

Multi-Stakeholder-Platform Processes and Regional Cooperation for National SDG-Delivery in Africa

26 February 2021 – 12.00-13.30 am (Nairobi time)

The purpose of this side event is to provide a platform for a regional peer learning and exchange on Multi-Stakeholder-Platform (MSPs) and to enhance political buy-in at a regional level. And help to overcome knowledge gaps about MSP processes.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development commits to multi-stakeholder partnerships, this is particularly reflected in Goal 17, 'Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development', which the United Nations sees as crucial for the delivery of all the SDGs (UN DESA 2015: 10). Specifically, Targets 17.16 and 17.17 are aimed at improving and promoting multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Specifically, the Target 17.16 elaborates the function of MSPs as “.....complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilise and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries”

Multi-Stakeholder Platforms (MSPs) have a potential to be catalysts for delivery on the 2030 Agenda by promoting a whole-of-society approach for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and could therefore act as national champions to accelerate action. MSPs advise their respective national governments, provide knowledge quickly and straightforwardly, can generate learning from their international partnerships, provide impulses for local initiatives and generally support their governments as strong knowledge partners. And facilitating dialogue towards shared understanding and common cause.

In Africa, MSP as SDG advisory bodies exist in different forms and functions, with varying degrees of institutionalisation, structure and mandate. Some of the MSPs are well established as SDG advisory bodies while others are still in process of formation. There is increasing interest from African governments on multi-stakeholder partnership and social compacting as a way of mobilising national resources towards Socio-economic objectives. Covid -19 has created a sense of urgency for “whole-of-society approaches”.

This side event aims to share experience on MSPs as SDG advisory bodies in Africa and kick-start the process of peer learning and exchange on the institutionalisation of MSP and build a business case at a regional level. The side event will focus on demonstrating the rational and functions for Multi-Stakeholder-Platform as SDG advisory bodies in catalyzing for SDG-delivery and illustrate good and innovative examples of how existing African MSPs provide continuous support for SDG-delivery for their respective national governments and how they thereby provide valuable spaces for action.

Panellist for this side event include

- Dr Dineo Seabe, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa
- Ms Florence Syevuo – Kenya SDGs Forum
- Dr Hannah Janetschek / Felix Meyerhoff, Global Forum for SDGs advisory bodies
- Mr Yared Tsegay – African Monitor
- Mr Stephen Chacha - African Philanthropy Foundation