



#RIS2025

19-20 NOV, SANDTON

Reimagining Africa's Rural Future



#RIS2025
19-20 NOV
SANDTON



Introduction

Africa's rural landscapes hold the soul of the continent, rich in culture, land, heritage, and untapped economic potential. Yet, these same areas remain the most under-served in infrastructure, investment, technology, healthcare, and education. Recognizing the urgent need to bridge this gap, The Institute of African Royalty (IAR) in partnership with **The Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa (CONTRALESA)** and **Kectil**, have come together to launch a groundbreaking platform: **The Rural Investment Summit (RIS)**.

RIS 2025 will convene Royals, traditional leaders, Government, private sector, NGO's, academics, and innovators to create actionable pathways for sustainable rural transformation that align with African customs, indigenous knowledge systems, and modern development models.

This Summit forms part of the official side programmes of the G20 Summit hosted in South Africa in 2025, signifying Africa's growing voice in shaping global conversations about inclusive development and rural economies.

Purpose of the Summit

The **Rural Investment Summit** is designed as a strategic intervention programme that mobilizes investment and policy attention towards Africa's rural and traditional communities. It aims to build an ecosystem that harmonizes culture, economy, and innovation, ensuring that Africa's development remains authentically African while integrating global best practices.

Vision

To create a connected, self-sufficient, and empowered Africa, where development is guided by all stakeholders including Government and private sector, led by traditional leaders, and accelerated by innovation and sustainable investment

Mission

To make the Rural Investment Summit as Africa's premier annual gathering for policy dialogue, investment partnerships, and cultural diplomacy, driving transformation across rural economies, governance systems, and community development initiatives.

Objectives

#RIS2025
19-20 NOV
SANDTON



- **Mobilize Investment:** Attract both public and private sector investment into rural industries and infrastructure projects.
- **Empower Traditional Leadership:** Strengthen the role of African Kings, Queens, Sultans, Princes, Princesses, Chiefs, and Traditional Councils as key motive forces in national development.
- **Promote Cultural Governance:** Align modern governance with indigenous customs, values, and traditional conflict resolution systems.
- **Enhance Education & Skills:** Drive innovation in education, vocational training, energy and mining, and digital literacy for rural youth and women.
- **Advance Healthcare Access:** Explore community-centered healthcare systems rooted in both traditional and modern practices.
- **Facilitate Economic Inclusion:** Integrate rural communities into regional and global value chains through agriculture, creative industries, and technology.
- **Encourage Policy Reform:** Influence rural development policies that recognize the central role of traditional authorities in decision-making.
- **Infuse Indigenous Knowledge Systems** in the policy formulation of the African discos

Strategic Importance

The Rural Investment Summit is more than an event, it is a continental movement that redefines how development is conceptualized and implemented in Africa. Through cross-sector collaboration, the Summit aims to:

- Create an African Rural Investment Framework for adoption across the continent.
- Establish regional and international partnerships for continuous engagement beyond the Summit.
- Position rural economies as drivers of national GDP and cultural identity.
- Serve as a knowledge-sharing platform between traditional leaders and global experts.

Key Focus Areas for RIS 2025

- Governance and Traditional Leadership in the Modern Era
- Sustainable Agriculture, Land, and Food Security
- Rural Infrastructure and Smart Villages
- Health, Education, and Social Welfare Systems
- Technology, Digital Inclusion, and Rural Innovation
- Investment, Trade, and Micro-Enterprise Development
- Tourism, Arts, and Heritage Economies
- Climate Resilience and Green Economy Initiatives
- Energy and Mining complexity
- Water and Sanitation
- Roads, Transport & Aviation
- Environment and Ocean Economy

Format and Programme Outline

Day 1: 19 November 2025

*Theme: Traditional Leadership
Championing Rural Development
in Africa*

- **Opening Ceremony & Welcoming of Dignitaries and Traditional Royal Houses**
- **Keynote Address by Government and Global Development Leaders**
- **High-Level Panel Discussions (Governance, Economy, and Innovation)**
- **Launch of the African Rural Investment Charter**

Day 2: 20 November 2025

*Theme: Youth Leadership Shaping
the Prosperous Future of Africa*

- **Sectoral Roundtables and Breakaway Sessions**
- **Project Pitch Sessions for Investors**
- **Policy Dialogue and Adoption of Resolutions**
- **Closing Ceremony and Declaration**
- **Networking Dinner: “Evening of African Royalty and Culture”**

Participants

- African Kings, Queens, Chiefs, and Traditional Authorities
- Ministers and Government Representatives
- Global Development Partners and Investors
- Private Sector Leaders and Entrepreneurs
- NGOs and Civil Society Organizations
- Academic and Research Institutions
- Youth and Women Leaders
- Media and Communication Partners

#RIS2025
19-20 NOV
SANDTON



Annual Legacy

Following its 2025 launch in South Africa, the Rural Investment Summit will become an annual continental platform, rotating across African nations. Each year's host nation will carry forward resolutions and initiatives, ensuring continuity, accountability, and measurable impact across Africa's rural transformation agenda.

Branding, Marketing, and Communications

The communication strategy for RIS will emphasize:

- **Authenticity:** Celebrating African identity, indigenous leadership, and cultural heritage.
- **Professionalism:** Aligning with global event standards befitting the G20 framework.
- **Engagement:** Creating inclusive content for both urban and rural audiences.
- **Visibility:** Maximizing exposure through media partnerships, digital platforms, and high-impact branding.
- **Legacy:** Documenting the Summit's journey, resolutions, and outcomes through publications, documentaries, and the official website.

Stakeholders and Partners

#RIS2025
19-20 NOV
SANDTON



Organizers



**Congress of Traditional
Leaders of South Africa**
"The Key To Rural Development"



Association



Partners



mkff
malmar knowles
family foundation

Conclusion

#RIS2025
19-20 NOV
SANDTON



The **Rural Investment Summit (RIS)** represents a bold step toward reclaiming Africa's developmental narrative, from the grassroots to the global stage. It is a call to action for leaders, investors, and innovators to unite under the shared vision of a prosperous, culturally rooted, and technologically advanced Africa.



#RIS2025
19-20 NOV
SANDTON



**Congress of Traditional
Leaders of South Africa**
"The Key To Rural Development"



Contacts

Office of the Secretary General
Email: sg@ruralinvestsummit.com