

**Title of session:** An enabling environment for the implementation of Agenda 2030 in Africa.

**Objective:** Understand what aspects of an enabling environment are needed for the successful implementation of the Agenda 2030 in Africa, particularly how to increase the full participation of all actors as equal partners in the implementation of the SDGs.

**Background:**

Agenda 2030 is, overall, a shared vision, supported by a largely discussed and finally agreed narrative about how we would like the world to look like by the end of 2030. It is truly a game changer in regards to how we perceive development; from a rich-poor long established relationship to a commitment towards globally defined and equally shared responsibilities.

CSOs and LAs have a key role to play in the implementation of Agenda 2030 as they possess the experience to actively contribute to the goals and targets of the new development agenda. They promote greater social inclusion by providing the know-how to deliver social services to the most marginalized sections of society. In addition, they also play a crucial role in shaping and implementing development policies. In that regard, high-level forums on aid and development effectiveness such as in Accra and Busan have broadly recognized that civil society and local authorities are important agents of development, in their own right. However, these actors can fulfill their added value only if an enabling environment that includes legal, regulatory and policy frameworks, and political, socio-cultural and economic elements, is in place.

The PFD regularly discusses the progress of all actors in enhancing an enabling environment. That is even more relevant now, in the context of the implementation of Agenda 2030, which reaches out to all development actors and must be based on the principles of shared responsibilities, mutual accountability and respective capacity. The PFD is very active in the study of how Agenda 2030 is being implemented at national level, what are the main country priorities, which initiatives (institutional structures, strategy, steps) to address the SDGs at country level are already in place, and the existence of multi-stakeholder coalitions active to advocate for the implementation of the SDGs.

**Methodology:** 4-hour session with one panel and working groups (including 30 minute break and 45 minute plenary)

**I. Panel** (1 hr. 30 min)

| Moderator and panellists (see agenda)

**Coffee break**

**II. Working Groups:** What are the challenges for the implementation of Agenda 2030 in Africa? (1 hour 15 min)

The working groups will be divided geographically and they must respond the following two questions (methodologies will be provided to both the facilitator and the rapporteur)

- Which are the key factors that encourage (positive) or prevent (negative) the implementation of Agenda 2030 at country level.
- Are there common trends at regional level?

**III. Feedback and Plenary Discussion** (45 min)

One participant/chair from each working group returns to form the final plenary panel, reporting on key points raised (five minutes each group; template will be provided to structure presentations) and opening for plenary discussion.