



## Green Jobs for Women in Africa: Opportunities and Policy Interventions

### Proposal of Side Event

### 8<sup>th</sup> Africa Forum for Sustainable Development

#### 1. Introduction

The transition to a green economy will create many new jobs around the world, including in sub-Saharan Africa. But will women share-in these new jobs, and will the economic transformation help them move into higher-paid, more stable jobs? According to a new report by UN Women and the African Development Bank, the short answer is “yes”, provided that countries adopt strong policies and programmes to make it happen.

Women in sub-Saharan Africa play a critical role in the economy and in managing the impact of climate change in their communities. However, when it comes to the benefits of the green transition, it is not certain that they will be able to reap its benefits. The report [Green Jobs for Women in Africa<sup>1</sup>](#) alerts of the fact that women are well positioned in the sectors that will create low end jobs but not well placed to access higher end jobs in renewable energy, infrastructure or transportation, and discusses policy options to support a green and inclusive recovery in the continent.

#### 2. Objectives

The objective of this side event is to discuss challenges and opportunities for women’s participation in the green economy in the next decades in sub-Saharan Africa through a variety of perspectives and contributions coming from policy makers, women entrepreneurs, academia, private sector and development institutions. This discussion is essential in identifying key elements for a green and inclusive recovery in Africa and to build forward better: a green, inclusive and resilient Africa poised to achieve the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

#### 3. Description of the event

The event will last 90 minutes, and will consist of a moderated discussion featuring high level speakers from African governments, representatives from women-led businesses working in the green economy in the region; green economy experts from African universities and regional think tanks; and the private sector. The event will also serve to discuss the main messages and policy recommendations of the report Green Jobs for Women in Africa.

#### 4. Tentative programme

Welcome by moderator, Salimata Soumare, Senior Natural Resources Governance Officer, Natural Resources Centre, AfDB

15h05-15h15

**Opening remarks**

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.afdb.org/en/documents/policy-brief-green-jobs-women-africa-opportunities-and-policy-interventions>

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- Dr Vanessa Ushie, Acting Director African Natural Resources Centre, AfDB
- Oulimata Sarr, Regional Director for West and Central Africa, UN Women

15h15- 15h30	<p><b>Green Jobs for Women in Africa</b>, Presentation of report main messages</p> <p>Elena Ruiz, Regional policy advisor for Women’s Economic Empowerment, UN Women’s Regional Office for West and Central Africa</p>
15h30-16h10	<p><i>Panel discussion</i></p> <p>Theresa Moyo, Department of Economics, University of Limpopo, South Africa</p> <p>Olasimbo Sojinrin, Country Director, Solar Sister Nigeria</p> <p>Aasiya Gaye, Department for Rapid Entrepreneurship, Government of Senegal</p> <p>William Baah-Boateng, Department of Economics, University of Ghana, Director of the International Institute for Advanced Study</p> <p><i>Other government representative from the region TBD</i></p>
16h10-16h25	Q&A
16h25-16h30	Closing