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The development of capital markets can create opportunities for prosperity for a nation's citizens. This is according to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Commissioner Mark T. Uyeda, who was speaking at the Southern African Securities Regulators Regional Training Conference. He looks into the Role of Regulators in Fostering Capital Markets as well as pitfalls of regulation on pp. pp.14-15.

In this month's issue, Pazani Vaitilingon of IQ-EQ shares his thoughts on the state of digital adoption in Africa's private equity landscape. He says that IQ-EQ research showed that private equity firms recognise the need to switch from old systems to more advanced digital platforms. Learn more on p.13.

This month, we also found that Africa's share of global blockchain venture deals grew from 1.3% in 2023 to an all-time high of 1.8% in H1 2024. According to the latest CV VC African Blockchain Report, Africa's average blockchain deal size is 13% higher than the all-sector average deal size in the region. Read on p.16.

In addition, AFSIC shares their interview with asc impact to find out what attracted them to AFSIC 2024 on p.22.

We would like to remind you that the submissions are still open for the 9th annual Africa Service Providers Awards! This year there will be a physical ceremony in South Africa in November. Submit your applications or nominate the best service providers at www.agfawards.com

We are also supporting MNCapital Group and their 8th Africa Investment Funds and Asset Management (AIFAM) Forum, scheduled from 6th to 8th November 2024 in Kigali, Rwanda. For more info, please contact Michael Ndinisa: michael@mncapitalgroup.com

For more up-to-date news, analysis and insights visit africaglobalfunds.com and don't forget to follow the magazine @AfricaGlobFunds on Twitter.

If you would like to get in touch with any comments or suggestions for future issues, please e-mail myself at a.lyudvig@africaglobalfunds.com

Best regards,

Anna Lyudvig
 Managing Editor

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Metier Capital Growth Fund III Reaches Final Close at \$219m



Paul Botha,
CEO and Co-founder
Metier

Metier has announced the final close for Metier Capital Growth Fund III, raising over \$219m and exceeding its targeted fund size of \$200m.

"We are pleased with the support shown by our investors to Metier and for this result given the tough fundraising climate the African private equity industry is experiencing," said Paul Botha, CEO and Co-founder of Metier.

Peter Maila, Co-Chief Investment Officer at FMO, the Dutch entrepreneurial development bank, commented that, "FMO is proud to continue its long-standing partnership with Metier through its commitment in the Metier Capital Growth Fund III."

The Fund, which announced a first close in September 2023, has made three investments to date in portfolio companies in the telecommunications, information technology and energy sectors.

Botha added: "The Fund is positioned to make additional investments before the end of this year given the vibrant deal pipeline we are observing. We seek opportunities that require growth capital with the potential to deliver top quartile returns and positive developmental impact".

The Fund has a geographic focus on sub-Saharan Africa and is expected to make eight to twelve equity and equity-related investments into mid-market companies with strong growth features in sectors that benefit from regional economic and demographic trends such as population growth and increased urbanisation.

The Fund has attracted investment from both international and South African investors, including significant commitments from international development finance institutions and South African financial institutions, who are supporting the Metier team's focus and track record of investing for developmental impact while delivering top quartile private equity performance.

Maila said: "Metier boasts an experienced, stable, and dedicated management team focused on building sustainable businesses and significantly enhancing resource efficiency and ESG standards. They have made substantial progress in developing their climate agenda and integrating climate considerations into their investment strategy. Committing to Metier Capital Growth Fund III aligns well with FMO's objectives of climate action, enabling local entrepreneurs to achieve inclusive prosperity, and fostering local prosperity across the continent".

"Our team is excited about the investment opportunities that exist on the continent and the meaningful impact and strong returns we hope to make for our investors," Botha concluded.

LAUNCHES

Kuramo Capital Management Appointed As Fund Manager for Nigeria Wholesale Impact Investment Fund

Impact Investors Foundation (IIF) has appointed Kuramo Capital Management as the fund manager for its \$1bn Nigeria Wholesale Impact Investment Fund (WIIF).

The structuring of the Nigeria Wholesale Impact Investment Fund is set to commence under the management of Kuramo Capital Management immediately, with a first close of \$100 million.

This collaboration is expected to catalyze further interest and participation in the impact investment space within Nigeria and Africa.

Kuramo Capital Management, an investment firm with a strong track record in managing assets across Africa, will leverage its expertise to drive the WIIF's mission of fostering social and environmental impact alongside financial returns.

The fund aims to address critical issues such as poverty alleviation, job creation, and sustainable economic growth through targeted investments in key sectors including agriculture, renewable energy, healthcare, and education.

"We are honoured to be entrusted with the management of the WIIF," said Wale Adeosun, Founder and CEO of Kuramo Capital Management.

"Our team is dedicated to achieving the fund's objectives and delivering both financial returns and measurable social impact. We look forward to working closely with all stakeholders to realize the full potential of this transformative initiative."

The Impact Investors' Foundation (IIF) is a non-profit organization established in 2019 to accelerate the growth and excellence of impact

investing in Nigeria.

"We are delighted to partner with Kuramo Capital Management, a firm that shares our vision of harnessing the power of capital for good," said Etemore Glover, CEO of IIF.

"With Kuramo's expertise and commitment to impact, we are confident that the WIIF will drive significant positive change and contribute to the sustainable development of Nigeria while achieving market risk-adjusted return to investors."

FUNDRAISING

Innovate Africa Fund Launches with \$2.5m



Christian Idiodi,
Founder
Innovate Africa Foundation

Innovate Africa Fund, an angel investment fund that supports early-stage founders in funding life-changing ideas, taking startups from conception to product and financing innovative ventures, has launched

with an initial \$2.5m rollout.

Co-founded by Kristin Wilson and Christian Idiodi, the sector-agnostic fund aims to support up to 20 startups in its first year to solve complex, recognised problems such as insecurity, unemployment, and poverty with purpose-driven technology.

Speaking about the launch of the Fund, Wilson said: "Having witnessed the struggles that early-stage African founders face up close, we know that brilliant ideas often lack the resources they need to truly thrive. It's not just about funding, it's about deep expertise and strong connections—and our investment strategy breaks the cycle of innovators being at the mercy of those with too much leverage and too little knowledge."

"As a founder-first catalyst fund, we provide insight-driven capital to help founders accelerate their journey from MVP to PMF. By providing this support and funding, innovators can focus their efforts on building sustainable, transformative businesses that solve wicked problems and return value to investors."

Since 2019, the African funding landscape has witnessed positive growth, with disclosed exits surpassing \$2.3bn - representing a significant 13.4% of the total \$17.2bn raised by African startups.

Despite this growth, early-stage founders face challenges navigating the path from ideation to market fit.

The persistent lack of early-stage funding further compounds these difficulties, hindering many startups from reaching their full potential and contributing to the continent's economic growth.

With a mission to empower startups to thrive in Africa's ever-evolving tech landscape, Innovate Africa Fund will provide insight-driven capital that helps founders accelerate the journey from Minimum Viable Product (MVP) to Product-Market Fit (PMF).

The goal is to facilitate the infrastructure that enables founders to unlock growth through audacious problem-solving, supported by access to a comprehensive ecosystem of resources.

With an average investment of \$50,000, the venture fund offers a comprehensive support package designed to propel promising startups towards success.

The robust suite of critical advisory resources includes expert guidance in finance, governance, public relations, and strategy, ensuring a solid foundation for growth.

Through its Product Leadership Accelerator, the fund delivers crucial product development support, helping startups refine their offerings and achieve product-market fit.

It also facilitates talent resourcing via an extensive partner network, connecting startups with skilled professionals across various domains.

The fund's portfolio strategy encompasses first cheque funding, a refined product operating model, valuable network and partnerships, assistance with revenue model iterations, and comprehensive operations and governance advisory.

This holistic approach aims to accelerate startups' path to success, providing them with the tools, resources, and connections needed to navigate early-stage challenges and achieve sustainable growth.

"Through the Innovate ecosystem, we connect our portfolio companies with seasoned operators and advisors, both in Africa and globally, to ensure they get the expertise they need," said Christian Idiodi, Founder of Innovate Africa Foundation.

"The African diaspora has sent over \$150 billion back to the continent in the past three years, but financial support alone isn't enough. Many are eager to contribute their talent and expertise to impactful ventures, and that's where we come in. It takes an ecosystem to build a startup. By reaching founders at a very early stage, we can connect them to key partners and help foster their success. Ultimately, our decisions today will shape who builds, owns, and benefits from the next wave of disruptive technology in emerging markets."

Innovate Africa Fund is part of an ecosystem of companies, working together to empower Africa with meaningful technology.

Through the fund, Innovate Founders will have access to the Product Leadership Accelerator, Pan-African Product Tours, InspireAfrica Gatherings, and Silicon Valley Product Group Coaching Programs.

Applications are open for founders across Africa who meet the six criteria for screening: Character, Credibility, Capacity, Courage, Competence and Context.

FUNDRAISING

Oasis Africa Fund II Hits First Close at \$33.3m

Oasis Capital Ghana, a growth capital fund manager focused on West Africa, has announced the successful first close of its \$100m Oasis Africa Fund II (OAF II), securing \$33.3m in capital commitments.

The Fund expects to raise the remainder by the end of June 2025.

This latest fund builds on the established impactful track record of Oasis Capital Ghana.

The firm's initial venture, the Ebankese Venture Fund (EVF), was a \$11m fund dedicated to supporting Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Ghana.

Following that success, Oasis Africa Fund I (OAF I) raised \$50.5m and invested in SMEs across Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire.

Both EVF and OAF I have been fully invested, deploying capital to a total of 21 businesses across various sectors.

In Ghana, some of the businesses that have benefited from Oasis Capital include Legacy Girls College, Everpure Ghana Water, SINEL Specialist Hospital, and Metropolitan Health. Meanwhile, in Cote d'Ivoire MANSABANK, and PISAM Hospital have also received support from Oasis Capital.

This proven ability to identify and nurture high-potential companies positions Oasis Capital Ghana as a trusted partner for investors seeking to contribute to West Africa's economic growth.

OAF II will continue the impact-driven investment strategy established by its predecessor funds.

The fund targets SMEs in West Africa, with a particular focus on Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire.

These SMEs operate in sectors critical to the development of a strong middle class, such as education, healthcare, finance, housing & hospitality, and food services.

By targeting businesses with innovative and scalable models, OAF II aims to not only deliver financial returns but also contribute to a more vibrant and inclusive West African economy.

While financial performance is important, OAF II prioritizes measurable social and developmental impacts alongside financial returns.

"As the fund manager, Oasis Capital integrates environmental, social, and governance (ESG) considerations into its investment decisions," Matthew Boadu Adjei, CEO of Oasis Capital Ghana LTD said in a statement.

"This commitment extends to a focus on gender lens investing, actively seeking opportunities to promote gender equality and empower women-led businesses," he added.

The success of OAF II is fueled by a distinguished group of investors who share Oasis Capital Ghana's vision for West Africa's future.

Michael Mensah-Baah, the Deputy Managing Director of Development Bank Ghana, one of the OAF II investors, said: "The OAF II aligns its investments with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) including No Poverty, Good Health and Well-being, Quality Education, Gender Equality, Clean Water and Sanitation, and Life on Land."

"This formed part of the fund's attractiveness to include in our investment portfolio and provide targeted support to the SMEs in Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire," he added.

The investor base includes prominent names such as Development Bank Ghana, Venture Capital Trust Fund, GCB Capital, Stanbic Investment Management Services, ENO International, Investcorp Asset Management, CAL Asset Management, PETRA Advantage, PETRA Opportunity, Data Bank Asset Management, Standard Pensions Trust, and Oasis Capital Ghana itself.

DEALS

Sango Capital Takes Majority Stake in Synergy Private Equity Fund



Richard Okello,
Founding Partner
Sango

Sango Capital has acquired a majority of the Limited Partner interests in Synergy Private Equity.

Synergy Managers (Mauritius)

Limited will continue as the General Partner (GP) of the Fund, whilst Sango will support the GP in value creation- and liquidity initiatives.

"This first transaction of its kind in Africa forms part of Sango's strategy to provide innovative investment solutions to investors in African private equity. We remain active across the full life cycle of private equity funds, which includes primary commitments, secondary fund purchases, and end-of-life and tail-end fund solutions. We are particularly pleased that the transaction we have just concluded has been achieved with the collaboration of the majority of the Fund's investors as well as the GP, who collectively recognize the value of

consolidating LP interests in the Fund,” said Richard Okello, founding Partner of Sango.

“This transaction is a testament to the strong partnerships that we have built over time.”

Christian Roelofse, Director at Sango who leads the special situations & portfolio solutions business, added that “The African Private Equity ecosystem is in need of alternative liquidity solutions and Sango is well placed to partner with GPs and LPs alike to address portfolio needs.”

Sango has been a Limited Partner in the Fund since it launched in 2014

and also made one co-investment with the Fund in 2015. “Whilst most of the portfolio companies are in active exit or liquidation mode, some of the investments still have value creation potential,” said Roelofse.

Ayodele Arogbo, Partner at Synergy, commented: “We are pleased that this transaction has now closed, as it enables the GP to work with a streamlined group of LPs at this critical stage in the life of the fund. The additional support in value creation and access to liquidity will be of immense benefit as we work towards the exit and liquidation of the assets remaining in the portfolio.”

DEALS

Sanari Capital Makes Follow-On Investment in EduLife Group

Sanari Capital, a private equity firm that invests in medium-sized and mid-market growth companies from Africa, has announced a R80m follow-on investment in EduLife Group.

The investment will allow EduLife Group to further entrench their schools in existing regions and expand into other provinces.

The capital will be used to build on their solid foundation in the Free State and expand its offering further in the Eastern Cape, Western Cape and potentially in Gauteng.

Further to this, the group continues to experience growth in its existing schools due to continued demand for quality education at an affordable price point in the areas they operate in.

execution, a bold vision, deep care for the community, and a profound understanding of how quality education can be achieved in lower-income communities. With an attractive return, the growth comes from a scalable model, innovative thinking, a partnering mindset, entrepreneurial grit and digital enablement.

Hansie Engelbrecht, CEO of EduLife Group, said: “Our aim is to provide inclusive, modern, and tailor-made educational excellence that enables all students to thrive, reach their full potential, and be prepared to meet the demands of the future. This follow-on investment enables us to expand into new regions and further develop our existing schools, so we can achieve our goal of providing quality education to more people. Our schools offer

“Our aim is to provide inclusive, modern, and tailor-made educational excellence that enables all students to thrive, reach their full potential, and be prepared to meet the demands of the future

Hansie Engelbrecht, CEO of EduLife Group

As such, part of the funding will be used to expand capacity in these schools.

EduLife Group is a network of independent schools, offering diverse and tailor-made education across the economic spectrum.

They are focused mainly on educating students from LSM 4–7 by delivering a learner-first solution and producing quality education outcomes, where the alternatives are sometimes dire or there is no school nearby.

The group focuses on rolling out schools in areas that usually do not see private school investment.

EduLife's pioneering school, Academy of Excellence, founded 25 years ago and serving primarily the Batho township community in Bloemfontein, has achieved 100% metric pass rate in all but one of the past 5 years, and over 60% Bachelors pass rate for the 2023 class.

“We're exceptionally pleased to support EduLife Group as they continue their ambitious expansion strategy. Our work is driven by sustainable value creation, not just for companies and investors, but for the communities and environments touched by the businesses we work with. This is why we partnered with EduLife Group. Together we are bringing accessible, affordable, relevant education to students across income levels on a sustainable and profitable basis, combining exciting growth prospects with rewarding impact,” said Moushmi Patel, Partner at Sanari Capital.

EduLife's strong management team brings an exceptional focus on

an affordable alternative for families who wouldn't otherwise have access to high-quality schooling. Our learners receive an excellent education and progress at the same pace as their peers in more metropolitan areas.”

Patel said: “Sanari's investment in EduLife Group is the perfect example of Profit with Purpose, as the team cares deeply about putting the students first and ensuring no student is left behind. The EduLife Group's business model is aligned with one of Sanari's key investment pillars - Education is the most powerful weapon!”

Since the initial investment of R28m in 2019, the group has increased South African jobs by an average of 40% per year to over 280 permanent jobs to date.

Additionally, the group creates local jobs in the areas where the schools have been built.

The schools have played a pivotal role in bringing the communities together and have used subjects like Agricultural Science to educate students in this field and provide fresh produce for the community at minimal cost.

“Sanari Capital is extremely proud of the company's growth and broader social impact, and the educators' and learners' commitments to excellence and community. “We look forward to watching EduLife Group go from strength to strength in the coming years,” concluded Patel.

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DEALS

Vantage Invests in TRIFIC SEZ



James Mworira,
CEO
Centum

Vantage Capital, Africa's largest mezzanine fund manager, has provided \$47.5m of mezzanine funding for Two Rivers International & Innovation Centre (TRIFIC SEZ), a first of its kind services-oriented business park in a special

economic zone located within the prestigious diplomatic blue zone of Nairobi, Kenya.

The promoter of the transaction is Centum Investment Company PLC (Centum), a Nairobi Stock Exchange-listed investment group established in 1967, with interests spanning real estate, energy, industrial operations, technology, media, telecommunications, and financial services.

Centum boasts a strong track record of delivering significant real estate projects, including Two Rivers Mall, and has completed over 2,000 residential units in Kenya and Uganda.

Roshal Ramdenee, Associate Partner at Vantage Capital, added: "We are excited to partner with Centum on the development of the TRIFIC SEZ. From our interactions with the Centum team, we have been impressed by their deep real estate expertise and commitment to attracting businesses to Kenya by effectively marketing its favourable operating environment. We are confident that TRIFIC SEZ will play a key role in enhancing Kenya's competitiveness as a premier investment destination on the continent."

TRIFIC SEZ aims to create an integrated business environment, offering world-class infrastructure, advanced technology, and a robust regulatory framework. It is designed to provide businesses with a competitive edge on a global scale, leveraging Kenya's SEZ tax incentives.

Businesses operating within TRIFIC SEZ will benefit from VAT zero-rating, import and stamp duty exemptions, and a reduced corporate tax rate of 10% for the first 10 years of operations.

Vantage's investment will facilitate the acquisition and renovation of a 14,975 sqm office tower, as well as the development of two Grade A office towers with a combined gross leasable area of 76,800 sqm.

A key attraction for TRIFIC SEZ tenants will be direct access to the wider Two Rivers precinct ecosystem, which includes residential developments, dining and lifestyle options, retail offerings, and entertainment venues, all curated by Centum to enhance the work environment for businesses and their employees.

Warren van der Merwe, Managing Partner at Vantage Capital, said: "We are proud to partner with Centum on this remarkable project, which will generate hundreds of jobs and attract much-needed foreign direct investment to Kenya."

James Mworira, CEO at Centum, said: "We are very pleased with the partnership and investment by Vantage Capital which will catalyse TRIFIC SEZ and enable it to provide world class facilities to SEZ enterprises. These SEZ enterprises will in turn create thousands of new jobs for Kenya, attract foreign direct investment and spur significant export revenues to the benefit of our country"

This transaction represents Vantage Capital's 37th investment across four generations of funds with its portfolio of investments spread across eleven African countries.

Werksmans (in South Africa) and Bowmans (in Kenya) acted as legal counsel for Vantage. Other advisors to the transaction included JLL, PWC Kenya, Turner & Townsend, Webber Wentzel, and IBIS Consulting.

DEALS

PAPE Makes Follow-On Investment in Entersekt

PAPEfunds has recently acquired Nedbank Private Equity's equity stake in Entersekt, a Financial Authentication Company, following an initial investment in July 2022.

Zuko Kubukeli, PAPE Fund Manager's CEO, said: "We are very excited about Entersekt's potential to grow from being a South African tech company into an internationally recognized enterprise with a presence in the USA, Europe, the Nordics, Pakistan, and the Philippines."

"This is a great South African success story, and we are delighted that PAPE Fund 3 and its investors are now firmly part of the journey," he added.

Entersekt is one of the leading providers of financial fraud prevention and payment security solutions, that has accelerated its global growth over the past year.

The company secures over 2.5 billion transactions per year for over 850 financial institution clients globally, giving it a compelling global footprint and a clear technology advantage of a solution spanning across digital, payment, and data channels of issuers, acquirers, and merchants.

Most recently, Entersekt was highlighted as a partner of Mastercard's in their Scam Protect announcement, a suite of specialized solutions

powered by cutting-edge AI technologies, which help identify and prevent fraud and financial scams.

“PAPE has been a valuable investor and advisor to Entersekt since their initial investment in 2022,” said Schalk Nolte, CEO of Entersekt.

“Their expanded investment is evidence of their confidence in our business and the tremendous growth opportunities ahead. Nedbank has also played a significant role in aiding our progress, as both an investor and a customer. While they are transitioning from an equity holder, they remain a valued client, providing us with great insights into the needs of the market.” “Nedbank Private Equity has been invested in Entersekt since 2013, and its's been remarkable to have walked this journey together and witness the evolution of the business and all its

achievements,” added Amir Regev, Principal: Private Equity at Nedbank CIB.

“From Nedbank being one of Entersekt's first customers to now servicing hundreds of customers globally, it is a testament to the quality of the management team and their innovative solutions. I am confident that Entersekt will continue to thrive and redefine the boundaries of what is possible.”

PAPE Fund Managers is a Level-1 rated Black Empowered fund manager.

PAPE Fund 3 is a R1.06bn (\$55m) private equity fund that is fully invested in six South African midcap unlisted businesses that have grown internationally.

INVESTORS

FMO Makes Follow-On Investment in REGMIFA

FMO has agreed to support the Regional MSME Investment Fund for Sub-Saharan Africa (REGMIFA) through a \$10m investment.

FMO is putting in an extra \$10m into B-shares, showing its strong commitment since 2010.

This new funding will help REGMIFA grow its portfolio across Sub-Saharan Africa, offering crucial financial support to micro, small, and medium-sized businesses, as well as low- and middle-income households through selected financial institutions.

Juan Jose Dada Ortiz, Director Financial Institutions at FMO, said: “By renewing our commitment to REGMIFA through our long-term partner Symbiotics, we're able to reach smaller financial institutions and end-beneficiaries in LDCs and frontier markets outside of our portfolio, allowing us to maximize our impact. Our investment in the Fund is 2X Challenge-aligned due to the strong female leadership on the REGMIFA Board, its focus on gender-lens investing, and having over 30% of end-borrowers being female. Together with Symbiotics, we look forward to fostering economic development throughout the Sub-Saharan African region.”

Dedicated to fostering diverse financial ecosystems, REGMIFA collaborates with a variety of entities, including microfinance

institutions, innovative fintech startups, and mid-sized banks focused on SME financing.

These strategic investments are instrumental in advancing key sectors such as education, agriculture, and clean energy, alongside traditional microfinance and SME banking.

REGMIFA places a strong emphasis on sustainability, ensuring that all loan recipients adhere to rigorous Environmental & Social risk management practices, thereby promoting responsible and enduring development.

Key for FMO is that the fund reaches financial institutions that on-lend to MSME end-borrowers that are either too small or risky for FMO to directly invest in and is active in countries outside of FMO's portfolio (such as Niger, Angola, and Mali)—allowing FMO to maximize its impact in even more countries across the African continent.

Laure Wessemius-Chibrac, Chairwoman of the REGMIFA Board, added: “Our strengthened alliance with FMO embodies our commitment to nurturing the entrepreneurial spirit in Africa. This substantial investment is more than financial support; it's a catalyst for innovation and resilience, enabling micro and small enterprises to flourish and positively impact countless lives.”

INVESTORS

IFC Co-Leads RSF for Women-Led SMEs in Côte D'Ivoire And Senegal

IFC has announced a risk-sharing facility (RSF) for a total amount of up to \$40m equivalent in West African CFA with Bridge Bank Group Côte d'Ivoire (BBGCI).

Under the facility, IFC will guarantee 50% of a portfolio of eligible short-term loans originated by BBGCI to small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) across Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal.

In parallel, IFC will provide advisory services to support BBGCI to make optimal use of the RSF, thus enabling the bank to provide an estimated

additional 2,100 SME loans by 2028, providing these companies with vital means to grow and create more jobs.

At least 30% of the cumulative loan disbursement under the facility will be earmarked for women-owned and women-led SMEs.

“Our strong relationship with IFC has today taken a new step as we commit to supporting small businesses in Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal together,” said Ehouman Kassi, Managing Director of BBGCI.

“These countries have vibrant, dynamic economies where small

businesses hold tremendous opportunity to catalyze growth. Our shared vision for transforming lives and livelihoods in West Africa will support the region to thrive and prosper."

"Helping small businesses access financing is one of the best ways to help them grow and create jobs. It is a central part of IFC's strategy to support development in Africa," said Claude Owona, IFC's Manager for Financial Institutions for West Africa.

"IFC's investment will help BBGCI double its SME portfolio by 2028, thus helping small businesses in Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal access the financing they need while reinforcing our longstanding partnership with Bridge Bank Group."

According to the WBG Enterprise Surveys, 78% of SMEs in Côte d'Ivoire cite financing constraints as a major obstacle to their growth, and 21% of firms in Senegal report being fully credit-constrained. This

partnership will help address this challenge, boosting opportunities to drive economic growth.

IFC's financing support to BBGCI falls under the Small Loan Guarantee Program (SLGP), a programmatic approach to de-risking and scaling up financing for SMEs in countries classified by the International Development Agency (IDA) as small, fragile and/or conflict-affected. The SLGP is supported by the IDA IFC-MIGA Private Sector Window's Blended Finance Facility.

IFC's relationship with BBGCI spans back to May 2021 when the bank joined IFC's Global Trade Finance Program, thereby accessing a trade finance facility of \$10m.

The partnership reflects IFC's broader strategic objective to drive economic development and job creation by partnering with local financial institutions in West Africa to foster access to finance for SMEs.

INVESTORS

BII And Symbiotics Launch Second Green Basket Bond

British International Investment (BII), the UK's development finance institution (DFI) and impact investor, has committed \$75m to the second Green Basket Bond arranged by Symbiotics Investments, an emerging markets access platform and financial lender.

this programme will continue to leverage Symbiotics' global network, and BII's 76-year track record as an impact investor, to support an additional 10 - 15 MSME lenders who require smaller investment capital than BII is typically able to fund directly.

"The green lending programme will increase financing to small-scale green projects across Africa, South and South-East Asia through MSME lenders, with a particular focus on India

The green lending programme will increase financing to small-scale green projects across Africa, South and South-East Asia through MSME lenders, with a particular focus on India.

It will support new MSME lenders not included in the first Green Basket Bond.

Samir Abhyankar, Managing Director and Head of Financial Services, British International Investment, said: "Partnering with Symbiotics on a second green basket bond signifies a continued commitment to empowering smaller financial institutions and supporting sustainable development in climate-vulnerable regions."

"Channelling capital to where it is most needed, not only supports local businesses and projects but also contributes to global efforts in building resilience against climate change," he said.

"The expansion of this programme is a testament to the positive impact and success of the initial partnership. We look forward to continuing working with Symbiotics to further efforts to mobilise more private capital into this space," he added.

Following the success of the first Green Basket Bond issued in 2022,

The MSME lenders will direct their lending to small businesses that usually find it difficult to access funding, and even more so for green projects. As with the first green basket bond, funding will be provided to green projects that span renewable energy, energy efficiency, clean transportation, green buildings, agriculture, forestry and more.

Yvan Renaud, CEO of Symbiotics Investments, said: "We are very grateful to British International Investment for partnering with Symbiotics on this second green basket bond. We share the view that financing dedicated MSME lenders and reaching smaller local businesses and projects strongly contributes to the effectiveness of climate finance. We hope that this second green basket bond will have a catalytic effect on the mobilisation of capital for similar projects that play a key role in successfully tackling climate change and its consequences."

The first Green Basket Bond supported 11 MSME lenders in India, Vietnam, Cambodia, Tunisia, Botswana, Kenya, Bangladesh and Nepal.

This Green Basket Bond issuance contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 7) on Affordable and Clean Energy and (SDG 13) on Climate Action.

INVESTORS

Swedfund Backs TURF with €30m

Swedfund has invested €30m in The Urban Resilience Fund (TURF), managed by Meridiam, to address the pressing challenges of climate change and urbanisation in Africa, primarily in Sub-Saharan Africa.

TURF develops and invests in greenfield infrastructure projects and companies that improve the urban environment and provide essential public services to local communities.

These projects will address the unique urbanisation challenges faced by fast-growing cities in Africa, including inadequate infrastructure, high levels of pollution, and significant social inequalities.

By focusing on resilient infrastructure, TURF is not only addressing the immediate needs of rapidly growing cities, but also laying the foundation for sustainable urban development that prioritises climate resilience and social equity, said Jérémie Hoffsaes, from Swedfund's

Energy & Climate team.

TURF's projects focus on both climate mitigation and adaptation strategies. For example, TURF is implementing the Nouakchott Coastline Development project in Mauritania to restore a 12km dune ridge and develop the coastline against coastal erosion and groundwater flooding.

To help cities adapt to the effects of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the Fund is expected to invest in micro-grids, waste management facilities and energy-efficient community environments such as street lighting and urban mobility to reduce congestion and pollution in densely populated areas.

All of TURF's initiatives aim at creating employment opportunities, stimulating local economic growth and improving access to essential services, thereby reducing inequalities and improving the quality of life of vulnerable groups.

INVESTORS

FMO Leads Loan Facility for Access Bank

FMO has announced a \$295m syndicated loan facility to Access Bank. The funding will support underserved Small, and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) including those led by women and youth, providing access to working capital and supporting resilience as Nigeria faces its most severe economic crisis in a generation.

This loan facility, arranged by the Dutch entrepreneurial development bank FMO, represents the largest syndication in FMO's history. Access Bank is Nigeria's leading bank, committed to providing support to SMEs through funding, capacity building and networking opportunities.

Michael Jongeneel, CEO of FMO, said: "We extend our gratitude to our longstanding partner Access Bank and our syndication partners for their outstanding cooperation and collective effort in making this loan facility a reality. The syndicated loan provides significant support to SMEs in Nigeria, particularly underserved segments such as women and young entrepreneurs, aligning perfectly with our shared strategy to enhance financial inclusion and empower local entrepreneurs in the agribusiness and SME sectors."

In addition to FMO, the syndication partners include UK's development finance institution and impact investor British International Investment, the Belgium development financial institution BIO, impact investor BlueOrchard, Canada's Development Finance Institution FinDev Canada, the Finnish development financier and impact investor Finfund, the Norwegian development finance institution Norfund, social impact investor Oikocredit, and the Swedish development finance institution

Swedfund.

There are nearly 40 million MSMEs in Nigeria, accounting for 86% of employment and contributing 50% to the GDP. Despite their importance to the Nigerian economy, many small businesses face challenges with accessing finance due to onerous collateral requirements, high interest rates and lack of formal credit history.

The commitment from the nice syndication partners will help to expand Access Bank's capital reserves and provide much-needed working capital and financing to Nigerian businesses across various sectors including agriculture.

This will help to stimulate business growth, create more jobs and deepen financial inclusion in Nigeria, which is the most populous country in Africa.

"This agreement marks yet another significant achievement in our longstanding partnership with the Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank. This monumental syndicate Tier II Facility agreement underscores the deep-rooted trust and synergy between our institutions. For us at Access, this facility not only enhances our capital reserves but also strengthens Africa's trade capabilities and export potential. Putting these funds to use, we aim to catalyze growth across various sectors, stimulate business development, create jobs, and deepen financial inclusion, aligning with Access Bank's mission to drive progress and development throughout the continent and beyond," CEO of Access Bank Roosevelt Ogbonna said.

THE STATE OF DIGITAL ADOPTION IN AFRICA'S PRIVATE EQUITY LANDSCAPE



By Pazani Vaitilingon, Chief Commercial Officer, Africa, India and Middle East, IQ-EQ

The pressing demand for digital adoption is driving an important shift in Africa's private equity market. In IQ-EQ's latest [state of digital adoption report](#), released in partnership with The Drawdown in May 2024,

30 c-suite professionals representing

firms managing more than \$1 billion in assets

under management were surveyed. It was found that most private equity firms worldwide still rely primarily on manual technology. It's surprising to learn that 82% of the businesses surveyed still operate using manual tools such as spreadsheets. This resulting 'digital gap' across the private equity market led to a marked difference between what investors expect and what GPs are currently delivering. Adherence to outdated techniques is causing inefficiencies and making it more difficult for businesses to obtain or analyse data fast enough for reporting or investment decisions.

However, the benefits that cutting-edge technology may offer the private equity industry are widely acknowledged in the report. Nearly all (96%) of the firms surveyed believe that technology is a major lever for creating value, and 93% said that one of their top three company priorities for the next 12 to 24 months is technological transformation, suggesting that technology adoption in PE firms is set to spike over the coming year.

Despite the heavy reliance on legacy systems and processes, our research showed that private equity firms recognise the need to switch from old systems to more advanced digital platforms and how the right technology can bring value throughout the investment lifecycle. According to PwC's Technology Perspective 2023 report on how CEOs in Africa perceive the threats and opportunities presented by new technology adoption, 87% of CEOs in the financial services sector have noted a significant technology disruption to their business models compared to the 50% globally. The PwC survey also acknowledged that the rapid shift in technology adoption, which started during the COVID-19 pandemic, forced organisations to invest in digital capabilities and client-facing assets, highlighting the importance of data and the shift to cloud. Business leaders in Africa today are acknowledging the importance of catching up with other countries in the technology race.

But this shift in terms of digital adoption is about more than just keeping up with technology; it's also about increasing operational effectiveness, boosting data quality, and making wiser investment choices. More than 60% of firms surveyed already use in-house data platforms, citing advantages like reduced turnaround times (82%),

better data quality (76%), and faster information provision (64%), amongst other benefits.

These improvements are especially important for Africa. The continent's private equity sector is quickly expanding, necessitating the development of more efficient and scalable infrastructure. For example, investing in data warehouses has become a high priority, with 46% of businesses surveyed having or currently implementing an in-house data warehouse. This approach intends to unify data from diverse platforms and business units, allowing for predictive analysis and better decision-making.

When we spoke to the firms about their technology adoption priorities, three focus areas caught our attention, and these are: onboarding, compliance and data platforms.

Indeed, 36% of firms surveyed are looking to streamline their onboarding process and reduce the reliance on manual processes such as emails, spreadsheets, or portals with basic functionality.

Furthermore, 76% of respondents expressed an increased demand for technology solutions to streamline compliance procedures. In terms of data platforms, 60% of respondents are already using an in-house platform within their organisation and more than three-quarters of those firms (76%) are today considering outsourcing this to a service provider or investing in a technology platform.

Our survey results highlight the significant progress that private equity firms have made in adopting digital technologies, but acknowledge that there's still work to be done. Our key takeaway from this latest survey is that as the private equity landscape continues to evolve, firms must prioritise digital transformation to stay competitive and meet the rising expectations of investors.

For firms in Africa, this means investing in advanced data management systems, embracing innovative financial products, and leveraging the latest technologies to enhance operational efficiencies. By doing so, they can position themselves as leaders in the industry and attract more investment to the continent.

The state of digital adoption in Africa's private equity is at a pivotal moment. While significant progress has been made, there's a clear need for continued investment in technology to drive efficiencies and improve decision-making. With the right tools and support, private equity firms in Africa can harness the power of digital transformation to achieve their full potential.

Our approach at IQ-EQ is that there's no one-size-fits-all data strategy for digital adoption. By leveraging our extensive expertise and our innovative solutions, firms can streamline their operations, enhance data security, and provide a superior experience for investors. As the industry moves forward, embracing digital adoption will be key to staying competitive and driving growth in the dynamic and rapidly evolving private equity landscape.

THE IMPORTANCE OF ROBUST CAPITAL MARKETS

Remarks at the Southern African Securities Regulators Regional Training Conference by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Commissioner Mark T. Uyeda



Mark T. Uyeda, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Commissioner

The development of capital markets can create opportunities for prosperity for a nation's citizens. At a basic level, for an economy to flourish, businesses must have access to capital

to fund their ventures. One way to access capital is to obtain a loan from a bank. However, bank loans are funded from customer deposits, so banks typically are subject to prudential regulation, which seeks to ensure the safety and soundness of the banking sector. The mere rumor that a bank might be unable to satisfy its obligation to depositors can challenge the stability of a nation's entire banking system.

Another way for businesses to obtain funding is through the capital markets. In contrast to money maintained at a bank, an investment of money in the capital markets has no guarantee of returns. Investment risk is a central feature of the capital markets. Investors can assess the financial prospects of various opportunities and choose where to invest. Through this market-based mechanism, capital is allocated to ventures with the greatest potential for success. While not all investors have the time or sophistication to make informed investment decisions, they can delegate those decisions to financial professionals, such as investment advisers and asset managers.

The benefits of capital markets are twofold. First, businesses needing capital can receive the funding necessary to operate and grow. Second, investors can share in the returns if the business succeeds. This stands in contrast to bank deposits, which typically offer customers nominal rates of return in the form of interest.

Of course, investing entails risk. There is no assurance that a business will succeed, and failure will result in the loss of investor capital. Despite this risk, the benefits of exposure to capital markets are well-established. In the United States, the S&P 500 Index tracks the largest companies listed on U.S. stock exchanges. Since 1926, the S&P 500 Index has gained an average of 10.2% annually. Although, the U.S. markets have experienced periods of volatility, historically an individual with long-term exposure to the stock market would have experienced gains.

Diversification is also important from an investment perspective. Exposure to multiple companies mitigates the risk posed by the failure of any single company. Robust capital markets create

opportunities for new businesses to enter the market, which provides investors with a greater universe of investment opportunities. This procyclical dynamic enhances a nation's economy and the prosperity of its citizens.

THE ROLE OF REGULATORS IN FOSTERING CAPITAL MARKETS

In the United States, households own significant amounts of publicly traded stock, often in retirement accounts. As of 2022, 58% of U.S. families own shares of public companies – either directly or indirectly. One key driver of public participation in the capital markets is a regulatory framework that instills confidence in the financial system.

The experience of the United States is that capital markets thrive when they are allowed to operate freely within broad guardrails. In the United States, securities regulation focuses on: (1) requiring that companies seeking to raise money from the public provide full and fair disclosure and (2) prohibiting persons from engaging in fraud in the markets. The United States also has laws that govern the conduct of investment advisers that manage assets on behalf of investors as well as other market participants like brokers, dealers, exchanges, transfer agents, and credit rating agencies.

The U.S. framework is not merit-based and the SEC does not evaluate whether an investment is good or bad. Instead, companies are required to provide truthful disclosures in order to raise capital. Under this framework, investors are not protected against making their own bad investment decisions. Instead, the transparency afforded by disclosure allows investors to reach their own conclusions.

The SEC works to detect and address possible violations of the securities laws, such as by engaging in market surveillance activities, monitoring filings and media reports, and assessing tips and complaints submitted by investors and other market participants.

Activities that could trigger an SEC investigation include: (1) misrepresentation or omission of important information about securities; (2) manipulating the market prices of securities; (3) stealing customers' funds or securities; (4) insider trading, which generally means violating a trust relationship by trading on material, non-public information about a security; and (5) selling unregistered securities.

The SEC's efforts to bring enforcement actions against individuals or entities that engage in this type of conduct helps to maintain the public's confidence in investing in U.S. public companies. At the same

time, U.S. securities regulations do not punish companies merely because they go out of business or perform poorly – if those results are accurately disclosed. Indeed, in a competitive environment, it is expected that some businesses will fail over time.

The African Union’s Agenda 2063, which was adopted in 2015, expresses a goal of strengthening continental capital markets and financial institutions. Evidence suggests that the continent is on the right track. One report states that the number of stock exchanges on the African continent increased from five in 1989 to twenty-eight in 2021. That same report reveals that the market capitalization of African stock markets increased from \$113bn in 1992 to \$1.1trn in 2018

The power of the public company disclosure regime has tempted certain constituencies to use the disclosure rules to effect social or political change. For example, the SEC recently adopted a climate disclosure rule, which appears designed to exert societal pressure on public companies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

This region of Africa has directly felt the consequences of another U.S. securities disclosure rule that is trying to effect social or political change. In 2010, the U.S. Congress passed a law called the “Dodd-Frank Act” which mandated certain disclosures about conflict minerals originating from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). This law sought to use securities disclosure to reduce

“While effective regulation can cause capital markets to flourish, regulators must avoid attempts to venture beyond the limited scope of ensuring transparency and preventing fraud

(See Capital market development in sub-Saharan Africa: Progress, challenges and innovations, ODI [May 2021]).

The report also indicates that African capital markets have significant room for additional growth, noting that these markets can “increase their investor base by tapping into the huge financial resources sitting in deposit accounts of African pension funds and sovereign wealth funds.” According to the report, “if these funds were channelled into the continent’s local capital markets, they would improve the liquidity of many African exchanges and bond markets.”

Adopting and implementing regulatory frameworks that strike the appropriate balance between free market economics and investor protection can contribute to the in-flow of assets into the capital markets of African nations. These measures can also attract foreign capital.

PITFALLS OF REGULATION

While effective regulation can cause capital markets to flourish, regulators must avoid attempts to venture beyond the limited scope of ensuring transparency and preventing fraud. The strength of the U.S. public company regulatory regime has been that disclosures are generally mandated only if they are material to investors from a financial perspective.

conflict and violence in the region. In 2022, the U.S. Government Accountability Office, in studying the law, concluded that peace and security have “not improved” in the region. Nonetheless, the region continues to suffer from many public companies simply avoiding any acquisition of tin, tungsten, tantalum, and gold from the DRC or countries adjacent to the DRC

While reducing greenhouse gas emissions, or conflict and violence in the DRC, might be worthy goals, those types of policy decisions are appropriately handled by political leaders rather than financial regulators. Straying from the guiding principle of financial materiality risks degrading the integrity of the capital markets and ought to be avoided.

Additionally, financial regulators must not be tempted by retroactively imposing rules through enforcement. Market participants should know the rules in advance. Circumventing the rulemaking process with novel or creative interpretations of the law for the purpose of bringing an enforcement action can disincentivize market participants from engaging in otherwise productive activity. Regulators can also be tempted to squeeze new activities into existing rules, even when they do not fit. This approach can stifle innovation and deprive companies and investors of the benefits of new products, services, and emerging technologies.

Africa's Share of Global Blockchain Funding Expands

By Anna Lyudvig

Africa's share of global blockchain venture deals grew from 1.3% in 2023 to an all-time high of 1.8% in H1 2024, according to the third CV VC African Blockchain Report in partnership with Absa Group.

"Africa's vast natural asset, its people, coupled with the growing recognition of Africans' technological ability, resilience, and spirit, positions blockchain as a pivotal tool to support economic advancement," said Mathias Ruch, CEO of CV VC.

While venture funding has seen a general downturn by 64% in 2023, the sustained interest and investment in blockchain ventures across Africa are irrefutable and poised to foster innovation and drive growth.

In H1 2024, blockchain technology accounted for 6.4% of Africa's total venture funding and 12.5% of all deals, outpacing the global averages of 3.5% for funding and 5.9% for deals. This highlights Africa's stronger focus on blockchain solutions.

Early-stage VC funding rounds dominated in 2023, accounting for 35% of deals, rising to 50% in H1 2024, according to the fundings. Africa's average blockchain deal size is 13% higher than the all-sector average deal size in the region. This points to the technology's vitality and utility. In line with global dynamics, there was a contraction in funding and deal count, yet Africa raised \$135.4m from 17 blockchain venture deals in 2023.

Ruch emphasized Africa's fervent embrace of blockchain as a catalytic technology. "Africans are already accustomed to financial transformation through experiences with mobile money services. This existing digital bedrock provides a foundation to enhance digital value exchange and financial services across the continent," he said.

With 1.4 billion people, comprising nearly 18% of the global population, and just five out of 54 countries contributing 50% of the continent's GDP, there's an urgent need to rebalance and distribute resources, he said.

The report reveals that African blockchain businesses raised \$34.7m across 12 deals, which represents a 9% increase in the number of deals compared to H1 2023.

Despite historically following global markets, Africa experienced a record-breaking 2022, yet faced a recalibration in 2023 due to insufficient capital amidst broader global macroeconomic influences. Factors such as the strong dollar and high US interest rates led to capital outflows, exacerbating the impact of global VC pullback. Nevertheless, Africa's determination and long-term growth potential is palpable.

Over the recent quarters, the region has sustained a reboot, as existing companies and investors benefit from a less heated landscape, allowing for strategic positioning and value reassessment.

The report found that 2024 is witnessing investment deals flowing toward DeFi (42%). This focused investment highlights Africa's emerging role as a hub for financial tech transformation. Concurrently, there is a continued focus on Data Management, verification & analytics (16.7%) alongside the gaming and NFT sphere.

Some notable raises included Beldex, known for its privacy blockchain; Zone, focusing on payments; Bidget, an exchange platform; Seedify and Carry 1st, both within the gaming sector; Shamba Records, specializing in data; and Scroll, focusing on scalability.

The report research partner, NODO, conducted a deep assessment of the pan-African regulatory landscape which witnessed a substantial shift, expected to drive innovation with assuredness for both pioneers and investors. Previously, crypto was implicitly banned in 36 countries, now reduced to eight indicating evolving stances but leading to increased uncertainty. Limited progress was seen in fully legalizing crypto due to concerns about fiscal control, prompting exploration of central bank digital currencies, though launches and traction remain limited.

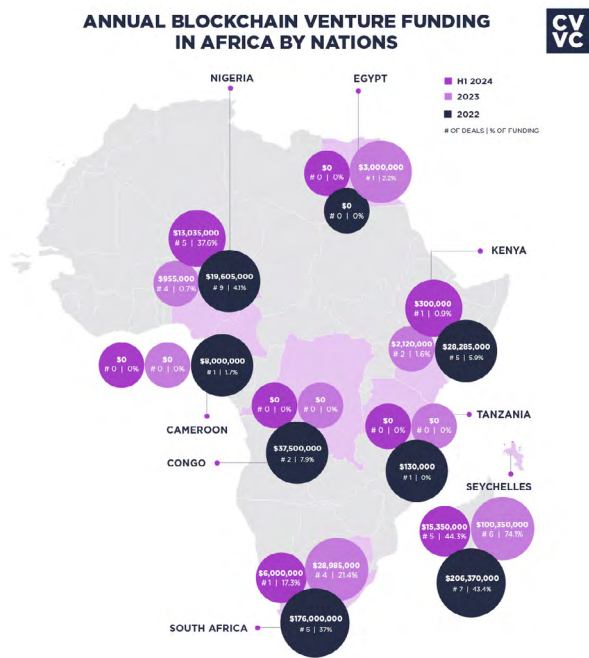
African currencies' devaluation in 2023 posed the most challenges to crypto legalization, with many governments fearing competition with local currencies. Over 36 African countries are now categorized as uncertain crypto markets, reflecting ongoing progress in regulation despite uncertainties.

Rob Downes, Head of Digital Assets, CIB Africa, Absa Group, commented said that a Pan-African bank, Absa is committed to driving digital transformation in the financial sector, focusing on delivering customer-centric solutions that are convenient, secure, and affordable.

One of the key areas of innovation that Absa has been leveraging is blockchain technology, which has the potential to revolutionize various aspects of the financial industry, such as payments, remittances, trade finance, identity verification, and asset tokenization, by offering faster, cheaper, and more transparent transactions, as well as enhanced security and trust, he said.

"We believe that blockchain will continue to grow in significance. We expect to see blockchain-enabled use cases grow as regulations become clearer and awareness of the benefits grows among our customer base. The regulatory landscape is critical to our expanded participation, and there's a great overview of it in this report, which we are very proud to co-publish with CV VC."

ANNUAL BLOCKCHAIN VENTURE FUNDING IN AFRICA BY NATIONS



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AFRICAN MARKETS PERFORMANCE

AFRICA SOVEREIGN BOND INDICES (TOTAL RETURNS USD %)

Country	June	3-Month	1-Year
Botswana	1.47%	3.60%	15.12%
Egypt	1.33%	9.50%	-20.40%
Ghana	-3.21%	-15.75%	-17.44%
Kenya	2.61%	9.23%	17.93%
Mauritius	-1.29%	0.13%	2.12%
Morocco	1.07%	3.25%	7.22%
Namibia	6.96%	10.04%	15.04%
S&P/FMDQ Nigeria	1.27%	-6.79%	-50.60%
South Africa	8.58%	11.68%	17.66%
Tanzania	2.89%	3.77%	-7.87%
Uganda	5.33%	8.36%	11.51%
Zambia	8.41%	7.82%	-0.92%

Source: S&P Dow Jones Indices

AFRICA EQUITY INDICES (BMI GROSS TOTAL RETURNS USD %)

Country	June	3-Month	1-Year
Botswana	3.12%	7.11%	27.03%
Cote d'Ivoire	0.61%	15.50%	27.24%
Egypt	0.25%	-0.64%	8.08%
Ghana	0.13%	-1.20%	13.66%
Kenya	-2.90%	2.73%	21.52%
Malawi	6.10%	6.47%	-32.64%
Mauritius	-2.08%	-1.89%	8.40%
Morocco	0.53%	3.83%	15.61%
Namibia	3.75%	4.63%	12.41%
Nigeria	0.22%	-18.65%	-29.27%
Rwanda	6.68%	7.43%	-0.89%
South Africa	9.91%	13.26%	14.80%
Tanzania	0.31%	-1.64%	7.38%
Tunisia	1.66%	8.19%	5.79%
Uganda	9.46%	18.77%	25.38%
Zambia	19.14%	19.89%	42.61%

Source: S&P Dow Jones Indices

Market Outlook

By Laurium Capital

The Limpopo Africa fund was up 3.6% for the quarter, and 12.2% year to date. This compares to the African Index returning 1.5% for the quarter and down 5.5% for the year. In aggregate, the quarter saw better performance from the smaller, less liquid markets and geographies vs. the larger more developed markets.

Despite the relatively small size of the market, Uganda was a material contributor to our outperformance in the quarter. The majority shareholder of a local telecommunications operator sold stock at a discount to meet regulatory requirements for broader local market participation.

Similarly, within the smaller markets, our position in a Botswana-based consumer company continued to outperform expectations in the quarter. The business is the preferred partner for larger consumer goods producers and retail chains seeking a route to the rapidly formalizing Southern Africa retail landscape.

Further afield, a significant portion of the fund's performance for the quarter was attributable to our investment in a Francophone-West Africa telecommunications operator. The business and its performance are underpinned by a long runway for data usage growth, leadership in a vibrant mobile money market and a stable regional currency.

Our investments in Kenya were marginally up for the quarter, but this seemed secondary to the restive political environment. Going forward, we are cautiously optimistic that the reforms being undertaken by the

government put Kenya in good stead for the long term. But we are also wary of the precarious fiscal situation. With debt servicing costs accounting for c75% of total government revenues, we already have seen the rating agency Moody's downgrade Kenya government bonds.

Egyptian markets were more benign as the Egyptian Pound settled at an exchange rate much stronger than markets had feared before the devaluation. On the back of the devaluation and injection of US Dollars in Q1, we continue to see strength of the Egyptian Pound and improvement in foreign currency liquidity.

In contrast, our investments in Nigerian financial institutions that serve as a partial hedge (significant USD assets) against local currency weakness performed well for the quarter, as the Naira continues to trade freely.

The strong year to date performance of the fund reflects the improvement in market conditions relative to prior periods. Wide macro-economic policy changes have been initiated in the last 12 months, with a lot of work still ongoing. The path to realizing the continent's full potential still lies ahead of us, and the raft of reforms over the last 5 months across Egypt, Nigeria, Ghana, and Kenya will go a long way in clearing that path. With a portfolio at an aggregate of 6x forward price to earnings ratio, and an expected dividend yield of 7%, this undemanding valuation and accelerating company earnings serve to buffer downside risk, while offering abundant upside as our markets convert their potential to realized performance.

PRIVATE EQUITY FUNDS & DEALS

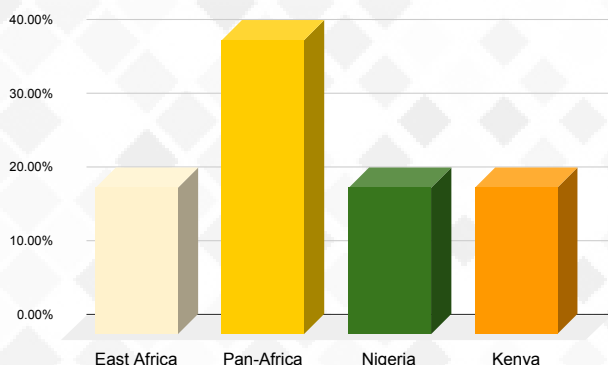
(as of the end of June 2024)

DEALS

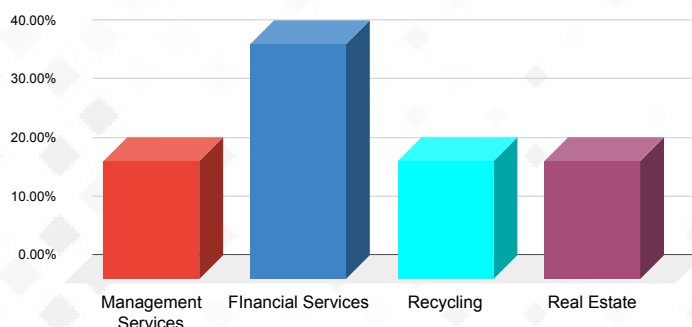
For more information on each transaction, visit Africa Global Funds's website

Company	Investment	Industry	Country	Deal Type	Deal Value
AfricInvest	I&M Group	Financial Services	East Africa	Secondary Buyout	
ES-KO, Phatisa	International Facilities Services	Management Services	Pan-Africa	Secondary Buyout	
Oikocredit	AfricInvest Private Credit	Financial Services	Pan-Africa	Loan	\$10m
TLG Capital // Wema Bank // ALAT	Undisclosed	Recycling	Nigeria	Structured private credit facility	\$10m
Vantage Capital	Two Rivers International & Innovation Centre	Real Estate	Kenya	Mezzanine	\$47.5m

DEALS BY COUNTRY



DEALS BY INDUSTRY



FUNDRAISING

Company	Fund	Geography	Style	Sectors	First Close	Final Close	Date Announced
n/a							

EXITS

Company	Divestment	Industry	Geography	Buyer (s)	Nature of exit
British International Investment	I&M Group	Financial Services	East Africa	AfricInvest	Secondary Buyout
Development Partners International	International Facilities Services	Management Services	Pan-Africa	ES-KO, Phatisa, IFS Management	Secondary Buyout

Source: AGF

YTD (%)	1 Month	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	AUM (\$m)	Strategy	Focus	Domicile	Type	Start
337 Frontier Capital - Kimberlite Frontier Africa Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
0.82	1.8	6.31	4.19	1.22		Equity	Africa ex-SA	Cayman Isl.	Open-End	06/14
African Domestic Bond Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
	3.4	-5.8	-28	-10.9		ETF - local currency FI	African region	Mauritius	Open-End	9/18
African Lions Fund (as-of 2024-05-31)										
11.57	4.68	9.24	31.49		26.15 (05/24)	Equity	SSA ex-SA	BVI	Open-End	10/20
Allan Gray Africa Bond Fund (as-of 2024-05-31)										
5.7		18.8	2.3	4.6	303.00 (06/24)	Fixed Income	Africa ex-SA	Bermuda	Open-End	3/13
Allan Gray Africa ex-SA Equity Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
-4.8	0.99	3.68	-1.48	3.4	401.00 (06/24)	Equity	Africa ex-SA	Bermuda	Open-End	1/12
Commonwealth Africa Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
7.39	9.79	13.51	-0.58	-0.56	3.48 (06/24)	Equity	African region	USA	Open-End	11/11
Coronation Africa Frontiers Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
11.93	0.77	-3.36	-4.32	-0.07	240.70 (05/24)	Equity	Africa ex-SA	Ireland	Unit Trust	10/08
DWS Invest Africa (as-of 2024-07-24)										
-6.94	0.53	-0.71	-2.6	-3.18	24.75 (06/24)	Equity	African region	Luxembourg	SICAV	07/08
EFG-Hermes MEDA Fund (as-of 2024-07-24)										
2.03	2.93	16.04	19.46	15.33		Equity	Africa & Middle East	Bermuda	Open-End	12/11
Enko Africa Debt Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
15.43	1.88	25.49	12.8	15.66	675.10 (06/24)	Fixed Income	Africa ex-SA	Mauritius	Open-End	10/16
Fidelity Funds - Emerging Europe, Middle East and Africa Fund A (as-of 2024-07-24)										
9.85	-0.2	14.51	-13.76	-5.48	213.74 (06/24)	Equity	EMEA	Luxembourg	SICAV	06/07
Imara African Opportunities Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
-8.93	2.38	-14.27	-18.03	-8.33		Equity	African region	BVI	Open-End	06/05

DISCLAIMER: All data is provided "as is" for your information and personal use only, and is not intended for trading purposes or advice.

YTD (%)	1 Month	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	AUM (\$m)	Strategy	Focus	Domicile	Type	Start
Laurium Africa USD Bond Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
6.9	-1.2	18.3			46.80 (06/24)	Fixed Income ex South Africa	African region	Ireland	UCITS	04/21
Laurium Limpopo Master Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
12.18	-0.7	10.6	-0.19	-0.79	169.50 (06/24)	Equity	Africa ex-SA	Cayman Isl.	Open-End	01/14
Mazi Capital Africa Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
-10.16	-2.12	-10.69	-10.59	-8.56		Equity	Africa ex-SA	South Africa	Open-End	01/16
MCB Africa Bond Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
	-1.4	-11.9	-32.6	-22.6		Fixed Income	African region	Mauritius	Open-End	2/14
Ninety One Premier - Africa Fund A (as-of 2024-07-24)										
-10.21		-37.99	-33.39	-23.83	0.47 (06/24)	Equity	African region	Guernsey	Open-End	01/07
Old Mutual African Frontiers Flexible Income Fund (as-of 2024-07-24)										
	-0.8				24.53 (06/24)	Fixed Income	African region	Ireland	OEIC	05/22
Old Mutual African Frontiers Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
14.86	0	5.03	-1.91	-1.18	230.92 (04/24)	Equity	Africa ex-SA	Ireland	Open-End	5/10
Sanlam Africa Equity Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
5.3	-2.57	-0.32	-0.53	1.2		Equity	Africa ex-SA	Ireland	Open-End	07/15
Silk Invest Emerging Africa Bond Fund (as-of 2024-02-29)										
26.18					1.92 (02/24)	Fixed Income	African region	Mauritius	Open-End	09/16
Steyn Capital Africa Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
-6.37	0.24	-10.44	0.07	1.18	152.00 (06/24)	Equity	Africa ex-SA	Malta	SICAV	09/11
Sustainable Capital Africa Alpha Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
-1.91	-2.67	9.78	0.21	4.96		Equity	Africa ex-SA	Mauritius	Open-End	02/12
TCM Africa High Dividend Equity (as-of 2024-05-31)										
-18.4	5.38	-21.23	-10.34	-8.51	8.00 (12/23)	Equity	Africa ex-SA	Holland	Open-End	03/08
T. Rowe Price Africa & Middle East Fund (as-of 2024-06-30)										
3.02	6.63	9.93	5.49	5.76	95.27 (06/24)	Equity	MENA & SSA	United States	Open-End	10/11

ASC IMPACT -

THE ENORMOUS SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF THE GLOBAL AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY INDUSTRY

AFSIC - Investing in Africa, Africa's Investment event, is only three months away and will take place 7th-9th October 2024 in London. With superb support from a wide array of excellent sponsors AFSIC 2024 promises to be bigger and better with over 1400 delegates expected. This is an unmissable opportunity to attend any or all of the below sessions:

- 3 Days of Presentations, Panel Discussions and Interactive Networking Sessions.
- 250+ Speakers from Africa's most dynamic investment firms, and high growth companies.
- "Meet the Investor" and Business Enabler Sessions, facilitating rapid network generation.
- Multiple Country Investment Summits, showcasing Africa's leading economies.
- Meet the Dealmaker networking event attended by leading African investment banks.
- AFSIC Deal Book, a consolidated summary of some of Africa's leading investment opportunities.
- Quickfire Pitching by a wide variety of entities seeking investment.
- African Investments Dashboard, digital platform connecting investors to entities raising money.

We engaged with asc impact to find out what attracted them to AFSIC 2024.

WHAT ARE THE CORE VALUES FOR ASC IMPACT?

At asc impact, our core values are deeply rooted in sustainable development principles. Our work prioritizes environmental stewardship, community empowerment, and ethical standards. Our commitment extends to ensuring long-term ecological and economic sustainability, aiming to leave a positive legacy locally and globally.

WHAT DO YOU DO AT ASC IMPACT?

As co-founder & managing partner, I am responsible for fundraising & investor relations, and institutional investors. I draw from over 12 years of experience in venture capital at b2venture and banking at Credit Suisse. With a proven track record, I specialized in raising and setting up PE/VC and Infrastructure funds, constantly engaging with LPs and GPs.

WHY DOES ASC IMPACT BELIEVE IN THE VALUE OF INVESTING IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?

asc impact pursues a clear mission - maximum yield - financially, ecologically and socially. We believe you don't have to compromise on return when it relates to positive impact and, hence, the transformative power of sustainable development. By responsibly reforestation and cultivating land, we contribute to climate change mitigation, conserve biodiversity, and foster local economic growth while generating attractive returns for our shareholders.

WHAT CHALLENGES AND RISKS DO YOU FORESEE IN THE AFRICAN MARKET, AND HOW DOES ASC IMPACT NAVIGATE AND MITIGATE THEM?

The African market presents a few possible risks such as political

instability, regulatory complexities, and logistical hurdles. asc impact mitigates these risks through thorough due diligence, strategic partnerships with local stakeholders, and relatively cheap political risk insurance from reputable international players such as the World Bank/MIGA or Chubb. Proactively navigating these challenges from the start safeguards our investments and ensures sustainable project outcomes.

HOW DOES YOUR COMPANY APPROACH PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES AND GOVERNMENTS TO FOSTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGIONS WHERE YOU OPERATE?

As we design and set up our projects from the bottom up, built on respect for local customs, land rights, and communities, strong partnerships with all stakeholders are essential to their success. All our projects have many different spheres of collaboration and partnerships, from cooperating on development activities with DFIs such as GIZ to joint venture investments and offtake agreements with established local players such as Webcor or a social contract with the Ethiopian Anuak tribe to assure that everyone benefits from our activities.

WHAT ARE YOU HOPING TO ACHIEVE AT AFSIC 2024?

I want to present our unique investment approach in sustainable agriculture and forestry, showcasing how attractive and rewarding our business model can be regarding returns and impact. We also aim to meet interested investors and forge even more strategic partnerships. I look forward to meeting as many like-minded and inspiring attendees as possible to discuss what it takes to unlock Africa's full potential.

ABOUT AFSIC – INVESTING IN AFRICA:

AFSIC – Investing in Africa has become perhaps Africa's most important annual investment event. AFSIC is wholly focused on accelerating Africa's economic emergence by matching investment opportunities in Africa transforming Africa's business, trade and investment environment sustainably growing Africa's economy and increasing African incomes in all business sectors at a continental scale.

African Investments Limited (www.africaninvestments.ai), operates two multi award-winning digital platforms, the **African Investments Dashboard** which matches investment opportunities to our global network of institutional investors and the **Africa Business Opportunities Dashboard**, which matches business, trade and investment opportunities across Africa covering all business products, sectors, countries in Africa and multiple business objectives. The digital platforms won the global 2022 Salesforce Partner Innovation Award for Financial Services.

THE FOREMOST GATHERING OF INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS

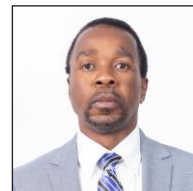
BE PART OF IT!

Sustainable and alternative investing high on the agenda as Institutional investors to convene in Rwanda

MNCapital Group, in partnership with various strategic institutions is convening key players in the investment space for the **8th Africa Investment Funds and Asset Management (AIFAM) Forum**, over period of three (3) days in the vibrant city of **Kigali, Rwanda**. Under the distinguished theme of **"Sustainable Finance and Alternative Investment Strategies for African Pension Funds,"** this forum promises to be an insightful gathering of industry leaders, policymakers, and experts dedicated to exploring innovative avenues for driving sustainable growth across the continent. Set against the backdrop of Africa's evolving financial landscape and the imperative for sustainable growth, this forum will serve as a pivotal platform for exploring innovative approaches to investment and asset management. This forum presents a unique opportunity to engage in strategic dialogues, share best practices, and forge partnerships that will shape the future of investment and asset management in Africa. We anticipate insightful discussions, invaluable networking opportunities, and actionable insights that will propel the African investment ecosystem forward.



GOSEGO JANUARY
Chief Executive Officer & Principal Officer, Debswana Pension Fund



PROF. EMMANUEL BOTLHOLE
Chairman, UB Defined Contribution Pension Fund



TEMBE FUTHI
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AIFAM FORUM
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