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SAfricaForum



AFRICA
FORUM 2026



Welcome Address by
QS Leadership



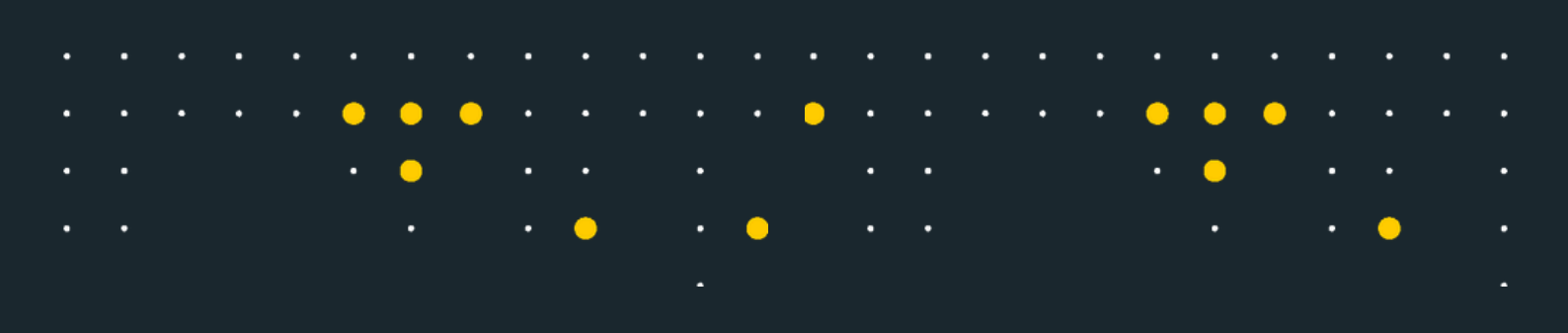
Dr Ashwin Fernandes
Vice President, Strategic and
International Engagement,
QS Quacquarelli Symonds

AFRICA FORUM 2026



Africa Forum 2026

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



**“The Forum has
created something
very valuable; an
ecosystem that brings
together universities,
vice-chancellors and
partners around a
shared vision.”**

Layne Robinson
Founder and Director
People-Centred Strategies

Our Partners

We would like to thank all our partners for making the conference exceptionally successful.

Host

Platinum



Silver



Universitas
Sumatera Utara

Lanyard

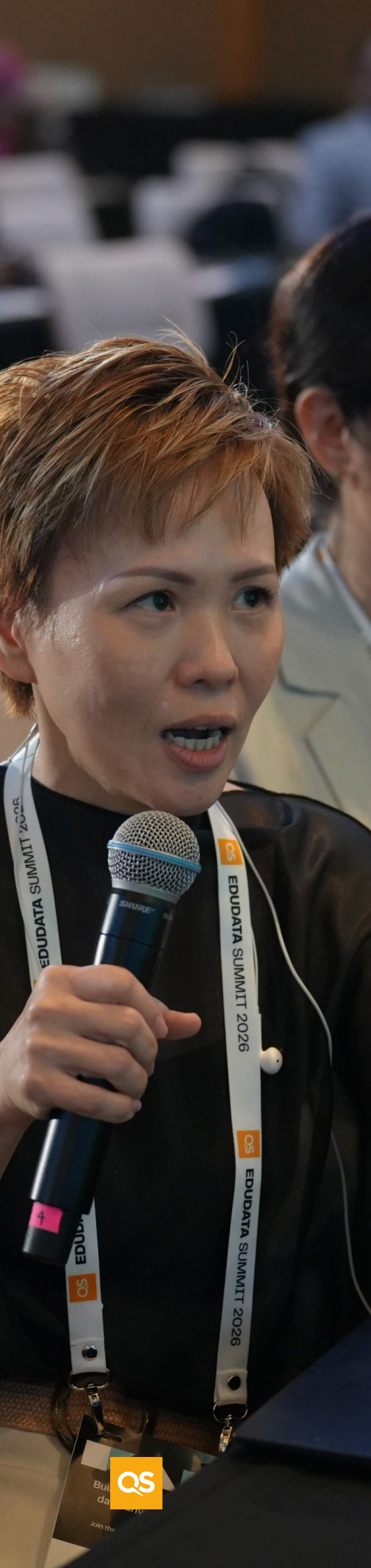
Official Credentials Partner



If you would like to support any future edition of the QS Africa Forum or other QS conferences, learn how partnering with us can increase your academic and professional network across the globe.



[Find out more](#)



Testimonials

“Attending the QS EduData Summit 2026 was a highly enriching and insightful experience. The discussions on emerging technologies and innovative educational practices offered practical strategies that can be adapted to enhance teaching, learning, and administrative processes within our institution.”

Christian Jay Fajartin

International Linkage, Research and Extension Director
Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Colleges, Inc.

“The quality of the discussions, the diversity of perspectives, and the willingness to openly share ideas and challenges have made the past two days incredibly valuable for everyone.”

Mohab Saleh

Executive Director of Business Development
Galala University

“The data-driven AI sessions at the Summit provided critical insights into integrating real-time labor market trends into the curriculum. It deeply reinforced that while AI serves as a powerful automation tool, final problem framing and strategic decision-making must remain human-centric.”

Dr Soyun Park

Research Fellow
Sunchon National University



Event Stats

Key statistics

152

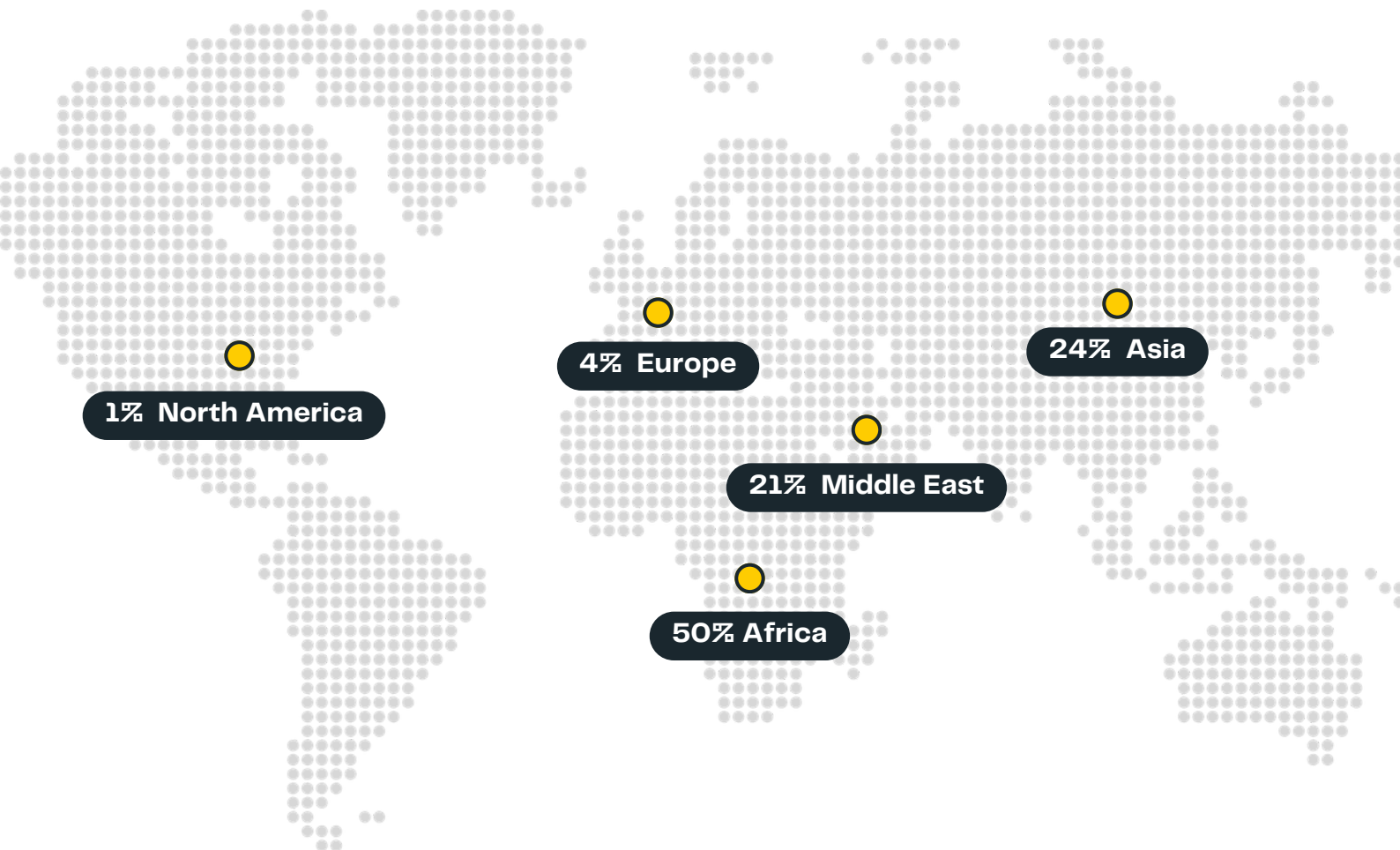
Total number of attendees

27

Total number of locations represented

45

Total number of speakers



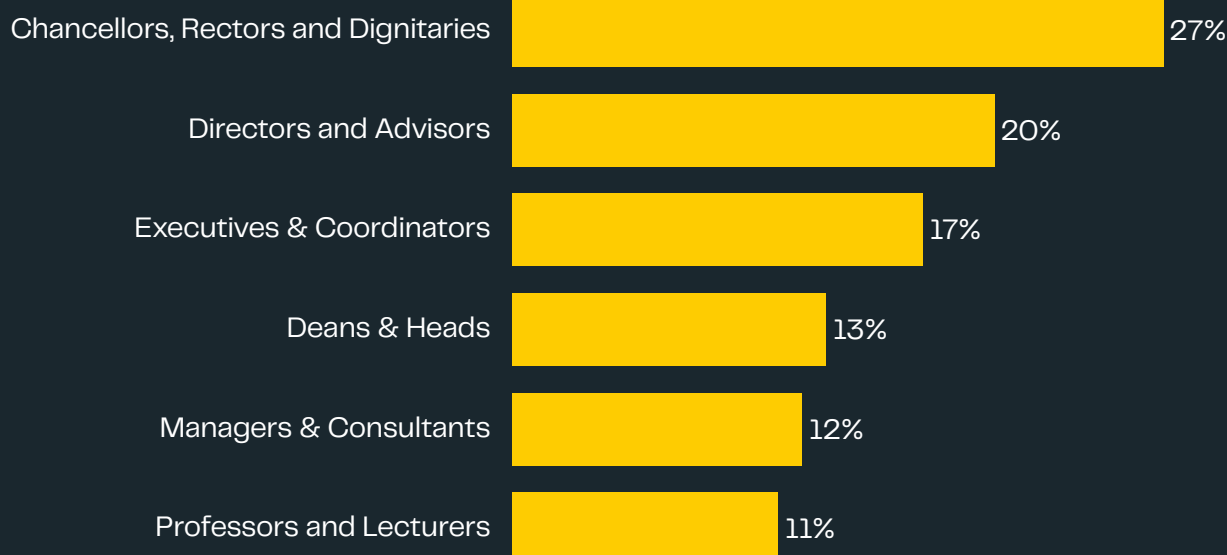
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Vice President, Strategic and
International Engagement,
QS Quacquarelli Symonds

Event Stats

Audience Profile



What our attendees say

5.6/6

Overall
experience of
the Summit

5.7/6

QS Summits
App

5.3/6

Programme
content

5.5/6

Networking
opportunities

5.9/6

Venue

Key Learnings

QS Africa Summit 2026

Delegates explored Africa's growing role as a global talent powerhouse and the partnerships needed to strengthen higher education, research and economic growth across the continent.

Throughout the Forum, one message emerged consistently: sustainable progress will depend on investing in people and building stronger partnerships across institutions, sectors, and borders.

An example of successful partnership development was the signing of the Addis Ababa Declaration between the Association of African Universities, the Association of Arab Universities and QS to explore deeper collaboration in research, mobility and capacity building.

Here are five key takeaways from the two-day programme:



Africa's youth population is one of the world's most powerful talent pipelines



Global engagement must strengthen, not drain talent



Talent development is essential to economic growth



Governments, universities and industry must work more effectively together



AI is reshaping opportunities for learning and skills development at scale

The Addis Ababa Declaration

At the QS Africa Forum 2026, the Association of Arab Universities, the Association of African Universities and QS adopted the **Addis Ababa Declaration**, establishing the Arab–Africa Presidents Forum. The inaugural convening will take place alongside the QS Africa Forum 2027.

This new platform will strengthen collaboration between two regions that are home to the world's youngest populations, advancing research partnerships, researcher mobility, gender equality in leadership and the future skills agenda.



Speaker Spotlight

We would like to thank our esteemed speakers including



**Prof Kindeya
Gebrehiwot**
State Minister and
Advisor, FDRE Ministry
of Education



**Prof Olusola Bandele
Oyewole**
Secretary General,
Association of African
Universities



**Dr Precious Petiwe
Matutu**
Chief Executive Officer,
Universities South Africa



Prof Anas R. Alsoud
Executive Director,
Association of Arab
Universities



Semira Alhadi Jizuli
Board Chair, Forum for
African Women
Educationalists
(FAWE) – Ethiopia
Chapter



Dr Ashwin Fernandes
Chair, QS India and Vice
President, Strategic and
International
Engagement



**Prof Ahmed Ali
Alraeesi**
Vice Chancellor, United
Arab Emirates
University (UAEU)



**Dr Tasmeera
Rajcoomar Singh**
Deputy President,
International
Education Association
of South Africa



Layne Robinson
Founder & Director,
People-Centred
Strategies (PCS)



Lilian Njeri Munene
Founder & Executive
Director, Ayenit Alolom
Africa

QS Africa Forum 2026 Gallery



[View Summit photos](#)

[Watch highlights video](#)

Summit gallery



[View Summit photos](#)

QS Conferences 2026



QS India Summit
1–3 February
Goa, India



Global Skills Week
25–26 March
Washington D.C., USA



QS China Summit
8–9 April
Shenzhen, China



QS EduData Summit
3–4 June
Singapore



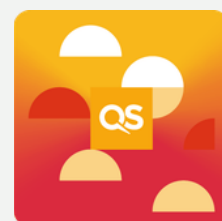
**QS Higher Ed Summit:
Europe & MoveON
Conference**
24–25 & 25–26 June
Budapest, Hungary



QS Africa Forum
9–10 July
Addis Ababa,
Ethiopia



**Back to School
Summit**
15–17 September
New York, USA



**QS Higher Ed Summit:
Americas**
30 September–2 October
Guadalajara, Mexico



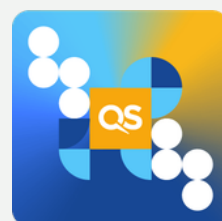
QS Arab Forum
14–15 October
Riyadh,
Saudi Arabia



**QS Higher Ed Summit:
Asia Pacific**
3–5 November
Bali, Indonesia



QS Eurasia Forum
19 November
Astana,
Kazakhstan



**QS Higher Ed Summit:
Middle East**
22–24 November
Abu Dhabi, UAE



**QS Reimagine Education
Conference & Awards**
7–8 December
London, UK



[Access the latest information](#)



Dates and locations of conferences are subject to change, please check our websites for any updates.



AFRICA FORUM 2027

May 2027

**Be part of the transformative
discussions that enable quality higher
education across Africa.**

Learn more



See how QS can work with you to achieve your goals

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