



## **Regional Workshop on Coherent Strategies for Productive Capacities Development in African Least Developed Countries**

### **Concept Note and Programme**

**Venue:** Four Points by Sheraton, Corner of Azikiwe Street/Sokoine Drive  
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

*Date: 12 – 13 October 2022*  
*Time: Tanzania time*

## **Context**

Up until the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, African countries were making significant progress in economic growth performance. Yet, poverty and inequality remain very high in Africa and these challenges have now been compounded by the decline in economic activities resulting from the pandemic and the war in Ukraine. The economic crises emanating from the pandemic has also made meaningful integration of African countries into the global trade and investment system even more challenging than in the past. The weak development of productive capacities has been identified as the main obstacle to sustained development of African countries and their full and better integration into the global trade and investment system. Against this background, in 2020 UNCTAD launched a United Nations Development Account Project on “Coherent Strategies for Productive Capacities Development in African Least Developed Countries” with Burkina Faso, Rwanda and the United Republic of Tanzania as beneficiaries. The project aims at forging an improved capacity among national government officials and stakeholders in the selected African LDCs to formulate and implement holistic and coherent strategies and policies to build, utilize and maintain productive capacities, for structural economic transformation to achieve the SDGs. Under this project, national workshops on the development of productive capacities were organized for Tanzania (April 2021), Rwanda (May 2021) and Burkina Faso (June 2022). Following the national workshops, UNCTAD in collaboration with REPOA and the Tanzania Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade are organizing a regional workshop on “Coherent Strategies for Productive Capacities Development in African Least Developed Countries” to be held from 12-13 October 2022 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

## **Objectives of workshop**

The workshop will bring together officials from the beneficiary countries, selected non-beneficiary African countries, representatives of the private sector, partner implementing agencies, and international experts to:

- Discuss challenges and opportunities associated with developing coherent strategies for productive capacities development.
- Identify recommendations on possible measures and options to address existing constraints on productive capacities development
- Share best practices and experiences in formulating and implementing holistic and coherent approaches to productive capacities development amongst government officials and stakeholders.
- Draw lessons for the three project beneficiary countries from the experiences of non-LDCs in Africa as well as non-African countries that have successfully developed productive capacities.

Given the importance of cross-cutting issues (such as gender and inequality) in the development of productive capacities, the workshop includes a session on Gender, Inequality and the Challenge of Productive Transformation in African LDCs to enhance participants understanding of how addressing these challenges could contribute to the development of productive capacities in the beneficiary countries.

## **Expected outcomes of workshop**

The expected outcomes of the workshop are:

- Better understanding by beneficiary country officials of the nexus between productive transformation and development in African LDCs.
- Strengthened capacity of participants to design and implement coherent strategies for building and utilizing productive capacities

**PROGRAMME**  
**12 October 2022**

08:15 – 09:00 Registration

***Opening Session***

09:00 – 09:10 Introductory remarks by Patrick Osakwe, Chief, Trade, Poverty, and Inequalities Branch, UNCTAD

09:10 – 09:20 Welcome remarks by Donald Mmari, Executive Director, REPOA, Tanzania

09:20 – 09:30 Opening statement by Hon. Exaud Silaoneka Kigahe, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade, The United Republic of Tanzania

**PART I Productive Capacities and Development in African LDCs**

*Moderator: Patrick Osakwe, UNCTAD*

09:30 – 09:45 Industrialization and Productive Transformation in LDCs  
**Gerald Runyoro, UNIDO, Tanzania**

09:45 – 10:00 Productive Capacities for Poverty Alleviation in LDCs  
**Antipas Touatam, UNCTAD, Geneva**

10:00 – 10:10 Special Economic Zones as Instruments for Building Productive Capacities  
**James Maziku, Director of Investment Promotion and Facilitation, Tanzania Export Processing Zones Authority**

10:10 – 10:20 Special Economic Zones and Building Productive Capacities in Rwanda  
**Fred Mugabe, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Rwanda**

10:20 – 10:50 Interactive debate

10:50 – 11:00 Coffee break

**PART II Building Productive Capacities in the Project Beneficiary Countries: National Perspectives**

*Moderator: (tbc)*

11:00 – 11:20 Recent Developments and Initiatives on Enhancing Productive Capacities in Rwanda (**Adrien Bimenyimana, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Rwanda**)

11:20 – 11:40 Interactive debate

- 11:40 – 12:00 Recent Developments and Initiatives on Enhancing Productive Capacities in Tanzania (**Lugano Wilson**, Director of Industrial Development, Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade, Tanzania)
- 12:00 – 12:20 Interactive debate
- 12:20 – 12:40 Recent Developments and Initiatives on Enhancing Productive Capacities in Burkina Faso (**Lydie ZONGO-SANON**, Director of Business Cooperation, Ministry of Industrial Development, Trade, Crafts and SMEs, Burkina Faso)
- 12:40 – 13:00 Interactive debate
- 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break
- PART III Experiences of Other Countries in Building Productive Capacities**
- Moderator: Donald Mmari, REPOA*
- 14:00 – 14:20 Building Productive Capacities of **Singapore**: Role of Trade & Investment  
**Shandre Thangavelu**, Regional Director, Southeast Asia, Institute for International Trade, University of Adelaide, Australia
- 14:20 – 14:35 Building Productive Capacities: The **Mauritian** Experience  
**Bibi Fatwma Abdool Raman Ahmed**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives
- 14:35 – 14:50 Building Productive Capacities: The **Botswana** Experience  
**Katiso Lesupi**, Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry
- 14:50 – 15:20 Interactive debate
- 15:20 – 15:30 Coffee Break
- 15:30 – 15:45 Building Productive Capacities: The **Zambian** Experience  
**Trust Mufune**, Chief Economist, Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry
- 15:45 – 16:00 Building Productive Capacities: The **Zimbabwean** Experience  
**Enias Muradzvi**, Deputy Director, Ministry of Industry and Commerce
- 16:00 – 16:15 Building Productive Capacities: The **Togolese** Experience  
**Mawussé Dieudonné AKPOTO**, Project Analyst, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Togo

16:15 – 16:30 Building Productive Capacities: The **Ugandan** Experience  
**Ainebyona Denis**, Commissioner for Industry, Ministry of Trade, Industry  
and Cooperatives (tbc)

16:30 – 17:00 Interactive debate

13 October 2022

**PART IV Strengthening the Private Sector in Africa**

*Moderator: Mwajuma Hamza, Executive Director, Tanzania Women Chamber of Commerce)*

- 09:00 – 09:15 Strengthening the private sector in Burkina Faso  
**Michel Borrus Ismael OUATTARA**, Head of Development Support, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Burkina Faso
- 09:15 – 09:30 Challenges facing the private sector in Tanzania  
**Bruno Daniel**, Business Affairs Manager, Kilombero Sugar Company, Morogoro, Tanzania
- 09:30 – 09:45 Challenges facing Exporters in Tanzania  
**Sylvester Kazi**, Export Manager, A to Z Textile Mills Ltd, Arusha, Tanzania
- 09:45 – 10:00 Empowering Young Entrepreneurs in Rwanda  
**Annet Benegusenga and Albert Munyabugingo**, Private Sector Foundation, Rwanda
- 10:00 – 10:15 Fostering Inclusive Public-Private Sector Dialogue  
**Farai Mutambanengwe**, Chief Executive Officer, Small and Medium Enterprises Association of Zimbabwe
- 10:15 – 10:45 Interactive debate
- 10:45 – 11:00 Coffee Break

**PART V Gender, Inequality and Productive Capacities Development**

*Moderator: Patrick Osakwe, UNCTAD*

- 11:00 – 11:15 Women’s Economic Empowerment and Productive Transformation  
**Loraine Kiswaga**, UNWOMEN, Tanzania
- 11:15 – 11:30 Dimensions of Inequality in Tanzania and Implications for Productive Transformation, **Donald Mmari**, Executive Director, REPOA, Tanzania
- 11:30 – 11:45 Income Inequality Trends in Sub-Saharan Africa, **Weyinmi Omamuli**, Senior Economist, UNDP Tanzania
- 11:45 – 12:00 Spatial Inequality in Sub-Saharan Africa, **Muna Shifa**, Senior Research Officer, University of Cape Town
- 12:00 – 12:40 Interactive debate
- 12:40 – 13:00 Closing remarks
- 13:00 – 14:30 Lunch