

Africa Venture

A Common Purpose programme run in collaboration with the World Leadership Alliance-Club de Madrid

In association with

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The Africa Venture will develop emerging leaders from across Africa. This leadership programme will include focused, personal, privileged and generous interaction between this rising generation of leaders and former Heads of State and Government from the World Leadership Alliance-Club de Madrid.

The programme will enable the transfer of knowledge, know-how and inspiration across the generations, involving some of the most inspiring leaders in the world today.

How does it work?

The programme will focus on a compelling challenge facing Africa today. Senior leaders from across the continent form a 'Think Tank' to set the challenge. This challenge provides the framework for the programme which is in two parts.

"... a life changing experience ... a chance to break your stereotypes."

Hadil El Sheikh, Segment Manager – Marketing, Credit Agricole Alexandria, Participant, Common Purpose Itijah Programme

Part I

Part I will be held in Nairobi, Kenya. Over four days, participants are guided through a process of creativity and innovation. They will visit organisations across the city and engage in discussions with senior leaders from across the public, private and NGO sectors, including members of the World Leadership Alliance-Club de Madrid.

They will explore the challenge from every possible angle and will see both the problems and the possible solutions. Participants then work up practical ideas in response to the challenge, which they present to a panel of senior leaders and World Leadership Alliance-Club de Madrid Members.

Part II

Part II, which will also run for four days, will be held in September 2017 in India and will enable the participants to explore the challenge from the perspective of a different country and city.

Between Parts I and II, participants will work on their ideas individually and collectively, building long-lasting connections and developing projects that can be prototyped in the 'real world' beyond the programme.

The participants will join the Common Purpose Massive Online Innovation Community (MOIC), which brings together Common Purpose alumni from around the world with fellow leaders to develop innovative solutions to real-life challenges.



Part One

4-7 April 2017

Location: Nairobi, Kenya

Part Two

September 2017

Location: India

What is the cost?

\$7,610

There are a number of full and part scholarships available for those who are unable to afford the full fee.

“You are never too young to lead. You are never too young to do what you actually believe in ... From what I have seen, young people are going to change the world.”

**Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the United Nations (1997- 2007)
Honorary Member, World Leadership Alliance-Club de Madrid**

Who is it for?

The Africa Venture will bring together future leaders from across Africa – north, south, central, east and west – to focus on common challenges and in so doing will create an extraordinary network of young leaders across the continent.

Applications are invited from exceptional leaders in the early to mid-stage of their careers from the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. They will be recognised as those who will rapidly progress to even more senior roles. Applicants must be working in Africa.

All applications will be reviewed by the Africa Venture Selection Group, composed of senior leaders from organisations across the continent and across the sectors.

“So many of my views have been challenged, refined, reviewed, affirmed... it’s actually exhausting, but if that is what it took for me to depart from the belief that leadership is lonely and realise that leadership is actually collaborative, then it was well worth the effort!”

**Jo Maharaj, Rand Merchant Bank,
Participant, Africa Venture 2016**

Why take part?

The Africa Venture will encourage participants to work in new directions and develop innovative approaches to challenges facing Africa today. In the process, it will equip them to operate effectively across the African continent. The participants will:

- **Grow as leaders** through interaction with some of the most respected and dynamic African leaders, including African members of the World Leadership Alliance-Club de Madrid
- **Build new networks** through exposure to participants, contributors and speakers that they would otherwise never meet
- **Develop their Cultural Intelligence:** the ability to cross divides and thrive in multiple cultures, by throwing them into a difficult task with a very diverse group
- **Enhance their ability to lead beyond authority** – the ability to lead in situations where they have no formal authority
- **Stretch their analytical and creative skills** by exposing them to new approaches to innovation
- **Strengthen their influencing skills** by bringing them together with senior leaders to discuss ideas and present their findings.

About World Leadership Alliance-Club de Madrid

The World Leadership Alliance-Club de Madrid is an international non-profit organisation, the world’s largest assembly of independent political leaders.

Over 100 democratic former Presidents and Prime Ministers from more than 70 countries – who act globally by voluntarily bringing their unparalleled political insight, experience and unswerving commitment to democracy to support current leaders as they address the challenges of today and tomorrow.

About Common Purpose

Common Purpose is a leadership development organization that specializes in cross-boundary leadership. A not-for-profit, we run programmes in over 70 cities worldwide. Founded in 1989, over 4,000 people become Common Purpose Alumni every year.

Our leadership development programmes inspire and equip people to work across boundaries. This enables them to solve complex problems in organizations and in society.

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