



CULTURE SUMMIT

Brought
to you by
HAPPYSANDPIT

The Maslow, Sandton
16 & 17 September, 2026



The organisational culture summit for Africa

Not just another event ... a complete reset.

Culture Summit Africa 2026 is the second annual gathering of African leaders building high-performing teams through intentional organisational culture. Designed for all the mavericks, pioneers and free-thinkers in the field of people management and leadership, this two day event is packed with actionable insights and ideas, delivered by the people who invented them, adapted them and perfected them; a roster very carefully curated by the culture experts at Happy Sandpit.

This isn't just a conference. It's your intentional culture accelerator.

Why this summit is different

- Designed for Africa. Featuring voices from South Africa, Kenya, Tanzania, Nigeria and beyond, this event will add richness and perspective to organisational culture.
- From practice, not theory. Every speaker holds a daily culture role inside their organisation and has led or managed their organisation's way to high engagement through culture. No professional speakers. No consultants. Here, it's the real deal.
- Short, sharp, strategic. No panels. No aimless chatter. Just power sessions and real insights you can act on.
- Tools, not just talk. Leave with a Summit workbook, and a concrete plan.

Who should attend

The Culture Summit is for leaders serious about driving meaningful change.

- HR, people & culture executives
- Managing directors & executive teams
- OD, transformation & strategy leaders
- Culture champions & high-performing team leads

Whether you're shaping strategy or scaling trust; this is where you belong.

What you'll learn

- How to create the kinds of companies you'd like your kids to work at
- How to measure culture in a way your executive team will back
- How to embed trust, psychological safety and personal accountability
- How to align multigenerational, distributed teams under shared values
- How to make inclusion practical and performance-linked
- How to turn values into behaviours, and behaviours into results
- How to maintain culture and engagement across hybrid and flexible workstyles

How much does it **cost**?

In Person - All Sessions

ZAR7450.00

per delegate



Streaming - All Sessions

ZAR3950.00 Individual

ZAR14950.00 Organisation

What your ticket includes:

- Full access to both days of insight-rich sessions
- A printed Summit workbook for in-session notes + post-event planning
- Full access to recorded sessions for 30 days post-summit
- All meals, energisers, and curated networking
- A space to think bigger, sharper, better, with other culture-first leaders

How to buy

Contact Happy Sandpit on the following:

+27 010 825 8468

bookings@culturesummit.co.za

Or enquire on www.culturesummit.co.za

For media enquiries, please contact us on:

media@culturesummit.co.za

What your ticket includes:

- Full digital access to both days of insight-rich sessions, including breakout sessions.
- Full access to recorded sessions for 30 days post-summit

Why **NOW**? Why **YOU**?

Because culture isn't a poster on the wall.
It's how we lead, speak, build, and belong.
And when you get it right, performance follows.

Clear your calendar for the culture event of the year.

OUR PRESENTERS

Our carefully curated presenter line-up reflects a key difference built right into the DNA of **Culture Summit Africa 2026**, in that each of our participants is an expert in an aspect of organisational culture, evidenced by the ideas they have innovated, the projects they have run, the changes they have made and the work they do daily.

They are coming to share because they believe in the immense importance of culture as a lever to drive employee engagement and because they believe ideas born on this continent, in the hearts and minds of our amazing people, are as good as, if not better than, any of those that come from overseas.

We agree, and we're honoured to be able to provide a platform for them to share.



Margaret Nnko, Culture Transformation Project Manager, **CRDB Bank (Tanzania)**



Thandile Samela, Director: Organisational Development, **Eastern Cape Dept of Public Works & Infrastructure**



Avanthi Maharaj, Head of HR for Africa, **Google**



Chelsea Saharin, OD and Talent Manager, **Flash Group**



Melissa van Zyl, Senior OD Practitioner, **Pep Stores**



Carolyne Mutambo, Strategic HR Leader, **BASF East Africa (Kenya)**



Gawie Herholdt, Head of Organisational Effectiveness Improvement, **Harmony Gold**



Justine Schäfer, Creative Director, **Cape Cobra Leathercraft**



Nthabiseng Thaba, Human Resources Director, **Leroy Merlin**



Nicola Muir, Group People and Culture Manager, **IFS**



Mimi Ikeneku, Head of HR Shared Services & Culture, **Interswitch (Nigeria)**



Navasha Chetty, Human Resources Executive, **JSE**

OPENING KEYNOTE



Lizette de Wet, Partner Lead and Brand Ambassador, **Praelexis AI**

The Teal Deal: How Praelexis is rewriting the rules of work

CLOSING KEYNOTE



Brett Ayres, COO, **National Sea Rescue Institute (NSRI)**

Culture is contagious: the NSRI Ripple Effect

MODERATOR



Colin Browne, Founder, **Culture Summit Africa & Happy Sandpit**



Justin Fiddes, Senior Wellbeing Manager, **Telesure Investment Holdings**



Alison Boruchowitz, Director Human Resources, **Puma SA**



Brigitte Padayachee, Chief People Officer, **The Courier Guy**



Sinenhlahla Magagula, Chief People Officer, **Tiger Brands**



Pretheshini Moodley, VP of Global Engagement, **bioMérieux**

BREAK OUT SESSIONS (CONCURRENT)

DAY 1 AM

Room 1: Fix it fast

How to shape onboarding and induction that creates raving fans in 30 days.

(45 minute session)

Room 2: Open Forum

What's actually hard about building culture right now?

(45 minute session)

Room 3: Culture Lab

Using AI in people and culture work: practical applications that save time.

(45 minute session)

DAY 1 PM

Room 1: Fix it fast

How to reset Performance Management for positive results in 30 days.

(45 minute session)

Room 2: Open Forum

Where do managers struggle to engage their teams and how do we change it?

(45 minute session)

Room 3: Culture Lab

Bias in decisions: how it shows up at work every day.

(45 minute session)

DAY 2 AM

Room 1: Fix it fast

How to reset your Employee Engagement strategy in 30 days.

(45 minute session)

Room 2: Open Forum

What has actually worked in creating engagement (and what has not?)

(45 minute session)

Room 3: Culture Lab

Using AI in people and culture work: practical applications that save time.

(45 minute session)

DAY 2 PM

Room 1: Fix it fast

How to reframe leadership to shape culture in 30 days.

(45 minute session)

Room 2: Open Forum

What are the best ideas for empowering Culture / Values ambassadors?

(45 minute session)

Room 3: Culture Lab

Building Psychological Safety in real teams: what leaders actually do.

(45 minute session)

Where culture is headed: **beyond 2026**

Explore the shifts transforming work:

From culture fit

From perks

From annual surveys

From buy-in

From DEI statements

To culture contribution

To purpose

To real-time signals

To co-ownership

To everyday actions



www.culturesummit.co.za