



United Nations

Department of Economic and Social Affairs



APRM
African Peer Review Mechanism



Fifth Continental Workshop on

Strengthening Institutional Capacities in Africa for Effective Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and AU Agenda 2063:

Follow-up to the 2024 HLPF and Summit of the Future



Concept Note & Agenda

24 -26 October 2024. | Cape Town, South Africa



Background

The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) regional workshop on Strengthening institutional capacities in Africa for effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and AU Agenda 2063: Follow-up to the 2024 HLPF and Summit of the Future is the fifth in a series designed to support countries in their efforts to build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.



These capacity building and peer learning workshops have become a valuable continental gathering place to share experiences and consider joint actions in support of implementation of the two Agendas. They seek to improve the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063, enhance monitoring and evaluation capacities, and promote alignment and integration of follow-up to the two

Agendas into national development plans and strategies at the country level as called for by the AU-UN Framework for the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. They are also an opportunity for African countries to share knowledge and enhance national capacities that are required to implement recommendations emanating from key global and regional meetings such as the high-level political forum, the SDG Summit, the Summit of the Future, AU Summits, and the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development.



UN DESA and AU/APRM have been partnering to support African countries in strengthening governance capabilities since 2019, using the UN principles of effective governance for sustainable development as a foundation for action. The UN governance principles were developed by the United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration and endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in 2018. This model of collaboration has led to several innovations at regional and national levels and has led to many initiatives on the principles of effective governance in Africa, including the production of a baseline study on the implementation of the principles of effective governance in Africa by APRM, a composite of practical toolkits for the implementation of the principles in support of the SDGs and Agenda 2063, and several follow-up activities at national level.

Global and regional context

African countries have had a mixed track record in their pursuit of the SDGs and the AU Agenda 2063. According to the 2024 Africa Sustainable Development Report², which comprises a review of the status of the implementation of the two Agendas in Africa, if current trends continue many SDG targets will not be achieved by 2030. By building robust institutions that are transparent, accountable, and inclusive, SDG 16, a foundational and cross-cutting goal, societies become more resilient to conflicts and capable of addressing the needs of all individuals, ensuring that no one is left behind in the pursuit of sustainable development.

With a focus on the SDGs reviewed in depth at the 2024 high-level political forum of the United Nations, the report highlights the need for Africa to accelerate progress on SDGs 1 (end poverty), 2 (fighting hunger) and 17 (partnerships), reverse the negative trend on climate action (SDG 13) and strengthen statistical systems to track performance particularly on effective governance (SDG 16), where data limitations are a major constrain that inhibit tracking the performance of African countries.

Recent development gains have either slowed or reversed due to a confluence of multiple crises triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, inflationary pressures, conflicts, climate change and high levels of external debt. Mirroring trends in other regions, the continent has seen an increase in poverty and hunger, inequalities and vulnerabilities, armed conflicts, violence, displacement, terrorism, climate-related disasters and disease. While there has been progress in some areas, research has shown that the inability to address these challenges fully and at the desired speed and scale can be traced to weaknesses in governance systems that inhibit transformative action and reinforce the status quo.

Despite setbacks, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the AU Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want remain the overarching blueprints for sustainable development for Africa. The Addis Ababa Declaration of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development called upon countries to consider and adopt commitments, aligned with the priorities for Africa, to accelerate the implementation of SDG 16, and to strengthen governance institutions and the rule of law, including to curb corruption, protect human rights, promote inclusive societies and provide access to justice for all.



The Summit of the Future is a clarion call to “turbocharge” the SDGs, including by strengthening international cooperation so it delivers fully and fairly on existing agreements, while enabling an effective response to new threats and opportunities for present and future generations. Commitments are made across five broad areas: sustainable development and financing for development; international peace and security; science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation; youth and future generations; and transforming global governance. The Ministerial Declaration of the 2024 high-level political forum notes that good governance and democratic and transparent institutions responsive to the needs of the people are necessary to achieve the goals and emphasises the importance of good governance and strong institutions as key enablers of sustainable development.

Follow-up to the outcome of the Summit (the “Pact for the Future”) will depend on a combination of political will, human and financial resources and institutional capabilities underpinned by inclusivity and a willingness to work together and jointly with non-State actors towards a country’s development aspirations. Similarly, Moonshot 3 of the second 10-year implementation plan of Agenda 2063 of the African Union seeks to entrench democratic and inclusive institutions in countries across the continent by 2033 as well as nurture capable institutions and transformative leadership at all levels.

Africa’s commitment to achieving Moonshot 3 is informed by an assessment of the continent’s performance on governance in the first decade of Agenda 2063 implementation that revealed an overall poor score. The lessons drawn from the first decade underscore the need, among others, “to promote accountability of public institutions to African citizens, entrench values of democracy, justice and human rights, and exemplify good governance.” They also underscore the need to

support capacity building in the public sector to foster resilient and responsive institutions at the national and local levels.

Workshop objectives

This workshop aims at supporting African countries in exploring development of concrete, tangible outcomes and plans of action for building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions that contribute to implementation of the 2024 Ministerial Declaration of the HLPF, the Pact of the Future and the second 10-year implementation plan of AU Agenda 2063 with a view to accelerating the achievement of national aspirations and objectives while responding to the related national development priorities identified by countries. The topics will focus on institution building strategies that support efforts to safeguard the future; manage national, regional and global shocks; build local knowledge and capacities by leveraging the principle of subsidiarity; promote science, technology and innovation while addressing digital divides; and transform the global financial system.

Specifically, workshop participants will examine:

- Institutional coherence and implementation of Agenda 2063 and 2030 at the national level
- How to leverage the CEPA principles in strengthening national and local capacities to pursue the two Agendas at the subnational level
- Implementation efforts towards SDG 16 and Moonshot 3 of Agenda 2063 and the six transitions to accelerate progress towards the SDGs
- Monitoring and evaluation frameworks and interlinkages with the CEPA principles
- Using the Pact of the Future and other instruments to build resilience to global shocks






Participants

Government officials from 17 African countries will be invited to participate and will be joined by representatives from UN entities, experts from AU organs, civil society groups, youth representatives and other relevant stakeholders. UN Resident Coordinators from participating countries will be invited to join the workshop with a view to promoting further alignment of UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks with national governance and institution building priorities.

Contacts

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Programme

Day 1 – Thursday, 24 October

Day 1 – Thursday, 24 October

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00 – 9:45	<p>Welcome and opening remarks</p> <p><i>Moderator: Mr. Amson Sibanda</i>, Chief, National Strategies and Capacity Building Branch, UN DESA Division for Sustainable Development Goals</p> <p>Mr. Li Junhua, Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations (video message)</p> <p>Ms. Marie-Antoinette Rose Quarte, CEO, African Peer Review Mechanism</p> <p>Ms. Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, Chair, UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration and Chancellor of Nelson Mandela University</p> <p>Ms. Yoliswa Makhasi, Director General, Department of Public Service and Administration, South Africa</p>
9:45 – 11:00	<p>Session 1: Taking stock of implementation of the 2030 Agenda and 2063 Agenda in Africa</p> <p>Although African countries have made progress in relation to some Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063, overall, the continent is in a moment of acute peril. Mirroring trends across the world, the continent has seen an increase in poverty and hunger, inequalities and vulnerabilities, armed conflicts, violence, displacement, terrorism, climate change and disease. At the halfway point in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Africa is off track for meeting most targets of the Sustainable Development Goals and has even regressed on some, such as increase of chronic hunger in the region from 15.1 per cent in 2010 to 19.7 per cent in 2022, and remaining home to 55 per cent of the world's population</p>

living below the USD 2.15/day international poverty line. The prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in Africa at 58 per cent is nearly double the global average with 20.4 per cent of the population facing hunger.

Guiding questions

1. How can countries and stakeholders improve coordination and collaboration across sectors to address the interconnected challenges of poverty, hunger, and climate change, ensuring a holistic approach to achieving the SDGs and Agenda 2063 goals?
2. How can we enhance the inclusivity and effectiveness of monitoring and accountability mechanisms for both the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 to ensure that all stakeholders are included?
3. What role can technology, including Artificial Intelligence, and innovation play in accelerating progress towards the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063?
4. What are some strategies for aligning the fiscal space with the priorities outlined in the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063?
5. What lessons can be learned from successful national - practices in implementing the SDGs and Agenda 2063, including at the sub-national levels?

Moderator: Mr. Julius Mathieu Russel Joubert, Senior Economist, National Planning Department, Seychelles

Speakers:

· **Mr. Ibrahim Al-bakri Nyei**, Deputy Minister for International Cooperation & Economic Integration, Liberia

· **Ms. Elizabeth Banda**, Principal Economist, Monitoring and Evaluation Division, Department of Economic Planning and Development, Malawi

· **Mr. Lusanda Batala**, Senior Expert, National Planning Commission, South Africa (TBC)

· **Ms. Game Molly Mooketsa**, Chief Economist, National Planning Commission, Botswana

· **Ms. Punki Modise**, Chief Strategy and Sustainability Officer, Absa Group

Interactive discussion

11:00 – 11:15

Break

11:15 – 13:00

Session 2: Accelerating implementation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063: leveraging the six transitions to scale up action at national and local levels

This session will focus on leveraging the six UN transformative transitions to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063. The transitions are in the areas of food systems, energy access and affordability, digital connectivity, education, jobs and social protection, and climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. By examining how these key transitions can act as catalytic drivers and have multiplier effects for progress across the SDGs, participants will explore strategies for integrating these transitions into national and local development plans. The session aims to identify areas for action, share successful examples, and address challenges to scale up efforts and achieve meaningful impact. This session will also introduce the GSDR 2023 and explain the key findings and recommendations from the report. Discussion will focus on how to apply GSDR's approach for policy-making and concrete actions.

Guiding questions

1. How can the six key transitions be effectively integrated into national and local strategies to accelerate progress towards the SDGs and Agenda 2063? How do the six transitions relate to the APRM National Plans of Action?
2. What are some examples of successful initiatives or projects that have leveraged some of the six transitions to drive progress in achieving the SDGs and Agenda 2063 Goals?
3. What challenges do countries face when trying to align their development plans with the six transitions?
4. How can different stakeholders, including governments, international organizations, the private sector and civil society, collaborate to maximize the impact of use of the transitions and manage trade-offs?
5. How can the governance and capacity-building insights of the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report inform progress towards the six transitions?

Moderator: **Ms. Christelle Stella Nya Tchoukeu**, Statistician Engineer/Demographic Expert, General Directorate of Cooperation and Regional Integration, Ministry of Economy, Planning and Territorial Development, Cameroon

Speakers:

- **Mr. Amson Sibanda**, Chief, National Strategies and Capacity Building Branch, UN DESA Division for Sustainable Development Goals
- **Mr. Toussaint Todegnon**, Director-General of Coordination and

	<p>Monitoring of SDGs, Ministry of Development and Coordination, Benin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Ms. Sylocious Chaturuka, Deputy Director, Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, Zimbabwe · Mr. Youssouf Ali Mmadi, Chief, Economic Programmes, Directorate General of Strategic Planning and Population, Comoros · Ms. Mamolibetsane Evelyn Mafethe, Economic Planner (M&E), Ministry of Economic Planning, Lesotho <p><i>Interactive discussion</i></p>
<p>13:00 – 14:30</p>	<p>Lunch</p>
<p>14:30 – 16:30</p>	<p>Session 3: Monitoring and evaluation frameworks of both Agendas and interlinkages with CEPA principles</p> <p>This session will focus on the monitoring and evaluation frameworks for the SDGs and Agenda 2063, with an emphasis on how these frameworks align with the UN principles of effective governance for sustainable development. It will explore how African nations can enhance reporting and governance practices by integrating assessment of transparency, accountability and inclusiveness into their M&E systems. The session will also discuss how enablers from Agenda 2063's First Ten-Year Implementation Plan (STYIP) can be leveraged to support these efforts at both national and continental levels, as well as the core indicator framework for Moonshot 3..</p> <p>Guiding questions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the main challenges faced by African countries according to the evaluation of the First-ten-year implementation plan, particularly Moonshot 3 for good governance on the continent? 2. How can national and regional bodies collaborate to standardize M&E frameworks that align with the UN CEPA principles and Agenda 2063 Goals? 3. What specific actions can national governments take to enhance data collection and reporting mechanisms, ensuring they are transparent and inclusive? 4. How can the STYIP of Agenda 2063 be utilized to strengthen innovation and capacity-building in national M&E systems and enhance integrating the CEPA principles into their M&E frameworks?

5. What successful examples of CEPA-integrated M&E frameworks exist in Africa, and what lessons can be learned from these cases?

Moderator: **Mr. Peterson Muriithi Njenga**, Principal Economist, Department for Culture, Arts and Heritage, Kenya

Speakers:

· **Ms. Zahra Abakar Souleymane**, Director General in charge of monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2030/2063, Ministry of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning, Chad

· **Mr. Habtamu Takele**, Director for Development Planning, Ministry of Planning and Development, Ethiopia

· **Ms. Patience Ampomah**, Senior Planning Analyst, National Development Planning Commission, Ghana

· **Ms. Dany-Sandra Sobela**, Director, Technical Assistance Management and External Training, Ministry of Economy, Planning and International Cooperation, Central African Republic

· **Mr. Tresford Musonda**, Assistant Director, Development Planning Ministry of Finance and National Planning, Zambia

· **Mr. Lamau Mpolo**, Executive Secretary, APRM National Secretariat, Tanzania

Interactive discussion

09:00 – 11:00

Session 4: Making SDG 16 by 2030 and Moonshot 3 by 2033 a reality

This session will explore how the principles of competence, sound policymaking, leaving no one behind, and subsidiarity can be applied to achieve SDG 16, which promotes peaceful, just, and inclusive societies, by 2030. The second 10-year implementation plan of Agenda 2063 of the African Union and its associated moonshot 3 seeks to entrench democratic and inclusive institutions in countries across the continent by 2033. Moonshot 3 seeks to nurture capable institutions and transformative leadership at all levels. The lessons drawn from the first decade underscore the need, among others, to promote accountability of public institutions to African citizens, entrench values of democracy, justice and human rights, and exemplify good governance. Discussions will focus on practical strategies and collaborative efforts to integrate these principles into governance frameworks, ensuring inclusive and effective public administration.

Guiding questions

1. What key actions can governments take to enhance institutional effectiveness and ensure progress toward achieving SDG 16 and Moonshot 3?
2. How can policymakers create an environment that fosters inclusive participation and ensures all communities are represented in decision-making processes for good governance?
3. What role do local governments and communities play and how can their capacities be strengthened?
4. What are some of effective ways to implement policies that promote justice, peace, and inclusion while addressing the specific needs of diverse population groups?
5. How can collaboration between various levels of government and civil society be improved to achieve sustainable progress in governance and justice initiatives?

Moderator: **Ms. Sara Hamouda**, Senior Continental & Global Governance Officer, APRM Continental Secretariat, South Africa

A. Competence (focus on public sector workforce)

Lead expert: **Dr. George Scott**, Secretary General, AAPAM (TBC)

Country case study:

	<p>Mr. Dauda Solomon Conteh, Assistant Director, Ministry of Administration and Political Affairs, Sierra Leone</p> <p>Ms. Gcino Mlabo, Director, APRM National Secretariat, Department of Public and Service Administration, South Africa</p> <p><i>Interactive discussion</i></p> <p>B. Leaving no one behind (focus on social equity)</p> <p><i>Lead experts:</i> Ms. Hanan Rezk, Manager, Training Network of Management Institutions in Africa, National Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development, Egypt (remote)</p> <p>Mr. Enock Nyorekwa Twinoburyo, Sustainable Development Goals Centre for Africa</p> <p>Country case study: Mr. Nawa Kutoma, Assistant Director, Ministry of Finance and National Planning, Zambia</p> <p><i>Interactive discussion</i></p>
<p>11:00 – 11:15</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>11:15 – 13:00</p>	<p>Session 4: Making SDG 16 by 2030 and Moonshot 3 by 2033 a reality (continued)</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Ms. Gebeh Doteh, Executive Director, Governance Commission of Liberia</p> <p>C. Sound policymaking (focus on strategic planning and foresight)</p> <p><i>Lead expert:</i> Mr. Pali Lehohla, Economic Modelling Academy, Pretoria, South Africa</p> <p><i>Subnational experience:</i> Mr. Gareth Morgan, Executive Director Planning, City of Cape Town, South Africa</p> <p><i>Interactive discussion</i></p> <p>D. Integrity (focus on corruption prevention)</p> <p><i>Lead expert:</i> Prof. Solosh Pillay, Director, Stellenbosch University</p> <p>Country case study: Mr. Patrick S. Seitiso, Chief Economist (SDGs), National Planning Commission, Botswana</p> <p><i>Interactive discussion</i></p>

13:00 – 14:30

Lunch

14:30 – 17:00

Session 5: Exploring plans of action and collaboration with UN Resident Coordinator System and APRM national structures on strengthening institutional capabilities in Africa

This session of the workshop will focus on exploring actionable plans to foster collaboration between the UN development system and APRM national structures and stakeholders to enhance implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 through the Cooperation Framework. This session will include discussion on how countries can leverage the UN RC's coordination and expertise, alongside the APRM's focus on governance and policy assessment, to enhance institutional effectiveness for accelerated implementation of the SDGs as defined in, or aligned with, National Development Plans. Discussions will centre around creating synergies to address governance challenges and build institutional resilience in Africa. The session aims to develop a roadmap for coordinated action that enhances integrated policy implementation, accountability, and effective governance for sustainable development in countries across the continent.

Guiding questions

1. What specific steps can African countries take to build more robust and resilient institutions capable of responding to emerging challenges and accelerating achievement of Sustainable Development Goals? What are examples of good practices?
2. How has the UN RC system leveraged the United Nations Cooperation Framework to support the implementation of national development plans, national policies and priorities to ensure long-term institutional effectiveness?
3. How can collaboration between the UN RC system and APRM focal points be enhanced to support national governments in addressing governance challenges and improving national capabilities for policy implementation?
4. What further steps can be taken to ensure that action plans to strengthen institutions and national accountability are achievable and adequately resourced?

Moderator: Ms. Pauline Magawi, Regional Cooperation Framework Partnership and Programme Officer, United Nations Development Cooperation Office, Regional Office for Africa

Speakers:

- Mr. Lineekela Josephat Mboti, Chief Executive Officer and Focal Point of APRM Namibia, APRM National Secretariat, Namibia
- Mr. Charles Abani, UN Resident Coordinator in Ghana

· **Ms. Winnifred Akoto-Sampong**, Acting Executive Secretary, National African Peer Review Mechanism Governing Council, Ghana

· **Ms. Kefiloe Masiteng**, Head of UN Resident Coordinator's Office in South Africa

· **Mr. Simon Peter Nsereko**, Economist, Resident Coordinator's Office in Uganda

· **Mr. Samuel Kasule**, Senior Planner, National Planning Authority, Uganda

Interactive discussion

End of Day 2

9:00 – 11:30

Session 6: Building resilience to global shocks and safeguarding the future

This session will explore strategies for building resilience to global shocks and safeguarding the future, drawing on recent international frameworks. It will provide insights from the Pact for the Future, a global commitment agreed to at the Summit of the Future, and the Global Digital Compact, which aims to ensure inclusive and equitable digital transformation, as well as the outcome of the 2024 High-Level Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). The discussion will also focus on moving towards a balanced financial architecture in Africa, to illustrate how financial systems can be structured to withstand global economic shifts. The session will also examine the governance-natural resources nexus in Africa and outline strategies for the way forward, particularly in preparation for the 2025 African Governance Report.

Guiding questions

1. How can the commitments and actions outlined in the Pact for the Future be effectively implemented to build resilience against global shocks in African countries?
2. What specific reforms are necessary to create a balanced financial architecture that can withstand global economic fluctuations?
3. How can the HLPF and voluntary national reviews (VNRs) contribute to accelerating achievement of the SDGs at the continental level?
4. What strategies can African countries adopt to improve governance systems, ensuring they contribute to sustainable development and resilience?

Moderator: **Mr. Rogers Dhlwayo**, Senior Economist, UNDP, South Africa

Speakers:

- **Ms. Tonya Vaturi**, Sustainable Development Officer, UN DESA Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development
- **Ms. Habani Munyungano**, Director, National Planning Commission, Namibia

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Ms. Rose Keffas, Special Assistant, Office of the SSA to the President, Nigeria (remote) · Mr. Aurélien Ahan, Head, SDG Monitoring Unit, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Benin · Ms. Sumedha Ramprosand, Lead Analyst, Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Mauritius
11:30 – 12:30	<p>Way forward and closing remarks</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Mr. Patrick Spearing, Secretary of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration UN DESA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Ms. Yoliswa Makhasi, Director General, Department of Public Service and Administration, South Africa · Ms. Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, Chair, UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration and Chancellor of Nelson Mandela University · Ms. Marie-Antoinette Rose Quarte, CEO, African Peer Review Mechanism
	<p>End of Day 3</p>

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