



VIRTUAL EVENT

25 MAY

6:30PM CAT

4:30PM GMT | 8:30PM MUT



AFRICA LEADS THE WAY

AFRICADAY

RECOGNITION CELEBRATION



AFRICA LEADS THE WAY

AFRICA DAY CELEBRATION

The 'Africa Leads the Way' themed 90-minute online event will aim to inspire growth and foster pride across Africa. We will do this by recognising a selection of outstanding corporate leaders while showcasing Africa's leadership potential with vibrant energy.

Shining a light on an Africa that will no longer be underestimated. Rather recognised for its immense talent, commitment, hard work, resilience, and excellence in leadership and global contributions.

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Aletta Rochat

Toastmasters International President (2025-2026)



WELCOME MESSAGE

LET US SHINE A LIGHT ON AFRICA TOGETHER

It is with great pride and excitement that we welcome you to the 2026 Africa Day Recognition Celebration, themed "Africa Leads the Way." Today, we come together not only to commemorate Africa Day, but to honour the extraordinary spirit, resilience, and leadership that continues to shape our continent and influence the world.

Africa Day is a powerful reminder of our shared history and collective journey – one rooted in unity, courage, and progress. It reflects how far we have come, and more importantly, the immense potential that lies ahead. Across industries, communities, and nations, African leaders are rising with bold ideas, innovative solutions, and an unwavering commitment to excellence.

This celebration is more than an event – it is a platform to recognise and uplift the Movers and Shakers who are driving meaningful change. These are leaders who embody the values of integrity, respect, service, and excellence, and who continue to make a lasting impact in their organisations and communities. Their stories remind us that leadership is not defined by position, but by purpose and action.

At Toastmasters, we believe that effective communication is the foundation of great leadership. For over a century, Toastmasters International has empowered individuals to find their voice, build confidence, and lead with clarity. Today, that mission is alive and thriving across Africa, where a new generation of leaders is stepping forward to shape the future with confidence and conviction.

As we gather for this celebration, we invite you to be inspired, to connect, and to reflect on your own journey of growth and leadership. Whether you are an experienced professional, an emerging leader, or someone passionate about Africa's progress, your presence here contributes to a larger movement – one that is redefining Africa's narrative on the global stage.

Africa is not a continent of potential alone; it is a continent of action, innovation, and leadership. Together, we are telling a new story – one of strength, collaboration, and limitless possibility.

Welcome to this celebration of excellence. Welcome to Africa leading the way.

Aletta Rochat
Toastmasters International President (2025-2026)





Over 100 years of voices that inspire, lead and connect

For over a 100 years, Toastmasters has been shaping confident communicators and courageous leaders, turning ordinary voices into extraordinary influence.”

Founded in 1924 by Dr Ralph C. Smedley in Santa Ana, California, Toastmasters International began as his pioneering idea to create a supportive environment where individuals could practise speaking, learn by doing, and grow into leaders. What started as a modest club has grown into a global institution, now spanning 150 countries and empowering millions of members. Over the course of a century, it has continually evolved to meet the needs of modern professionals, proving itself as a trusted partner for both personal growth and corporate success. Its century-long journey is not simply longevity, but proof of enduring relevance and impact across generations of business and society.

Over the decades, Toastmasters has become a trusted partner for organisations seeking to strengthen their workforce. It equips employees with practical workplace skills such as project management, conflict resolution, online meeting management and interview preparation, while instilling values of integrity, respect, service and excellence. These qualities enhance business performance and foster workplaces where people feel valued, connected and motivated to grow.

In a world of globalisation, digital transformation and constant change, the ability to communicate clearly and lead effectively is more vital than ever. Toastmasters provides companies with a safe, structured and cost-effective solution to develop these skills, ensuring their teams are resilient, adaptable and ready to thrive. It is not simply a training programme, but a century-old investment in people, culture and corporate success.



Toastmasters transforms communication into confidence, leadership into impact, and employees into the competitive edge your company needs.

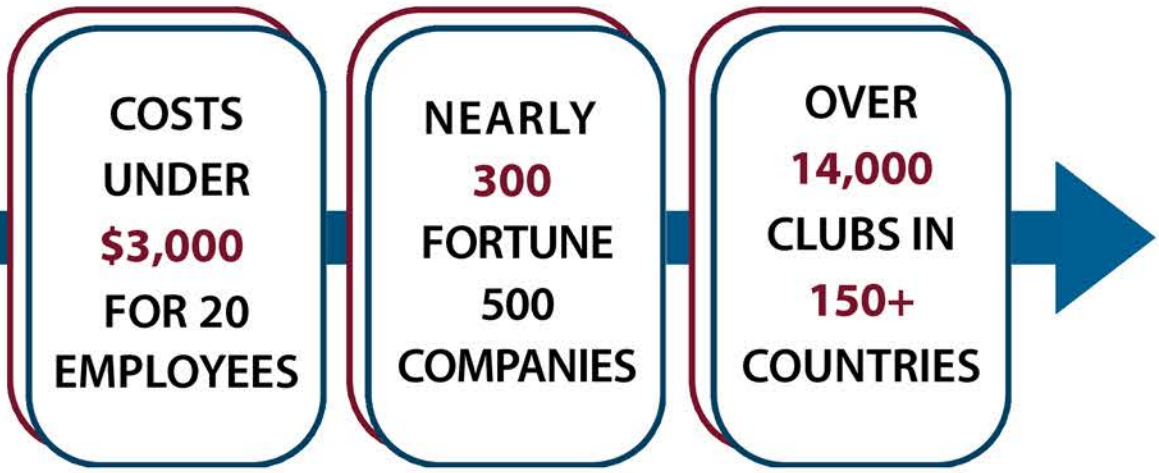




Build confidence, community and true connection in your company

“Toastmasters is a chance for you to interact with folks of all levels... that you wouldn't normally talk to as part of your job.”

How Toastmasters delivers real Return on Investment



EMPOWER YOUR TEAMS. STRENGTHEN YOUR CULTURE. UNLOCK MEASURABLE RESULTS.

Corporate Toastmasters clubs are a proven, low-cost way to sharpen employee skills, strengthen culture, and deliver measurable ROI. Nearly 300 Fortune 500 companies already use them, plus the results speak for themselves.

COST-EFFECTIVE TRAINING

For under \$3,000 a year, 20 employees get continuous development in communication and leadership. That's far cheaper than conferences or external trainers, with flexible options for sponsorship, dues, or meeting space.

CUTTING MISCOMMUNICATION COSTS

The average company loses \$420,000 annually to poor communication. Toastmasters' structured practice in speaking, listening, and feedback builds clarity and confidence. Saving money and preventing mistakes.

LEADERSHIP AND SOFT SKILLS THAT STICK

Through Toastmasters' Pathways programme, employees gain presentation, collaboration, and time-management skills. Research shows companies that invest in leadership development are 29 times more likely to succeed in major transformations.

COMMUNITY AND RETENTION

Weekly one-hour meetings foster camaraderie, cross-departmental networking, and cultural awareness. Employees report higher satisfaction and confidence, boost-ing retention and creating a workplace people enjoy.

PROVEN AT THE TOP

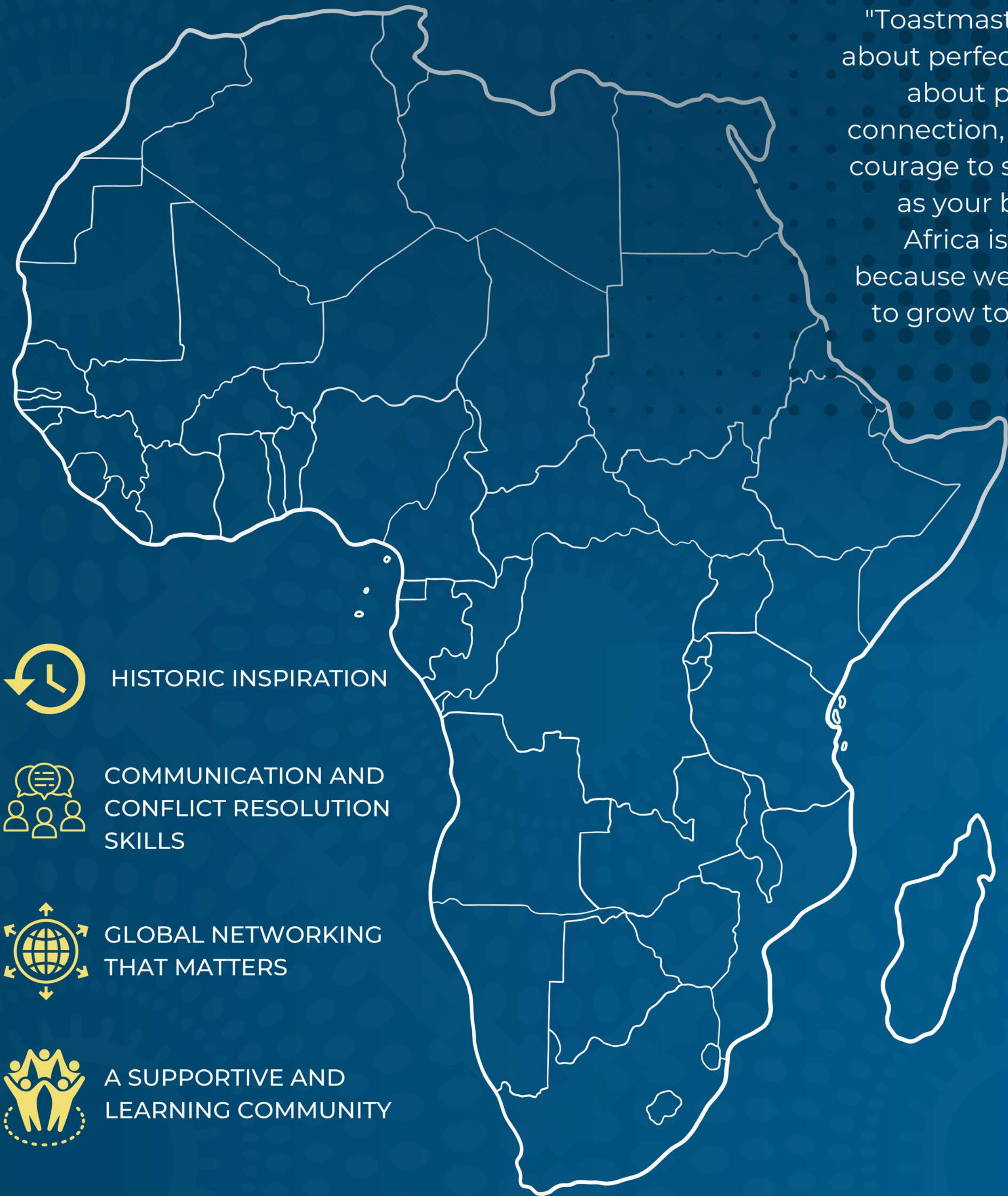
Global giants use Toastmasters to pre-prepare staff for presentations, sales meetings, and executive networking. Clubs strengthen the workforce and help companies stand out in competitive talent markets.



Getting started is simple. Please take a look at the contact details for a representative near you at the back of this brochure. Otherwise visit toastmasters.org/start-a-club or email corporaterelations@toastmasters.org. Clubs can be employee-only or open, fully sponsored or self-formed, tailored to your company's needs.

IGNITE CONFIDENCE, LEADERSHIP & UNITY IN YOUR WORKPLACE

"Toastmasters isn't about perfection. It's about progress, connection, and the courage to show up as your best self. Africa is leading because we choose to grow together."



There's a unique mindset here,
we believe we can do anything, so we do.



Aletta Rochat 2025–2026 International President

THEME

AFRICA LEADS THE WAY



A VIRTUAL CELEBRATION TO RECOGNISE AFRICA'S TALENT

AFRICA DAY RECOGNITION CELEBRATION

Aletta Rochat, DTM, from Cape Town, has made history as the first African elected Toastmasters International President in the organisation's 100-year history. Her achievement is a proud milestone for Toastmasters across Africa and a powerful symbol of the continent's rising global influence. Inspired by her vision that "Africa Leads the Way," Toastmasters is proud to host the Africa Day Recognition Celebration to honour exceptional African leaders who are making a real difference.

At Toastmasters, we believe leadership is built through effective communication, personal growth, and service. Guided by our values of Respect, Integrity, Service, and Excellence, we empower confident communicators and visionary leaders who create lasting impact.

The Africa Day Recognition Celebration will be held as a virtual event on Zoom. This format ensures broad reach and maximum inclusivity, allowing leaders from across Africa and beyond to participate easily.

During the programme, we will celebrate the Movers & Shakers, the nominated guests and honourees who are strengthening Africa every day. These outstanding leaders have kept their organisations thriving through challenging economic conditions. They continue to innovate resilient business models, create jobs, champion sustainability, drive digital transformation, and support meaningful community development.

WHO WILL BE SPEAKING AT THE AFRICA LEADS THE WAY EVENT?

The distinguished **Movers & Shakers** and guests will include:

- Toastmasters International President (2025–2026), Aletta Rochat, DTM
- President-elect (2026–2027), Olayinka Hakeem Babalola
- CEO, South African Chamber of Commerce UK (SACCUK), Svend Littauer
- Legendary Toastmaster from Africa are achieving greatness

The objective of the Africa Day Recognition Celebration is to honour outstanding African talent while building strategic networks for future collaboration in leadership development. The event connects Toastmasters' proven communication and leadership training with the real-world expertise of corporate and international leaders.

In a world that increasingly recognises Africa's importance, this is more than a celebration, it is a powerful gathering of forward-thinking leaders committed to excellence. Whether you are a corporate executive, rising professional, entrepreneur, or someone inspired by African achievement, your participation will enrich the conversation and expand your own impact.

Join us at the Africa Day Recognition Celebration, called, '**Africa Leads the Way**'. Draw inspiration from true Movers & Shakers, build valuable networks, and help showcase African leadership on the global stage. Register today, together, we don't just recognise greatness, we multiply it.

Join our LinkedIn page on the link below:
www.linkedin.com/company/121334018

"People often underestimate Africa, but we know the talent, courage, and commitment that lives here."

Aletta Rochat, Distinguished Toastmaster, Toastmasters International President (2025-2026)

AFRICA DAY 90-MINUTE VIRTUAL CELEBRATION



AFRICA DAY

MON, 25 MAY 2026



6:30PM CAT

4:30PM GMT | 8:30 MUT



VIRTUAL EVENT

ZOOM

SCAN TO JOIN



"Africa is undoubtedly the future and heart of global trade and commerce, and South Africa remains the gateway for the world to access these new opportunities and economies. The future begins now, and welcomes both SMEs and corporate organisations to partake and enjoy the fruits of their investment and labour." - David White, DRG, TAMI, BusinessFit SA, SA Lead for SACCUK



ABOUT

AFRICA DAY

"THE AFRICA WE WANT"



Celebrating Unity, Heritage, and the Future of Our Continent

"In the heart of Africa, true leadership rises not from power, but from unity. Like the ancient baobab, it stands resilient through storms, roots deep in our shared soil, lifting every voice to harvest tomorrow's dawn together."



WHY WE CELEBRATE AFRICA DAY

Africa Day, observed every 25 May, marks the founding of the Organisation of African Unity (now the African Union) in 1963. Leaders from across the continent came together in Addis Ababa to promote solidarity, support decolonisation, and lay the foundation for a united Africa.

This day honors our shared history of resilience against colonialism and celebrates the incredible diversity and achievements of our 54 nations. From vibrant cultures and languages to innovation and natural wonders, Africa Day reminds us of our collective strength and potential.

WHY IT MATTERS

In a world that often highlights challenges, Africa Day shines a light on progress, hope, and the spirit of Ubuntu. "I am because we are." It inspires us to work toward Agenda 2063: a peaceful, prosperous Africa driven by its people.

FUN FACTS

- Ubuntu, meaning "I am because we are," shapes African communities by emphasising shared humanity, collective responsibility, and compassionate leadership.
- The African Continental Free Trade Area unites 1.3 billion people, creating the world's largest single market and boosting intra-African investment.
- Africa is the second-largest continent and home to the world's largest hot desert (Sahara) and the longest river (Nile).
- Between 1,500 and 2,000 languages are spoken across Africa, about one-third of the world's total!
- African proverbs act as guiding principles, teaching wisdom, patience, and respect are often used by elders to inspire and resolve conflicts.
- The African Continental Free Trade Area unites 1.3 billion people, creating the world's largest single market and boosting intra-African investment.
- African wildlife conservation projects often rely on local communities, showing how protecting nature strengthens leadership, resilience, and sustainable livelihoods
- Africa is the cradle of humanity: Fossil evidence shows that modern humans (Homo sapiens) originated in Africa around 300,000 years ago. Every person on Earth today can trace their ancestry back to the African continent!



CELEBRATING THE LEADERS DRIVING AFRICAN GROWTH



PRESIDENT-ELECT (2026-27), ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Babalola holds a degree in engineering and spent more than 30 years in the oil and gas sector, including senior leadership roles at Shell PLC. He founded the Riviera Technical Services Ltd., an oil and gas infrastructure delivery firm, as well as Lead and Change Consulting, an executive coaching and organizational performance consultancy. Babalola became involved with Rotary in 1984 through Rotaract - Rotary's program for young professionals and students - and joined the Rotary Club of Trans Amadi in 1994. He has since held a number of leadership roles within the organization and recently served as a trustee of ShelterBox UK, Rotary's official project partner for disaster relief. He and his wife, Preba, support The Rotary Foundation through a named endowment and are members of the Arch Klumph Society, which recognizes Rotary's highest level of philanthropic giving. His Rotary honors include the Africa Centennial Heroes Award, the Service Above Self Award, the Regional Service Award for a Polio-Free World, and The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service.



Olayinka Babalola



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SOUTH AFRICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Svend Littauer is the Chief Executive Officer of the South African Chamber of Commerce in the UK. He also runs his own business, spending the last two decades playing a key role in growing businesses by offering support services to entrepreneurs with global ambitions. He founded entreprenör in 2017, with the aim of extending his expertise to collaborations across continents, through connecting like-minded people whose drive and passion create value beyond pure professional service delivery.



Svend Littauer

"Speaking and leadership skills are catalysts for opportunity. Toastmasters builds self-belief and confidence, which are essential for career development and driving powerful growth across Africa."

- Aletta Rochat, DTM, Toastmasters International President 2025–2026



Yonela Motloun

Master of Ceremonies

ABOUT OUR MC

Yonela is an award-winning public speaker and leader who honed her skills in Toastmasters International, a public speaking organisation. Born in Eastern Cape and having lived in Limpopo, she's able to engage crowd's in Xhosa, Sotho, Zulu and of course English!

A marketing professional with over 15 years' experience, public speaking and career coaching became her second nature. This gave birth to a career as event MC and conversation facilitator. Her natural, flowing and conversational approach to running events makes everyone feel like they belong! She's witty, fun and quick to think on the spot adding a great flavor to your special occasion....

ABOUT

AFRICA DAY

MEET THE TEAM

Photograph on the right depicts the inaugural in-person meet and greet held in Cape Town, South Africa, with David White and Aletta Rochat.



KERRI-LEA ADLAM

Event Lead

Serving as the lead behind this publication and project, working to transform the vision into reality, through collaboration and strategic execution. Focussed on empowering communities and fostering innovation, I guided the project from concept to completion with the invaluable support of mentors, a dedicated team, and the wider community. I am deeply grateful to each person who brought every detail to life. Thank you all.



KERRI

MAUD NALE

Co-Lead

I am a strategic PR and communications leader passionate about shaping narratives that build trust, influence perception, and drive business success. Also a Bilingual Communications Strategist (EN/FR), shaping reputation and trust through strategic storytelling



MAUD

FRANK TSURO

Event Logistics Coordinator

Alignment Strategist. Working with first-generation leaders who reached the top through grit and ability, but who were never given the invisible playbook. I diagnose and fix execution breakdowns in leadership teams. Through investigation, private conversations with the people around you, mapping the real power structure behind the formal one and finding the gap between what leadership says the priorities are and where time and money actually go.



FRANK

"David, thank you for connecting Toastmasters with the South African Chamber of Commerce UK, uniting shared purpose and impact. This powerful synergy reflects our theme: Africa leads the way."

- Aletta Rochat



AFRICA DAY

MEET THE TEAM

"SHINING A LIGHT ON AFRICA"



GRANNY BE007

GRANNY BE007

Co-Lead / Corporate Liasion

Granny Be007 is CEO of the TV station TBN Namibia and is also passionate about grooming leaders, creatively sharing secret success solutions. She has over 30 years of leadership experience and has trained and coached many leaders. She is focused on the power of INTENTIONAL leadership to create "Winning Teams".



BERTUS

BERTUS THERON

Zoom Master



LEYA

LEYA MUSUNGA

Zoom Master



ESTELLE

ESTELLE ENGELBRECHT

Zoom Master



FIYIN

FIYIN TOYO

Event Flow
Controller



SHUKRI

SHUKRI WIENER

Event Flow
Controller



ANDREA

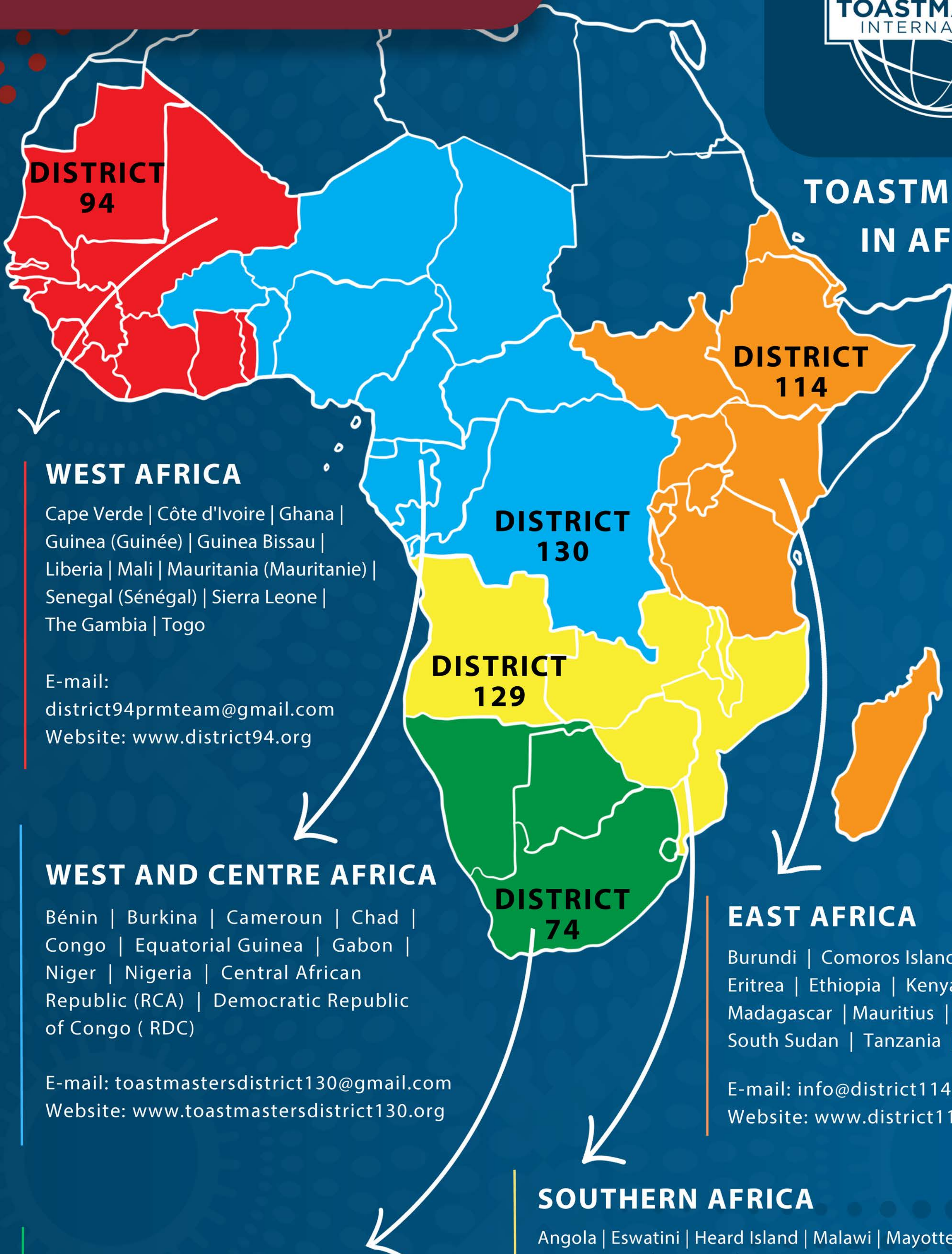
ANDREA BAPTISA

Theme Song

CONTACT US



TOASTMASTERS IN AFRICA



DISTRICT 94

WEST AFRICA

Cape Verde | Côte d'Ivoire | Ghana |
Guinea (Guinée) | Guinea Bissau |
Liberia | Mali | Mauritania (Mauritanie) |
Senegal (Sénégal) | Sierra Leone |
The Gambia | Togo

E-mail:
district94prmteam@gmail.com
Website: www.district94.org

WEST AND CENTRE AFRICA

Bénin | Burkina | Cameroun | Chad |
Congo | Equatorial Guinea | Gabon |
Niger | Nigeria | Central African
Republic (RCA) | Democratic Republic
of Congo (RDC)

E-mail: toastmastersdistrict130@gmail.com
Website: www.toastmastersdistrict130.org

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Botswana | Bouvet Island | Lesotho |
Namibia | Saint Helena | Sao Tomé |
South Africa

E-mail: admin@toastmasters74.org
Website: www.toastmasters74.org

DISTRICT 114

EAST AFRICA

Burundi | Comoros Islands | Djibouti |
Eritrea | Ethiopia | Kenya |
Madagascar | Mauritius | Rwanda |
South Sudan | Tanzania | Uganda

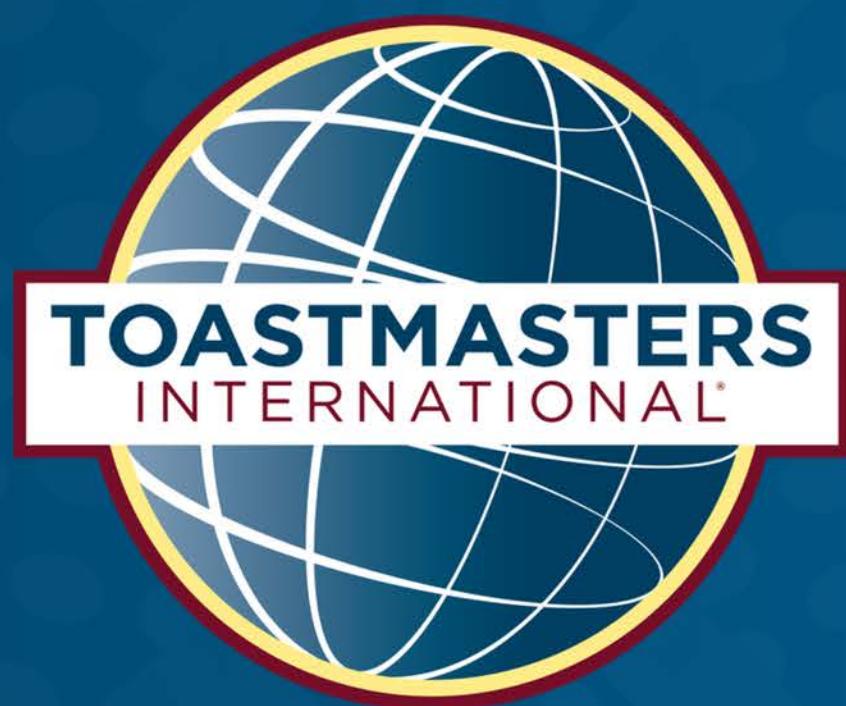
E-mail: info@district114.org
Website: www.district114.org

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Angola | Eswatini | Heard Island | Malawi | Mayotte |
Mozambique | Réunion | Seychelles | Zambia (Zambie) |
Zimbabwe

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Website: www.toastmasters129.org

AFRICA 
LEADS THE WAY



www.toastmasters.org