

Global Opportunities for Sustainable Development Goals (GO4SDGs), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), and African Development Bank (AfDB)

From Commitments to Action Towards Stockholm+50: Partnerships for the African Green Stimulus Programme

8th Session of the African Regional Forum for Sustainable Development

28th February 2022 | 12h00-13h30 EAT | Virtual
Registration Link: (TBC)

Background

The 1972 UN Conference on the Environment in Stockholm was the first world conference to make the environment a major issue. The participants adopted a series of principles for sound management of the environment including the [Stockholm Declaration and Action Plan for the Human Environment](#) and several resolutions. Five decades later in June 2022, Stockholm will welcome the world again under the theme “[Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity](#)” (Stockholm+50). The event will commemorate that watershed moment in 1972 and celebrate 50 years of global environmental action.

Stockholm+50 will follow months of consultations and discussions with individuals, communities, organizations, and governments around the world. By recognizing the importance of multilateralism in tackling the Earth’s triple planetary crisis – climate, nature, and pollution – the event offers an opportunity for nations and stakeholders to collaborate, share expertise and address complex nexus issues for urgent actions and long-term system change. It will identify solutions but more importantly, actions of a cross-cutting nature to drive implementation through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, for a healthy planet for all, leaving no one behind.

By so doing, Stockholm+50 will accelerate the implementation of the UN Decade of Action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals, including the 2030 Agenda, Paris Agreement on climate change, the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, and encourage the adoption of green post-COVID-19 recovery plans

The ripple effects of the pandemic will affect resource availability far into the future and put more pressure on Africa’s already severely constrained resources. [The African Green Stimulus Programme \(AGSP\)](#) is an African-led recovery response plan to the pandemic in a sustainable manner that protects the vulnerable and most adversely effected sectors of society.

AGSP aims at bringing a common and unifying approach for a continental green recovery by enhancing cooperation and partnerships between African governments, non-state actors, intergovernmental organisations, and the private sector. The programme will thus help attain Africa’s Agenda 2063, the Sustainable Development Goals as well as the Paris Agreement.

This side-event is co-organised by the [Global Opportunities for Sustainable Development Goals \(GO4SDGs\)](#), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), and the African Development Bank (AfDB) who share the same objective of supporting sustainable recovery efforts in Africa. It will spotlight partnership building around **climate action** and **sustainable food systems** with different organizations and major stakeholder groups articulating how they will collaborate to support the implementation of these two key areas of the AGSP, focusing on promoting sustainable circularity in Africa’s MSMEs and SMEs. Outcomes from this side event will be highlighted at the Stockholm+50 to build synergies across regions as well as to catalyse support. To see to this, the side-event is set-up to address to key questions:

1. How can we strengthen partnerships to support the African Green Stimulus Programmes?
2. How can we bring commitments to Action and strengthen our partnership at Stockholm+50?

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Welcome Remarks:

- **Mr. Steven Stone** - Deputy Director; Economy Division; UN Environment Programme (5 mins)
- **Mr. Jean-Paul Adam** – Director; Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resource Management Division; UN Economic Commission for Africa (5 mins)
- **Ambassador Johanna Lissinger Peitz** - Permanent Mission of Sweden to the United Nations (5 mins) *tbc*

Panel – Panel discussion on building Partnerships for the African Green Stimulus Programme (60 mins)

- **Ambassador Njambi Kinyungu** - Deputy Permanent Representative; Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations *tbc*
- **Mr. Stephan Contius** - Head of Division; United Nations, Developing Countries and Emerging Economies; Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety; Germany *tbc*
- **Ms. Davinah Milenge Uwella** - Principal Program Coordinator; Climate Change and Green Growth Department; African Development Bank Group
- **Ms. Kyesubire Greigg** - President; SME Founders Association
- **Mr. Ayman Cherkaoui** - Senior Manager; Strategy; Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection

Moderator: Mr. Steven Stone

Summary and closing remarks

- UNECA and UNEP – Next steps on reporting at Stockholm+50 (10 min)