

U.S.-AFRICA MANUFACTURING FORUM

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AGOA in Focus

PART OF



The US-Africa Manufacturing Forum is a high-level Business to Business (B2B) forum for manufacturers, distributors, buyers and resellers, held as an integrated event of the Africa Trade and Investment Global Summit (ATIGS 2018). The theme of the forum is "**AGOA in Focus - Building Partnership**". The main objective of the forum is to support and promote manufacturing businesses in Africa as well as connecting U.S. and African manufacturers with international partners as engines of mutual economic growth and prosperity.

The forum will offer two main components: a panel of leading industry experts and a high-level networking opportunity for leaders in manufacturing and distribution. Expecting over 200 leaders in manufacturing and distributing, the forum brings CEOs, CTOs VPs, Directors, Group Heads and other senior business leaders together at the informative and high-level networking half-day event. The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), which is a United States Trade Act enacted on 18 May 2000 as Public Law 106 of the 200th Congress and has since been renewed to 2025, is at the front of the forum as the legislation of AGOs significantly enhances market access to the US for qualifying Sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries.

As AGOA remains the cornerstone of the U.S.. economic relationship with Sub-Saharan Africa, its objective is to expand U.S.. trade and investment with Sub-Saharan Africa so as to stimulate economic growth, encourage economic integration, and facilitate Sub-Saharan Africa's integration into the global economy. AGOA has supported hundreds of thousands of jobs across the continent and increased global prosperity and market opportunities that accompany Africa's rise.

U.S.-Africa Manufacturing Forum - Background Statement

U.S. Goods to Africa

In 2014, President Obama welcomed leaders from across the African continent for the inaugural U.S.-Africa Leaders' Summit. This was the largest event any U.S.. President has held with African heads of state and government and was aimed at strengthening ties between the U.S.. and one of the world's most dynamic and fastest-growing regions with an aim of advancing the Administration's focus on trade and investment in Africa. With the ten year renewal of the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) in 2015, American exports to Africa will only increase and become an even more important business focus. These export activities support thousands of U.S. jobs which increase economic success.

In light of President Barack Obama’s commitment to double U.S.. exports in Africa, many U.S.. agencies support the implementation of AGOA, specifically USAID, Ex-Im, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation and the U.S.. Trade and Development Agency. This implies that the relationship between the U.S. and African countries is more mutually beneficial, prosperous and consequential than ever before and there is enormous potential for U.S. exporters to grow their businesses exponentially by increasing commercial engagement in Africa. This can generate even greater growth and prosperity for Africans and Americans. The forum will offer manufacturers in the U.S. a venue to discuss business opportunities with distributors from Africa as well as create international partners in Africa.

African Goods To the U.S.

Despite the “Africa has Risen” story, it has not translated into industrial development. Industrialization is an integral part of sustainable development, particularly in Africa where reducing poverty and promoting job growth remains a challenge.

By providing duty-free access to the U.S.. market, AGOA has succeeded in helping eligible nations grow, diversify their exports to the United States, and create employment and inclusive economic growth. Under AGOA, eligible countries can export products, including value-added manufactured items such as textiles, to the United States duty-free.

AGOA eligible countries have exported billions worth of goods to the United States under AGOA and the U.S.. Generalized System of Preferences which strengthens U.S..- African relations and contributes to job creation, poverty reduction and greater industrialization in Africa. The forum will help manufacturers from Africa network and create international partners in the U.S..



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5 Enable. Market access



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