



REGIONAL SEMINAR

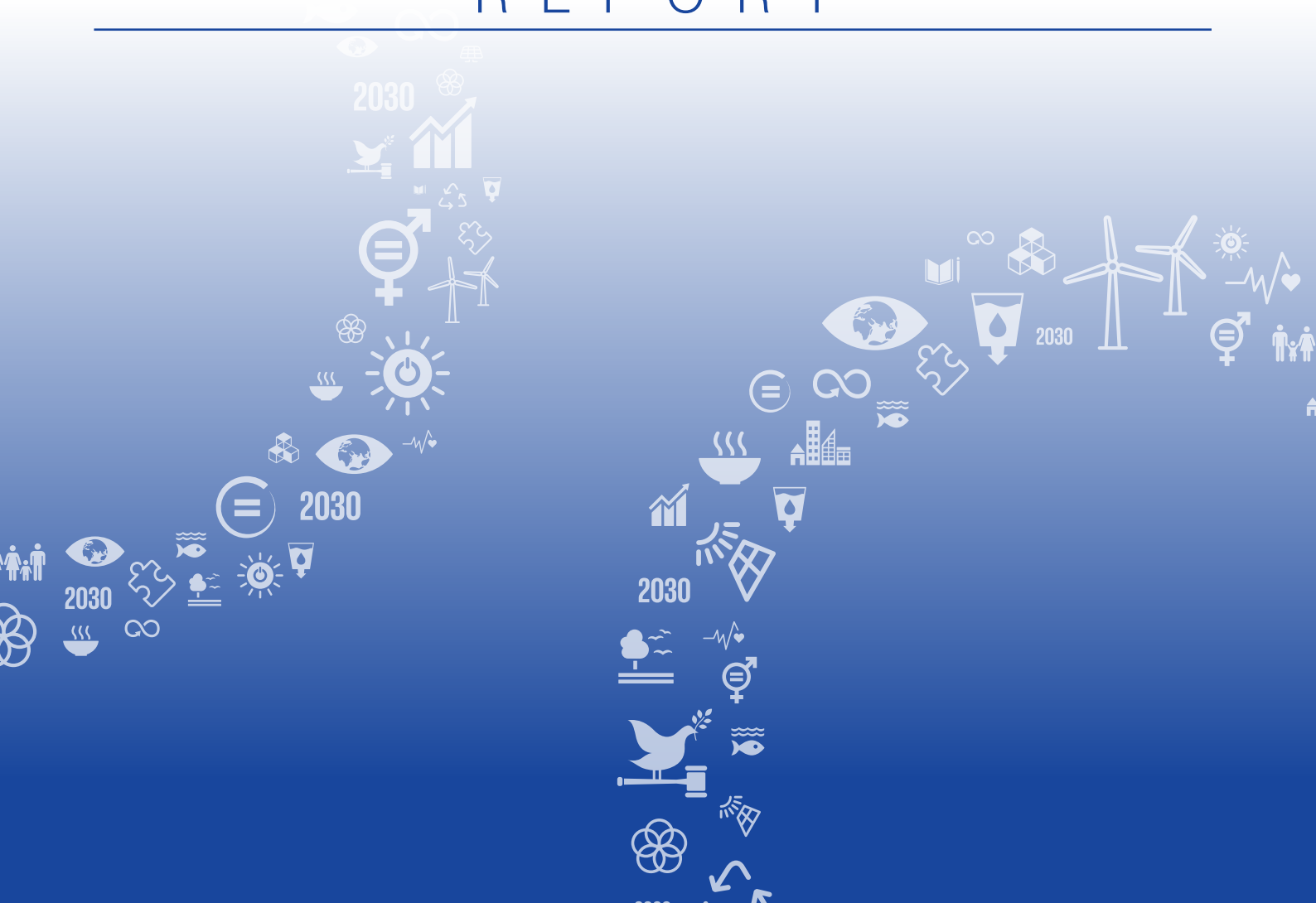
Facilitating Investment in SDG Projects:

Spotlight on the SADC Region

Online, 28 and 29 April 2021



R E P O R T



Moderator

Ms. Fifi Peters
Financial Journalist,
CNBC Africa

Mr. James Zhan
Director, Division on Investment
and Enterprise, UNCTAD

Mr. Ken Poonoosamy
Chief Executive Officer, EDB
Mauritius

Mr. Paul Wessendorp
Chief, Investment Promotion
Section, UNCTAD

Mr. Peter Vardell
CEO, SADC Business Council

Mr. Mário Lironel
Senior Officer, Finance and
Investment, SADC Secretariat

Mr. Moses Ikiara
Director of the Board, COMESA
Regional Investment Agency

Mr. Sokunpanha You
Regional Integration and Trade
Division, United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

Mr. Yunus Hoosen
Head, Invest South Africa,
Department of Trade and
Industry

Mr. Lenny Gabriel
Deputy Chief Executive Officer,
Seychelles Investment Board

**Mr. François van
Schalkwyk**
Executive: Investments & New
Ventures, NIPBD

Mr. Hamed El-Kady
Officer-in-Charge, International
Investment Agreements Section,
UNCTAD

Ms. Karin Lachner
Marketing and Communication
Manager, CINDE

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I. Overview

Over 90 investment promotion officials and representatives of regional and international organizations participated in an interactive online seminar on facilitating investment in Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) projects organized by UNCTAD in partnership with the Mauritius Economic Development Board (EDB). The event was focused on the challenges and opportunities in the SADC region that resulted from the COVID-19 crisis. Special attention was given to the food sector, healthcare, ICT, renewable energy, and the blue economy.

UNCTAD presented the latest foreign direct investment (FDI) trends, including a steep decline in global FDI flows due to the pandemic and the serious impact of the crisis on investment in the SDGs, particularly in developing countries. The Mauritius Economic Development Board noted that the pandemic may cause the first recession in Sub-Saharan Africa in 25 years, but if managed correctly, it may eventually increase the inflow of investment in sectors that focus on ICT and the fight against climate change. The pandemic has also shown the significance of regional cooperation and may kick start reforms of trade and investment agreements within SADC.

IPA presenters highlighted the important role of ICT during the pandemic. Not only did technological access increase people's awareness of the virus and informed them on government measures, it also enabled the continuation of professional activities in times of lockdowns. The pandemic furthermore surfaced vulnerabilities in the digital infrastructure of SADC countries. This may present new investment opportunities, but as the COMESA representative noted, many IPAs in Africa are still digitally challenged and may not have the means to successfully target investors in periods of travel restrictions and lockdowns.

The seminar focused on regional cooperation with presentations by the SADC secretariat, the SADC Business Council, COMESA and UNECA. New investment opportunities resulting from a transformation of the African market due to the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) were discussed as well as a new continental investment protocol. As part of that discussion, UNCTAD organized a session on reforms in international investment agreements and the role of IPAs in this process.

Case studies from Botswana, Namibia, the Seychelles and South Africa focused on investment in healthcare, renewables, ICT, and the blue economy. Some IPAs closely cooperate in attracting investment in these SDG-related sectors like the Seychelles Board of Investment and the Economic Development Board of Mauritius in developing their blue economies. On the second day, CINDE, the IPA from Costa Rica, made a presentation on the mainstreaming of SDGs in investment promotion. This was followed by a special session in which participants were invited to a virtual site visit to Beau Plan Smart City in Mauritius, a development project with investment opportunities in SDG-related projects, notably education and renewable energy.

During the two-day event, participants also had a chance to network and connect thanks to moderated discussions in breakout rooms. The seminar also engaged participants through online polls and Q&A sessions. Overall, the seminar was well received. In the evaluation participants reported that the training was beneficial for their work and that they would be more inclined to seek cooperation within SADC with respect to SDG investment. They also indicated that further support is most needed in the mainstreaming of the SDGs in investment promotion strategies, in the packaging of SDG project proposals, and in building pipelines of SDG related investment projects. (See section III)

II. Programme

DAY ONE

26 November 2021

14:00 – 14:20 **Opening**

- ▶ Mr. James Zhan, Director, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UNCTAD
- ▶ Mr. Ken Poonoosamy, Chief Executive Officer, EDB Mauritius

14:20 – 14:40 **FDI and SDG investment trends in pandemic times**

- ▶ Mr. Paul Wessendorp, Chief, Investment Promotion Section, UNCTAD

14:40 – 15:40 **Panel: Regional cooperation in support of investment in the SDGs**

- ▶ Mr. Peter Varndell, CEO, SADC Business Council
- ▶ Mr. Mário Lironel, Senior Officer, Finance and Investment, SADC Secretariat
- ▶ Mr. Moses Ikiara, Director of the Board, COMESA Regional Investment Agency
- ▶ Mr. Ken Poonoosamy, Chief Executive Officer, EDB Mauritius

Discussant: Mr. Sokunpanha You, Regional Integration and Trade Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

15:40 – 15:50 **Break-video**

15:50 – 16:50 **Facilitation of investment in SDG projects. Presentations by IPAs**

- ▶ **Invest South Africa: Facilitating investment in healthcare**
Mr. Yunus Hoosen, Head, Invest South Africa, Department of Trade and Industry
- ▶ **Seychelles Board of Investment: Investment opportunities in the blue economy**
Mr. Lenny Gabriel, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Seychelles Investment Board
- ▶ **Namibia Investment Promotion Development Board: Investment opportunities in the green economy**
Mr. François van Schalkwyk, Executive: Investments & New Ventures, NIPBD
- ▶ **Botswana Investment and Trade Centre**
Mr. Moshie Ratsebe Director, Finance and Business Services

16:50 – 17:00 **Wrap up for the day and overview of day 2**

- ▶ Ms. Natalia Guerra, Senior Capacity-building Coordinator Investment Promotion Section, UNCTAD

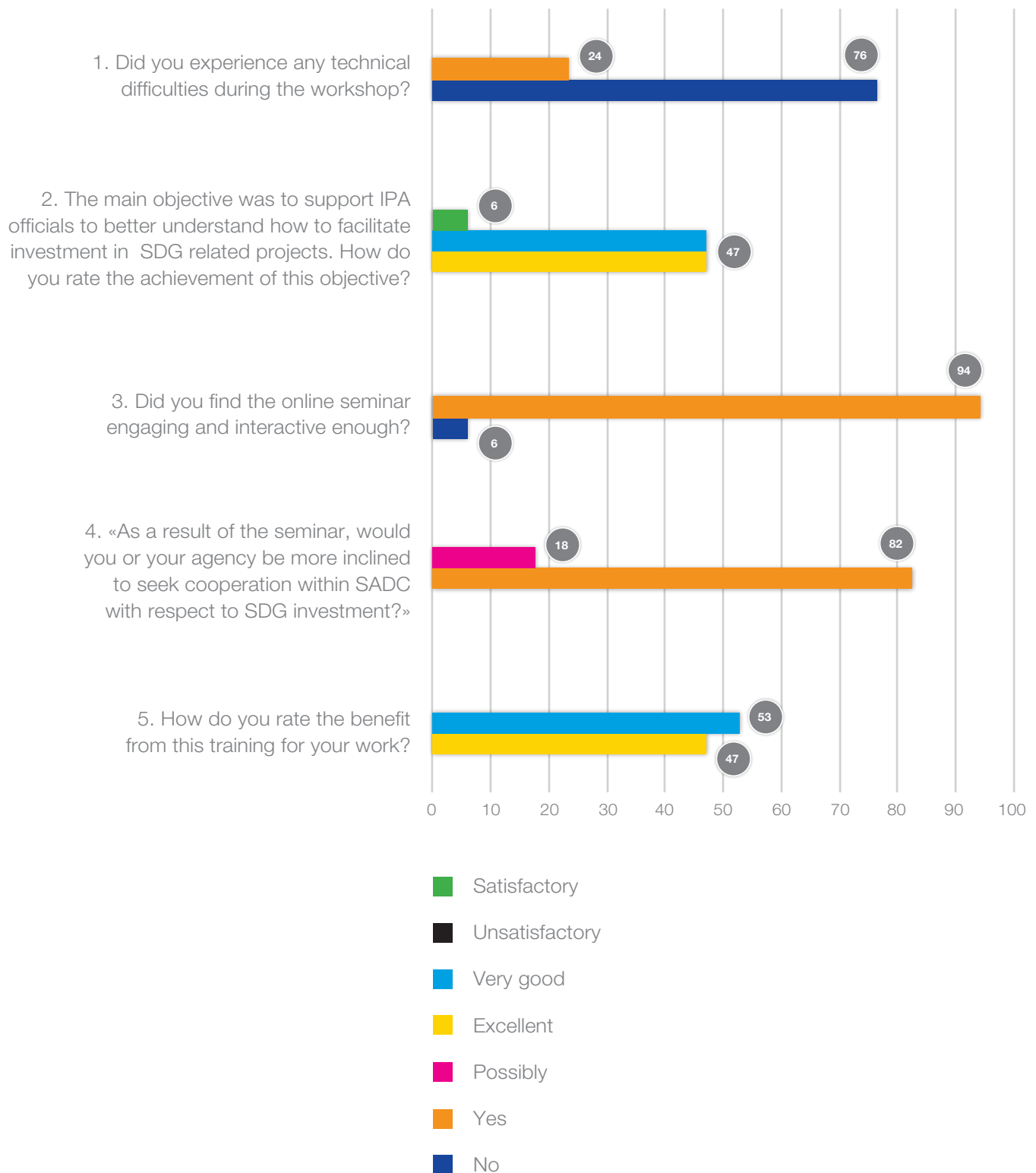
DAY TWO

29 April 2021

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- 14:00 – 14:30 **International investment policies in Africa: towards a new continental investment protocol**
▶ Mr. Hamed El-Kady, Officer-in-Charge, International Investment Agreements Section, UNCTAD
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- 14:30 – 15:00 **Interactive session: What are the policy options for reforming international investment agreements and what is the role of IPAs in this process?**
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- 15:00 – 15:30 **Mainstreaming SDGs in investment promotion: the case of Costa Rica**
▶ Ms. Karin Lachner, Marketing and Communication Manager, CINDE
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- 15:30 – 15:50 **Networking virtual coffee-break: facilitated discussions in small groups on mainstreaming SDGs in investment promotion**
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- 15:50 – 16:00 **Back to plenary for final exchanges and conclusion of the session**
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- 16:00 – 16:20 **Virtual-site visit to Beau Plan Smart City by Mr Nicolas Eynaud, General Manager of Novaterra (organized by EDB Mauritius)**
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- 16:20 – 16:30 **Wrap up, evaluation and closing**
▶ Mr. Paul Wessendorp, Chief, Investment Promotion Section, UNCTAD

III. Evaluation Results

SADC Seminar Evaluation poll results in percentage N 17



When attracting investment in SDG projects, in which areas does your IPA require the most support in? (please select up to three areas) N 17



IV. Participants

Country	Participant	Function	Organization
Angola	Ms. Ana Catumbela Coelho	Departamento de Captação de Investimentos	
Angola	Mr. Tchisseke Maiato	Departamento de Acompanhamento de Projectos e Estudos	
Angola	Ms. Eufrazina Maiato	Departamento de Acompanhamento de Projectos e Estudos	
Angola	Ms. Elvia Domingos	Departamento de Promoção das Exportações	Agência de Investimento Privado e Promoção das Exportações de Angola AIPEX
Angola	Mr. Evando Nascimento	Departamento de Acompanhamento de Projectos e Estudos	
Angola	Mr. Herbert Ferreira	Departamento de Captação de Investimentos	
Botswana	Mr. Boikuto Bagwasi	Manager- Investment Promotion (ICT/BPO, Transport & Logistics)	
Botswana	Mr. Moshie Ratsebe	Director, Finance and Business Services	Botswana Investment and Trade Center
Botswana	Ms. Nomakhosi Mookodi	Manager Finance and Knowledge Intensive Business Services Cluster	
Botswana	Ms. Lisivololona Razanajaholy	Programme Officer Investment	SADC Secretariat
Botswana	Mr. Mario Lironel	Senior Officer, Finance, and Investment	
Comoros	Mr. Mphamed Housseni Madi	Investment Promotion Officer	
Comoros	Ms. Nadjati SIDIKI	Director General	Invest Comoros
Comoros	National Investments Promotion Agency - Comoros	Investment Promotion Officer	

Country	Participant	Function	Organization
Costa Rica	Ms. Adriana Chacon	Senior Researcher	
Costa Rica	Ms. Diana Salazar	Lead, Strategic Alliance	CINDE
Costa Rica	Ms. Karin Lachner	Marketing and Communication Manager	
Democratic Republic of Congo	Mr. Dominic Kahozi	Director of Investment Promotion	ANAPI-DRC
Ethiopia	Mr. Sokunpanha You	Associate Economic Affairs Officer	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
Eswatini	Mr. Banele Jele	Investment Promotion Officer	
Eswatini	Ms. Khanyisile Dlamini	Executive Manager Investment Promotion	Eswatini Investment Promotion Agency
Eswatini	Mr. Sibani Mngomezulu	Chief Executive Officer	
Kenya	Ms. Catherine Gachenge	Investment Promotion Officer	Invest Kenya
Kenya	Mr. Moses Ikiara	Director of the Board	COMESA Regional Investment Promotion Agency
Madagascar	Mr. Andry Tiana Ravalomanda	Director General	Economic Development Board Madagascar
Malawi	Ms. Leah Thom	Investment Promotion Officer	Malawi Investment and Trade Center
Malawi	Mr. Makwemba Malonje	Finance Director	
Mauritius	Mr. Kevin Obeegadoo	Managing Director - I.M.S. (Inv. & Mgt. Services)	
Mauritius	Mr. Teeromalay Ramasawmy	Investment Promotion Officer	
Mauritius	Ms. Bhavna Gunnoo	Investment Promotion Officer	
Mauritius	Mr. Driishty Ramdenee	Investment Promotion Officer	
Mauritius	Mr. Faraz Rojid	Head of Department Financial Services	Economic Development Board of Mauritius
Mauritius	Ms. Haliima Soreefan	Investment Promotion Officer	
Mauritius	Mr. Johan Thirapathi Appadu	Investment Promotion Officer	
Mauritius	Mr. Ken Poonoosamy	Chief Economic Officer	
Mauritius	Mr. Matthieu Quevauvilliers	Investment Promotion Officer	
Mauritius	Ms. Monisha Pyndiah	Investment Promotion Officer	

Country	Participant	Function	Organization	
Mauritius	Ms. Nirmla Jeetah	Investment Promotion Officer		
Mauritius	Mr. Rachna Ramkhalawon	Investment Promotion Officer		
Mauritius	Mr. Sachin Mohabeer	Investment Promotion Officer	Economic Development Board of Mauritius	
Mauritius	Ms. Sonalisingh Ramsokhok	Investment Promotion Officer		
Mauritius	Ms. Vicky Prayag	Investment Promotion Officer		
Mauritius	Mr. Vipashna Betchoo	Investment Promotion Officer		
Mauritius	Mr. Nicolas Eynaud	General Manager		Novoterra
Mozambique	Ms. Carmen Ezequiel	Investment Promotion Officer	APIEX Mozambique	
Mozambique	Mr. Emilio Almoco	Investment Promotion Officer		
Namibia	Mr. François van Schalkwyk	Executive: Investments & New Ventures	NIPDB	
Namibia	Ms. Jessica Hauuanga	Investment Promotion Officer		
Namibia	Ms. Nangula Nelulu Uaandja	Chief Executive Officer		
Seychelles	Ms. Mawess Gabriel	Investment Promotion Officer	Seychelles Investment Development Board	
Seychelles	Ms. Beverly Quilindo	Investment Promotion Officer		
Seychelles	Mr. Lenny Gabriel	Deputy Chief Executive Officer		
South Africa	Mr. Peter Varndell	Chief Executive Officer	SADC Business Council	
South Africa	Mr. Tulo Makwati	Programme Coordinator		
South Africa	Mr. Brian Soldaat	Investment Promotion Officer		
South Africa	Mr. Charles Manuel	Investment Promotion Officer		
South Africa	Ms. Pumla Jali	Investment Promotion Officer		
South Africa	Ms. Rashmee Ragaven	Investment Promotion Officer		Invest South Africa
South Africa	Mr. Recado Andrews	Investment Promotion Officer		
South Africa	Mr. Sadick Jaffer	Investment Promotion Officer		
South Africa	Mr. Yunus Hoosen	Head		
South Africa	Mr. Sibusiso Makhathini	Investment Promotion Officer	Durban Investment	
South Africa	Ms. Fifi Peters	Journalist	Independent/CNBC Anchor	

Country	Participant	Function	Organization
Zambia	Ms. Esther Sijumbila	Investment Promotion Officer	
Zambia	Mr. Abiton Lubingu	Investment Promotion Officer	
Zambia	Mr. Banji Mayiya	Investment Promotion Officer	Zambia Development Agency
Zambia	Ms. Roselyn Chanda	Investment Promotion Officer	
Zambia	Mr. Samson Lovemore Simwanda	Ag. Head Investment Promotion	
Zimbabwe	Ms. Meluleki Sibanda	Investment Promotion Officer	
Zimbabwe	Mr. Babylon Mukunga	Executive Assistant to the CEO	
Zimbabwe	Ms. Bethani Marwa	Investment Promotion Officer	
Zimbabwe	Ms. Conney Thodhlana	Investment Promotion Officer	
Zimbabwe	Ms. Felisters Chukandiwa	Investment Promotion Officer	
Zimbabwe	Ms. Getrude Nyamushamba	Investment Promotion Officer	
Zimbabwe	Ms. Loreen Mutepfa	Investment Promotion Officer	Zimbabwe Investment Development Agency
Zimbabwe	Ms. Mellody Mhurai Mafukidze	Investment Promotion Officer	
Zimbabwe	Mr. Moriseni Mutema	Investment Promotion Officer	
Zimbabwe	Mr. Roadmaster Mugabe	Investment Promotion Officer	
Zimbabwe	Ms. Silibaziso Chizwina Chizwina	Investment Promotion Officer	
Zimbabwe	Mr. Tafadzwa mushope	Investment Promotion Officer	
Zimbabwe	Ms. Tesa Chikaponya	Investment Promotion Officer	

UNCTAD team

Mr. James Zhan	Director, Division on Investment and Enterprise (DIAE)
Mr. Paul Wessendorp	Chief, Investment Promotion Section (IPS), DIAE
Ms. Natalia Guerra	Economic Affairs Officer, IPS, DIAE
Mr. Hamed El-Kady	Officer in Charge, International Investment Agreements, DIAE
Ms. Stephania Bonilla	Economic Affairs Officer, IPS, DIAE
Ms. Sandrine Dodard	Team Assistant, IPS, DIAE
Mr. Jean-Philippe Escard	IT Support
Ms. Anna Jaworska	Intern, IPS, DIAE

V. Photos

Social Media





For the latest investment trends and policy developments, please visit the websites of the UNCTAD Investment and Enterprise Division.

Web sites:

unctad.org/diae
investmentpolicyhub.unctad.org
sustainableFDI.org

Twitter

[@unctadwif](https://twitter.com/unctadwif)
[@unctadIP4sdgs](https://twitter.com/unctadIP4sdgs)

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ips@unctad.org

