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THE WORLD BANK



11^e Edition

Africa Think
Tank Summit

ACTIONS, PARTNERSHIPS, AND IMPACT REPORT

2025–2026

From Taxation to Action : Bridging Policy
and Implementation in Public Financial
Management (PFM) in Africa #ATTS2025

08-10

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Addis Abeba



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FOREWORD



The **Africa Think Tank Summit (ATTS) 2025**, hosted by the **African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF)** in partnership with the **African Union Commission (AUC)** and the **African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD)**, in **Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**, convened an exceptional community of researchers, policymakers, development practitioners, and institutional leaders from across the African continent and beyond. Under the overarching theme of domestic resource mobilization and home-grown economic solutions, the Summit catalyzed substantive dialogue on Africa's most pressing development challenges.

This Post-Summit Impact Report captures what happened after the closing session — the tangible actions taken, the partnerships forged, and the measurable results emerging from participants inspired by the discussions at ATTS 2025. Drawing on responses from a post-summit survey administered to attendees, this report aggregates the voices of 38 respondents representing 18 countries and over 35 institutions.

The findings presented here reflect a community in motion: think tanks launching research, governments updating policy frameworks, young scholars initiating their first cross-border collaborations, and established institutions formalizing new partnerships with regional and international bodies. This report is both an accountability document and a call to deepen our collective commitment ahead of ATTS 2026.

We are grateful to every participant who took the time to share their post-summit journey. Your stories are the evidence of impact, and it is these stories that will inspire the next generation of Africa's thinkers and decision-makers.

Mamadou Biteye,

Executive Secretary | The African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF)

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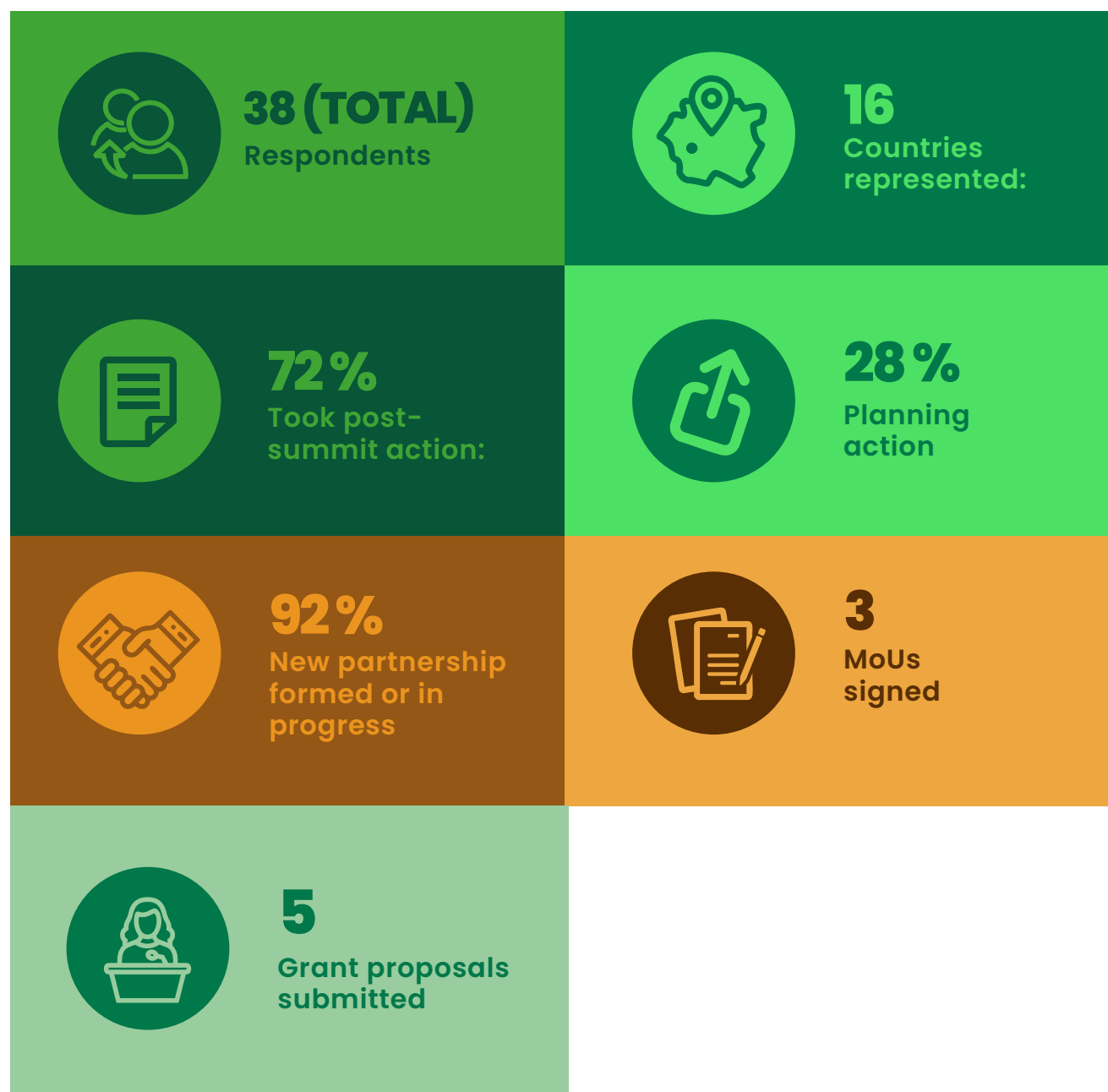
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ACRONYMS

ACBF	African Capacity Building Foundation
AfCFTA	African Continental Free Trade Area
ATTS	Africa Think Tank Summit
ATTS 2025	Africa Think Tank Summit 2025
AUC	African Union Commission
AUDA-NEPAD	African Union Development Agency
CADAST	Capacity Development for Africa's Structural Transformation
CEMAC	Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
MoUs	Memoranda of Understanding
PFM	Public Financial Management
WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union

KEY FIGURES AT A GLANCE



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The **Africa Think Tank Summit (ATTS) 2025**, convened by the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), brought together policy researchers, practitioners, government officials, and development partners from across Africa and beyond. This post-Summit impact report synthesizes findings from **38 participant** responses collected through a structured bilingual survey administered from **3 March to 2 April 2026**.

The survey reveals that ATTS 2025 generated tangible post-summit momentum. The majority of participants moved from inspiration to action: **72%** took concrete steps influenced by the Summit, and a further **28%** were planning to do so. Beyond individual action, the Summit served as a powerful networking catalyst: **92%** of respondents reported new partnerships or collaborations either established or under active discussion.

Advocacy and stakeholder engagement (10 responses), training and capacity-building (9), and policy reform initiatives (8) were the most common action types. On partnerships, joint research (6), cross-country collaboration (5), private sector engagement (5), and grant proposals submitted (5) were prominent – alongside 3 signed MoUs.

Participants used compelling terms to describe the Summit: **a “great networking event”, an “action-oriented conversation”, a platform that “shaped my attitude towards Africa’s potential”**. The recurring call across the feedback is to sustain momentum through structured follow-up, continued collaboration mechanisms, and broader participation in 2026.

INTRODUCTION

The Africa Think Tank Summit 2025 (ATTS 2025), held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, under the theme “From Taxation to Action: Bridging Policy and Implementation in Public Financial Management (PFM) in Africa”, convened a diverse community of think tanks, researchers, development partners, and government stakeholders under a shared commitment to advancing evidence-based policymaking across the continent. The summit provided a platform for dialogue, collaboration, and the co-creation of solutions to pressing African and global challenges, with a strong emphasis on strengthening the role of think tanks in shaping inclusive and sustainable development.¹

Building on the momentum generated during the summit, a Post-Summit Action and Partnership Survey was designed to assess the extent to which participants have translated discussions and commitments into tangible actions. The survey also sought to capture emerging partnerships, collaborative initiatives, and policy engagements that have developed as a direct or indirect result of ATTS 2025.

This report presents the findings of that survey, offering insights into key areas such as:

1. implementation of summit outcomes and recommendations;
2. formation and strengthening of institutional partnerships;
3. knowledge exchange and joint research initiatives; and
4. policy influence and engagement with decision-makers.

By documenting these post-summit developments, the report aims to evaluate the effectiveness of ATTS 2025 as a catalyst for action, while identifying opportunities to enhance future summits and sustained collaboration among African think tanks and their partners.

This report aims to contribute to a broader learning process, highlighting successes, challenges, and lessons learned, to ensure that the collective efforts initiated in Addis Ababa as part of the ATTS 2025 continue to drive meaningful impact across the continent.

RESPONDENTS TO THE SURVEY



Geographic reach

Respondents came from 16 countries (Table 1). Ethiopia had the highest representation (17 respondents), reflecting both the Summit’s host location and the strength of local think tank engagement. The survey also captured voices from West and Central Africa, including Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Mali, Niger, and Senegal, countries central to francophone policy dialogue.

Table 1. Geographical reach of survey participants

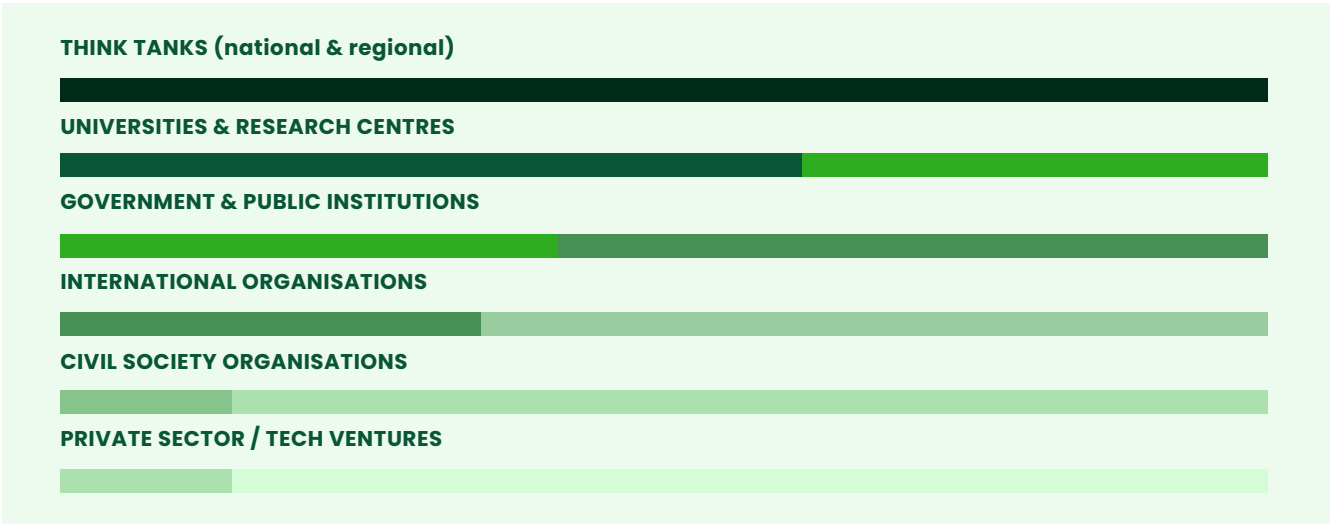
REGION	COUNTRIES REPRESENTED	# OF RESPONDENTS
East Africa	Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, and Djibouti	22
West Africa	Ghana, Nigeria, Liberia, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Niger, Senegal, Mali, Togo	10
Southern Africa	South Africa, Zimbabwe	2
Europe / International	United Kingdom, France	2
Other / Not specified	—	2
TOTAL		38

Source : Compiled from Post-Summit Action and Partnership Survey data

Institutional Profile

Respondents represented a diverse institutional ecosystem: national and international think tanks, universities and research centers, government ministries and public institutions, international organizations, civil society organizations (CSOs), and private sector actors, including AI and technology ventures.

This diversity is itself a finding: ATTS 2025 succeeded in convening not just the traditional think tank community but a broader ecosystem of policy influencers, from senior ministry officials to doctoral students and tech entrepreneurs.



Source : Compiled from Post-Summit Action and Partnership Survey data

3.

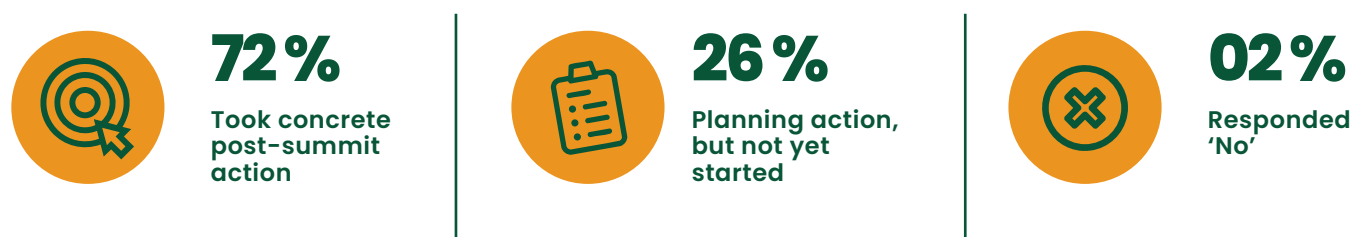
ACTIONS TAKEN AFTER THE SUMMIT



Post-ATTS 2025 Action Uptake Level

One of the clearest signals from the survey is that ATTS 2025 moved people to act. When asked whether they had taken any action influenced by the Summit, 72% of respondents reported having taken action (see Figure 2).

Figure 2. Post-Summit action uptake level



Source: Compiled from Post-Summit Action and Partnership Survey data

The finding that **98%** of respondents either acted or planned to act indicates that ATTS 2025 did not simply inform, but it catalyzed.

Types of action taken

Participants selected from a menu of action types (multiple selections allowed). The distribution as presented in Table 2 reveals a community oriented toward both systemic change and practical capacity-building.

Tableau 2. Types of action taken by participantst

ACTION TYPE	COUNT	EXAMPLES FROM QUALITATIVE RESPONSES
Advocacy or stakeholder engagement	10	Youth policy dialogues; PFM awareness
New training or capacity-building activity	09	Refugee women empowerment program; public official training
Policy reform initiative	08	Property tax digitalization research; PFM reform briefs
Research project initiated	08	IFPRI collaboration; think tank study on AfCFTA barriers study
Institutional reform or strategy update	06	Strategy update to focus on PFM innovations
Climate/DRM/PFM reform initiative	03	Green climate finance work; climate protection activities
Internal organizational change	03	Team discussions; internal knowledge-sharing sessions
Budget or fiscal adjustment	01	Fiscal policy review at ministry level

Source : Compiled from Post-Summit Action and Partnership Survey data

Spotlight Actions

The survey generated rich qualitative evidence of real-world impact. Four representative examples (Box 1 to Box 2) illustrate the range and depth.

BOX 1

Research-to-Reform — Liberia

The Liberia Macroeconomic Policy Analysis Center (LIMPAC), under Liberia's Ministry of Finance, partnered with the Liberia Revenue Authority to conduct survey research on the impact of Real Property Tax on economic growth. Findings pointed to the need to shift from facial tax collection to digital taxation, which is a direct policy-reform output.

Source : Compiled from Post-Summit Action and Partnership Survey data

BOX 2.

AI Venture — Ethiopia

One participant, inspired by discussions on Africa's technological potential, launched an advanced AI company in Ethiopia, recruiting data scientists from Rwanda, Nigeria, Mauritius, Botswana, Morocco, Algeria, and China.

Source : Compiled from Post-Summit Action and Partnership Survey data

4.

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS



Partnership Formation Rate

When asked whether Summit networking led to new partnerships, the response was overwhelmingly positive, with 92% of respondents reporting having formed or pursuing collaborations (Table 3).

Table 3. Responses to partnership formation



Source : Compiled from Post-Summit Action and Partnership Survey data

Types of Partnerships

The most prevalent partnership type was “Discussions ongoing” (14 responses), a normal and healthy stage at this point. But formal commitments are also in evidence with 3 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) signed, 5 grant proposals submitted, and 5 cross-country collaborations underway.

Table 4. Types of partnerships reported

PARTNERSHIP TYPE	COUNT	NOTABLE EXAMPLES
Discussions ongoing	14	LIMPAC–Ministry of Finance; Kenya Treasury; cross-CSOs
Joint research project	06	IFPRI–Ethiopia; AfCFTA barriers study
Grant proposal submitted	05	Gates Foundation proposal (TJNA + 4 African countries)
Cross-country collaboration	05	IFA Ethiopia + CGIATS South Africa + IPCR Nigeria
Private sector engagement	05	Pan-African AI company launch; tech sector partnerships
Government–Think Tank engagement	04	Engagement with the Ministry of Revenue, Ethiopia; Kenya National Treasury engagement
MoU signed	03	Ministry of Revenue, Ethiopia (leadership development)
Informal technical collaboration	02	Email-based collaboration; academic co-research

Source : Compiled from Post-Summit Action and Partnership Survey data

5.

MEASURABLE RESULTS SO FAR



It is important to contextualize findings on measurable results: ATTS 2025 occurred recently,,and policy change and institutional partnerships inherently unfold over months and years. Against this backdrop, the early results are encouraging.

Table 5. Feedback on emerging results



Source : Compiled from Post-Summit Action and Partnership Survey data

Respondents who reported measurable results described outcomes presented in Table 6.

Table 6. Selected reported outcomes

DOMAIN	RESULT DESCRIBED	COUNTRY
Leadership Development	Improved leadership development programs; expanded research engagement; improved consultancy services	Ethiopia
Research Partnership	Joint research project with IFPRI formally initiated; first cooperation activities underway	Éthiopie
Policy Advocacy	Supported the South African Treasury in fiscal policy reform advocacy, including engagement with the revenue authority on excise and regulatory measures; ongoing policy engagement in South Africa	South Africa
Capacity Development	Increased knowledge and skills of public officials	Kenya

Source : Compiled from Post-Summit Action and Partnership Survey data

6.

VOICES FROM PARTICIPANTS



Qualitative responses to the open-ended questions (Q9) provide rich testimony to the Summit’s impact. The most common themes were quality of networking, the inspiration to act on Africa’s potential, calls for more inclusive future summits, and requests for mechanisms to translate research into policy more systematically.

BOX 3

Feedback on Summit experience

“ATTS 2025 was a very beneficial venue for significant learning, collaboration, and exchange. The Summit effectively brought together a variety of viewpoints and made room for useful, action- oriented conversations.” — **Participant, East Africa**

«The Summit was an excellent platform for establishing new partnerships among local, regional, and international think tanks. The participation of highly experienced and knowledgeable scholars and guests made it a significant event.» — **Participant, African institution**

«The summit shaped my attitude towards Africa’s potential. If we work together, we can change the continent — and it is really accomplishable.» — **Participant, Ethiopia**

Source : Compiled from Post-Summit Action and Partnership Survey data Country

BOX 4

Calls for Deeper Impact

«Enhance and diversify communication channels to mainstream findings and recommendations of the Summit in policy dialogue on the continent.» — **Participant (anonymous)**

«Future summits could further strengthen mechanisms that translate research outputs into concrete policy actions, and continue bringing together policymakers, researchers, and development partners.» — **Participant, Africa**

«It was a good conversation, but could have been sharper in the targeting, especially of younger persons.» — **Participant (anonymous)**

Source : Compiled from Post-Summit Action and Partnership Survey data

BOX 5

Significance of ATTS for emerging researchers and students

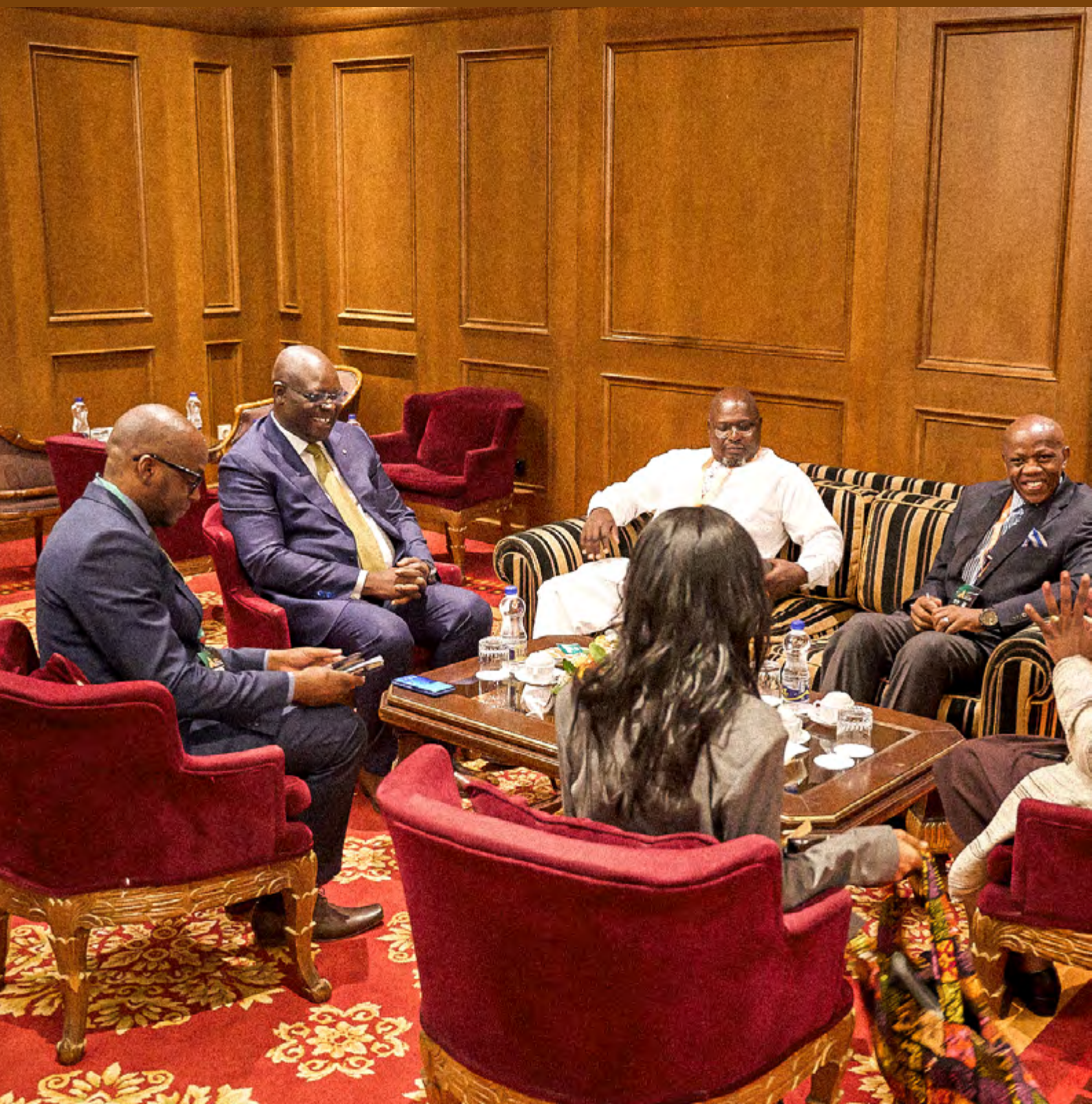
«ATTS 2025 was very inspiring and helped me better understand public financial management. It motivated me to continue learning and exploring opportunities for collaboration.» — **Student respondent, Ethiopia**

«As a student, attending ATTS 2025 encouraged me to engage more in training and learning opportunities related to policy and public financial management. The Summit helped me gain a better understanding of how research can influence governance.» — **Student respondent, East Africa**

Source : Compiled from Post-Summit Action and Partnership Survey data

7.

STRATEGIC FINDINGS



The following strategic findings emerge from a **synthesis of quantitative and qualitative data.**

Finding 1.

ATTS is a high-activation summit

With **72%** of participants taking concrete action post-summit and 98% acting or planning to, ATTS 2025 demonstrates that convening quality matters more than convening scale. The Summit's design, combining knowledge exchange, networking space, and a strong convening mandate, creates conditions for action.

Finding 2.

The partnership pipeline is deep but young

Discussions ongoing (**16 of 38 respondents**) reflect a healthy pipeline of partnerships that are too new to formalize. ATTS 2026 has an opportunity to revisit these discussions, converting warm discussions into MoUs, joint grants, or published research.

Finding 3.

Youth engagement is underserved but high potential

Student respondents were among the most enthusiastic. ATTS 2026 should consider a structured youth or emerging researchers track, mentorship program, or fellowship linked to summit attendance.

Finding 4.

The research-to-policy gap is the central challenge

Multiple participants named the translation of research into policy as the key unresolved challenge. ATTS is uniquely positioned to build mechanisms, such as policy labs, co-creation workshops, and follow-up convenings, that close this gap systematically.

8.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ATTS 2026



Based on participant feedback and the strategic findings above, the following **five (05) recommendations** are proposed for ATTS 2026 planning and the broader partnerships strategy.

**Proposed
Recommended 1.**

**Design a Structured
Follow-Up Mechanism**

Establish a 6-month post-summit follow-up process, such as quarterly **check-ins, a shared collaboration platform, and/or a working-group structure around summit themes.** Participants have shown willingness to engage; the infrastructure must match that willingness.

**Proposed
Recommended 2.**

**Create a Dedicated Youth
and Emerging Researchers
Track**

Allocate spaces and programming for students, young researchers, and early-career practitioners. Consider a competitive application-based fellowship linked to summit attendance and post-summit mentorship from senior participants.

**Proposed
Recommended 3**

**Broaden Sponsorship for
In-Person Participation**

Multiple respondents requested broader sponsorship for in-person **attendance, particularly from less-resourced institutions.** Bringing in more financial partners for ATTS 2026 would immediately expand geographic and institutional diversity.

**Proposed
Recommended 4**

**Sharpen the Policy
Translation Mandate**

Introduce a 'Policy Lab' format where summit outputs (papers, panels, discussions, etc.) are converted in real time into draft policy briefs, co-produced with policymakers present. This directly addresses the research-to-policy gap named by multiple respondents.

**Proposed
Recommended 5**

**Publish an Annual ATTS
Impact Report as a
Flagship Document**

This post-summit survey report should become a flagship annual publication, not just an internal assessment but a public document distributed to **partner governments, donors, and the broader African policy community.** Visibility of outcomes attracts future participants and partners.

CONCLUSION

The evidence gathered through this post-summit survey tells a consistent and encouraging story: when researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and partners are brought together around shared challenges, they do not simply exchange business cards and return home; they act, collaborate, begin, and in some cases complete work that would not have existed without the connections forged in Addis Ababa.

72 percent of respondents took concrete action after the Summit. 95 percent of respondents formed or are actively pursuing new partnerships. These are not modest numbers for a policy convening. They are proof that the design, the participants, and the moment aligned.

Yet the survey also delivers a clear message about what comes next. The partnerships that are still in discussion need infrastructure to mature. The research that was initiated needs pathways into policy. The students and early-career researchers who found the Summit transformative need structured opportunities to stay connected.

The recurring call across participant feedback is not for a better summit only. It is for a better system around the summit, such as follow-up mechanisms, collaboration platforms, policy labs, and sustained engagement between convenings.

APPENDIX



APPENDIX 1.

METHODOLOGY AND NOTES

Survey Design

The post-summit survey was administered in both English and French, covering identical thematic areas. Questions were a mix of structured multiple-choice (allowing multiple selections), binary response, and open-ended qualitative prompts. The survey was distributed to ATTS 2025 participants following the Summit.

Sample

Total responses: 38. The sample is self-selected; respondents are those who chose to complete the survey. This means the findings may over-represent the most engaged participants. The qualitative richness compensates for this limitation.

Analysis Approach

Quantitative data were aggregated using frequency counts and percentages. Qualitative responses were coded thematically and synthesized into cross-cutting findings. Direct quotations are used only where participants granted attribution. Anonymous contributions are paraphrased and not attributed to specific individuals.

Terminology

‘Partnership formed’ refers to cases where a respondent selected ‘Yes’ in Q4. ‘Discussions ongoing’ is treated as a partnership pipeline rather than a confirmed partnership in the main analysis. ‘Measurable results’ refers to Q7 responses where participants described specific, observable outcomes.

Data Privacy

Three English-language respondents declined attribution. All French-language responses are paraphrased or presented anonymously unless explicit consent to attribution was given. Institutional names are used only where individuals named their institution in their response and consented to attribution.

APPENDIX 2.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Overview and purpose

As we prepare for the 2026 Africa Think Tank Summit (ATTS 2026), this survey compiles a brief impact report on the 2025 edition held in Addis Ababa under the theme **“From Taxation to Action: Bridging Policy and Implementation in Public Financial Management (PFM) in Africa.”** We would greatly appreciate your participation in a short 5-minute questionnaire to help us understand: (1) whether you have taken any action inspired by ATTS 2025; and/or (2) whether new partnerships or collaborations emerged from the Summit.

The objective is to assess actions and partnerships resulting from ATTS 2025 and inform the Impact Report to be presented at ATTS 2026.

1. Section 1: Personal Information`

2. Name:
3. Organization :
4. Country :
5. Email :

Section 2: Action Taken

Q1. Since attending ATTS 2025, have you taken any action influenced by what you learned at the Summit?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not yet, but planning to

Q2. If yes, what type of action did you take? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Policy reform initiative
- ☐ Research project initiated
- ☐ Institutional reform or strategy update
- ☐ New training or capacity-building activity
- ☐ Budget or fiscal adjustment
- ☐ Climate/DRM/PFM reform initiative
- ☐ Internal organizational change
- ☐ Advocacy or stakeholder engagement
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Q3. Please briefly describe the action(s) taken and what did it/they lead to? (2–4 sentences for each action).

Section 3: Partnerships and Networking

Q4. Did the networking at ATTS 2025 lead to new partnerships or collaborations?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Discussions ongoing

Q5. If yes, what type of partnership emerged? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Joint research project
- ☐ Grant proposal submitted
- ☐ MoU signed
- ☐ Informal technical collaboration
- ☐ Government–Think Tank engagement
- ☐ Cross-country collaboration
- ☐ Private sector engagement
- ☐ Discussions ongoing
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Q6. Please briefly describe the partnership(s) and its current status (2–4 sentences per partnership).

(Open text box)

Section 4: Early Outcomes (Optional but Valuable)

Q7. Has the action or partnership led to any measurable results so far?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Not yet
- ☐ Too early to assess

If yes, please describe (1–3 sentences).

(Open text)

Section 5: Consent for Reporting

Q8. May we reference your example (with attribution) in the ATTS 2026 Impact Report?

- ☐ Yes, with my name and institution
- ☐ Yes, anonymously
- ☐ No

Section 6: Additional Comments

Q9. Do you have any other comments or feedback you would like to share?

(Open text box)

APPENDIX 3.

REPORT OF THE 2025 SUMMIT

The 11th Africa Think Tank Summit (ATTS 2025) took place from 8 to 10 October 2025 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Convened under the theme «From Taxation to Action: Bridging Policy and Implementation in Public Financial Management (PFM) in Africa,» the Summit brought together more than 500 participants from over 40 countries, including ministers of finance and revenue, heads of tax authorities, think tank leaders, economists, academics, civil society representatives, youth innovators, and international development partners.

The central challenge

Africa's fiscal trajectory is held back by a persistent and costly gap between well-designed policies and their execution on the ground. Rising debt levels, demographic pressures, outdated data systems, and fragmented accountability structures continue to limit the continent's fiscal potential. ATTS 2025 placed implementation, not just policy formulation, at the heart of the continental conversation, asking a direct question: what is preventing Africa's fiscal and PFM reforms from delivering measurable results?

What the Summit covered

Over three days, five plenary sessions, seven thematic parallel sessions, and eight interactive events, participants examined the structural, institutional, and technological constraints limiting the effectiveness of taxation, expenditure management, and public accountability across Africa. Key themes included the modernization and digitalization of tax administration, the transformative potential of artificial intelligence and digital tools for domestic resource mobilization, gender-responsive and climate-sensitive PFM, youth engagement in fiscal governance, regional tax harmonization, and the role of think tanks as catalysts of policy implementation and evaluation.

Defining moments

Several commitments moved from debate to action during the Summit. A landmark reference book — Creating, Managing and Sustaining Think Tanks in Africa — was officially launched. A new digital course on the Taxation of the Digital Economy was introduced on the ACBF Ubora Academy platform. Two strategic Memoranda of Understanding were signed: one with the Africa Europe Foundation (AEF) and one with the African Forum on Debt and Development (AFRODAD), opening a new chapter of collaborative action on Africa's fiscal agenda.

The consensus

The Summit closed with an unambiguous message: Africa's sustainable development must be financed by Africa. Closing the gap between taxation and action is not merely a technical challenge — it is a sovereignty imperative. By strengthening institutional accountability, investing in digital and data systems, deepening regional cooperation, and positioning think tanks as implementation partners rather than only analytical voices, the continent can unlock its fiscal potential, reinforce the social contract, and build a future grounded in shared prosperity.

Access the full report

The proceedings of the 2026 Summit are available in both French and English. Readers may access the full reports through the following links, which provide comprehensive coverage of the discussions, outcomes, and key recommendations from the Summit in each language.

[Rapport du Sommet 2025 en français](#)

[Rapport du Sommet 2025 en anglais](#)

APPENDIX 4.

POST-EVENT EVALUATION KEY FINDINGS

At the close of ATTS 2025, participants were invited to complete a structured post-event evaluation questionnaire. A total of 62 responses were received, representing think tanks, government ministries, CSOs, universities, and international organizations across more than 16 countries. The evaluation covered six thematic areas:

- **summit organization**
- **session quality**
- **knowledge application**
- **learning**
- **outcomes, overall satisfaction, and**
- **suggestions for future editions.**

Respondent Profile

The evaluation drew responses from a diverse institutional and geographic base. Participants were predominantly male (75%), and 89% were attending ATTS for the first time, confirming the Summit's strong reach to new audiences. The majority came from think tanks (42%) and government departments (32%), with further representation from CSOs, international organizations, universities, and the private sector. Over 85% indicated willingness to be contacted for post-Summit follow-up.

PROFILE INDICATOR	FINDING
Total evaluation respondents	62
Gender	75% Male, 25% Female
First-time ATTS attendees	89 %
Institution type — Think Tank	42 %
Institution type — Government	32 %
Institution type — CSO / International / Other	26 %
Willing to engage in post-Summit follow-up	86 %

Source : Compiled from ATTS 2025 Post-Event Evaluation data

Summit Organization

Respondents were broadly positive about the summit's organization. The venue was rated most highly, with 82% agreeing or strongly agreeing that it was suitable and conducive to productive exchange. Theme relevance scored 81% positive, reflecting strong alignment between the PFM focus and participants' professional needs.

ORGANIZATIONAL DIMENSION	% POSITIVE (AGREE + STRONGLY AGREE)
Venue suitability and conduciveness	82 %
Theme relevance to Africa's development	81 %
Facilitator preparation	81 %
Clarity and achievability of objectives	79 %
Timeliness of information and materials	77 %

Source : Compiled from ATTS 2025 Post-Event Evaluation data

Session Quality

Session quality received consistently positive ratings. Thematic sessions and the quality of panelist knowledge were each rated positively by 82% and 81% of respondents, respectively. Moderator effectiveness and facilitator preparation each received 81% positive ratings. Time allocation across sessions was the lowest-rated dimension at 74% — a finding echoed in qualitative feedback, where several participants called for longer sessions, more floor time for questions, and fewer concurrent side events.

SESSION QUALITY DIMENSION	% POSITIVE
Thematic/stakeholder sessions informative and relevant	82 %
Facilitators well prepared	81 %
Moderators used effective facilitation methods	81 %
Panelists knowledgeable on their topics	81 %
Panelists communicated messages clearly	77 %
Time allocation across sessions	77 %

Source : Compiled from ATTS 2025 Post-Event Evaluation data

Intended Application of Knowledge and Skills

A strong majority of evaluation respondents indicated clear plans to apply what they learned at the summit. The most common intended application was further engagement with state and non-state actors (47 respondents), followed by further research (46), applying insights directly to current work (42), and contributing to policy advocacy (40). These results point to a community that leaves the Summit with a tangible action orientation – consistent with findings from the separate Post-Summit Action Survey.

INTENDED APPLICATION	RESPONDENTS (N=62)
Engage further with state and non-state actors	47
Undertake further research and studies	46
Apply insights directly to current work	42
Contribute to policy advocacy campaigns	40
Facilitate policy review and formulation	41
Write media articles or participate in public debates	29
Knowledge not applicable to current work	9

Source : Compiled from ATTS 2025 Post-Event Evaluation data

Learning Outcomes

Overall, summit satisfaction was high. 83 percent agreed or strongly agreed that the summit was a success overall – the highest score across all measured dimensions. Enhanced understanding of PFM challenges and solutions was confirmed by 79% of respondents, and 75% indicated that their main expectations were met. These figures are particularly significant given that 89% were first-time attendees, suggesting the Summit exceeded expectations for most participants entering with limited prior experience of the event.

LEARNING OUTCOME	% POSITIVE
Summit was successful overall	83 %
Enhanced understanding of PFM challenges and solutions	79 %
Main expectations were met	75 %

Source : Compiled from ATTS 2025 Post-Event Evaluation data

Overall Rating

When asked to rate the Summit overall, 79% of evaluation respondents rated it as Excellent and 19% as Good. Only one respondent gave a Fair rating, and none rated the Summit Poor. This is a strong endorsement across a diverse participant group. The overwhelming majority (86%) also expressed willingness to be contacted for post-Summit action follow-up, reflecting sustained engagement beyond the event itself.

OVERALL RATING	RESPONDENTS	SHARE
Excellent	49	79 %
Good	12	19 %
Fair	1	2 %
Poor	0	0 %

Source : Compiled from ATTS 2025 Post-Event Evaluation data

Qualitative Highlights

Open-ended responses to questions on the most useful sessions, the least useful sessions, and suggestions for improvement yielded rich qualitative data. Several recurring themes emerged.

Most valued sessions. Participants most frequently cited the plenary sessions on AI and digital transformation, the PFM hackathon, and the youth engagement session as most useful. The session on taxation of the digital economy was praised for its practical focus and direct policy relevance. The Africa-Europe Think Tank side event was highlighted by several European participants for enabling structured collaboration. Several respondents noted that all sessions were equally useful and found it difficult to single out one.

Areas for improvement. The most consistent feedback concerned session format and time management: participants wanted longer Q&A segments, fewer parallel side events running simultaneously, and more interactive workshop formats. Several respondents suggested dedicated youth panels, mentorship programs, and innovation labs as structural additions for future summits. A recurring theme was the call to move from dialogue to action — with requests for concrete implementation follow-up, post-summit toolkits, and structured accountability frameworks.

Selected participant feedback on ATTS 2025

Source : Compiled from ATTS 2025
Post-Event Evaluation data 2025

"An Action Tank is critical, with rigorous post-implementation evaluations."
— CSO respondent

"Allow the plenary to be more engaging and interactive. Give some time for Think Tanks to interact for knowledge-sharing and peer review." — LIMPAC, Liberia

"Include interactive sessions such as Collaboration Labs, Future Think Tank Toolbox workshops, and Mirror Sessions." — FERDI, France

"It was very well organized. As an individual delegate, all the arrangements were smooth, and communication was very timely." — SAIIA, South Africa

"Focus on transitioning from dialogue to actionable implementation by strengthening collaboration between think tanks, government, and citizens." — HoPR, Ethiopia



These evaluation findings, taken alongside the Post-Summit Action and Partnership Survey results presented in the main report, provide a comprehensive picture of ATTS 2025: a summit rated highly in the room, and one that continued to generate momentum well beyond it.



11^e Edition Africa Think Tank Summit

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