

Africa Infrastructure Fellowship Program (AIFP) Announced

Sydney, Australia / Paris, France, 2 May, 2018: The World Economic Forum, the Global Infrastructure Hub (GI Hub) and Meridiam on Wednesday announced a new partnership to help governments across Africa build infrastructure procurement capabilities within their civil services.

The Africa Infrastructure Fellowship Program (AIFP), as the partnership is called, aims to bring governments and the private sector together to support an innovative capability building programme for public sector infrastructure professionals.

Supported by the French Government and several Multilateral Development Banks, the AIFP initiative is focused on delivering practical training and support that helps facilitate better infrastructure procurement across Africa.

The AIFP will build on current momentum on the African continent and deliver a program of tailored education and training for civil servants responsible for infrastructure procurement and delivery that will help drive much-needed reforms and increase the willingness and ability of the private sector to help deliver infrastructure projects.

Participants will undertake formal education and training, as well as placements with major private sector firms. Following completion of the program, the graduates will be supported by the Global Infrastructure Hub, itself a G20 initiative, to reform domestic infrastructure procurement processes based on the recommendations of the GI Hub's flagship [InfraCompass](#) tool, which looks at a country's capability to deliver infrastructure projects.

The tool itself—along with [Global Infrastructure Outlook](#), which forecasts infrastructure investment needs and gaps globally—will be updated to include [Compact with Africa](#) countries midway through this year.

The private sector partners in the program will be announced at an event to be held in Paris at the French Foreign Affairs initiative, at the end of June.

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About the Global Infrastructure Hub:

Launched in 2014 by the G20, the Global Infrastructure Hub is the only organisation dedicated solely to infrastructure in both developed and emerging markets. We are helping governments to unlock trillions of dollars in private investment to fund much-needed public infrastructure, creating productive economies and more liveable cities. We work with both public and private sectors to facilitate knowledge-sharing, highlight reform opportunities, support the adoption of leading practices and help build the global pipeline of quality, bankable infrastructure projects. Find out more at www.gihub.org

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About Meridiam:

Created in 2005 by Thierry Déau, Meridiam is an independent investment firm specialising in the development, financing and management of long-term, sustainable public infrastructure projects. Its business model is underpinned by the belief that the alignment of interests between the public and the private sector can provide key solutions to the needs of the community. With offices in Paris, New York, Toronto, Luxembourg, Istanbul, Vienna, Addis Ababa and Dakar, Meridiam manages assets worth €6.2 billion and has more than 65 projects under development, construction or operation to date. Find out more on: www.meridiam.com

About the World Economic Forum:

The World Economic Forum, committed to improving the state of the world, is the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation. The Forum engages the foremost political, business and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas. (www.weforum.org).