



AFZO
Annual Report
2018



TABLE OF CONTENT

TESTIMONIALS	04
ABOUT US	06
MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS 2018	12
AFZO WEBINAR	14
AFZO WORKSHOP	15
AFZO CONFERENCE	20
AFZO 3RD ANNUAL MEETING	24
SITE VISIT	28
AFZO MEDIA CENTER	30

TESTIMONIALS



"Africa Free Zones Organization was founded in 2015 on the initiative of Tanger Med, with the objective to provide strategic and technical assistance, identify business opportunities and promote sustainable economic development models and best practices to AFZO community. All African countries need to attract foreign direct investments and to establish strategic government policies in order to accelerate industrialization in Africa".



Fouad Brini, Chairman of Tanger Med

"Special Economic Zones and Free Zones will play a major role to transform the economic landscape of Africa...and contribute to continuous growth and successful industrialization of the continent".

Akinwumi Adesina, President of the African Development Bank



"I'm thankful for the organisers and equally grateful for the initiators and those that made possible to allow key players of this organization to meet . In this respect I take the opportunity to thank the President of Tanger Med that supported this initiative both financially and morally to build this organization. We are equally delighted that the first annual meeting outside Morocco is held here in Ivory Coast".



Souleymane Diarrassouba, Minister of industry Trade and SMEs Development of the republic of Ivory Coast

"We think that the Organizers of this initiative are visionaries, this is something that all African Countries need to tap into, because its a platform that will allow us all to be unified, to learn, share experience and best practices".

Cynthia Essognim Gnassingbe Essonam, General Secretary of Togo Invest



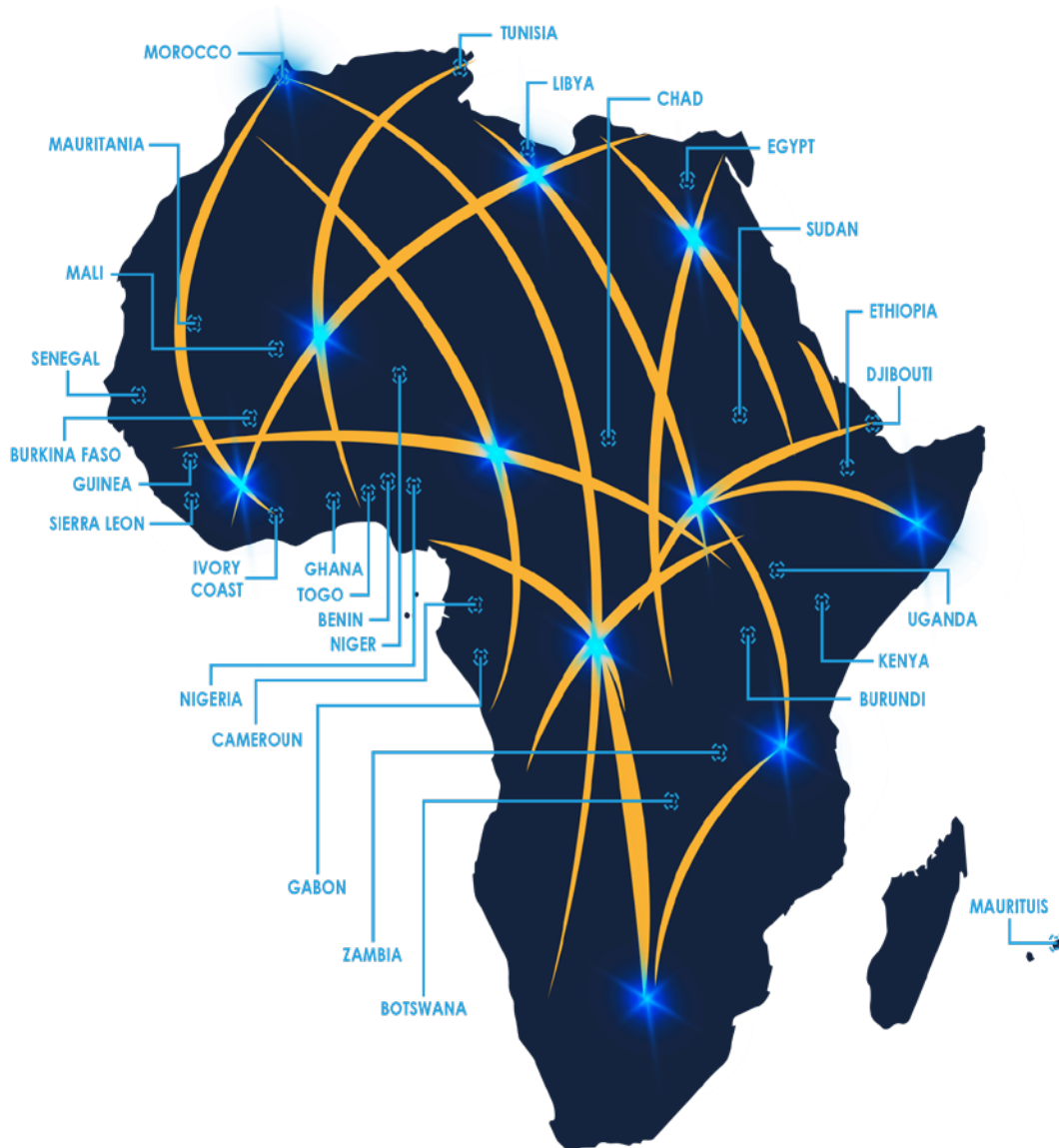
ABOUT US



AFZO NEW REGIONAL ORGANIZATION

Economic Zones and Free Zones have multiplied around the world since the 1980s, mainly in response to the wave and changes in global trade and industrial value chain.

The Economic Zones and Free Zones is becoming the most popular instrument for developing economies in emergent countries.



The African Economy is also following this successful model, duplicating and deploying performant practices. More than 200 Economic Zones & Free Zones have been implemented in the African continent, with the objectif to attract Foreign Direct Investments and offer suitable facilities to host industrial, logistic & service activities.

The African leaders of Economic Zones and Free Zones engaged their collective knowledge, through Africa Free Zones Organization (AFZO), providing strategic and technical assistance, identifying business opportunities and promoting sustainable economic development models and practices.

AFZO ALL IN ONE PLATFORM



STRATEGIC ORIENTATION



REGIONAL REPRESENTATION

AFZO is the exclusive representative of the World Free Zones Organization in the African continent. It is actively engaged in achieving strategic objectives, attracting Foreign Direct Investment and contributing to the socio-economic development of its members.



MISSIONS & OBJECTIVES

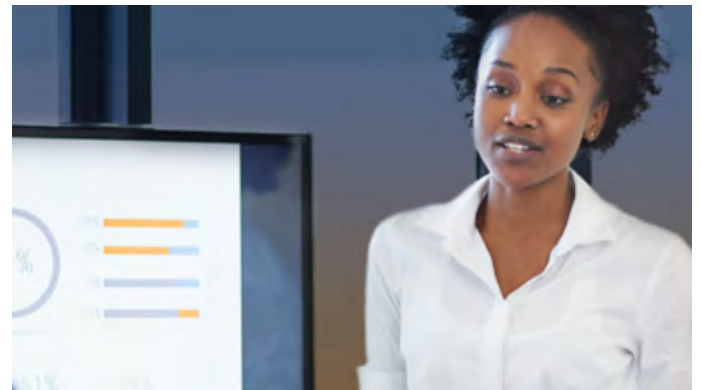


Support

- ✓ Support African Economic Zones and Free Zones go to-market initiatives
- ✓ Foster business trade and stimulate industrial investment
- ✓ Assist African Economic Zones and Free Zones in projects deployment activities

Promotion

- ✓ Guide its members to implement international marketing best practices
- ✓ Contribute to the development of a knowledge-driven Marketing and communication strategies
- ✓ Facilitate expertise sharing and spotlight success stories and successful projects



Knowledge

- ✓ Build, perform and enrich comprehensive and extensive DataBase
- ✓ Design and set-up of workshop sessions addressing African Zones challenges
- ✓ Development of an interactive online exchange platform

Network

- ✓ Empower business alliances and partnerships between AFZO members
- ✓ Connect AFZO members with international business network and investors' community
- ✓ Hook-up with international organizations, global consultants and experts



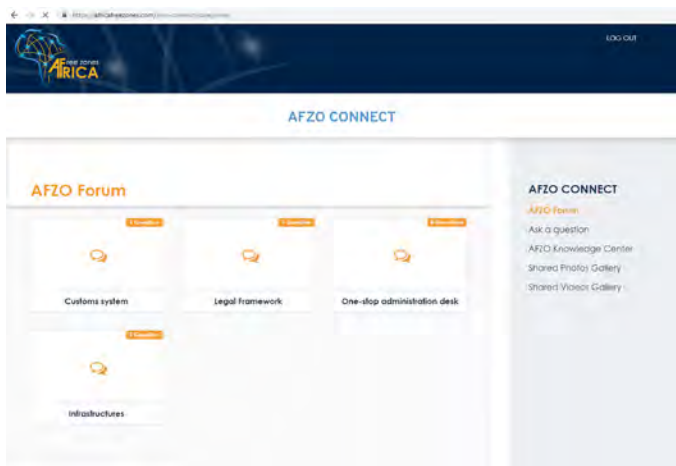
AFZO MEMBERS BASE

Includes African Economic Zones and Free Zones representing the following countries



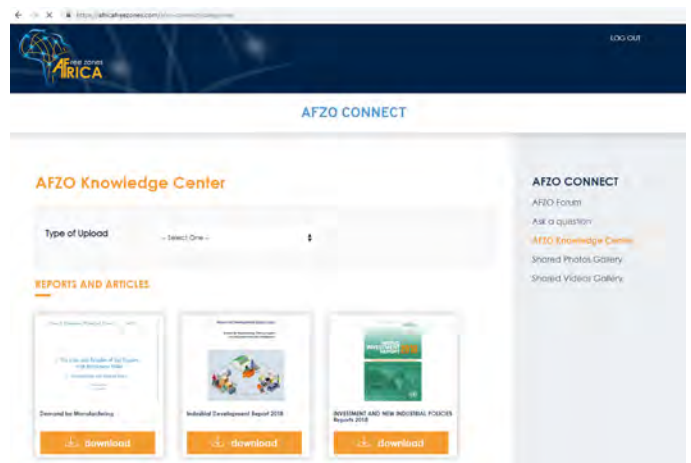
AFZO CONNECT

AFZO Exchange Platform is a secure and interactive online platform that facilitates information sharing between African Economic Zones managers.



AFZO KNOWLEDGE CENTER

AFZO FORUM



AFZO ATLAS

Africa Free Zones Organization designed the first dedicated Economic Zones and Free Zones Atlas in Africa. It's a comprehensive set of information on African Economic Zones and Free Zones that includes:

- ✓ Atlas Outlook : Countries macro-economic data, statistics...
- ✓ Data assessment & analysis on African Zones: FDI, Industry development, facts and figures...
- ✓ Investment framework : Regulation and laws, Customs procedures, Fiscal incentives...



AFZO ATLAS BOOK - EDITION 2018



MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS 2018





AFZO WEBINAR 1

January 29th , 2018



Moderated by
Mr Abdou DIOP
Managing Partner, Mazars

Topics :

- ✓ Legal and fiscal framework Free zone attractiveness

This Webinar aims to help AFZO members in promoting good governance and deploy best practices in the development of Economic Zones and Free Zones. Mr Diop highlighted the importance of the legal and fiscal framework, Prevalence of investment incentives and its implementation within the african context.



AFZO WEBINAR 2

November 27th , 2018



Moderated by
Mr Jim COLEMAN
Director of Urban Economic,
Oxford Policy Management

Topics :

- ✓ The fundamentals for the development of new emerging industrial sectors within Economic Zones and Free Zones

Mr Jim Coleman shared his expertise in implementing industrial projects with focus on:

- Industry as the main driver for the development of economic zones and free zones in Africa
- Challenges to attract industrial FDIs in Africa
- Key policies to support the development of new activity sectors within African Economic Zones and Free Zones

Maximising Benefits

- **Operating environments**
 - Ease of doing business
 - Regulatory environment
 - Risk minimisation
- **Supply side conditions**
 - Infrastructure
 - Labour force & skills
 - Supply chain management

© Oxford Policy Management

Regional Complementarity

SEZs have been used extensively as mechanisms for employment creation, accelerating FDI, increasing export earnings and facilitating diversification and industrialisation.

Successful integration of SEZs into wider national economic structure is often challenging but must be addressed fully.

Complementarities in economic terms must also be planned, particularly in countries with several SEZs.

AFZO WORKSHOP 1 LEADERSHIP TRAINING Dubai - UAE

As part of its joint sustainable development strategy in Africa, WFZO and its regional representative AFZO organised dedicated training seminar for African Economic Zones and Free Zones managers on « **Leaders of The Future**» with the participation of **20 African delegates**.

This training aimed to develop the requisite skills and knowledge base of executives in SEZ ecosystem to operate and manage free zones, along with inspiring innovative thinking.

The training sessions included a number of specific topics such as: designing of free zones, trade facilitation, Customs and regulatory framework, improving logistical services, marketing, Incentives framework and Investor attraction.



AFZO WORKSHOP 2 LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR FREE ZONE Tangier - MOROCCO



Moderated by
Mr Amir JAHANGUIRI
Partner-Wilkie Farr & Gallagher

Topics :

- ✓ Review of free zones legal frameworks models
- ✓ Free zone development related issues (Governance...)
- ✓ Key Considerations for successful zones

Mr Amir presented the different legal and institutional frameworks of free zones:

- He described major components of traditional free zone package, its incentives & Requirements. He detailed also new legal framework models that are being implemented by free zones based on the liberalization of the traditional set of privileges and simplification of the traditional legal framework
- Mr Amir presented the approach and advantages of the implication of the private sector in free zones development. He shared the example of Ghana free zone program as legal and institutional framework designed to private participation.

AFZO WORKSHOP 3

AFRICAN ECONOMIC ZONES BUSINESS

CASE REVIEW

Nairobi - KENYA



Moderated by
Mr Youssef IMGHI
General Manager,
Tanger Med Engineering

Topics :

- ✓ Interactive session to debate an approaches to free zone initiation and development phases,
- ✓ Presentation of the Roadmap for successful free zones
- ✓ Review of free zones detailed cases from selected African countries

Mr Imghi presented the most common expectations of investors to re-export the low-cost manufactured goods and the different types of free zones and its characteristics. He shared examples of :

- Export Processing Zones of KENYA
- Special Economic Zone of Nkok –GABON
- Status of Free Enterprises Export (EFE) – Senegal

Mr Imghi focused on the success factors for free zone such as : the investment climate, the geographic location, the incentives offered to investors and the free zone program.

He detailed the free zones development process starting from the General Studies (financial, technical and environmental studies), site selection and setup of Strategic framework (regulatory, customs tariffs and tax incentives,...)

AFZO WORKSHOP 4

FREE ZONES OF THE FUTURE

Dubai - UAE



Moderated by
Dr Mohan GURUSWAMY
Chief Knowledge Officer, World FZO

Topics :

- ✓ Selected Review of Free Zones Models from other continents

According to Dr Mohan, a free zone should be in a permanent interaction with external changes and technologies development, that can have a huge impact of free zones industries (such us 3D printer, artificial systems, green zones, smart zones...).

In this sense, a free zone should plan future and anticipate customers' expectations through innovative incentives, incubation centers (win-win situations), facilitator role of government, and investor business enhancement.

He concluded that free zone sustainable development is relied to three major conditions:

- A Flexible framework to easily adjust policies,
- keep an ear to market understanding and sector changes,
- Dynamic capabilities.



AFZO WORKSHOP 5 PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS FRAMEWORK TO SUPPORT ECONOMIC ZONES DEVELOPMENT

Dubai - UAE



Moderated by
Mr Mehdi TAZI RIFFI
CEO, Tanger Med Group

Topics :

- ✓ The role of PPP in developing Economic zones in Africa
- ✓ Types of PPP projects within the Economic zones context

Mr Tazi defined the PPP as a tool to allow a good balance between private and public objectives to support investment undertaking. The PPP projects could be developed for:

-Public provision of off-site infrastructure and facilities

-Assembly of land parcels by the government for lease to private zone development groups

-BOT on-site and off-site zone infrastructure and facilities, with government guarantees and/or financial support.

-Contracting private management for government-owned zones (management contracting), or lease of government zone assets by a private operator

Mr Tazi explained how PPP could make a balance between Risk Sharing, Mobilization of Financing Resources and Investment CAPEX. The PPP polices has to consider conjunction of development objectives with profitability, risk management and mitigation, governance model and social responsibility.



AFZO WORKSHOP 6 LEGAL & FISCAL INCENTIVES, INFRASTRUCTURES SETUP, AND HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT... Abidjan – IVORY COAST

Mr Amir JAHANGUIRI, Partner, Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP:

Mr Amir Jahanguri states that the investment incentives scheme and legal framework contributes to set-up of a business-friendly environment within Economic Zones and free zones. Local investment climate and governance are key fundamentals for the success of Economic zones projects.



Mr Louis DUBOIS, Avocat of Counsel, Dentons

Mr Louis Dubois explained the prerequisites for the creation of an Economic zone project in Africa: Besides the infrastructure set-up and legal and administrative framework, the Economic zone developers should deploy all efforts in supporting technical operation, facility management and the One-Stop-Shop activities.

AFZO WORKSHOP 7 ROADMAP TO DEVELOP ATTRACTIVE VALUE PROPOSITION FOR ECONOMIC ZONES AND FREE ZONES Abidjan – IVORY COAST

Mr DOUGLAS ALOIJSIUS FREDERIK VAN DEN BERGHE, CEO of ICA EMEA

Mr DOUGLAS presented the Innovation Incentives for "New Generation" FZs fostering the role of one stop services and ensure a "soft landing" of the investment project and further expansion. He also detailed the concept of NxtZones that consist on developing a Free Zone Real Estate Technology Concept that creates unique office space and facilities in a number of Free Zones around the world.



Mr Youssef IMGHI, General Director at Tanger Med Engineering

Mr. Youssef IMGHI described the best practices and standards applied for the implementation of an Economic Zones. Through " major milestones : Technical survey, design and Engineering that comprehends: Business and feasibility study, geotechnical, environmental and social impact assessment, Master plan and technical analysis... Project Execution, construction and development works...

AFZO WORKSHOP 8 BUILDING CAPACITY MANAGEMENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC ZONES AND FREE ZONES Accra - GHANA

Mr Andrew CLUTZ, Director, Corporate Investment & Analytics, Conway, Boston

After presenting the different terminologies & concepts of Economic Zones and Free Zones, Mr Andrew pointed out the international context and emerging trends of trade and investment in which Economic Zones are used as policy instrument is changing. He also highlighted the Key Instruments for FDI attractiveness and Industrial development in Economic Zones and Free Zones in Africa, through a corporate perspective, government perspective, Nxtzones and integrating Industry 4.0 into SEZ Management.



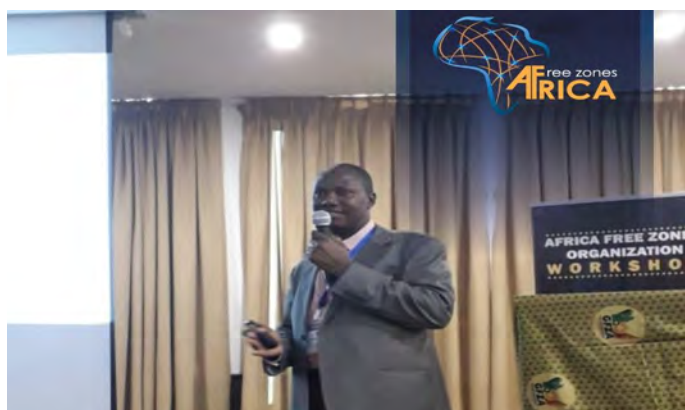
Mr Amine MALTI, Project Manager, Tanger Med, Tangier, Morocco

Mr Amine shared the key instruments for a competitive facilitation framework through five main insights : Incentives, talents, Free Trade Agreements, one stop shop and infrastructure.

He ended his presentation highlighting TangerMed environmental priorities and main achievements, with the objective to ensure coherent management of its territory in respect of natural heritage, reduce the environmental impact of port And industrial activities, optimize and reduce energy consumption and co2 emissions and a better management and revalorization of waste.



AFZO WORKSHOP 9 SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: EMERGING ISSUES FOR INDUSTRIAL & INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT Accra - GHANA



Mr Dauda Foday Suma, Senior Industrial Advisor at Global Green Growth institute in Ethiopia

Mr Dauda presented how Green Industrialization and Sustainable development can foster Investment

promotion in Africa.

Through presenting trends in Global Emissions, Emissions by Gas and by Sector, he raised the public awareness regarding Climate change impacts and trends in Emissions from the Industrial Sector.

Mr Dauda pointed out the importance of adopting eco-friendly measures, and mentioned stressed how Greenhouse gases Mitigation Options for Industry, Green Growth and Low-carbon can make Competitive Green SEZs, enhancing competitiveness through cost reductions, new business opportunities, better environmental compliance, health benefits– better air and water quality, better working conditions/environment and reducing wastes.

AFZO CONFERENCE 1

THE ROLE OF ECONOMIC ZONES AND FREE ZONES IN ATTRACTING FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT

Abidjan – IVORY COAST



Mr Pierre GUISLAN, Vice president of the African Development Bank Group

Mr Pierre GUISLAN underlined the involvement of the private sector in supporting government initiatives: "Successful Economic Zones requires strong economic governance to attract private investors and FDI".

Mr Pierre GUISLAN identified two major opportunities for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones projects in Africa:

- 1 African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) adopted in Kigali, on March 2018, with the objective to create a single continental market where Economic Zones has to play an important role.

- 2 The initiative of AfDB called "Staple Crops Processing Zones" that focused on creating new economic zones in rural areas and develop processing activities based on domestic resources.

Ms Félicia DJIBO, Director Consulting and Risk Advisory at Deloitte Francophone West Africa

Ms Félicia DJIBO stressed the main challenges of Economic Zones such as market demand assessment, governance, infrastructure, setup favorable social economic environment and Planning. She also pointed out the role of government and African leaders to balance and prioritize between developing Economic Zones projects and supporting social initiatives.

Mr Richard OBIANU, Assistant General Manager, at Nigeria Export Processing Zones (NEPZA)

Mr Richard OBIANU shared the experience of NEPZA in attracting investments, creating jobs and deploying positive spillovers in the Nigerian economy. He described the key fundamentals in implanting dedicated regulatory framework for Free Zones and Export Processing Zones.

Mr Gustavo GONZALEZ DE VEGA, Vice President Association de Zonas Francas de Las Américas (AZFA) :

Mr Gustavo GONZALEZ DE VEGA shared major achievements of the association AZFA reaching 200 members and over 20 years experience supporting Latin American Free Zones development.

Mr Gustavo GONZALEZ presented the "Atlantic Platform Exchange Project" to strengthen relationships and synergies between Latin American and African Economic Zones and Free Zones. This project consists on creation of corridors connecting Free Trade Zones from Latin America, Africa and Europe with the involvement of government representatives and Investment-Trade promotion authorities.

Mr Aboubaker OMAR HADI, Chairman, Djibouti Ports and Free Zones Authority :

"Djibouti Ports and Free Zones Authority (DPFZA) developed the concept of "the port inside the Free Zone" to reduce logistic costs improve administrative processes and foster customs regulations with the objective to attract Foreign Direct investments".

Mr Mehdi TAZI RIFFI, CEO of Tanger Med Port and Zones :

"The key ingredients for successful of Special Economic Zones are:

- 1 Specific and dedicated business environment and regulatory framework such as : one stop shop, favourable environment for investments, incentives and facilities...

- 2 Integration with a comprehensive infrastructure and logistic development plan.

- 3 Focus on defining the main activity sectors for the zone through clustering approach to attract FDIs and enhance industrial competitiveness".

AFZO CONFERENCE 2 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR AFRICAN ECONOMIC ZONES AND FREE ZONES

Abidjan – IVORY COAST



Pr Jhon C. ANYANWU, Lead Research Economist, Macroeconomic Policy, Forecasting and Research Department at the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) :

Mr Anyanwu presented the key Investment drivers in economic zones and free zones projects adopting « holistic » and « one stop shop ». He also stressed innovative sources of finance for funding projects in Free and Economic Zones in Africa such as PPPs, corporate bonds, private equity funds,

Pr Jhon also highlighted the role of the AfDB in providing technical assistance and policy advice, financing PPP projects, and promoting capacity building among other services.

Mr. Adil CHIKHI, Director ICA SEMED at The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) :

Mr Adil CHIKHI underscored the EBRD's commitment to help unlock the economic potential of the African continent. Overcoming challenges of Economic Zones and Free Zones in attracting FDIs, creating jobs and promoting financial inclusions. He also shared details on EBRD approach in supporting industrial projects in eastern Europe and north Africa. Success stories has also been demonstrated in promoting modern industrial sector such as the automotive industry in Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt.

Mr Filippo MAURI, CEO at International Logistic Expert :

Mr Filippo MAURI highlighted the importance of the integration of exogenous factors in developing strategies for Economic Zones and Free Zones in Africa. The optimization of logistic cost and improvement of supply chain processes are key success factors for industrial capacity building.

Mr Ahmed BENNIS, Director International Business Development at Tanger Med :

Mr Ahmed BENNIS explained that fundamentals behind the development of successful value proposition for Economic Zones and Free Zones in Africa are:

- Infrastructures set up applying international standards that fit to industrial needs.
- Skill set development, training and sustainable social environment.
- Government involvement through supporting initiatives and dedicated framework.
- Genuine approach in attracting investments and supporting.

Mr Youssef OUATTARA, Agency for the Management and Development of Industrial Infrastructure (AGEDI), Ivory Coast :

"The government of Republic of Ivory coast has initiated several reforms designed to Economic Zones in order to facilitate administrative procedures and enhance transparency process management ... the government has set objectives to balance between supporting social initiatives and accelerate industrialization and Economic Zones development...".

Mr Adel MOHSEN, The Executive Chairman of the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (GAFI), Egypt.

"We believe that constructing new free zones helps to improve the investment climate of the country as it ensures the free movement and trade of goods, thus establishing Egypt's reputation as a great business hub ... the Egyptian government has established nine free zones distributed all over the republic and supplied with facilities and essential infrastructure services."

AFZO CONFERENCE 3 PROMOTING REGIONAL VALUE CHAINS IN AFRICA ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AFRICAN SEZ NETWORK & KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM

Addis Ababa – ETHIOPIA

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia – 21 November 2018. The Department of Trade and Industry of the African Union Commission organized the Africa Industrialisation Week (AIW) under the theme:

“Promoting Regional Value Chains in Africa: A Pathway for Accelerating Africa’s Structural Transformation, Industrialization and Pharmaceutical Production”.

500 participants attended the AIW 2018. The afternoon of 18th November 2018 was dedicated towards the Official Opening Ceremony by the H.E Paul Kagame President of the African Union, High Level dignitaries from Member States, RECs, United Nations Agencies, Diplomatic Corps and Private Sector will attend the launch the Africa Industrialisation Week and the commemoration Africa Industrialisation Day 2018.

The participants drew from AU Member States, Private Sector representatives, Regional Economic Communities, AU Commission, NEPAD, UNIDO, GIZ, EU, UNDP, UNECA, UNCTAD, Afreximbank, AfDB, AFZO, Academia, civil society, Research Institutes and Think Tanks, independent experts and researchers.

The objective of the Africa Industrialization Week is to raise global awareness regarding the industrialization challenges faced by the continent.

The event aims to mobilize both African leaders and international organizations to advocate for the accelerated and sustainable as well as inclusive industrialization of Africa.

It also avails an opportunity to the private sector to show-case their enterprise capacity, success stories, innovation capacity, thus setting benchmarks for current and future investment and enterprise development initiatives.



Mr Ahmed BENNIS, General Secretary of Africa Free Zones Organization (AFZO) , highlighted the role of the association in supporting African Special Economic Zones through experience sharing, information exchange, building strong alliances, and Establishing Network and Knowledge Platform.



AFZO CONFERENCE 4 COMPETITIVE FRAMEWORK & SUSTAINABILITY MAINSTREAMING FOR INVESTMENT ATTRACTIVENESS

Addis Ababa – ETHIOPIA

This Conference covered relevant topics related to investment and Industrial development in Africa, and highlighted the role of Economic Zones and Free Zones as key instruments for FDI Attractiveness and industrial development and emphasized the need for Aftercare, Facility Management and Security flow Management within the Economic Zones and Free Zones.

The event gathered more than 120 participants from Economic Zones and Free Zones from Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, Gabon, Mali and Ivory Coast.



Honorable Carlos Kingsley Ahenkorah , Ghana's Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry:

Honorable Carlos Ahenkorah described the ambition of government of Ghana to set up industrial parks in the 10 regions of the country with the objective to drive industrialization to boost the economy.

His excellency congratulated AFZO and GFZA for the conference initiative and highlighted the importance of experience sharing between African Economic Zones.

Mr Michael OKEYERE BAAFI, CEO of GFZA:

The AFZO Workshop Started with Opening speech by Mr Michael Okyere Baafi, CEO of Ghana Free Zones Authority (GFZA).

He commanded the initiative of Africa Free Zones Organization to set up a training program supporting its members in promoting good governance and deploy best practices in the development of African Economic Zones and Free Zones.





3rd ANNUAL MEETING
AFRICA FREE ZONES
ORGANIZATION

.....
September 20 - 22, 2018
Abidjan - Ivory Coast
.....



www.africafreezones.com

AFZO 3rd ANNUAL MEETING ECONOMIC ZONES AND FREE ZONES' CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA Abidjan – IVORY COAST

After two first editions in Tangier, Morocco, in 2015 and 2016, the 3rd Annual meeting of Africa Free Zones Organization has successfully concluded its work on Saturday 22nd September 2018, in Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

This meeting gathered 100 C-Level participants, 18 international experts, and 35 Economic Zones and Free Zones to discuss “Economic Zones and Free Zones contribution to sustainable Economic development in Africa”.

More than 30 countries were represented during this event:

Burkina Faso, Botswana, Chad, Uganda, Djibouti, Egypt, Kenya, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, Sudan, Senegal, Togo, etc.

The participants had the opportunity to develop network and business alliances with Economic Zones and Free Zones community.

The AFZO 3rd Annual Meeting started with Welcoming and Opening Speech by his Excellency Mr Soulemane DIARRASSOUBA Minister of Industry Trade and SMEs Development of the republic of Ivory Coast, and Mr Fouad BRINI, President of Tanger Med.



His Excellency the Minister of Industry of Republic of Ivory Coast, **Mr Soulemane DIARRASSOUBA** welcomed the holding of the 3rd Annual Meeting of Africa Free Zones Organization in Ivory Coast, Abidjan. He also commended the initiative of Tanger Med to set up the association and support its continuous development.

His Excellency **Mr Soulemane DIARRASSOUBA** highlighted the importance of sustainable industrialization as a key instrument to foster economic diversification, create jobs and reduce poverty. He suggested that African leaders should enhance investment climate and offer favourable conditions for business settlement and Special Economic Zones development.

Mr Fouad BRINI expressed his gratitude to the government of Ivory Coast for its contribution and support in organizing and hosting the 3rd annual meeting of Africa Free Zones Organization.

He also recalled that Africa Free Zones Organization was founded in 2015 on the initiative of Tanger Med, with the objective to provide strategic and technical assistance, identify business opportunities and promote sustainable economic development models and best practices to AFZO community.

Mr Fouad BRINI pointed out the challenges in attracting Foreign Direct Investments and establishing strategic government policies to accelerate industrialization in Africa.



Live video, AKINWUMI ADESINA'S speech
President of African Development Bank :
 "Special Economic Zones and Free Zones will play a major role to transform the economic landscape of Africa...and contribute to continuous growth and successful industrialization of the continent"

Abou Mohamed Moubarrack LO - Chief Economist and Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Senegal :

After sharing relevant statistics related to the development of Economic Zones and FDIs in Africa, Mr Moubarrack LO described the fundamentals of "Synthetic Index of Economic Emergence", defined the Economic Emergence and its impact on Economic Zones development.





**AFZO
GET-
TOGETHER**



SITE VISIT

Abidjan – IVORY COAST



Economic Zone PK 24, Abidjan - IVORY COAST



Ghana Free Zones Board, Accra - GHANA



Prime Economic Zone, Kigali - RWANDA

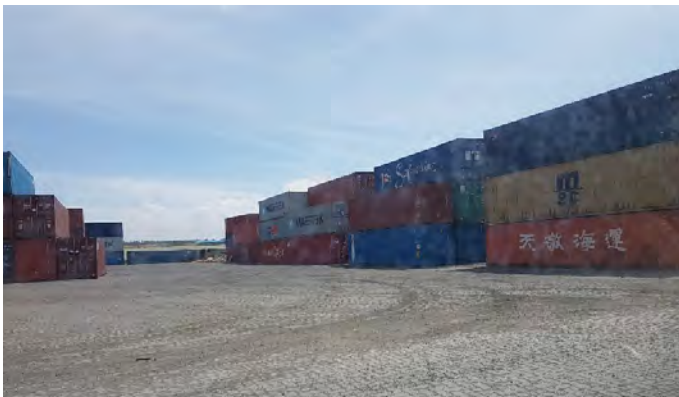




Djibouti Ports and Free Zones - DJIBOUTI



Modjo Dry Port - ETHIOPIA



Lekki Free Trade Zone, Lagos - NIGERIA



AFZO MEDIA CENTER



AFZO ON SOCIAL MEDIA



DECEMBER 20



Ethiopia, Dire Dawa - #Ethiopian Media announce the inauguration of the Chinese-built Dire Dawa industrial park, stretched on 14,500 hectares of land and located in the eastern part of the country with easy access to...



DECEMBER 24



Ivory Coast – Ivory Coast and @afreximbank have renewed their framework agreement to accelerate the country's #industrialization, including the construction of the Akoupé-Zeudji industrial park (Pk 24).

AFZO KNOWLEDGE CENTER

REPORTS AND ARTICLES

Policy Research Working Paper 4623

The Cost and Benefits of Tax Treaties with Investment Hubs
Findings from Sub-Saharan Africa

Authors: Ben Simoes

Demand for Manufacturing

Download

Industrial Development Report 2018

Demand for Manufacturing Driving Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development

Industrial Development Report 2018

Download

MOZAMBIQUE ECONOMIC UPDATE

Shifting to More Inclusive Growth

October 2018

Mozambique Economic Update Shifting to more Inclusive Growth - World Ban...

Download

Knowledge Center service is only available for AFZO members

Taking Management Digital

Lessons from the Development of an Innovative Management Information System for Small Businesses in Ethiopia

Authors: Abinet Alem, Ferede Tesfaye, Ayen Girma

Taking Management Digital Lessons

Download

THE HUMAN CAPITAL PROJECT IN AFRICA

STORIES OF RESILIENCE

THE HUMAN CAPITAL PROJECT IN AFRICA

Download

Transformer les économies africaines par des politiques commerciales et industrielles intelligentes

Transforming African economies through smart trade and industrial policies

Download

AFZO weekly Newsletter has been distributed to more than 4000 contacts

AFRICAN FREE ZONES LATEST NEWS



Ethiopia - [Ethiopian textile manufacturer gets top US State Department recognition](#)

Ethiopian clothes manufacturer and leading company in Ethiopia's Hawassa Industrial Park PVH Corp. has received the 2018 U.S. Secretary of State's Award for Corporate Excellence (ACE). The Company, one of the world's largest apparel companies and owner of iconic brands including Calvin Klein, Tommy Hilfiger, Van Heusen, Speedo, Warner's and IZOD, received the recognition, sustainable Operations award, as lead investor of a best-in-class apparel manufacturing facility in Hawassa.



South Africa - [Special Economic Zones are key in reviving manufacturing In South Africa.](#)

The CEO of the Dube Trade Port, Hamish Erskine says SEZs are key in reviving the manufacturing sector and creating sustainable jobs. He was addressing the Select Joint Oversight Committee on Trade, International Relations, Economic and Business Development during their visit to the Durban-based Dube Tradeport SEZ. With the total investment of R3.1 b and 3 281 direct jobs created since 2010, Erskine said they want to be at the forefront of creating a space where FDIs can be accommodated into the country, but also create localisation opportunities for small companies.



INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICAN FREE ZONES



GOAL 9

BUILD RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE, PROMOTE INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIALIZATION AND FOSTER INNOVATION



Zambia - [Transforming Zambia: Policies to Foster Industrialization and Development](#)

The UNCTAD in collaboration with the Zambia Ministry of C, T&I and the ECA's Sub-regional Office for Southern Africa organized a two-day workshop in Lusaka on the theme: "Transforming Zambia: policies to Foster Industrialization and Development". Piergiuseppe Fortunato, UNCTAD's Economic Affairs Officer provided an overview of the process of structural transformation and its linkages with Development and sought to equip participants with knowledge of the key policies that could accelerate the gradual transformation of economies

Ghana - [Ghana places industrialization at center of economic transformation](#)

Ghana's desire to transform its economy requires that it place industrialization at the center of activities, deputy minister for Trade and Industry Robert Ahomka-Lindsay said, explaining that this was the reason for the government's much mentioned One District-One Factory (1D-1F) program. He made the remarks while delivering the keynote address at the 10th anniversary celebration of the cooperation between Ghana, the UNIDO and the



INVESTMENTS IN AFRICAN FREE ZONES



Kenya - [Demand Spikes for Tatu City Industrial Park in Kenya](#)

The first phase of Tatu Industrial Park is nearly sold out, as demand for high-quality land for manufacturing, logistics and warehousing in the northern growth corridor of Nairobi increases at a record pace. Currently at Tatu Industrial Park, one of the largest industrial zones in East Africa, over 40 companies are operational, constructing facilities or planning development, representing over USD 500 million of investment in a key sector for Kenya's economic development.



Morocco - UK's DPI invests \$30 mln in Moroccan mattress maker [Dolido](#)

Morocco - UK's DPI invests \$30 mln in [Dolido](#), a Moroccan foam, mattress and bedding products manufacturer, allowing it, among other things, to execute its SSA expansion strategy. The partnership with DPI will allow Dolido to reinforce its market leading position in Morocco, further leverage the strong growth prospects of its various business segments and execute its Sub Saharan Africa expansion strategy with an emphasis on West Africa.

VIDEO OF THE WEEK



AFZO ON MEDIA THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT US...

THE NORTH AFRICA POST

Nana Quame Afriyie



Challenge.ma



LE MAGAZINE DU
MANAGER



AFRIACTUEL
voix des Africains



Tanger-Med Takes Part in African Economic Zones Meeting in Abidjan

Tanger-Med, one of the largest ports in the Mediterranean, took part on September 20-22 in the third Meeting of the African Economic Zones held by The African Free Zones Organization (AFZO). Themed "Economic Zones and Free Zones' contribution to sustainable economic development in Africa," the event brought together representatives of 30 African countries as well as international experts. The participants discussed best practices and models for the successful development of special economic zones as well as the challenges and roles of economic and free zones in terms of FDI attractiveness, investment and financing strategy and regional integration of the zones. The African Free Zones Organization (AFZO) is an association founded upon the initiative of Tanger-Med in 2015. It includes the main African economic zones, free zones and institutions in charge of the development, management and promotion of economic zones and free zones in Africa. It currently has 29 members representing 18 African countries: Gabon, Nigeria, Togo, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Chad, Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, Zambia and Botswana.

AGENCEIVOIRIENNE DE PRESSE
 Leader de l'information de proximité

Région | Infos des régions | Médias/Video | Dépêches | International | AP Mobile | Plus RSS

Vous êtes ici: Accueil > Infos des régions > C. A. Nord > Grand Nord > Abidjan > Côte d'Ivoire/Abidjan accueille la 3ème rencontre annuelle des zones économiques et zones franches africaines

ABIDJAN
 Côte d'Ivoire-inter/Abidjan accueille la 3ème rencontre annuelle des zones économiques et zones franches africaines

PUBLIÉ LE 17/09/2018 DANS
 ABIDJAN ACTUALITÉS AFRIQUE CÔTE D'IVOIRE D. A. ABIDJAN GRANDS POINTS ÉCONOMIE INTER DES RÉGIONS/INTERNATIONAL/VIDEO/LES



Abidjan, 17 sept (AIP)-La capitale économique ivoirienne va accueillir du 20 au 22 septembre la 3^{ème} édition de la convention annuelle des zones économiques et zones franches africaines (AFZO en anglais) sur le thème "La contribution des zones économiques et zones franches au progrès économique durable en Afrique".

Organisée par l'Association des zones économiques et zones franches africaines (Africa Free Zones Organization, AFZO, en anglais), cette rencontre internationale ambitionne de renforcer les relations de partenariat entre les zones économiques et les zones franches africaines à travers le déploiement d'un écosystème intégré et d'une approche économique participative, selon la note d'invitation de la structure parvenue à l'AIP.

Des experts internationaux et dirigeants de zones économiques et de zones franches, représentant plus de 20 pays africains, débattent durant deux jours, au Sofitel hotel Ivoire d'Abidjan, des thématiques liées à la promotion des investissements directs étrangers, aux modèles économiques dédiés ainsi qu'aux problématiques de financement des zones économiques et zones franches en Afrique.

Nana Quame Afriyie

Thursday, December 13, 2018

GFZA HOSTS AFZO 2018 TRAINING WORKSHOP



President Akufo-Addo's appointee; Mr. Michael Okyere Baafi has seemed to outperform than what we expected he could achieve.

TRAINING WORKSHOP

The Africa Free Zone Organization (AFZO) in collaboration with the Ghana Free Zones Authority (GFZA) organized a training workshop with the objective of supporting its members in promoting good governance and deploy best practices in the development of African Economic Zones and Free Zones.

The workshop covered relevant topics related to investment and industrial development in Africa.

It also highlighted the role of Economic Zones and Free Zones as key instruments for FDI Attractiveness and industrial developed and emphasized the need for Aftercare, Facility Management and Security flow Management within the Economic Zones and Free Zones.

Special guest of honor, the Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry, Honorable Carlos Ahenkorah spoke about the ambition of government to set up one industrial park in all 10 regions to drive industrialization to boost the economy.



ABIDJAN : TANGER MED PROMUEUT L'INDUSTRIALISATION AFRICAINE

Agence de Presse Africaine Apanews
 Ajoutée le 23 sept. 2018

S'ABONNER 6,3 K

La édition de la rencontre de l'Association des zones économiques et zones franches d'Afrique s'est ouvert vendredi à Abidjan. De nombreux acteurs du secteur privé en Afrique prennent à ce rendez vous, initié par Tanger Med, selon la vision du Roi Mohammed VI. Reportage Hyppolite Dié-Ferdinand Kouakou

- 1- FOUAD BRINI : PRÉSIDENT DE TANGER MED
- 2- SOULEYMANE DIARRASSOUBA : MINISTRE IVOIRIEN DU COMMERCE, DE L'INDUSTRIE ET DES PME



SUPPORTING ECONOMIC ZONES
& FREE ZONES **DEVELOPMENT**
IN AFRICA



www.africafreezones.com