



Nigeria-EU Science  
& Innovation Day 2026

PANEL 3

# Investors' roundtable: From capital to commitment

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# Nigeria-EU Science & Innovation Day 2026

Lagos | 24 February 2026

**PANEL 3** **Investors' roundtable:  
From capital to commitment**

## **Duration**

45 minutes (13:15 – 14:00)

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## **Format**

Moderated roundtable

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## **Moderator**

Ms Nienke Buisman,  
Head of International Cooperation,  
European Commission, DG Research & Innovation

## Executive framing

Nigeria does not lack ideas, talent or ambition. What remains constrained is the scale, structure and alignment of capital required to translate research, technology and creativity into globally competitive enterprises.

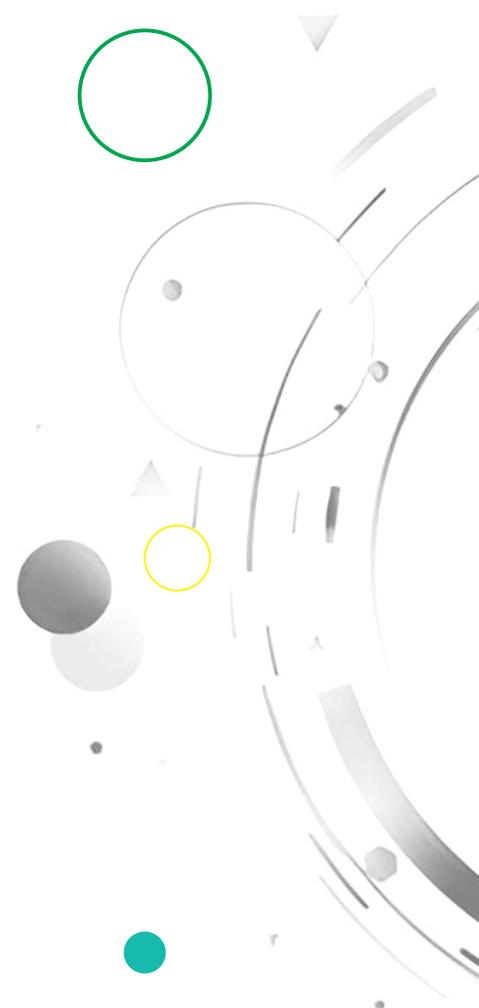
This Investors' Roundtable is conceived not as a reflection exercise, but as a commitment forum. It convenes public, private and development finance actors from Nigeria and Europe to confront a central question: how do we move from ecosystem rhetoric to deployable capital and measurable employment outcomes?



# Background and rationale

The Nigeria–EU Science & Innovation Day 2026 advances a shared ambition to strengthen science, technology and innovation cooperation between Nigeria and the European Union. However, research excellence and entrepreneurial dynamism cannot scale without catalytic and risk-aligned investment.

Nigeria's innovation ecosystem remains undercapitalised at the early and growth stages, particularly in research commercialisation and deep-tech ventures. At the same time, investors are increasingly exploring new instruments in green growth, digital transformation and youth-led enterprise. This roundtable situates capital as a strategic lever for unlocking innovation-driven growth and cross-border partnership.



# Strategic purpose

The session will:



Participants will be invited to respond directly to two questions:

**1.**

Based on your experience, how can we scale up investments into Nigerian science and innovation ecosystems, to enable them to grow also internationally?

**2.**

As you are talking also to an audience of researchers, innovators, entrepreneurs – what would you need to hear from them to be convinced in investing in their science and innovations?

# Guiding themes

Risk-sharing  
and blended  
finance

Nigeria–  
Europe co-  
investment  
models

Research  
commer-  
cialisation  
pathways

Youth  
employment  
and scalable  
enterprise  
growth

Aligning  
capital with  
policy reform

# Proposed participants



**Ms Yemi Keri**  
Africa Business  
Angels Network



**Dr Isa E. Omagu**  
Chief Strategy and  
Development Officer,  
Bank of Industry



**Mr Adekunle Adebisi**  
MBO Capital



**Ms Fifehan Osikanlu**  
CEO, EDEN Ventures



**Mr Ejike Egbuagu**  
Moneda Invest Africa



**Ms Nienke Buisman**  
Head of International  
Cooperation, European  
Commission, DG Research  
& Innovation

This composition ensures representation across angel networks, venture capital, public finance institutions and development finance actors, creating a balanced and influential capital perspective.

# Expected outcome

The roundtable aims to move beyond analysis towards directional commitments, clearer alignment between capital and innovation policy, and a strengthened investment architecture capable of translating innovation into jobs, growth and global competitiveness.

FACT





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