



# ETHIOPIA

## PARTNERSHIPS FORUM

### Ethiopia Partnerships Forum

Wednesday, May 15, 2019 | 8:15 am – 5:00 pm

U.S. Department of State | Loy Henderson Auditorium

<b>8:15 am</b>	<p><b>Registration</b> Security screening and check-in starts at 8:15 am. Please arrive <i>no later than 8:45 am</i>.</p>
<b>9:00 am</b>	<p><b>Opening Remarks</b> Thomas Debass, <i>Acting Special Representative for Global Partnerships, U.S. Department of State</i> Makila James, <i>Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of African Affairs, U.S. Department of State</i> Ambassador Fitsum Arega, <i>Ethiopian Ambassador to the United States</i></p>
<b>9:15 am</b>	<p><b>U.S. Keynote Address</b> Tibor P. Nagy, Jr., <i>Assistant Secretary, Bureau of African Affairs, U.S. Department of State</i></p>
<b>9:25 am</b>	<p><b>Ethiopian Keynote</b> Dr. Arkebe Oqubay, <i>Advisor with the Rank of Minister, Office of the Prime Minister</i></p>
<b>10:05 am</b>	<p><b>Ethiopia 2.019: The Big Policy Picture</b> Ethiopia’s dramatic and ongoing reforms are paving the way to potentially attract significant foreign direct investment. This panel will examine Ethiopia’s macroeconomic outlook and its regional role for trade and investment.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Ambassador Mike Raynor, <i>U.S. Ambassador to Ethiopia</i> <b>Panelists:</b> Ambassador Fitsum Arega, <i>Ethiopian Ambassador to the United States</i> Mamo Mihretu, <i>Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister and Chief Trade Negotiator</i> Skip Jones, <i>Deputy Assistant Secretary for Middle East and Africa, U.S. Department of Commerce</i> Eric Meyer, <i>Deputy Assistant Secretary for Africa, U.S. Department of Treasury</i> Scott Eisner, <i>President of the U.S. Africa Business Center, U.S. Chamber of Commerce</i> Florie Liser, <i>President and CEO, Corporate Council on Africa</i></p>
<b>11:00 am</b>	<p><b>Opportunities in Infrastructure: Telecom, Power, Transportation</b> It’s the beginning of a new political and economic era in Ethiopia as the government opens up a diverse range of infrastructure opportunities to new actors. The panel will discuss how the private-sector, both in Ethiopia and the United States, leverage this moment of transformation to ensure better services and sustainable economic growth for the country.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Julie Koenen, <i>Deputy Assistant Administrator, USAID</i> <b>Panelists:</b> Mamo Mihretu, <i>Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister and Chief Trade Negotiator</i> Heather Lanigan, <i>Regional Director for Sub-Saharan Africa, U.S. Trade and Development Agency</i> Joseph Vesey, <i>Senior Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer, Xylem</i> Tewodros Ashenafi, <i>Founder and CEO, SouthWest Energy</i> Bill McRaith, <i>Chief Supply Chain Officer, PVH</i></p>
<b>12:00 pm</b>	<p><b>Lunch</b></p>
<b>1:00 pm</b>	<p><b>Agriculture Toolbox: Investing in Smarter Value Chains</b> Financing options beyond guarantees and a broader range of private sector expertise will generate inroads for enterprise-led development in agriculture. The panel will discuss how innovative business and AgTech models will steer the development of sustainable agricultural supply chains and reduce inefficiencies in the value chain.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Katie Garcia, <i>Acting Director of the Office of Market and Partnership Innovations in USAID’s Bureau for Food Security</i> <b>Panelists:</b> Dr. Yared Seid, <i>Policy Team, Office of the Prime Minister</i> Khalid Bomba, <i>CEO, Ethiopian Agriculture Transformation Agency</i> Geoff Andersen, <i>Business Development Manager, John Deere</i></p>



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	Joseph Shields, <i>Executive Director, EthioChicken</i>
<b>1:45 pm</b>	<p><b>Access to Capital: Financing Growth</b>            With banks primarily focused on short-term lending and trade finance, small and medium-size enterprises (SME) suffer the greatest discrimination from traditional credit policies. This panel will highlight some of the new thinking and FinTech innovations on Ethiopia’s access to finance challenges.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Roland DeMarcellus, <i>Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Finance and Development, U.S. Department of State</i>  <b>Panelists:</b> Dr. Nemera Mamo, <i>Policy Team, Office of the Prime Minister</i>            Peter Sullivan, <i>Managing Director and Head of the Public Sector Group for Africa, Citibank</i>            Worku Gachou, <i>Managing Director for Africa, OPIC</i>            Helaway Tadesse, <i>Director of Research and Analytics, Cepheus Capital</i>            Zafu EyesusWork Zafu, <i>Chairman of the Board, United Bank; Advisor to the CEO, United Insurance SC</i></p>
<b>2:30 pm</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>2:45 pm</b>	<p><b>Q&amp;A Session with Policy Makers</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Paul Brown, <i>Director of the Office of Economic and Regional Affairs for Africa, U.S. Department of State</i>  <b>Panelists:</b> Dr. Arkebe Oqubay, <i>Advisor with the Rank of Minister, Office of the Prime Minister</i>            Ambassador Fitsum Arega, <i>Ethiopian Ambassador to the United States</i>            Mamo Mihretu, <i>Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister and Chief Trade Negotiator</i></p>
<b>3:30 pm</b>	<p><b>Startups as an Engine of Growth</b>            Startups are proven engines of growth and hold huge potential to create significant job opportunities. It will require a collective effort to grow and deepen the startup and innovation ecosystems of Ethiopia. This panel will showcase opportunities in Ethiopian startups as well as the challenges they face.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Solomon Kassa, <i>TV Personality, Producer/Host – “TechTalk with Solomon,” A Fortune500 Tech Consulting Manager, Author</i>  <b>Panelists:</b> Dr. Yared Seid, <i>Policy Team, Office of the Prime Minister</i>            Ambassador Fitsum Arega, <i>Ethiopian Ambassador to the United States</i>            Eleni Gabre-Madhin, <i>CEO, BlueMoon</i>            Kebron Dejene, <i>Founder/CEO, Vediture</i>            Rupert McCammon, <i>Managing Director, Capital Africa Limited</i></p>
<b>4:15 pm</b>	<p><b>Telling Ethiopia’s Story: The Economic Role of Creative Industries</b>            The creative industries — design, fashion, film, television, music and gaming — are too often overlooked as legitimate avenues for jobs and gross domestic product. The panel will showcase current efforts in Ethiopia and successful models from other emerging markets to unleash these industries.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Thomas Debass, <i>Acting Special Representative for Global Partnerships, U.S. Department of State</i>  <b>Panelists:</b> Beakal Tekola, <i>Co-Founder, ArifZefen</i>            David Mesfin, <i>Innocean Worldwide</i>            Michael Orlove, <i>Director of State, Regional &amp; Local Partnerships, National Endowment for the Arts</i>            Stephen Ozoigbo, <i>International Advisor, Studio School</i></p>
<b>5:00 pm</b>	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b>            Cyril Sartor, <i>Senior Director for Africa, National Security Council</i></p>