UNDP - AfDB - AUDA-NEPAD Side Event at COP25

Presentation of the UNDP – AfDB – AUDA-NEPAD GUIDE FOR INTEGRATED PLANNING IN AFRICA
to Mainstream
The SDGs, Agenda 2063, NDCs, DRR and the New Deal

A panel discussion on strengthening national development planning to deliver sustainable development

Monday 9 December 2019, 16:30 – 17:30 hrs
NDC Partnership Pavilion
Background

As signatories to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the African Union Agenda 2063, the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction and the New Deal, African countries find themselves grappling with the simultaneous implementation of these bold initiatives at national level. The need to jointly mainstream the global and the continental agendas into national policies and plans poses enormous challenges to most African countries.

While, in the past two decades, a longstanding tradition of planning and Management for Development Results (MfDR) has helped to strengthen capacity for planning and budgeting in several African countries, traditional planning approaches and available tools have been proven to be inadequate for addressing the need to reflect international commitments, such as the SDGs, Agenda 2063 or the National Determined Contributions (NDCs), in countries’ planning and policy frameworks. This has generated a demand for new tools, approaches and institutional capacity support for this process.

To respond to this challenge, UNDP in Africa, the African Development Bank within the framework of the Africa NDC Hub and the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD have jointly developed a Guide for Integrated Planning in Africa to mainstream the SDGs, Agenda 2063, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change/National Determined Contributions and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the New Deal.

The Guide builds on a prototype that was prepared by UNDP to support the government of Cabo Verde to develop its current national development plan, Plano Estratégico de Desenvolvimento Sustentável (PEDS), and subsequently refined to support the Government of Zambia to develop its 7th National Development Plan. The prototype was later adjusted and piloted to support the Government of Liberia to develop its Pro-poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development, Sierra Leone’s new national development plan and the Government of Guinea Bissau to align its National Operational Plan, Terra Ranka, with the SDGs, Agenda 2063 and the New Deal/fragility assessment.

The Guide will provide step-by-step guidance to African planners on how to develop a new generation of national development strategic and operational plans that mainstreams the SDGs, Agenda 2063, the NDCs, DRR and the New Deal. It begins with scenario planning and visioning and ends with the preparation of a results framework to monitor implementation. The Guide takes into consideration the integrated nature of the continental and global agendas and countries’ commitment to ‘Leave No One Behind’.

The Guide for Integrated Planning in Africa will be offered on a digital platform, as a digital application, as well as in a handbook format. The digital application of the Guide will make it easier to African planners to search for and apply the tools for developing a new generation of national development plans. The digital application will be modular, with interactive pages that will allow planners to apply tools directly on the online platform and deliver outputs, such as results frameworks or the theory of change.
Objectives of the side event

The side event will host a panel that will discuss challenges that African countries have faced, so far, in preparing a new generation of national development plans that take into consideration global and continental commitments, including the SDGs, the AU Agenda 2063, The Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the National Determined Contributions (NDCs), the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the New Deal.

Following the panel discussion UNDP, AfDB and AUDA-NEPAD will present the newly developed Guide for Integrated Planning in Africa, which will support countries address the challenges discussed by the panel.

Focus of the panel discussion

Representative of African countries will share their experience on the specific challenges that they have faced in developing their new national development plans, having to take into consideration continental and global commitments, and how they have addressed such challenges. They will also share lessons learned and key success factors. Countries that had piloted earlier versions of the Guide – the prototype – will share their experience on how the Guide has helped them address these challenges and the lessons that they have learned.

Questions that will be addressed by the panel:

- What kind of challenges was your country facing as it was embarking in the development of its new national development plan, having to take into consideration all these agendas? – i.e., the Paris Agreement/NDCs, the SDGs/Agenda 2063, and the Sendai Framework on DRR.
- What do you think are the main gaps in terms of tools and approaches that need to be filled to strengthen national development planning in your country, to be able to take into consideration continental and global frameworks that your country has committed to implement?
- Which were the key lessons that you learned in the preparation of your national development plan and the application of the guide?
- What are the key things that needs to be taken into consideration, going forward, in order for countries to developed national development plans that take into consideration the global and continental commitments?

Event organisers

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