

Detailed Description of the Side Event

Side Event Title: Catalysing Jobs and Sustainable Livelihoods: Integrated Approaches for Inclusive Growth through Structural Transformation in Africa

Organizers and Partners:

- **Lead Organizer:** United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Regional Service Center for Africa (RSCA)
- **Co-organizers:** United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), African Union Commission (AUC) (TBC)
- **Additional Partners:** To be confirmed (TBC)

Speakers:

- **Keynote Speaker:** Ahunna Eziakonwa, UNDP Director, Regional Bureau for Africa
- **Presentation on Integrated Systems Approach to Inclusive Growth:** UNDP Inclusive Growth Team Leader, RSCA

Moderator: Usman A Iftikhar, UNDP IGET, RSCA (TBC)

Panelists:

- **Government Representative (Kenya):** Reflections on the policy case for an integrated employment and inclusive growth model from the country perspective.
- **Local Economic Development Actor (TBD):** Sharing perspectives on successful locally-driven innovations driving sustainable job creation.
- **Private Sector Representative (Uganda):** Business leadership in shifting toward value-added industries for job creation.
- **Academic Representative:** Research insights on policy shifts for sustainable livelihoods.

Thematic Focus: This side event aligns with the main theme of ARFSD-11, "Driving job creation and economic growth through sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063," with a particular focus on **SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)**.

Contribution to the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD-11): This side event will provide practical insights and policy recommendations on how **integrated economic transformation approaches** can accelerate inclusive growth and job creation. By fostering dialogue among government officials, private sector actors, academia, and development organizations, the event will:

- **Showcase best practices and case studies** that illustrate scalable models for employment-intensive growth and structural transformation.
- **Facilitate multi-stakeholder partnerships** to implement and scale sustainable economic models.
- **Generate actionable recommendations** for the ARFSD-11 key messages and the Kampala Declaration.

This session will ensure that marginalized voices—including informal sector actors, MSMEs, and local economic leaders—are represented in policy discussions, reinforcing inclusive as well as locally driven solutions for Africa's transformation.