



PROPOSAL FOR SIDE EVENT AT THE 8th SESSION OF AFRICAN REGION FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, KIGALI RWANDA.

Theme: Harnessing the Meaningful and Inclusive Youth Participation in the Voluntary National Review

Partners: Youth Advocates Ghana (YAG), African Monitor, Zimbabwe SDGs Youth Platform and AfriYAN Rwanda.

Venue: Virtual

Youth Advocates Ghana and its partners propose to hold a side event on the theme “**Harnessing the Meaningful and Inclusive Youth Participation in the Voluntary National Review**”. The purpose of this side event is to bring together young leaders implementing or monitoring the five selected goals to share ideas and experiences and lessons learned as implementers/monitors of the SDGs as well as introduce young people to the Voluntary National Review process and how they can actively participate in this process in their various countries.

Objectives

- Draw lessons and experiences from various youth leaders in relation to their leadership role and contribution to revive from the impact of COVID 19 and accelerate implementation for the achievement of the SDGs and the agenda 2063 with special emphasis to Goals 4,5 and 17.
- To advocate towards the engagement of youth leaders in the Voluntary National Review process

Thematic Focus: SDG 4, 5 and 17

Contribution to the Main Event: Generate key messages to feed into the final outcome report of the 8th session of the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

Participants: The event will be popularized across the Continent to ensure broad participation by stakeholders from different sectors - public and private. The youth networks involved in the organization of the event will be mobilizing all the affiliate youth organizations in the continent to ensure continental representation and as much as possible gender balance.

Panelist

AfriYAN Rwanda (Rwanda): The Meaningful and Inclusive Youth Participation in the VNR processes: An overview

Africa Monitor (South Africa): Embracing diversity leaving no one behind to accelerate the promise of the SDGs Agenda

Zimbabwe SDGs Youth Platform (Zimbabwe): A local experience: Youth leading the realization of the SDGs - with a focus on SDG 4 and 5

Youth Advocates Ghana (Ghana): Partnership for the Goals: Mobilizing multi-stakeholder support for meaningful youth participation in the implementation, review and accountability of the SDGs.