2019 Africa Sustainable Development Report

Summary

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2019 Africa Sustainable Development Report assesses progress on six SDGs & related Goals of Agenda 2063

Fourth year of implementation; Reporting builds on earlier reports (2017, 2018) & legacy of MDGs

Consistent with the Theme of 2019 High-Level Political Forum: “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”

Prepared by ECA, AUC, AfDB, UNDP, APRM-Secretariat.
Progress on primary education; but coverage low
*Expand child-friendly, disability- gender- sensitive schools*

**Inclusive growth needed**: GDP growth <7% target to achieve sustainable development.

**Higher labour productivity** key to sustainable development efforts: ↑ by only 0.8% (2017-2018) [2.7% globally]

**Trade a key to sustainable development and structural transformation**: Aid-for-Trade commitments to Africa more than doubled - 2007-2016

**Large investment needs for SDGs**: $600-638 bn p.a.
Infrastructure spending ≈$72 bn p.a; gaps $50-$93 bn p.a
78.9% (2015) ➔ 82.3% (2017) Primary

But completion rates low: 64%, 37% & 27% - primary, lower- & upper- secondary, resp. [Globally ≈85%; 73% & 49% at primary, lower- and upper- secondary]

High out-of-school population high: 21%, 36% & 57% in primary, lower- & upper- secondary, resp.

Invest more to ensure inclusive & equitable quality education & promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
Sustained growth since 2000
≈4% p.a. (2010-15); ≈3.2% (2017-18)
Positive medium-term prospects

Potential of Africa’s young population: Africa’s labour force will be ≈1.1 billion by 2030.

But growth is:
• Below 7% p.a. needed to achieve the SDGs
• Not inclusive, ...
• Low levels of technology
• Large informal sector

Limited access to financial services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa excl North</td>
<td>43.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Africa</td>
<td>32.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>68.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>37.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>49.0%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Africa is one of the most unequal regions globally

*Income; access to & outcomes in health and education,* ...

- Gini Coef. for Africa excl. N. Africa was ≈0.43
- 7/10 of world’s most unequal countries in Africa;

- Incomes of bottom 40% grew by > 5% in only two countries (2012-2016).
  - Four countries registered negative growth

Social protection systems serve only a few:

- Only 5% of unemployed persons received cash benefits in 2015; [22% *globally*]
- Children & women bear the brunt of poverty: ≈49% of children live in extreme poverty
Africa is making progress on this goal

• Increasing investments & progress in implementing disaster risk reduction actions
• Stronger coordination and partnerships

• All countries signed the Paris Agreement; over 70% ratified
• The N’gor Declaration on Sanitation and Hygiene (2015) ➔ scale up efforts to address climate change
• Large data gaps!
Slow progress in reducing violence and related death rates; large data gaps
• 3 countries had homicides of >10,000 per 100,000;
• 25 countries had 100-5,000 deaths/100,000 in 2015.

Only nine countries reported of victims of trafficking by age and sex (2014-2016)
• Over 40% of trafficked victims under-15 girls
• For nine countries with data, 1/10 of women aged 18-29 experienced sexual violence; incidence higher (15%) in conflict areas
Large financing needs
• Annual investment needs: $600-638 bn; ≈1/3 of total GDP
• Infrastructure spending at ≈ $72 bn p.a.; 65% from domestic resources
• But, infrastructure financing gaps ≈ $50-$93 bn p.a.
• Energy access for all needs at ≈ $30-$55 bn p.a. by 2025

Government revenue-to-GDP ratios low; some improvements,
• Government revenue-to-GDP ratio ≈ 24.7% (2000-2017);
• Tax-to-GDP ratio ↑ from ≈12% (2000) to 16% (2014)
→ scope for more tax revenue generation
• Quality education and effective learning critical to realizing sustainable development
• Address inequality for greater traction
• Measures to combat climate change a priority and responsibility of all
• Mobilize additional resources from multiple sources for sustainable development: scope for raising tax & non-tax revenue
• Trade above aid: Africa’s share of global merchandise exports is low, 2.4% in 2017
THANK YOU!

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