

Ai africainvestor

Investment & Business Leader
Awards 2015

24 September 2015, New York, USA

FUND - CERTIFICATES

Inspiring African investment success stories

ENTRY PACK

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INTRODUCTION: Ai INVESTMENT & BUSINESS LEADER AWARDS 2015

Alongside its major Africa investor forum, the Ai CEO Investment Summit, Africa investor (Ai) hosts the Ai Investment and Business Leader Awards to reward exceptional business practices, economic achievements and investments across the investment spectrum in Africa. Good news investment stories in Africa are rarely reported by most Western media organisations. To attract more investment, Africa's investment profile needs to be raised by showcasing genuine examples of outstanding investment leadership and success.

The Ai Investment and Business Leader Awards shed light on Africa's many investment success stories.

WHEN AND WHERE

The Awards will be held on 24 September 2015 in New York, alongside the Ai CEO Investment Summit 2015.

CATEGORIES

1. Best Initiative in Support of SMEs and the Millennium Development Goals
2. Investment Climate Initiative of the Year
3. Bank of the Year
4. Ai Green Investment Initiative of the Year
5. Venture Capital/Private Equity Deal of the Year
6. Employer and Human Capital Investor of the Year
7. Institutional Investor of the Year
8. Investment Promotion Agency of the Year
9. Leadership in Sustainable Investment in Africa
10. Africa's Innovation Leader of the Year
11. Africa's Leading Woman in Business
12. African Business Leader of the Year
13. International Business Leader of the Year
14. Up and Coming Future Leader of the Year
15. Finance Minister of the Year
16. Central Bank Governor of the Year



Criteria

General Entry Criteria (applicable to all categories)

There are specific criteria for each category. However, entrants should also note the general criteria and, where applicable, include how these relate to their activities:

- Investment in people and human development
- Capacity building and knowledge transfer
- Job creation
- Environmental preservation
- Good corporate citizenship
- Sustainable community development
- Innovation
- Intra-African trade and regional economic development
- Public-private partnerships
- Communication and promotion of activities

The projects and entries submitted for these awards should have been completed between 31 May 2014 and 1 June 2015.

Category Specific Criteria

Separate criteria are set out each of each category. Details of the criteria are given below along with suggestions on the companies who should enter each of the categories.

1. Best Initiative in Support of SMEs and the Millennium Development Goals

Who should enter?

This category is open to businesses, governments and government agencies, NGOs and multilateral agencies.

Criteria

While the award is for a specific programme or initiative, it should fit within a broader ongoing strategy demonstrating leadership in support of SMEs. This award is open to companies and organisations that have demonstrated support of the development of small and medium-sized enterprises. Programmes or policies entered should be operational with evidence of results rather than future programmes. Nominations should also explain how the entrant's activities have supported the achievement of one or more of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), as follows:

Entrants should demonstrate:

- A programme that addresses an appropriate balance between felt and real needs of SMEs
- Clear actions either during or recommended by a programme towards facilitating creation or growth of SMEs
- Impact assessment
- Indication of how this programme fits in a broader, ongoing context and/or strategy to support SMEs
- The programme supports SMEs in their corporate citizenship
- Communication of the successes of the programme as a role model for others
- On which MDG (s) your organisation is focusing
- How you are directing your activities to achieving this goal
- What activities/programmes/initiatives are taking place:
 - a. In the workplace
 - b. In the local community
 - c. Through company policy
 - d. Through lobbying activities
- How are you measuring, reporting and communicating your activities?

Please ensure that any programme entered in this category has been operational for at least one year and can demonstrate tangible results.

2. Investment Climate Initiative of the Year

Who should enter?

This category is open to companies, businesses or government investment climate initiatives that have assisted in improving an environment conducive for business, investment and trade

Criteria

- Demonstrate how the initiative interacts with donor programmes and the policy makers from African governments
- Explain how the project mobilised aid to create an enabling business environment
- Show how the initiative has led to jobs, development and much-needed tax revenues for public sector anti-poverty programs
- Examples of how the initiative has changed the perception of Africa's potential in the global market

3. Bank of the Year

Who should enter?

This category is open to banks at global, regional or national levels.

Criteria

In addition to stable growth and performance, banks should demonstrate how their banking structure and strategy will equip them for future developments in their market. Organisations are asked to demonstrate how they have made provision of finance to respond to the needs of SMEs and those seeking microfinance.

Judges will look for:

- Stable and sustainable growth and performance
- Plans for future development
- Provision of finance for those traditionally excluded from the formal sector
- Advice and expertise passed on to small-scale business to promote development
- Facilities and services for small business
- Access to finance in rural areas

4. Ai Green Investment Initiative of the Year

Who should enter?

This category is open to banks, investment banks, development banks, providers of finance, development organisations or other bodies involved in arranging and facilitating green investment-related awareness and transactions.

Criteria

Judges will be looking for evidence of:

- An innovative approach to green finance and investment in Africa
- Investor support for the development of Africa's green potential
- Efforts to support the sustainable growth of local markets
- Contribution to the debate on the development of Africa's green potential
- Consistent involvement and commitment to financial transactions in Africa
- Adoption of global best practices in Africa

5. Venture Capital/Private Equity Deal of the Year

Who should enter?

This category is open to venture capital and private equity providers.

The deal submitted for this award should have been completed between 31 May 2014 and 1 June 2015. The deal entered should have been closed before submission for the awards.

Criteria

Judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Innovation in the deal structure to optimise effectiveness (in particular, judges will be looking at how management is incentivised both in terms of profitability and corporate social responsibility)
- Consideration of all stakeholders in implementation of deal
- Keen appreciation of risks, appropriate mitigation measures and potential rewards
- A reputation for integrity and working effectively
- A deal that pushes the boundaries in terms of location, size and industry and has effectively overcome normal barriers

6. Employer and Human Capital Investor of the Year

Who should enter?

This award is open to all businesses operating in Africa either at continental, regional, national or local levels.

Criteria

The judges will look for the organisation that can best demonstrate how, through well-adopted company values, the provision of stimulating and supportive workplaces and the active development of all employees, it has applied its human and supporting resources to achieve commercial success.

Entries should address the following:

- Feedback and career review
- Education and health provision, to both employees and the local community
- Training
- Measures adopted to retain staff and reverse the brain drain
- International companies should indicate measures in place to ensure that local staff rather than expatriates are employed in senior levels of the company

7. Institutional Investor of the Year

Who should enter?

This category is open to pension funds, banks, provident funds, asset managers, investment banks or other bodies involved in facilitating institutional investments.

Criteria

Judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Support for the development of Africa's pension and capital markets
- Efforts to support the skills development and sustainable growth of local markets
- Contribution to the debate on the development of pension fund reform
- Commitment to stimulating increased private investment
- Allocation of investible funds - innovation and balanced investment of funds
- Assurance that a percentage of funds is allocated in country or regionally (please provide details)
- Return on investment
- Socially responsible investing
- Transparency and good governance

8. Investment Promotion Agency of the Year

Who should enter?

This award is open to government investment promotion agencies and private and multilateral organisations involved in investment promotion

Criteria

Investment promotion agencies should submit evidence of:

- Investments, including value of projects, brought in through the networks of the IPA
- Information on how investment has increased over the past three years through the efforts of the investment promotion agency
- Efforts to promote FDI, communication and promotional activities
- Activities working with governments and agencies to reduce bureaucracy and facilitate investment processes for foreign investors
- Achievement of the idea of the "one stop shop"
- How submissions for investment projects are followed up and investors are guided through the investment process

9. Leadership in Sustainable Investment in Africa

Who should enter?

This award is open to any business operating within Africa. Entries should be for current operations, programmes or policies rather than future programmes or policies.

Criteria

This award will assess how business is carried out in one or more of the following areas:

- Environmental preservation
- Long-term planning to mitigate against environmental degradation
- Good governance
- Clarity of reporting
- Access and equal opportunities
- Role within and long-term commitment to the local community
- Ownership and supply chain

Where possible, companies should indicate that they have sought to gain a recognised certification for good business practice.

10. Africa's Innovation Leader of the Year

Who should enter?

This award is open to both male and female African innovation leaders from African and international companies operating in Africa.

Criteria

Entrants should:

- Show what innovative product/service/training they have introduced to the company
- Demonstrate how they have assisted in motivating their people and how they have sustained continuous team growth
- Illustrate how they displayed superb execution of the company's business strategies
- Explain how they contributed to the organisation's vision

11. Africa's Leading Woman in Business

Who should enter?

This category is open to senior level, female business executives. Entrants from both large, established businesses and new companies are welcomed.

Criteria

Entrants should:

- Demonstrate competence in their chosen field and show how that competence has benefitted business or the profession in that field
- Show how they have contributed to the development of their own business or the organisation in which they work
- Act as a role model to other businesswomen
- Demonstrate significant budget management and promote female entrepreneurship
- Be a model corporate citizen and carry out business in support of the Millennium Development Goals

12. African Business Leader of the Year

Who should enter?

This award is open to both male and female African business leaders from African and international companies operating in Africa.

Criteria

Judges will look at the following:

- The organisation should be a well-run company with financial results increasing year on year, and should embrace innovation, and model corporate citizenship
- The award examines the company's performance and improvement in its key business areas: customer satisfaction, financial and marketplace performance, human resources, supplier and partner performance, and operational performance
- The organisation should be seen to be responding to global trends and leading the field
- The nominee should have played a role and actively supported the growth of industries that support his/her organisation's production, thereby contributing to the regional economy
- How programmes implemented have been in support of the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

13. International Business Leader of the Year

Who should enter?

This award is open to both male and female business leaders from international companies operating in Africa.

Criteria

Judges will look at the following:

- The organisation should be a well-run company with financial results increasing year on year, and should embrace innovation and model corporate citizenship
- The award examines the company's performance and improvement in its key business areas: customer satisfaction, financial and marketplace performance, human resources, supplier and partner performance, and operational performance
- The organisation should be seen to be responding to global trends and leading the field
- The nominee should have played a role and actively supported the growth of industries that support his/her organisation's production, thereby contributing to the regional economy
- Recognition of ongoing nature of business: historical review and future strategy
- Stakeholder input, feedback and dialogue
- The organisation should be committed to sustained investment in the continent and promotion of local employment and development
- How programmes implemented have been in support of the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

14. Up and Coming Future Leader of the Year

Who should enter?

This category is open to investment professionals under 45 years of age

Criteria

Entrants should demonstrate:

- Leadership potential
- Social investment responsibility ideas
- Contributions towards developing the financial services industry
- Recent corporate initiatives



15. Finance Minister of the Year

Who should enter?

African Ministers of Finance (including Deputy Ministers)

Criteria

Judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Competence in their field, and demonstration of how that competence has benefitted investment in their country
- Their contribution to developing a hospitable environment for investment within their country or sub-region
- Their contribution to economically sustainable development in their country
- Their contribution to promoting Africa and their country as an investment destination

16. Central Bank Governor of the Year

Who should enter?

African Central Bank Governors (including Deputy Governors)

Criteria

Judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Competence in their field, and demonstration of how that competence has benefitted investment in their country
- Their contribution to developing a hospitable environment for investment within their country or sub-region
- Their contribution to economically sustainable development in their country
- Their contribution to promoting Africa and their country as an investment destination



Entry Details

1. You are welcome to enter as many categories as you wish. Please provide a separate entry for each category.
2. Entries for the Ai Venture Capital/Private Equity Deal of the Year must be from the 2014/2015 period.
3. All entries from any company, organisation or individual, whether African or international, are welcome provided you have met with the criteria for each category above.
4. Entry is a simple 500-word nomination outlining how you meet the awards criteria given above. There are general criteria and separate criteria specific to each category. Please read the criteria carefully before making your submission and ensure that you relate these criteria to your entry.
5. Based on feedback from judges and assessors, nominations over the word count will not be accepted.
6. You may also submit supporting materials along with your 500-word submission.
7. Africa investor understands that some information contained in your submission may be commercially sensitive. Summaries of winning entries will be published in Africa investor. However, you will be given the option to omit any commercially sensitive information.
8. The Africa investor (Ai) Awards Secretariat is unable to return submissions.



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24 September 2015, New York, USA

ENTRY FORM

Please fill out the form below:

Submit a 500-word submission on your project or business. This submission will be judged by the panel against the criteria laid out above for the relevant category.

Send, fax or email both items to Catherine Wright using the contact details provided on the form.

Entry Category

Project title (where applicable)

Name

Position

Organisation

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Fax

E-mail Address

Please send me further details of the awards winner

Yes No

I have attached a submission and supporting details

500-word submission Supporting materials

Please ensure that your submission and any other materials are clearly marked with your organisation name and contact details. Please ensure that your organisation name is spelt as you would like it to appear on your Award, should you win.

Closing date: 15 July 2015

Contact Details

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