

FOUNDING MEMBERS PROSPECTUS • BY INVITATION ONLY

African-California Chamber of Commerce

Building the institutional bridge between California and Africa

"Connect, advocate & create opportunities"



Administrative Office: 490 Post Street, Ste. 1607, San Francisco, CA 94102 * +1.415.612.9660

Business Office: Portobello Office Center, Port of Oakland, 11 Embarcadero West, Suite 210, Oakland, CA 94610

A California Nonprofit Mutual Benefit Corporation - Organized under Section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code

Prospective Founding Member

On behalf of the founding leadership of the African-California Chamber of Commerce “A3C”, we are pleased to invite you to become a Founding Member of this new institution.

A3C is being created to strengthen the economic relationship between California and Africa. California, the 4th largest economy in the world, is a global leader in technology, agriculture, finance, innovation, logistics and entrepreneurship, while Africa offers growing markets and significant opportunities in investment, trade, infrastructure, technology and economic development.

A3C provides a trusted platform to connect businesses, investors, entrepreneurs, institutions and economic leaders through:

- Trade and investment missions;
- Business-to-business connections;
- Investment introductions;
- Market intelligence;
- Access to markets, capital and innovation;
- Strategic partnerships;
- Business and government engagement.

Why Become a Founding Member?

- Founding Members will help shape the future of A3C: its strategic priorities, committees and inaugural leadership.
- Founding Members will also be permanently recognized as among those who helped establish the Chamber.
- Founding Membership during this organizing period is offered without a financial contribution, binding commitment or future obligation. Your level of participation is entirely up to you.**

Those interested in serving on the inaugural Board of Directors will also have the opportunity to stand for election.

We would be honored to have your name among the Founding Members of the African-California Chamber of Commerce and to work together to build a strong and lasting bridge between California and Africa.

▶ **START HERE**
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For the Organizing Committee



FREDERICK JORDAN, P.E.
Founding Chairman



LINO N'SHIMBA
Founding President & CEO



JEAN-PAUL CARTERON
Founding International Counsel



MARK A. LINDQUIST
Founding Treasurer

San Francisco, 2026

A new economic corridor is emerging.

The economic relationship between California and Africa has the potential to become significantly larger, deeper and more strategic. Several forces are converging.



Africa is opening new markets

The African Continental Free Trade Area is creating new possibilities for continental trade and investment, while individual African economies continue to seek capital, technology, infrastructure, expertise and global business partnerships.



California remains a global economic powerhouse

California brings together an exceptional concentration of technology companies, entrepreneurs, investors, financial institutions, universities, innovators, agricultural enterprises, logistics expertise and global businesses.



The connection is still fragmented

- There are African businesses seeking California partners.
- There are California companies looking for African markets.
- There are investors seeking opportunities.
- There are governments seeking technology, infrastructure and strategic partners.
- There are entrepreneurs on both sides looking for trusted relationships.

What is missing is a strong institutional bridge connecting these interests systematically.



The position is unclaimed

A3C is being established to help occupy that space. Not simply as another networking organization; not simply as a representative body; but as an institution designed around economic relationships, commercial opportunities and measurable outcomes.

The opportunity

A3C is a trusted meeting point for:

CAPITAL	↔	OPPORTUNITIES
TECHNOLOGY	↔	MARKETS
COMPANIES	↔	PARTNERS
INVESTORS	↔	PROJECTS
GOVERNMENTS	↔	SOLUTIONS
AFRICA	↔	CALIFORNIA

The founding generation has an opportunity to establish the institution through which these relationships can develop for years to come.

OUR MISSION AND PURPOSE

To build lasting commercial and economic relationships between California and Africa.

The African-California Chamber of Commerce will promote, advance and protect the trade, commerce and business interests of Californian and African entrepreneurs and businesses in California and African nations.

We will foster

- Economic development;
- Entrepreneurship;
- International trade;
- Investment relationships;
- Strategic partnerships;
- Business development;
- Knowledge and expertise exchange;

Our role

A3C will serve as a unified voice for its members before government, civic institutions and the broader business community in California and African nations. Our purpose is not simply to bring people together; it is to help the right people meet, build trust and create value.

FROM CONNECTIONS TO OPPORTUNITIES

A3C will provide members with access to:



Business development

Relationships, introductions and opportunities that can support expansion into new markets.



Investment

Connections between investors, businesses, projects and strategic opportunities.



Market intelligence

Information and relationships that help businesses understand and navigate California and African markets.



Trade

Trade missions, commercial introductions and opportunities to develop cross-border business.



Government & institutional relations

A platform for constructive engagement among businesses, governments, civic institutions and other stakeholders.



Leadership & knowledge

Networking, mentorship, education and the exchange of expertise across both regions.

This mission mirrors the Chamber's founding Bylaws, which govern its legal purpose as a California nonprofit mutual benefit corporation organized under IRC Section 501(c)(6).

THE FOUNDING MEMBER OPPORTUNITY

Help build the institution from day one.

Founding Membership is offered during the organizing period leading up to the official launch of the Chamber on October 23, 2026.

Founding Members will have the opportunity to:

- Help shape the governance framework** Participate in the formative process through which the institution's governance framework is established.
- Stand for election to the inaugural Board of Directors** Or nominate candidates for the first Board.
- Shape A3C's strategic priorities** Help influence the Chamber's initial programs, committees and priorities.
- Participate in the founding institutional record** Be publicly recognized as a Founder at the official launch and in the Chamber's historical record.

Founding Members will also receive:

- Recognition as a Founder in launch materials, on the Chamber's website and in its official history;
- A vote in the election of the inaugural Board;
- Priority invitations to launch events and delegations;
- Early access to Chamber trade missions and business-development initiatives;
- The opportunity to contribute to the formation of key committees.

Recognition. Influence. Access. Legacy.

The principles behind the Founding Member opportunity.

Founding Member categories

FOUNDING MEMBER TIER	WHO IT'S FOR	CONTRIBUTION*
Founding Business Member	Businesses, firms and organizations participating in the development of the Chamber.	TBD
Founding Individual Member	Entrepreneurs and professionals.	TBD
Founding Patron	Lead donors and anchor sponsors.	TBD
Founding Member (you)	Distinguished civic, cultural or public leaders whose experience, relationships or standing can contribute to the institution's development.	By invitation

A carefully selected group of distinguished leaders is being invited to participate in the founding of A3C before its official launch. Founding Membership during the organizing period carries no financial obligation.

THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH

One date matters: the official launch.

Founding Membership is open. Founding Members will be recognized at the official launch.

OCTOBER 23, 2026

5:30 PM • SILICON VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

Official launch of the African-California Chamber of Commerce
and beginning of the Chamber's first program year.

FOUNDING MEMBERS AND MEMBERS ONLY

Founding Membership is open. To accept this invitation or request a conversation with the Organizing Committee, please contact:

foundinga3c@africancaliforniachamber.org • or call +1.415.612.9660

Leaders who already understand both sides of the bridge.

A3C brings together leaders with experience spanning Africa, California, investment, finance, infrastructure, construction, international business and economic development.



FREDERICK JORDAN, P.E.
Founding Chairman,

African-California Chamber of Commerce

- Co-Chair, Board of Directors, San Francisco African American Chamber of Commerce.
- Founder, California Black Chamber of Commerce.
- Founding Member and Former Chair, Board of Directors, National Black Chamber of Commerce.
- Development Partner, St. Regis 42-story 5-star hotel and condominiums in San Francisco.
- Founder & CEO, F.E. Jordan Associates; more than 1,000 completed infrastructure projects across the United States, Africa and Central America.
- Peer Review Member by law for the \$128 billion California High-Speed Rail Project.

Frederick Jordan, Founding Chairman
+1 415 652 9152
www.fejordan.com



LINO N'SHIMBA
Founding President & CEO,

African-California Chamber of Commerce

- Former President & Chairman of the Board, U.S. Chamber of Commerce in DRC, AmCham DRC.
- Chairman, DRC Forum Foundation; organizer of the DRC Forum California in Silicon Valley.
- Founder & CEO, Africa Equity & Investment Group, active in critical minerals.
- Founder & Owner of California-based In Vino Veritas Cellars, with operations in Africa.
- Former senior financial advisor at Wells Fargo Advisors; former manager at Citigroup.
- Extensive experience connecting African and California business communities, spanning investment and international business.

Lino N'Shimba, Founding President & CEO
+1 415 260 1035 • +243 810 000 029
www.drcforum.org



JEAN-PAUL CARTERON
Founding International Counsel,

African-California Chamber of Commerce

- Ambassador, diplomat and international statesman.
- Founder and Chair of the Crans Montana Forum and the WDA World Diplomatic Academy, since 1986.
- Established one of the oldest and most respected Swiss international platforms, bringing together heads of state and government, public officials and business leaders.
- Promotes international cooperation in a private and ethical framework.

Jean-Paul Carteron,
Founding International Counsel
+33 7 87 30 30 30
www.cmf.ch



MARK A. LINDQUIST
Founding Treasurer,

African-California Chamber of Commerce

- Former President of the Associated General Contractors of California.
- Former President, Hartley Construction Inc.
- California-licensed architect and experienced construction executive.
- Experience in international construction projects in Ghana and Nigeria.

Mark A. Lindquist, Founding Treasurer
+1 415 394 5900
www.hartley-construction.com

THE FOUNDING COMMUNITY

Prospective Founding Members.

The strength of A3C will ultimately depend on the quality of the people around the table. The Chamber is assembling a founding community that brings together leaders from:

BUSINESS

INVESTMENT

TECHNOLOGY

FINANCE

INFRASTRUCTURE

GOVERNMENT

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

CIVIC LEADERSHIP

AFRICAN & CALIFORNIAN
COMMUNITIES

The complete list of prospective Founding Members of the African-California Chamber of Commerce is maintained online and updated as additional leaders accept their invitations.

[Please click here for the full list of prospective Founding Members](#)

Founding Membership carries no financial contribution, binding commitment or future obligation during the organizing period.
It is an honorary designation recognizing early leadership and partnership.

***The question is not whether California and Africa will do more business together.
The question is who will help build the institution that makes that relationship stronger, more systematic and more effective.***

AN INVITATION TO HELP WRITE THE FIRST CHAPTER

We would be honored to have your name among the Founders of A3C.



Every enduring institution has a beginning. The African-California Chamber of Commerce is being established to create a lasting bridge between two extraordinary economic ecosystems. We believe that the strongest bridges are built by people who understand the value of relationships, trust, opportunity and long-term thinking. This is an invitation to be one of those people.

As a Founding Member, you will participate at the moment when A3C's identity, governance and initial priorities are being established. Your name will become part of the Chamber's founding record; your voice can help shape its early direction; your relationships and experience can help determine the opportunities it is able to create; and your participation can help establish an institution designed to serve California-Africa economic relationships for years to come.

Build the bridge. Shape the institution. Be part of its founding.

With respect and anticipation, the Organizing Committee:

Frederick Jordan, P.E., Founding Chairman · Lino N'Shimba, Founding President & CEO

Jean-Paul Carteron, Founding International Counsel · Mark A. Lindquist, Founding Treasurer

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