DIASPORA EVENTS & NIDO Nigerians in Diaspora Organisation Poland

FORUM 2026
October, Warsaw Poland

Nigeria–Poland Diaspora Economic, Investment & Development Forum 2026 || Report

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BUILDING NIGERIA TOGETHER

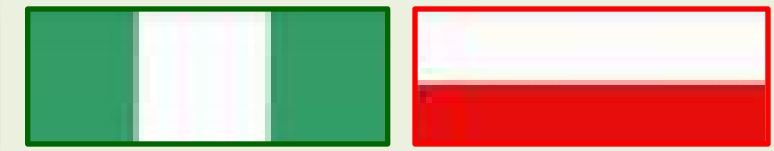
Harnessing Diaspora Expertise, Strategic, Partnerships and Sustainable Development

Panel I:
Building Partnership and Sustainable Development

Panel II:
Youth Opportunity and the Future of Work

FORUM REPORT 2026

Warsaw – Poland



Nigeria–Poland Diaspora Economic

Investment & Development Forum 2026



Executive Summary

The Nigeria–Poland Diaspora Economic, Investment & Development Forum 2026 was convened in Warsaw on 3 October 2026 under the theme The Forum was designed as a platform for Nigerian and Polish stakeholders to connect diaspora expertise with investment, entrepreneurship, institutional cooperation, knowledge exchange and sustainable development.

The Forum built on the long-running work of the Diaspora Events Foundation, which the programme materials trace to its establishment in 2011 and to its early Warsaw symposium on diaspora support for industrial, infrastructure and business development in Africa. The 2026 Forum was presented as a further step in moving diaspora engagement from dialogue towards practical participation, partnership and measurable development.

The keynote address, prepared in the name of Her Excellency Lady Chioma Priscillia Ohakim, mni, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the Republic of Poland, and delivered on her behalf by the Minister of the Embassy of Nigeria, Mr. Samuel Terver Amuh, framed the diaspora as a strategic development partner.

It emphasised that diaspora contributions should extend beyond remittances to knowledge transfer, investment, innovation, mentorship, technology and strategic partnerships. It also identified priority areas for Nigeria–Poland cooperation including agriculture and agro-processing, manufacturing, infrastructure, digital technology and artificial intelligence, healthcare, education and research, renewable energy, logistics, tourism and the creative industries.

The Founder's welcome address reinforced the same action-oriented philosophy. It stressed that the Nigerian diaspora should be recognised as a reservoir of knowledge, skills, capital, innovation, professional experience and international networks, and that the success of a forum should ultimately be judged by relationships formed, partnerships created, investments initiated, ideas developed and opportunities pursued after the event.

The programme brought together sessions on Nigeria–Poland relations, partnership and sustainable development, investment in Nigeria, youth opportunity and the future of work, followed by analysis, closing remarks, networking and refreshments.





Background & Rationale

The Forum was positioned as part of a continuing programme of diaspora engagement by Diaspora Events Foundation. The welcome address recalled the Foundation's 2011 Warsaw symposium on diaspora support for industrial, infrastructure and business development in Africa and its subsequent engagements on migration, integration, development, business, public policy, culture and innovation.

The programme booklet states that the 2026 Forum followed the Nigeria at 65 conference held in Lublin in October 2025, which brought stakeholders together around economic reforms, financial inclusion, migration and the contribution of Nigerians to Polish society. The 2026 gathering was intended to move the conversation further towards practical solutions, investment, skills transfer, innovation, youth development, public-private cooperation and stronger institutional links between Nigeria and Poland.

Forum Objectives

- Position the Nigerian diaspora as an active development partner rather than solely a community abroad.
- Strengthen Nigeria–Poland economic, institutional, professional and people-to-people relationships.
- Identify investment, entrepreneurship, technology, knowledge-transfer and partnership opportunities.
- Encourage business-to-business and institution-to-institution collaboration between Nigeria and Poland.
- Promote youth opportunity, skills development and discussion on the future of work.
- Encourage partnerships that can translate ideas and expertise into enterprises, employment, innovation and sustainable development.





Proceedings of the Forum

Arrival, Registration and Opening

The Forum commenced with the arrival and registration of delegates and guests, followed by the formal opening. The opening created the context for a programme focused on diaspora engagement, Nigeria–Poland cooperation, investment and sustainable development.

Welcome Address:

Niyi Aderibigbe, Founder, Diaspora Events Foundation

Mr. Niyi Aderibigbe described the gathering as part of a journey pursued by Diaspora Events over many years: creating platforms where diaspora communities, governments, businesses, academics, investors and development partners can exchange ideas, build relationships and explore practical development opportunities.

A central message was that diaspora engagement should move beyond sentiment and conversation towards structured participation in development. The address described the diaspora as a reservoir of knowledge, skills, capital, innovation, professional experience and international networks.

The welcome address also highlighted opportunities for Nigeria–Poland cooperation in manufacturing, agriculture, technology, logistics, education, healthcare, renewable energy and innovation. It called for more business-to-business relationships, institution-to-institution partnerships, technology transfer, professional exchanges, investment initiatives and knowledge-sharing programmes.

The Founder urged participants to regard the Forum as a beginning rather than an ending and to convert contacts and ideas into practical follow-up. The address concluded with a clear progression for diaspora engagement: “from representation to participation, from participation to partnership, and from partnership to measurable development outcomes.”





Keynote Address

H.E. Lady Chioma Priscillia Ohakim, mni

The keynote address was prepared in the name of Her Excellency Lady Chioma Priscillia Ohakim, mni, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the Republic of Poland. For the Forum, the Ambassador was represented by the Minister of the Embassy of Nigeria, Mr. Samuel Terver Amuh.

The keynote situated the Forum within Nigeria's 66th Independence Anniversary and the Ambassador's recent assumption of diplomatic responsibility in Poland. It linked diplomacy with the practical work of building bridges, strengthening relationships and creating opportunities for Nigerians and Poles.

The Diaspora as a Development Partner

The keynote identified the Nigerian diaspora as one of Nigeria's major reservoirs of human capital, professional expertise and international networks. It stressed that diaspora contribution should not be measured only through remittances. Knowledge transfer, investment, innovation, mentorship, technology and strategic partnerships were presented as equally important channels of development.

- Build businesses that create employment in Nigeria.
- Develop technologies that address Nigerian challenges.
- Create partnerships between Nigerian and Polish institutions.
- Support education, healthcare, agriculture, manufacturing and infrastructure.
- Contribute to digital innovation and sustainable development.





Nigeria–Poland Strategic Economic Partnership

The keynote described more than six decades of Nigeria–Poland diplomatic relations and emphasised the potential to deepen cooperation through Nigeria's youthful population, entrepreneurial energy and expanding market, combined with Polish capabilities in manufacturing, agriculture, infrastructure, engineering, information technology, education, research and innovation.

Priority sectors identified in the keynote included:

- Agriculture and agro-processing
- Manufacturing and industrial development
- Infrastructure and construction
- Digital technology and artificial intelligence
- Healthcare and medical innovation
- Education and research
- Renewable energy and sustainability
- Logistics and transportation
- Tourism, creative industries and technology-driven enterprises

The keynote also positioned the Nigerian diaspora in Poland as a strategic bridge capable of connecting investors, institutions, technologies and opportunities in both countries.

From Reform to Prosperity

The keynote linked Nigeria's economic reforms to the need for productive enterprises, employment, innovation and improved living standards. It argued that government, the private sector, academia, civil society, development partners and the diaspora must work together because no single sector can build the future alone.

A particularly important framing was that human capital, knowledge, networks and experience are all forms of capital. The strategic task is therefore to deploy these resources towards Nigeria's development.

Building Partnerships that Last

The keynote called for a next phase of Nigeria–Poland relations characterised by practical partnerships and measurable outcomes. It specifically encouraged university and research collaboration, business-to-business engagements and investment missions, technology and start-up partnerships, professional exchanges and knowledge transfer. It also stated that the Embassy of Nigeria in Warsaw stands ready to play its diplomatic role in facilitating legitimate engagement and supporting initiatives that advance bilateral cooperation.





Nigeria and Poland

The Partnership Story So Far

Dr. Emanuel Kalejaiye, Chairman of Nigerians In Diaspora Organisation (NIDO) Poland, was scheduled to lead a session examining the evolution and current state of the Nigeria–Poland partnership. The session complemented the keynote's emphasis on the long-standing bilateral relationship and the need to deepen practical cooperation.

Building Partnership and Sustainable Development

The partnership and sustainable development panel brought together perspectives from education, advisory services, Nigerian cultural research and aerospace/engineering. The listed contributors were:

- **Sadik Musa Mgr Inż.** – Director, Wyższa Szkoła Edukacji i Terapii (WSEiT), Poznań, Poland
- **Zbigniew Popowski** – Managing Partner, Popowski Advisory Sp. z o.o.
- **Dr. Malwina Barkalarska** – Nigerian Cultures Researcher, Consultant, Intercultural RSK
- **Dr. Inż. Lateef Erinfolami** – Łukasiewicz Institute of Aviation; consultant to GE Vernova

The documented theme of the session aligned with the Forum's wider focus on partnership, sustainable development, institutional links and the practical use of expertise. The supplied source materials do not contain a transcript of the panel interventions; therefore, no specific statements are attributed to individual panellists in this report.





Invest in Nigeria

Video and Documentary

The programme included an Invest in Nigeria video and documentary segment intended to support the Forum's investment-oriented focus and to provide a visual platform for Nigeria's investment proposition.

This session was backed by and promotes the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC) along with her aims and objectives.




nipc
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Nigeria offers a robust and diverse investment incentives to support its industrialisation agenda and create enabling environment for both domestic and foreign investors.



Youth Opportunity and the Future of Work

The youth and future-of-work panel brought together perspectives from entrepreneurship and creative industries, economics and financial services, enterprise leadership, procurement and cultural advocacy, and student/emerging markets engagement.

- **Agnes Temitope Samuel** – Nigerian Model, Entrepreneur and Creative Director
- **Desmond Omoluru** – Economist, Asset Servicing Senior Analyst at Citi
- **Samantha Olivia Bantu** – Founder & President, UAP / CEO ATN Poland
- **Lawrence Ahaiwe** – Procurement Specialist / Proprietor & Culture Advocate
- **Antoni Mazgajski** – Co-Founder/VP, Emerging Markets Students Club, SGH Warsaw

The inclusion of youth opportunity and the future of work was consistent with the Forum's broader objective of creating opportunities for young people and linking diaspora expertise, entrepreneurship, professional networks and emerging markets.





Analysis, Wrap-up, Vote of Thanks and Closing

The closing segment was designed to consolidate the day's discussions, draw together key observations and express appreciation to participants and partners. The programme concluded with a photo session, networking and refreshments, providing an opportunity for informal relationship-building after the formal sessions.





Key Cross-Cutting Messages and Findings

Diaspora engagement should be treated as an economic and development instrument. The source speeches consistently frame diaspora Nigerians as holders of expertise, capital, networks, technology and international market knowledge.
Nigeria–Poland relations have scope for deeper economic content. The Forum points beyond diplomacy and cultural exchange towards investment, technology, education, research, manufacturing, agriculture, infrastructure and professional collaboration.
The bridge-building role of Nigerians in Poland is strategically important. The diaspora can help reduce information gaps, establish trust, connect institutions and facilitate legitimate business and investment relationships.
Dialogue must be converted into measurable action. Both the welcome address and keynote stress that the value of the Forum will ultimately depend on what happens after the event.
Youth and future-of-work issues should remain central to diaspora and bilateral economic engagement. Young Nigerians and emerging professionals can benefit from access to networks, skills, entrepreneurship, investment and cross-border opportunities.
Sustainable development requires multi-stakeholder cooperation. Government, business, academia, civil society, development partners and diaspora organisations each have complementary roles.





Recommended Post-Forum Action Framework

The following recommendations are derived from the stated priorities and calls to action in the keynote and welcome addresses. They are proposed follow-up actions, not resolutions formally adopted in the supplied materials.

Establish a Nigeria–Poland Diaspora Business and Investment Follow-up Platform to maintain structured contact among participating businesses, investors, professionals, institutions and diaspora organisations.
Develop a pipeline of bankable Nigeria–Poland investment opportunities in the sectors identified during the Forum, with clear project owners, investment requirements and contact points.
Facilitate targeted business-to-business and institution-to-institution matchmaking, particularly in agriculture/agro-processing, manufacturing, infrastructure, digital technology, healthcare, education/research, renewable energy and logistics.
Promote university, research and professional exchange programmes connecting Nigerian and Polish institutions, including joint research, technical training and knowledge-transfer initiatives.
Create a diaspora expertise directory or skills network for Nigerian professionals in Poland willing to mentor, advise, invest, teach, transfer technology or support market entry.
Strengthen youth-focused programmes linking young Nigerians and Nigerian diaspora communities to Polish universities, companies, entrepreneurs, professional networks and emerging-market initiatives.
Use the Embassy, NIDO Poland and relevant business/diaspora organisations as coordination points for legitimate engagement, referrals and institutional introductions.
Introduce a simple Forum impact-tracking mechanism measuring contacts converted into meetings, partnerships, investment leads, institutional agreements, mentorship relationships and other verifiable outcomes.
Maintain communication with Forum participants through periodic updates so that the event functions as the start of a continuing process rather than a one-day engagement.



Suggested Implementation Matrix

Priority	Proposed Action	Potential Coordinating Stakeholders	Indicative Output
Investment	Build a pipeline of Nigeria–Poland investment opportunities	Diaspora Events Foundation, NIDO Poland, business stakeholders, relevant institutions	Investor/project matchmaking and follow-up meetings
Business Partnerships	Organise targeted B2B and institution-to-institution introductions	Businesses, associations, diaspora professionals	Partnership leads and commercial discussions
Knowledge Transfer	Develop professional, technical and academic exchange initiatives	Universities, research bodies, professional networks	Joint programmes, training or research proposals
Youth	Create youth entrepreneurship, mentoring and future-of-work links	Young professionals, universities, employers, entrepreneurs	Mentoring, internships, enterprise and skills opportunities
Diplomatic Facilitation	Support legitimate institutional and investment engagement	Embassy of Nigeria in Warsaw and relevant stakeholders	Introductions, referrals and institutional coordination
Impact Measurement	Track post-Forum outcomes	Forum organisers and participating stakeholders	Periodic outcome report



Conclusion

The Nigeria–Poland Diaspora Economic, Investment & Development Forum 2026 provided a platform for advancing a clear proposition: the Nigerian diaspora can contribute to national development not only through remittances, but through expertise, entrepreneurship, investment, technology, networks, mentorship and institutional partnerships.

The keynote address reinforced the strategic importance of Nigeria–Poland relations and identified a broad set of sectors in which Nigerian market opportunities and Polish expertise can be combined. The Founder's welcome address provided the complementary institutional message that diaspora engagement must move from representation to participation, participation to partnership, and partnership to measurable development outcomes.

The Forum should therefore be regarded as a platform for continued engagement rather than a standalone event. Its lasting value will depend on the extent to which participants convert conversations into introductions, partnerships, investment projects, knowledge-transfer initiatives, youth opportunities and other verifiable forms of cooperation.

The central call emerging from the documented speeches is straightforward: connect people, connect ideas, connect capital, connect institutions and connect opportunities. In doing so, the Nigeria–Poland relationship can be strengthened while diaspora participation becomes a more practical contributor to Nigeria's development.



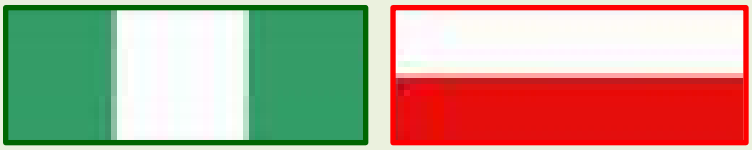


Acknowledgements

The Forum's welcome address expressed appreciation to the Embassy of Nigeria in Poland, Polish authorities, institutional partners, members of the diplomatic community, WSEIT Poznan-Poland, Nigerians In Diaspora Organisation (NIDO) Poland, business organisations, AORA Omni Conferences, Nigerian and Polish businesses, professionals and entrepreneurs, and all stakeholders supporting diaspora engagement initiatives. The report recognises the collective contribution of these stakeholders to the Forum's objectives.



Warsaw – Poland



Nigeria–Poland Diaspora Economic

Investment & Development Forum 2026

In collaboration

NIGERIA–POLAND DIASPORA ECONOMIC INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT FORUM

BUILDING NIGERIA TOGETHER

Harnessing Diaspora Expertise, Strategic Partnerships & Sustainable Development

Special Guest of Honour

HER EXCELLENCY LADY CHIOMA PRISCILLIA OHAKIM, mni

Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the Republic of Poland

03 October, 2026

1:30PM - 6:30PM

Aora OmniConferences Hall

Q22 al. Jana Pawła II 22 Warsaw, Poland

Supporters:

Appendix A: **Programme**

NIGERIA–POLAND DIASPORA ECONOMIC, INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Theme: **Building Nigeria Together: Harnessing Diaspora Expertise, Strategic Partnerships, and Sustainable Development**

13:30 – 14:00	**Arrival/Registration of Delegates and Guests**
14:00 – 14:10	**Introduction & Welcome Address – Niyi Aderibigbe** Founder, Diaspora Events Foundation
14:15 – 14:35	**Session 1: Keynote Speech** **Building Nigeria Together: Harnessing Diaspora Expertise, Strategic, Partnerships and Sustainable Development** **Her Excellency Lady Chioma Priscillia Ohakim**, *mni* Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the Republic of Poland
14:35 – 14:55	**Session 2: Dr Emanuel Kalejaiye – Nigeria and Poland, the partnership story so far** Chairman, Nigerians In Diaspora Organisation (NIDO) Poland
15:00 – 15:55	**Session 3: Panel - Building Partnership and Sustainable Development** **Sadik Musa** Mgr Inż.- Director, Wyższa Szkoła Edukacji i Terapii (WSEiT), Poznań, Poland **Zbigniew Popowski** - Managing Partner · Popowski Advisory Sp. z o.o. **Dr. Malwina Barkalarska** – Nigerian Cultures Reseacher, Consultant, INTERCULTURAL RSK **Dr. Inż. Lateef Erinfolami** – Lukasiewicz Institute of Aviation (consultant: GE Vernova)
16:00 – 16:15	**Session 4: Invest in Nigeria – Video & Documentary**
16:20 – 17:15	**Session 5: Panel – Youth Opportunity and the Future of Work** **Agnes Temitope Samuel** – Nigerian Model, Entrepreneur and Creative Director **Desmond Omoluru** – Economist, Asset Servicing Senior Analyst at Citi **Samantha Olivia Bantu** – Founder & President, UAP/CEO ATN Poland **Lawrence Ahaiwe** – Procurement Specialist / Proprietor & Culture Advocate **Antoni Mazgajski** – Co-Founder/VP, Emerging Markets Students Club, SGH Warsaw
17:00 – 17:40	**Session 6:** Analysis, Wrap up, and Vote of thanks and closing
17:45 – 18:30	**Session 7:** Photo session, Networking and Refreshment



Appendix B: **Keynote Priority Areas**

- **Diaspora expertise, knowledge transfer and professional networks**
- **Investment and enterprise creation**
- **Agriculture and agro-processing**
- **Manufacturing and industrial development**
- **Infrastructure and construction**
- **Digital technology and artificial intelligence**
- **Healthcare and medical innovation**
- **Education and research**
- **Renewable energy and sustainability**
- **Logistics and transportation**
- **Tourism, creative industries and technology-driven enterprises**
- **Youth opportunity, entrepreneurship and future-of-work engagement**



Appendix C: **Forum Staff/Organising Team**

Niyi ADERIBIGBE

Yusuf LANIHUN

Femi OWOLABI

Christy ADEYEYE

Jestina ZWANYANYA

Oluwagbemisinuola AYOOLA

Joshua AKURUYEJO

Yusuf ADEBISI

Ugo WOYENGIMIEDDOU

Emmanuel OSHAI

Ibrahim OLAWOYIN



Appendix D: **Special thanks**

Very special thanks go to

The Embassy of the Republic of Nigeria, Warsaw Poland
Nigerians In Diaspora Organisation (NIDO) Poland
Wyższa Szkoła Edukacji i Terapii (WSEiT), Poznań, Poland
AORA Omni Conferences Warsaw Poland
Nigeria Investment Promotion Council
Popowski Advisory Sp. z o.o.
The Diaspora Company
The Nigerians in Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM)
Nigeria Investment Promotion Commission
Freedom and Peace Foundation

Ambassador Chioma Ohakim
Mr. Samuel Terver Amuh
Engr. Sadik Musa
Mr. Albert Pratt
Dr. Emanuel Kalejaiye
Dr. Inż. Lateef Erinfolami
Zbigniew Popowski
Dr. Malwina Barkalarska
Madam Elzbieta Sajenczuk
Dr. hab. Bara Ndiaye
Dr. Isaac Bada
Dr. Samuel Mbazuigwe
Jarosław Dubiel (Jarema)

Hon. Adekunle Ayoola
Agnes Temitope Samuel
Desmond Omoluru
Samantha Olivia Bantu
Lawrence Ahaiwe
Antoni Mazgajski
Babatunde Olowojaiye
Hon. Shadrach Onitsha Ebikeme
Alhaji Nurudeen Akinwale Yekeen
Dr. Abdulazeez Arowona
Mrs. Senait Cieplińska
Dr. Omoye Akagha
Ridwan Olangbaye



Appendix E: **Forum Collaborators**



Appendix F: **Sponsors and Supporters**

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NIGERIAN DIASPORA COMMISSION

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Kazimiera Milanowska College of Education and Therapy

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OMNI CONFERENCES

Nigerians in Poland

POPOWSKI ADVISORY

Bakalarska Intercultural

Niyi ADERIBIGBE

THE DIASPORA COMPANY

PERCENTAGE MAGAZINE

BINTA
Wear Your Heritage Everywhere



SCAN ME

PERCENTAGE
MAGAZINE

Welcome to The Percentage Magazine, a platform created to honor the achievements and transformations of the migrant and African Diaspora throughout Poland and across Europe. Our unwavering commitment is to pursue excellence, ensure authentic community representation, and challenge stereotypes without bias. We believe everyone deserves recognition. Through a rich blend of thoughts, ideas, and well curated lifestyles, we highlight how diverse origins positively impact society.

Join us on this enlightening journey to foster understanding, build self-esteem, and inspire the next generation of success stories.













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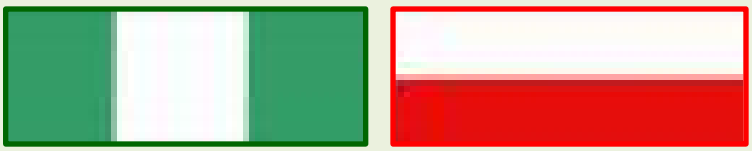
STUDY PRACTICALLY



[Top] The host with delegates, speakers and partners posing during the photo session
[Below] Panel II speakers on the hot seat



Warsaw – Poland



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