## AGENDA

### PRE-EVENT - WEDNESDAY 1 APRIL

**DIGITAL INFRA AFRICA LEADERSHIP LUNCH (BY INVITATION ONLY)**
Please email: liss.boot-handford@capacitymedia.com

**NETWORKING – WINE TASTING**

**OPENING DRINKS RECEPTION**

### DAY ONE - THURSDAY 2 APRIL

**7:45AM**
**REGISTRATION & NETWORKING BREAKFAST**

**8:00AM**
**BREAKFAST BRIEFING - GLOBAL WOMEN IN TELCO & TECH PRESENTS: INCLUSION IN DIGITAL INFRA**
OPEN TO ALL ATTENDEES: How are we ensuring that a digital Africa is also an open and inclusive industry for all? The Global Women in Telco and Tech initiative lands in Africa to bring together influencers in inclusion to discuss and recognise the achievements made in closing the gender gap, as well as exchange ideas on how to drive the industry forward.

**9:30AM**
**OPENING KEYNOTE: THE FUTURE OF DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE BEGINS NOW**

**10:00AM**
**KEYNOTE PANEL: CONNECTING THE CONTINENT - TERRESTRIAL, SUBSEA AND THE DATA IN-BETWEEN**
Looking at the continent as a whole, the panel discusses the biggest projects in both the terrestrial and the subsea spaces that are shaping the continent and analyses where the biggest opportunities for change lie. As data centre builds pick up speed and new players enter the markets, which areas are key focuses for companies to develop? How are the different players in the industry collaborating to bring digital infrastructure to key markets?

**BROADBAND FOR ALL**

**11:45AM**
**BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE: ENABLING CONNECTIVITY FOR ALL**
Connectivity distribution has long been a problem across Africa, with irregular and unequal access to capacity throughout the continent. As more and more data is hosted within the continent, and with this only set to rise, what initiatives have been put into place to ensure that all African nations have access to capacity? Which alternative connectivity methods are proving a success in getting people online?

**12:30PM**
**PRESENTATION: INDUSTRY 4.0 DIGITAL SKILLS: PREPARING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION**

### CAPACITY AFRICA

**2:10PM**
**KEYNOTE PANEL: BUILDING THE DIGITAL TELCO - HOW WILL AFRICA SUCCEED IN DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION?**
Carriers have to adapt to keep up with the pace of change in consumer behaviour and the new service providers and OTTs entering the industry. There is also a pressing need to address current challenges, in order to prepare networks for more sophisticated demands in the future. How can operators secure reliability of service? What are the challenges in becoming a digital operator?

### DATACLoud PAN-AFRICA

**2:10PM**
**KEYNOTE PANEL: THE AFRICA DATA CENTRE BOOM - A REGIONAL DISSECTION**
There is already an unequal distribution of data centres throughout the continent, with the majority of hyperscalers focused on the South African market as their first foray into Africa. The panel looks at the impact of data centres being developed in South Africa and analyses the likely next regions for development.

### SUBSEA AFRICA

**2:10PM**
**KEYNOTE PANEL - THE NEW AGE OF AFRICAN SUBSEA - PROJECTS, TRENDS AND OPPORTUNITIES**
The subsea cable industry in Africa has been slow to develop in the last 10 years, likely because it is difficult to make a business case for building new cables without the demand for capacity. This is beginning to change and we are seeing renewed interest in investing, largely from OTTs. Is this the start of a new era of investment and cable builds across the continent?
## AGENDA

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<th>CAPACITY AFRICA</th>
<th>DATA CLOUD PAN-AFRICA</th>
<th>SUBSEA AFRICA</th>
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<td>SHARING THE RADIO ACCESS NETWORK - A CASE STUDY AND MODEL FOR AFRICA</td>
<td>CONSULTANT REVIEW: WHY ARE DATA CENTRES SO REGIONAL?</td>
<td>SPOTLIGHT ON OTT</td>
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<td>As profit margins decrease and demand for high quality, affordable connections increases, operators are seeking to minimise Capex and optimise existing infrastructure, rather than lay brand new fibre. How can infrastructure sharing and collaboration benefit operators and end users? What are some successful case studies of this kind of partnership?</td>
<td>The pressure is on data centres as much as anybody to reduce their environmental footprints. How are companies balancing the needs to expand into new markets whilst keeping the impact to the environment to a minimum? What are the specific challenges to building new data centres in the hotter regions of Africa? Is this a barrier to the development of new data centres?</td>
<td>One of the biggest issues facing the continent is that there is a lot of focus on the new subsea builds, but how will this new capacity reach the third of African countries that are landlocked? What are subsea companies doing to collaborate with terrestrial companies to create sustainable networks that benefit the whole continent?</td>
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<td>8:00AM</td>
<td><strong>REGISTRATION OPENS</strong></td>
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<td>9:10AM</td>
<td><strong>PANEL: CONSUMER IS KING - HOW GLOBAL BRANDS NEED TO APPROACH AFRICAN MARKETS</strong></td>
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<td>11:30AM</td>
<td><strong>BUZZ TO WIN: FINANCING AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PANEL: ENABLING SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS ACROSS AFRICA</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PANEL: CAPITALISING ON CLOUD MIGRATION - SERVING THE NEEDS OF LOCAL ENTERPRISES</strong></td>
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**CAPACITY AFRICA**

- **PANEL: ENABLING SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS ACROSS AFRICA**
  This session examines an alternative solution to new and existing connectivity challenges. With an estimated 72.6% of the African continent offline (ITU, 2018) and a significant proportion of the population unlikely to be connected by fibre, satellite is a viable alternative, which can help to connect the remotest parts of the continent. What are the latest services and products available? Could satellites make broadband more affordable for consumers and businesses? Are traditional satellites the only solution, or are there other options?

- **PRESENTATION: FIBRE DEPLOYMENT TO CONNECT HOMES ACROSS THE CONTINENT**
  This session outlines the latest progress made in fibre provision across Africa, in particular, looking at the benefits of FTTH and analysing the pace of change throughout the continent. Is FTTH a realistic expectation in the near future? How does FTTH deployment compare in major cities, compared to rural areas? Who is leading these projects? Which countries will be most connected by fibre in the next five years?

- **PANEL: WEST-EAST - CROSS-CONTINENT CONNECTIVITY**
  Direct digital corridors are increasingly important in bringing the continent closer together and digitally accessible. Much-needed infrastructure will allow for the digital growth sought by enterprises and consumers alike, and this session will explore the projects championing pan-African trade and ways to overhaul existing business practices and norms, to ensure connectivity across the region. Panelists will also discuss how to overcome the challenge of instability in Central Africa, to forge successful links with the rest of the country.

**DATA CLOUD PAN-AFRICA**

- **KEYNOTE PANEL: BUILDING FOR GROWING DATA DEMANDS**
  As individuals across Africa become some of the highest data consumers globally – how are we ensuring our infrastructure is there to meet their demands? Where do our biggest challenges currently lie in meeting these?

- **PRESENTATION: IS ‘THE EDGE’ GOING TO BE THE NEXT BIG DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA?**
  The global edge computing market is expected to grow significantly in the next few years, and now is the time for African leaders to be looking into taking advantage of the benefits presented by the edge evolution. With the current state of digital transformation differing between regions, and who will lead the way in early adoption of the edge?

**SUBSEA AFRICA**

- **KEYNOTE PANEL: PRESENTING THE BUSINESS CASE FOR NEW SUBSEA CABLES**
  This discussion centres on financing new subsea cables as well as collaborating with carriers to get projects off the ground. The enormous OTT projects planned and underway raise questions of firstly how interested parties are raising funds, but secondly of how necessary the new cables are at present.

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- **CABLE UPDATES**

- **NEW CABLE DESIGNS TO MEET CAPACITY DEMAND - ARE 16 FIBRE PAIR CABLES NECESSARY?**
  The amount of capacity promised by the new cables being built around the coasts of Africa will vastly increase availability to regions previously underserved. This session will look at the technology behind these new mega-projects and examine the possibility that the amount of capacity becoming available is actually more than the demand. Is there a possibility that these projects over deliver and become financially unsustainable in the short term?