

## Multi-Stakeholder-Platform Processes and Regional Cooperation for National SDG-Delivery in Africa

Proposed Date: 26 February 2021 Time: 11:00 – 12:30 Nairobi time

### Background and Context

The purpose of this side event is to provide a platform for a regional peer learning and exchange on Multi-Stakeholder-Platform (MSPs) and to enhance political buy-in at a regional level. And help to overcome knowledge gaps about MSP processes. This side event will focus on demonstrating the rationale and functions for Multi-Stakeholder-Platform as SDG advisory bodies in catalyzing for SDG-delivery in four African countries and illustrate good and innovative examples of how existing African MSPs provide continuous support for SDG-delivery for their respective national governments and how they thereby provide valuable spaces for action.

Multi-Stakeholder Platforms (MSPs) have a high potential to be catalysts for delivery on the 2030 Agenda by promoting a whole-of-society approach for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and could therefore act as national champions to accelerate action. MSPs advise their respective national governments, provide knowledge quickly and straightforwardly, can generate learning from their international partnerships, provide impulses for local initiatives and generally support their governments as strong knowledge partners. And also it can provide platforms for discussing controversial topics and can thereby generate consensus across stakeholder groups (academia, civil society, business, and trade unions).

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development commits to multi-stakeholder partnerships, this is particularly reflected in Goal 17, 'Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development', which the United Nations sees as crucial for the delivery of all the SDGs (UN DESA 2015: 10). Specifically, Targets 17.16 and 17.17 are aimed at improving and promoting multi-stakeholder partnerships.

On the 20th December 2018, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the resolution, Towards Global Partnerships: A Principle-Based Approach to Enhanced Cooperation between the United Nations and all Relevant Partners. The resolution emphasises the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships and that *"the resources, knowledge and ingenuity of all relevant stakeholders will be important in mobilising and sharing knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, complementing the efforts of governments and supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular in developing countries"*<sup>1</sup>.

The resolution goes further to highlight the requirements of effective partnerships, namely: consensual and voluntary relationships; participation of stakeholders from the public and non-public sectors; an agreement to collaborate on a common purpose or specific task; and a mutually agreed sharing of risks, responsibilities, resources and benefits.

### Scope and Objectives

In Africa, MSP as SDG advisory bodies exist in different forms and functions, with varying degrees of institutionalisation, structure and mandate. Some of the MSPs are well established as SDG advisory bodies while others are still in process of formation. There is increasing interest from some African governments on

---

<sup>1</sup> UN General Assembly Resolution 70/1, Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda For Sustainable Development.

Multi-stakeholder partnership and social compacting as a way of mobilising national resources towards Socio-economic objectives. Covid -19 has created a sense of urgency for “whole-of-society approaches”.

This Side event is aimed at sharing experience MSPs as SDG advisory bodies in Africa and kick-start the process of peer learning and exchange on the institutionalisation of MSP and build a business case at a regional level. This side event will focus on demonstrating the rationale and functions for Multi-Stakeholder-Platform as SDG advisory bodies in catalyzing for SDG-delivery in four African countries.

This includes:

1. What has been the experience of SDGs Advisory bodies in Africa?
2. What has been the guiding principles and modalities of these MSPs
3. What is the level of political buy-in by the state to the idea SDGs Advisory bodies in Africa
4. What are the required political, legislative and administrative environment for MSPs to be effective and successful to achieve their objectives?

**Panelist for this side event include**

- Dr Dineo Seabe, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa
- Ms Florence Syevuo – Kenya SDGs Forum
- Dr Hannah Janetschek / Felix Meyerhoff, Global Forum for SDGs advisory bodies
- Mr Yared Tsegay – African Monitor
- Mr Stephen Chacha - African Philanthropy Foundation

**Event format –**

- Short presentation of 10 minutes each
- 30 minutes of open discussion and submission

**Co applicants:**

- South Africa: Yared Tsegay – African Monitor
- Kenya: Florence Syevuo - SDG Kenya Forum
- Nigeria: Dr Tola Winjobi and J.P. Ngoyi - Civil Society Coalition on Sustainable Development
- Nigeria: Amb. Caroline Usikpedo,- Civil Society Advance Forum on Sustainable Development
- Ghana: Ellen Lindsey Awuku - Youth Advocates Ghana and Kwadwo Oteng Owusu – Ghana Civil Society Organisations Platform
- Uganda: Richard Kimbowa – Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development
- Tanzania: Stephen Chacha - African Philanthropy Foundation
- Zimbabwe: Judith Kaulem, CSO Reference Group on SDGs