

15TH INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC FORUM ON AFRICA

SUMMARY RECORD

AFRICA BEYOND 2015



Berlin, 9 September 2015



The Federal Government



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15TH INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC FORUM ON AFRICA - AFRICA BEYOND 2015

Under Germany's presidency of the G7, the 15th International Economic Forum on Africa was held for the first time in Berlin. The forum discussed perspectives and challenges for "Africa Beyond 2015", embedding the future of Africa's economies in the general post-2015 development debate and raising questions on fair and sustainable globalisation. The high-level conference was organised by the OECD Development Centre and the German Federal government in partnership with the African Union. The forum was inaugurated by the German Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Gerd Müller and Stefan Kapferer, Deputy Secretary-General of the OECD.



OPENING AND WELCOME ADDRESSES

In his welcome address, **Gerd Müller**, Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, laid the foundation of the conference by highlighting Europe's and Africa's relationship as equal partner continents and by stressing that today's global questions can only be solved in collaboration with Africa. With reference to the conclusions drawn in this year's G7 summit in Elmau, Mr. Müller emphasised Africa's opportunities for development and highlighted the reduction of poverty, food security, climate protection, resource management and renewable energy as prevailing future challenges. To realise its potential, Africa particularly needs innovative solutions to tackle climate change, including extended and decentralised sources of renewable energy. Recent crises such as the refugee crisis or the spread of Ebola demonstrate



shared responsibilities, Mr. Müller stated, and prove that development is still fragile in Africa. Despite promising examples of African economic growth Mr. Müller reiterated that growth in itself is not sufficient if it does not show a positive impact on the local population and is reconciled with environmental concerns. He highlighted fair trade agreements and fair value chains as crucial steps for making growth sustainable. If German and transnational enterprises are to settle in African states, not only must there be an international framework but national factors must also be in place, such as good governance, legal security and more education offensives.

Following Minister Müller, **Stefan Kapferer**, Deputy Secretary General of the OECD, rose to welcome the distinguished guests, remarking on the promising shift in recent development debates, as



demonstrated in the Third International Conference on Financing for Development in Addis Ababa: “Africa is no longer a topic of these summits”, but is “part of the international group finding solutions for these challenges”. Mr. Kapferer pinpointed two main reasons for this positive development, saying firstly that several African countries such as Ghana and Ethiopia have succeeded in strategically favouring economic prosperity, which is also indicated by a higher

average GDP rise in the African continent than in the rest of the world. Secondly, Africa has finally found a common position. As Deputy Secretary General he pledged that the OECD will deliver a framework for peer-to-peer dialogue with its Development Centre functioning as a bridge between the OECD member countries and the African countries. Mr. Kapferer’s speech and the memorandum of understanding between the OECD and the African Union Commission amounted to the key message “that solutions for African challenges have to be designed by African government and African society”.

Mr. Kapferer then handed over to the first guest of honour: the President of Ghana, **H.E. John Dramani Mahama**. Referring to Helmut Kohl’s historic expression of “fateful years ahead”, he thanked Germany for accepting 7 000 refugees despite the political and social costs connected with this decision. President Mahama called for a holistic view on this crisis, questioning all its causes. He highlighted the importance of the African Union speaking with one voice in international negotiations and recapped Africa’s future development goals on the six interdependent and interconnected pillars of the Common African Position: structural economic transformation and inclusive growth; science, technology and innovation; people-centered development; environmental sustainability, natural resources management and disaster risk management; peace and security; finance and partnership. Main focus should lay on climate change, which harms agricultural production as shown by floods on the African eastern coast and droughts threatening



crop capacity and food security in many nations. Not only do such crises harm the infrastructure, but also society and its sense of community, opening the gates to instability and terrorist units. Lastly, President Mahama encouraged overcoming the prevailing stereotypical image of African dictatorship and repression, highlighting visible successes “worthy of celebration” like free and fair elections and political stability in many African nations.

Second guest of honour, **Horst Köhler**, former president of the Federal Republic of Germany, opened his speech by reminding the audience of collective responsibility for the past and asked to be attentive towards “colonial attitudes still persisting today” when discussing the relationship between the OECD and Africa and lasting solutions for current challenges. Despite partly identifying with critics of the vastness of goals and targets of the “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, he emphasised that this plan is above all a compromise, revolving around two central points: Firstly, that all states and stakeholders found consensus that through today’s knowledge, technology and wealth the eradication of extreme poverty is possible and will happen within 50 years. Secondly profound changes in the global South as well in the North are mandatory to guarantee not only economic prosperity but also ecological sustainability. The SDGs take a different perspective on international relations that can best be acknowledged in his statement that “we are all developing countries”. He called out for a global partnership of shared interests and mutual accountability. The resolution of structural causes and a focus on poverty and the most vulnerable must go hand in hand.



Warning the African states of “the naked man who offers you clothes”, Mr. Köhler upheld his position, that, in view of the planet’s current outlook, the global North does not have all the answers with regard to climate change and resource scarcity. The SDGs are consequently an “exercise of humility” and a mutual learning process of development co-operation. Additionally, Mr. Köhler’s speech encouraged Africa to define a more pluralistic concept of African modernity that might differ

from the Western view of GDP-based prosperity. Mr. Köhler concluded his speech by critically assessing that all in all African development is still moving too slowly towards a common voice, independence and modernity. Not only external forces but also African leadership, corruption and self-victimisation were said to hinder Africa from evolving. The OECD member countries as well as Africa need to change their perspective, finding long-term solutions in a balanced North-South dialogue. Mr. Köhler’s speech summited in evaluating the United Nation’s 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a historic opportunity and “Declaration of Interdependence for the 21st century”.

SESSION 1 – BEYOND 2015: AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

The year 2015 started with the adoption of “Agenda 2063” by the African Union. African nations will thereafter participate in essential global dialogues on development finance, the post-2015 agenda with its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and climate change. These discussions provide the continent and the whole world with an unprecedented opportunity to chart a more inclusive and sustainable growth agenda for all. The stakes are high: transforming African economies, ending poverty, preserving the environment and ensuring well-being and prosperity. – What are the perspectives and challenges for the continent?

The welcome addresses and keynotes were followed by the forum's first panel discussion between Erastus J. O. Mwencha, Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC), Carlos Lopes, Executive Secretary UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and Mario Pezzini, Director OECD Development Centre and moderated by Melinda Crane from Deutsche Welle TV. The panel assessed in detail Africa's general development agenda based upon the African Union's “Agenda 2063” endorsed in the Addis Ababa Summit and its consequences for African and international leaders as well as the Common African Position. The SDGs and their universal and participatory approach were discussed by all panelists who, with reservations, agreed upon the 21st century to be the African century.

Erastus J. O. Mwencha was first asked to evaluate the short-term challenge of the migration crisis. He demanded to take into account and differentiate structural causes in terms of push and pull factors for the movement of refugees as well as of migrants. Mr. Mwencha expressed his hopes for more pro-active solutions in the upcoming summit on migration in Valletta. According to OECD's “African Economic Outlook” 29 million new jobs must be created annually to absorb the African workforce and to eliminate youth unemployment. From an African perspective, the implementation of six actionable goals within the next ten years is crucial, e.g. aiming at finding employment for Africa's youth and moving from free to fair trade in order to maximise Africa's use of resources and market capacity. Furthermore, resource mobilisation and investment in infrastructure through internal mechanisms and external partnerships must be provided. African development in the next ten years must thus focus on economic transformation, especially through industrialisation and innovation in the agricultural sector, the development of human capital and skills as well as investment in science and technology.



The Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Africa, **Carlos Lopes**, highlighted Africa's remarkable historical progress of tripling its GDP in 15 years. Today only 5% of Africans live in war zones. Progress, however, should not be seen in terms of GDP only; above all structural economic transformation is needed. Consequently, it is crucial for Africa to overcome its non-sustainable dependency on exports and trade revenues of extractive industries that only make 1% of Africa's employment and stop “exporting the jobs”. Mr. Lopes equated poverty in Africa to a large

extent with the fact that two-thirds of the population is working in agriculture, which is the least productive sector in the world. The most important pull factor to transform African agriculture is industrialisation and as Mr. Mwencha also stressed, to push infrastructural investment. Moreover, two-thirds of African economic growth comes from internal consumption and from services in the informal sector – “people have occupations, not jobs; people have vulnerable lifestyles, not sustainable lifestyles”. Therefore, Mr. Lopes called for Africa to find its own priorities among the universal goals in the SDGs and not to be overwhelmed by the amount of targets, focusing on “goals, not prescriptions”.



The Director of the OECD Development Centre, **Mario Pezzini**, stressed that although solutions need to come from Africa, the Centre can help to analyse general trends of the economy, encourage peer-dialogue and innovative solutions between governments, business and civil society in mutual learning processes on policies and strategies between its 49 members. In Africa taxes and illicit cash flows are still a grave issue and need to be addressed, but attracting external investment, particularly technology-embedded capital, is also key to sustainable growth. Consequently, the promotion of private-public partnerships and further resource mobilisation, accompanied by precise monitoring and active think tanks can fuel this development. Mr. Lopes warned to not lose focus on social and environmental issues, when crises occur. Today’s monitoring is wrongly giving prominence to the economic dimensions.



In conclusion, the panellists indeed saw the 21st century as the African century, under the precondition that Africa’s development agenda is moving towards a sustainable, industrialised, peaceful Africa that is capable of self-management and is heard in the community of nations. Therefore, a united voice, partnerships with and within Africa are crucial as well as ecological responsibility. Africa will soon host 30% of the world’s population. Demographically speaking, this must be seen as a chance for Africa to

offering its youth to ageing countries. But this also implies that a drastic shift in Africa’s contribution to the world economy is “an imperative and a social contract of the 21st century.” The integration of Africa’s youth and the investment in their skills must determine this transformation. Overall, the implementation of SDGs must not only address growth and reduction of poverty, but also well-being as a target.

SESSION 2 – CLIMATE CHANGE AND AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION IN AFRICA

In sub-Saharan Africa climate change is expected to reduce the productivity of land by up to 14–27% by 2080. To feed the growing population, to fight and adapt to climate change Africa and the whole world will have to dramatically transform its agricultural and energy sectors. This socio-economic transition towards low-carbon, climate-resilient development offers major opportunities for the African market.

Guest of Honour **Kofi Annan** delivered the keynote speech for the forum's session on climate change and its costs and challenges for the African agricultural sector. Mr. Annan emphatically highlighted the necessity of a global low-carbon economic transition and the importance of climate-smart agriculture for the years to come. Sustainability must be fostered along the economic, social and environmental dimensions of growth.



He pointed out the contradiction that although Africa is the lowest contributor to global warming, its rural areas suffer most from its direct consequences: Destructive weather tendencies result in more inarable lands and scarce water supplies that harm the farmers' productivity and eventually lead to social instability. Therefore, Northern and Southern governments, enterprises and investors must foster sustainable growth through integrating more low-carbon technologies

in order to reduce the threats that climate change imposes on the world's "security, prosperity and stability". Today, two-thirds of Africans are employed in the agricultural sector. While 60% of the world's uncultivated arable land lays in Africa, vast numbers of people still starve or live in hunger on the same continent. Still two-thirds of the African population has no access to electricity. An investment of USD 55 billion until the year of 2030 is needed to obtain universal access to electricity. A sustainable energy transition largely depends on political will, the suppression of corruption and the redirection of resources in African energy systems. Decentralised, low-carbon and renewable energy systems can not only foster investment, but also employment and help Africa in overcoming its energy deficit. Mr. Annan highlighted Africa as a potential global leader in climate-resilient, low-carbon development and renewable energies and particularly favoured partnerships between Africa and Germany. Mr. Annan: "Africa is not poor. Africa is a continent with a great wealth of resources". Africa's development, however, is still hindered by prevailing poverty, malnutrition, inequality and by a wrong distribution of newly established growth.

Nevertheless, Africa has the potential to become an "agriculture powerhouse" for the world if the productivity of smallholder farmers can be increased. To release Africa's potential in agriculture smallholder farmers need to be empowered within the value chain by public-private partnerships, investments and fair trade agreements. Climate-smart agriculture, such as cultivating drought-tolerant crops, can ensure food security and productivity in the future. Africa also needs to stop spending USD 35 billion on importing food and redirect these resources. Furthermore, a credible pricing and taxation system and strengthening controls to not lose financial means in illicit flows is

decisive in this transformation. Wealthier countries must agree upon a universal climate agreement and take a lead in the reduction of greenhouse gases and provide financial resources and technologies, living up to the commitment of investing USD 100 billion annually in the Green Climate Fund. Mr. Annan concluded that, we “all have to work together to change the narrative on climate change.” For the climate conference in Paris he summed up three major challenges: to find ways to support Africa in an inclusive, low-carbon energy transformation, to realise African agriculture’s potential through investments and to come to terms about emissions control.

Focusing on the humanly caused climate change and its consequences, the panel discussion that followed picked up on Kofi Annan’s call for a sustainable transformation of Africa’s agriculture, formulated demands towards the energy sector and discussed the outlook of COP 21, the Sustainable Innovation Forum in Paris. **Annick Girardin**, France’s Minister of State for Development and Francophony, stated that COP 21 concludes an important series of complementary international summits, aiming at developing a fair, equal, zero-carbon and zero-hunger world.



COP 21 must deliver productive results, she said, as in fact people worldwide and particularly in the island states of Africa are already tremendously suffering from the real consequences of the climate change. France, hosting the COP 21, is committed to act as an example in this necessary transition. The goal of the conference is to achieve a universal, protective agreement to avoid a climate catastrophe through an alliance based upon mutual listening. In order to continuously aim at a maximum of 2 degrees of global warming, technological and financial contributions from each country are needed. A crucial objective of the international community should be to protect the island states as the most vulnerable in light of climate change and to find universal, quick and practical answers.



Whereas Mrs. Girardin saw climate risk insurance as a near-term, promising factor in overcoming African underdevelopment in agriculture, **René N'guetta Kouassi**, Director of Economic Affairs at the AUC, assessed its current value and possible implementation as critical for smallholder farmers and called for a reform of farming that has to be put first. Mr. Kouassi shared relevant insights on the regional level. Talking about the low productivity of African agriculture, he stated

that in some periods of the year it is the cities that nourish the countryside. In order to support the agricultural transformation the AUC set three goals in the “Maputo Declaration” from 2003, firstly to tackle food security, secondly to overcome malnutrition and thirdly to increase revenues in this sector. Reinvesting the agreement to invest 10% of the GDP in developing the agricultural sector, Mr. Kouassi critically stated that 10 years later only 13 countries have achieved that and only 30 countries have installed a plan of investment for agricultural development. He highlighted the strong dependency on imports as being particularly counterproductive and named Africa’s huge energy deficit as one of the major obstacles in the development of the agricultural sector. Energy serves as core raw material for development. It is vital to foster Africa’s capacity to produce its own energy so

that in 2062 the continent can be integrated and independent in terms of economy and energy. To that end an increase of investment in manufacturing and further industrial development are necessary, leading to faster and more inclusive growth of the agricultural sector. Funds for green technologies must be democratised and more easily accessible.



General Herilanto Raveloharison, Madagascar's Minister for Economy and Planning, gave an insight into the costs of climate change for the island state, Madagascar, and policies to fight climate change on the national level. Madagascar is still relatively fragile economically and thereby particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, such as the rising sea level or an increasing number of cyclones – the number of cyclones faced by

Madagascar has already risen to four or five per year. He pointed out that the consequences of climate change destroy on average 10% of the country's infrastructure per year. Reconstruction costs Madagascar annually about 4% of its GDP. Instead of seeing the nation as a victim, he prefers the concept of co-responsibility: new strategies and agricultural policies, taking into account new technologies and a reform of agricultural practices, are needed to lower the harmful impact of climate change on the economy and development of African island states. This grave threat needs to be carefully adopted in the world economy's long-term planning, financially as well as institutionally.

Francis D. Yamba, Director of the Center for Energy and Environmental Engineering in Zambia spoke in favour of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and called for acknowledging human responsibility for climate change through developing a "climate-sensitive" transformation of the agricultural sector. The average temperature has already increased between 0.5 to 0.8 degrees since 2010. Different scenarios predict future



average temperature rises of between two degrees, as idealised by COP 21, and three to six degrees. Consequently, Africa would face significantly more droughts, a reduction of water availability, and thus poverty especially among smallholder farmers. From Mr. Yamba's point of view, Africa needs to mitigate more in order to reduce the risks of climate change and also to adapt more to climate change in order to manage the risks. With electricity supply ranging from only 5% to 15% in most rural areas of Africa and limitations of smallholders to cultivate their lands for only four to five months per year, focusing on "smart agriculture" solutions becomes increasingly important to secure their livelihoods throughout the year. For a new path in sustainable energy supply, microfinancing and supporting policies are crucial. Mr. Yamba requested to "mainstream adaptation to climate change into development plans".

Africa's transformation towards being politically and economically integrated as well as independent in terms of energy production is the goal of Africa 2063, with political will, mutual learning and collaboration being major preconditions of this process.

SESSION 3 – CAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT HELP AFRICA TAP ITS DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND?

By 2050, Africa will be home to an additional 1.2 billion people. More than 47 million young people will be entering the labour market every year looking for jobs. Regional development strategies must help African countries overcome their structural challenges and take advantage of the democratic boom. Strategies include creating jobs, improving education, bolstering fiscal capacities and developing intermediary cities as poles of regional growth.



During his keynote speech, **Georg Schmidt**, Regional Director for Sub-Saharan Africa and the Sahel at the German Federal Foreign Office, expressed confidence in the potential of regional development strategies in helping Africa with its demographic dividend. Nevertheless, he pointed out that policy makers should not only take in consideration trends of the present when analysing the future. According to him, the impact of technology must be taken into account as a decisive factor that will impact the demographic development of Africa, along with access to education and family planning policies. For Mr. Schmidt, it will also depend on the empowerment of women, who will be the ones to decide when and how to form their families.

Speaking more broadly, Mr. Schmidt mentioned the important role of the development process of other continents in shaping Africa's future in an even more connected and interdependent world. He also pointed out that democracy and accountability are the most important factors to ensure stability and regional organisations can play an important part in this.

After a period of political instability, Tunisia is preparing a new policy plan to address regional disparities. According to **Lamia Zribi**, Secretary of State to the Ministry of Development, Investment and International Cooperation of Tunisia, disparities between the country's regions with regard to various social and economic indicators were one of the main causes of popular unrest in the last few years. At the time when the first demonstrations took place, youth unemployment in coastal regions was approximately 10%, while in inland areas it reached 40%. Mrs. Zribi explained that Tunisia has established regional commissions, which will identify regions' specific needs and determine their own development priorities. She highlighted the importance of international support in implementing this policy and stated that this kind of bottom-up strategy is crucial to the effectiveness of the process. It marks a clear change in relation to the former government, which implemented top-down approaches to policy decisions.



A similar approach was underlined by Togo's Minister of Development, Craftsmanship, Youth and Youth Employment **Victoire Tomégah-Dogbé** when explaining the process of decentralisation in her country. She stressed the need to rethink development in the African continent and noted the importance of empowering communities in this process. She believes that a more participatory approach prioritises the needs of the population at a lower cost. The policy elaboration and implementation need to be bottom-up in order to engage the population and it also enables public programmes to adapt to each region's needs. Mrs. Tomégah-Dogbé used as an example a Togolese fund for inclusive financing, which provides microcredit services and loans in different areas of the country, benefiting mainly women and young citizens. By end 2015, the programme will have helped around 700 000 Togolese and allowed the creation of development poles according to each region's profile.

Kassi Jean-Claude Brou, Côte d'Ivoire's Minister of Industry, noted that his country has been achieving steady economic growth since the global economic crisis but, in his opinion, this growth needs to be more inclusive. In order to reach this goal, Mr. Brou highlighted the importance of infrastructures in connecting different cities and enabling a better quality of life in small and medium-sized cities, avoiding the need for population displacement towards big cities. He gave the example of the city of Abidjan, which concentrates 23% of the country's total population and is responsible for 75% of its economic activity. This situation creates enormous pressure on the city's infrastructure and on its services sector. For Mr. Brou, decentralisation is



key in order to offer quality public services. For this reason, Côte d'Ivoire promotes the creation of regional poles of activity, which comprise specific sectors such as agriculture, tourism and industry, among others.

The Chief Executive Officer of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) **Ibrahim Assane Mayaki** underlined that the only way to assure employment for the young people entering the job market in the next years is to invest in rural transformation, owing to the current distribution of population and job opportunities in the continent. He emphasised that rural transformation goes



beyond agriculture; it deals with issues related to empowering small farmers, training, and energy. There is a multi-sector dimension and, according to Mr. Mayaki, African public administration systems are not ready to deal with multi-dimensionality; they work by individual sectors. This is one of the reasons why it is essential to decentralise the execution of policies. He thinks that African countries need a reform of the role of the State, giving more power to local and regional entities. He also pinpointed the importance of NEPAD as a peer review mechanism that includes all parties in the discussion (governments, opposition parties, civil society).



CLOSING SESSION

In his closing remarks, the President of the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), **Kadré Désiré Ouédraogo**, expressed the hope that, by 2063, African countries will be among the best economic performers globally and that collective GDP will be proportionate to their share of the world's population and natural resource endowments.



According to Mr. Ouédraogo, macroeconomic stability remains an essential prerequisite to growth and poverty reduction, and African countries should have a high commitment to environmental protection while investing in quality human and physical capital. ECOWAS Commission's President suggested development partners should continue to accompany African countries and institutions with both technical and financial assistance based on needs identified by the beneficiaries.

He also noted that African countries and institutions should comply with the various timelines outlined in Agenda 2063, namely (i) the establishment of a Continental Free Trade Area by 2017; (ii) the abolition of visa requirements for all African citizens in all African countries by 2018; (iii) ending all wars or silencing the guns in Africa by 2020; (iv) full liberation of all African territories under colonial occupation by 2020; and (v) reaching consensus on the form of the continental government and institutions by 2030.

In addition, Mr. Ouédraogo expressed the need for African regional economic communities to deepen regional integration and liberalise trade in order to promote intra-African trade and job creation, and enhance Africa's integration into the global economy. He encouraged industrialised countries to enhance unrestricted access to their markets for African exports. He believes this measure would boost export-targeted production in African countries and improve their economic growth. Referring to the Ebola outbreak, ECOWAS Commission's President urged African health institutions, in collaboration with their global partners, to be proactive in tackling endemic diseases in any part of the continent. Before concluding, he invited all stakeholders to continue to discourage unconstitutional ascension to power on the continent and to promote good governance and adherence to democratic principles in all African countries.

MEDIA OUTREACH

The Forum was well attended and covered by the media, including news agencies, TV, print, radio and online media, with over 40 media representatives registered for the event and more than 25 interviews realised on the day. Please consult the complete [media review](#) of the event, available on our website.

The Development Centre was pleased to collaborate with six media partners for the Forum, namely Devex; Deutsch Welle; This is Africa; Jeune Afrique; Le Monde and the Xinhua News Agency.

Some selected headlines following the Forum are:

["Afrika vergisst seine Jugend"](#) (Deutsche Welle)

[Starting with Africa by Mario Pezzini & Erastus J.O. Mwencha](#) (Deutsche Welle)

[Africa: Raw Materials in Focus At German-Africa Summit](#) (All Africa)

["Il n'y a pas eu de diversification de l'économie" Radio interview with Mario Pezzini](#) (Deutsche Welle)

[Long road ahead for ambitious post-2015 agenda](#) (This Is Africa – FT)

[Ghana's president links climate crisis to extremism](#) (This Is Africa – FT)

[15th International Economic Forum on Africa: Africa Beyond 2015](#) (ECDPM)

["Africa's too dependent on natural resources. We need more jobs" - Mario Pezzini, OECD](#) (ECDPM)

["Superfoods can contribute moving up the value chain in Africa" - Carlos Lopes, UNECA](#) (ECDPM)

[Mahama off to Berlin for Forum on Africa](#) (Ghana Web)

[Mahama in Berlin for 15th International Economic Forum on Africa](#) (Pulse)

[Africa: Germany Hosts First German-African Business Summit](#) (All Africa)

[Berliner Regenmacher in Afrika](#) (Inforadio)

[Silk Road initiative entails further exchange of experiences: OECD official](#) (Cihan)

[Pourquoi la croissance économique africaine ne crée-t-elle pas plus d'emplois ?](#) (Le Monde)

[Allemagne : Berlin accueille le Forum « l'Afrique après 2015 »](#) (ADIAC)

[Africa not continent of doom, gloom – President Mahama](#) (Graphic Online)

[Sommet germano-africain des Affaires et 15ème Forum International sur l'Afrique à Berlin](#)
(Madagascar Tribune)

WEB VISIBILITY

The Forum's official website (www.oecd.org/africa-forum/) registered 21 099 visitors in the lead-up to and on the day itself. An increase of 78.9% compared to last year's event. The [official photos](#) of the event are available on the OECD Development Centre Flickr account. Feel free to use these images, including the OECD copyright and the photographer's credit.

This year, 1 500 tweets were sent using the hash tag #AfricaForum on 9 September, and in the days before and after the Forum, reaching approximately 2 243 668 accounts and generating 7 945 360 impressions (see graph below).

#AfricaForum

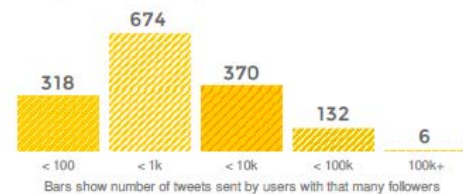
ESTIMATED REACH

2,243,668

ACCOUNTS REACHED

EXPOSURE

7,945,360 IMPRESSIONS

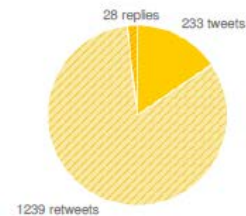
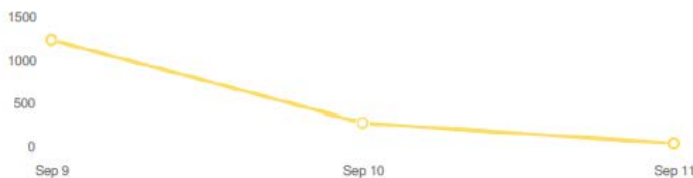


ACTIVITY

1,500
TWEETS

855
CONTRIBUTORS

3
DAYS



TOP CONTRIBUTORS

1.6M IMPRESSIONS	@KofiAnnan
482 RETWEETS	@KofiAnnan
871 MENTIONS	@KofiAnnan

MOST RETWEETED TWEETS

84	Kofi Annan @KofiAnnan Africa is not poor. It is a continent with a great wealth of resources. #AfricaForum
78	Kofi Annan @KofiAnnan I am convinced that Africa can and will achieve a more prosperous and equitable future. #AfricaForum http://t.co/GS8ThAabco
62	OECD @OECD #Africa is a potential #agriculture powerhouse, w/60% of world's uncultivated arable land: @KofiAnnan #AfricaForum http://t.co/tQjgGMx0I7



15TH INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC FORUM ON AFRICA

BERLIN, 9 SEPTEMBER 2015
In partnership with the African Union

ABOUT THE 15TH INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC FORUM ON AFRICA

By 2050, Africa will be home to 2.1 billion people; in most countries, both urban and rural populations will continue to grow well after that date. The challenge of providing future generations with adequate economic and social opportunities is daunting. National policy makers, city planners, infrastructure builders, local governments, investors, farmers' associations, environmentalists and other stakeholders need to invent new ways of working in order to face up to this challenge. How can new territorial policies transcend traditional divides – e.g. urban vs. rural, agricultural vs. other sectors – to make the most of the demographic dividend in a sustainable manner?

The Africa Forum is the annual meeting of policy makers, economists, researchers and private sector parties working on and with Africa. It is organised by the OECD Development Centre and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, in collaboration with the Federal Foreign Office of Germany and the African Union Commission.

About the organisers



The OECD Development Centre was established in 1962 as an independent platform for knowledge sharing and policy dialogue between OECD member countries and developing economies, allowing these countries to interact on an equal footing. Today, 27 OECD countries and 22 non-OECD countries are members of the

Centre. The Centre draws attention to emerging systemic issues likely to have an impact on global development and more specific development challenges faced by today's developing and emerging economies. It uses evidence-based analysis and strategic partnerships to help countries formulate innovative policy solutions to the global challenges of development.

For more information on the Centre and its members, please see www.oecd.org/dev.



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development

Germany is engaged in intensive development co-operation with the international community to combat poverty, shape globalisation in an equitable manner, safeguard peace, freedom, democracy and human rights, and protect the environment and natural resources.

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) develops the guidelines and concepts of German development policy, determines the long-term strategies for co-operation with the various actors and defines the rules for implementation. These are closely aligned with relevant international agreements and goals (2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, MDGs, Kyoto Protocol, aid effectiveness agenda etc.).

The most important pillar of the German government's development co-operation work involves bilateral co-operation with the governments of other countries. BMZ develops joint projects and



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programmes with partner countries of German development co-operation which dovetail with national development strategies. The key instruments include low-interest loans or grants, advisory and training services, promotion of private sector investments, scholarships, but also transitional development assistance in crisis situations. The implementing organisations are responsible for the actual implementation of development policy concepts and strategies. BMZ steers the implementing organisations' work and monitors the results. In addition, BMZ works with actors from civil society, churches, foundations, the private sector and other areas.

International organisations/institutions and other donors play a key role in German development policy. BMZ is also committed to solving global problems and supporting sustainable development in the framework of European and multilateral development co-operation.



Federal Foreign Office

The Federal Foreign Office represents Germany's interests to the world. It promotes international exchange and offers protection and assistance to Germans abroad. With headquarters in Berlin and a network of 230 missions abroad, the Federal Foreign Office maintains Germany's relations with other countries as well as with international and supra-national

organisations. This work concerns much more than just political contacts among governments and parliaments. Because Germany and German society are enmeshed in ever-growing international networks, the Federal Foreign Office promotes intensive interaction and exchange with the world in the fields of business, culture, science and technology, the environment, development issues and many more areas.

Shaping globalisation is one of the most important tasks of diplomacy. In this area, the Federal Foreign Office works closely with partners from civil society, including business associations, unions and humanitarian and human rights organisations. Through its embassies and consulates-general, it also influences the public abroad in order to convey a positive, up-to-date image of Germany. We are supported in this pursuit by Honorary Consuls, volunteers who work on the ground in the host country.

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