



# GALESS 2027 CONFERENCE

AI for Sustainable Solutions | African Leadership Academy,  
Johannesburg, South Africa



**African Leadership Academy**  
Developing the next generation of African leaders



# Who We Are: African Leadership Academy

African Leadership Academy (ALA) is a pan-African pre-university institution based in Johannesburg, South Africa, dedicated to developing the next generation of African leaders.

- Students from 40+ African countries
- Rigorous two-year pre-university program
- Strong emphasis on entrepreneurship, ethics, and leadership
- A community built around solving Africa's most pressing challenges

# Why GALESS in Africa, at ALA?

- **Network** - African Leadership Academy's network of local and continental learning institutions serves as an opportunity to grow the GALESS network in Africa, proving to be a strategic partnership for future GALESS conferences.
- **AI success stories** - African countries are pioneering world-class/exemplary AI deployment initiatives worthy of learning from.
  - Lelapa AI focuses on AI models for African languages such as isiZulu, Yoruba, and Swahili
  - Cassava Technologies is helping build the infrastructure needed for AI across Africa
- **Facilities** - African Leadership Academy offers world-class facilities in a safe and beautiful campus, in a quiet part of Johannesburg, a world-class city in its own right .
- **Location** - Johannesburg offers a modern, fast-paced city with a mix of culture, history, and technological innovation (all big tech companies use Johannesburg as their Africa hub)
- **Mission alignment** - African Leadership Academy's mission to equip young people to lead sustainable change on the continent reflects GALESS' model of research-driven, solution-oriented student inquiry.



# 2027 Research Domain

## AI for Sustainable Solutions

The GALESS 2027 Conference shall challenge participants to:

- Identify a real sustainability problem in their local, national or regional context where AI can play a role
- Investigate existing or emerging AI solutions, by evaluating their effectiveness, accessibility, and ethical implications
- Propose a concrete, implementable solution
- Examine a comparable challenge in another country/region and explore possibilities for international collaboration or knowledge exchange



# Conference Overview

## Dates:

- 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> July 2027

## Program Highlights:

- Research presentations evaluated by an international jury
- Keynote addresses from practitioners in AI
- Facilitated cross-school collaboration and peer exchange
- Cultural immersion and outdoor experiences in Johannesburg (optional)
- GALESS Certificate Ceremony on the final day

**Fee per participant: \$550.** *Included in the fee: Accommodation on ALA campus, all meals, program materials, excursions, GALESS certificates. **Not included:** International flights, excursions, travel insurance, visa fees, personal expenses*



# Life at ALA

ALA's campus and Johannesburg offer a rich backdrop for the conference experience:

- **Campus life:** World-class facilities in a vibrant pan-African community
- **On campus events:** Games/Movie Nights, Teambuilding activities, Cultural Events and Gala Dinners
- **Possible excursions (optional/ additional cost) :** Lion Park| Soweto historical tour | Cradle of Humankind (UNESCO site) | Apartheid Museum | Lebo Backpackers Tour



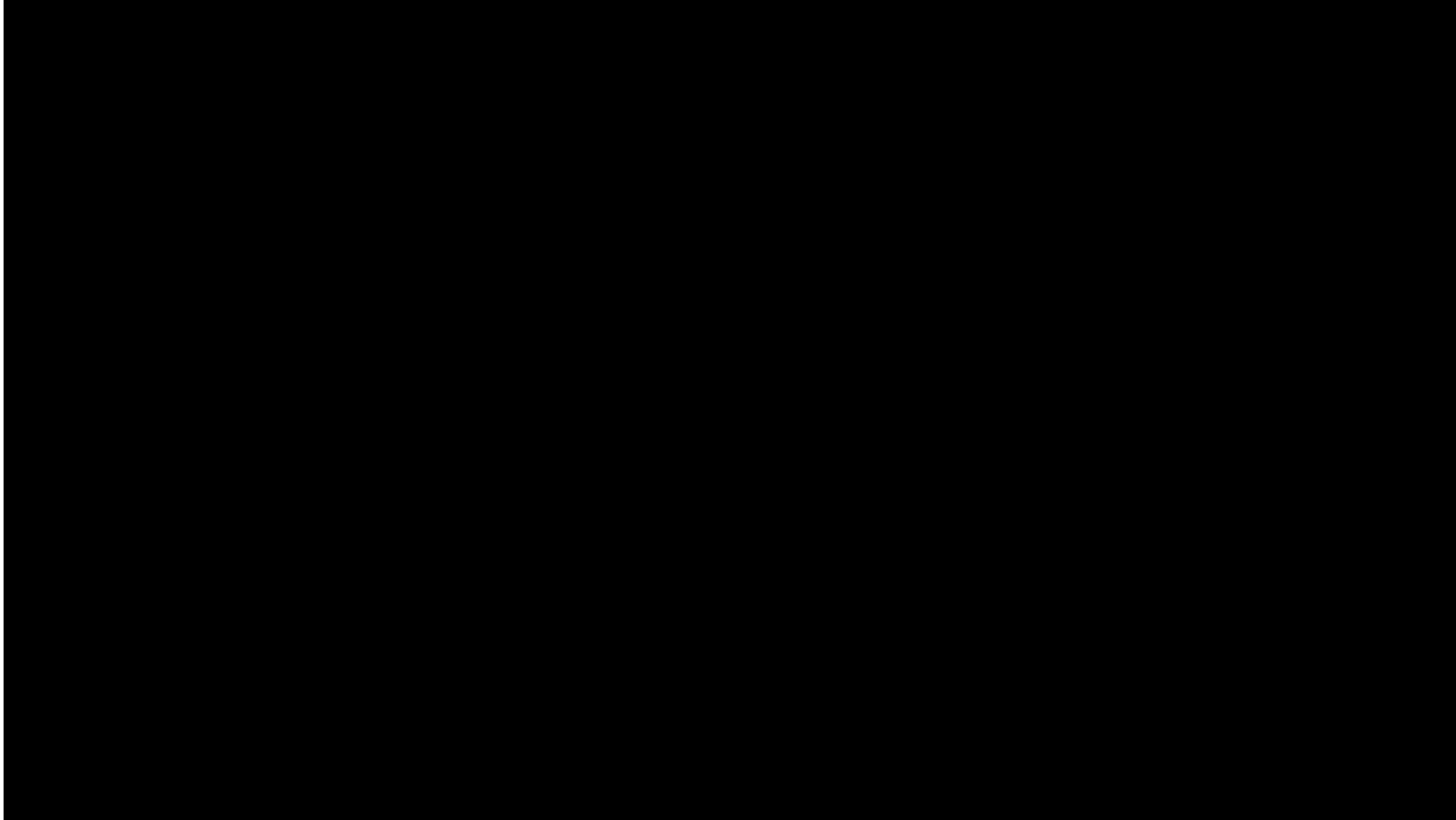


# Johannesburg at a Glance



- Johannesburg city offers a unique modern-cultural experience that is rich with history, creativity and innovation
- Experience the
  - Safaris & Wildlife:** Lion & Safari Park
  - City Tours:** Johannesburg Red Bus Hop-On Hop-Off Tour
  - Amusement:** Gold Reef City & Sun City Resort
  - World-Class Retail Shopping Experiences:** Sandton City & Rosebank mall
  - Culture and History:** Lebo's Backpackers| Soweto Walking Tour | Hector Pieterse Museum | Apartheid Museum

# Explore African Leadership Academy Campus





# THANK YOU

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