



**WORKSHOP ON IMPACT INVESTING IN ZAMBIA AND CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SDGS IN AFRICA
LUSAKA, ZAMBIA**

23-24 MARCH 2023

ORGANIZED BY:

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
SUBREGIONAL OFFICE FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA

AND

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

IN COLLABORATION WITH

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND PLANNING OF ZAMBIA

&

AFRICAN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND SDG REPORTING

Concept Note

Introduction

UNCTAD and UN DESA in collaboration with Regional Economic Commissions, including ECA are currently undertaking the implementation of a Development Account project entitled '**Toward Integrated National Financing Frameworks**'. Zambia is one of the two beneficiary countries of the project in Africa. The project aims to support selected countries to mobilize and align financing with the national sustainable development priorities, in particular addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on both financing needs and on the availability of public and private financing for sustainable development. The project also aims to foster regional and global knowledge exchange, ensuring peer learning at the regional level and knowledge transfer at the global level, to better link global policy processes to the national and regional implementation.

As part of the project activities, UNCTAD supports countries in their efforts to assess the contribution of the private sector to the implementation of the SDGs through the development of Sustainability/SDG frameworks for company baseline reporting and capacity building to measure the core SDG indicators. And for this purpose, in 2016 it developed its Guidance on Core indicators for entity reporting on contribution towards implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (GCI) and a related Training Manual. When sustainability information is consistently prepared, it can be useful for comparison and progress tracking and has the potential of informing investors on how to allocate their funds in a responsible manner to contribute to sustainable development. In addition, UNCTAD established the African Regional Partnership that acts as a bridge for sharing knowledge among African countries, as well as between the African region and international organizations in the field of sustainability reporting.

ECA is collaborating with the Government of the Republic of Zambia and other relevant partners on this project. In March 2022, under the same project, UNCTAD's Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes (ALDC) partnered with UNECA to deliver a training on Domestic Resource Mobilization and Illicit Financial flows in Zambia. A Sensitization Workshop was also held in December 2022 focusing on Leveraging private sector engagement in implementing the 8th NDP and achieving the SDGs. The workshop was organised by UNECA in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and Planning, the Zambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the United Nations Development Programme.

According to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, mobilising domestic resources is a key source of finance for sustainable development. In recognition of this global framework, ECA seeks to stimulate public-private dialogue on the challenges and opportunities of impact investing in Zambia to support the implementation of SDGs. In doing so, ECA intends to also engage the Southern African Development Community (SADC) National Planning Entities (NPE) Platform.

Justification

Against this background, UNCTAD is partnering with UNECA Subregional Office for Southern Africa to and the Ministry of Finance and National Planning of Zambia to organize a training workshop on impact investing and corporate sustainability/SDG reporting for private sector entities in Zambia and within the region. The training will involve key stakeholders, including Zambian Government officials, members of the African Regional Partnership on sustainability and SDG reporting and the SADC National Planning Entities Platform, with a view to further discuss the role of the private sector in implementing the SDGs, notably through impact investing and corporate sustainability/SDG reporting.

The workshop will provide an opportunity to discuss challenges and opportunities of impact investing in Zambia and the African region, conduct technical training on sustainability reporting based on the **"Guidance on core indicators for entity reporting on contribution towards implementation of Sustainability Development Goals"** (GCI), inform on the findings of the conducted case studies, share practical experience of countries in implementing GCI and sustainability reporting in the African region as well as introduce an update on the international trends and developments in this area in the context of achieving the SDGs by the private sector

Objectives

The main objective of the workshop is to raise awareness on the significance of impact investing and build capacity on corporate sustainability reporting to mobilize the engagement of the private sector in Zambia and across the region in delivering on SDGs.

Expected Outcomes:

The expected outcomes of the workshop are:

- Improved knowledge and understanding of the significance, challenges and opportunities for impact investing in contributing to the attainment of SDGs in Zambia and the region;
- Strengthened public-private sector dialogue and engagement to support building the right environment for impact investing and developing capacities for corporate sustainability reporting;
- Strengthened capacities of the relevant stakeholders across the region in corporate sustainability reporting using GCI;
- Enhanced understanding of the best practice across the region with regard to corporate sustainability reporting;
- Strengthened engagement of Zambia in the Africa Regional Partnership on sustainability reporting and facilitate regional networking among the ARP members; and
- Increased private sector participation in pursuit of the SDGs through impact investing and corporate sustainability reporting.

Expected Outputs

1. A meeting report summarizing the main substantive findings, key messages and policy recommendations of the workshop;
2. Press releases; and
3. Press articles.

Format: The workshop will be hybrid and target 40 participants on the ground in Lusaka, Zambia as well as 50 members of the African Regional Partnership. It will be divided into two segments comprising a panel discussion on impact investing, including a keynote address to set the tone for the discussion. The second segment entails substantive capacity-building sessions on corporate sustainability, spanning a day and a half. The provisional work programme details of the sessions.

Participants: The workshop will target a balanced set of public and private sector participants, including senior and mid-level government officials of the Government of Zambia (the Ministry of Finance and National Planning, the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises, ZamStats) and government organizations such as Zambia Development Agency as well as representatives of Zambian civil society (NGOs/CSOs), the organizations relevant for corporate sustainability reporting, notably Zambian PAO. Representatives of the private sector from large, medium and small companies will also be invited to the workshop. In addition, the workshop

will feature a regional dimension based on a peer exchange of practical experience among the members of the African Regional Partnership from 26 African countries representing government, regulators, stock exchanges, professional accounting organizations, academia, etc. Members of the SADC NPE Platform will also be invited to attend virtually.

Date and Venue

23-24 March, Neelkanth Sarovar Hotel, Lusaka Zambia (hybrid with virtual connection via Zoom).

Language: English

Contacts:

Further information on the meeting and any other related matters should be addressed to:

Ms. Katarzyna Rokosz
Associate Economic Affairs Officer
Sub-Regional Initiatives Section
UNECA Sub Regional Office for Southern
Africa
Lusaka, Zambia
E-mail: katarzyna.rokosz@un.org

Ms. Elena Botvina
Economic Affairs Officer
Division of Investment and Enterprise
UNCTAD
Geneva, Switzerland
E-mail: elena.botvina@un.org

Ms. Miriam Dalitso Nkhungulu Mwiche
Principal Planner
Ministry of Finance and National Planning
Lusaka, Zambia,
E-mail: Miriam.Nkhungulu@mofnp.gov.zm

Draft Programme of Work

23-24 March 2022

Day 1

Time	Content	Facilitated by
8:30 – 9:00	<i>Registration of participants</i>	
9:00 – 9:45	Opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming remarks on behalf of the UN: Ms Beatrice Mutali, UN Resident Coordinator for Zambia • Remarks by the African Regional Partnership on Sustainability reporting: Mr Jutheau Toussé, ARP Chair • Opening remarks by the Government of Zambia: Ms Lois Mulule, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance and National Planning 	Master of Ceremony: Michelle Sinda, Ministry of Finance and National Planning
9:45 – 10:00	Objectives of the workshop	Katarzyna Rokosz Associate Economic Affairs Officer, ECA
10:00 – 11:00	Panel discussion: Private sector engagement in delivering on SDGs: the role of impact investing and corporate sustainability reporting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Jean-Marc Kilolo (ECA), virtual [10 min] • Ms Elena Botvina, UNCTAD, Presentation on the upcoming international standards on sustainability reporting and its importance in achieving the SDGs by the private sector, including SMEs (UNCTAD) [10 min] • Ms Lebogang Senne, Pan African Association of Accountants, Presentation on the Role of sustainability reporting in promoting impact investing in the African region [10 min] • Mr George Chitwa, Tax Partner and Country ESG Leader, PwC Zambia [10 min] 	Moderator: Zambian Gov't [tbc]
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Q&A and interactive discussion</i>	
11:30 – 11:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
11:45 – 13:00	Panel discussion: Impact Investing as a key instrument for pursuing SDG implementation in Zambia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter Chintu, The Zambia National Advisory Board for Impact Investment (NABII) (10 min.) • Ms Namaya Morero Mbikusita, Prospero (10 min.) • Mwati E.Kaulung'ombe – Sike, Principal Investment Officer, Development Bank of Zambia (10 min.) • Mr Rushil Patel, Co-Chief Investment Officer, Inside Capital Partners (10min.) • Mr Collins Mudenda, Ministry of Finance and National Planning (10min.) 	Moderator: Mzwanele Mfunwa, Economic Affairs Officer, ECA SRO-SA
13:00 – 13:30	<i>Q&A and interactive discussion</i>	

13:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
14:30 – 14:40	Presentation on the sustainability reporting practice in Zambia	Mwelwa Mwaba, Director- Standards and Regulation, Zambia Institute of Chartered Accountants
14:40 – 15:00	GRI Standards – Driving Impact Reporting (<i>Inside-out</i>)	Douglas Kativu, Director GRI Africa
15:00 – 15:45	Presentation of the lessons learned and sustainability reporting best practice in the other countries of ARP	ARP Members (Kenya, South Africa)
15:45 – 16:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
16:00 – 16:30	<i>Q&A and interactive discussion</i>	Moderator: Elena Botvina, UNCTAD
16:30 – 17:00	<i>Wrap-up of the Day and Next Steps</i>	Katarzyna Rokosz, ECA
17:00 – 18:00	Meeting of the ARP Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on Progress made • Work plan for 2023 • Suggestions & future prospects 	Jutheau Toussé, Chair, ARP

Day 2

Time	Content	Facilitated by
9:00 – 09:15	Summary of the previous day and plan for Day 2	Katarzyna Rokosz, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, ECA
09:15 – 9:30	UNCTAD Concept of the Core Guidance on Sustainability Reporting and practical case studies at the global level	Elena Botvina Economic Affairs Officer, UNCTAD
09:30 – 10:30	GCI Economic Dimension	Maggie Tinstswalo Mofokeng, UNCTAD Consultant
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
10:45 – 11:00	<i>Q&A and interactive discussion</i>	Moderator: UNCTAD
11:00 – 11:40	GCI Social Dimension	Maggie Tinstswalo Mofokeng, UNCTAD Consultant
11:40 – 11:50	<i>Q&A and interactive discussion</i> Moderator: ECA	Moderator: UNCTAD
11:50 – 12:50	GCI Environmental Dimension	Maggie Tinstswalo Mofokeng, UNCTAD Consultant
12:50 – 13:00	<i>Q&A and interactive discussion</i>	Moderator: UNCTAD
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
14:00 – 14:30	GCI Institutional Dimension	Maggie Tinstswalo Mofokeng, UNCTAD Consultant
14:30 – 14:45	<i>Q&A and interactive discussion</i>	Moderator: UNCTAD
14:45 – 15:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
15:00 – 15:20	Presentation of practical case studies in Kenya	ICPAK, Kenya
15:20 – 15:40	Presentation of practical case studies in Cameroon	Bekolo & Partners, Cameroon
15:40 – 16:00	<i>Q&A and interactive discussion</i>	Moderator: Katarzyna Rokosz, ECA
16:00 – 16:30	Closing remarks Closing remarks on behalf of the UN & Next Steps	Zambia Government Focal Point UNCTAD, ECA