

Launch of the 2020 Africa sustainable development report at Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD 8) – 3 to 5 March 2022

Description Of the Event

Side event title: Accelerating Equitable and Sustainable Development in Africa

This side event will launch the 2020 Africa Sustainable Development Report (2020 ASDR), which is a joint publication by the African Union Commission, UN Economic Commission for Africa, African Development Bank and UNDP's Africa bureau. This annual report provides a comprehensive analysis of Africa's progress towards implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as the African Union's Agenda 2063. It does so by analyzing underlying issues, interlinkages among goals, and policy options for accelerating progress going forward. The 2020 ASDR analyses Africa's progress towards the SDGs under five pillars: People, Prosperity, Planet, Peace, and Partnerships. These Pillars closely correspond to the five transformational outcomes of Agenda 2063, and provide the publication a more analytical framework.

The report illustrates remarkable progress across the continent in a range of key development areas. Specifically, substantial declines in maternal and child deaths, steady decreases in the incidence rates of infectious disease; considerable progress in primary school enrolment and youth literacy; and improvements in women's representation in governance. The report also highlights how a majority of governments in Africa have made significant efforts to incorporate the SDGs and Agenda 2063 into national development plans.

However, the economic downturn and social disruption caused by the pandemic is reversing decades of hard-won development gains. Wreaking havoc on lives and devastating livelihoods, COVID-19 has reduced economic growth and triggered food insecurity and undernutrition as well as diminished educational outcomes for millions of children. And other persistent challenges remain. Notably, the continent accounts for over three-quarters of the world's energy access deficit. In sub-Saharan Africa, while the number of people without access to electricity has steadily declined since 2013, it is now set to increase, pushing many countries farther away from achieving the goal of universal access by 2030.

This event will bring together representatives of public institutions, private sector, and development partners to discuss the best practices and lessons from the 2020 ASDR, and strategize about how best to accelerate the coherent implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 and reinforce the continent's institutional capacities to build forward better towards sustainable, resilient and inclusive recovery in the Decade of Action.

AGENDA

Moderator: Maggie Mutesi, MANSAs Media (to be confirmed)

Presentation:

- The 2020 ASDR: Towards Recovery and Sustainable Development in the Decade of Action by Raymond Gilpin, UNDP RBA.

Ministerial Panel

- **H.E. Valentin Ela Maye**, Minister of Finance, Equatorial Guinea (to be confirmed).
- **H.E. Kaba Nialé**, Minister of Planning and Development, Ivory Coast (to be confirmed).
- **H.E. Lipumbu Shiimi**, Minister of Finance, Namibia (to be confirmed).
- **H.E. Nicolas Kazadi**, Minister of Finance, DRC (to be confirmed).

Discussants

- Representatives from partnering institutions

Closing Statement

- UNDP Resident Representative in Rwanda