

Investment Promotion in Africa during Covid - How can a green, inclusive and locally based economic recovery succeed?

In recent years, German Africa policy has focused strongly on leveraging private capital to achieve development goals on the continent. The economic consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic have further increased the need for private capital. This also increases the role of promoting employment-intensive foreign direct investment (FDI) in development cooperation, which in turn relies on strong local partners and economic cycles.

However, FDI inflows to Africa plummeted in 2020 in the wake of the global Covid crisis and the significant decline is estimated to continue until 2022. In addition, African firms and investors are themselves under pressure from the temporary collapse of national and international markets and the disruption of trade links. At the same time, the multiple social challenges and the acute consequences of climate change on the continent require that FDI promotion also considers a growing responsibility for inclusion and environmental sustainability in order to successfully create dignified jobs..

How can the promotion of foreign direct investment from Germany and Europe be made more socially and ecologically sustainable? What are the greatest challenges here and to what extent must development cooperation improve or even reposition itself? What role do a growing African middle class and local economic promotion in general play in this?

These and other questions are the focus of the discussion to which Ottmar von Holtz MdB, the German Africa Foundation and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH cordially invite you.

Programme:

Welcome and Closing Remarks: **Ottmar von Holtz MP**, Chairman of the Bundestag parliamentary group Bündnis'90 / Die Grünen in the Committee for Economic Cooperation and Development

Discussion: **Regina Honu**, CEO, Soronko Academy, Ghana

Elsie Kanza, Head of Regional Agenda on Africa, World Economic Forum and Fellow of the Robert Bosch Academy 2021

Dr Sabine Müller, Director General Africa Department, GIZ

Kizito Odhiambo, Founder and CEO, agriBORA

Dr Stefan Oswald, Head of Department „Marshallplan with Africa; Flight and Migration“, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Moderation: **Sabine Odhiambo**, Deputy Secretary General, German Africa Foundation

Wednesday
09 June 2021
15:00 - 16:30 hrs,
online

The event will be translated **simultaneously German - English.**

Please register for the event [here](#) by **08 June 2021.**

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des Deutschen Bundestages

Panelists



Regina Honu is the CEO of Soronko Academy, a leading center for technology, coding and digital skills development in Africa that equips young people, and especially women, with the necessary technical and personal skills to receive and fulfill decent jobs, bridging the gender gap in the IT sector. Honu has already received several national and international awards for her social entrepreneurial commitment. The Ghanaian Ministry of Education lists her among the top 50 CEOs in the country. Among others, she is currently cooperating with the Mastercard Foundation to give 2.1 million Ghanaian women access to the labor market..

Elsie Kanza is a Tanzanian economist, member of the Executive Committee of the World Economic Forum (WEF) and Special Adviser to the WEF President. As head of the WEF's regional agenda on Africa, she has led numerous public-private partnership initiatives since 2011 to solve systemic challenges in connection with the sustainable development goals of the UN and Agenda 2063 of the African Union. From 2006 to 2011, Elsie Kanza served as economic advisor to the President of Tanzania. Between 1997 and 2006 she worked in the Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank of Tanzania.



Dr Sabine Müller has been the Director General of the Africa Department at the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH since August 2017. The doctor of agricultural economics initially worked for a consulting firm that carried out studies for GIZ, the World Bank and other development policy institutions. She has now been with GIZ for over 30 years, where she led various regional departments between 2004 and 2014. From 2015 to 2017, she was the Director General of the Sectoral Department. She also managed the company's internal reorganisation process dedicated to establishing a viable structure for GIZ's future development.

Kizito Odhiambo is the Founder and CEO of agriBORA GmbH, an agricultural technology platform in Kenya with over 36,000 smallholder farmers that helps reduce the risk of smallholder farming systems. He studied electrical engineering and information technology at the Technical University of Darmstadt. Before founding agriBORA, he was the CEO of Kedo Solutions Ltd, a contract farming company that worked with smallscale farmers in Western Kenya to produce value-added products in rural markets. He is also a speaker for global learning and is committed to a differentiated image of Africa in Germany.



Dr Stefan Oswald has been the Head of the Marshal Plan with Africa department; Flight and Migration in the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) since May 2018. He has been working in development cooperation for 30 years and has held various national and international positions. Before his current position at the BMZ, he led the Sub-Saharan Africa sub-department. From 2011 to 2016 he was head of the "Afghanistan; Pakistan" unit and was also Deputy Asia Director in the BMZ. From 2010 to mid-2011 he led the OECD/DAC unit; G7/G8/G20; Cooperation with other donors; ODA statistics.