

# 2021 Africa Forum



## **DR. Edem Adzogenu - Co-chair, AfroChampions**

DR. Adzogenu is an accomplished investment facilitation, government affairs and international crisis management specialist for global investors and businesses across Africa, Europe and Asia. His global experience ranges from advising African Heads of State, Fortune 100 companies, G7 countries and African regional institutions, to helping resolve disputes over multi-billion-dollar concessions in war-threatened regions.

Dr Adzogenu has been at the forefront of ground-breaking initiatives to promote the role of the African private sector in regional and continental integration. In particular, he is a co-founder and Executive Committee chair of the Afro Champions Initiative, a regional public-private partnership organization. The mission of Afro Champions is to galvanize policy frameworks and innovative corporate alliances supporting the emergence and success of African private sector champions in the regional and global spheres.

- Under his leadership, Afro Champions has signed a partnership agreement with the African Union Commission to serve as the AU's lead private sector partner in the AfCFTA process. Jointly with the AU Department of Trade and Industry, Dr Adzogenu led a regional sensitization campaign co-organised with multiple business associations and chambers of trade and commerce in Senegal, Guinea, Ghana, Togo, Cape Verde, Democratic Republic of Congo and Cote D'Ivoire.
- He championed the landmark "Trillion Dollar Investment & Financing Framework in support of AfCFTA Implementation" and led a multi-country advocacy effort of AU leadership that resulted in the Framework being officially endorsed and adopted by African Heads of State in their Summit Decision at the February 2020 Summit in Addis Ababa. He is currently leading the Afro Champions team to operationalise the Framework which aims to facilitate one trillion dollars' worth of investments into AfCFTA-accelerated cross border projects in Africa by 2030.
- Dr Adzogenu is a member of the Afreximbank's Advisory Council for the Intra-Africa Trade Fair, member of the Minerals Africa Development Institution (MADI) Advisory Council and the Policy Center for the New South.
- He is also Chairman of the Board of the Djondo Fellowship, a pan-African business initiative, set up to facilitate cross-border expansions for African companies and groom the next generation of African multinational leaders.

Dr Adzogenu is Co-Chairperson of the Task Force leading the Africa Covid 19 Response Fund, a joint initiative of the African Union, Africa CDC and Afro Champions to mobilize \$400m for a coordinated Africa response to the Covid 19 pandemic. As co-founder of the Pan-African Fashion Initiative (PAFI) in collaboration with AFDB, TDB, Afreximbank, Africa 50 and the African Union, Edem Adzogenu has forged a network of champions from the Cotton, Textiles to Fashion Value Chains with the view to galvanizing policy and financing for Creative Industries and game-changing & mass job creating projects in Africa.