

#CNVERGE '25 Info Note

Theme: Rethinking Commodity Finance for Growth

WHAT

In light of the continent's continued efforts to translate its vast natural resource endowments into long-term, inclusive economic transformation, GHIB will host CNVERGE '25: a multi-day conference that brings together key actors across trade finance, commodity markets, banking, and policy. The conference is designed to deepen understanding of the evolving dynamics of African commodity trade, and promote actionable dialogue on building a more resilient, competitive, and value-driven trade ecosystem. The conference will explore current trends shaping Africa's position in global commodity markets; assess the continent's trade finance capacity; and facilitate knowledge exchange on emerging opportunities, risks, and policy priorities. With a deliberate emphasis on peer engagement and practical insight, CNVERGE '25 aligns with GHIB's broader mission to be a catalyst for sustainable trade growth across Africa.

WHEN

Wednesday 6th August 2025 – 8th August 2025

WHERE

The Dorchester– 53 Park Lane, London, United Kingdom, W1K 1AQ

WHY

Across Africa, the conversation around resource-led growth is becoming more urgent. Despite being home to significant oil, gas, mineral, and agricultural resources, the continent is still on its quest to unlock long-term development through trade. At the same time, global demand for commodities remains strong, and shifts in energy policy, climate priorities, and trade flows are creating new pressures and possibilities.

CNVERGE '25 provides a platform to think strategically about Africa's next move: how we build stronger value chains, improve trade finance access, and reduce dependency on external aid by leaning into our own resource potential. Discussions will encourage critical thinking around infra structure, regulation, ESG, and the role of banks in enabling sustainable trade. Ultimately, our aim is to foster African-led solutions that reflect the continent's realities and ambitions.



WHO

CNVERGE '25 is intended for professionals engaged in commodity-linked sectors, including:

- Banks and financial institutions (commercial, multilateral, and central banks).
- Commodity traders and supply chain operators.
- Corporates involved in commodity exports.
- Policymakers, regulators, and government representatives.
- Experts in ESG, digital trade solutions, and infrastructure development.

Participants should ideally have a good understanding of Africa's trade and finance environment and be able to engage in detailed, sector-specific discussions in English language.

HOW

Over the course of the conference, participants will engage in a range of sessions built to encourage thoughtful exchanges on trade and finance within Africa's commodity landscape. A spirit of open dialogue and critical inquiry will guide all engagements.

The program will follow a tested format, combining keynote plenaries with smaller discussion groups and break-out activities. Expert speakers will introduce key topics during plenaries, followed by sessions where participants can reflect, ask questions, and share insights from their respective fields.

