summit of 2008 which, among others, included;

- Increase in trade volume (16.8 billion USD in 2008; 19.5 billion USD in 2015),
- Increase in direct flights by Turkish Airlines to African destinations (10 in 2008; 48 in 2015),
- Increase in the number of Turkish diplomatic representation in Africa (12 in 2008; 39 in 2015),
- Increase in the number of African diplomatic representation in Türkiye (10 in 2008; 32 in 2015),
- Increase in the number of Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA) offices in Africa (3 in 2008; 15 in 2015),

With a view of enhancing lasting partnership between Türkiye and Africa for development and economic integration;

1. The Forum reaffirmed continuing to strengthen the current platform for collective dialogue, consolidate Africa-Türkiye traditional friendship, deepen strategic
collaboration and enhance the mechanism of practical cooperation between Türkiye and Africa.

2. Türkiye and the African Union reiterated their commitment to implement workable solutions that will increase economic resilience, sustain economic diversification and growth and decrease disparity, while improving the welfare of the people in Africa.

**Trade**

3. The Forum underlined the importance of trade as one of the key engines of economic growth and a strong private sector would be a driving force in this respect. The Forum acknowledged the importance of signing trade agreements, and promoting closer business to business relations through regular business forums, trade exhibitions and missions etc., in order to strengthen mutual trade and economic relations.
4. With a view to further enhancing commercial and economic cooperation between Türkiye and African countries, they reiterated their strong intention to initiate joint action to examine possibilities of removing tariffs and other obstacles to trade through potentially concluding Trade and Economic Partnership Agreements that would be based on asymmetrical model enabling African countries to protect their sensitive sectors.

5. Taking into consideration that Türkiye has shown remarkable performance with its steady growth over the last decade and being a major economic power in the region, the Turkish Side expressed its readiness to share its development experience in different fields with African counterparts in order to broaden and strengthen the cooperation and trade relations among themselves.

Cooperation with the RECs

6. In cognizant of the fact that fostering and deepening economic integration will contribute in making the African Continent more resilient against the effects of internal and external economic shocks, the Turkish Side expressed its readiness to institutionalize its relations with the RECs through concluding cooperation agreements, starting the negotiations for Trade and Economic Partnership Agreements, and its willingness to strengthen the RECs through capacity building efforts such as training programs and technical assistance.

Private Sector

7. The Forum underlined the critical role of the private sector as indicated in Agenda 2063 in economic growth and development by seating with generating decent employment in order to create greater opportunities for all, reduce inequalities, raise basic standards of living and ensure environmental protection. In this regard, The Forum affirmed the necessity of supporting the private sector activities in
Türkiye and the African countries in order to foster mutual investment and trade in each other’s countries.

**Infrastructure**

8. The Forum agreed to prioritize infrastructure cooperation within the Türkiye – Africa Partnership and strengthen cooperation in transport, electricity, energy and other areas of infrastructural development within the framework of Agenda 2063 and its flagship projects.

9. To support African Countries in reducing energy costs and increasing access to electricity, decreasing transport costs, boosting intra-African trade, ensuring water and food security and increasing global connectivity; Türkiye and African Union will work together towards establishing a partnership in design, inspection, financing and management of projects under the Program for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) and The Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI).

10. The Forum recommended the participating countries to take necessary measures to encourage Turkish enterprises and financial institutions to expand investment and participate in infrastructure projects through various means, such as PublicPrivate Partnership (PPP) and Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT).

**Investments**

11. The Forum stressed the importance of ensuring legal protection for investors and their investments in host countries. The Forum called upon the participating countries to conclude agreements on reciprocal promotion and protection of investment as well as avoidance of double taxation.

12. Recognizing the importance of investments in strengthening multilateral economic relations and realizing its increasing role in developing their economies, the
participants decided to encourage their related business associations to work closely.

13. The Forum agreed to promote the establishment of special economic zones/logistics centers by Turkish enterprises in African Countries, and encourage Turkish enterprises to engage further in processing and manufacturing, ensuring decent local employment, technology transfers and human capacity development in Africa.

14. The Turkish side expressed its willingness to explore possibilities to invest in agriculture, electricity production, transmission and delivery facilities and services, aviation, maritime, education and health as priority areas, especially in small and medium scale enterprises development.
Financing
15. The Forum called upon Turkish and African financial institutions to enhance their cooperation and exchanges, including opening more branches in their respective countries.

Acknowledgement
16. The Forum expressed its satisfaction on the achievements of mutual beneficial results and agreed to hold the next Türkiye-Africa Economic and Business Forum in 2018 in Africa.
17. The Forum expressed its gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Türkiye for the warm hospitality extended to all participants during the event.
18. Finally, the Forum commended the partnership between the African Union Commission (Department of Economic Affairs) and the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Türkiye for successfully organizing this important event.

Year: 2018
Under the leadership of H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Türkiye and H.E. Moussa Faki, Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the Second Africa-Türkiye Economic and Business Forum was held in Istanbul, Türkiye on 10-11 October 2018. The Forum was organized by the African Union Commission and the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye in cooperation with the Foreign Economic Relations Board of Türkiye (DEİK). The Forum was honoured by the presence of H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Türkiye and H.E Mulatu Teshome, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Rt. Honourable Edouard Ngirente Prime Minister of the Republic of Rwanda on behalf of H.E. Paul Kagame President of the Republic of Rwanda, and current Chairperson of the African Union. In the spirit of
closer relations between Türkiye and African countries, and considering the substantial momentum in Türkiye-Africa relations particularly since the declaration of Türkiye as a strategic partner of the African Continent in 2008 and the First and Second Türkiye-Africa Partnership Summits held in Istanbul in 2008 and in Malabo in 2014 respectively, it was agreed that it is prime to advance the African-Türkiye cooperation and build on what has been accomplished thus far.

The Forum was attended by forty three (43) African Countries, Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), financial institutions from Türkiye and Africa as well as private sector representatives. During the Forum, discussions spanned issues related to “Financing of Trade and investment in Africa”, “Collaboration between Türkiye and Africa on Construction, Infrastructure and Energy”, “Integration efforts of Africa and Market Opportunities for Business People”, and “Fair, Free and Sustainable Trade”. The Forum noted with satisfaction that the Türkiye-Africa Partnership is growing, deepening and getting diversified and the readiness of the Turkish side to further strengthen the economic and commercial ties with African countries. With a view of enhancing lasting partnership between Türkiye and Africa for development and economic integration;

1. The Forum decided to continue strengthening the current platform for collective dialogue, consolidate Africa-Türkiye traditional friendship, deepen strategic collaboration and enhance the mechanism of practical cooperation between Türkiye and Africa.
2. Türkiye and Africa reiterated their commitment to implement workable solutions that will increase economic resilience, sustain economic growth and decrease disparity, while improving the welfare of the people in Africa.
3. The Forum underlined the importance of trade as one of the key engine of economic growth and a strong private sector would be a driving force in this respect.

4. With a view to further enhancing commercial and economic cooperation between Türkiye and African countries, the Forum reiterated its strong intention to initiate joint action plan to examine possibilities of removing tariffs and other obstacles to trade that would be based on asymmetrical model enabling African countries to protect their sensitive sectors.

5. Taking into consideration that Türkiye has shown remarkable performance with its steady growth over the last decade and being a major economic power in the region, Türkiye expressed its readiness to share its development experience in different fields with African counterparts in order to broaden and strengthen the cooperation and trade relations among themselves.

6. The Forum reaffirmed the critical role of the private sector in economic growth and development by generating decent employment in order to create greater opportunities for all, reduce inequalities, raise basic standards of living and ensure environmental protection. In this regard, the Forum underlined the necessity of supporting the private sector activities in Türkiye and African countries in order to foster mutual investment and trade in each other’s countries.

7. The Forum reiterated their position to prioritize infrastructure cooperation within the Türkiye –Africa Partnership and strengthen cooperation in transport, electricity, energy and other areas of infrastructural development within the framework of Agenda 2063 and its flagship projects.

8. To support African Countries in reducing energy costs and increasing access to electricity, decreasing transport costs, boosting intra-African trade, ensuring water and food security and increasing global connectivity; Türkiye and African Union will work together towards establishing a partnership in design, inspection, financing
and management of projects under the Program for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) and The Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICl).

9. The Forum recommended the participating countries to take necessary measures to encourage Turkish and African enterprises as well as financial institutions to expand investment and participate in infrastructure projects through various means, such as Public-Private Partnership (PPP) and Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT).

10. The Forum underlined the importance of trade as a catalyst to significantly increase investments, transfer of know-how and the possibility to exchange knowledge and experience on issues related to development.


12. Noting the importance of the contribution of investments to capacity building in the socio-economic sectors, particularly in the human resource development, the Forum agreed to encourage mutual investment in order to build more diversified economies both in Türkiye and in Africa.

13. The Forum agreed to enhance information and experience sharing on investment policies, opportunities, regulations and recent economic developments and fields of cooperation in order to create more enabling environment for mutual investment.

14. The Forum welcomed the increased investments in the infrastructure, construction and energy sectors, leading to a substantial expansion of Turkish investment securing the long-term sustainability for economic development in Africa.

15. The Forum encouraged the private sector to invest in agriculture, electricity production, transmission and delivery facilities and services, aviation, maritime, education and health as priority areas, especially in small and medium scale enterprises development.
16. The Forum underlined the importance of enhancing Africa’s manufacturing capacities through the establishment of regional manufacturing hubs as a means to increase intra-African trade.

17. The Forum called upon Turkish and African financial institutions to enhance their cooperation, including opening more branches in their respective countries.

18. The Forum recognized the important role of the African Union in promoting the integration of Africa.

20. The Forum underlined the role of public communication for raising awareness on the benefits of the partnership.

21. The Forum expressed its satisfaction on the achievements of mutual beneficial results and agreed to hold the next Türkiye-Africa Economic and Business Forum in 2020.

22. The Forum expressed its sincere appreciation to H.E. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the Government and the people of the Republic of Türkiye for the warm welcome extended to all delegations during the event.

23. Finally, the Forum commended the partnership between the African Union Commission and the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye for successfully organizing this important event.

**Year: 2020**

With reference to the Declaration of the First and Second Türkiye-Africa Economic and Business Forums held in Istanbul on 2-3 November 2016 and 10-11 October 2018, Considering closer relations between Türkiye and African countries, particularly since the declaration of Türkiye as a strategic partner of the Continent by the African Union in January 2008 and the First Türkiye-Africa Cooperation Summit held in İstanbul between 18-21 August 2008, Expressing with satisfaction the growing Türkiye-Africa Partnership for further strengthening economic and commercial relations between Türkiye and African countries, Welcoming regional integration efforts of Africa, particularly the African Continental Free Trade Agreement signed in 2018, which are important for a sustainable economic growth, development and good governance on the continent, Expressing their support to the Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations, Based on inclusive growth and sustainable development of African countries. Recognizing the important role of the African Union in promoting the integration of Africa and Türkiye’s efforts and contribution in promoting peace, stability and development in Africa,
The Parties have communicated the following;

1. The Parties noted with satisfaction that the Türkiye-Africa Partnership is growing, deepening and getting diversified.

2. The Parties have overviewed the trade and economic developments in their relations, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the two-way trade flows. They also exchanged views on how to overcome the impediments to trade due to the pandemic.

3. The Parties also expressed their expectation that trade will return to its normal levels by next year, and agreed to support and facilitate this process. In this sense, at the Forum, they welcomed the panel meetings held in the topics covering
   - “Türkiye’s Approach to Covid-19 & Health Partnership with Africa”,
   - “Brainstorming for Investments in the New Normal” and
   - “Türkiye-Africa Women Leadership Dialogue”.

4. The Turkish Side expressed its commitment to support the African Union in achieving its goals on the priority areas, which will further consolidate African ownership of African issues.

5. In this vein, the Parties are pleased to note that the Forum has brought together the government and business communities from Türkiye and Africa, and helped support the dialogue between their relevant business communities and stakeholders.

6. They agreed to hold the Third Türkiye-Africa Economic and Business Forum in April 2021.

7. In this respect, aiming at strengthening private sector partnership between Türkiye and Africa, the Parties agreed to complete until the next Forum four concrete projects, namely;
   - “Türkiye-Africa Investment Platform”,

-“Türkiye-Africa Health Partners’ Platform”,
-“Dialogue Between Turkish and African Women Leaders” and
-“Türkiye Africa E-Commerce Platform”.

The Parties agreed to consider announcing the launch of these platforms to the wide public during the Third Türkiye-Africa Economy and Business Forum scheduled for April 2021.

The Parties agreed to establish Steering Committee between Türkiye and African Union for the establishment of these platforms.

8. While pursing the projects, the Parties decided to take into consideration the real needs of African countries with its economic and commercial returns for an
advanced cooperation promoting institutional relations between Türkiye and African countries.

9. The Parties will also explore the opportunities for joint work in the field of agriculture, investment, infrastructure, energy and pharmaceutical until the Forum scheduled for April 2021.

10. With a view to further enhancing institutional cooperation between Türkiye and African countries, the Parties reiterated their strong intention to strengthen the dialogue between Türkiye and the African countries through various joint platforms like the Joint Economic Commissions.

11. The Parties agreed to organize networking meetings with a view to support trade and investments in targeted sectors in order to explore new market opportunities for the Turkish and African private sectors. They also underlined the importance to work more closely via Business Councils between Türkiye and African countries in order to orient more effectively Turkish and African businesspersons.

12. The Parties will continue to support the capacity building in the socio-economic sectors in African countries, particularly in the human resource development.

13. To promote trade and investment cooperation between Türkiye and African countries, the parties recommended that the African Union Commission (AUC) and Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEiK) will establish mutual representative offices.

Year: 2021
Third Africa-Türkiye Economic and Business Forum was held in Istanbul, Türkiye on 21-22 October 2021, with a view to further strengthening economic and commercial ties between Türkiye and African Union Member States. The Forum was honored by H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, President of the Republic of Türkiye.
The Forum expressed its sincere appreciation to H.E President Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, the Government and the people of the Republic of Türkiye for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to all delegations during the event. The Forum was attended by 45 African Countries, as well as private sector representatives, from both Türkiye and Africa.

During the Forum, discussions spanned the following headlines:

- “Deepening Türkiye-Africa Partnership: Trade, Investment, and Technology and Logistics”
- “Collaboration between Türkiye and Africa on Agriculture and Agro-Industries”
- “AfCFTA and New Market Opportunities”.
- “In Post COVID-19, Sustainable Health Partnerships: Türkiye-Africa”
- “Türkiye-Africa Women Leadership Dialogue”
- “Türkiye’s and Africa’s Approach to Innovation and Increasing Investment”
- “Investment & Trade Financing in Africa & Banking Relations with Türkiye”

In this regard, and with a view to enhancing lasting partnership between Türkiye and Africa for development and economic integration:

1. The Forum took note of the commitment exhibited by the African Union Commission and the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye in cooperation with the Foreign Economic Relations Board of Türkiye (DEIK) to organize the Forum;
2. The Forum expressed support for the Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations, focused on the inclusive growth and sustainable development of African countries;
3. The Forum recognized the important role of the African Union in promoting the economic integration of Africa
4. The Forum appreciated Türkiye’s efforts and contribution in promoting peace, stability and infrastructural development in Africa;

5. The Forum recommended organizers to continue strengthening the current platform for collective dialogue, consolidate Africa-Türkiye traditional friendship, deepen mutual strategic collaboration and enhance the mechanism of practical cooperation between Türkiye and Africa.

6. Taking into consideration the remarkable performance shown with its steady growth over the last decade and being a major economic power in its region, Türkiye expressed its readiness to share its development experience in different fields in order to broaden and strengthen the cooperation with African Member States.

7. The Forum reiterated its position to prioritize infrastructure cooperation, within Türkiye–Africa Partnership and strengthen cooperation in health, energy and other areas of infrastructural development within the framework of Agenda 2063 and
its flagship projects. In that regard, the Forum underlined the importance of Private Sector’s support to infrastructural projects in their countries.

8. The Forum encouraged the private sector to invest in technology, tourism, agriculture, electricity production, transmission and delivery facilities and services, aviation, maritime, education, health and net zero carbon emissions as priority areas.

9. The Forum underlined the importance of bolstering cooperation between Türkiye and Africa for enhancing Africa’s agro-processing and manufacturing capacities through the establishment of regional agro-processing and manufacturing hubs as a means to increase intra-African trade and enhancing Africa’s share in global trade.

10. The Forum recognized the important role of the African Union in promoting the economic integration of Africa especially the recent operationalization of African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) on the 1st of January 2021. It further noted that the AfCFTA will pave the way for more opportunities for economic and commercial relations between Türkiye and Africa and provides opportunities to attract small, medium and large-scale investments that can be exploited for mutual benefit by both sides.

11. The Forum underlined the important role of Women and Youth in the sustainable development of their countries and expressed its commitment to ensure that women and youth are provided with a conducive environment to enable them taking active part in the commercial and sustainable development spheres of both Africa and Türkiye.

12. The Forum underlined the role of regular public communication and engagement for raising awareness on the benefits of the partnership.

13. The Forum also underlined the need for increased supply of COVID-19 vaccines to African countries.
14. The Forum also expressed gratitude to all Ministers and delegates from Africa and Türkiye as well as the private sector representatives for their active participation in the various segments of the Forum.

15. The Forum further commended the partnership between the African Union Commission through the Department of Economic Development, Trade, Industry and Mining and the Government of Türkiye through the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye as exemplified by the successful organization of the Forum.

16. The Forum expressed its satisfaction on the achievements of mutual beneficial results and agreed to hold the next Africa-Türkiye Economic and Business Forum in 2023 to consolidate the partnership.

**DEİK/TÜRKİYE-AFRICA BUSINESS COUNCILS**

*Since 1985, we have been continuously implementing our activities with our founder institutes, members and business councils in order to reinforce the dynamics in Türkiye’s economy and carry Türkiye’s power to the world. We are a large business platform and bring Turkish private sector together with all of its colours. In order to increase investment and trade between countries with our 147 business councils, we are maintaining our activities with the understanding of “business diplomacy” and the support and coordination of Mr. Mehmet Muş, Minister of Trade, under the leadership of our President.*

#BusinessDiplomacy

*Our mission is to connect Türkiye with the world!*

Foreign Economic Relations Board of Türkiye (DEİK) is a business diplomacy organization conducting the foreign economic relations of the Turkish private sector in particular with respect to foreign trade, international investments, services, contracting and logistics.
DEİK is a unique platform with its 147 Business Councils, 96 Founding Institutions and over 2.000 individual members representing Türkiye’s business community and its leading entrepreneurs, contributing to the functioning of the institution on a ‘voluntary basis’. DEİK plays a catalytic role to strengthen Türkiye-Africa trade, economic and cultural ties through its bilateral business Council mechanism linked with 50 counterpart organisations in 45 African countries besides cooperation agreements with African Union, COMESA and ECOWAS. In line with Türkiye’s win-win policy in Africa: A policy of mutual empowerment based on equality, transparency and sustainability, Türkiye-Africa Business Councils create platforms for private sector and relevant shareholders for new partnerships. And, the Councils emphasize the importance of enhancing business relation with strategic partners and African diaspora in African market. In the scope of the strategy of developing and diversifying the trade and economic relations with the African continent, Türkiye-Africa Business Councils organizes activities on
increasing the investments of Turkish private sector on the African continent and cooperating with third countries in order to ease the trade and making grand scale projects. In these activities; executives of the important fund and project portfolios, decision-makers, representatives of financial institutions, and leading businesspeople with an investment and trade relationship with Africa are gathered together.

Business Councils prepare detailed country reports and guides by conducting field research and meeting with relevant institutions and organizations in order to introduce Turkish entrepreneurs to the opportunities and business and investment opportunities in various sectors in African countries.

Goals:

- Establishing relations with regional organizations (African Union, Africa Development Bank, ECOWAS),
- Increasing the number of Turkish companies investing and trading in African countries (Business forums, conferences, trade delegations),
- To support the business development activities of the members (Sectoral delegation organizations),
- To strengthen the structures of Business Councils (Gain of companies with active commercial relations, the establishment of new councils),
- To carry out joint activities and collaborations with relevant national and local organizations (Chambers, Associations, Business Associations),
- To establish relations with economic institutions with important regional infrastructure and project portfolio in order to get more shares from infrastructure projects in Africa,
- To promote cooperation with third countries in the African market.
TÜRKİYE-AFRICA
BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC FORUM

TÜRKİYE-AFRIKA
III. EKONOMİ VE İŞ FORUMU
TURKEY – AFRICA
III. ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS FORUM
21-22 OKTOBER / OCTOBER 2021 ISTANBUL
Türkiye-Africa Business Councils

1) Türkiye – Angola Business Council (Year: 2011)
2) Türkiye – Benin Business Council (Year: 2015)
3) Türkiye – Algeria Business Council (Year: 1990)
4) Türkiye – Djibouti Business Council (Year: 2015)
5) Türkiye – Chad Business Council (Year: 2015)
6) Türkiye – Equatorial Guinea Business Council (Year: 2014)
7) Türkiye – Ethiopia Business Council (Year: 2008)
8) Türkiye – Morocco Business Council (Year: 1990)
9) Türkiye – Cote d’Ivoire Business Council (Year: 2014)
10) Türkiye – Gambia Business Council (Year: 2012)
11) Türkiye – Ghana Business Council (Year: 2011)
12) Türkiye – South Africa Business Council (Year: 1997)
13) Türkiye – Cameroon Business Council (Year: 2014)
14) Türkiye – Kenya Business Council (Year: 2010)
15) Türkiye – Congo Business Council (Year: 2015)
16) Türkiye – Libya Business Council (Year: 2007)
17) Türkiye – Mali Business Council (Year: 2015)
18) Türkiye – Egypt Business Council (Year: 1992)
19) Türkiye – Mauritania Business Council (Year: 2011)
20) Türkiye – Mauritius Business Council (Year: 2014)
21) Türkiye – Mozambique Business Council (Year: 2015)
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<th>No.</th>
<th>Country Combination</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Türkiye – Niger Business Council</td>
<td>2015</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Türkiye – Nigeria Business Council</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Türkiye – Rwanda Business Council</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Türkiye – Senegal Business Council</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Türkiye – Somalia Business Council</td>
<td>2015</td>
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<td>Türkiye – Sierra Leone Business Council</td>
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Türkçe-Afrika 
Business Councils

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