

CAPBLEU
BLUESHIFT 2026

Official Report

Canada-Africa Forum on the Port Industry and the Blue Economy

October 7, 8 and 9, 2026 · Centre Mont-Royal, Montréal

Diversify now · Diversifier maintenant

OFFICIAL PRESENTER

PONT-BRIDGE
BRIDGING AFRICA TO THE WORLD

OFFICIAL REPORT · OCTOBER 2026

01 Message from the President



Yaye Peukassa at the CAPBLEU | BLUESHIFT 2026 podium

Ladies and Gentlemen,

From October 7 to 9, 2026, Montréal hosted the second edition of CAPBLEU | BLUESHIFT, under the theme "Diversify now". Eight African port organizations travelled to meet Canadian institutions and companies from the sector, several of them represented by their Director General or the Chair of their Board of Directors. I would first like to thank them for their trust.

Our ambition is simple to state and demanding to fulfil: to connect African port projects with Canadian expertise, capital and partners, and to turn discussions into measurable results. Over these days, port leaders presented their priorities, Canadian companies showcased their solutions and institutions shared their support mechanisms. More than 200 business meeting requests were issued.

Common priorities clearly emerged: digitalization, safety and cybersecurity, multimodality, decarbonization and skills development. They now guide our action.

What I take away from this edition is the quality of the discussions and a shared will to move forward. I also take away our responsibility: a forum is only worth what it produces. The day after the closing, our teams began the follow-up with each delegation.

I warmly thank our partners, the Montreal Port Authority, the participating companies, the speakers and moderators, as well as the teams and volunteers who made this edition possible.

We look forward to seeing you in Montréal from October 5 to 7, 2027 for CAPBLEU | BLUESHIFT 2027. We want it to be the edition of results.

Yaye Peukassa
President and Chief Executive Officer
Canada-Africa Forum · Pont-Bridge Canada

02 The 2026 edition in figures

CAPBLEU | BLUESHIFT 2026 brought together eight African port organizations, the main Canadian institutions of the sector and some twenty specialized companies, around 208 business meeting requests.

8
African port organizations

≈ 40
port delegates

≈ 150
participants

≈ 20
Canadian companies

19
sessions over two days

≈ 40
speakers and moderators

208
business meeting requests

90
business meetings held

2,240 pages viewed on the business meetings platform, October 6 to 9

4.19 / 5 average rating given to business meetings by participants

Digitalization | Safety and cybersecurity | Multimodality | Decarbonization | Training

Five key messages

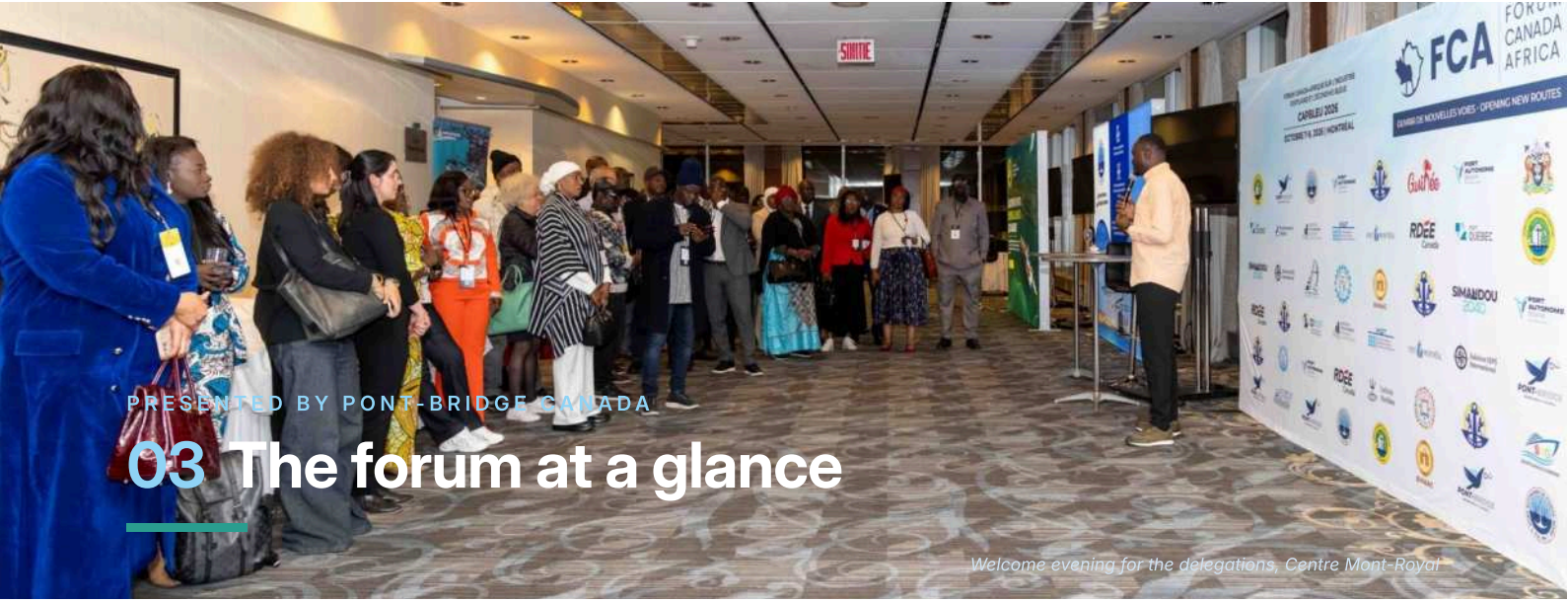
1. Decision-makers around real projects. Several port authorities were represented at the highest level, with specific needs: digitalization, port rail, safety, decarbonization, training and infrastructure modernization.

2. A format that links projects to solutions. The Port Investment Spotlights, the thematic panels and 208 business meeting requests made it possible to move from expressing a need to identifying Canadian counterparts able to meet it.

3. Committed Canadian institutions. The presence of the Montreal Port Authority, the Port of Québec, Export Development Canada and Investissement Québec strengthened the credibility of the approach, without prejudging any financing commitment.

4. Cooperation in motion. Several avenues for cooperation were opened with the delegations; they are now being qualified with each port, as part of a bilateral follow-up.

5. Heading for 2027. CAPBLEU | BLUESHIFT 2027 will be held in Montréal from October 5 to 7, 2027 and will focus on the results of the cooperation initiated in 2026.



PRESENTED BY PONT-BRIDGE CANADA

03 The forum at a glance

Welcome evening for the delegations, Centre Mont-Royal

CAPBLEU | BLUESHIFT is the Canada-Africa Forum on the Port Industry and the Blue Economy, presented by Pont-Bridge Canada. Our promise: to connect African port projects with Canadian expertise, capital and partners, and to turn discussions into measurable results.

OUR COMMON THREAD

Vision → Projects → Solutions → Partnerships → Commitments

Three days

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

Official welcome

Welcome of the delegations, registration and networking reception at the Centre Mont-Royal.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

Forum day 1

Opening, plenaries, Port Investment Spotlights of Dakar and Douala, thematic panels.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

Day 2 and visits

Leaders' round table, Spotlights, panels, closing, business meetings and visit of the Port of Montréal.

Four complementary formats

Strategic plenaries
Set the course and address the structuring issues of the Canada-Africa relationship.

Port Investment Spotlights
Present the vision and priorities of port authorities, then engage with the audience.

Thematic panels
Explore solutions, business models and lessons learned in depth.

CAPBLEU Success Stories
Show how a meeting at the forum becomes a mandate, a project, then a result.

04 Participation

Eight African port organizations, some forty port delegates and about 150 participants took part in the 2026 edition.

	Organization	Country	Representation
	Autonomous Port of Dakar	Senegal	Mr. Abdoul Hamid Sy, Chair of the Board of Directors
	Autonomous Port of Douala	Cameroon	Mr. Cyrus Ngo'o, Director General
	Autonomous Port of Conakry	Guinea	Mr. Aly Koita, Director General
	Autonomous Port of Pointe-Noire	Congo	Ms. Virginie Lady Flore Itoua, Commercial Director
	Autonomous Port of Lomé	Togo	Mr. Emile Tahaga Fadimba, Director of Information Systems; Mr. Abdoul-Razak Derman, Commercial Director
	Autonomous Port of Cotonou	Benin	Mr. Elie Marcel Ahodomon, Technical Advisor to the Director General, Structuring Projects
	National Port Authority	Cameroon	Three-person delegation, including Mr. Serge Patrick Essomba, Director of Regulation of Competitiveness and Port Activities
	Nigerian Ports Authority	Nigeria	Mr. Adebowale Lawal, Port Manager, Lagos Port Complex

The Republic of Guinea was also represented by Mr. Mamoudou Keïta, Advisor to the Minister of Transport, in charge of land and maritime transport. The Sierra Leone Ports and Harbours Authority, a partner of the forum, was unable to travel to Montréal; its participation is postponed to 2027.

Institutions and companies

Institutions. Montreal Port Authority, Port of Québec, Export Development Canada, Investissement Québec, RDÉE Canada, AIVP North America, Green Marine, SODES, AGPAOC-PMAWCA, International Association of Francophone Customs Officers (AIDF), Montréal Gateway Terminals and SEFACIL Foundation.

Companies. Some twenty Canadian companies, including AIRUDI, Beyond Sustainable Tech, BlueHome, Bradley & Rollins, Coginov, Crodax, Latitude Maritime, Nexxo Technologies, Norda Stelo, Normrock Industries, Povectus, Progesys, Solution ISPS and Transimex.



Exhibition space of the Simandou 2040 Program, Republic of Guinea



Exchanges between delegations at the Centre Mont-Royal

05 Canada-Africa maritime connectivity

Can a direct, regular and competitive shipping link be established between Canada and Africa? Pont-Bridge Canada entrusted this question to Dr. Yann Alix (SEFACIL Foundation) and Dr. Jean-François Pelletier (CPCS). Their study, published in October 2026, starts from what actually exists: the 2025 trade flows.



CAD 18.25 B
of Canada-Africa trade in 2025

95 %
of traded volumes are bulk goods

350,000 t
of containerizable general cargo per year, about 25,000 TEU

97,765
used vehicles exported to Africa in 2025, up from 50,672 in 2023

≈ 12 days
of sailing Lomé-Halifax; Montréal within 15 days by rail

1.4 M TEU
of capacity deployed on the Asia-West Africa route on July 1, 2026

What the flows show

- **Little containerizable cargo:** 95 % of volumes are bulk; only 5 % of trade can feed a regular line.
- **A priority target:** West and Central Africa, 40.8 % of trade, driven by cocoa, grains and rubber.
- **A natural corridor:** the Halifax-Montréal-Toronto axis concentrates most Canadian flows.
- **The backhaul, a weak point:** Canadian containerized exports remain too modest to balance a line.

Levers identified

- **A fortnightly service** with two 1,500 TEU ships to test and build the market.
- **Used vehicles** as a regular base cargo from Québec and Ontario.
- **Aggregating flows** from the U.S. Midwest and Northeast through Montréal and Halifax.
- **Gulf of Guinea ports** as transshipment platforms, in the longer term.

Volumes required per direction per year for a 70 % load factor (TEU)

Fortnightly · 2 ships of 1,500 TEU	**25,550**
Weekly · 4 ships of 2,500 TEU	**91,000**
Weekly · 4 ships of 4,500 TEU	**163,800**

Potential identified today: about 16,000 TEU to Canada and 5,200 TEU to Africa.

> *Canada-Africa maritime connectivity cannot be decreed; it has to be built.*

Source: Y. Alix and J.-F. Pelletier, *Connectivité maritime Canada-Afrique : réalités commerciales, faisabilités économiques, opportunités stratégiques*, Canada-Africa Forum · Pont-Bridge Canada, October 2026.

PANELISTS AND MODERATORS

06 Our speakers

Some forty speakers and moderators, port leaders, institutional representatives, experts and entrepreneurs, led the nineteen sessions of the 2026 edition.



Mr. Yaye Peukassa
President and Chief Executive Officer
CANADA-AFRICA FORUM · PONT-BRIDGE CANADA



Mr. Mamoudou Keïta
Advisor to the Minister of Transport
REPUBLIC OF GUINEA



H.E. Ms. Fatima Braoulé Méïté
Ambassador of Mali to Canada (2020-2024)
CAPBLEU · PONT-BRIDGE CANADA



Mr. Abdoul Hamid Sy
Chair of the Board of Directors
AUTONOMOUS PORT OF DAKAR



Mr. Aly Koita
Director General
AUTONOMOUS PORT OF CONAKRY



Mr. Cyrus Ngo'o
Director General
AUTONOMOUS PORT OF DOUALA



Mr. Adebowale Lawal
Port Manager, Lagos Port Complex
NIGERIAN PORTS AUTHORITY



Ms. Virginie Lady Flore Itoua
Commercial Director
AUTONOMOUS PORT OF POINTE-NOIRE



Mr. Abdoul-Razak Derman
Commercial Director
AUTONOMOUS PORT OF LOMÉ



Mr. Emile Tahaga Fadimba
Director of Information Systems
AUTONOMOUS PORT OF LOMÉ



Mr. Serge Patrick Essomba
Director of Regulation of Competitiveness and Port Activities
NATIONAL PORT AUTHORITY



Mr. Elie Marcel Ahodomon
Technical Advisor to the Director General
AUTONOMOUS PORT OF COTONOU



Mr. Jean-Marie Koffi
Secretary General
AGPAOC-PMAWCA



Mr. Julien Baudry
Vice-President, Strategic Affairs and Communications
MONTREAL PORT AUTHORITY



Mr. Frédérick Nadeau
Vice-President, Operations
MONTRÉAL GATEWAY TERMINALS



Mr. Mathieu St-Pierre
President and Chief Executive Officer
SODES



Ms. Caya Hien
North America Manager
AIVP



Ms. Véronique Trudeau
Program Director
GREEN MARINE

OUR SPEAKERS · CONTINUED



Mr. Paul Muamba
Deputy Director, National Consultation and Partnerships
RDÉE CANADA



Mr. Miloud Dahmani
Strategic Advisor, Entrepreneurship and Market Development
RDÉE CANADA



Ms. Maude Chassériau
Former French customs official
AIDF



Mr. Daniel Leclerc
President and Chief Executive Officer
SOLUTION ISPS INC.



Ms. Céline Milot
Client Success Director
BRADLEY & ROLLINS



Mr. François Laplante
Founder, naval leadership and maritime innovation
LATITUDE MARITIME



Dr. Yann Alix
Port Expert, General Delegate
SEFACIL FOUNDATION



Mr. Thierry Basque
President and Chief Executive Officer
BLUEHOME INC.



Mr. Gaëtan Thomas
Vice-President
BLUEHOME INC.



Mr. Ousmanou Ngam
President and Chief Executive Officer
TRANSIMEX



Mr. André Henry
Senior Consultant
PROGESYS



Mr. Pierre Blanchard
President
CRODAX



Mr. Mathieu Raymond
Director, Digital Transformation
NEXXO TECHNOLOGIES



Mr. Pape Wade
President and Co-founder
AIRUDI



Mr. Zack Habdi
President and Chief Executive Officer
POVECTUS



Mr. Alain Bélanger
Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer
BEYOND SUSTAINABLE TECH



Mr. Robin Boucher
Founder and Principal Consultant
ROBIN BOUCHER CONSULTATION INC.



Mr. Youssouf Sidibé
Customs Inspector
CUSTOMS



Dr. Abel Pli
Political scientist, researcher
STRATEGIC ANALYSIS NETWORK, UQAM



Ms. Geneviève Tardif
Journalist, Master of Ceremonies
RADIO-CANADA

07 Business meetings

208
business meeting requests

90
meetings held over two days

2,240
pages viewed, October 6 to 9

4.19 / 5
average meeting satisfaction

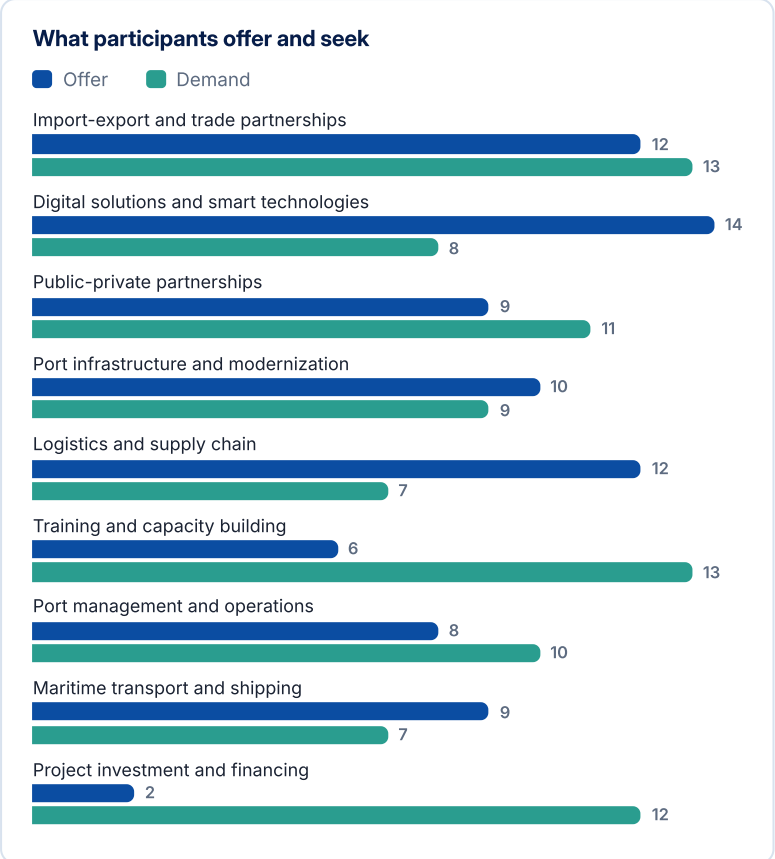
Business meetings were at the heart of the 2026 edition. On October 6, the eve of the official welcome, 109 meeting requests were sent in a single day; activity peaked on October 8, the first day of the forum, with 850 pages viewed.

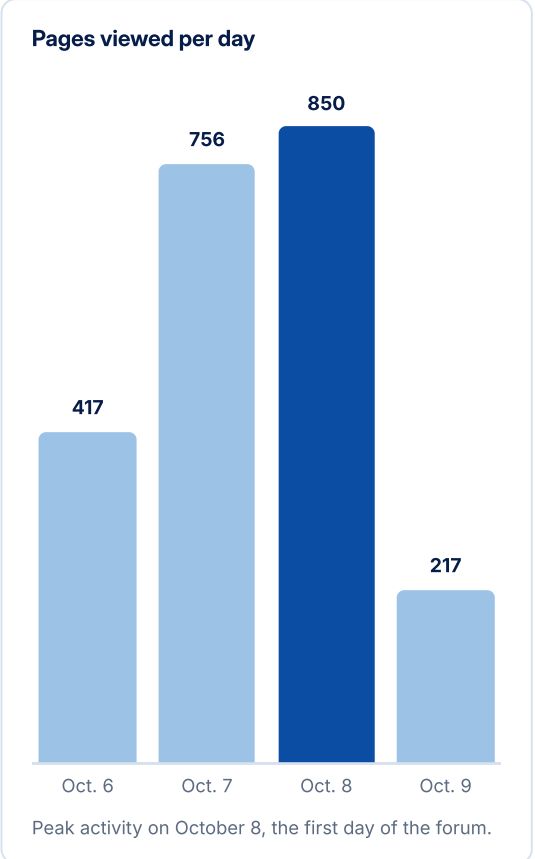
234
offers and needs expressed by participants

417
profile views

15
business themes covered

318
logins to the platform





Peak activity on October 8, the first day of the forum.

The discussions revealed a strong appetite among the delegations for new partners. Trade partnerships and import-export, digital solutions, public-private partnerships and infrastructure modernization accounted for most of the offer and demand. Needs expressed in project investment and financing far exceed the available offer: a clear signal to involve financial institutions more closely as early as the 2027 edition.







Business meetings at the Centre Mont-Royal. Source: post-event report of the CAPBLEU 2026 business meetings platform.

08 Lessons learned and roadmap

Our goal for 2027: to bring together in Montréal at least twelve African port authorities, in partnership with the AGPAOC, and to present tangible results from the 2026 discussions.

Five lessons learned

1. Real projects give the forum its value. We will extend the Port Investment Spotlights to more port authorities and prepare the qualification of the projects presented further in advance.

2. Earlier mobilization. The program will be published earlier, and partners and participants will be mobilized several months before the forum.

3. Business meetings at the core. The meetings platform will be launched two to three weeks before the event, with a dedicated area and structured time slots.

4. A stronger financial ecosystem. The needs expressed in project investment and financing call for greater participation of financial institutions.

5. Dedicated spaces for leaders. A luncheon will bring together port directors general and ministers, and a training session for customs and port administrations is under consideration.

Roadmap to CAPBLEU | BLUESHIFT 2027

Indicative mobilization and organization timeline.

October and November 2026 — **Review and invitations**
Thanks to partners and 2027 invitations from November, in partnership with the AGPAOC

Winter 2027 — **Partner mobilization**
Port authorities, institutions, financial and industrial partners

Spring 2027 — **Program development**
Themes, sessions, Port Investment Spotlights and call for speakers

Summer 2027 — **Registration and communication**
Program release and opening of registration

September 2027 — **Business meetings**
Platform launched two to three weeks before the forum

October 5 to 7, 2027 — **CAPBLEU | BLUESHIFT 2027, Montréal**
The edition of results

12 +
African port authorities targeted in 2027

Nov. 2026
invitations sent, in partnership with the AGPAOC

2027
the edition of results



EXECUTIVE CONCLUSION

09 From Montréal to action

Exchanges with the audience during a plenary

CAPBLEU | BLUESHIFT 2026 achieved its first objective: to bring together, around real projects, African port decision-makers and the Canadian port industry ecosystem. The second, turning these discussions into measurable results, is now under way.

What the 2026 edition demonstrated

The demand is real.
Eight African port authorities, several represented at the highest level, came to Montréal with specific needs, often already included in their modernization programs.

Canadian supply responds.
Some twenty companies, the sector's main institutions and 208 business meeting requests linked each need to identified expertise.

The format works.
Spotlights, panels, targeted meetings and technical visits make it possible to move, in a few days, from presenting a project to identifying partners able to carry it.

What will determine success

Rigorous qualification of projects with each port; sound technical and financial structuring before any approach to financial institutions; methodical follow-up, port by port, with clear owners and deadlines.

Our commitments

Each port authority receives a personalized debriefing note and a bilateral working meeting. We will report on the progress of this work at the 2027 edition.

Our call

> **To port authorities:** confirm their priorities and appoint a focal point for each project.

> **To Canadian companies and institutions:** join the qualification of projects now.

> **To all our partners:** meet us in Montréal to measure together the progress made.

SAVE THE DATE

CAPBLEU | BLUESHIFT 2027

October 5, 6 and 7, 2027 · Montréal · The edition of results

10 Our partners and acknowledgements

CAPBLEU | BLUESHIFT 2026 would not have been possible without the commitment of our partners. We express our deep gratitude to them.

OFFICIAL PRESENTER

PONT-BRIDGE
BRIDGING AFRICA TO THE WORLD

PLATINUM PARTNERS

PORT AUTONOME DE DAKAR
Votre connexion au monde

GOLD PARTNERS

Port Autonome de Douala
Port Authority of Douala

BVMAC

SILVER PARTNERS

APN
AUTORITÉ PORTUAIRE NATIONALE

PORT AUTONOME DE COTONOU

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

PORT MONTRÉAL

PORT QUÉBEC

Investissement Québec

SOCIÉTÉ DE DÉVELOPPEMENT ÉCONOMIQUE DU SAINT-LAURENT

RDEE Canada

aivp North America Nord Amérique

MGT SOCIÉTÉ TERMINAUX MONTRÉAL GATEWAY TERMINALS PARTNERSHIP

Solution ISPS International

BRADLEY & ROLLINS

Latitude Maritime

Special thanks to

- the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Guinea, for its institutional support;
- the Montreal Port Authority, host port of this edition;
- Export Development Canada (EDC);
- Green Marine and the SEFACIL Foundation;
- the companies, speakers and moderators, in particular Dr. Yann Alix;
- our teams, volunteers and service providers, whose commitment made these three days possible.

11 The forum team

Behind CAPBLEU | BLUESHIFT, a committed team, from the preparation of the forum to the follow-up of meetings.



Yaye Peukassa

President and Chief Executive Officer
Pont-Bridge Canada



H.E. Ms. Fatima Braoulé Méïté

Ambassador of Mali to Canada
2020-2024



Daniel Kamga

Project Manager
CAPBLEU | BLUESHIFT



Dr. Yann Alix

Port Expert
General Delegate, SEFACIL Foundation



JP Dubois

Consultant
CAPBLEU | BLUESHIFT



Mr. Yaye Peukassa addresses delegations and partners in front of the forum wall, at the Centre Mont-Royal

We thank the entire team for its constant commitment, as well as the volunteers and service providers who supported the delegations throughout these three days.

THE FORUM IN PICTURES

12 Gallery

Relive the three days of CAPBLEU | BLUESHIFT 2026 in pictures: official opening, panels, spotlights, business meetings and networking moments at the Centre Mont-Royal.














OFFICIAL GALLERY

All the photos of the 2026 edition

View the full gallery →

flic.kr/s/aHBqjD7SUz

Photo credits: © Canada-Africa Forum / Pont-Bridge Canada.



SAVE THE DATE

CAPBLEU BLUESHIFT 2027

The edition of results

October 5, 6 and 7, 2027 · Montréal

Canada-Africa Forum · Pont-Bridge Canada
Official gallery: flic.kr/s/aHBqjD7SUz

PONT-BRIDGE
BRIDGING AFRICA TO THE WORLD