



#WeBelongAfrica



Tenth Session of the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

“Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063 and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: The effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions”.

Side Event Concept Note

Event Title: The Intersection of Justice and Poverty Eradication: A Critical Path for Africa's Marginalised Communities

Organisers: UNDP Regional Team for HIV, Health and Development and Pan Africa ILGA (PAI)

Format/Speakers

Format

- Online Webinar
- Duration: 90 minutes
- Participants: Policymakers, civil society, private sector representatives, LGBTIQ+ community leaders, academics, and other stakeholders.

Event Outline

- Opening Remarks: Introduction to the event's significance.
- Panel Discussion: Moderated by Anthony Oluoch - UNDP
 - Kitty Grant (UNDP – South Africa)
 - Flavian Rhode (Positive Vibes – Namibia)
 - Farai Chirongoma (UNDP - Zimbabwe)
 - Lorna Dias (GALCK+ - Kenya)
 - Robert Akoto Amofo (Pan Africa ILGA - Ghana)
- Breakout Sessions: Focused discussions on challenges, opportunities, and strategies related to SDGs 1 and 16.
- Plenary Session: Consolidation of insights into actionable recommendations.
- Closing Remarks: Summary and acknowledgment.

Thematic focus of the event and contribution to the forum

In the current global landscape, marked by challenges such as climate change, economic disparities, political instability, and health pandemics, the quest for sustainable development that is inclusive and resilient is more critical than ever. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063 represent ambitious frameworks aimed at addressing these multifaceted challenges through a comprehensive set of goals that prioritize environmental sustainability, social inclusion, and economic growth. Within this context, the proposed side event by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Pan Africa ILGA (PAI) recognizes that while progress has been made towards achieving these global agendas, significant gaps remain, particularly concerning the inclusion and empowerment of vulnerable communities, including sexual and gender minorities in Africa.

Vulnerable communities, especially sexual and gender minorities, often find themselves at the margins of society, facing systemic inequalities, discrimination, and exclusion from social, economic, and political spheres. These challenges are exacerbated in times of crisis, where limited access to resources, healthcare, and social protection systems become more pronounced, further entrenching poverty and inequality.

Considering the multiple crises currently impacting the globe and the African continent, in particular, this side event is a crucial platform for sharing experiences, good practices, and lessons learned. It will facilitate a consensus-building process among participants on policy options, actions, and solutions that can be adopted to effectively deliver sustainable, resilient, and innovative solutions. The goal is to contribute to the reinforcement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063, eradicating poverty and ensuring peace, justice, and strong institutions through the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient, and innovative solutions tailored to the needs of vulnerable communities, including sexual and gender minorities in Africa.

The side event seeks to bridge these gaps by highlighting the critical intersection of justice and poverty eradication, with the empowerment of LGBTIQ+ and other vulnerable communities. It is premised on the understanding that sustainable development cannot be achieved without addressing the needs and rights of all community members, including those historically marginalized. By focusing on this intersectionality, the event aims to underscore the importance of inclusive policies, practices, and partnerships that recognize the unique challenges faced by LGBTIQ+ individuals and leverage their strengths and contributions towards achieving the SDGs and Agenda 2063.

Objectives

- Highlight innovative solutions that address the needs of vulnerable communities within the frameworks of the SDGs and Agenda 2063.
- Facilitate the exchange of experiences and collaborative strategies for inclusive development.
- Identify challenges and opportunities for implementing inclusive policies.
- Contribute to the Cairo declaration with key messages and recommendations focusing on **Goal 1 (No Poverty)** and **Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Accountable Institutions)**.

Expected Outcomes

- A set of actionable recommendations for the Cairo declaration, emphasizing the intersection between justice and poverty, and inclusion of vulnerable communities.
- Strengthened partnerships among stakeholders for inclusive and resilient development solutions.
- Increased awareness of the specific challenges faced by vulnerable communities in sustainable development efforts.

Planning

The event will be conducted via a virtual platform to ensure wide accessibility. Details for registration and participation will be disseminated through UNDP and Pan Africa ILGA's networks.

Contact Information

For further inquiries and registration details, please contact:

Anthony Oluoch – anthony.oluoch@undp.org

Lakshita Kanhiya – advocacyandcampaigns@panafricailga.org