



Benin Nigeria Business Forum 2026

**Connecting Markets.
Creating Opportunities.
Building the Future.**



The Benin Nigeria Business Forum (BNBF) is a high-level business and investment platform designed to strengthen economic ties between Benin and Nigeria. As two key economies in West Africa, both countries share strong trade relations and complementary markets, offering significant opportunities for cross-border investment, industrial cooperation, and private sector growth.

The BNBF 2026 marks the first edition of this Forum, initiated to create a structured space for dialogue, networking, and deal-making between public and private stakeholders from both countries.

ABOUT THE EVENT

The Benin Nigeria Business Forum (BNBF 2026) is a two-city business forum organised in Abuja and Lagos, bringing together decision-makers, investors, financial institutions, industrial players, and business leaders.

The Forum combines:

- › High-level plenary discussions;
- › Thematic panels;
- › B2B meetings;
- › Structured networking sessions.

It is co-organised by **GLO-DJIGBÉ INDUSTRIAL ZONE (GDIZ)**, **THE INVESTMENT AND EXPORT PROMOTION AGENCY (APIEx)**, **THE DEPOSITS AND CONSIGNMENTS FUND OF BENIN (CDC BENIN)**, and **AFRICAN EXPORT-IMPORT BANK (AFREXIMBANK)**, with the support of institutional and private sector partners from both Benin and Nigeria.

ORGANISERS



KEY PARTNERS





OBJECTIVES OF THE FORUM

The BNBF 2026 aims to:

- Facilitate strategic partnerships between public and private sector stakeholders;
- Promote investment opportunities in Benin;
- Enhance the visibility and attractiveness of Benin's industrial, business, and export ecosystem;
- Enable business matchmaking between Beninese and Nigerian companies;
- Support sustainable and mutually beneficial collaborations contributing to regional economic growth;
- Encourage Beninese diaspora living in Nigeria to participate in resources mobilization;
- Encourage entrepreneurs and business leaders from Beninese diaspora in Nigeria, to invest in Benin, create new industrial ventures, or relocate existing production units within the GDIZ and other priority zones.



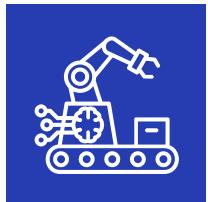
SECTORS OF INTEREST

The forum will focus on several key sectors, including:



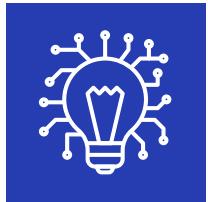
Agriculture and Agri-food

Investment opportunities to enhance food security, agricultural value chains, and trade in agri-food products.



Industry and Manufacturing

Promotion of the manufacturing industry, local resource transformation, and the development of industrial infrastructure.



Technology and Innovation

Encouraging technological innovation, business digitalization, and the adoption of emerging technologies.



Energy and Natural Resources

Discussing investments in energy infrastructure, including renewable energy, to support sustainable development.



Financial Services

Exchanging opportunities for financing and fintech solutions to facilitate trade transactions.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The Forum targets:

- › Nigerian and regional investors;
- › Business leaders and entrepreneurs;
- › Industrial operators and export-oriented companies;
- › Financial institutions and development partners;
- › Public authorities and policymakers;
- › Nigerian companies looking to enter or expand within the Beninese and regional markets;
- › Beninese diaspora based in Nigeria, including entrepreneurs and investors seeking to invest in Benin, establish new industrial projects, or relocate production and processing units to benefit from Benin's industrial and export ecosystem.

KEY DATES & VENUES

Abuja Edition

Date: 26 January 2026

Time: From 8:00 a.m.

Venue: Onomo Allure Hotel Abuja – AATC

Lagos Edition

Date: 28 January 2026

Time: From 8:00 a.m.

Venue: Eko Hotel, Lagos

REASONS TO PARTICIPATE

By participating in BBNF 2026, attendees will:

- › Gain direct access to high-level decision-makers;
- › Identify new business partners and investors;
- › Explore concrete investment and trade opportunities;
- › Engage in targeted B2B meetings;
- › Join a qualified network of Nigerian and Beninese business leaders;
- › Position their organisation within a growing regional business ecosystem.



Abuja

26 January - Onomo Hotel

TIMING	ACTIVITY	TIMING	SPEAKER
08h00-09h00	Welcome & Registration	01h	Welcome Team + Agency
OPENING CEREMONY			
09h00 - 10h00	Introductory Remarks	01h	MC - Ms. Gloria Orji-Emodi
	Welcome Remarks by the Managing Director of SIPI-BENIN, Member of the Benin Delegation		Mr. Létondji BEHETON - Managing Director, SIPI-BENIN / GDIZ
	Welcome Remarks / President / Abuja Chamber of Commerce and Industry		Mr. Emeka OGEFULU SAN
	Welcome Remarks / President / Nigeria Benin Chamber of Commerce and Industry		Prince Kayodé ADETOKUNBO
	Welcome Remarks / Vice President Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Benin (CCIB)		Mr. Casimir MIGAN
	Welcome Remarks / President / FEWACCI		Mr. Faman TOURE
	Welcome Remarks / President / NACCIMA		Dr. Jani IBRAHIM
	Welcome Remarks / President / NIPC		Ms. Aisha RIMI
	Welcome Remarks / MD Benin Investment & Promotion Agency (APIEx) The MOU with NIPC		Mr. Eric AKOUTE
	MOU Signing / APIEx & NIPC		Managing Directors - APIEx & NIPC
	End of Opening Ceremony		MC/ Ms. Gloria Orji-Emodi
	Official Group Photo		All
OPENING KEYNOTE : BUSINESS CLIMATE & FACILITATION- ROLE OF APIEx			
10h00 - 10h15	Screening of a presentation film about Benin destination	15mn	Technical Team
	Reforms and Business Climate in Benin		Mr. Eric AKOUTÉ Managing Director, APIEx
	Facilitation and investor support mechanisms		
	Customs and Tax Incentives		
10h15 - 10h30	Questions & Answers Session (Q&A)	15mn	Mr. Eric AKOUTE
PRESENTATION 1: INDUSTRIAL OPPORTUNITIES / GDIZ			
10h30- 10h45	Presentation of Glo Djigbé Special Economic Zone	15mn	Mr. Létondji BEHETON - Managing Director, GDIZ / SIPI-BENIN
	Priority sectors (agro-industry, textile, processing, logistics..)		
	Competitive advantages and implementation modalities		
10h45 - 10h50	GDIZ Video Broadcast	10mn	Technical Team
10h50 - 11h10	Questions & Answers Session (Q&A)	15mn	M. Létondji BEHETON
PRESENTATION 2 : CDC BENIN – FINANCING & STRUCTURING			
11h10- 11h25	Strategic Role of CDC Benin in Development Financing	15mn	Mrs. Maryse LOKOSSOU – Managing Director, CDC Benin
	Financial Instruments for Structuring Projects		
	Co-financing and Guarantee Mechanisms. / Partnership with Investors and Regional Banks		
11h25 - 11h30	CDC Benin Corporate Film	5mn	Technical Team
11h25 - 11h40	Questions & Answers Session (Q&A)	15mn	Mrs. Maryse LOKOSSOU
COFFEE BREAK & NETWORKING			
PRESENTATION 3: AFREXIMBANK - PAN-AFRICAN TRADE AND FINANCE			
11h45 - 12h00	Trade and Investment Financing Instruments	15mn	Mr. Christian NDIKUMAGENGÉ Regional Representative, Afreximbank
	Solutions for Intra-African Trade		
	Support for Beninese and Nigerian Businesses		
	Financing Opportunities for Industrial and Agricultural Projects		
12h00 - 12h15	Questions & Answers Session (Q&A)	15mn	Mr. Christian NDIKUMAGENGÉ
PRESENTATION 4: OTHER SPEAKERS – PORT AUTONOME DE COTONOU			
12h15 - 12h35	Autonomous Port of Cotonou Presentation & (Q&A)	20mn	Mr. Kevin PORTIER - Commercial and Marketing Director
CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS			
12h35 - 13h15	Summary of Key Messages	40mn	MC/ Ms. Gloria Orji-Emodi
	Word of Thanks		M. Létondji BEHETON
	Call for expressions of interest		Mrs. Maryse LOKOSSOU
	Announcement of Post-forum Mechanisms (B2B – Visit to Benin – Support)		MC/ Ms. Gloria Orji-Emodi
LUNCH COCKTAIL & NETWORKING			
13h30 - 15h30	Targeted B2B Meetings – Institutional Exchanges – Networking (Investors / Projects)	02h	All

Lagos

28 January - Eko Hotel

TIMING	ACTIVITY	TIMING	SPEAKER
08h00-09h00	Welcome & Registration	01h	Welcome Team + Agency
OPENING CEREMONY			
09h00 – 10h00	Introductory Remarks	01h	MC – Ms. Gloria Orji-Emodi
	Welcome Remarks by the Managing Director of SIPI-BENIN, Member of the Benin Delegation		Mr. Létondji BEHETON – Managing Director, SIPI-BENIN / GDIZ
	Welcome Remarks – President, Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI)		Eng. Leye KUPOLUYI
	Welcome Remarks – President, Nigerian-Benin Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NBCCI)		Prince Kayodé ADETOKUNBO
	Welcome Remarks – Vice President, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Benin (CCIB)		Mr. Casimir MIGAN
	Welcome Remarks – President, Federation of West African Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FEWACCI)		Mr. Faman TOURE
	Welcome Remarks – President, Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (NACCIMA)		Dr. Jani IBRAHIM
	End of Opening Ceremony		MC/ Ms. Gloria Orji-Emodi
	Official Group Photo		All
OPENING KEYNOTE – BUSINESS CLIMATE & FACILITATION – ROLE OF APIEX			
10h00 – 10h15	Screening of a Benin Destination Film	15mn	Technical Team
	Reforms and Business Climate in Benin		Mr. Eric AKOUTÉ Managing Director, APIEX
	Facilitation and investor support mechanisms		
	Customs and Tax Incentives		
10h15 – 10h30	Questions & Answers Session (Q&A)	15mn	Mr. Eric AKOUTÉ
PRESENTATION 1: INDUSTRIAL OPPORTUNITIES / GDIZ			
10h30 – 10h45	Presentation of Glo-Djigbé Industrial Zone (GDIZ)	15mn	Mr. Létondji BEHETON – Managing Director, GDIZ / SIPI-BENIN
	Priority Sectors (Agro-industry, Textile, Processing, Logistics...)		
	Competitive Advantages and Implementation Modalities		
10h45 – 10h50	GDIZ Corporate Film	05mn	Technical Team
10h50 – 11h05	Questions & Answers Session (Q&A)	20mn	M. Létondji BEHETON
PRESENTATION 2 : CDC BENIN – FINANCING & STRUCTURING			
11h05 – 11h20	Strategic Role of CDC Benin in Development Financing	15mn	Mrs. Maryse LOKOSSOU – Managing Director, CDC Benin
	Financial Instruments for Structuring Projects		
	Co-financing and Guarantee Mechanisms. / Partnership with Investors and Regional Banks		
11h20 – 11h25	CDC Benin Corporate Film	5mn	Technical Team
11h25 – 11h40	Questions & Answers Session (Q&A)	15mn	Mrs. Maryse LOKOSSOU
COFFEE BREAK & NETWORKING			
PRESENTATION 3: AFREXIMBANK - INTRA AFRICAN TRADE & EXPORT DEVELOPMENT			
11h40 – 11h55	Intra-African Trade Initiatives	15mn	Mr. Christian NDIKUMAGENGÉ Regional Representative, Afreximbank
	Industrialization and Export Development Programme		
	Trade and Investment Financing Instruments		
11h55 – 12h10	Questions & Answers Session (Q&A)	15mn	Mr. Christian NDIKUMAGENGÉ
PRESENTATION 4: OTHER SPEAKERS – PORT AUTONOME DE COTONOU			
12h10 – 12h30	Autonomous Port of Cotonou Presentation & (Q&A)	20mn	Mr. Kevin PORTIER - Commercial and Marketing Director
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LUNCH COCKTAIL & NETWORKING			
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The Benin Nigeria Business Forum (BNBF) represents a unique platform to propel economic relations between Benin and Nigeria. By engaging actors from various sectors, this event will lead to productive discussions and concrete actions to foster bilateral economic growth.

ORGANISERS



GLO-DJIGBÉ INDUSTRIAL ZONE (GDIZ)

is a large-scale integrated industrial platform covering 1,640 hectares, developed as a joint venture between ARISE Integrated Industrial Platforms (ARISE IIP) and the Republic of Benin. Conceived as a catalyst for Benin's industrial transformation, GDIZ offers investors a competitive,

secure and efficient environment to develop sustainable industrial activities. At the core of GDIZ's value proposition is the local transformation of Benin's strategic raw materials into high-quality finished products. The Zone supports integrated value chains based on cotton, cashew nuts, soybeans, shea butter, pineapple and other agricultural resources, enabling investors to move up the value chain while benefiting from reliable sourcing and competitive production costs. A flagship component of the Zone is its textile and apparel industrial park, which integrates the entire value chain, from cotton fibre to finished garments. Leveraging Benin's position as a leading cotton producer, GDIZ collaborates with internationally recognised brands, offering investors a competitive platform for traceable, ethical and export-ready textile manufacturing. By investing in GDIZ, companies gain access to a dynamic industrial ecosystem, regional markets and a long-term partnership framework designed to support growth, competitiveness and sustainable value creation in West Africa.

<https://gdiz-benin.com>

THE INVESTMENT AND EXPORT PROMOTION AGENCY (APIEx)

is the government body responsible for promoting investment and boosting exports in the Republic of Benin. It serves as a one-stop shop for investors, facilitating business setup, providing information on investment opportunities, supporting export-oriented companies, and improving the overall



business climate in line with Benin's economic development strategy. It also serves as the Executive Secretariat of the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Support Unit, which coordinates the study, preparation, and monitoring of PPP projects between public and private stakeholders.

<https://monentreprise.bj>



THE DEPOSITS AND CONSIGNMENTS FUND OF BENIN (CDC BENIN)

CDC Benin is a public financial institution committed to provide innovative solutions to the financing challenges of investments. Acting as complement to the traditional financial sector, CDC Benin supports both public and private sectors through long-term financing

instruments, co-investment mechanisms as well as guarantees to enhance projects' bankability and sustainability. As a key player in Benin economic and social development, CDC Benin contributes to the country's industrial transformation.

<https://cdcb.bj/>

AFRICAN EXPORT-IMPORT BANK (AFREXIMBANK)

is a pan African multilateral development financial institution, a strategic partner in Africa's economic transformation. Afreximbank mandate is to finance and promote intra- and extra-African trade. For over 30 years, Afreximbank has been deploying innovative structures to deliver



financing solutions that support the transformation of the structure of Africa's trade, accelerating industrialization and intra-regional trade, thereby boosting economic expansion in Africa. As part of its Industrialization and Export Development programme, Afreximbank is supporting the establishment of Industrial Parks (IPs) and Special Economic Zones (SEZs) across the continent, and support IPs/SEZs ecosystem by providing tailored financial solutions and trade facilitation services to investors operating in IPs/SEZs such as GDIZ.

<https://www.afreximbank.com/fr/>

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For more information, please visit

- › www.bnbf.com
- › investbenin.bj

Contact us
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