



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

Terms of Reference

**Virtual Technical validation workshop on West Africa key
development performances Dashboard**

5th July 2022, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm (GMT+1)

1. Background

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) is mandated to provide ideas and actions for a self-reliant and transformed Africa within the framework of the UN 2030 Agenda and the AU Agenda 2063. To enhance its impact, especially in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ECA pays attention to collecting up-to-date regional statistics to support policy formulation and advocacy; promote political consensus; support capacity building; and strengthen advisory services in its main thematic areas. The ECA/SRO-WA, to strengthen its strategic position as the main think tank in Africa for Member States and IGOs, and to provide satisfactory responses to the various requests over time to guide and evaluate sustainable development programmes in the ECOWAS zone and the 2030 and 2063 agendas, adopted innovative solutions capable of enabling it to improve its interventions and be more effective.

In this context, a Dashboard tool intended for instantaneous and informed decision making has been developed by ECA/SRO-WA. It will serve as a catalyst in the production of knowledge in various areas of interest for the sub-region. The West African countries Dashboard aims to: (i) assist Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) to have relevant information for knowledge generation, and to better identify, among others, the areas/sectors in which technical assistance and intervention needs can be strengthened in the member countries; and; (ii) provide ECOWAS member States with a user-friendly informative tool for assessing progress on key socio-economic development indicators in the sub-region, including emerging and cross-cutting issues.

This strategic information and decision support tool that summarizes country performance is designed for several potential uses as provided below; integrating core functions of ECA's Sub-Regional Offices: (i) Production of Country fact sheets / Country profiles (Think Tank), (ii) Promotion of constructive dialogue frameworks (Covening), (iii) Analysis and monitoring of ECOWAS countries' progress (Operational), (iv) Identification of development challenges in ECOWAS countries (Operational).

The development of the West African Dashboard included review of documents, selection of thematic areas and indicators, data collection, scoring and analysis. A preliminary report was shared with all stakeholders for a technical review and preliminary keys finding was presented to the ECOWAS countries delegates during the pre-session of the 24th ICE, hold in the Gambia, in November 2021. The delegates recommended to ensure with the country's experts a process of review and validation of the methodology and preliminary results of the draft Dashboard.

It is against this background that the Office plans to organize a technical validation workshop of the dashboard on West African countries key development performances report to review and enrich it. The workshop is also part of the ECA/SRO-WA series of "Conversations with..." with its partners planned for this year.

2. Objectives

The overall objective of this technical workshop is to discuss and validate the West Africa 2021 Dashboard preliminary report.

Specific Objectives:

- ❖ To review the methodology and preliminary finding of the Dashboard on the assessment of socio-economic performance report
- ❖ To discuss the dashboard data accuracy/updates
- ❖ To identify the next steps towards the full operationalization of the dashboard

3. Expected results

The main expected results are:

- The report reviewed and suggestions for improvement collected;
- The dashboard's data template updated
- The next steps and actions identified

4. Format and language of the workshop

The technical validation workshop of West Africa Dashboard on key development performances will take place in the form of plenary sessions. The report will be presented by ECA/SRO-WA and discussed in plenary sessions for its enrichment. The working languages are French and English with simultaneous interpretation available.

5. Date, venue and expected participants

The technical validation workshop of West Africa Dashboard on key development performances will be held in virtual format, on Tuesday, 5th July 2022, from 03:00 pm to 05:00 pm (GMT+1), and the connection link will be shared in time. The workshop participants will be mainly Senior development planning and economic experts in the West Africa.

6. Contacts

For any information related to the technical workshop organization and participation, please contact the following persons:

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