

## Ivanka Trump in Africa for Women's Economic Summit



White House senior adviser Ivanka Trump, center, smiles at Azalech Tesfaye, right, who is the recipient of loan guarantee through USAID, as Trump meets women who work in the Ethiopian coffee industry, Sunday April 14, 2019, at Dumerso Coffee in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Ivanka Trump arrived in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia, Sunday for a summit on African women's economic inclusion and empowerment.

President Donald Trump's daughter and senior adviser visited a coffee shop and textile company in Addis Ababa. She is there to promote a \$50 million initiative enacted by her father in February that is aimed at encouraging women's employment in developing countries.

The Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Initiative says it hopes to "reach 50 million women by 2025, through the work of the the United States Government and its partners."

"Fundamentally, we believe that investing in women is a smart development policy and it is a smart business," Ivanka Trump said after sampling coffee at a traditional Ethiopian ceremony. "It's also in our security interest, because women, when we're empowered, foster peace and stability."

It was not immediately clear if the controversy that surrounds the U.S. president will follow his daughter to Africa. The president has not been kind in his remarks about Africa and its migrants.

"I don't think people will have a good feeling" Ethiopian journalist Sisay Woubshet said about the president's daughter visit to the continent.

Marakle Tesfaye, an activist, said, however, "I think she's coming genuinely to empower women and it's good that she's coming because she will push forward our agenda."

Ivanka Trump will also meet with meet with Ethiopian President Sahle-Work Zewde and Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed before going on to Ivory Coast, where she will attend a meeting on economic opportunities for women in West Africa.

She is also scheduled to make an appearance at a World Bank policy summit.