



WORLD INVESTMENT REPORT 2024 – AFRICA LAUNCH

Date: Friday, 28 June

Time: 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Addis Ababa) | 10:00 AM– 11:00 AM (Geneva)

Venue: Online

Register at: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0qcOmspjgvGdeKy1sALZIAP5aP_NI_DTIF

World Investment Report

The *World Investment Report* (WIR) supports policymakers by monitoring global and regional foreign direct investment (FDI) and sustainable finance trends, and by documenting national and international investment policy developments.

Every edition of the report also provides in-depth analysis of emerging issues with special emphasis on the development implications. The report also provides analysis of global value chains and the operations of largest multinational enterprises in the world, as well as policy analysis and recommendations related to the selected topic, and statistical annex with data on FDI flows and stocks at the country level.

Therefore, WIR is essential reading for policymakers and a crucial resource for the international development community.

The 2024 World Investment Report edition

The *World Investment Report 2024* documents how the continuing global and regional crises, trade tensions and tighter financing conditions affected foreign direct investment flows in 2023. In particular, the report highlights that stagnant SDG investment severely hinders the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda's objectives.

In this challenging context, facilitating sustainable investment by removing ground-level obstacles and providing a transparent and streamlined investment climate is a priority for all countries. Since the publication of UNCTAD's Global Action Menu on Investment Facilitation in 2016, facilitation has become a mainstay in regional and bilateral trade and investment agreements, and national implementation efforts have proliferated. For instance, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement, which includes a chapter dedicated to

investment facilitation, aims to streamline and simplify procedures to attract investment, thereby enhancing productivity and fostering innovation among domestic firms.

The theme chapter of the report takes stock of progress in the implementation of digital business and investment facilitation worldwide; and looks at the challenges, opportunities and policy priorities for its effective implementation. It also examines how it connects with wider digital government strategies to promote good governance and institutional robustness, to create a more transparent, efficient and investor-friendly environment, and to accelerate economic development. The increasing wave of digital government initiatives now make up a significant share of national investment policy measures monitored by UNCTAD; modern international investment agreements also increasingly encourage digitalization to implement commitments.

WIR24 shows that the number of digital facilitation tools has significantly increased in recent years, and their quality has improved. The report reveals that digital investment facilitation has positive effects on governance and institutions, business creation and investment attraction. Much of the sustainable development impact occurs through business facilitation, which contributes to the formalization of local firms, domestic resource mobilization and higher rates of inclusivity and participation in the MSME sector, including women. For example, the report examines the experiences of several African countries, including Burundi, Kenya, Benin, Mali, and Togo, in particular, their efforts in connecting digital tools for investment promotion and facilitation, including non-traditional areas such as pharmaceuticals and Special Economic Zones (SEZs).

The digital tools for business and investment facilitation included in UNCTAD's Digital Government Platform are operational in more than 60 countries, including least developed ones. Looking ahead, UNCTAD will continue to support developing countries and – in collaboration with other international organizations – look for opportunities to maximize the benefits of digital government for the promotion of investment in sustainable and inclusive development.

Objective of the webinar

The objective of the webinar is to bring together different stakeholder to discuss latest trends and developments in regional and global investment policy, as it relates to the African continent.

Target participants:

The webinar will target different stakeholders from Africa, as well as those from outside the continent with an interest in investment flows, sustainable finance trends and investment policy developments in Africa. Target participants include African investment promotion

agencies; financial institutions, international organizations, development partners; academia, civil society, among others.

Modalities

The webinar will be hosted virtually in English via Zoom.

Contact

For more information, please contact:

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