



The Pan-African Impact Investment
Ecosystem Development Network

Impact@Africa Strategic Consultative Meeting

*Theme: Strengthening the African Impact Investment
Ecosystem and its Linkages to the Agenda 2063 and SDGs*

Tuesday, 7 May 2019

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa (RSCA)
5th Floor Conference Room

Background

As advocated by Sir Ronald Cohen, **impact investing links measurable social outcomes and financial returns**. By harnessing entrepreneurship and innovation, it can fund the growth of non-profits and for-profits to tackle society's toughest challenges more effectively and at scale. Impact investment is an **innovative and strategic opportunity** to harness private sector and individual investments that contribute to meeting the large financing gap for the full attainment of the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the African Union's (AU) Agenda 2063**.

Impact@Africa (www.impactatafrica.org), officially launched in June 2018 with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), is a pan-African impact investment ecosystem development network that **brings together all ecosystem players and provides a strong and unified voice**. The Network's purpose is to support the creation of a **vibrant environment for impact investing in Africa**, by helping to address the key barriers that inhibit the development and growth of the impact investing sector on the continent and the realisation of SDGs and Agenda 2063.

Impact@Africa emerged through a **multi-stakeholder effort between UNDP, the African Union Commission (AUC) and impact investment leaders** from across the continent, which commenced through the 2015 Africa Impact Investment High Level Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) that resulted in the Cape Town Declaration on Impact Investment in Africa, which encourages private sector development and engagement for the economic transformation and the achievement of the SDGs and the Agenda 2063.

The PPD also led to the endorsement of a comprehensive **Impact Investment in Africa Action Plan**, which proposes actions for industry stakeholders to take to alleviate the challenges present in the African impact investment landscape, as identified in the [Impact Investment in Africa: Trends, Constraints and Opportunities](#) report. The subsequent Africa Impact Investment Action Plan Implementation Kick-Off Meeting brought together key stakeholders to review the Action Plan and establish an industry-wide coordinating

network to serve as the continental industry voice for the successful implementation of the Action Plan – Impact@Africa.

Impact@Africa is headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya and governed by a **Board comprising of key stakeholders** consisting of representatives from Acumen, Africa Business Group, Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund (AECF), British Council, Business and Government Ethics International (BGEI), GreenTec Capital and UNDP. The Board oversees the implementation of the **Impact@Africa Strategic Plan 2017 – 2022**, as endorsed at 2017 the Impact@Africa Impact Validation and Operationalisation Meeting.

Strategic Consultative Meeting

A Strategic Consultative Meeting with key partners will be held 7 May 2019 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia under the theme “**Strengthening the African Impact Investment Ecosystem and its Linkages to the Agenda 2063 and the SDGs**”.

The meeting is being organised by Impact@Africa in partnership with UNDP and the envisaged collaboration with the AUC and the British Council.

As a strategic framework for the socio-economic transformation of the continent over the next 44 years, **Agenda 2063 builds on and seeks to accelerate the implementation of past and existing continental initiatives for growth and sustainable development**. In line with this goal, Impact@Africa, through its Strategic Plan 2017 - 2022, seeks to transform Africa by creating a robust impact investment ecosystem that supports the implementation of SDGs and Agenda 2063. Impact@Africa would also create an SDG-enabling investment platform, which is in line with the [SDG Impact](#) project and the newly established UNDP Finance Sector Hub.

The Strategic Consultative Meeting will be centred around the role of a **strong impact investment ecosystem and its contribution towards key Agenda 2063's Aspirations**, which are in line with the Agenda 2013 and its SDGs, namely:

- A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development;
- An Africa whose development is people driven, relying on potential offered by people, especially its women and youth and caring for children;
- Africa as a strong, united, resilient and influential global player and partner.

Furthermore, the Strategic Consultative Meeting will discuss the **strategic alignment of the Impact@Africa Action Plan with Agenda 2063 and SDGs vis-à-vis other key players**, specifically as it relates to the network role in advancing and tracking funding for Agenda 2063, and creating more continental impact hub vehicles with local management and expertise.

The **Impact@Africa Board** will take advantage of the Strategy Meeting to convene one day in advance for **internal meetings**, which are to review the Network 2019 implementation plan and required next steps among the Board as well as to engage key stakeholders interested in supporting the network on the Impact@Africa mission to seek collaboration and partnership opportunities.

Objectives and Focus Topics

The main purpose of the Strategy Meeting is to provide a **platform for informed discussions and strategic dialogue on key substantive and policy issues at the interface between impact investment and the Agenda 2063 and the SDGs**, as follows:

1. Enhance information and knowledge on issues at the interface between impact investing in general and the established framework for sustainable development and its links to the Agenda 2063 and the SDGs, as identified in the Action Plan.
2. Discuss the role of the “in-development” Impact@Africa “Impact Investing in Africa Resource Portal” as it relates to the exchange of knowledge and expertise on issues of Africa’s impact investing ecosystem, as identified in the Action Plan.
3. Discuss the practical opportunities for impact investment funding for Agenda 2063 and the leveraging of additional national or regional private and public-sector funds.
4. Discuss the role of the AUC, UNDP and development partners such as the British Council in capacity building for impact investing in Africa.
5. Discuss how Impact@Africa can collaborate with the [Global Steering Group for Impact Investment](#) (with support from the African Union) to improve the continental policy environment for impact investment as an implementation resource organization of their “[policy toolkit](#)”)

The **Impact Investment in Africa Action Plan** provides the basis for the above discussions. This includes especially the **intermediate outcomes** defined therein for the vision of a vibrant impact investment sector in Africa, as follows:

- Strong **pipeline of viable impact investees** that are able to meet financial, social and / or environmental requirements;
- Good practice in impact investment by high capacity, skilled and experienced **impact investors**;
- Enabling **policy and regulatory environment** in which impact investment can thrive;
- Appropriate **infrastructure and mechanisms** to facilitate impact investment deals;
- Consensus on and broad-based adoption of **impact measurement standards and metrics** to demonstrate social and environmental returns.

Target Audience

The Strategy Meeting will bring together key **impact investment stakeholders** and other selected officials from the public and private sector with an interest in the topic.

Approx. 25 participants are envisaged, which would include particularly the following:

- Strategic partners, such as the AU and the African Development Bank (AfDB)
- Prospective partners such as the Global Steering Group for Impact Investment (GSG)
- Ecosystem players, such as DFIs or organisations like the Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN)
- Network representatives, e.g. from the Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs (ANDE) and Sankalp
- Public sector actors and policymakers, such as Cabinet Ministers and Economic Commissioners
- Development partners, such as the British Council, Swiss Agency for Development (SDC) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

Invitees will be identified primarily through the existing database of actors who have expressed interest in Impact@Africa during its formation phase and the past year of operations.

Agenda

(Internal Impact@Africa Meetings at the day ahead of the main conference)

Time	Item	Lead
8.30 – 9.00	<i>Registration</i>	
9.00 – 9.15	Welcome Address by UNDP	Lamin M. Manneh, Director UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa (RSCA)
9.15 – 9.30	Remarks by SDC	Natasha Fröjd, Program Manager – Private Sector and Development Finance Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
9.30 – 10:15	Setting the Scene: The Impact@Africa Journey (its Action Plan) and The Proposed Way Forward	Tomas Sales, Vice-Chair and Michael Sudarkasa, Chair Impact@Africa
10:15 – 10:45	<i>Tea Break</i>	
10:45 – 12:00	Strategic Session 1: The Role of Impact Investing in the Realisation of Agenda 2063	Islam Swaleh, Acting Head, Private Sector African Union (AU)
12:00 - 13.15	Strategic Session 2: The Importance of Policy in Supporting the Impact Investment Ecosystem in Africa	Paula Woodman, Global Social Enterprise Programme Lead British Council
13.15 - 14.15	<i>Lunch</i>	
14.15 – 15:30	Strategic Session 3: Partnerships and Capacity Building for Impact Investing in Africa	Maryanne Ochola, Regional Coordinator, East Africa and Olatunji Ajani, Regional Coordinator, West Africa Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs (ANDE)
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Tea Break</i>	
16:00 – 17:15	Strategic Session 4: Impact Investing Funding - Domestic Resource Mobilization and Match- Making with Global Funds	Tara Sabre Collier Ceres Ventures
17.15 - 17.45	Wrap Up: Next Steps and Word of Thanks	Michael Sudarkasa, Chair Impact@Africa
17:45 - 19.00	<i>Cocktails and Networking Event</i>	

Strategic sessions will be roundtable discussions facilitated by an expert with contributions from every participant expected.