

SILICON MOUNTAINS 2026

Fact Sheet

Silicon Mountains is a technology platform that the Union of Employers of ICT (UEICT) has organised since 2019. On November 3–4, 2026, it returns under the theme “Invest in Innovation” and, for the first time, brings several new elements.

At a glance

- **Event.** Silicon Mountains Summit & Expo 2026 (11th edition)
- **Dates.** November 3–4. Day one is the Summit; day two is the International Microelectronics Forum. The Startup Expo is open on both days.
- **Venue.** Dvin Music Hall, Paronyan Street, Yerevan
- **Organiser.** Union of Employers of ICT (UEICT)
- **Supported by.** Ministry of High-Tech Industry and Artificial Intelligence of the Republic of Armenia
- **Special guest.** Kam Ghaffarian, Executive Chairman and Co-Founder of X-energy; laureate of the 2026 State Award of the Republic of Armenia for Global Contribution in High Technology
- **Website.** silicon-mountains.org

What's new in 2026

For the first time, the event runs for two days with a packed programme built around business opportunities. Alongside the Summit, a technology expo brings together universities offering technology education and startups, creating a space for new partnerships. Also new this year: a panel on women's leadership and dedicated B2B meeting rooms.

By the numbers

Since 2019, the Summit has hosted 100+ speakers and 10,000+ participants. Regional editions have also been held in Shirak (2024) and Lori (2025).

Impact

Silicon Mountains 2026 is designed to make an impact on several levels:

- **Attracting capital.** It creates a direct link between startups, corporate investment in Armenia's technology capacity, public investment in infrastructure and policy, and international companies, drawing their attention to the region and opening the door to partnerships.
- **Top-level dialogue.** Business leaders, investors and senior government officials meet in a single setting to discuss concrete decisions and practical next steps.
- **Positioning Armenia.** The emphasis on microelectronics (the Forum and the Olympiad final) reinforces Armenia's image as a country that builds fundamental engineering solutions, moving beyond the generic "IT hub" label.
- **Sector growth.** Combining the Summit with the Expo, and giving startups a direct route to major players and investors, supports the long-term growth of Armenia's technology ecosystem.

Components

- **Silicon Mountains Summit.** High-level discussions on investment, innovation and international cooperation, with world-renowned speakers, company leaders and investors
- **Silicon Mountains Expo.** An exhibition with a workshop zone and pre-arranged B2B meeting rooms, created for new business connections and investment opportunities
- **International Microelectronics Forum (November 4).** Professional discussions with international and local experts on semiconductors, chip design, artificial intelligence and investment
- **International Microelectronics Olympiad final (November 3).** Bringing together participants from around the world
- **Women Leaders Club panel (November 4).** An 80-minute discussion, "Leadership Without Borders: Lessons from Tech, Government and Diplomacy", drawing on the experience of women leaders in technology, government and diplomacy

Agenda

November 3. Summit and Expo

- **09:00–10:00.** Registration
- **10:00–10:15.** Expo opening ceremony. Welcome remarks: Armen Baldryan (President, UEICT) and Davit Tadevosyan (Minister of High-Tech Industry and Artificial Intelligence)
- **10:15–11:00.** Expo tour
- **11:00–11:20.** Summit opening. Welcome remarks: Eduard Musayelyan (Executive Director, UEICT)
- **11:20–11:50.** Kam Ghaffarian, X-energy. “Building the Future of Space Together: Becoming Interstellar”
- **11:50–12:20.** Hassan Mansour, Monty Mobile. “Great Innovation. Is It Enough?”
- **12:20–12:50.** Laith Altimime, SEMI Europe. “Europe’s Next Era Navigating the Perfect Storm”
- **12:50–13:20.** Garik Israelian, STARMUS. “How AI is transforming astrophysics”
- **13:20–13:50.** Ricardo Pinto, Nokia. “From Connectivity to Intelligence: Building the AI-Native Future”
- **13:50–14:10.** Special postage stamp cancellation ceremony
- **14:10–15:10.** Break
- **15:10–15:40.** Vahe Andonians, Cognaze. “The Unit Economics of Intelligence”
- **15:40–16:10.** Fireside chat. Yervant Zorian (Synopsys Armenia) and Krishnendu Chakrabarty (SWAP Hub)
- **16:10–16:40.** Fireside chat. “Open Innovation in Action: How Corporations and Startups Build the Future Together”. Filippou Kyprianou and Sona Grigoryan, Plug and Play
- **16:40–17:10.** Fireside chat. Hakob Arshakyan (Armenian Innovation Foundation)
- **17:30–18:30.** International Microelectronics Olympiad final

November 4. International Microelectronics Forum

- **09:00–10:00.** Registration

- **10:00–10:20.** Opening and welcome remarks: Armen Baldryan and Yervant Zorian
- **10:20–11:40.** Yervant Zorian (Synopsys Armenia), Jaan Raik (Tallinn University of Technology, KIIP), Prof. Zain Navabi (Northeastern University) and Katayoon Basharkhah (IMEC)
- **11:40–12:10.** Faiçal Chtourou, Siemens EDA. “Agentic AI and the Rise of the Design and Verification Scientist”
- **12:10–12:30.** Arsen Manukyan, Cisco. “Evolution of AI networks – It starts with Silicon”
- **12:30–13:00.** Break
- **13:00–13:40.** Vazgen Melikyan (Synopsys Armenia) and Grigor Grigoryan (Integral Solutions)
- **13:40–14:00.** Hayk Beglaryan, Microchip. “The Compute Behind Physical AI”
- **14:00–14:20.** Manouel Ohanian, NI. “Agentic Workflow for Semiconductors Validation”
- **14:40–15:00.** Harutyun Harutyunyan, Xsight Labs Armenia. “Open, Programmable Silicon for the AI Data Center: From the Switch to the DPU”
- **15:00–15:20.** Break
- **15:20–16:40.** Women Leaders Club panel. “Leadership Without Borders: Lessons from Tech, Government and Diplomacy”
- **16:40–18:00.** Panel discussion. “After AI: What Are Investors Actually Paying For?”
- **18:00.** Closing remarks

Partners

- **Platinum.** Ucom
- **Impact.** ACBA
- **Supporting.** CIPE
- **Bronze.** Visa, Synopsys, TechPark Yerevan, EU4Innovation

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- **R&D.** PMI Science
 - **Innovative.** Unicom
 - **Media.** HI-JOB, job.am, Enterprise Armenia
 - **Digital Marketing.** Granat
 - **Media Communications partner.** MediaMonitoring.am