



# Newsletter

Issue for March 2026

**Special Edition**



## 1. Special Edition

The journey to the East Africa Investment Forum (EAIF) 2026 began with a high-impact press conference in collaboration with Vodacom as the Exclusive Platinum Sponsor, on March 13 2026 in Dar es Salaam. The press conference set the stage for what would become one of the region's most anticipated fintech gatherings. The Tanzania Fintech Association (TAFINA) announced the 2nd edition of the East Africa Investment Forum (EAIF) 2026 and signaled a bold step forward under this year's theme, "Fintech Forward: Innovation & Inclusion." From that moment, momentum continued to build, culminating in two dynamic days of dialogue, collaboration, and forward-looking insights that are shaping the future of digital finance across Tanzania and the wider East African region.

"We believe young people have a major role to play in the digital economic revolution. Through this forum, they will have the opportunity to showcase their innovations, learn from industry experts, and build networks that can help them grow their businesses," said Shadrack Kamenya, Secretary General of TAFINA.

Read the press release [here](#);





The East Africa Investment Forum (EAIF) 2026 took place from March 26-27, 2026, at the Hyatt Regency- The Kilimanjaro, Dar es Salaam and brought together the best minds in fintech, investment, and innovation. With the theme "Fintech Foward: Innovation and Inclusion," this year's forum

championed the creation of inclusive financial ecosystems through cross-border partnerships and fintech-driven solutions. The East Africa Investment Forum (EAIF) 2026 took place from March 26-27, 2026, at the Hyatt Regency- The Kilimanjaro, Dar es Salaam and brought together the best minds in fintech, investment, and innovation.

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East Africa is fast becoming a hub for fintech, and EAIF 2026 showcased this potential by hosting over 250 attendees from 10 countries, investors, fintech startups, regulators, and key government officials gathered to discuss the future of fintech in the region and the transformative impact of financial technology on East African economies. With a packed two-day agenda, the forum featured 40 distinguished speakers and panelists, including prominent figures from MNOs, Banks, Fintechs, Regulators and Key market players. Through keynote speeches, panel discussions, and networking sessions, participants engaged in meaningful conversations aimed at unlocking the region's fintech potential and advancing inclusive digital finance solutions.

## 2. Event Objectives

The East Africa Investment Forum 2026 was designed with key objectives that served as the foundation of its success:

- **Promote investments in East Africa's fintech sector** by connecting investors with high-potential startups and scaling businesses.
- **Facilitate partnerships** between fintech startups, investors, and government bodies to promote financial inclusion and innovation.
- **Discuss and address key challenges and opportunities** within the fintech ecosystem, including regulation, funding, and digital infrastructure.
- **Foster regional cooperation and knowledge exchange** among East African nations, paving the way for stronger integration and collaboration in fintech.



### 3. Key Statistics

Here are some standout numbers from the forum:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Total Attendees	250
Countries Represented:	10
Participating Organizations	100
Speakers and Panelists	40
Exhibitors	Wakapay (Tanzania) Selcom Paytech (Pan Africa) National Bank of Commerce (NBC) PawaPay Ecobank Imatic Technologies Limited Endoxa Law Verto
Sponsors	Vodacom Tanzania PLC (M-Pesa) UNCDF Pawapay Slice Finance Eco Bank
Ecosystem Partners	National Bank of Commerce Mwananchi Communications Ltd Tanzania Bankers Association Endoxa Law Fincra Coca-Cola Kwanza
Community Partners	Association of Fintech in Kenya DRC Fintech Association Fintech Association of Kenya Financial Technology Service Providers Association Africa Fintech Network

## 4. Event Highlits



**Mr. Kennedy Komba, Director, Financial Deepening & Inclusion at the Bank of Tanzania:** Opened the forum with a powerful message on advancing financial Inclusion and expanding access through digital solutions, building a more inclusive financial future for all.



**Cynthia Ponera, Chairperson at Tanzania Fintech Association (TAFINA):** Welcomed participants to the forum with an inspiring call to drive the “Fintech Forward” agenda, emphasizing innovation, collaboration, and the need to deepen financial inclusion while building a resilient and sustainable fintech ecosystem across East Africa.



**Zuweina Farah, Director of External Affairs & Vodacom Foundation at Vodacom Tanzania:**

Highlighted Vodacom Tanzania and M-Pesa's commitment to advancing financial inclusion through digital innovation, reaffirming their role as key partners in empowering communities and supporting the growth of a vibrant fintech ecosystem.



**Rosemary Koech Kimwatu, Technology Policy Expert, KCB Bank, Kenya.**

Delivered a keynote on "Scaling Digital Finance: Opportunities for Regulatory and Fiscal Alignment," exploring how policy innovation can unlock sustainable growth. Then joined a panel discussion on "The Price of Access: Who Really Pays in Digital Finance," unpacking the real costs and equity implications of today's digital financial ecosystem

## EAIF Fintech Mapping Launch

A key highlight of Day 1 at EAIF 2026 was the official launch of the Fintech Mapping Study, led by the Tanzania Fintech Association (TAFINA) in collaboration with Inclusive Digital Experts Africa (IDEA). The session unveiled critical data and insights shaping Tanzania's fintech ecosystem, offering a clear view into market trends, growth patterns, challenges, and emerging opportunities.

The presentation highlighted emerging trends, sector dynamics, and critical findings on fintech growth, challenges, and opportunities, providing a data-driven foundation to support a more inclusive and resilient digital financial ecosystem in Tanzania.

We continue to welcome ecosystem input as we refine the study. Share your feedback here:

<https://sl1nk.com/tafina1>

Register to receive the full report:

<https://forms.gle/Z8iBcUsWraFFw98S7>





## Panel Discussions

The East Africa Investment Forum 2026 hosted a diverse array of panel discussions, each designed to tackle critical topics in the fintech landscape and foster collaboration across sectors. These panels provided invaluable insights, driving the conversation on how fintech can address regional challenges, facilitate partnerships, and create sustainable solutions for financial inclusion across East Africa.





## Networking and Partnership Opportunities

The forum provided a rich environment for networking, with dedicated sessions allowing startups, investors, and government officials to engage and collaborate. These sessions sparked numerous discussions around potential investments and partnerships in fintech solutions.



## 6. Special Thanks to Our Sponsors

The success of EAIF 2026 would not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the following key sponsors for their invaluable contributions.

**Exclusive Platinum Sponsor : Vodacom Tanzania- M-Pesa**



**Gold Sponsor**



**Silver Sponsors**



## 5. Thank you to Our Partners

We extend our deepest gratitude to our esteemed partners, whose collaboration and support have been instrumental in the growth and success of TAFINA's initiatives: These partnerships have allowed us to foster regional collaboration, share knowledge, and create a unified approach to addressing the key challenges in the East African fintech ecosystem. Their continuous engagement and expertise will remain critical as we move forward with these working groups and our broader mission to promote innovation, regulatory alignment, and financial inclusion in the region.

TAFINA looks forward to continued collaboration with our partners as we work together to shape the future of fintech in East Africa and beyond.



## 7. Gallery: Moments from EAIF2026



## 8. Request for Feedback

As we strive to continuously improve and deliver greater value, we kindly invite feedback from all readers regarding the East Africa Investment Forum (EAIF). Whether you attended the event or have thoughts on how we can enhance our future initiatives, your insights are invaluable to us. We deeply appreciate your input as it helps us shape our events and initiatives to better serve the fintech ecosystem in East Africa. Feel free to send your feedback via email [info@tafina.or.tz](mailto:info@tafina.or.tz) or through this form: [LINK](#)

## 9. Stay Connected

Stay informed on all things fintech in East Africa! Follow us on our social media platforms for updates on upcoming events, partnership opportunities, and the latest industry news.

- **Website:** [tafina.or.tz](http://tafina.or.tz)
- **LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/tafina/>
- **Instagram:** [tafina\\_tz](#)

Best regards,

**The TAFINA Team**