



Programs Committee Agenda

Wednesday, 7 October 2026, 4-4:45 pm CAT (Central Africa Time)

Please plan on 45 minutes for this meeting. For the Zoom link [click here](#)

Items listed in **BOLD** will be covered during the meeting

Document Archives: icpdprograms.org/committees (scroll down to ELISA section)

Welcome & introductions - Recommend potential ELISA Advisory Council members; you can email michelle@elisanetwork.com

Focus Topic(s):

- **2026 ELISA Business Summit, 5 Aug 2027, Hwange, Zimbabwe**
 - The focus topic will be "Made In Africa"; thoughts about how to strengthen the sessions for the summit
 - **2026 Summit Program strategy:**
 - **Post Summit Business Brief**
 - **Video content (Masterclasses, Speaker sessions and Panels)**
- **Bootstrap Briefs** - 95+ Bootstrap Briefs have been published with consistent release every Wednesday
 - **What additional thematic areas and topics should be added?**
 - **How best to integrate user generated content and should staff begin adding to the existing Bootstrap Briefs as opposed to creating new ones?**
 - **Can the Bootstrap Briefs be "bundles" into a larger curriculum units**
- **ELISA Confabs**
 - **Recommended topics for 2027**
 - **Pilot using Google Meet instead of Zoom**
 - **How to support other languages ie. French? Timetable**
- **ELISA Business Scholars Program**
 - **Scholars impact reporting and showcasing- brainstorm about ideas for key elements of the report and how we can create greater visibility for the scholars ie their successes and business development**
 - **Coaches are nominated by partner organisations and volunteer coaches will be granted partner recognition for in-kind support ie as Catalyst sponsors**
 - **Monthly follow-up with 2026 scholars**

Updates, previous action items, and recent developments

- **Virtual support for EBN members**
 - **Hosted a ELISA Portal orientation session for applicants who were not selected for the 2025 ELISA Business Scholars Program**
 - **Plan to offer bi-monthly sessions to all ELISA Network members and the public about how to leverage the community and its resources, ie alternate months for deep dive vs new member onboarding**
- **ELISA Marketplace microsites - over 700 businesses are currently featured in the ELISA Marketplace**
 - **Staff is notifying Microsite creators to complete their microsites and implementing a dual direct email and newsletter strategy that mobilises members that do not have pages to create them**
 - **Instructional resources are being developed to:**
 - **Guide businesses to make their pages more effective (including using tabs and events)**
 - **Assign roles to team members**
 - **Use of the post feature**
 - **Sector are being refined with the Portal Committee**
- **ELISA Events** - site users will be able to filter events on the events page ie filtering by types of events: Confabs, Summits, Member Orientations

- ELISA Ignite
 - [Webpage available](#)
 - Overview of the program
- Social media Outreach

Other/Future action items

- Resources feature - What type of resources will members want to share and what are the categories of these resources (ie services, funding opportunities, etc)?; will posted resources be curated by staff or the portal members; will posted resources be visible only to the member or to the public?; benchmark against other models ie Opportunity Desk
- Programming focused on Luminaries, Projects and Bootstrap Briefs
- ELISA Programs and Platforms

Forward Calendar of Meeting Dates & Events (times are listed in Central Africa Time) -

2027 dates for the ELISA Advisory Council and committee meetings will be set in Dec

- **28 Oct** at **4pm CAT** - [Confab event](#)
- **17 Nov** at **4pm CAT** - [ELISA Advisory Council Meeting](#)
- **5 Aug 2027** - ELISA Business Summit
- **3-7 Aug 2027** - ELISA Ignite Training Session
- **4-7 Aug 2027** - ELISA Business Scholar Training Session