Sixth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development
“2020-2030: A Decade to Deliver a Transformed and Prosperous Africa through the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063”

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Africa’s progress on the SDGs and Agenda 2063

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1. Address **poverty** alongside **inequality**
2. **Quality & reach of social services**: learning, skills, healthcare, esp. for girls
3. **Good governance**, strong and accountable institutions.
4. **Trade**: AfCFTA advantage ➔ intra-Africa trade, economic growth, jobs ...
5. **Quality infrastructure** ➔ growth, trade, manufacturing,
6. **Plan urbanization** ➔ inclusive, safe and resilient cities
7. **Large investment needs** ➔ innovative measures.
8. **Fiscal space; equitable spending**: fiscal & tax policy reforms: 12–20% of GDP.
1.3 billion people; growth 2.6% p.a.; 0-24 years: 60%; Urban: 45%

Extreme poverty declining: 43% (2013); 34.9% (2015); \( \approx 32.5\% \) (2019),
- Below 10% in 12 countries
- \#s increasing: 388 m, 413 m, 422 m

High food insecurity: 257 million [1 in 5 people] undernourished
Gains in education, health & gender equality:

**Gender parity:** primary school at 96%; secondary 90%.
Women in parliament: 24% in 2018
Africa as new frontier of growth!

Sustained growth since 2000
≈4 % p.a. (2010-15); ≈3.0% (2015-19);
2020-2021 growth projections: 4%

Structural Δ as services sector grows
• High informality, low access to financial services

Low investment in R&D ➞ low innovation
Weak infrastructure ➞ low job growth
• Africa represents under 2% of global air travel
• only 6% of rail transportation
Transformative power of electricity & urbanization not harnessed & growing inequality.

Energy access is rising: some 750 m people have access

But over 550 people remain unconnected

Urbanisation growing ≈ 3.6% p.a., a force for economic transformation

• High proportion of population living in slums: 40 - 56%
• Low air quality standards

8% of 40 African cities meet the PM2.5 particulate matter: → health risks

Transformative power of electricity & urbanization not harnessed & growing inequality.

Income per capita, 2018 (current prices)

Range: $272 - $16,400
Mean: $2,672
Median: $1,469

Only 18/ 48 countries with data realizing inclusive growth
Land mass - 30.4 m km² (20% of global land area); 17% of world’s forest area; 9% of forest area use

- 2015 Paris Agreement; NDCs
- Increasing investments & implementing DRR actions
- Stronger coordination and partnerships

Cumulative climate-related finance flows to Africa, 2000–2017 (US$)
• Environmental degradation, pollution, terrorism + risk of floods key issues to oceans/ coastal areas.
• Poor technology, effluent/ waste & carbon-based fuels ➞ poverty, hunger, poor health

Low, but growing materials consumption:

Low access to safely managed water sources: 24% in Africa excl. N. Africa

High water stress in N. Africa, 112%

Food losses (30%, $4 bn), deforestation (≈0.5% p.a.) threaten survival
Good governance critical for SD

Participation in economic, social & political spheres key for inclusive growth, ...

• Disengaged, unemployed youth easy target for terrorism, substance abuse
Slow progress in reducing violence.
• At least 15 intentional homicides per 100k population; 2nd to LAC

• 83% of children (1-14 years) faced physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers
• 6% of women (18-29 years) experienced sexual violence by age 18

incidence higher (15%) in conflict areas
5. Partnerships

**Large financing needs:** Annual investment gaps up to $1.3 trillion

- Infrastructure spending at ≈ $72 bn p.a.; 65% from domestic resources
- But, infrastructure financing gaps ≈ $90 bn p.a.
- Low investments in R&D: below 1% of GDP

Scope for DRM: 12-20% of GDP in taxes
Private remittances: ≈ $80 bn
Leverage capital markets and private sector growth

**Investment climate matters**
Conclusions

- **Raise ambition & engage** all (youth, women, private sector, civil society, communities); Development strategies into action
- **Space for Young people**: engaged and innovative
- **Promote R&D technology** for industrialization, combat climate change
- **Trade above aid**: small share in global trade - 2.4%
- Contain Illicit Financial Flows

Decade of action, 2020–2030: Leave no one behind

SDGs ↔ Agenda 2063

opportunity to collaborate

Address data gaps to improve
THANK YOU!

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