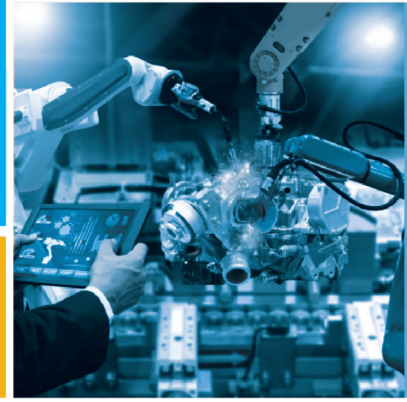




## ARFSD 9 SIDE EVENT PROPOSAL: AFRICA'S PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING SDG 9: POLICIES TO ACCELERATE AFRICA'S ACHIEVEMNT



### Side event proposal:

The "Africa's progress towards achieving SDG 9: policies to accelerate Africa's achievement" (virtual event) will be organized by United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) as a side event of the Ninth Session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development 2023 (ARFSD 9) held in Niamey, Niger from 27 February to 2 March 2023, under the theme of "Accelerating the inclusive and green recovery from multiple crises and the integrated and full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063".

### Objective:

The objective of this side event is to present Africa's progress towards SDG 9 (Industry) and facilitate knowledge and experience sharing in national policies and innovative solutions, especially in the area of skills development, that could contribute to accelerate progress towards SDG 9.

### Rationale:

This side event is a unique window of opportunity for both the ARFSD 9 and UNIDO. The ARFSD 9 for 2023 will carry out an in-depth review of five selected SDGs (including SDG 9) and corresponding goals of Agenda 2063. UNIDO, as the custodian agency for six industry-related indicators under SDG 9 adopted by the General Assembly on 6 July 2017 (A/RES/71/313), is mandated to report and collect data on these indicators. Therefore, UNIDO is in an advantageous position to organize the side event (SDG 9 Industry focus), as it can draw on data from and collaborate closely with other UN agencies, such as the ILO (employment) and the IEA (energy use and CO2 emissions), as well as experiences from Governments across the continents and industrial firms of different characteristics. Furthermore, the objective of this side event is aligned with UNIDO's mandate and includes "Strengthening knowledge and institutions" among its strategic priorities, including skills development. The side event aims at complementing UNIDO's existing work with a stronger focus on reinforcing the knowledge base for sustainable industrial development at the project, programme, country, and international level, as well as the institutional capacity at the technical, policy, and normative level.

### Proposed agenda (tentative):

This side event proposes agenda as follows (*Total duration: 60 minutes*):

Nr.	Agenda	Activities
1	Opening <i>Duration: 3 minutes</i>	The session will be opened by remarks of UNIDO's (DG or Managing Director, <i>to be confirmed</i> ).
2	Africa's progress towards achieving SDG 9 (Industry) <i>Duration: 10 minutes</i>	UNIDO will present Africa's progress towards SDG 9 (Industry) by providing insights into: (i) Progress assessment of African countries' development since 2000 relative to the advancements needed to achieve the SDG 9 targets in 2030. (ii) Outlook projections of the countries' trends to evaluate the likelihood of achieving SDG 9 targets in 2030.
3	Knowledge sharing in advancing SDG 9 (Industry) <i>Duration: 35 minutes</i>	UNIDO will organize a panel discussion that consists of policy makers of Member States, subject matter experts and industry practitioners to share knowledge in advancing SDG 9 (Industry), as well as experiences from Governments across the continents and industrial firms of different characteristics, including skills development aspects.
4	Q&A <i>Duration: 10 minutes</i>	Question and Answer session.
5	Closing <i>Duration: 2 minutes</i>	Closing of the session.

### Webinar format (tentative):

- Moderator from UNIDO will present Africa's progress towards SDG 9 (Industry).
- The webinar will be opened by remarks of UNIDO's (DG, Managing Director, or Director *to be confirmed*).
- The moderator will facilitate the flow of the webinar. After the presentation by UNIDO (Africa's progress towards SDG 9), the moderator will interact with panelists to facilitate knowledge sharing in advancing the SDG 9.
- The floor will be opened to questions for 6 mins. The moderator will gather questions and direct them to the panelists.
- The side event will be recorded and uploaded to UNIDO's (and the organizer's, *to be confirmed*) YouTube channel.

### Expected outcomes:

This side event will enable participants to:

- Gain insight into Africa's progress towards SDG 9 (Industry).



Promote knowledge sharing in national policies and innovative solutions that could contribute to accelerate progress towards SDG 9.

