



AFRICA DIALOGUE ON CEMENT FOR GREEN INDUSTRIALIZATION

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

6–8 July 2026

AGENDA

CONTEXT

Cement is central to Africa's development, with an estimated 80% of the continent's 2050 building stock yet to be constructed. As infrastructure and housing needs accelerate – driven by the continent's ambition, as reflected in Agenda 2063, to develop world-class, integrated infrastructure and sustainable built environments as a foundation for industrialization and economic transformation – cement demand is projected to increase significantly by 2050.

If this growth relies on current production methods, emissions from Africa's cement sector could approach levels comparable to the total emissions of today's largest economies. Yet this growth trajectory also presents a clear opportunity. As new capacity is added, African countries can integrate near-term low-carbon measures that are already available and can be scaled. Embedding these approaches early would enable the continent to industrialize and expand infrastructure using future-ready technologies and standards, avoiding carbon lock-in and costly retrofits, while supporting the development of locally relevant value chains.

This knowledge exchange is the first event of its kind in Africa to map the continent's cement decarbonization landscape and define practical pathways for implementation, contributing to advancing [Agenda 2063](#), [SDG 9 \(industry, innovation and infrastructure\)](#) and the [Belém Declaration](#).

* All programme events will take place at Hilton Addis Ababa

MONDAY, 6 JULY

7:30 – 12:00 • **Welcome and Registration**
14:00 – 18:00

8:00 – 12:30 • **Site Visit to Habesha Cement Plant (Optional)**
Holeta Town, 35 km from Addis Ababa
Meeting point at Hilton Addis Ababa

16:00 – 18:00 • **Introduction to cement and concrete decarbonization pathways (Optional)**

18:00 – 21:00 • **Event Welcome and Networking Dinner**



SESSION 1 • Opening and Scene Setting

- ▶ Why cement matters for Africa's green industrialization and development
- ▶ Coordinating global action on cement decarbonization
- ▶ How cement can decarbonize: global trends, regional context, and key decarbonization levers

SESSION 2 • Key levers for low carbon cement production

Deep dives into selected levers, assessing their potential, key barriers, and opportunities, supported by expert framing presentations and private sector case studies from African companies.

BREAK OUTS • Discussions on each key lever:

- ▶ Clinker factor reduction through SCMs: case of LC3
- ▶ Material efficiency in construction
- ▶ Alternative fuels and co-processing

SESSION 3 • Translating key levers into national strategies and roadmaps

- ▶ Low-carbon cement roadmaps: Importance, key elements, stakeholders, and linkages with NDCs and construction roadmaps
- ▶ Panel discussion: Aligning Africa's industrialization and climate ambitions through national strategies and sectoral roadmaps

BREAK OUTS • Discussions on cement decarbonization roadmap development

18:00 – 21:00 • Evening reception

WEDNESDAY 8 JULY • 09:00 – 17:00

YOUTH • Reflections from Day 1, and the Youth Perspective
INTERVENTION How youth are affected by and can contribute to the industrial transformation

SESSION 4 • Policy enablers for roadmap implementation

Deep dive into key policy instruments to operationalize levers and implement national strategies and roadmaps with case studies on policy implementation

- ▶ Measurement, Reporting and Verification
- ▶ Green public procurement
- ▶ Material standards and building codes
- ▶ Waste and co-processing regulations

BREAK OUTS • World Café discussions on key policy instruments

SESSION 5 • From concepts to financed projects

Practical pathways to mobilize international and private finance and translate low-carbon cement concepts into financed projects.

- ▶ Expert framing: financing landscape and instruments, international case studies, and Article 6 carbon markets
- ▶ Panel discussion: Investing in cement decarbonization, perspectives from different financial actors

Project and Partnership Marketplace

CLOSING • Way forward to COP22

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