



## WORKSHOP LIBREVILLE - GABON



A great success for the Africa Free Zones Organization (AFZO) Workshop in Libreville - Gabon. We warmly thank our co-organizer, the Nkok SEZ Authority, as well as the experts for their outstanding presentations shared with more than 170 participants. This confirms the leading role of our Organization' activities and its collective commitment to prosperous and sustainable African Economic Zones.



**Mr. Biendi Maganga-Moussavou**  
Gabonese Minister of Agriculture

Mr. Biendi Maganga-Moussavou, the Gabonese Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Food, in charge of the GRAINE Program, stated that "The holding in Libreville of this international workshop on free zones gives us the opportunity to assess the operational impact of our various free zones".



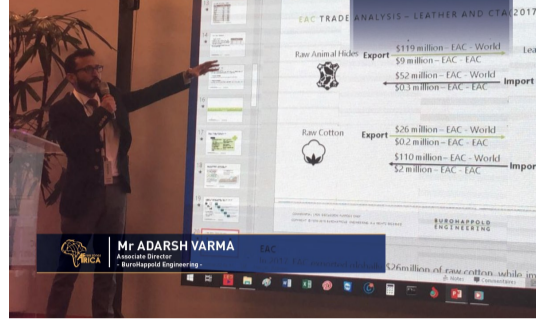
**Mr. Gabriel Ntougou, CEO**  
Autorité Administrative ZERP de Nkok

Word of Mr. Gabriel Ntougou, CEO at AAN - Autorité Administrative ZERP de Nkok, "We will make a horizon tour across all the free zones in Africa, to review their real contribution to growth, and what a free zone means to the average citizen, also how this phenomenon should be understood".



**Ahmed Bennis, General Secretary**  
The Africa Free Zones Organization

Drawing the parallel with "the goal of building together within the African community a model to emerge Economic Zones and especially to attract FDI", Ahmed Bennis, G.S of the AFZO, stressed the importance of "developing one's own model", which should adapt to "constraints" and "environments" and "best meet the expectations of investors". Ahmed Bennis also enumerated the four fundamental pillars to develop nowadays an Economic Zone in Africa.



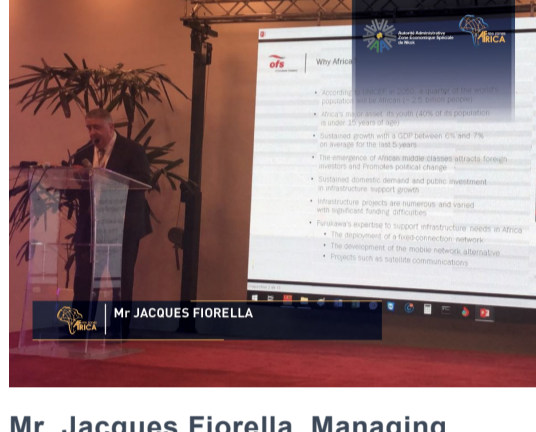
**Dr. Adarsh Varma, Associate Director**  
BuroHappold Engineering

Dr. Adarsh Varma, Associate Director, BuroHappold Engineering, showcased evidence of Special Economic Zones performance in the development of regional trade and promoting exports. He underlined the role of regional trade regimes, and pointed out the importance of an attractive incentive framework to stimulate investments implementation within Special Economic Zones.



**Mr. Sand Mba Kalu**  
Executive Director - AITCR

Mr. Sand Mba Kalu, Executive Director, Africa International Trade and Commerce Research Ltd - AITCR - highlighted the remarkable window of opportunity that SEZ are representing to foster Africa's Economic Sustainable advancement, especially with the coming into force of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement. He shared successful stories that enabled sustainable industrial development.



**Mr. Jacques Fiorella, Managing Director**  
Furukawa Electric

Mr. Jacques Fiorella, Managing Director of Furukawa Electric in Tanger Med made a presentation on Furukawa Electric' investment in Africa, including its fiber-optics cable plant at Tanger Med Industrial Platform in Morocco. He emphasized the contribution of Economic Zones and Free Zones in attracting industrial investment through comprehensive incentives schemes, advanced logistics and trade facilitation.



**Mr. Dauda Foday Suma**  
Senior Industrial Advisor - GGGI

Mr. Dauda Foday Suma, Senior Industrial Advisor, Global Green Growth Institute - GGGI -, highlighted the importance of implementing green zone policies. He presented the benefits of Resource Efficiency as major Catalyst to Sustainable Growth. He also stressed Policy Instruments for Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production in Industries.



**Mr. Ahmed BENLARABI**  
Head of PV systems - IRESEN

Mr. Ahmed BENLARABI, Head of PV systems, IRESEN - Research Institute for Solar Energy and New Energies, shared their experience in R&D in solar energy and renewable energies projects. He described the opportunities for Special Economic Zones in applying Energy Smart Management, Grid stabilization, renewable energy supplies capacities and Energy consumption optimization.

## AFRICAN FREE ZONES LATEST NEWS



[ECA's ERA 2019 examines reforms required to enable African countries](#)

To meet the SDGs Africa will need to raise an estimated 11% of GDP per year for the next 10 years to close the financing gap. Today, Africa's average [Read more ...](#)



[Egypt - A Japanese industrial zone in the Gulf of Suez Economic Zone is in perspective](#)

Egypt - Japan is considering the establishment of a Japanese industrial zone in the Gulf of Suez Economic Zone. The SCZone delivered [Read more ...](#)



[Uganda - President commissioned factories at Tian Tang Industrial Park](#)

Uganda - President Yoweri Museveni commissioned on Saturday five factories in Mbale, Mukono, including mattress and steel manufacturing plants at Tian Tang Industrial Park, Royikems Industries (mattresses, plastics) [Read more ...](#)

## INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICAN FREE ZONES



[3 German firms setting up factories in Ghana, including at West Park in Takoradi](#)

Ghana - Three leading German companies have indicated their intention to set up factories in Ghana: B-Braun, provider of healthcare [Read more ...](#)



[Rwanda - Mara Group starts manufacturing its Africa's first smartphone in Kigali's SEZ](#)

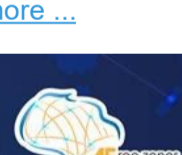
Rwanda - Mara Group' smartphone manufacturing plant starts production in Rwanda, making it the first [Read more ...](#)



[SA - R18 Billion expansion plan for Dube Trade Port SEZ, bringing extra 45 hectares of industrial land](#)

SA - The Dube Trade Port Special Economic Zone (DTP SEZ) in KwaZulu-Natal is entering the second phase of its expansion plan thanks to the R18 billion investment unveiled [Read more ...](#)

## INVESTMENTS IN AFRICAN FREE ZONES

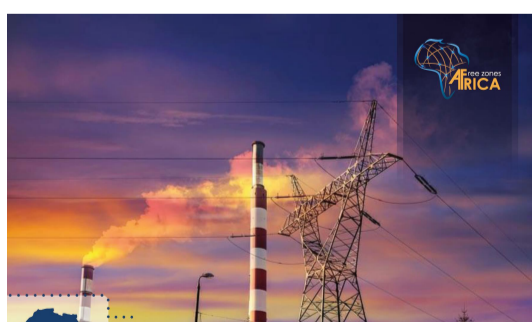


[Libya - Misurata FZ implements a main electrical power injection plant](#)

Libya - Misurata Free Zone (MFZ) strengthens its energy independence, finalizing a main injection station (11/30 KV) which will provide the power needed to feed investment projects within the FZ area. In addition, according [Read more ...](#)

[Zambia - Lusaka South-MFEZ diversifies the energy sector with a \\$60 million solar power plant](#)

Zambia - President Edgar Lungu has commissioned the 54 megawatts solar power plant in the LS-MFEZ. At a cost of \$60 million, the plant is set to power over 30,000 households in the [Read more ...](#)

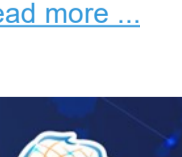


[Ethiopia - French Soufflet Group to build malt house with EUR 70 million in Bole Lemi II industrial Park](#)

Ethiopia - A foundation for a malt house to be built with EUR 70 million at Bole-Lemi II Industrial Park was laid in mid-March. French Soufflet Group's plant covers 10 hectares of land in the outskirts of Addis Ababa. The company will [Read more ...](#)

Nigeria - The Ondo State International Industrial Park at Omotoso, 170 km northeast of Lagos, will host one of the world's lowest cost natural gas-fired power plants, developed by the [Read more ...](#)

## VIDEO OF THE WEEK



Best Of Video and special moments of the AFZO Workshop held in Libreville - Gabon on Wednesday March 27, 2019.

