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PROFILE MICHAEL SUDARKASA



Michael Sudarkasa is the CEO of Africa Business Group (ABG) (www.abghq.com), a South Africa based continentally active, African economic development company. Founded in 2005, ABG focuses on three key areas: 1) economic and business development consulting, 2) agriculture, tourism and renewable energy projects, and 3) capacity development. The Group specializes in the areas of private sector development, trade and investment within Africa and between Africa and the global business community. ABG is a strategic advisor to the African World Heritage Fund, an African Union and UNESCO supported body that supports 145 world heritage sites across Africa. In January 2020, ABG was also appointed to serve as the Country Coordinator – South Africa, Eswatini and Lesotho for the Private Financing Advisory Network (a global network of climate and clean energy financing experts) established by UNIDO and REEEP; and in April 2020 ABG was appointed to serve as the Southern Africa Regional Coordinator of the UNDRR's private sector network, ARISE. Michael currently serves on the global board of the UN agency for Disaster Risk Reduction's (UNDRR) Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies ([ARISE](#)), as a member of the [University of Michigan Provost's](#) Advisory Committee and as Chair of the Advisory Board of the [African Studies Center](#) of the University of Michigan. He also serves as the Chair of [Impact@Africa](#), a continentally focused impact investment ecosystem development platform.

A U.S. commercial attorney by training, Michael has lived, travelled, and worked in 50 countries around the world (including 35 in Africa), and is the author of several publications, including: *The African Union Commission's Africa Business Directory: Toward the Facilitation of Growth, Partnership and Global Inclusion* (African Union, 2014), *A Field Guide to Inclusive Business Finance* (UNDP 2012) and *Investing in Africa: An Insider's Guide to the Ultimate Emerging Market* (John Wiley & Sons, August 2000). He holds a B.A. degree from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor (High Honors in History) and a Juris Doctor degree from Harvard Law School.