

Lacina Koné

Mr. Lacina Koné, is the Director General and Chief Executive Officer of Smart Africa having joined the organisation in March 2019. He oversees the process of defining and advancing Africa's digital agenda and has overseen the development of continental blueprints for Africa on Digital Identity, ICT Start-ups and Innovation Ecosystems, Smart Villages and the definition of Africa's Smart Broadband 2025 Strategy in addition to advancing additional key continental initiatives. In recognition for this work, Mr. Koné has reached the 12th position in 2021 among the 50 personalities advancing Africa's digital transformation. He ranked number 3 among the 10 Africa digital trendsetters in the 2022 Jeune Afrique technology ranking. Prior to that, Mr. Koné was the advisor to the President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire (2011-2019), in charge of Digital Transformation and Public Reforms,. Mr. Kone is a professional of ICT industry with over 25 years' experience in the telecommunications, satellite and intelligent transport system. Prior to that, Mr. Koné held during his career several high level technical and managerial positions with prestigious firms such as Booz Allen Hamilton and Intelsat. Mr. Koné is a graduate of three continents. United Arab Emirates, he obtained a bachelor's degree in electronic engineering, in the UK, it has validated its Polytechnique rank at the University of Brunel, and the United States, his MBA from George Washington University. Mr. Koné is a Commissioner in the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development (BBCOM) and recently joined in May 2024 the board of directors of the PDAA (Partnership for Digital Access in Africa).