

# AFRICAN ECONOMIC CONFERENCE 2012

Serena Hotel, Kigali, Rwanda  
30 October – 2 November, 2012

## **Fostering Inclusive and Sustainable Development in Africa in an Age of Global Economic Uncertainty**

The Seventh edition of the African Economic Conference (AEC) will be held in Kigali, Rwanda from 30 October- 2 November 2012. The AEC is organized annually by the African Development Bank, United Nations Development Program and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. Since its inception in 2006, the Conference has become the premier meeting place for the presentation and discussion of economic and policy research on Africa, bringing together a worldwide network of participants to meet and exchange knowledge and experiences. The choice of topic for the 2012 Conference is timely: “Fostering Inclusive and Sustainable Development” in the midst of global uncertainty will be a challenge for many African countries, as it is indeed proving to be for the rest of the world.

We expect over 400 participants at the AEC 2012. While the majority of the participants will be from Africa, participants from other regions of the world will also attend. It will be important to learn from their experiences.

The Conference will comprise plenary and concurrent sessions. The plenary sessions will feature presentations and discussions by invited prominent academics, policy makers, business and opinion leaders, as well as representatives from development organizations. The concurrent sessions will feature presentations of nearly 40 papers by scholars and development practitioners. These papers will focus on topics related to the theme of AEC 2012:

- ✓ Economic growth, poverty reduction and inclusive development;
- ✓ The changing role of macro-economic and structural policies in Africa;
- ✓ Private sector development and employment generation;
- ✓ Challenges to economic, social and environmental sustainable development and implications for the post 2015 agenda; and
- ✓ Strengthening Africa’s economic institutions, building infrastructure and expanding markets for the poor.

A small number of papers presented at the conference will be considered for a special edition of the peer reviewed journal, the ***African Development Review***. In addition, a **prize for the best paper presented at the conference**, selected by a panel of distinguished experts, will be announced at the closing ceremony.

## **Past themes of the African Economic Conference**

2011: Green Economy and Structural Transformation in Africa

2010: Setting the Agenda for Africa's Economic Recovery and Long Term Growth

2009: Fostering Development in an Era of Economic and Financial Crisis

2008: Globalization, Institutions and Economic Development in Africa

2007: Africa's Development Challenges and Opportunities in the Global Arena

2006: Growth in Africa