# PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

## ENHANCING EU-AFRICA COMPETITIVENESS FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

### RENEWPAC SUMMIT

#### ABIDJAN, IVORY COAST, 22 -25 February 2025

##### DAY 1 | 22 FEBRUARY | SATURDAY

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| 19h00 - 21h00 | Registration |
| 20h00 - 22h00 | Welcome Dinner |

##### DAY 2 | 23 FEBRUARY | SUNDAY

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| 08h30 - 13h30 | Field Trip |
| 08h30 | Departure from Sofitel Hotel towards The Autonomous Port of Abidjan  **Field trip to the Autonomous Port of Abidjan**  As part of the RenewPAC Summit 2025, participants will embark on a field visit to the Autonomous Port of Abidjan. This visit will provide a unique opportunity to explore one of West Africa’s most significant trade and logistics hubs, highlighting its critical role in fostering regional and international connectivity. |
| 09h00 - 09h30 | Welcome Coffee |
| 09h30 - 10h30 | Visit to the Autonomous Port of Abidjan |
| 10h30 - 11h30 | Panel  **Blue Economy: Unlocking Maritime Potential for Sustainable Growth**  This panel will discuss the potential of the blue economy in fostering sustainable development, focusing on fisheries, maritime transport, and coastal tourism. The discussion will also explore how EU-Africa partnerships can sustainably manage maritime resources. |
| 12h00 - 14h00 | Lunch in the Autonomous Port of Abidjan |
| 14h15 | Return to the Summit venue - Sofitel Hotel |
| 15h00 - 16h00 | Panel, White Tent - Esplanade  **Climate Change and Environment: Aligning Sustainability with Economic Development**  This panel will explore how EU-Africa cooperation can align climate action with economic development. The focus will be on policies ensuring both environmental sustainability and growth through green technologies, renewable energy, and climate-friendly investments. |
| 16h00 - 16h30 | Coffee Break |
| 16h30 - 17h30 | Panel, White Tent - Esplanade  **Transforming Agriculture: Driving Economic Growth and Ensuring Food Security**  This session will explore agriculture’s economic potential as a driver of growth and food security. It will highlight strategies to modernise value chains, strengthen market access, and foster innovation through EU-Africa partnerships, unlocking opportunities for resilient and inclusive development. |
| 19h00 - 20h00 | The Next Big Idea, White Tent - Esplanade  **2nd Edition of The Next Big Idea for EU-Africa Cooperation**  The Next Big Idea will provide all participants to present ground-breaking ideas that have the potential to transform EU-Africa cooperation. The session encourages forward-thinking solutions that tackle pressing challenges such as climate change, economic inequality, and sustainable growth, fostering collaboration between the two regions. The top three vote getters from The Next Big Idea initiative will be developed into panels, roundtables, or high-level events, by RENEWPAC. |
| 20h00 - 22h00 | Networking Dinner hosted by FNF |

##### DAY 3 | 24 FEBRUARY | MONDAY

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| 08h00 - 10h30 | Side Event  II RenewPAC Mayors Summit - by invitation only, Room Balafon, Floor 22  Organised in collaboration with the **Renew Europe Group in the Committee of the Regions (RenewCoR).**  The **II RenewPAC Mayors Summit** will bring together local leaders from Europe and Africa to foster collaboration and share innovative solutions to the challenges faced by cities and regions. This high-level side event will highlight the crucial role of local authorities in advancing the EU-Africa strategy, focusing on key areas such as the Global Gateway initiative, sustainable urban development, economic cooperation, and housing solutions. Through dynamic discussions and best practice exchanges, the summit will underline the importance of local governance in driving sustainable growth and building a prosperous future for communities across both continents. |
| 09h00 - 10h30 | General Assembly, Room Salle des Fetes  **RenewPAC General Assembly** (dedicated agenda) |
| 10h30 - 11h00 | Coffee Break |
| 11h00 - 12h00 | Opening Ceremony, Room Salle des Fetes  RenewPAC Opening Ceremony in the Presence of His Excellency Alassane Ouattara, President of the Republic of Côte d’Ivoire. |
| 12h00 - 14h00 | Opening Ceremony Lunch |
| 14h30 - 15h30 | Panel, Room Salle des Fetes  **Harnessing Artificial Intelligence for Inclusive Growth: Opportunities and Challenges**  As we enter the age of Artificial Intelligence, the transformative power of this technology has become undeniable. From revolutionizing industries and enhancing public services to driving economic growth, AI presents unprecedented opportunities. Yet, these advancements also bring significant challenges, including the risk of deepening inequalities and excluding vulnerable populations. This panel will explore how AI can be harnessed to promote inclusive growth, ensuring that no one is left behind. |
| 14h30 - 17h30 | Side Event  Empowering Women in Politics - by invitation only, Room Balafon, Floor 22  Organized by the **Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF)** in collaboration with **WYDE (Women and Youth in Democratic Engagement),** this fringe event will address the critical role of **women’s political participation in strengthening democracy**. As populism rises and equal opportunities come under threat, ensuring women’s leadership in decision-making is both a democratic necessity and a driver of sustainable development. |
| 15h30 - 16h30 | Panel, Room Salle des Fetes  **Governance and Justice: Strengthening National and International Institutions**  The effectiveness and legitimacy of national and international institutions are pivotal for fostering a fair and competitive world order. This panel will explore the pressing need for reforming these institutions to ensure they uphold justice, equity, and inclusivity in a rapidly changing global landscape. Panellists will reflect on how international frameworks can be restructured to address systemic imbalances, promote transparency, and support the rule of law. |
| 16h30 - 17h00 | Coffee Break |
| 17h00 - 18h00 | Panel, Room Salle des Fetes  **Healthcare Systems Resilience: Preparing for Future Challenges**  This roundtable will bring together experts from both regions to discuss how to strengthen healthcare systems in the face of global challenges. Topics will include pandemic preparedness, addressing systemic weaknesses, and ensuring long-term resilience for public health systems that are critical to sustainable development and economic stability. |
| 18h00 - 19h00 | Panel, Room Salle des Fetes  **Shaping the Future: Youth Leadership and Innovation for Accelerated Growth**  This panel is a direct result of the first The Next Big Idea for EU - Africa Cooperation that took place during the RenewPAC Summit in Dakar. The Next Big Idea will explore how young leaders and entrepreneurs across Europe and Africa can drive sustainable development by shaping policies, building innovative businesses, and leading change. The discussion will highlight the importance of investing in youth potential to address socio-economic challenges and unlock competitive advantages for both regions. |
| 19h00 - 22h00 | Official Reception  Official Presidential Reception at “Le Toit D’Abidjan”, Sofitel,  hosted by**HE President Alassane Ouattara** |

##### DAY 4 | 25 FEBRUARY | TUESDAY

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| 09h00 - 10h00 | Side Event  Political Meeting, Room Balafon, Floor 22  **Strategic Meeting of the Working Group on the Framework for Exchange with African Parliamentarians**  This meeting will serve as a vital platform to strengthen political dialogue and cooperation between European and African legislators. It aims to foster deeper mutual understanding, align legislative priorities, and enhance collaborative efforts to address shared challenges. By building a robust framework for parliamentary exchange, this initiative seeks to reinforce. |
| 10h00 - 10h30 | Coffee Break |
| 10h30 - 12h00 | Lab Session in Cooperation with the European Liberal Forum,  Room Salle des Fetes  **Breakout Policy Lab Session: Deep Dive into EU-PAC Trade & Competitiveness**  This interactive workshop aims to strengthen EU-Africa trade relations and reinforce the EU's role as a competitive partner. Building on insights from previous panels, the session will foster collaboration and generate concrete policy recommendations to enhance trade and economic cooperation.  Participants will begin with a reflection session, followed by two focused discussions: one on boosting EU-Africa trade and the other on strengthening the EU’s competitiveness in the region. Guided by expert moderators, each group will develop high-impact recommendations, which will then be refined in a joint session. A policy briefing summarizing the outcomes will be shared with all participants and the Renew Europe Group post-event. |
| 12h00 - 13h00 | Working Lunch hosted by ELF |
| 13h00 - 14h00 | Roundtable, Room Salle des Fetes  **Counterterrorism and Peacekeeping: Building Effective Strategies for Regional Stability**  This session will address the evolving security challenges in regions like the Sahel, focusing on counterterrorism and peacekeeping strategies through EU-Africa cooperation. Discussions will include strengthening regional forces and multilateral peace efforts. |
| 14h00 - 15h00 | Roundtable, Room Salle des Fetes  **Youth-Driven Innovation: Unlocking Competitiveness in the Digital Age**  This roundtable will feature a dynamic conversation on how the younger generation can harness the power of digital technology and innovation to boost competitiveness. It will bring together youth leaders, policymakers, and experts to explore ways to foster collaboration and create new opportunities for sustainable growth in the digital economy. |
| 15h00 - 15h30 | Closing Ceremony, Room Salle des Fetes |
| 15h30 | Conclusion of the Summit works |