The UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) are convening a High-Level Policy Dialogue on the margin of the sixth African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD VI) in Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe:

Leaving no-one behind
Harnessing inclusive digital transformation to meet SDGs and Agenda 2063 objectives

Monday, February 24, 2020
from 10:30-12:30
Room: Chipala Island 4

**Objective**

This dialogue aims at creating space for critical thinking on the extent to which the digital inclusion - with emphasis on digital financing - in the evolving digital economy could respond to the needs of marginalized (excluded) population, propelling their prosperity and contribute to the realization of the SDGs and Agenda 2063.

The discussions will also highlight different perspectives on the overall theme, looking at digital infrastructure and services, digital literacy, digital ID, Digital financing.

The role of the IDEP, UNCDF in promoting inclusive digital transformation for excluded including all genders, unserved and underserved population, persons with disabilities, refugees and displaced people will be discussed.

**Thematic issues**

- Digital transformation for the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063
- Enabling environment for inclusive digital infrastructure
- Inclusive digital financing for the excluded of the digital economy
- Digitalization for accelerating the financing of SDGs: what are the opportunities in Africa?

The Panel will submit a report that will provide a high-level independent contribution to the broader public debate on policy and strategy for the inclusiveness of the digital economy and serve as a tool to inform policy for Member States.
**Agenda**

10:00 – 10:30
Participants arrival and Networking
Welcome remarks – IDEP Director
Welcome remarks – UNCDF Regional Digital lead - WCA

10:45 – 11:00
**Digital transformation and 2030 Agendas of sustainable development and Agenda 2063 – Update on regional initiatives**

- AUC/ECA Digital Identity, Digital Trade and Digital Economy
  Thierry Amoussougbo, IDEP

- Inclusive Digital Economy Scorecard - IDES
  Chris Lukolyo, UNCDF

11:00 – 12:00
**HLPD Panel: Leaving no-one-behind and harnessing inclusive digital transformation to meet SDGs and Agenda 2063 objectives**

- Moderator: IDEP Director Karima BOUNEMRA BEN SOLTANE
- Enabling environment for Inclusive digital infrastructure
  Panelist 1: Dr. Anthony Phiri, Harare Institute of Technology
- Inclusive digital financing for embracing the excluded of the digital economy – Panelist 2: Sabine Mensah, UNCDF
- E-Services as enablers for accelerating the achievements of SDG and Agenda 2063 goals - Panelist 3: Mactar Seck, ECA
- Digitalization for accelerating the financing of SDG: Is there opportunities in Africa? Panelist 4: Natalie Jabangwe, EcoCash
- Q&A

12h00 -12h30
**Session Wrap-up**

- High-Level Policy recommendations and key messages for the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD) 2020 – IDEP facilitation

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