AFRICAN STARTUP CONFERENCE

UNDER THE HIGH PATRONAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

Programme

5 – 7 December 2026

CIC Abdelatif Rahal, Algiers

DEEP TECH — THE REAL CHALLENGE

All times are Algiers time (UTC+1), in 24-hour format. The programme may change until the event: the latest version is always online at https://asc-recette.benos-technologie.com/en/programme

DAY 1 Saturday, 5 December 2026

09:00 – 10:00

CEREMONY

Official opening ceremony

Djamila

Speakers Nadia Benyahia (Chief Innovation Officer, Algeria Venture)

10:15 – 11:00

KEYNOTE

African DeepTech: execution is the real challenge

Djamila

Speakers Chinedu Okoro (Partner, Lagos DeepTech Capital)

11:15 – 12:15

PANEL

Funding DeepTech: patient capital, states and sovereign funds

Djamila

Speakers Chinedu Okoro (Partner, Lagos DeepTech Capital) · Aiko Nakamura (Head of Investments, Pulse Africa Fund) · Nadia Benyahia (Chief Innovation Officer, Algeria Venture)

11:15 – 12:15

WORKSHOP

Incubator 2.0 — Designing a DeepTech incubation programme

Icosium · Side event: Incubator 2.0 (GIZ)

Speakers Salma El Amrani (Programme Lead, GIZ)

14:00 – 15:30

PITCH

Pitch Arena — AI & data track

Pitch Arena — Exhibition Area 1

Speakers Chinedu Okoro (Partner, Lagos DeepTech Capital) · Aiko Nakamura (Head of Investments, Pulse Africa Fund)

14:00 – 15:00

PANEL

Women in Tech — DeepTech founders: journeys and levers

Babor · Side event: Women in Tech (GIZ)

Speakers Yasmine Haddad (Professor of AI, USTHB) · Salma El Amrani (Programme Lead, GIZ) · Aiko Nakamura (Head of Investments, Pulse Africa Fund)

14:00 – 16:00

MASTERCLASS

Masterclass — IP and patents for startups

Aures 01 · Side event: Masterclasses

Speakers Rachid Bouzid (Managing Director, CRAPC)

15:30 – 16:30

PANEL

Digital sovereignty and African cloud

Icosium

Speakers Yasmine Haddad (Professor of AI, USTHB) · Mamadou Diallo (Founder, Dakar Robotics Lab)

16:00 – 17:30

PITCH

Pitch Arena — GreenTech & energy track

Pitch Arena — Exhibition Area 1

Speakers Kwame Mensah (CEO, AgriSense Ghana) · Aiko Nakamura (Head of Investments, Pulse Africa Fund)

16:45 – 17:45

KEYNOTE

Robotics and advanced manufacturing: where does Africa stand?

Djamila

Speakers Mamadou Diallo (Founder, Dakar Robotics Lab)

DAY 2 Sunday, 6 December 2026

09:00 – 09:45

KEYNOTE

Trustworthy AI: data, models and regulation

Djamila

Speakers Yasmine Haddad (Professor of AI, USTHB)

10:00 – 11:00

PANEL

Champions-Gov Summit — Public procurement and startups

Djamila

Speakers Nadia Benyahia (Chief Innovation Officer, Algeria Venture) · Rachid Bouzid (Managing Director, CRAPC)

10:00 – 12:00

WORKSHOP

Startup Factory — From lab to market: technology transfer

Icosium · Side event: Startup Factory (CRAPC)

Speakers Rachid Bouzid (Managing Director, CRAPC) · Yasmine Haddad (Professor of AI, USTHB)

10:00 – 11:30

PITCH

Pitch Arena — HealthTech & Biotech track

Pitch Arena — Exhibition Area 1

Speakers Aiko Nakamura (Head of Investments, Pulse Africa Fund) · Chinedu Okoro (Partner, Lagos DeepTech Capital)

11:15 – 12:15

PANEL

Pulse Africa — Intra-African investment corridors

Babor · Side event: Pulse Africa (AICA)

Speakers Aiko Nakamura (Head of Investments, Pulse Africa Fund) · Chinedu Okoro (Partner, Lagos DeepTech Capital) · Kwame Mensah (CEO, AgriSense Ghana)

11:15 – 12:15

MASTERCLASS

Masterclass — Raising a Series A in North Africa

Aures 01 · Side event: Masterclasses

Speakers Chinedu Okoro (Partner, Lagos DeepTech Capital)

14:00 – 15:00

PANEL

AgriTech and food security: sensors, data, credit

Djamila

Speakers Kwame Mensah (CEO, AgriSense Ghana) · Salma El Amrani (Programme Lead, GIZ)

14:00 – 16:00

WORKSHOP

Incubator 2.0 — Measuring an incubator's impact

Icosium · Side event: Incubator 2.0 (GIZ)

Speakers Salma El Amrani (Programme Lead, GIZ)

14:00 – 15:30

PITCH

Pitch Arena — FinTech & inclusion track

Pitch Arena — Exhibition Area 1

Speakers Chinedu Okoro (Partner, Lagos DeepTech Capital) · Aiko Nakamura (Head of Investments, Pulse Africa Fund)

15:30 – 16:30

WORKSHOP

Women in Tech — Workshop: negotiating your first round

Babor · Side event: Women in Tech (GIZ)

Speakers Salma El Amrani (Programme Lead, GIZ) · Aiko Nakamura (Head of Investments, Pulse Africa Fund)

16:00 – 17:30

PITCH

Pitch Arena — Robotics, IoT & space track

Pitch Arena — Exhibition Area 1

Speakers Mamadou Diallo (Founder, Dakar Robotics Lab) · Aiko Nakamura (Head of Investments, Pulse Africa Fund)

16:45 – 17:45

KEYNOTE
Universities' role in African DeepTech
Djamila
Speakers Yasmine Haddad (Professor of AI, USTHB) · Rachid Bouzid (Managing Director, CRAPC)

DAY 3 Monday, 7 December 2026

09:00 – 10:00

PANEL
Sovereign cybersecurity: building digital trust
Djamila
Speakers Yasmine Haddad (Professor of AI, USTHB) · Mamadou Diallo (Founder, Dakar Robotics Lab)

09:00 – 11:00

MASTERCLASS
Masterclass — DeepTech B2B go-to-market
Aures 01 · Side event: Masterclasses
Speakers Kwame Mensah (CEO, AgriSense Ghana)

10:15 – 11:45

PITCH
Pitch Arena — Grand final
Pitch Arena — Exhibition Area 1
Speakers Chinedu Okoro (Partner, Lagos DeepTech Capital) · Aiko Nakamura (Head of Investments, Pulse Africa Fund) · Nadia Benyahia (Chief Innovation Officer, Algeria Venture)

10:15 – 11:15

PANEL
Pulse Africa — AfCFTA and startups: what opportunities?
Icosium · Side event: Pulse Africa (AICA)
Speakers Aiko Nakamura (Head of Investments, Pulse Africa Fund) · Kwame Mensah (CEO, AgriSense Ghana) · Salma El Amrani (Programme Lead, GIZ)

11:30 – 12:30

WORKSHOP
Startup Factory — Prototyping with research centres
Babor · Side event: Startup Factory (CRAPC)
Speakers Rachid Bouzid (Managing Director, CRAPC)

14:00 – 15:00

PANEL
Review and outlook: the DeepTech 2030 roadmap
Djamila
Speakers Nadia Benyahia (Chief Innovation Officer, Algeria Venture) · Chinedu Okoro (Partner, Lagos DeepTech Capital) · Yasmine Haddad (Professor of AI, USTHB)

15:30
– 17:00

CEREMONY

Closing ceremony and awards

Djamila

Speakers Nadia Benyahia (Chief Innovation Officer, Algeria Venture)