



VOICES OF AVCA



Manufacturing Africa is a Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) funded investor readiness programme accelerating FDI investment into Africa. We work with investors, businesses and ecosystem partners to address one of the continent's biggest constraints: the shortage of bankable industrial investment opportunities.

Operating across Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Senegal, we provide technical and transaction support that helps companies become investment-ready, enabling more deals to reach financial close. By helping mobilise capital into high-potential companies, we help create sustainable and inclusive jobs, strengthen local value chains, and drive industrialisation across the continent.

Faheem Chowdhury
Principal
Manufacturing Africa



Tell us about Manufacturing Africa, highlighting key milestones and industry achievements.

Founded in 2019, Manufacturing Africa was established to transform African growth through catalysing industry. Since inception, the programme has helped more than £2 billion in FDI (above its £1.2 billion target) and supported the creation of over 150,000 direct and indirect jobs (43% of which benefit women).

Across six markets, we have supported more than 300 companies and built one of Africa's strongest manufacturing pipelines, comprising opportunities worth over £12 billion. We have also supported some of the largest investors in their assessment of deals, including large DFIs and Private Equity funds in East and West Africa.

Our results demonstrate that effective derisking of deals helps companies reach investors and helps investors better and more quickly generate and assess pipeline opportunities.



Please share an overview of your key priorities, strategic objectives and corporate goals over the next 12 months.

We will continue helping mobilise private capital by helping more manufacturing businesses reach financial close with investors. We will also continue to support investors on their specific diligence requirements and develop market-shaping studies.

In line with the UK's shift from donor to investor, we aim to demonstrate the commercial viability of African manufacturing and strengthen confidence among investors.



What unique strengths, expertise, or strategic approach does your organisation bring to the industry?

Manufacturing Africa provides investor grade Corporate Finance, Diligence, and Impact Deepening (at no cost to those who qualify) support to investors and companies, helping transform promising opportunities into bankable investments. Through world-class delivery partners, including BDO and McKinsey & Company, combined with experienced teams on the ground in every country we operate in, we offer a level of support that many businesses would otherwise struggle to access.

Since inception, we have helped 57 companies reach financial close and have built relationships with 50+ active investors who regularly engage with our manufacturing pipeline. Our model combines deep sector expertise, transaction support, and local market knowledge, enabling us to bridge information gaps and reduce investment risk.

By connecting investors and speeding diligence of high-potential businesses and strengthening the enabling ecosystem, we help convert market potential into deployed capital.

What are Manufacturing Africa's core values and how do they contribute to your success in the industry?

Impact and investability underpin everything we do. We believe sustainable economic transformation requires commercially viable businesses, strong management teams, and thriving local markets.

The companies we support must demonstrate long-term financial growth and sustainability, the potential to create jobs, improve livelihoods, and create wider impact. We are equally committed to ensuring that investments deliver value for investors while generating broader economic benefits.

Our approach combines the global networks, technical expertise, and insights of BDO and McKinsey & Company with experienced local teams that possess deep market knowledge and long-standing relationships. This blend of world-class capabilities and on-the-ground dealmaking expertise enables us to deliver practical support that creates lasting impact and positions us for long-term success.



What motivated Manufacturing Africa to join AVCA?

Manufacturing Africa's mission is closely aligned with AVCA's role in advancing private capital across the continent.

In collaboration with AVCA, we aim to deepen our engagement with the investor community, bring pipeline and support dealmaking, share lessons from mobilising more than £2 billion in investment, and contribute to conversations shaping the future of investment and development finance in Africa.



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