



June 16-20, 2026  Ethiopian Skylight Hotel | Addis Ababa

## ANCHORING SYSTEMS IN AN ERA OF TRANSITION

The philanthropic ecosystem is navigating its most significant structural reconfiguration in decades. Fewer than one in five people in major donor markets express high confidence in charitable institutions, representing a fundamental legitimacy crisis rooted in how philanthropy has operated and whom it has centered. A generational wealth transfer of \$124 trillion is underway through 2048, bringing donors whose values and deployment preferences differ markedly from their predecessors: they prioritize purpose, environmental sustainability, and measurable outcomes at significantly higher rates. Federal and bilateral funding streams that sustained civil society organizations for years are collapsing, forcing organizations built on predictable grant cycles to confront dangerous overreliance on single funding sources. Localization rhetoric has dominated development discourse for nearly a decade without corresponding structural change: only 12.6% of international giving was genuinely localized between 2016 and 2019, while African-led organizations receive less than 2% of international development funding despite proven capacity and proximity advantages.

It is within this context that the East Africa Philanthropy Network convenes the **10th East Africa Philanthropy Conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**. This convening gathers foundations, trusts, corporate social investors, policymakers, civil society leaders, researchers, and social entrepreneurs to build the anchoring systems required to provide stability through transition: infrastructure investment, trust architecture, coordination platforms, evidence generation, and financing instruments that pool risk and resources. These are the structural mechanisms that allow the ecosystem to absorb volatility, adapt to shifting capital flows, maintain legitimacy through governance transformation, and position locally-led organizations as architects rather than implementers.

This logistical note provides guidance on travel arrangements, accommodation, venue facilities, registration procedures, health and safety protocols, and networking opportunities.

### ARRIVAL & ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Delegates will arrive at **Bole International Airport (ADD)**, Ethiopia's primary international gateway. The airport offers extensive connectivity across the continent and beyond through Ethiopian Airlines, Africa's largest carrier.

Ethiopia maintains a progressive visa regime. **Citizens of Kenya and Djibouti enjoy visa-free access**. All other nationalities may obtain visas through two channels: the **e-Visa portal ([www.evisa.gov.et](http://www.evisa.gov.et))**, which we recommend for advance processing, or **visa on arrival** at Bole International Airport. The e-Visa is valid for tourism, business, and transit purposes, with processing typically completed within 72 hours. Delegates should ensure their passports maintain at least six months' validity from the intended date of entry and carry two blank pages for entry stamps.

**Airport transfers** will be coordinated for all registered delegates. Upon clearing immigration, please proceed to the arrivals hall where designated representatives will be stationed with **"10th East Africa Philanthropy Conference"** placards for identification. The Ethiopian Skylight Hotel is located a five-minute drive from the airport.

### ACCOMMODATION

The Ethiopian Skylight Hotel serves as the official conference venue and primary accommodation. Inaugurated in 2019 and operated by Ethiopian Airlines, this five-star property is Africa's largest hotel with over 1,000 rooms. The hotel features Addis Ababa's largest ballroom, eight dedicated meeting rooms, six restaurants, a full-service spa, and both indoor and outdoor swimming facilities.

For delegates seeking alternative arrangements, Addis Ababa's Bole district offers several options within close proximity to the venue:

Hotel	Category	Rates (Standard Room per Night)
Ethiopian Skylight Hotel	5-star	USD 140
Golden Tulip Addis Ababa	5-star	USD 105
Radisson Blu Hotel, Addis Ababa	5-star	USD 100
Hyatt Regency Addis	5-star	USD 200
DoubleTree by Hilton Airport	4-star	USD 114
Ramada by Wyndham Addis	4-star	USD 145
Bole Ambassador Hotel	4-star	USD 50
Sheraton Addis	5-star	USD 321
Best Western Plus Pearl Addis	4-star	USD 80

When making reservations, delegates are encouraged to reference the **"10th East Africa Philanthropy Conference"** to access negotiated rates where applicable.

## CONFERENCE VENUE & FACILITIES

The conference will be hosted in the **Ethiopian Skylight Hotel's Grand Ballroom and designated breakout spaces**. The venue's audiovisual systems, lighting, and acoustic design support both plenary sessions and working groups.

**Simultaneous interpretation** will be available in **English and French** throughout the conference. Delegates requiring **accessibility accommodations or special assistance** should notify the EAPN Secretariat in advance.

A **Conference Secretariat** will operate on-site throughout the event, providing support for session navigation, speaker coordination, document access, connectivity assistance, and logistical needs. EAPN staff and volunteers will be stationed across key areas.

## REGISTRATION & CHECK-IN

To facilitate a smooth opening, **early registration** will be available at the Ethiopian Skylight Hotel on **June 16, 2026, from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM**. Delegates arriving later may complete check-in each morning of the conference, with the registration desk opening at **7:00 AM daily**.

Upon registration, delegates will receive their **conference credentials**: personalized name badges, the session schedule, access passes for designated areas, and conference materials. We encourage early check-in.

## MEALS & REFRESHMENTS

The conference will provide mid-morning and afternoon refreshment breaks, lunch service, and evening meals. All meals will be served within the conference venue to maximize networking opportunities and maintain the convening's collaborative rhythm.

Select dinners will be hosted at venues throughout Addis Ababa, offering delegates the opportunity to experience the city's culinary heritage and engage in deeper relationship-building. Details will be communicated in due course.

## HEALTH, SAFETY & TRAVEL CONSIDERATIONS

**Addis Ababa maintains a stable security environment** and is recognized as a safe destination for international conferences and diplomatic gatherings. The city hosts the African Union headquarters, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, and numerous international organizations, with established protocols for such engagements.

Delegates should note several **health considerations** specific to the Ethiopian context. Addis Ababa sits at approximately **2,400 meters above sea level**. Most travelers adjust comfortably within 24 to 48 hours; those with respiratory or cardiovascular conditions should consult their physicians prior to travel.

Regarding **vaccinations**, yellow fever vaccination is required for travelers arriving from endemic countries and recommended for all visitors. We recommend reviewing the latest guidance from the World Health Organization or your national health authority prior to travel.

The conference will adhere to all **national health guidelines** and emergency preparedness protocols. Delegates are advised to carry prescribed medications and necessary medical documentation. **Travel insurance covering medical evacuation** is recommended. Each participant will provide **emergency contact information** during registration.

## NETWORKING & ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The conference is designed as much for the connections forged between sessions as for the formal program itself. Beyond plenary discussions and working groups, we have structured intentional spaces for networking, relationship-building, and collaboration.

A **Welcome Reception and Stakeholder Mixer** will take place on **June 16, 2026, from 6:00 PM** at the Ethiopian Skylight Hotel, offering an opportunity for delegates to reconnect with colleagues and establish new relationships before the formal program begins.

Throughout the conference, **networking sessions, fireside conversations, and thematic roundtables** will create structured opportunities for cross-sector dialogue. These facilitated encounters are designed to generate the conversations that often prove most consequential: the pension fund manager meeting the community foundation leader, the finance ministry official hearing directly from faith-based philanthropists, the established foundation executive discovering alignment with the emerging social entrepreneur.

Delegates are encouraged to use the **official conference application** (details to be communicated prior to the event) to schedule bilateral meetings, identify potential collaborators, access session updates, and navigate the conference program.

## CULTURAL EXCURSIONS & IMPACT VISITS

On **June 20, 2026, from morning until 2:00 PM**, interested delegates will have the opportunity to participate in excursions and impact site visits that engage Ethiopia's cultural heritage and its evolving philanthropic landscape. These experiences are designed to ground the conference's intellectual work in the lived realities of Ethiopian communities and the responses emerging from local actors.

Detailed itineraries, including visits to cultural landmarks, social enterprises, and community-based organizations, will be communicated as the program develops.

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

**Currency:** The Ethiopian Birr (ETB) is the local currency. Major hotels and some establishments accept international credit cards (Visa more widely than Mastercard), though cash remains important for many transactions. ATMs are available at the airport and major hotels; carrying US dollars for exchange is advisable.

**Time Zone:** Ethiopia operates on East Africa Time (EAT), UTC+3. Note that Ethiopia uses a unique calendar and timekeeping system; the 24-hour international format will be used for all conference scheduling.

**Weather:** June falls within Ethiopia's rainy season. Delegates should anticipate afternoon showers and pack accordingly, including layers for cooler evenings at altitude. Daytime temperatures typically range from 15 to 25 degrees Celsius.

**Connectivity:** The venue provides WiFi throughout conference spaces. Local SIM cards are available at the airport and in the city for those requiring mobile data.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

For logistical inquiries, travel assistance, accommodation support, or general conference information, please contact the conference coordination team:

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**For direct inquiries, please reach:**

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We look forward to welcoming you to Addis Ababa for this landmark convening.