



# ALLPI 2021 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter NEWSLETTER

Leather for Health, Wealth and Luxury!

**Jan. - March 2021 (Issue No. 24)**

Contents	#
XXXVI IULTCS Congress and 5th WLC are going HYBRID	1
Executive Director's Message	2
Virtual workshop on Certification of eco-friendly leather products was conducted	3
Consultative Meeting was Conducted on Uganda Satellite Design Studio	4
Delivery of Footwear and leather goods making tools and equipment	4
Zimbabwe Leather Value Chain Stakeholders Consultative Virtual Forum	5
Malawi Satellite Design Studio Stakeholders Consultative Virtual Meeting	5
Madagascar Leather Value Chain Strategy Validated, launched and Unpacked	5
Virtual Workshop to Review the Regional Stakeholders Leather Value Chain Strategy (2012-2016) Conducted	7
ALLPI Welcomed a new Staff	7
The ALLPI Annual Regional Consultative Forum 2020 Concluded with Success	8
All African Leather Fair 2021 - New Location	8
New Date Confirmed for Intra-African Trade Fair (IATF2021)	9
Machakos leather park to open by end of year	9
Vietnam's leather sector companies invest in digital	10
Sheepskin's potential for Botswanan village	10
Zimbabwe: Companies join forces to promote leathergoods	10

## XXXVI IULTCS Congress and 5th WLC are going HYBRID

**Greening the Leather Value chain**

**IULTCS Congress XXXVI Ethiopia 2021 - Africa**  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021, Addis Ababa  
[www.iultcs2021africa.org/home](http://www.iultcs2021africa.org/home)

*Leather a gift of nature*

**5<sup>th</sup> World Leather Congress 2021**  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
1<sup>st</sup> November 2021, Addis Ababa  
<https://wlc2021.allpi.int>

**Host & Organizer**  
Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute - ALLPI  
Leather for Health, Wealth and Luxury!

**Co-Organizer**  
TF\*EA Trade and Fairs East Africa Ltd.  
Ministry of Trade and Industry of Ethiopia  
Ethiopian Leather Industry Development Institute

**Partners and Sponsors**  
UNIDO, BASF, ALC, BIOSK, Stahl

*Brazilian leather*

The XXXVI IULTCS Congress and the Fifth World Leather Congress are going HYBRID : Same Events with two different experiences.

Participants can attend the events physically or Virtually.

- » Live streams or recorded videos within the virtual session for a seamless virtual attendee experience;
- » Attendees can stay in-the-know by viewing the complete session schedule, including speakers;
- » Attendees can submit questions to presenters within the live Q&A chat box for an additional layer of interactivity;
- » Exhibitors and sponsors will be prominently

featured right on the event homepage, in dedicated areas with searchable lists, and in their own virtual booths to increase their visibility to attendees;

- » Integrated appointments tool that allows exhibitors to create virtual meetings with attendees for added value from their event investment;
- » Sponsors can highlight their offerings by providing information and promotional content for interested attendees;
- » Attendees can easily find vendors of interest by searching your exhibitors and sponsor list;
- » Seamless experience with your mobile app for Apple and Android platforms.

**Register and Submit Abstracts** to showcase your professional profile in the leather sector.

Visit Event Website:

<https://www.iultcs2021africa.org/home>



Certificate Number: 14079-Q15&E15-001  
ISO 9001, ISO 14001

**NEXT ISSUE**

**JUNE 2021**



Prof. (Dr<sup>5</sup>) M. Mwinyihija, Executive Director of ALLPI

Dear Esteemed Readers,

Welcome to the first Quarter edition 2021 Newsletter

With the 2020 now behind our back, and now in the year 2021, I take this opportunity to welcome you to this first quarter edition of ALLPI's Newsletter that gives highlights of activities accomplished during the period January to March 2021. This edition focuses mainly on ALLPI's activities regarding the XXXVI IULTCS Congress and 5th WLC, Satellite Design Studios, Footwear and leather goods making tools and equipment delivery, Validation, launching, Unpacking and review of Leather Value Chain Strategy, Trade fairs and other regional and international leather and leather products related news.

Dear esteemed readers, during the quarter under review, I'm privileged to mention that the XXXVI IULTCS Congress and 5th WLC have gone HYBRID. This means that the participants can now attend the events physically or Virtually. Some of the key highlights is that, the attendees can now

easily find vendors of interest by searching the exhibitors' and sponsors' profiles;

I'm also delighted to announce that the delivery of the long awaited footwear and leather goods making equipment procured under BADEA Technical Assistance Grant, through ALLPI facilitation have been finally delivered to ALLPI's Member States follows: Eritrea, equipment worth EUR 52,955.00, Burundi equipment worth EUR 52,995.00, Kenya equipment worth EUR 56,675.00, Rwanda equipment worth EUR 58,715.00, Zambia equipment worth EUR 57,445.00 while equipment worth EUR 50,745.00 destined for Uganda are in the port of Mombasa, Kenya awaiting clearance.

ALLPI also conducted three virtual workshops as follows: the first two virtual workshops each involving five participating countries were on building capacity towards certification of Eco-friendly leather products. The workshops were held from 8th -12th and 15th-19th February 2021 respectively. The third workshop which was to review the Regional Stakeholders Leather Value Chain



Strategy (2012- 2016). was conducted from 23rd- 26th February 2021. It was attended by more than 48 participants drawn from 12 participating countries. These activities are part of the on-going Regional Enterprise Competitiveness and Access to Markets Programme (RECAMP) that is funded by EU through the 11th EDF of COMESA.

Other accomplished activities were as follows: On 10 March 2021, the Institute conducted a virtual meeting for Zimbabwe with participants drawn from the Triple Helix. The objective of the meeting was to discuss the setting up of the satellite design studio at the Leather Institute of Zimbabwe in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. 23 participants including ALLPI experts were in attendance.

On 26th March 2021, another virtual meeting was held for Malawi where a total of 19 participants including ALLPI experts participated. The objective of the meeting was to discuss Malawi's new strategic direction for the operationalization of the Satellite Design Studio (SDS) among other issues.

To close the quarter, another workshop for the validation, launch and unpacking of the Madagascar Leather Value Chain Strategy (2021-2026) was conducted from 30th - 31st March 2021. The participants were drawn from Triple Helix from Madagascar side while on ALLPI side, the team was led by Ag. Programs Coordinator, Prof. Mekonnen Hailemariam and Advisor to

the Executive Director of ALLPI.

Dear valuable readers, before I conclude, it is important to bring to your attention that due to Covid-19 pandemic, Millennium Hall which houses the AALF has been converted to COVID-19 Center and as a result, the AALF management has relocated the venue to a new site which you will get more information elsewhere in this Newsletter. I wish also to announce that the new confirmed dates for the Intra-African Trade Fair (IATF2021) is indicated elsewhere in this Newsletter

Last but not the least, ALLPI appreciate and value all our esteemed Partners and Stakeholders for their valuable support and collaboration for all the successes registered during the quarter. It is my sincere hope that this Newsletter will continue keeping us connected with respect to information in the region's leather sector development and other activities in the sector within African Continent and world at large. At this juncture, we would like to invite our esteemed readers to join our WhatsApp and telegram group platform on SMEs which is an experience sharing, educative and informative platform.

Kindly accept our appreciation for taking time to read and providing us with your thoughts.

Sincerely,

Prof. (Dr<sup>5</sup>) Mwinyikione Mwinyihija  
Executive Director.

### Virtual workshop on Certification of eco-friendly leather products was conducted



Screenshot of Participants during the Virtual Meeting

ALLPI, through EDF 11 (RECAMP program) financial support, successfully conducted capacity building regional virtual training workshop on Certification of eco-friendly leather products in line with global development was conducted for 32 participants drawn from eight countries (Burundi, D.R. Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Sudan and Uganda) from 8th -19th February 2021.

## Delivery of Footwear and leather goods making tools and equipment



ALLPI is excited to announce the delivery of footwear and leather goods making equipment and tools, procured under BADEA Technical Assistance Grant, through ALLPI facilitation, to the Leather sector SMEs incubation centers/satellite design studios in five countries:

- » **Eritrea:** Equipment and tools for a total sum of 52,955.00EUR delivered to the SMEs Incubation Center (IDSC) in Asmara, Eritrea.

- » **Burundi:** Equipment and tools for a total sum of 52,995.00 EUR delivered to the SMEs Incubation Center in Bujumbura, Burundi
- » **Kenya:** Equipment and tools for a total sum of 56,675.00 EUR delivered to the Training and Production Center for Shoe Industry, Thika, Kenya
- » **Rwanda:** Equipment and tools for a total sum of 58,715.00EUR delivered to Masaka Business Incubation Center, Kigali, Rwanda
- » **Zambia:** Equipment and tools for a total sum of 57,445.00EUR delivered to the Cooperative College, in Lusaka, Zambia

The equipment and tools, destined to the incubation center/satellite design studio in Kampala, **Uganda**, for a total sum of 50,745.00EUR, is in the process of port clearance at Mombasa, Kenya.

ALLPI will also be facilitating the erection, installation, test-run and trainings in all the beneficiary countries incubation centers/satellite design studios, by a technician from supplier (Technology and Services S.r.l.-Italy), once the remaining delivery to the Ugandan Incubation Center is completed.

## Consultative Meeting was Conducted on Uganda Satellite Design Studio



Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute (ALLPI) organized a meeting that brought together the officials from the Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Cooperatives (MTIC), Management, Training Advisory Centre (MTAC), and the Leather sector associations and enterprises to discuss the operationalization of the Uganda Satellite Design studio. The Meeting was conducted on 8th April 2021.

The specific objectives of the meeting were to:

- » Creating an opportunity for profiling critical stakeholders from the Uganda Leather value chain within the Triple Helix model and sharing with them the ongoing strategic intervention of the Regional design Studio Project under which

Satellite design studios are being established in ALLPI member States.

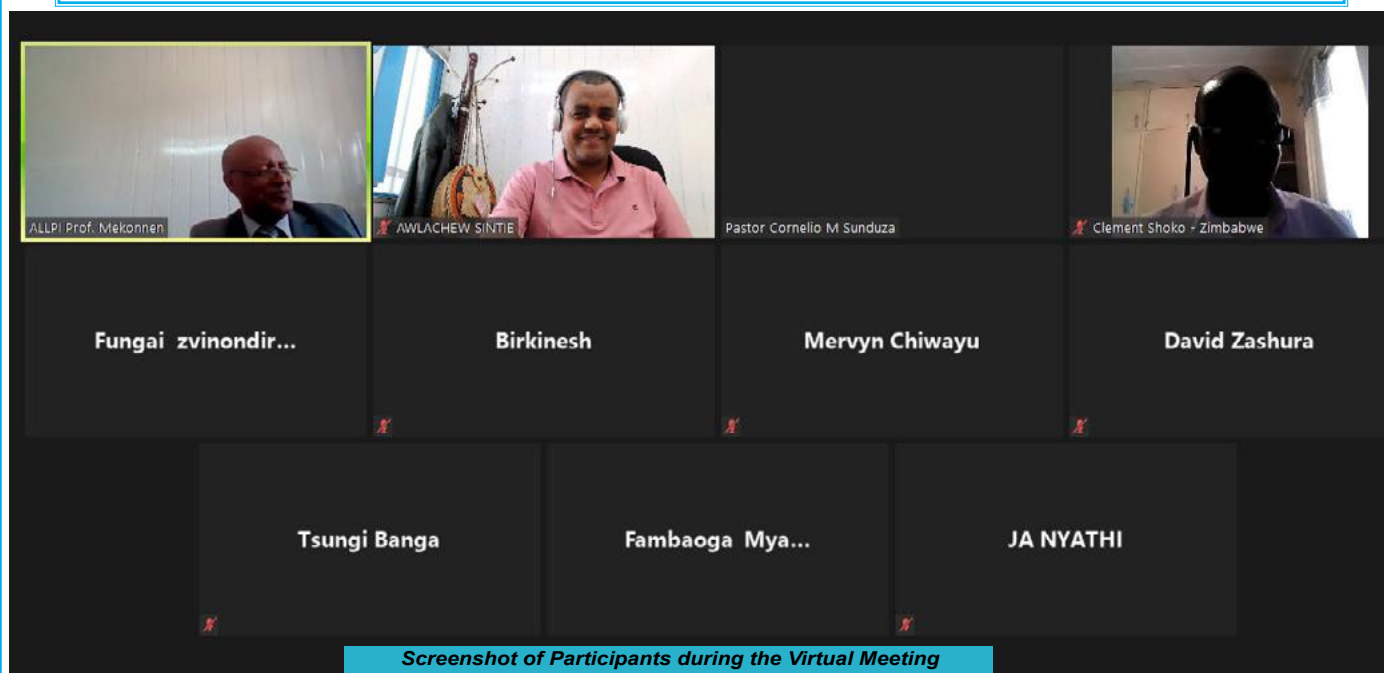
- » Identifying and stratifying the enablers for the Satellite Design Studios at the national level and linking them to the Satellite design studio.
- » To get feedback from the Uganda Satellite Design Studio stakeholders on the shared documents (SDS Implementation plan & Initial proposed activities) from ALLPI
- » Building consensus towards the best governance and management strategy for Satellite Design Studio;
- » Discussing on the potential pathway to capacity building and technology transfer in the Satellite design Studio.

Participants from the Public sector and Private sector have attended the Virtual Meeting.

During the Meeting, a number of Pertinent points were raised and discussed towards realizing the Uganda Satellite Design Studio operation in terms of its structure and sustainability.



## Zimbabwe Leather Value Chain Stakeholders Consultative Virtual Forum



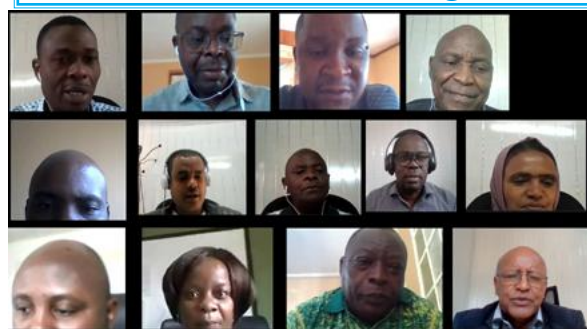
Screenshot of Participants during the Virtual Meeting

ALLPI organised a virtual forum that brought together the Triple Helix (Government, Academia and the private sector) of the Zimbabwe Leather value chain stakeholders to discuss the setting up of the satellite design studio at the Leather Institute of Zimbabwe in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. A total of 23 participants, including ALLPI Experts, took part in the virtual forum that was conducted on 10th March 2021. Presentations and discussions of the forum encompassed:

- » Brief situational analysis of the Zimbabwe Leather value chain;

- » Leather Institute of Zimbabwe's current operations and infra-structure situational analysis and its potential to host the Satellite Design Studio facility;
- » ALLPI accomplished and planned activities for Zimbabwe;
- » Regional Design Studio Synopsis and what is expected of Satellite Design Studios at national level (governance, capacity building, technology transfer, etc).

## Malawi Satellite Design Studio Stakeholders Consultative Virtual Meeting



Screenshot of Participants during the Virtual Meeting

ALLPI organized a virtual meeting that brought together the officials from the Ministry of Commerce Trade and Industry, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Institute (SMEDI) and the Leather Association to discuss the operationalization of the Malawi Satellite Design

(SDS) commonly known as the Leather Design Studio (LDS). A total of 19 participants, including ALLPI Experts, took part in the virtual meeting that was held on 26th March 2021. The meeting discussed and deliberated on the following agenda items:

- » Malawi's new strategic direction for the operationalization of the Satellite design studio;
- » Brief Outline of the Malawi Satellite Design Business plan proposition and how it fits into the overall objective of the Regional Design Studio project;
- » Feedback from the Malawi Satellite Design Studio stakeholders on the shared documents (SDS Implementation Plan and Initial proposed activities) from ALLPI.

## Madagascar Leather Value Chain Strategy Validated, launched and Unpacked



Screenshot of Participants during the LVC Strategy Validation and Launch Virtual Workshop

Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute carried out virtual workshop for the validation, launch and unpacking of the Madagascar Leather Value Chain Strategy (2021-2026). The workshop was conducted during 30th – 31st March 2021 and was attended by stakeholders from Universities, Government Organizations and Private sector players in Madagascar.

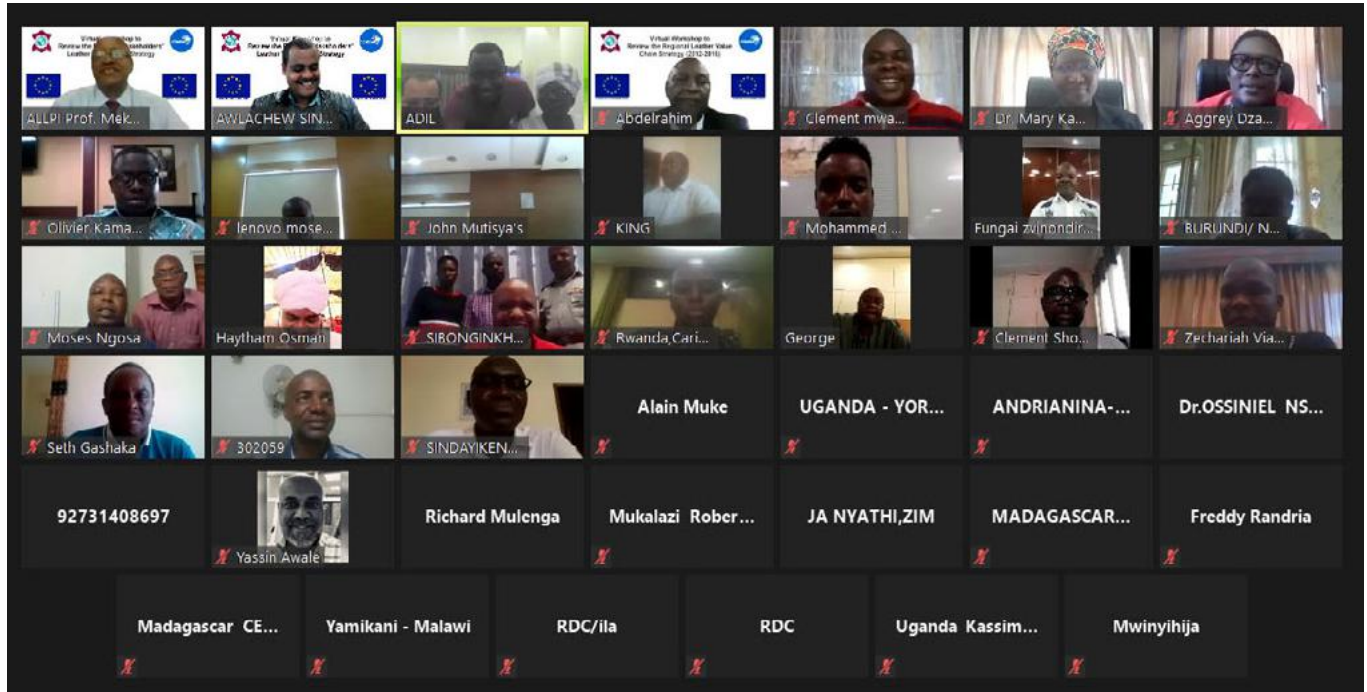
Programs Coordinator, Prof. Mekonnen Hailemariam and Advisor to the Executive Director of ALLPI invited the Director Madagascar Ministry of Trade, Industry and Handcrafts to Launch the validated strategy. The Director Madagascar Ministry of Trade, Industry and Handcrafts applauded the strategy and confirmed that it was fully done by the team which represented all actor players on the Madagascar Leather value chain. The Director Madagascar Ministry of Trade, Industry and Handcrafts, officiated the opening and closure of the workshop. In his opening remarks he thanked ALLPI for showing continued efforts to support Madagascar LVC whenever it is called for facilitation.

The Strategy was crafted by ALLPI as part of its consultancy outreach with financial support of COMESA RISM through Ministry of Trade, Industry and Handcrafts of the government of Madagascar.

The five-year Leather Value Chain Strategy that describes the country's leather sector performance, exiting footwear and leather goods gaps and the approaches to follow to address the gaps in order to optimize performance has 6 Strategic Objectives and some 50 subobjectives. The Strategy is expected to guide the development of the Madagascar leather value chain from commodity dependence to product focus, based on its current competitive advantages, strengths and opportunities.

After validation and launching of the Leather Value Chain Strategy, the unpacking was also conducted through participatory approach by assigning responsible and accountable institutions to implements activities of the strategy using a Responsible, Accountable, Consulted and Informed (RACI) model.

## Virtual Workshop to Review the Regional Stakeholders Leather Value Chain Strategy (2012-2016) Conducted



Screenshot of Participants during the Virtual Stakeholders' Leather Strategy Review Workshop

Virtual workshop to review the Regional Stakeholders Leather Value Chain Strategy has been kicked off. The workshop will continue from 23rd- 26th February 2021.

In the workshop more than 48 participants from private, public and academia platforms from 12 countries are attending. Participating States are Burundi, DR Congo, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar,

Malawi, Rwanda, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The activity is part of the Regional Enterprise Competitiveness and Access to Markets Programme (RECAMP) that is funded by EU through the 11th EDF of COMESA.

### ALLPI Welcomed a new Staff



Dr. Eng. Abdel Rahim Mohamed

ALLPI Welcomed Dr. Eng. Abdel Rahim Mohamed Ahmed Mohamed as new expert staff at the post of Quality Assurance, Innovation and Research and Development Expert as of January 2021.

Dr. Eng. Abdel Rahim has earned Doctor of Philosophy in Management of Quality and Excellence, Master of Science in Textile Engineering, Bachelor (Honor) in Textile Engineering (Mechanic) and he also has taken a number of short-term courses on Strategic Leadership and Planning areas.

In addition, Dr. Abdel Rahim has worked in different government, non-governmental organizations and international organizations.

ALLPI community wished him good luck in his endeavor to the regional Leather sector development.



## The ALLPI Annual Regional Consultative Forum 2020 Concluded with Success



Group Picture of Participants



Partial view of Panel discussion during the event

The ALLPI Annual Regional Leather Sector Stakeholders Consultative Forum which had been commenced on 16th December 2020 in Hawassa, Ethiopia was concluded with success on 18th December 2020.

The Forum was concluded with recommendations to be implemented by the ALLPI, Member States, Academic Institutions and private enterprises. Some of the pillar recommendations are establishment of E-Commerce, promote leather design Studio, certification of eco-friendly leather products, innovation and knowledge diffusion, curriculum harmonization among others.

Prof. (Dr5) Mwinyihija, the Executive Director of ALLPI, in his closing remarks, pointed out that, "the Years to come

is for Africa. All the opportunities and technologies are at hand and we need to work hard to promote our SMEs to produce quality and eco-friendly products to compete in the global market." Prof. Mwinyihija underscored the upcoming year 2021 will be another milestone for Africa to host the four global events namely, XXXVI IULTCS Congress, 5th World Congress, ISO/TC 120 Leather Committee Meeting and All Africa Leather Fair (AALF). The Executive Director also thanked Member States, Academia Platforms, private enterprises, Haile Resort Staff, and ALLPI Staff for the effort to realize the successful conclusion of the Forum.

## All African Leather Fair 2021 - New Location



**3-6 December 2021**  
Congress Center, Skylight Hotel  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

As Millennium Hall is still used as COVID Center, AALF management has decided to relocate ALL AFRICAN LEATHER FAIR 2021 to another venue this year. Here is the updated information for you:

**NEW DATE: 3 - 6 December 2021 (Fri-Mo)**

**NEW LOCATION: Congress Center, Skylight**

### Hotel - Addis Ababa

TOPICS OF 2021:

This year AALF will dedicate its topics to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

Africa Continental Free Trade

Post COVID global leather business environment

In addition to the expo the organizers have confirmed international conferences, high end B2B sessions and selected factory tours. Very special fashion activities & events within the city will be announced on a later stage.



## New Date Confirmed for Intra-African Trade Fair (IATF2021)

The second Intra-African Trade Fair (IATF2021) is now set to take place from 8 to 14 December 2021. African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank), the African Union (AU) and the Government of Rwanda have decided to shift the date of the continental trade fair, to allow for a broader roll-out of COVID-19 vaccines across the continent and ensure that the event is held under the most optimal health conditions.

Organized by Afreximbank in collaboration with the African Union and hosted by the Government of Rwanda, IATF2021 will play a crucial role in assisting and enabling businesses and corporates across Africa to share trade and market information and conclude business deals that are critical in supporting the implementation of the AFCFTA.

The second edition of the biennial Intra-African Trade Fair (IATF) will take place in Kigali from 8 to 14 December 2021. IATF2021 will provide a platform that will allow trade under the African Continental Free Trade Agreement. It will serve as a marketplace that will bring

together continental and global buyers and sellers. It will enable stakeholders to share trade, investment and market information as well as trade finance and trade facilitation solutions designed to support intra-African trade and African economic integration. In addition to establishing a business-to-business and a business-to-government exchange platform for business deals and advisory services, IATF2021 will also operate IATF2021 Virtual, an interactive online platform accessible to all. It will also focus on Africa's creative economy as well as the automotive industry with dedicated programs. A Conference will run alongside the exhibition and will feature high-profile speakers and panelists addressing topical issues relating to trade, trade finance, payments, trade facilitation, trade-enabling infrastructure, trade standards, industrialization, regional value chains and investment.

Source: <https://afcfta.au.int/en/news/press-releases/2021-03-22/new-date-confirmed-iatf-2021>

## Machakos leather park to open by end of year



Kenya's industrial leather park in Machakos will be ready for use by end of this year, officials have said.

The park to be granted export processing zone status, is expected to revolutionise the leather value chain, creating a new market for skins and hides.

"Kenya's Ngozi Leather Park will be ready for occupation by December 2021 when the effluence plant will be complete and facilities for firms to occupy are ready," said acting director, at the Directorate of Agro-Industries under the Trade and Industrialisation ministry, Simon Atebe.

He spoke during a meeting with industry stakeholders from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia and Egypt.

The park sitting on a 500-acre land is designed to be a one-stop shop for leather, leather goods and related industries, including tanneries.

A tannery requires huge amounts of water, power and an effluent treatment plant to operate efficiently. The effluent plant is the biggest incentive to investors at the park.

The completion of the project has been delayed for years due to the slow construction of an effluent treatment plant.

Kenya's leather sector has failed to hit its potential due to exports of semi-processed leather commonly known as wet-blue, smuggling of raw hides and skins and influx of illicit leather in the market.

Leather export value dropped to Sh2.95 billion in 2019 from Sh4.42 billion in 2018, according to the Economic Survey 2020.

<https://www.businessdailyafrica.com>

## Vietnam's leather sector companies invest in digital

Vietnam's footwear and leather companies are adapting to the pandemic by investing in digital solutions after turnover fell 11% to \$19.5 billion during 2020, on par with 2018 levels.

Nguyen Duc Thuan, chairman of Lefaso, the leather and footwear association, told Vietnam Net: "We have built online 3D design and trade interfaces for samples, which was made by Vietnamese designers, researchers and developers.

"It has not only helped the industry to get new orders but also created an opportunity to prove to major brands that Vietnam has the capacity to comprehensively design and develop global supply chains."

He added that businesses have been receiving orders for this year and the industry is aiming for export turnover of more than \$20 billion.

<https://leatherbiz.com/News/157725>

## Sheepskin's potential for Botswanan village

With the covid-related border closures affecting regular streams of income, a small village in Southern Botswana is relying on its sheep flock to generate extra income.

The annual Khawa Dune Challenge, a national motorbike rally, has been a major source of income in recent years, but it was cancelled due to the pandemic.

Proceeds from the challenge in 2013 supported the establishment of the Karakul sheep project, which is now receiving local government funding and creating

employment opportunities for young people.

Funds have been released by the local council for a slaughterhouse, according to press reports, and designers and artisans are being invited to create accessories and clothing from the sheepskin.

<https://leatherbiz.com/News/157715>

## Zimbabwe: Companies join forces to promote leathergoods

Zimbabwe's leather industry has launched a marketing platform to boost domestic and international sales, according to local press.

The Zimbabwe Leather Collective (ZLC) builds on the work of Tanners, Footwear and Leather Manufacturers Association of Zimbabwe, which was set up in 2019.

Arnold Britten, a manager at Bulawayo-based Zambezi Tanners, told The Nation: "We have agreed to collaborate as tanners and leather manufacturers in the broader value chain.

"We started this as a pilot project involving a number of companies to try and meet market needs and we have come up with a catalogue of products and will be

riding on digital platforms."

On ZLC's website, it says all products are meticulously handmade, using locally sourced leather. "Our diverse selection of leather ranges from domesticated bovine to the African buffalo found on the wild escarpment of our beautiful country. All our leathers are sustainably sourced; ensuring the animals will remain to tell their story from this generation to the next."

Members include footwear and leathergoods companies Millennium Footwear, Book Set Leather Works, Tana Africa and Good Hope Leather Products.



## ABOUT ALLPI



Leather for Health, Wealth and Luxury!

Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute (ALLPI) was chartered in 1990, with the endorsement of 17 COMESA Heads of State. ALLPI's main Mandate is to support the development of the leather sector in the Region. Over the years the Institute has created strong strategic linkages with Public and Private Sector Institutions in member countries. In addition to this, ALLPI has signed several Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with global institutions, in its pursuit to improve competitiveness of the leather sector in Africa in line with global dynamics.

ALLPI is headquartered in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; and currently its membership encompasses ten countries, namely Burundi, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Uganda, Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The Institute has short term plans to expand its operations to Swaziland, Egypt, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Madagascar.

The location of its office is strategic, as Addis Ababa is the capital city of Africa, where the African Union and other International Development Partners are located. Furthermore, Addis Ababa is the African gateway to any global destination, which makes ALLPI highly accessible and convenient for our regional and international partners and clients.

### ALLPI Vision:

To be Africa's premier centre of excellence for a competitive leather sector in the global arena.

### ALLPI Mission:

To facilitate Member States and link partners, enterprises and institutions for value addition, sustainability and competitiveness in the leather sector through Sharing of Knowledge.

## Contact Address

For more information about ALLPI, please contact:  
Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute (ALLPI)  
P.O. Box 2358 Code 1110  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
Phone: 251-11-4390228/4391319/4390327/4390928  
Fax: 251-11-4390900  
E-mail: [executive.director@allpi.int](mailto:executive.director@allpi.int)  
Website: [www.allpi.int](http://www.allpi.int)