



World Association of
Investment Promotion
Agencies



World
Investment
Conference

30th WAIPA WORLD INVESTMENT CONFERENCE (WIC 2026)

📅 | **10-12** NOVEMBER 2026

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30th WAIPA World Investment Conference

Promoting Investment for Shared Prosperity: Resilient and Sustainable



10–12 November 2026 | Geneva, Switzerland

The global investment landscape is being reshaped by converging challenges and opportunities. Geopolitical tensions, trade fragmentation, technological disruption, supply chain reconfiguration, and tighter financing conditions are changing how investors allocate capital and how countries compete for it. At the same time, transitions in energy, AI and digital infrastructure, advanced manufacturing, health, food systems, and services are creating new opportunities for investment-led growth. In this context, investment promotion is becoming more strategic: the objective is not only to attract more investment, but to attract investment that is resilient, productive, inclusive, and sustainable.

The World Investment Conference (WIC), WAIPA's flagship annual event, has served since 1996 as the leading global platform for dialogue on international investment. Bringing together key stakeholders of global investment community, including senior policymakers, business executives, IPA heads, international organizations, WIC provides a unique forum to assess global investment trends, share practical experience, build partnerships, and advance investment for development. With WAIPA's membership spanning over 110 countries, the conference reflects the diversity and universality of the global investment promotion community.

The 30th edition of WIC returns to Geneva, the birthplace of WAIPA and the seat of its Permanent Secretariat, marking three decades of connecting capital with opportunity. Under the theme "Promoting Investment for Shared Prosperity: Resilient and Sustainable," WIC 2026 is expected to attract 6,000–8,000 participants (broadly in line with attendance at the past three conferences) and feature more than 100 sessions and engagements across six pillars: the Leaders Vision, High-level Panels, Thematic Sessions, Executive Focus, Partnership Exchanges, and Business Engagement. Together, these sessions will address the major issues shaping investment today and tomorrow, from industrial policy and sustainable finance to digital infrastructure, supply chain resilience, responsible business conduct, and domestic value creation.

WIC 2026 aims to deliver practical outcomes for the global investment promotion community: stronger partnerships, sharper policy and institutional tools, more effective business engagement, and a renewed agenda for mobilizing investment in support of shared prosperity. At a time of uncertainty and transition, the conference will provide a platform to align global vision with practical action.

"Promoting Investment for Shared Prosperity: Resilient and Sustainable"

| 10-12 November 2026 | Geneva, Switzerland |

DAY 1: Monday 10 November 2026

TIME	High-Level Panels	Thematic Sessions 1	Thematic Sessions 2	Executive Focus	Partner Led 1	Partner Led 2	Business Engagement
08:30 – 10:00	Registration & Coffee						
10:00 – 11:00	Grand Opening Welcome addresses, keynotes, setting the conference agenda.						
11:00 – 12:00	Global Leaders Platform I: Harnessing Capital for good Heads of state and global CEOs examine how investment can drive growth in a new era. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where will capital go next? • How to restore confidence? 						
12:00 – 13:00	Global Leaders Platform II: The New Investment-Development Compact Public and private leaders debate a new balance between competitiveness, resilience, and responsibility. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What should governments facilitate? • What should investors deliver? 						
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break (Day 1)						
14:00 – 15:50	Ministerial Roundtable: The Next Decade of Global Investment: A forward-looking dialogue on how to set investment strategy and promotion over the next ten years. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What will matter most? • What must change now? 						

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TIME	High-Level Panels	Thematic Sessions 1	Thematic Sessions 2	Executive Focus	Partner Led 1	Partner Led 2	Business Engagement
15:50 – 16:00	Coffee Break (Day 1, 15:50)						
16:00 – 16:50	<p>Global FDI: Beyond the Headlines</p> <p>A reality check on what the latest FDI numbers do and do not tell us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is real growth? • What is statistical noise? 	<p>Trade Corridors, New Capital</p> <p>Shifting trade rules are opening new routes for investment, production, and market access.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which corridors are rising? • How should IPAs respond? 	<p>Rethinking Investment Incentives</p> <p>Countries are reassessing tax and non-tax incentives as fiscal pressures and international tax reform reshape investment value propositions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What should be reformed? • How should IPAs adapt? 	<p>The Digital IPA Toolkit</p> <p>A practical session on data tools, and investor intelligence platforms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What tools add value? • What should come first? 	<p>WTO: Tariffs, Treaties and Location Choice</p> <p>Trade policy is now a core variable in site selection and investor planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What moves the shortlist? • What creates hesitation? 	<p>FAO: Food Security as Investment</p> <p>Agriculture and food processing are rising as strategic sectors for resilience and growth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where are the investable gaps? • How are risks reduced? 	<p>Investor Deal Rooms</p> <p>Curated meetings connect project sponsors, investors, and public counterparts around live opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which projects are ready? • Who can move first?
16:50 – 17:00	Coffee Break (Day 1, 16:50)						
17:00 – 17:50	<p>Geopolitics and Strategic Exposure</p> <p>This panel looks at how trade friction, and security concerns shape investment choices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What risks dominate decisions? • How are firms adapting? 	<p>Advanced Manufacturing 2.0</p> <p>Manufacturing FDI is being reshaped by automation, resilience, and localisation pressures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do firms want now? • How can countries compete? 	<p>Building Productive Capacity</p> <p>This session focuses on how countries can turn investment into stronger industrial ecosystems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What capabilities matter most? • What gaps must close first? 	<p>Negotiating with Confidence</p> <p>Investment officials need practical skills to engage serious investors without overpromising.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What should be protected? • Where is flexibility useful? 	<p>FAO Climate-Smart Agribusiness</p> <p>Agricultural investment must now align with resilience, productivity, and rural inclusion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What models scale best? • What protects small producers? 	<p>WHO: Health Investment for Resilience</p> <p>Health systems are emerging as a serious investment frontier in service delivery and infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What opportunities are investable? • What policy support is needed? 	<p>IPA–MNE Matchmaking</p> <p>Investment agencies and multinational firms meet for targeted pipeline-building conversations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where is investor interest? • What support is needed?
19:00 – 21:00	<p>Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony</p> <p>30th-anniversary Gala with WAIPA IPA Awards, and WEF-WAIPA Impact Investors Awards.</p>						

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DAY 2: Tuesday 11 November 2026

TIME	High-Level Panels	Thematic Sessions 1	Thematic Sessions 2	Executive Focus	Partner Led 1	Partner Led 2	Business Engagement
08:00 – 09:00					World Economic Forum: Leadership Breakfast (invite-only) "Highlighting Successful FDI" An interactive, leadership discussion on how to ensure great FDI speaks for itself. • What are examples of great FDI? • How can the FDI story be told?"		
09:00 – 09:50	<p>The New Rules of Engagement</p> <p>Governments and investors discuss how strategic dialogue can stay transparent and effective.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does good engagement look like? • How is trust preserved? 	<p>Energy Transition, Real Deals</p> <p>Clean energy investment depends on credible projects, strong policy, and bankable structures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes projects investable? • What slows financial close? 	<p>Critical Minerals, Bigger Value</p> <p>Resource-rich economies seek more value through processing, refining, and downstream industry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is value retained locally? • What partnerships work best? 	<p>Aftercare First</p> <p>Retention and reinvestment are often the quickest route to stronger investment performance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do firms stay? • Why do they expand elsewhere? 	<p>ILO - Jobs, Skills, Better Outcomes</p> <p>Investment promotion is shifting from counting jobs to improving job quality and skills, and long-term employability.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What metrics matter now? • How are skills pipelines built? 	<p>WFZO: Smarter SEZs</p> <p>A new generation of economic zones is focusing on linkages, green industry, and services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What separates strong zones? • How should impact be measured? 	<p>Project Preparation Clinics</p> <p>Sponsors receive expert advice on how to make priority projects more investable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What weakens bankability? • What must be fixed now?
09:50 – 10:00	Coffee Break (Day 2, 9:50)						
10:00 – 10:50	<p>Industrial Policy Goes Global</p> <p>A panel on how subsidy races and strategic sectors are redrawing the investment map.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which policies attract capital? • Which create distortion? 	<p>Infrastructure That Delivers</p> <p>Infrastructure FDI needs stronger governance, better preparation, and clearer risk allocation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do projects stall? • What improves execution? 	<p>PPPs Without Regret</p> <p>This session looks at how to structure partnerships that endure political and commercial shocks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes PPPs credible? • Where do contracts fail? 	<p>Investor Targeting with Precision</p> <p>This session focuses on how IPAs can identify and pursue the right firms more effectively.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who should be targeted? • What data matters most? 	<p>UNCTAD: Investment in SDG Sectors</p> <p>This session looks at how to attract capital into sectors with high development returns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes projects bankable? • How is impact shown? 	<p>IISD: Water, Land and Investment Risk</p> <p>Natural resource pressures are becoming material risks in project design and investor screening.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What must be assessed early? • How are trade-offs managed? 	<p>Supplier Linkage Exchange</p> <p>Foreign investors and local firms meet to explore sourcing and partnership opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who can meet standards? • What support closes gaps?
10:50 – 11:00	Coffee Break (Day 2, 10:50)						

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11:00 – 11:50	<p>Supply Chains Redesigned</p> <p>This session explores how firms are redesigning production networks for resilience and speed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What shifts are durable? • Who gains from them? 	<p>Digital Infrastructure at Scale</p> <p>Data centres, fibre, and cloud services are becoming central to investment competitiveness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What assets matter most? • What deters deployment? 	<p>From FDI to Local Value</p> <p>The real development payoff comes when foreign investors connect with domestic firms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the practical tools? • How are linkages built? 	<p>Facilitation That Delivers</p> <p>A hands-on session on making investor journeys simpler, faster, and more predictable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What slows approvals most? • What can be streamlined now? 	<p>OIC & UNCTAD: Treaties, Promotion, One Strategy</p> <p>Investment treaties, facilitation, and promotion work best when governments act coherently.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where do systems clash? • How can alignment improve? 	<p>ITC: Gender, Inclusion and Investment</p> <p>How can investment better support women, youth, and excluded groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What outcomes are realistic? • How should inclusion be tracked? 	<p>Frontier Market Investor Desk</p> <p>A structured platform for early conversations on fragile and frontier market opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What risk is manageable? • What capital is available?
11:50 – 12:00	Coffee Break (Day 2, 11:50)						
12:00 – 12:50	<p>Investment in the VUCA Era</p> <p>Investors are rethinking when, where, and how much to commit in a volatile environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why are firms staging projects? • How should hosts respond? 	<p>Export-Led Investment</p> <p>Export-oriented FDI remains one of the fastest ways to diversify and upgrade economies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which sectors travel well? • How do IPAs and TPOs align? 	<p>Services as Growth Engines</p> <p>Producer services such as logistics, ICT, and finance are essential for productive investment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which services unlock growth? • Where are the biggest gaps? 	<p>Sector Pitch Masterclass</p> <p>A practical workshop on building concise and convincing sector value propositions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What belongs in a pitch? • What should be cut? 	<p>UNECE: Circular Systems, New Returns</p> <p>Waste-to-value processing, industrial symbiosis, and product life-extension services are generating investable pipelines across multiple sectors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where does circularity create commercial value? • What policy drives scale? 	<p>WIPO: Technology Diffusion Beyond Borders</p> <p>The development impact of FDI depends on whether technologies transfer to local firms, institutions, and workers, not just whether they arrive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What accelerates diffusion? • What keeps technology locked inside foreign firms? 	<p>Sustainable Finance Marketplace</p> <p>Project owners meet DFIs, funds, and banks around green and SDG-aligned pipelines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What will attract capital? • What evidence is missing?
12:50-14:00	Lunch Break (Day 2)						
14:00 – 14:50	<p>Ambassadors in Dialogue with IPA Executives</p> <p>Diplomatic missions and investment promotion agencies are natural partners, yet coordination between them remains inconsistent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to create synergies between diplomacy and promotion? • How to maximize impact? 	<p>Investment Diversion and Beyond</p> <p>Firms are diversifying footprints, but not always in the ways policymakers assume.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is driving relocation? • What is just hedging? 	<p>Post-Conflict Investment Recovery</p> <p>Fragile and post-conflict markets need credible sequencing, safeguards, and early wins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What builds first-mover trust? • Which sectors lead recovery? 	<p>Selling the Location</p> <p>Investment marketing now requires sharper stories, better proof points, and stronger segmentation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What messages work best? • What weakens credibility? 	<p>ILO: Talent Without Borders</p> <p>Visa regimes, work permit systems, and talent mobility policies are often the binding constraint on technology, R&D, and professional services investment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What mobility barriers cost countries investment? • Which reforms move fastest? 	<p>UNESCAP: Regional Blocs, Shared Strategies</p> <p>Regional economic groupings can coordinate investment promotion, harmonise facilitation, and present unified value propositions to global investors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What coordination models deliver results? • Where does regional competition undermine cooperation? 	<p>Tech Infrastructure Investor Hub</p> <p>Developers, energy providers, and digital investors meet around AI and data infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What assets are required? • Which markets are prepared?

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DAY 2: Tuesday 11 November 2026

TIME	High-Level Panels	Thematic Sessions 1	Thematic Sessions 2	Executive Focus	Partner Led 1	Partner Led 2	Business Engagement
14:50 – 15:00	Coffee Break (Day 2, 14:50)						
15:00 – 15:50	<p>Sustainable Investment, Real Accountability</p> <p>This session addresses how to balance investment attraction with environmental and social protection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What proves responsible investment? • How is impact measured? 	<p>Frontier Markets, Serious Capital</p> <p>Investors and IPAs discuss what it takes to mobilise capital into harder markets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What risks can be priced? • What requires public support? 	<p>Non-Equity Modes, New Entry Points</p> <p>Licensing, franchising, and contract manufacturing can open new pathways into global production systems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What value can countries capture? • How do firms upgrade? 	<p>Winning Reinvestment Decisions</p> <p>Reinvestment choices are often made quietly long before projects are announced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What signals expansion? • What triggers hesitation? 	<p>ITU: Governing AI, Attracting Capital</p> <p>AI regulatory frameworks, safety standards, and liability rules are becoming a new layer of investment location competition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which governance models attract AI investment? • What creates regulatory risk? 	<p>World Bank: De-risking That Works</p> <p>A practical discussion on guarantees, blended finance, and project preparation tools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which instruments mobilise capital? • Where do gaps remain? 	<p>Future Learning Marketplace</p> <p>EdTech companies, education infrastructure investors, and government agencies explore partnership and investment opportunities in education delivery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where is demand strongest? • What business models are sustainable?
15:50 – 16:00	Coffee Break (Day 2, 15:50)						
16:00 – 16:50	<p>Boardroom Meets Cabinet Room</p> <p>Senior leaders discuss how states and firms can manage risk without losing speed and ambition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where do interests align? • Where do they clash? 	<p>Cities as Investment Platforms</p> <p>Urban infrastructure, governance, and service quality are shaping subnational investment competition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which city factors matter most? • How can local agencies compete? 	<p>Regional Value Chains, Regional Growth</p> <p>Regional integration is changing how countries position themselves in production networks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What roles are most viable? • How can neighbours collaborate? 	<p>Grievance Response That Works</p> <p>Investor grievances require speed, clarity, and institutional authority to avoid escalation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What resolves issues fast? • What damages trust? 	<p>WTO & ITC: Facilitation in Practice</p> <p>This session explores how facilitation commitments can be translated into domestic reform.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is realistic now? • What capacity is missing? 	<p>UNCTAD: Reading FDI Better</p> <p>A data-focused session on how policymakers should interpret FDI trends and distortions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do headlines miss? • What should IPAs track? 	<p>Agribusiness Investment Exchange</p> <p>Investors and project sponsors connect around food systems, processing, and rural value chains.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where are scalable deals? • How are risks reduced?
19:00 onwards	Networking Dinner						

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DAY 3: Wednesday 12 November 2026

TIME	High-Level Panels	Thematic Sessions 1	Thematic Sessions 2	Executive Focus	Partner Led 1	Partner Led 2	Business Engagement
09:00 – 09:50	<p>Winning High-Value Investment</p> <p>Leaders assess how countries can attract high-value investment in an era of industrial policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What signals seriousness? • What turns investors away? 	<p>Responsible Business, Stronger Returns</p> <p>Responsible business conduct is becoming part of mainstream investment strategy and reputation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do investors expect? • How can IPAs embed standards? 	<p>Community Engagement Before Conflict</p> <p>Early community dialogue can reduce project risk and strengthen long-term investor legitimacy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What engagement builds trust? • What creates backlash? 	<p>Building IPA Resilience</p> <p>IPAs need stronger governance, talent, and funding models to manage volatility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What capabilities are essential? • What weakens resilience? 	<p>ILO: Investment and Decent Work</p> <p>Labour standards and job quality are increasingly tied to investment quality and legitimacy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do responsible investors expect? • How can IPAs respond? 	<p>ITC: Export Competitiveness by Design</p> <p>Investment and trade promotion can work together to build stronger export platforms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What coordination works best? • Which sectors are ready? 	<p>Advanced Manufacturing Connect</p> <p>Manufacturing investors meet locations offering skills, logistics, and ecosystem depth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What capabilities stand out? • What are investors missing?
09:50 – 10:00	Coffee Break (Day 3, 09:50)						
10:00 – 10:50	<p>Financing the Sustainable Transition</p> <p>A plenary on turning climate and SDG ambition into real capital flows and investment projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What unlocks deployment? • Where are the bottlenecks? 	<p>Logistics as Location Advantage</p> <p>Port capacity, warehousing, cold chain, and freight connectivity are increasingly decisive in manufacturing and agribusiness FDI decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What logistics gaps cost countries investment? • Which upgrades move the needle? 	<p>Diaspora Capital, Homeland Returns</p> <p>Diaspora populations represent an underexploited source of patient, committed investment and knowledge transfer for home economies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What structures mobilise diaspora capital? • How are knowledge networks activated? 	<p>Data for Decision-Making</p> <p>Better data can improve targeting, aftercare, and policy advocacy inside IPAs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What should be tracked? • How is insight turned into action? 	<p>UNIDO: Industrial Upgrading Through FDI</p> <p>This session looks at how FDI can deepen productive capabilities and supplier ecosystems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is upgrading accelerated? • What support is needed? 	<p>WIPO: IP, Innovation and Investment</p> <p>Intellectual property frameworks can shape the credibility of knowledge-based investment ecosystems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What gives investors confidence? • How is value protected? 	<p>B2B Matchmaking Session 2</p> <p>Structured business-to-business matchmaking.</p>
10:50 – 11:00	Coffee Break (Day 3, 10:50)						
11:00 – 11:50	<p>Supply Chain Opportunities for Emerging Locations</p> <p>Supply chain diversification is creating opportunities for agile and investment-ready locations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who can absorb redirected demand? • What capacity is missing? 	<p>Life Sciences, Local Production</p> <p>Pharmaceutical manufacturing, biotech, and vaccine production are emerging as strategic investment priorities for health security and industrial upgrading.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where are production gaps most acute? • What policy support unlocks investment? 	<p>Longevity, Silver Economies</p> <p>Ageing populations in dozens of countries are creating investment opportunities in eldercare, health tech, assisted living, and pension-linked services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which markets are moving first? • What regulatory frameworks enable scale? 	<p>Measuring What Matters</p> <p>IPAs need metrics that reflect quality, retention, and long-term value creation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which indicators are credible? • What metrics distort behaviour? 	<p>ITU: Digital Readiness for Investors</p> <p>Digital infrastructure and regulatory readiness are becoming critical factors in investment attraction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What readiness matters most? • How can gaps be closed? 	<p>OECD: Smarter Sustainable Investment</p> <p>A session on rules, incentives, and safeguards that support better-quality investment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What defines quality investment? • How is alignment achieved? 	<p>SEZ and Cluster Marketplace</p> <p>Zone authorities and cluster managers present ready-made platforms for industry and services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes zones competitive? • How are linkages built?

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DAY 3: Wednesday 12 November 2026

TIME	High-Level Panels	Thematic Sessions 1	Thematic Sessions 2	Executive Focus	Partner Led 1	Partner Led 2	Business Engagement
11:50 – 12:00	Coffee Break (Day 3, 11:50)						
12:00 – 12:50	<p>Sovereign Capital, Strategic Choices</p> <p>Sovereign wealth funds are deploying \$12 trillion across borders, reshaping how countries compete for patient, large-scale capital.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do sovereign investors prioritise? • How should IPAs engage them differently? 	<p>Financing Innovation Ecosystems</p> <p>Investment in start-ups, tech hubs, and R&D is becoming a core competitiveness issue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes ecosystems credible? • How are scale-ups supported? 	<p>Creative Capital</p> <p>Film, gaming, design, music, and digital content industries are attracting growing FDI through production incentives, IP frameworks, and creative zones.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What locations are winning creative investment? • How is value retained locally? 		<p>WHO: Health as an Investment Frontier</p> <p>Healthcare, biotech, and health infrastructure are emerging as strategic investment opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where is demand strongest? • What makes projects credible? 	<p>UN Tourism: Tourism with Long-Term Value</p> <p>Tourism investment can be more resilient and inclusive when governance is strong.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes tourism sustainable? • How are local benefits secured? 	<p>Closing Deals, Building Partnerships</p> <p>A final business engagement platform focuses on follow-up, mandates, and next steps after the event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What moves immediately? • What needs sustained follow-through?
12:50-14:00	Lunch Break (Day 3)						
14:00 – 14:50	<p>AI, Power and the New Infrastructure Race</p> <p>The buildout of AI is driving a fresh contest for energy, land, connectivity, and computing capacity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do investors need first? • Which locations are ready? 	<p>Blue Economy, Deep Value</p> <p>Marine resources, sustainable fisheries, ocean energy, port infrastructure, and maritime logistics represent a growing but underdeveloped investment frontier.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes ocean projects bankable? • How are environmental safeguards built in? 	<p>South-South Capital Flows</p> <p>Outward investment from emerging economies is growing faster than traditional North-South flows, following different logics and structures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What drives South-South investment decisions? • Which corridors are expanding fastest? 	<p>WAIPA Regional IPA Networks Session</p> <p>Parallel regional IPA network meetings.</p>	<p>WorldFZO: The Future of Free Zones</p> <p>Free zones are evolving from enclaves into platforms for logistics, services, and green industry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What models are winning? • What needs reform? 	<p>WIDA: Multilateral Roundtable: Joint Investment Endeavour</p> <p>International organisations discuss how their tools can support a smoother and more coherent investment process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where is support fragmented? • How can delivery be joined up? 	<p>Urban and Real Estate Investor Exchange</p> <p>Developers, sovereign funds, and city authorities connect around commercial, mixed-use, and urban regeneration investment opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which city projects are ready? • What governance builds investor confidence?
14:50 – 15:00	Coffee Break (Day 3, 14:50)						

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DAY 3: Wednesday 12 November 2026

TIME	High-Level Panels	Thematic Sessions 1	Thematic Sessions 2	WAIPA Institutional Events	Partner Led 1	Partner Led 2	Business Engagement
15:00 – 15:50	<p>Automation, Demographics and the Investment Trade-Off</p> <p>The case for automation-led investment looks very different depending on whether a country has an ageing workforce or a young, growing one.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When does automation serve development goals? • When does it foreclose them? 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steering Committee • General Assembly <p>(To be scheduled for the afternoon of November 9th)</p>	<p>ITC: Investing in Inclusive Value Chains</p> <p>Investment at the service of sustainable and inclusive value chains and SME Competitiveness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can FDI lift local SMEs rather than displace them? • What makes supplier linkages sustainable? 		
15:50 – 16:00	Coffee Break (Day 3, 15:50)						
16:00 – 17:00	<p>Closing Ceremony</p> <p>Presentation of the outcomes by the Co-Chairs of the Conference</p> <p>Closing statements by the WAIPA Leadership</p>						