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Organiser:

1. Children and Youth Constituency for Sustainable Communities

Partners:

1. IBON Africa
2. No Hunger Network Nigeria
3. Youth 4 Sustainable Energy

Focus SDG: 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)

Title:**EXPLORING THE NEXUS BETWEEN ENERGY, CLIMATE AND MOBILITY IN CITIES****OVERVIEW:**

The energy sector has been critical for growth and development since the dawn of civilization. Energy needs have been rising exponentially with every consecutive industrial revolution and in the process giving our planet a terminal diagnosis. The energy sector is the leader in global emissions accounting up-to nearly three quarters of total emissions. The African continent accounts for 3% of total global GHG emission with the energy sector contributing to a mere 4%. Climate action calls for immediate course correction to reduce GHG emission, and embark on the NetZero race to achieve the 1.5 degrees limit.

Africa finds itself in a peculiar intersection, whereby its growth and development goals demand high energy consumption, global pressures to shift to cleaner energy sources, advance effects of climate change and inability to meet the financing needs for mitigation and adaptation.

Cities are at the forefront of the fight against climate change and the challenges are huge on energy, land, housing, mobility, provision of basic services and infrastructure which is all compounded by high population density and continuous rise in population. Urban mobility in particular not only contributes to climate emissions and air quality, but also goes beyond pollution to affect quality of life and economic opportunity for a growing majority of the world's population of which the majority resides in cities.

The transport energy needs is accelerating faster than any other sector, still has a heavy reliance on fossil fuels and by far the lowest share of renewables among end-use sectors. Transport accounts for close to a third of aggregate final energy consumption. Only 3.7% of this is met by renewable sources. Road transport currently accounts for around three-quarters of global transport energy use. These challenges provide an opportunity for cities to embark on a sustainable development path for long term resilience.

As countries, policymakers, governments and researchers admit the need to mitigate climate change, the most urgent is for economies to shift energy production away from fossil fuels and transit to renewable sources.

Consequently, the core of this side-event would focus on deepening the case on advancing the revolution of clean energy for mobility in African cities.

OBJECTIVES:

- Identify precursor policies on sustainable urbanization, level of implementation and workability in African context.
- Critically analyze financing options tailored at renewable mobility for developing economies.

- Highlight means of remodeling locally-driven initiatives curated to mitigate effects of climate change.
- Bridging the gap between renewable energy policy and implementation.
- Establish partnerships across industry experts to accelerate the African sustainable mobility solutions.

TARGET AUDIENCE:

This event seeks to engage an elaborate audience including industry players, policymakers, governments, researchers, and young professionals.

METHODOLOGY

It will take the form of a fishbowl conversation seeking to explore the intricate relationship between energy, climate change and mobility, and opportunities arising. Taking into account the African narrative, cultures and needs.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. Identification of Context-Specific Solutions
2. Innovative Urban Development Strategies
3. International Collaboration and Financing Support
4. Cultural Integration in Sustainable Solutions
5. Establishment of Action Plans and Collaborative Initiatives

SPEAKERS

1. **Amran Abdi** - Founder Reviva Innovations
2. **Hon.Maina Mwangi** - Member of Parliament East Africa Legislative Assembly
3. **Soumaya ZADDEM**, Board Member, Arab African Council for Sustainable Development International Organization/ Pioneer North Africa Youth Rep, African Union Youth Advisory Board on Disaster Risk Reduction.

Moderator; Zipporah Njenga

Guiding Questions

1. How can we address the dual challenge faced by Africa in meeting its growing energy demands for development while aligning with global calls for a shift to cleaner energy sources and climate action?
2. In the context of African cities, which face unique challenges in energy, land, housing, and mobility, what tailored strategies can be employed to balance urban development with environmental sustainability and climate resilience?
3. Considering the high contribution of the energy sector to global emissions and the disparities among top emitters, how can international collaboration and partnerships be fostered to support African nations in achieving NetZero goals and addressing the impacts of climate change?
4. What innovative financing mechanisms and strategies can be explored to overcome the financial barriers hindering African nations' efforts in both mitigation and adaptation to climate change, particularly in the energy and urban sectors?
5. With urban mobility being a significant contributor to emissions and impacting quality of life, how can African cities leverage their unique cultural and societal aspects to design and implement sustainable transportation solutions, ensuring equitable access and economic opportunities for their growing populations?