INTRODUCTION

OPENING CEREMONY

THE ROLE OF YOUTH IN PROMOTING DEMOCRACY AND PEACE

1ST SESSION: NEW WAVE FOR BRAZIL-AFRICA TRADE AND INVESTMENTS FLOWS

2ND SESSION: POWER TO EMPower - NEW MODELS FOR AN INCLUSIVE CREATIVE ECONOMY

3rd SESSION: TRANSFORMATIVE ACTIONS TO ENSURING LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

4TH SESSION: SOUTH-SOUTH AND TRIANGULAR COOPERATION FOR HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

5TH SESSION: YOUTH EMPLOYMENT IN AGRICULTURE: SUSTAINABILITY AND FOOD SECURITY IMPROVEMENT

6TH SESSION: EMPOWERING THE YOUTH VOICE THROUGH KNOWLEDGE IMPROVEMENT

CLOSING CEREMONY

SIDE EVENTS

PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN BRAZIL AFRICA INSTITUTE AND FIOCRUZ

YOUTH PROTAGONISM

MEDIA COVERAGE

PARTNERS
INTRODUCTION

Globally it is perceived that youth empowerment is critical to achieving growth and development and therefore exist the necessity for discussion on the involvement of national governments, regional entities and international organizations to identify how development actors can translate and respond the challenges in their communities.

There is a strong new impetus to include and promote youth participation in a wide range of policy and development dialogues and initiatives to ensure that youth perspectives are addressed in these processes and taken into account for their implementation.

In this context, the 6th Brazil Africa Forum: Youth Empowerment - Transformation to Achieve Sustainable Transformation presents itself as an important tool to strengthen and broaden the dialogue between Africa and Brazil and as a fundamental strategy for the empowerment of youth, poverty reduction and economic growth sustainable development.

This document records the activities of the event, which took place on November 22 and 23, 2018, in the city of Salvador, Bahia, on the premises of the Deville Convention Center.
OPENING CEREMONY

The activities of the 6th Brazil Africa Forum were initiated with the president of the Brazil Africa Institute (IBRAF), Prof. João Bosco Monte, who welcomed the people present, as well as multilateral organizations, authorities and partners. "The Brazil Africa Institute has taken precedence over dialogue. At a time when there is a dichotomy of good and evil not only in Brazil but also in other regions, we need to understand that countries need to talk, that organizations need to talk. And this dialogue needs to be fomented", he explained. "And we have the mission to be a bridge that unites the two sides of the Atlantic". The president also made a provocation. "All the efforts we’ve made this year will only be worth it if at the end of the day they materialize in responses."

The opening ceremony was also attended by Mr. Jorge Chediek, Director of the United Nations Office for a South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and Mrs. Abena Busia, Ambassador of Ghana to Brazil, who read a message sent by the President of Ghana, H.E Nana Akufo-Addo. “It is important that we create opportunities for the youth to participate in the nation building and actively participate in the governance of their society. We have to combat injustice between women and males. It is my expectation that this forum will encompass the SDGs and the African Union's agenda 2063”, said the message of president Akufo-Addo.
“We have the great opportunity to strengthen the South-South cooperation to address different challenges facing Southern countries, promote institutional engagement and collaborations. We need collective action from every nation to confront global challenges”, said Mr. Jorge Chediek. “I would like to congratulate the IBRAF for becoming a bridge for discussing these issues and empowering the youth. The challenges and opportunities that we can generate in the nationality level can be used to strengthen the South-south cooperation”.

Ambassador Abena P.A Busia speaking in the opening ceremony

Mr. Jorge Chediek speaking in the opening ceremony
The construction and maintenance of peace is directly related to the promotion of the values of democracy and it is essential to be aware of the importance of our role as citizens in this dynamic. This session will cover the Nobel Prize winner, José Ramos-Horta, testimony regarding his trajectory to achieve the independence of the island of Timor Leste.
Through an video message presented at the opening ceremony of the 6th Forum Brazil Africa, the Former President of East Timor and Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Mr. José Ramos Horta, explained the need for more effective investments to enable the empowerment of the youth in Brazil and in the countries of Africa.

The leader emphasized the importance in focusing on real investments in education, health and food security for families and young people. In his words, “we must give quality opportunities for our youth” so that they can build a better future.

Mr. José Ramos Horta also pointed out that the Brazil of dreams, multiracial and inclusive, which welcomes its people with respect, affection and solidarity, is facing great challenges and threats of exclusion and violence. This is the same Brazil that has more than 50% of its population with African origin, great-grandchildren of those that were brought chained, in conditions of slaves, of Africa.

The former president concluded his speech by apologizing for his physical absence during such an important event, and reaffirming the commitment of East Timor, the ninth Portuguese language-speaking country - the only one in Asia - to be a bridge of dialogue and cooperation between nations.
Trade and Investment have the potential to promote cross-regional economic opportunities. What are the new trends on these flows and how can they play a role on fostering growth and job creation on both sides of the Atlantic?
Composed by Mr. George Elombi, Afreximbank’s Executive Vice President for Governance, Legal and Corporate Services; Mr. Simeon K. Ehui, Director of Global Agriculture Practices of the World Bank and by Mr. Ibraimo Ibraimo, member of the Advisory Board of the Brazil Africa Institute, the first panel of the 6th Forum Brazil Africa discussed the importance of trade in promoting growth and job creation in Brazil and in Africa. The moderation was made by the Director of IC Publications, Omar Ben Yedder.

Panel “A new wave for Brazil-Africa trade and investments flows”

Mr. Simeon K. Ehui started the discussion by highlighting the importance of agricultural activity as the main sector of job creation in Africa, especially in the context of South-South Cooperation. For the director, the advancement in the agricultural sector has been a catalyzer in creating new opportunities for people. As he said, “There is a chain that involves agriculture, made up of several countries. Food will promote a high number of jobs, but how are we going to do it?”

The representative of the World Bank also questioned what Africa can learn from Brazil in terms of trading. The management and administration system, he said, has brought progress in Brazil. This could be used to develop this sector and strengthen the trade between Africa and Asia. For Mr. Simeon K. Ehui, this is a great opportunity to diversify and expand the Brazilian market, creating trade networks with emerging African countries.

Another important point is Digital Culture as a solution for African families and their youth, who may, in the future, take advantage of this new model of economy, creating new opportunities for the youth, promoting monitoring systems to study the watch the weather, which would enable communities to monitor rain and drought more systematically.
Mr. Simeon K. Ehui says that the World Bank is aware and willing to develop a system of agricultural education, together with universities, providing new knowledge and skills to the youthful population.

For Mr. George Elombi, Afreximbank, the cooperation between Asian institutions have become very powerful over time. In the case of China, it has brought benefits to the African continent and what makes this possible is work without frontiers. "What we want between Brazil and Africa is something similar to what we have with China. We would like to see this work," he said. According to the manager, Brazil has been very strong in agriculture and in the processing of products such as cocoa and coffee. Therefore, there is still space to transfer technology and maintenance skills from Brazil to some African countries.

Mr. George Elombi ended by highlighting the importance of culture for youth empowerment, as there is a secular proximity between Brazil and Africa. He believes that the similarities between learning skills between people from both regions can facilitate cultural and educational exchange between countries.

Mr. Mamadou Biteye, Rockefeller Foundation, highlighted the importance of the IT and digital technology sectors that have been transforming Africa over the past 15 years. Even with growth, there is still much to be done, he said. He explains that in Brazil, you can buy any type of souvenir or drink in the streets, through card machines. Despite progress, Africa has not yet reached this point.

Mr. Biteye also says that this digital collaboration can happen in a simple way. "If we look nowadays for the distribution of workers in online companies, we will find that we have 4 million registered employees in Brazil compared to 150,000 in Africa. We need to be aware of the opportunities we can have", he concluded.

In addition to that, Mr. Ibraimo Ibraimo spoke about information sharing in the area of agriculture between Brazil and Africa. He emphasized that about 60% of the African population is made of young people. “Africa is the youngest region in the world with an average age of 19 years”. For him, the presence of many young people is a good opportunity for Africa to reduce poverty. However, he added, “it will only happen if all sectors of the countries- both public and private-come together to address such problems”.
Although other sectors are important, it is important that countries truly prioritize and invest more in education and health care systems so that the youthful population grows in an environment that offers basic resources for them to strive in life. "Measures are needed to stimulate the production tool. Integrate young people into all productive processes, investing in small and medium-sized enterprises".

Besides agriculture, Mr. Ibraimo Ibraimo believes in the integration between Brazil and Africa through tourism, mainly in Mozambique. Another point to highlight was the issue of gender equality in Brazil, where the women still find it hard to find jobs compared to men although they are similarly qualified for the available jobs.
Creative economies can generate income, jobs and export earnings based on the practical ingenuity of different individuals and groups. Beyond the obvious economic benefits, culture goods and services have the “power to empower” by reaffirming the culture and values of different communities and societies to their individuals and to transform by promoting their uniqueness values to different parts of the globe. Spillovers effects are economic and social inclusion, appreciation of diversity and ultimately human development.

What does it take to scale creative economies and allow societies to fully enjoy its benefits?
The creative economy was the central theme of the second session of the 6th Brazil Africa Forum. With the mediation of TV journalist Camila Marinho, the debate was attended by Mr. Paulo Rogério Nunes, CEO of Vale do Dendê; Mrs. Monica Monteiro, CEO of CINEGROUP; Mrs. Márcia Ganem, CEO of Ateliê Márcia Ganem; Mr. Igor Juaçaba, CEO of Elephant Coworking and; Mrs. Nina Silva, Founder of the Black Money Movement.

Mr. Paulo Rogério Nunes started the conversation speaking about the current situation of the creative economy, with a special focus on the emergence of services from the creativity transformed into a new business. Speaking from an entrepreneurial perspective, in Bahia, there is a huge potential that has not been recognized yet. Our goals are to make Salvador a global city, connected with a market that has a deep connection with Africa. As he said, "The Brazil Africa connection will only effectively happen, when Afro-descendants, who have entered universities and want to do trade with Africa, are heard and taken into consideration in debates like this".

For Mrs. Monica Monteiro, a Brazilian who has been in Africa for 12 years as a representative of CINEGROUP, there is still a lot to be done and encouraged in Africa. According to the businesswoman, there is no better way of doing business than knowing the country where it is inserted.
On the other hand, Mrs. Márcia Ganem suggested investing in an economy that embraces people and culture in general. The stylist stressed that we need a logic that is not only capital but one that prioritizes human development. "Certain traditional communities live under poverty. What’s new in the creative economy is imagining a design that will dialogue with our traditional roots". According to her, in Bahia, culture has divided the state into identity territories that, beyond fashion, offer experiences of implementation of spaces of memory, contemplating all the aspects of different communities. This creates a range of alternatives and opportunities for cultural endeavors.

Mr. Igor Juaçaba, CEO of Elephant Coworking, explained about the way companies work today. They target countries that are up and trying to copy what they are doing. For the entrepreneur, the emerging countries, especially Brazil and the countries of Africa, have a great opportunity to make different from the existing models. According to him, there are resources, self-sufficiency and few countries that have the same conditions. The ideal, he said, would be not to copy, but to do what has not yet been done. "One of the foundations for this comes from education. Brazil and Africa are big territories that end up looking deep inside, which means that we have a limitation of market coverage and connections."

Completing the team from the last session of the morning, Mrs. Nina Silva talked about the importance of working with real opportunities to support inequality, which generates exorbitant numbers. "When we think of technological poles, we think of Eastern countries and forget that all technology must be a real impact on a group's life. And these technologies are created in spaces that are not inclusive, do not think with diverse heads. The more inclusive enterprises in relation to gender profit 21% more, globally speaking," he said. According to Mrs. Silva, founder of the Black Money Movement, which encourages the consumption of the Brazilian black population, according to the global data, companies with greater ethnic-racial diversity profit 33% more.
Local development value can be witnessed by the improvement of a community’s quality of life and independence. It might be the first step to scaling up a society’s position among the international agenda, providing space for a powerful influence and participation. Being young people the main force for changes, can we believe that using youth local potential may be the “thinking global, acting local” that is needed worldwide?
Moderated by João Rosário, journalist from RTP Africa, the third panel of the Forum was marked by the plenary of transformative actions to ensure local community building and development. The panel was attended by Mr. Ashif Juma, CEO of AG-Dangote; Mrs. Nthabiseng Legoete, founder of Quali Health; Mr. Zinhle Mncube, Industrialization Manager of Knowledge Pele; Mr. Emmanuel Azhigri, CEO of the Youth National Authority and; Mrs. Fábya dos Reis Santos, Secretary for the Promotion of Racial Equality in the State of Bahia.

Mrs. Nthabiseng Legoete, the founder of Quali Health, highlighted the important advances in the health of the population of South African communities where they provide quality assistance, resulting in the strengthening of the local economy. "People deserve more effective care. I understand that when they can access health care, they can be more productive. If they do not have this access, they will not be able to contribute to the economy. Therefore, when you make someone productive again, they will be able to contribute and help develop the community, which will positively affect their country's development".

Regarding birth control, Mrs. Legoete pointed out that it is necessary to work on education, to improve the quality of services and to make them easily accessible by the people. Quali Health promotes birth control by empowering women, allowing them to gain autonomy and self-responsibility.
Contributing to the birth control debate, Mr. Ashif Juma, CEO of infrastructure and construction company AG Dangote, added to the debate addressing the issue of population growth in the continent of Africa. She pointed out that there was a lack of infrastructure and investments to support the growing African population. For Mr. Juma, the role of creating good and sufficient infrastructure is a responsibility of the African states. He enforced that Africa should invest in the media and the education of women, creating opportunities for women to strive in their lives and be able to drive their lives freely. "I am convinced that woman is much more assertive and devoted to her country than man. Based on this assessment, if Africa follows this basic orientation, its development will be more accelerated".

Bringing the discussion to the reality of Sub-Saharan Africa, Mr. Zinhle Mncube, Industrialization Manager of Knowledge Pele, considered electricity as a vital tool for the development of African communities. For him, without electricity, it is not possible to produce or even offer health to the population, given that of electric prevents economic advances and basic supply of basic health care. Mncube assured that the challenge is to invest in the social sector that can contribute by creating an economically sustainable community.

CEO of the Youth National Authority, Mr. Emmanuel Azhigri spoke about the importance of the market and agriculture in Brazil, mainly as an example of a sector to empower the youth for the youth. For the manager, it is imperative to offer the right tools so that young people can develop in their work areas.

At the end of the session, the Secretary for the Promotion of Racial Equality in the State of Bahia, Mrs. Fábya dos Reis Santos, spoke about the State Government program for the black population and the traditional peoples of the Bahian territories. She said that "The state of Bahia has 750 certified quilombos and, from that, we have a presence of indigenous populations of different ethnicities, besides the traditional populations, shellfish, fishermen, among others. We are the only state secretary with this status across the country, this is a challenge in the field of joints and management". According to her, Bahia is the only state in Brazil that has signed and ratified International Decade of Afro-Descendant Peoples by the UN. This treaty promotes the full enjoyment of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights of Afro-descendant citizens.
South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) approaches and mechanisms that foster innovation and access to healthcare could be used to promote initiatives aimed at the exchange of data, experiences and best practices. How can International Organizations and national and regional institutions serve as facilitators and catalyzers on developing country agendas and partnerships focused on SSTC initiatives in this context?
At the end of the first day of the 6th Forum of Brazil, the South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Health and Education panel was moderated by Mr. José Gomes Temporão, former Minister of Health of the Republic of Brazil and Adviser of Unitaid, who took advantage of his speech to highlight, among other points, the work carried out in partnership between Brazil, Cuba, and Canada, as well as other countries in Europe, in the restructuring of Haiti's health network after the earthquake of seven degrees of magnitude occurred in 2010.

Panel “South-South and Triangular Cooperation for health and development”

Mr. Jorge Chediek, Director of the UNOSSC, stressed that the cooperation is not only government-to-government but also includes the private sector, civil society, and academia. According to the director, some of the developed countries are accustomed to receiving assistance and not giving assistance. "We are making an effort in our office to partner and identify how we can assist in this cooperation, to share best practices and duplicate their effects," he said. Mr. Chediek also said that a lot is still to be done to enable the current international architecture to allow this model of cooperation.
For Mrs. Nísia Trindade, President of the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz), it is necessary to overcome the conditions of inequality in order to think about sustainable development in South-South Cooperation. The Mrs. Trindade said, citing some authors, that underdevelopment is not the absence of development, but a product of it. "Recently, Agenda 2030 places development as a human right and the eradication of poverty as a condition for it. From this vision of sustainable development, there is the strongest theme of South-South Cooperation ". According to her, in the case of the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, the vision is focused on global health and cooperation on horizontal bases of exchange between countries. "The great challenge is the sustainability and continuity of the programs. A river is a good metaphor for the Atlantic Ocean and it is these bridges that we should seek to build in an event like this, " she concluded.

Mr. Mauricio Cysne, Director of External Relations at Unitaid, explained the agency's role in fostering innovation in health. The work of Unitaid, according to the director, does not correspond to the funding of basic research, but to the work in conjunction with the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation. "We are not going to be able to overcome the gulf in development if we do not have the young people on the supply side, using everything they know in technological terms. This technological issue creates a bridge that transforms the Atlantic into a stream".
The opening of the second day of the 6th Brazil Africa Forum was marked by a video message sent by Mr. José Graziano da Silva, Director General of the UN for Food and Agriculture (FAO). On that occasion, the Director explained the trajectory of young Brazilians and Africans in the search for jobs and qualifications in the field of agriculture.

Mr. da Silva drew a parallel between the last decade of the Brazilian government, which developed public policies aimed at empowering young people coming from lower classes in Brazil. Whereas, in rural areas in Africa, the youthful population still face serious difficulties. "There is no adequate funding for small farmers, technical courses are weak and young people do not participate in decision-making, as well as the difficulty of opening a business of their own. There is no social support policy to enter the labor market". The Director-General also stated that this process causes young people to migrate from the African continent, which in turn loses this important workforce.

Furthermore, Mr. da Silva said that FAO is seeking to ensure that these young people have access to the market of opportunities in African countries, turning agriculture into a profitable economic activity capable of attracting youth. In this process, he stressed the importance of using communication technologies, a fundamental tool for innovation, able to keep these young people connected with technology and education.
The President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Mr. Gilbert F. Houngbo, sent a special message to those present at the 6th Brazil Africa Forum. In his speech, Mr. Houngbo said he was pleased with the theme chosen for the event.

Mr. Houngbo believes that learning from the challenge and success of the other is a successful way of promoting diversity and strengthening relationships between the countries involved in the South-South relationship. "I see with optimism the partnership between you in the training of young people in the search of strategies for poverty reduction, promotion of peace and stability both in Brazil and in Africa," he concluded.
Agriculture is essential for Africa's economic development, mainly due to the world's arable and uncultivated land concentrated on the continent. Alongside this issue, there is a concentration of young people – the main vector of promoting the continent's food self-sufficiency in line with sustainability – that with appropriate qualification can promote changes in the reality of the African continent.
The first panel of the second day of the 6th Brazil Africa Forum started promoting an important conversation between Mr. Higino Marrule, Minister of Agriculture and Food Security of the Republic of Mozambique; Mr. Yemi Akinbamijo, Executive Director of the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA); Mr. Daniel Balaban, Director of the Centre for Excellence against Hunger of the WFP; Mr. Livio Vanghetti, Vice President of Global Partnerships of Philip Morris International and Mr. Claus Reiner, IFAD’s Director to Brazil.

Beginning his speech with a piece of advice to the audience, Minister Higino Marrule talked about the importance of using a language that the youth can understand when addressing the issue of agriculture. The portfolio representative in Mozambique ensured that educational programs are being adapted to rural areas according to the potential of each area. "It is possible to live in agribusiness when it is well structured. When we interact with the other forces of society, it is important to know the difficulties of the people and to seek together the possible solutions of their problems" said Mr. Marrule. The Minister also said that agriculture will always be available to meet the needs of this youth
Mr. Yemi Akinbamijo stressed the importance of having a more attractive language in agriculture so that young people can understand it, strengthening the power of science and information in the area, and it is essential to focus on new researches. "Brazil has 200 million inhabitants, Nigeria as well. In Brazil, only 6% of the population is involved in agriculture. The African continent has 70% of its people working in the field. The question is this: agriculture is what Africa has. The demonstration of the power of technology is in Brazil, we need to combine these aspects and we will have a good scenario".

Mr. Daniel Balaban, Director of the Centre for Excellence against Hunger, drew attention to the importance of keeping people in the field. According to Mr. Balaban, when Brazil created the Zero Hunger program one of the pillars was investing in small farmers, fostering a demand structure. My role is to support African countries so that they can create social policies based on school feeding. Food that goes to schools needs to come from family farmers. The Director said that people in Africa have no interest in remaining in rural areas because of the lack of demand for the products produced. Through school feeding we could balance the supply and demand equation. This will bring benefits to education, food security, health, and agriculture, as more food will be produced.

Another point raised by Mr. Daniel Balaban was the UN Food Security Report, showing that 821 million human beings are hungry in the world. "Do not we have the technology to fight hunger in the world? What we need is the political commitment to do this. The world spends a trillion and a half on military issues and, to end hunger, we use only 1% of that expenditure. This is a shame. We should invest money in technology to support smallholder farmers and small producers".

Mr. Livio Vanghetti, Vice President of Global Partners of Philip Morris International, highlighted the importance of the digital world for the countryside. According to Mr. Vanghetti, the young generation of African countries wants a business that is self-sustaining. "Not everything they learn, they can implant. If I were from the public sector, I would call the private sector and say: what can your business do for my country?".
Mr. Claus Reiner pointed out that the empowerment of young people in agriculture is the future. The challenge is to make the lives of agriculture attractive to this youth, who long for new functions in the field, linked to technology. According to Mr. Reiner, the private sector must be committed, generating diverse activities and internationalizing the products. Small businesses, on the other hand, should form a general economic picture that needs to be more dynamic. Mr. Claus Reiner said that young people want to create different forms of business and need some support through market access and business. "At this point, the role of the older generations, who can promote these opportunities, is crucial. We need to make room for the young people who are creating new ideas".
As a powerful asset for development, education is at the center of scientific and technology development, political participation and performance and the self-expression of the individual. For the young population it is also translates into a way to be listened by the world and providing their own concrete contribution to change it. How can we educate our youth to guarantee the full development of their capacities and freedoms?
This panel discussion was made by Mr. Baffour Agyeman-Dual, CEO of the John A. Kufuor Foundation; Mr. Jonathan Starr, Founder and Emeritus Director of the Abaarso School of Science and Technology; Mrs. Oley Dibba-Wadda, Director of Human Capital, Youth and Skills Development of the African Development Bank (AfDB); Mrs. Tabata Amaral, Political Scientist and Mrs. Débora Bais, Senior Specialist of the National Confederation of Industry.

Panel “Empowering the youth voice through knowledge”

Mr. Jonathan Starr talked about the importance of focusing on students’ personalities to identify some specific principles such critical thinking and individual abilities. "What we do differently is to invest deeply in each of these personalities, that makes us have a broader education". According to the Director, it is necessary to provide tools so that children can continue learning.

As a mentor to several young people, Mrs. Oley Dibba-Wadda said she can see that it is possible to find brilliant students who lack the confidence to speak and engage with other people. Therefore, it is important to develop critical thinking and other skills on these students to allow them to participate more. "At the moment on the African continent, there are 12 million young people unemployed. It's not about going to school and having a degree. What we need is for these young people, certified or not, to become entrepreneurs and start creating jobs".
Mrs. Dibba-Wadda recalled that the African Development Bank has been addressing this issue differently, including the provision of financial resources for youth, so that they can create new opportunities.

Mrs. Tabata Amaral, Political Scientist, has stated that it is essential to teach students how to become resilient and motivated, and to strengthen teamwork. According to the professional, youth leaves high school with no real chance of employment and this resembles the realities of several countries in Africa.

"Young people no longer want to go to high school because the job is difficult, they leave without dreams. They are screaming and saying: I do not know why I should continue studying since there is no value in this". Mrs. Amaral believes that a supranational coalition between the countries that suffer inequalities is necessary so that together they can discuss and solve these problems.

Mrs. Débora Bais, Senior Specialist of the National Confederation of Industry, brought to the discussion the example of Senai, which treats young people in the job market not only in adulthood but also during high school". Since 1942 we have managed to professionalize more than 71 million young people in Brazil. Typically, the individual already leaves high school with a guaranteed job or with a better chance of getting on the market”.

For Mr. Baffour Agyema-Duah, CEO of the John A. Kufor Foundation, education is the only tool that can prepare young people for life and make them complete. He pointed out that one of the things to bring to the classroom is how the young person should relate to society. "Education must be more than giving information but providing the youth with an environment that allows them to have a harmonious life”.

Mr. Agyema-Duah also spoke about the importance of supporting young entrepreneurs and ensuring that their companies can deal with the difficulties of the first five years so that they can then expand. "We are looking to help them survive".
As traditional sources of cooperation are reducing foreign aid due to proactive isolationist policies or domestic political difficulties, South-South cooperation and Triangular Cooperation will be crucial to promote sustainable development in the economies from the South. What are the challenges ahead and opportunities presented to foster partnerships and get to the next level of cooperation among countries?
Mr. Paulo Gomes, President of the Consultative Council of the Africa-Southeast Asian Chamber of Commerce, opened the last session of the 6th Brazil Africa Forum highlighting the power of Agendas 2030 and 2063 for the development of an Africa stable and prosperous. He also took the opportunity to mention a project by the Ghanaian president, called "The Year of Return".

"In 2019, the president of Ghana wants to make 'The Year of Return'. We are going to ask all Afro-descendants to return to Africa so that we can do business", announced Mr. Gomes.

The session, mediated by Bronwyn Nielsen, was also composed by Mr. Helder da Costa, General Secretary of the g7+; Mr. Azhari Gasim Ahmed, Lead Economist and Leader of the Resource Mobilization Team of the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD) and Mrs. Georgina Benròs de Mello, Director General of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP).

Mr. Helder da Costa started the debate highlighting the importance of the 2030 Agenda from the point of view of the g7+ member countries. According to him, being part of South-South Cooperation is essential, especially if relations between countries are based on trust. "Our partnerships need to be done locally, regionally and globally. In this context, we were invited to come here [to the Brazil Africa Forum]. We need to find something in common for the benefit of people".
He believes that borders that hinder the mobility of people and services around the world should be eliminated. "If we want to increase the mobility of people, we must invest in people's lives. People are marginalized in Africa. 80% of Africans are going to other countries and we need to talk about it”.

Regarding cross-country partnerships, Mr. Azhari Gasim Ahmed argued that without them none of the desired goals is achieved. "The partnership is part of Agenda 2030. We need to create a commission to develop a sustainable partnership group because that is the principle of commitment among countries”.

Still speaking of partnerships, Mrs. Georgina Benrós de Mello mentioned the relationship between Portuguese-speaking countries, especially regarding economics and entrepreneurship. "Our countries have important economic relations. We are very connected by entrepreneurship. However, among us, community, less than 2% does in terms of community relations. The potential is immense, and we have a lot to do. It needs to develop the economic, productive apparatus. Improve the quality of our institutions, which are essential, and we are working on this" said the Director General of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP).

Mr. Paulo Gomes reinforced the role of Brazil in contributing to other countries. "What can Brazil do for other countries? I believe we can do a lot for agriculture, we can invest in logistics to increase our production, and we must do this now, establish these companies."
After two intense days of activities, the President of the Brazil Africa Institute, Prof. João Bosco Monte, addressed again to the delegates to say goodbye. After thanking everyone for participating, he gave a brief analysis on the importance of an event such as the 6th Brazil Africa Forum." All solutions were not found here. We still have plenty of time to talk about the possible solutions. But I’m sure that these two days of discussion bring us the feeling that people together can bring the best solutions to major problems".
For the first time, partner institutions had the opportunity to organize simultaneous sessions. Independently, each organization was responsible for convening participants, defining the theme and the format of the side event.

Four institutions organized side events at the 6th Brazil Africa Forum. On the first day of the Forum, the Odebrecht Foundation promoted a dialogue on the Integrated Development and Growth Program with Sustainability (PDCIS). The Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) organized a meeting on the Network of Agribusiness and Innovation Brazil-Africa (BRAIN) and the 8th Week of Agricultural Science of Africa (AASW8). At the second day, IFAD gathered people around tools to share knowledge gained in agricultural development and Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz) discussed its role in the context of South-South Cooperation.
PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN IBRAF AND FIOCRUZ

During the 6th Brazil Africa Forum the president of the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz), Mrs. Nísia Trindade, announced, alongside with Prof. João Bosco Monte, a partnership between the two institutions in launching an initiative to empower young Africans. "From a collaboration between IBRAF and Fiocruz, we are launching a course for an area of great interest that is the maintenance of equipment, that will be carried out at our headquarters in Rio de Janeiro" announced Mrs. Trindade.

Mrs. Nísia Trindade and Prof. João Bosco Monte announcing partnership

Prof. João Bosco Monte emphasized the importance of such partnership. The course will benefit about 25 young people from African countries. "We are going to bring young people to receive training in a great institution and we are very grateful for the opportunity that Fiocruz gives to young Africans who will acquire this knowledge. Our preventive maintenance course will reach places where governments and civil society have not yet reached", reinforced the president of the IBRAF.

The course is going to be executed as a session of the Youth Technical Training Program (YTTP), the project of the Brazil Africa Institute that promotes the professional exchange of young Africans to receive training in Brazil.
YOUTH PROTAGONISM

Youth empowerment is a reality that goes beyond the theme of the 6th Brazil Africa Forum. The training of young people to work in the field of Foreign Affairs, the encouragement of cultural projects and the role of youth in agriculture are part of the organizational strategy of the Brazil Africa Institute.

Ten young college students participated as volunteers during the event. Some of them were born in African countries and are studying in Brazil. The Brazil Africa Institute selected these young people from their interests and skills. During the event, each one could acquire knowledge in organizing a high-level international event and exchange experiences with the participants, broadening their networking.
In an effort to strengthen the Creative Economy and projects with a strong social impact on youth, the organization of the event selected the Ilê Aiyê carnival group for a cultural presentation in the opening night of the Forum. Founded in 1974, the Ilê Aiyê group carries out education and citizenship actions for poor children and young people in Salvador through a school of art that rescues African cultural values, as well as the musical learning of children and youth.
In addition, the 6th Brazil Africa Forum complemented the activities of the "Processing and Post-Harvesting Workshop in Cassava", which had the participation of eight young agricultural entrepreneurs from Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon and Ivory Coast. They participated in intensive training at the facilities of Embrapa Cassava & Fruits, in the city of Cruz das Almas, Bahia, Brazil. The action is the result of a partnership between the Brazil Africa Institute, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Embrapa.

Participants of the YTTP on "Processing and Post-Harvesting Workshop in Cassava"

The training is part of the Youth Technical Training Program (YTTP). “The program promotes the exchange of young Africans to Brazil, so they are trained in areas such as agriculture and technology. Our goal is for the groups to learn from Brazilian expertise and return to their countries to replicate their knowledge”, explained Prof. João Bosco Monte. This was the second YTTP session held in partnership with Embrapa. In 2017, 28 young people from 14 African countries spent 30 days in Cruz das Almas receiving training on the cassava production and processing chain.
MEDIA COVERAGE

The 6th edition of the Brazil Africa Forum drew attention from Brazilian and foreign media outlets before, during and after the event. The interest of the journalists ensured the projection of the theme of the event as well as of the people and organizations participating, further enhancing the issues that were being debated. In addition, acclaimed journalists were invited to mediate the sessions, ensuring more dynamism and objectivity for the discussions of the event.

Two television programs were recorded on the spot: "Causa e Efeito", broadcasted by RTP Africa for African-Portuguese countries and "Business Africa", developed by People TV (from France) and broadcasted in English and French for 50 television stations in the African continent.
Mr. Chediek being interviewed by Marta Moreira, reporter of the Lusa news agency, from Portugal

The event was reported on 169 different media outlets, including news portals, television stations, online newspapers, magazines and printed newspapers. The event’s communication team also produced on-site special content to be broadcast on IBRAF’s social networks and YouTube channel.

Mr. George Elombi being interviewed by Omar Ben Yedder, Publisher of the IC Publications, from London
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