

2025  
**Annual  
Report**

**AFRICA FUTURE  
LEADERS INSTITUTE  
OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS  
(AFLIGA)**



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**Dr Emmanuel Dei-Tumi**  
Founder/Executive Director

The year 2025 will be remembered as a very striking year in the historic pages of AFLIGA. When the idea of setting up Africa Future Leaders Institute of Global (AFLIGA) was conceived and with the determination to operationalise the concept, it was with the full cognizance that Africa stands at a defining moment in global affairs.

As the youngest continent among the nations of the global community, with a rapidly expanding and increasingly connected youth population, we knew that the decisions made today regarding Africa's leadership, governance, and economic transformation will not only determine the continent's future but also its role within the global order. AFLIGA was therefore set up to train and equip young professionals across the continent, who are educated, innovative, and are determined to contribute meaningfully to national and continental development and strengthen Africa's agency in global affairs.

Today we give thanks to God for the successful take off of AFLIGA and what we have been able to do within eight months. This report documents the insights, reflections, achievement and challenges during the period under review.

At a time when initiatives such as the Agenda 2026 and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) are expanding opportunities for regional integration, AFLIGA intends to be in the centre space in promoting the active participation of young men and women in shaping policy discourse across the continent.

As you engage with this report, I encourage readers to view it not simply as an operational account, but as a reflection of a broader strategic movement—one that seeks to empower Africa's next generation to think strategically, innovatively, act collaboratively, and lead courageously in shaping the continent's future.

I am deeply grateful to everyone that has strengthened our hands in the attainment of this feat: the Governing council, the Executive Facilitators management Council, the Finance, Risk Management, Audit and Partnership Unit, and the Marketing and brands communication council, the team at the secretariat, volunteers and partners all across the continent.

**To God be all the glory.**

The year 2025 represents the foundational phase of the Africa Future Leaders Institute of Global Affairs (AFLIGA), marking its emergence as a human capital incubator for leadership development, policy engagement, and youth empowerment in Ghana and across the continent. Although the institute is less than one year old in the year under review, (July 2025 – December 2025), established with a long-term vision toward 2050, it has made remarkable progress in laying the institutional, intellectual, and operational groundwork necessary to advance its mission. Within this short period, AFLIGA has transitioned from concept to practice, successfully initiating concrete programmes, convening dialogues, and building platforms that engage diverse stakeholders across Africa and the global diaspora.



AFLIGA was founded on the recognition that Africa's development trajectory is closely tied to the quality of its leadership and the preparedness of its emerging generation to navigate complex governance, economic, and global challenges. In response, the institute has positioned itself as a human capital and leadership incubator, dedicated to equipping young Africans with the knowledge, skills, values, and networks required to contribute meaningfully to national and continental transformation. Through a combination of structured training programmes, policy dialogues, mentorship initiatives, and digital engagement platforms, AFLIGA has begun to cultivate a new generation of ethical, globally competent, and development-oriented leaders.

This report provides a comprehensive overview of AFLIGA's activities, achievements, challenges and logistical needs during the 2025 operational year. It documents the institute's key programmes, including fireside dialogues, leadership and

**The report captures participation data, thematic focus areas, and the growing reach of AFLIGA's engagements across countries and sectors.**

enterprise development training initiatives, and thought leadership platforms, while also highlighting its institutional development, partnerships, and expanding digital presence through the Vision 2050 Hub Studio, Channel 63, and NextGen Pulse YouTube offerings. The report further captures participation data, thematic focus areas, and the growing reach of AFLIGA's engagements across multiple countries and sectors.

Importantly, this report serves as evidence of AFLIGA's early impact and institutional potential. It demonstrates how, within a relatively short timeframe and with limited resources, the institute has convened meaningful conversations, fostered cross-border collaboration, and contributed to leadership discourse on critical issues affecting Africa's future. As such, the 2025 report establishes a strong foundation for future growth, while reinforcing AFLIGA's position as an emerging continental hub for youth and leadership incubation as well as policy engagement.



# 2.0 | Overview of Key Programmes and Activities



## 2.1 Fireside Dialogues (FSDs)



One of AFLIGA's pivotal programmes is the Fireside dialogue, which promotes vigorous and intellectually influential engagements among scholars, policymakers, and emerging leaders to enhance reflective dialogue, data-driven exchanges, and leadership discourse.

In 2025, AFLIGA organised four Fireside Dialogues. These dialogues were deliberately designed to address pressing governance and development issues while creating an interactive space for scholars, policymakers, and emerging leaders to engage in reflective, solution-oriented conversations.

The thematic focus of these dialogues reflected both national and continental priorities. Discussions explored the role of education in shaping discipline, civic responsibility, and patriotism among Ghanaian youth; the contribution of African women's leadership to global peace and security; whether Africa's growing youth population represents a development opportunity or a potential security concern; and

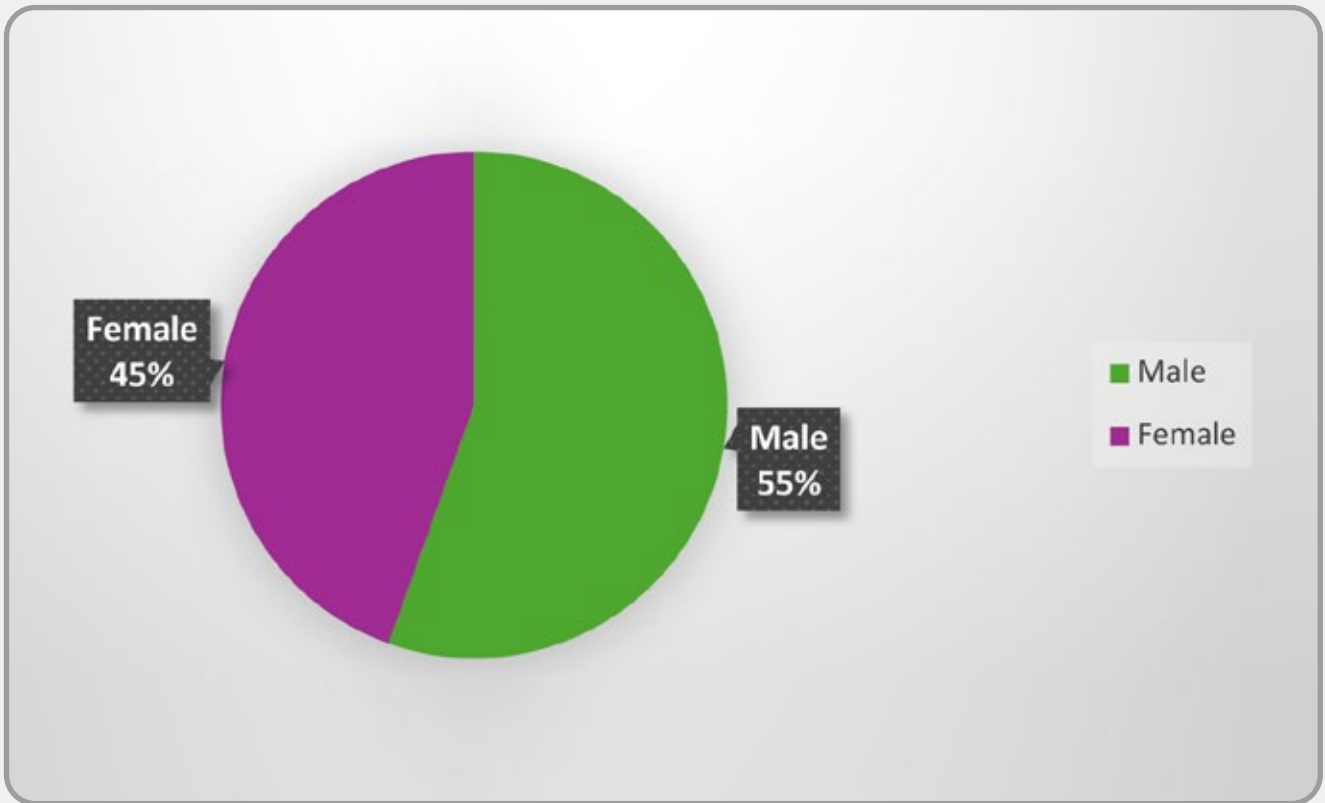
an interrogation of the case for stronger African representation in global governance institutions, particularly in relation to leadership of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). These themes demonstrate AFLIGA's commitment to addressing complex, forward-looking policy questions at the intersection of governance, development, and global affairs.

**The first three dialogues collectively attracted 163 participants from 10 countries, while the fourth drew 176 participants from 33 countries across Africa, Europe, Asia, and the Americas.**

Participation levels highlight the programme's growing reach and relevance. The first three dialogues collectively attracted 163 participants from 10 countries, while the fourth dialogue drew 176 participants from 33 countries across Africa, Europe, Asia, and the Americas. This sharp increase in geographic diversity reflects AFLIGA's rapid emergence as a convening platform for transnational dialogue. Gender participation

remained relatively balanced: 91 males and 73 females in the first three sessions, and 106 males and 71 females in the fourth session, indicating inclusive engagement across audiences.

## Gender Participation



**Figure 1:** Gender Participation Across the Various Fireside Dialogues

Overall, the Fireside Dialogues played a foundational role in positioning AFLIGA as a credible Institute for thought leadership, enabling the institute to stimulate critical conversations, connect diverse stakeholders, and help shape discourse on Africa's leadership and socio-economic development trajectory.



## 2.2 AFLIGA Thought Leadership Series

A major milestone in AFLIGA’s 2025 activities was the successful organisation of its inaugural Thought Leadership Series, held under the theme “Rethinking African Female Leadership Development: Lessons from Indigenous African Leadership.” This flagship initiative marked the institute’s transition from programme delivery to structured, high-level intellectual engagement on continental issues.

The Series convened participants from 18 countries, drawing a diverse audience that included policymakers, senior government officials, academics, youth leaders, civil society actors, and representatives from the creative sector. **Notably, participation reflected strong gender inclusion, with women accounting for 64% of participants and men 36%.** This composition aligned with the thematic focus on women’s leadership development on the continent and underscored AFLIGA’s commitment to promoting gender-inclusive leadership discourse.

Resource persons who led the discussion were all scholars from Canada, USA and Ghana, with the Ministers for Gender for both Ghana & Zimbabwe as the Guest and Special Guest of honour respectively.

Beyond participation metrics, the Series achieved significant qualitative impact. It fostered rich intergenerational dialogue, allowing established leaders and emerging voices to exchange perspectives on leadership, governance, and cultural identity. Discussions emphasised the importance of integrating indigenous African knowledge systems, rooted in values such as responsibility, community, and ethical leadership, into contemporary governance frameworks. At the same time, the platform encouraged critical reflections on structural barriers to women’s leadership and the need for deliberate policy and institutional reforms.

Through its hybrid format and multidisciplinary engagement, the Thought Leadership Series strengthened AFLIGA’s role as a convener of ideas and a driver of policy-relevant dialogue. It also laid the foundation for subsequent editions, positioning the series as a recurring space for evidence-based discussions and innovative thinking on Africa’s development.

**Audience included policymakers, senior government officials, academics, youth leaders, civil society actors, and representatives from the creative sector.**



## 2.3 African Women in Global Leadership Programme (AWGLP)

During the year under review, AFLIGA implemented the inaugural cohort of the African Women in Global Leadership Programme (AWGLP), a specialised initiative designed to equip emerging African women leaders with the competencies required to engage effectively in global governance and development processes.

The programme was structured as a five-weekend intensive course, combining theoretical insights with practical learning across key thematic areas. Participants engaged with topics including;

- **Gender dynamics and systemic barriers to leadership;**
- **Africa's position within global politics and economic systems;**
- **The role of digital transformation and artificial intelligence in shaping leadership, diplomacy,**
- **International relations; and**
- **Issues of diversity, equity, inclusion, and gender-based violence.**

This comprehensive structure ensured that participants developed both conceptual understanding and practical leadership skills relevant to contemporary global challenges.

Although the inaugural cohort consisted of ten participants, comprising one male and nine females from Ghana and Zimbabwe, the programme delivered high-impact, tailored training supported by a distinguished group of international facilitators and subject-matter experts. The small cohort size allowed for intensive mentorship, personalised engagement, and deeper learning outcomes, contributing to the development of confident, informed, and globally oriented leaders.

The successful implementation of the AWGLP demonstrates AFLIGA's capacity to deliver specialised leadership training programmes that address critical gaps in gender representation and leadership development. It also provides a strong foundation for scaling the programme to include a broader and more diverse cohort of participants across Africa in future editions.



## 2.4 NextGen Africa Talk 2026 (Early 2026 Milestone)

Although held in early 2026, the NextGen Africa Talk represents a direct continuation and expansion of the momentum generated by AFLIGA's 2025 programming. As such, it serves as a critical indicator of the institute's rapid growth and increasing continental relevance.

Convened under the theme **"Tomorrow's Leaders, Today's Conversations,"** the inaugural edition brought together 243 participants from 21 countries, creating a dynamic platform for youth leadership dialogue, cross-border collaboration, and policy engagement. The gender distribution, 148 males and 95 females, reflects strong participation across both groups, further reinforcing AFLIGA's inclusive approach to leadership development.

The Talk positioned young Africans not merely as beneficiaries of development processes but as active contributors to governance reform, economic transformation, and civic leadership. It facilitated discussions on institutional capacity, youth participation in policy systems, and Africa's positioning within an evolving global landscape. Importantly, the event also strengthened engagement with National Youth Councils, student leaders, and emerging professionals, thereby bridging the gap between grassroots participation and institutional dialogue.

**As an extension of AFLIGA's 2025 initiatives, the NextGen Africa Talk demonstrates the institute's growing ability to convene large, diverse audiences and sustain high-level conversations on Africa's future.**

It reinforces AFLIGA's trajectory as a continental hub for leadership incubation and thought leadership, capable of scaling its platforms and deepening its impact across borders.

**The Talk positioned young Africans not merely as beneficiaries of development processes but as active contributors to governance reform, economic transformation, and civic leadership..**

# 3.0 | Digital Engagement and Knowledge Platforms

## 3.1 Channel 63, NextGen Pulse and Vision 2050 Hub Studio



A defining feature of AFLIGA's institutional development in 2025 has been the establishment of the Vision 2050 Hub Studio, which serves as the backbone of its digital engagement and thought leadership ecosystem. At the centre of this platform are Channel 63 and NextGen Pulse, AFLIGA's YouTube-based knowledge and dialogue hub, which has rapidly evolved into a continental space for policy conversations, intellectual exchange on Global Affairs, and leadership incubation.

Within its first year of operation, the studio produced 20 recordings, incorporating both in-person and virtual engagements with a diverse range of scholars, policymakers, development practitioners, and emerging leaders. Notably, the platform maintained a balanced gender representation among speakers, with equal participation of 10 male and 10 female contributors. This reflects AFLIGA's deliberate commitment to inclusivity and diverse perspectives in leadership discourse.

The thematic scope of discussions hosted on Channel 63 and NextGen Pulse has been both wide-ranging and strategically aligned with Africa's development priorities. Conversations have explored critical issues such as African identity and its role in shaping development trajectories;

the operationalisation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and barriers to intra-African trade; the intersection between youth, governance, and policy systems; and the need for reform in education systems to better align with Africa's socio-economic realities. Additional discussions have addressed political financing and its implications for democratic governance, the relevance of indigenous knowledge systems in shaping contemporary policy frameworks, and the role of ethical leadership in strengthening public service.

Beyond content production, Channel 63 and Nextgen Pulse have emerged as a core intellectual and leadership incubator within AFLIGA's institutional architecture. They perform multiple strategic functions: serving as a platform for policy dialogue, enabling the dissemination of knowledge across geographical boundaries, and fostering leadership conversations that connect stakeholders across Africa and the diaspora. In doing so, it extends AFLIGA's reach far beyond physical programmes, positioning the institute as a digitally enabled thought leader in Africa's governance and development space.

# 4.0 | Institutional Development

## 4.1 Partnerships



In 2025, AFLIGA took important steps to strengthen its institutional foundation by establishing strategic partnerships with organisations that share its vision for leadership development and youth empowerment. Among the most notable collaborations are its engagements with the African Women Leaders Network (AWLN) and the Frimpong-Manso Institute. (FMI).

These partnerships enhance AFLIGA's capacity to design and deliver impactful programmes by providing access to broader networks, technical

expertise, and collaborative opportunities. In particular, collaboration with AWLN strengthens the institute's engagement in gender-focused leadership initiatives, while the partnership with the Frimpong-Manso Institute contributes to intellectual exchange and policy-oriented programming. Collectively, these relationships position AFLIGA within a wider ecosystem of institutions working toward governance reform, leadership development, and sustainable development across Africa.

## 4.2 Organisational Growth



Alongside its programme and partnership expansion, AFLIGA has made significant progress in building its internal institutional capacity. One of the most important milestones in 2025 was the establishment of a functional secretariat, equipped with the administrative infrastructure necessary to support programme coordination, communication, and operational management. This development marks a critical transition from an emerging initiative to a structured and operational institution.

The institute has also taken deliberate steps to strengthen its human resource capacity. This includes the recruitment and development of

key staff to support programme delivery, digital engagement, and institutional coordination. This move has enhanced operational efficiency, improved coordination of activities, and strengthened the institute's physical presence in Ghana as a strategic hub for its continental operations.

Together, these developments reflect AFLIGA's steady progression toward institutional maturity. They demonstrate the organisation's commitment to building a solid administrative and operational base capable of supporting its expanding portfolio of leadership programmes, policy dialogues, and digital engagement platforms.

# 5.0

## Key Achievements Summary

In less than one year of operation, the Africa Future Leaders Institute of Global Affairs (AFLIGA) has achieved notable milestones that underscore its relevance and institutional potential as a leadership development and policy engagement platform.

Over the course of 2025, the institute successfully organised four Fireside Dialogues, convening participants from across multiple countries and facilitating critical discussions on governance, youth development, and global policy issues. It also hosted its inaugural continental Thought Leadership Series, which brought together participants from 18 countries and established a strong foundation for structured, high-level intellectual engagement on Africa's leadership and development challenges.

In addition to these dialogue platforms, AFLIGA delivered a specialised leadership training initiative through the African Women in Global Leadership Programme (AWGLP), equipping participants with competencies in governance, diplomacy, and global affairs. Collectively, these programmes helped engage participants from over 30 countries, reflecting the institute's growing international reach and its ability to convene diverse stakeholders across regions.

A major institutional milestone has been the establishment of the Vision 2050 Hub Studio and

its digital extension, Channel 63 and NextGen Pulse YouTube offerings, which has enabled AFLIGA to produce and disseminate over 20 thought leadership discussions. This platform has significantly expanded the institute's capacity for knowledge dissemination, policy dialogue, and cross-border engagement.

**Vision 2050 Hub Studio and its digital extension, Channel 63 and NextGen Pulse YouTube offerings, has enabled AFLIGA to produce and disseminate over 20 thought leadership discussions.**

Furthermore, AFLIGA has strengthened its institutional base by developing strategic partnerships, including collaborations with the African Women Leaders Network (AWLN) and the Frimpong-Manso Institute (FMI). Internally, the establishment of a functional secretariat, supported by administrative infrastructure and a growing team, marks a critical transition toward organisational stability and operational effectiveness.

These achievements highlight AFLIGA's rapid evolution from a conceptual initiative into a structured and impactful institution within Africa's leadership development landscape.

Despite its significant achievements within a short operational period, AFLIGA continues to face a number of structural and resource-related challenges that may affect the pace and scale of its growth if not adequately addressed.



A primary challenge is the limited availability of sustainable funding to support the institute's expanding operations. As AFLIGA transitions from a start-up initiative to a structured continental platform, there is an increasing need for financial resources to support programme delivery, digital infrastructure, stakeholder engagement, and administrative functions. In addition, attracting and retaining highly skilled professionals, facilitators, and subject-matter experts requires competitive remuneration and institutional stability, which are currently constrained by limited funding.

Closely related to this is the absence of a permanent secretariat. While the institute has made progress in establishing a functional administrative base, reliance on rented or temporary office arrangements increases operational costs over time and limits long-term planning. A dedicated and permanent secretariat would not only reduce recurring rental expenses but also strengthen institutional identity, coordination, and efficiency.

Furthermore, AFLIGA faces challenges related to human resource capacity and workload distribution. As programme demand and participation continue to grow across multiple countries, the existing team is required to manage an expanding portfolio of activities, often stretching operational capacity. This underscores the need for structured staffing, volunteer management systems, and regional representation.

Another key challenge is scaling programmes while maintaining quality and impact. The institute's strength lies in its high-quality, interactive, and intellectually rigorous engagements; however, expanding to reach a broader audience across Africa requires additional resources, systems, and partnerships to ensure consistency and effectiveness.

Additionally, digital infrastructure and content production capacity present constraints. While platforms such as the Vision 2050 Hub Studio and Channel 63 have been successfully established, sustaining high-quality production, expanding reach, and improving audience engagement require continuous investment in technology, equipment, and technical expertise.

Finally, AFLIGA operates within a broader environment where partnership development and institutional visibility are still evolving. As a relatively new organisation, building long-term strategic partnerships, securing donor confidence, and establishing credibility within competitive policy and development spaces require sustained engagement and strategic positioning.

Addressing these challenges will be critical to strengthening AFLIGA's institutional resilience, enhancing its operational efficiency, and positioning it for long-term impact across the continent.

The 2025 operational year represents a foundational and transformative phase for the Africa Future Leaders Institute of Global Affairs (AFLIGA). Despite being less than one year old, the institute has demonstrated a remarkable capacity to design and implement impactful programmes, convene diverse stakeholders, and establish platforms that contribute meaningfully to leadership development and policy dialogue across Africa.

The scale, diversity, and quality of AFLIGA's initiatives reflect two important realities. First, they underscore the urgent and growing demand for structured leadership incubation platforms to equip young Africans with the skills, values, and networks needed to navigate complex governance and development challenges. Second, they demonstrate AFLIGA's ability to respond effectively to this demand through innovative programming, strategic partnerships, and the integration of digital engagement platforms such as Channel 63 and NextGen Pulse YouTube offerings.

These early achievements provide a strong and credible foundation for the institute's future growth. With continued institutional strengthening, expanded partnerships, and sustained operational support, AFLIGA is well-positioned to scale its programmes, deepen its continental reach, and play an increasingly influential role in shaping Africa's next generation of ethical, visionary, and globally competent leaders.

## Vision

To cultivate a new generation of globally competent African leaders who are ethical, innovative and are committed to redefining the continent's socio-cultural, governance, and economic transformation by 2050.





## Mission

To equip the continent's future leaders with the mindsets, skills, and tools needed to build a resilient, self-reliant, and thriving Africa by 2050.

## Purpose

Our reason for being:  
To address Africa's leadership crisis and create a thriving, self-reliant Africa.



## Core Values

- ➔ Integrity
- ➔ Resilience
- ➔ Pan-Africanism
- ➔ Collaboration

**International Office location:** 13 Gopher Street,  
Agbogba, Near Top Herbal, North Legon, Accra-Ghana.

**Postal:** P. O. Box AN 19058 Accra-North

**Digital Address:** GM-057-8684

**Tel:** +233 (0) 505579335 / 553444056

**Email:** [Info@afliga.org](mailto:Info@afliga.org)

**Website:** [www.afliga.org](http://www.afliga.org)

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