

CONCEPT NOTE SUMMARY

Africa Global Summit on Pro Bono Practice

Leveraging Multidisciplinary Pro Bono for SDGs and Agenda 2063

Nairobi, Kenya | 24th – 27th November 2026

1.0 Executive Summary

The Africa Global Summit on Pro Bono Practice is a high-level convening designed to strengthen multidisciplinary pro bono service as a practical tool for development in Africa. The summit brings together governments, corporates, academic institutions, NGOs, and global networks to explore how professional expertise can be mobilized in support of poverty reduction, education, decent work, and climate resilience.

The concept is grounded in the recognition that volunteerism and pro bono service can generate measurable value. In Kenya, a national study estimated that there were 13,950,631 volunteers and valued volunteer work at Kshs. 236.3 billion, equal to 3.66% of GDP, showing that organized volunteer action can have meaningful economic and social impact.

The summit will provide a platform for partnership-building, knowledge exchange, and the launch of practical initiatives that can be scaled across sectors and countries.

2.0 Rationale

Across Africa, the need for access to professional support remains high in areas such as education, climate adaptation, financial literacy, youth employability, and organizational capacity. Pro bono practice offers a way to connect skilled professionals with communities and institutions that need technical support but may not be able to afford it.

Kenya offers a strong model because it has both a policy framework and empirical evidence on the value of volunteerism. The summit will build on this foundation to promote a more coordinated, sustainable, and measurable pro bono ecosystem.

3.0 Objectives

The summit will seek to:

- Forge 15 cross-sector partnerships among corporates, academia, and NGOs.
- Develop up to 50 pro bono initiatives with direct reach to at least 5,000 beneficiaries.
- Integrate pro bono practice into 2–3 university curricula by the end of 2027.
- Adopt the Nairobi Pro Bono Accord/Declaration with at least 200 signatories.

4.0 Thematic Priorities

- Poverty reduction: Support microfinance training, property rights clinics, and enterprise mentoring.
- Education: Provide mentorship, tutoring, and digital learning support for out-of-school youth.
- Decent work: Deliver skills workshops and entrepreneurship support for youth and SMEs.
- Climate action: Support resilience planning, climate-smart agriculture, and adaptation solutions.

5.0 Value for Partners

The summit offers value for corporates, academia, NGOs, and global networks. Corporations can strengthen ESG positioning and employee engagement. Academia can deepen service-learning and employability. NGOs can access technical support. Global networks can help scale African pro bono models.

6.0 Budget

The summit is estimated to cost **KES 13.3 million**. The budget covers venue and AV, reception dinner, gala dinner, travel and accommodation, participant support, programming, staffing, monitoring, and contingency.

7.0 Call for Partnership

We invite partners to join this effort and support a summit that seeks to turn professional expertise into practical development outcomes. By investing in this convening, partners help strengthen a regenerative and sustainable pro bono ecosystem that can deliver long-term value for communities and institutions across Africa.