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A technical paper authored for the UN Division for Sustainable Development (DSD) discusses ways for civil society stakeholders to report their contributions to SDG implementation. The paper reviews the content, guiding principles and process for civil society reporting, and options for incentivizing participation.

UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed and others have called for a “whole-of-society approach” as the norm for implementing the SDGs. In response to paragraph 89 of the 2030 Agenda, which calls on the major groups and other stakeholders (MGoS) to report their contributions, the DSD paper looks at the means by which civil society organizations (CSOs) can do so.

The paper titled, ‘How should civil society stakeholders report their contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?,’ is authored by Graham Long, Newcastle University, UK, for the UN Department of Economic and Social Development’s (DESA) DSD. It identifies multiple roles for CSOs in implementing the SDGs, including: on regulation, as watchdog entities; on representation, to give voice to those at risk of being “left behind;” and on service delivery. The author posits that civil society should not be considered “an untapped resource” for SDG implementation, as many already work on topics that can be expressed in terms of the Goals, targets or design principles.

Long suggests that CSO reporting on their own work is less straightforward than it is for Member States, arguing that the “accountability demand” is lower for CSOs than for countries. On the other hand, he observes that there are limits to some CSOs’ independence, as they operate in spaces that are largely constrained or enabled by state actors, and public funding sources often finance a significant portion of their budgets, especially for larger, development-oriented CSOs. Therefore, there may be increasing pressures to report on activities and outcomes in a manner that aligns with state objectives. A positive aspect of this pressure, Long notes, is that this may lead to increasing reporting along the SDGs, as funders rely on recipient NGOs for information about SDG-relevant activities.

Many CSOs already report, be it to a tax authority, their donors, themselves internally, those seen as beneficiaries of their work, or the broader public. Some of these types of reports can be utilized in the SDG context. Long identifies eight uses for CSO reporting: coordination in the global partnership; mutual accountability; mutual solidarity and trust; data provision;
regional, national and local cooperation and coordination; awareness and profile raising for the SDGs; peer learning; and internal learning and organizational change.

The author suggests that any mechanism that facilitates SDG reporting by CSOs must account for their diversity of size, capacity, focus and level of engagement with the 2030 Agenda. On guiding principles that should underpin CSO reporting systems, the paper identifies four elements that should be respected: the distinctive nature of the 2030 Agenda; the diversity of civil society and existing reporting commitments; the many ways in which CSOs can contribute to the SDGs; and the multiple purposes of, or uses for, CSO reporting. To maximize CSO reporting, the paper recommends focusing on the multiple existing levels of SDG review, rather than aiming to create a new global-level process. Long cautions against offering incentives to increase or enhance CSO reporting, as doing so can reinforce or exacerbate current gaps and inequalities. Instead, there is a need to communicate the benefits associated with SDG reporting, which is voluntary and, when dealing with civil society, fully independent and citizen-driven.

Long highlights current examples of CSO contributions to the SDGs. At national level in Kenya, a civil society coalition published a voluntary review report that was both integrated into the country’s Voluntary National Review (VNR) for the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). In Finland, an online portal allows CSOs to register commitments and contributions to “the Finland we want by 2050.”

However, Long writes that there does not appear to be any large grassroots movements mobilized around the SDGs. Further, many CSOs that directly contribute to the SDGs (i.e. service delivery) do not map their outcomes to the Goals or targets. For example, Oxfam has helped two million people access clean water and sanitation facilities last year (SDG targets 6.1 and 6.2), but does not publicly link their work to the SDGs.

The paper recommends that CSOs consider harmonizing their current reporting to the SDGs, including through mapping alignment with Goals and targets, utilizing common measurement systems, identifying those “left behind” and including them, and seeking to better understand or audit policy coherence and the impacts of their work. Pursuant to this, the paper calls on DESA to consider how it can support such harmonization, whether through tool kits and guidance, highlighting best practices, or encouraging funders to align their goals and expectations with the SDGs.

DESA also has a role in establishing or strengthening existing channels through which CSOs can report, whether through thematic reviews, VNRs, and at the national, regional and global level. DESA also has a role to play in ensuring inclusion and equity in reviews and reporting, in partnership with stakeholder coordination mechanisms.
Two months after over 40 nations signed a framework agreement for an African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), signatories are now beginning the ratification process, while also looking at the technical work needed to make the area a reality. However, analysts note that many steps remain before the deal can be fully ratified and implemented.

Before the agreement can take effect, negotiators need to prepare a list of product-specific rules of origin, determine how several aspects of modalities regarding both goods and services will be applied in practice, and develop and agree on their respective schedules of commitments. (See Bridges Weekly, 22 March 2018)

The AfCFTA was launched on 21 March during an extraordinary summit of the African Union (AU) in Kigali, Rwanda, with the signing of the AfCFTA by African leaders from 44 countries. The version endorsed in March included a framework agreement as well as protocols on trade in goods, trade in services, and dispute settlement, along with various annexes and other legal texts.

At the time, officials said that a second phase of negotiations that would tackle other outstanding issues, such as investment and intellectual property rights, would begin within a few months.

If successfully implemented, analysts say that the agreement could increase economic diversification and intracontinental trade significantly. A widely cited UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) study from 2012 showed that the AfCFTA could lead to a 52 percent increase above the baseline in intra-African trade flows by 2022.

Although only currently signed by 44 countries, the agreement is open for signature by all 54 African nations, which would make the bloc the largest in the world in terms of country participation outside of the World Trade Organization. Together, these countries have a population of more than one billion people and a gross domestic product of US$3.4 trillion, according to the African Union.

**Ratification begins**

Since its signing in March, the agreement and its associated protocols and annexes have been open for country-level ratification. In order for the treaty to enter into force, a minimum of 22 countries must ratify it. Ratification processes vary by country, but generally include approval by the legislative body and consent by the executive branch of the country. Once ratified domestically, country officials will need to provide the instruments of ratification to the African Union Commission Chairperson, who serves as the depository for the agreement.

Rwanda became the first country to complete the internal ratification process, with their Lower House voting in favour of ratifying the AfCFTA on 24 April, but it has yet to deposit the instrument. Kenya and Ghana became the first countries to deposit the instrument, doing so
in a ceremony on 10 May in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Abiy Ahmed, indicated his country’s intention to ratify the deal promptly.

“We congratulate the governments and people of both countries and we appreciate your commitment to the landmark achievement of the legal foundation of the African integration agenda. We expect to receive more instruments of ratification anytime from now,” Chairperson of the African Union Commission Moussa Faki Mahamat said at the ratification event.

Nigeria, which initially supported the AfCFTA negotiations before deciding to hold off on signing the agreement, citing the need to re-evaluate the deal’s impacts, is continuing to consult with relevant stakeholders on the effects of the agreement. Experts familiar with the situation say that Nigeria will likely join the area once national stakeholder buy-in improves.

The president of the Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (NACCIMA) Iyalode Alaba Lawason spoke out on the issue in an interview with the “Leadership” newspaper in Nigeria on 21 May, asserting the importance of Nigeria’s participation in the AfCFTA.

“The world has become a global village and countries who do not partake in the transformations, integrations and trade facilitation happening across the continent and other parts of the world will soon be left behind,” Lawson said. “The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement offers a lot of opportunities to Nigeria so it is important that we intensely consider the benefits accruable to Nigerian businesses.”

South Africa, another regional economic powerhouse, did not sign the AfCFTA, citing the need to complete domestic legal processes for acceding to international agreements. The government has yet to release a timeline for its national procedure.

**Officials work on agreement details**

From 30 April to 12 May, the Dedicated Session of the African Continental Free Trade Area Negotiating Forum and Legal Experts met to undertake the “legal scrubbing” of some of the AfCFTA documents, including those annexes and/or protocols involving goods trade and dispute settlement.

The African Union also directed negotiators to consider a list of “priority sectors” in trade in services and create “criteria for designating sensitive products and exclusion lists.” Members of the AfCFTA negotiating forum, legal experts from member states, and external experts attended the meeting.

Countries agreed in June 2017 to liberalise 90 percent of goods tariff lines, with the possibility of allowing for longer liberalisation periods or complete exclusion from liberalisation on 10 percent for specific products. Experts have noted that the effectiveness of the agreement will depend on which tariffs lines are covered within the 90 percent, as intra-African trade is currently relatively limited to certain products whose exclusion could weaken the agreement. (See Bridges Africa, 24 August 2017)
Outcomes from the Dedicated Session were not publicly available at press time. Sources close to the meetings said that the review of the annex documents has been extended, and is expected to be completed by early June during a meeting of trade ministers.

During the 51st session of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development hosted by UNECA in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, earlier this month, the ratification and implementation of the AfCFTA was a hot-button topic. Ministers and experts discussed remaining concerns, including limited citizen engagement on the AfCFTA, and the need for stronger implementation mechanisms.

While highlighting the benefits of the agreement, former African Development Bank President Donald Kaberuka called on African nations to do more to generate public support for the deal. He noted that the agreement’s success depends on demonstrating that the deal goes beyond eliminating tariffs, and also has the potential to support countries’ efforts to diversify their economies and support people working in all sectors.

“For the AfCFTA we need to get it out of the high level conference halls to the people at all levels. This is critical to the success of this historic enterprise,” Kaberuka said at the time.

Participants in a related roundtable also examined the need to address capacity constraints that could affect the accord’s implementation. Trade treaty implementation in general on the continent has hit hurdles in the past due to capacity issues, according to the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF).

“We must focus like a laser on human capacity development. Let us make deliberate efforts to educate and develop the skills and talents of our youth and children. Without a numerate and literate youth, we shall continue to bear the brunt of our demographic vulnerabilities. With education and training, our youth will develop human capital, that is, value which creates more value,” African Union Commission Deputy Chairperson Ambassador Kwesi Quartey said at the time.

**Next steps**

Working groups will continue to meet to negotiate outstanding issues. The Senior Trade Officials and African Union Ministers of Trade meetings are planned for 25 May to 2 June in Dakar, Senegal. Sources close to the negotiations expect to have more clarity on next steps at that stage.

Following these meetings, members will have approximately one month to undertake national consultations and prepare schedules for their commitments and concessions.

Ministers have been directed to finish the process of reviewing the annexes before the African Union Summit meeting from 1-2 July in Nouakchott, Mauritania. In August, a second round of negotiations will continue with a focus on competition, investment, and intellectual property rights. Officials and experts say that they hope that the agreement can enter into force 9-12 months from its signing date in March, with relevant committees being established in January 2019.
“Ratification of CFTA is only the beginning. To make sure countries benefit from the maximum outcomes, it means that implementation will have to be accelerated through a strong strategy,” said Emmanuel Nnadozie, Executive Secretary of the African Capacity Building Foundation.

Opinion

Scidev.net, “Lack of governance impeding SDGs realisation in Africa”, 21 mai 2018

The absence of a clear governance system is impeding the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa, a meeting has heard.

According to the UN SDGs report published last year, the progress being made is uneven and too slow to achieve the targets universally by 2030.

Belay Begashaw, director-general of the SDG Center for Africa based in Rwanda, told a conference this month (9-11 May) in South Africa that countries currently share favourable SDG progress reviews while excluding badly performing or complex areas.

The conference organised by Future Earth, South Africa’s Department of Science and Technology, the National Research Foundation (NRF) of South Africa and START, an international climate change think tank, assembled about 300 researchers, scientists, practitioners and policymakers to explore how to address key tensions and opportunities arising from implementing the UN SDGs.

The experts observed that science innovation could help in implementing the SDGs in Africa but it is important to identify what is missing from the goals. They said the 17 goals and too many targets need critical examination to see where progress is being made, particularly for low- and middle-income countries.

Begashaw said that the SDG Center Africa will release Africa-specific SDGs index that will provide comparable progress across the continent on 5 July.

Heila Lotz-Sisitka, keynote speaker and a holder of research chair in Transformative Social Learning and Green Skills Learning Pathways, Rhodes University, South Africa, said that given
the general failure of the Millennium Development Goals, it is important the SGDs are translated locally into what they mean such as how they affect poverty.

“One way to approach the SDGs is to examine what is absent,” Lotz-Sisitka said. “One to three per cent of the world’s population owns half of the world’s wealth. We should have a goal on wealth [creation] otherwise we will never have the balance we need for sharing the earth’s resources more equitably.”

Michael Nxumalo, director of Africa cooperation, the NRF, told SciDev.Net, “If you look at the SDGs, they address issues [such as] on how to respond to extreme weather. Africa will be affected more by these issues ... but the reality is that most of us are not ready to implement most of the SDGs.”

Science is critical to implementing SDGs because it is about designing solutions. Sadly, African governments commit less funding and we continue to lag in finding solutions, Nxumalo said.

Cheikh Mbow, executive director of International START secretariat in the United States, added, “60 per cent of the data or information that is needed for reporting SDGs does not exist.”

He said that only a few African countries including South Africa have the needed information on the SDGs to report to United Nations.

Daily Maverick, “Ramaphosa positive about the progress the African continent is making”, 28 mai 2018

Ramaphosa positive about the progress the African continent is making.
It’s expected that by the end of 2018, 20 countries in Africa will have held presidential elections, and this, according to South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, is a sign of progress.

“Choosing the ballot rather than the bullet is a clear indication of progress,” said Ramaphosa on Friday at the Africa Day celebration that was hosted at Sefako Makgatho, the presidential guest house in Pretoria.

Ramaphosa wished all the countries that will be having presidential polls peaceful and fair elections.

Ramaphosa was happy about the progress that Africa is making, with conflict declining dramatically, making more African countries secure.

According to the president, a peace dividend which has been experienced by a number of countries previously stricken by conflict such as Côte d’Ivoire and Rwanda has translated into unprecedented opportunities and growth for these countries.

Even though conflict levels have declined in some countries in Africa, Ramaphosa said the “insecurities” that the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo, in the Sahel region, including in Libya, Somalia and the ongoing conflict in South Sudan were still a concern.

“We are hopeful that the efforts by the AU and its subsidiary organisations’ co-operation with the United Nations will lead to peaceful and durable solutions in these countries,” said Ramaphosa.

Touching on the scourge of corruption, the president made delegates that he was hosting aware that the AU’s theme for 2018 is winning the fight against corruption in the efforts to build a sustainable path towards the transformation of Africa.

“Corruption undermines the very fibre of the Africa we want, as envisaged in the AU’s agenda 2063,” said Ramaphosa.

According to Ramaphosa, countries that are taking a stand against this growing phenomenon are an inspiration, and those countries which have not taken a stand yet should consider joining the anti-corruption fight.

Ramaphosa is also determined to redouble South Africa’s efforts in the contribution of peace and security, development and prosperity of the continent. South Africa owed people on the continent gratitude for their unwavering solidarity and hospitality, which made it possible for South Africa to conquer colonialism and apartheid.

Ramaphosa said the adoption of the African Continental Free Trade Area is an iconic milestone along Africa’s journey towards an eventual African common market.

The African Continental Free Trade Area was adopted in March 2018.

“This Continental Free Trade Area is a critical response to Africa’s developmental challenges,” said Ramaphosa.

Ramaphosa said the Continental Free Trade Area will enable Africa to significantly boost intra-Africa trade, improve economies and established an integrated market.
The Free Trade deal will also act as a catalyst for industrial development, placing Africa on a path to the exportation of value-added products. This would serve as a way of proving Africa’s competitiveness in its markets and globally.

The African Continental Free Trade Area is expected to create a market of about $2.6-trillion, thereby addressing Africa’s key development challenges of unemployment and poverty.

ODD 2

FAO, « Faire que l’agriculture travaille pour, et non contre, la biodiversité », 29 mai 2018

M. José Graziano da Silva, le Directeur général de la FAO a appelé à des changements transformateurs de la manière dont nous produisons notre alimentation, en se basant sur des systèmes agricoles durables capables de produire une alimentation saine et nutritive tout en protégeant la biodiversité de la planète.

« La biodiversité est essentielle afin de protéger la sécurité alimentaire mondiale et la nutrition, d'améliorer les moyens d'existence ruraux et de renforcer la résilience des populations et des communautés, » a-t-il déclaré lors de son discours prononcé à l'ouverture d'un dialogue international sur l'intégration de la biodiversité au sein des pratiques et politiques agricoles, qui devrait durer trois jours.

Des écosystèmes sains peuvent fournir un grand nombre de services essentiels sur lesquels repose l'espèce humaine, tels que l'entretien de la qualité de l'eau, le cycle nutritif, la formation du sol, le contrôle de son érosion et la séquestration du carbone. Des écosystèmes agricoles sains fournissent les bases écologiques nécessaires à la production alimentaire tandis que la biodiversité des cultures et du bétail jouent un rôle essentiel pour l'espèce humaine.

Selon le Directeur-général de la FAO, aujourd'hui, la biodiversité planétaire - la diversité génétique au niveau des organismes, la diversité au niveau des espèces et au niveau des écosystèmes - fait néanmoins face à de nombreuses menaces.

« Une grande part du problème réside dans la manière dont nous produisons notre alimentation. Aujourd'hui, le monde produit encore de la nourriture en se basant sur les principes de la Révolution verte qui a commencé il y a plus de 50 ans et implique l'utilisation d'intrants très chimiques qui font payer un lourd tribut à l'environnement » a indiqué M. Graziano da Silva.

Il a également noté que de vastes pans de la surface terrestre sont utilisés afin de cultiver de la nourriture, d'élever des animaux, de capturer des poissons ou de s'adonner à des activités de pisciculture ou encore de produire des produits forestiers. Cela signifie que si géré
durablement - en faisant de la biodiversité une priorité - le secteur agricole peut contribuer de manière importante à la protection de la biodiversité.

« Pour toutes ces raisons, promouvoir et faciliter l'intégration de la biodiversité dans tous les secteurs agricoles est fondamental, » a avancé le Directeur général de la FAO.

**Une boîte à outils pour nourrir un monde plus chaud et plus peuplé**

La diversité génétique des plantes peut servir à développer des souches capables de tolérer des conditions climatiques plus chaudes et plus sèches et de réussir à fleurir. De la même façon, la diversité génétique des animaux fournit une matière première aux agriculteurs et aux éleveurs afin d'améliorer leurs espèces et d'adapter le bétail à un environnement en constante mutation et faisant face à des exigences évolutives.

« Cela est particulièrement important de nos jours face aux défis émergents que sont les impacts du changement climatique, la rapidité de l'urbanisation et une population croissante caractérisée par des régimes alimentaires qui changent, » a précisé le Directeur-général de la FAO.

L'envers de la médaille est que la perte de la biodiversité agricole pose un risque direct pour la sécurité alimentaire.

« Seuls trois cultures de base - le riz, le maïs et le blé - et trois espèces animales- le bœuf, le porc et le poulet- fournissent la majorité de l'apport énergétique alimentaire au monde » a souligné M. Graziano da Silva.

**Rendre l'agriculture écologique**

Selon la FAO, les politiques gouvernant les secteurs agricoles, l'utilisation des ressources naturelles, la protection et la conservation des espèces menacées et les habitats et la biodiversité doivent être homogénéisées afin de mieux protéger l'environnement et de réduire l'empreinte écologique de l'agriculture, de la forsterie et des pêches.

Au niveau de la ferme, des pratiques de production peuvent être mises en œuvre afin de non seulement protéger la biodiversité mais aussi de s'assurer que les producteurs alimentaires seront en mesure d'en faire un usage durable.

Par conséquent, l'événement qui se tient cette semaine à la FAO se penchera sur les exemples issus du monde réel qui mettent en lumière la manière dont l'agriculture, la forsterie et les pêches ont pu être gérées durablement pour pouvoir protéger la biodiversité.

Plusieurs groupes de travail impliquant différents types d'intervenants réfléchiront aux différents moyens d'intégrer la biodiversité dans l'agriculture, et notamment au niveau de la gouvernance mondiale, des politiques et des législations nationales, des incitations financières et des investissements ainsi que des mesures prises au niveau de la chaîne logistique.

**La biodiversité et l'agriculture : chiffres marquants**
En 2014, seuls 200 plantes étaient cultivées avec neuf d'entre elles (la canne à sucre, le maïs, le riz, le blé, les pommes de terre, la graine de soja, les fruits de palmier, la betterave sucrière et le manioc) représentant plus de 66 pour cent de l'ensemble de la production agricole (Brochure sur le Dialogue, page 6, section "Crops")

8 espèces de cultures (l'orge, le haricot, l'arachide, le maïs, les pommes de terre, le riz, le sorgho et le blé) fournissent 53 pour cent de la ration calorique moyenne journalière.

3 espèces de cultures (le blé, le riz et le maïs) représentent 48 pour cent de la ration calorique moyenne journalière.

 Parmi les 8800 espèces connues de bétail, 7 pour cent d'entre elles ont disparu, 24 pour cent sont menacées d'extinction et 59 pour cent sont classifiées comme étant à risque en raison du manque de données sur elles.

5 espèces d'animaux (bovins, moutons, chèvres, porcs et poulets) fournissent 31 pour cent de la consommation quotidienne moyenne de protéines.

Près de 3,6 millions d'adhésions aux cultures (collection de matériel végétal issue d'un lieu particulier) sont conservées dans des banques de gènes à travers 71 pays et 12 centres internationaux avec près de la moitié du total de ces cultures directement liées aux neuf plus importantes cultures alimentaires.

Bien que les plantes sauvages apparentées ne représentent que près de 13 pour cent des avoirs mondiaux des banques de gènes, il manque encore près de 70 pour cent de ces espèces.

Les zones protégées et les jardins botaniques ont augmenté de 30 pour cent et ont contribué à la conservation des plantes sauvages apparentées

Seuls dix espèces fournissent près de 30 pour cent des pêches de capture marine (Brochure)

A l'échelle mondiale, 524 millions des hectares de forêts ont été d'abord conçus pour protéger la biodiversité.

Les zones montagneuses abritent 25 pour cent de la biodiversité terrestre dont le patrimoine génétique de cultures importantes au niveau mondial telles que le maïs, les pommes de terre, l'orge, le sorgho, les tomates et les pommes.

Les prairies accueillent 11 pour cent des zones pour les oiseaux endémiques ainsi que près de 750 genres et 12 000 espèces d'herbes et contribuent à l'entretien des pollinisateurs et d'autres insectes qui ont des fonctions régulatrices importantes.

1074, ou 12 pour cent, des espèces de bétail connus à travers le monde, sont considérées comme étant adaptées aux régions arides.

Les pollinisateurs sont responsables de 35 pour cent de la production agricole mondiale et jouent un rôle fondamental dans la production alimentaire.
L’Afrique dépense plus de 6 milliards d’euros par an pour ses importations de riz, indispensables pour sa sécurité alimentaire, alors que le continent est doté d’un grand potentiel de production, ont déploré mercredi 30 mai des experts à Abidjan. « Malgré une hausse de la production rizicole, l’Afrique importe chaque année près de 24 millions de tonnes (...) d’un coût de 7 milliards de dollars » (6 milliards d’euros), a annoncé le Sierra-Léonais Harold Roy-Macauley, directeur général d’Africa-Rice, une organisation intergouvernementale regroupant 26 pays d’Afrique de l’Ouest, du centre et de l’Est.

« L’Egypte est le seul pays d’Afrique qui est autosuffisant. La Côte d’Ivoire l’est à 50 %, Madagascar entre 70 et 75 % », a poursuivi M. Roy-Macauley, soulignant que l’Afrique est « dotée d’un grand potentiel de production ». Pour combler le déficit de cette céréale, aliment de base dans de nombreux pays africains, Africa-Rice veut faciliter l’accès au marché et aux crédits bancaires pour les petits exploitants.

« Rendre les paysans hommes d’affaires »

« Il faut rendre les paysans rentables. Ici, les paysans n’ont pas accès aux financements, or il faut que les gens soient indépendants pour travailler avec le secteur privé. Il faut rendre les paysans hommes d’affaires et les rendre crédibles auprès des banques », a plaidé M. Roy-Macauley.

« 70 % des pauvres vivent en zone rurale. Et vu les croissances démographiques attendues d’ici à 2030, la productivité agricole devra doubler. Et elle devra encore doubler entre 2030 et 2050 », a affirmé de son côté Patrick Houben, responsable développement rural et ressources naturelles au sein de la délégation de l’Union européenne (UE) en Côte d’Ivoire, qui soutient financièrement Africa-Rice depuis des années.
« L’agriculture en Afrique subsaharienne demeure un moteur de croissance économique des plus importants, et les objectifs de développement durable concernant la pauvreté et la faim passeront par l’augmentation de la productivité de travail des petits exploitants agricoles », a affirmé M. Houben. Selon lui, « 230 millions d’euros ont été engagés depuis 2017 par l’UE dans des programmes de recherches agricoles dont fait partie Africa-Rice ».

Créé en 1971, Africa-Rice vise à stimuler la filière riz à travers la recherche et la création de nouvelles variétés. Plus de 200 variétés de riz améliorées ont été homologuées ces vingt-cinq dernières années dont la plus connue est le Nerica (le nouveau riz pour l’Afrique). Ce dernier, qui couvre 1,7 million d’hectares, a permis de sortir 8 millions de personnes de la pauvreté dans 16 pays africains, selon Africa-Rice.

**ODD 3**

ONU Info, « Couverture sanitaire universelle : l’OMS va tenter d’atteindre un milliard de personnes entre 2019 et 2023 », 23 mai 2018


Les États membres de l’Organisation mondiale de la santé (OMS) ont adopté mercredi à Genève un nouveau « plan stratégique ambitieux » pour les cinq prochaines années.

Le but affiché après l’adoption de ce treizième programme de travail général conçu pour aider le monde à atteindre les objectifs de développement durable (ODD) est de tenter d’atteindre l’objectif d’une couverture sanitaire universelle d’un milliard de personnes supplémentaires de 2019 à 2023.

Cette politique proposée par le Directeur général de l’OMS, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, a été approuvée mercredi à Genève par les délégués des pays membres.

En mettant l’accent sur l’ODD 3 qui vise à assurer des vies saines et promouvoir le bien-être pour tous à tous les âges d’ici 2030, l’OMS se fixe deux autres objectifs en plus de cette couverture sanitaire universelle. L’institution onusienne basée à Genève va ainsi chercher à protéger un milliard de personnes en plus face aux urgences sanitaires. Autre souhait relevé par les États membres, celui d’améliorer la situation d’un autre milliard d’individus sur une dizaine de questions liées à la santé. L’OMS estime que la réalisation de cet objectif « triplant le milliard » pourrait sauver 29 millions de vies.

Devant l’Assemblée mondiale de la santé, M. Tedros a estimé que ce plan lance des objectifs élevés parce qu’il « doit le faire ». Les représentants des États membres ont souligné que l’OMS devra effectuer un certain nombre de changements stratégiques pour atteindre ces objectifs, notamment en renforçant son leadership en matière de santé publique. Outre ce
rôle pilote, les délégués présents à cette 71e Assemblée mondiale de la santé veulent que l’institution onusienne évalue l’impact sur les pays et garantisse que la population ait accès aux données dont elle a besoin en matière de santé.

A noter que cette résolution approuvée mercredi en commission, sera encore formellement votée samedi en séance plénière.

ILO, “AIDS’ impact on the labour force costs billions in lost earnings: ILO”, 24 mai 2018

An ILO report highlights the toll HIV and AIDS continue to take on the labour force, and its economic and social implications. The ILO calls for urgent efforts to close the treatment gaps, step up testing and prevention measures, and ensure workers can enjoy healthy and productive lives.

In addition to human suffering, HIV and AIDS cause billions of dollars in lost earnings, largely as a result of the deaths of hundreds of thousands of workers that could be prevented with treatment, the ILO said in a report launched today.

Lost earnings attributable to AIDS – as a result of death or inability to work – show a substantial decline from 2005, when they totalled almost $17 billion, but are still projected to amount to $7.2 billion in 2020.

The report – The impact of HIV and AIDS on the world of work: Global estimates – prepared in collaboration with UNAIDS, examines how the evolution of the HIV epidemic and the scale-up of antiretroviral therapy (ART) have impacted the global labour force and how it is projected to do so in the future, and assesses the economic and social impacts of HIV on workers and their households.

The report shows that labour force deaths attributed to HIV and AIDS are projected to fall to 425,000 in 2020, from 1.3 million in 2005. The greatest incidence of mortality is among workers in their late 30s. “This is the age workers are normally at the peak of their productive life. These deaths are totally avoidable if treatment is scaled up and fast tracked,” said Guy Ryder, the ILO Director-General.

The good news is that AIDS treatment is keeping workers productive. The number of workers living with HIV either fully or partially unable to work has fallen dramatically since 2005, and this trend is projected to continue. The total number of those estimated to be fully unable to work is expected to decline to about 40,000 in 2020 from a 2005 level of about 350,000 – an 85 per cent decline for men and a 93 per cent decline for women.

The report also looks at the “hidden costs” – the burden of care or additional chores for members of the household. In 2020, some 140,000 children will carry out an added, child-
labour level chore burden, according to the medium prediction, while an additional full-time equivalent of 50,000 full-time workers will perform unpaid care work.

The number of workers living with HIV increased from 22.5 million in 2005 to 26.6 million in 2015. It is projected to rise to close to 30 million in 2020, even if ART is scaled up as projected.

“Mere scaling up of treatment is not enough. Testing and HIV prevention measures also need to be stepped up if we are going to end AIDS. This makes human sense. And this makes astute economic sense,” added Guy Ryder.


African ministers of Health – meeting as a working group on 19 May – unanimously adopted the Treaty for the establishment of the African Medicines Agency (AMA). The accord is expected to be endorsed by heads of states and governments of the African Union at their next major summit in January 2019 and will enter into force after 15 member states have ratified it.

Margaret Angama-Anyetei from the African Union Commission discusses with Health Policy Watch the scope, aspirations, and challenges ahead for the new regulatory agency for the AU. Since 2016, Dr Angama-Anyetei has been head of the African Union’s Health, Nutrition & Population Division, setting policies at the continental level and supporting member states. Previously she worked at the UNFPA regional office in South Africa, and as resident representative in DR Congo, and earlier with UNAIDS in Ethiopia.

**HEALTH POLICY WATCH (HPW): How did the idea to create an AMA come about?**

**MARGARET ANGAMA-ANYETEI:** There was a meeting of ministers of health from all parts of the African Union and of WHO and they met in Luanda, Angola in April 2014 and the concern at the time was that sub-standard and counterfeit drugs had flooded African markets causing disabilities and deaths. They recommended the establishment of a regulatory continental body, because not all AU members had that capacity, and which was supported by AU leaders. In 2014, the continent thought it was ambitious to set up a regulatory body which will oversee the regulation of medicines and medical products on the continent, both manufactured and imported. Nobody thought it was going to happen. But with the advent of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) in 2017, everybody knew it was going to happen one day. The question was when. When the Ministers of Health in 2014 approved the establishment of the agency they set for it to be established by 2018. We expect the heads of state and governments of the AU to endorse the establishment as approved by the Ministers on May 19 at the January 2019 summit.

**HPW:** Where will the AMA be headquartered?
ANGAMA-ANYETEI: That has not yet been decided, because our member states have the option to host the agency. Of course, it will come with criteria which will guide the selection of the host country because it will have to meet the criteria set out by the legal department of the African Union Commission.

HPW: What is the prospective workforce envisaged for the AMA and will the agency receive technical or financial support from donor countries or will it largely be financed by AU member countries?

ANGAMA-ANYETEI: I can’t give an exact figure for the number of staff at the moment but it’s expected to be a lean agency. Why? Because it’s going to rely on national regulators and it’s not going to override or supersede national sovereignty. But regulation of medicines and medical products is not available in all the member states. So, based on requests to this continental body it will be able to draw on other member states to provide support to the member states in need.

HPW: But will the new agency also set new standards that will be applied continent-wide?

ANGAMA-ANYETEI: Yes, and it will have a governing board advised by experts, and it will set standards. Its function is expected to be comparable to other continental regulatory bodies.

HPW: What are some of the regulatory gaps the agency will address?

ANGAMA-ANYETEI: The main concerns are: i) pharmaceutical manufacturing on the continent—a standard for manufacturing of medicines and medical products in accordance with standards basically set by the World Health Organization but overseeing that those standards are adhered to and there is compliance with the standards that have been set; ii) providing support to set regulatory laws within member states. We do already have what is the model law which can then be used to develop their national laws. However, the agency will provide further support in ensuring the standards are kept and any other function under the umbrella of regulation which will be requested by member states.

HPW: A major problem in many African countries has been the use of substandard and counterfeit drugs with serious adverse health effects. How will the AMA deal with this issue?

ANGAMA-ANYETEI: The agency will have the clout, based on data, based on information that is received, to trace, monitor and deal with countries in the region where these drugs are being imported. It will also have the clout to deal directly also with governments to enforce regulation at the national level. These drugs and medical products are coming through ports, airports, etcetera, and it’s important to have enforcement. But it is also timely, given the continent has just signed a continental free trade agreement, and it’s particularly important because the free movement of goods and persons of countries that ratify that protocol will have an implication for medicines and medical products. Therefore the endorsement of the AMA is timely.

HPW: Will AMA also have oversight of clinical trials for new medicines and vaccines?
ANGAMA-ANYETEI: Once the body is set up, some of these other areas will be defined. It’s going to start most likely dealing with excessive regulatory procedures and widen the scope depending on capacity and support.

HPW: What about external support, in particular from multilateral agencies?

ANGAMA-ANYETEI: Primarily, we expect AU governments to provide domestic financing and money from the continent to be put into the agency. But of course under the umbrella of partnership, if we have donors -who will be aligned with our vision and constitution of the agency, yes partnerships will be welcomed. But it definitely has to have support from the WHO, given that the WHO sets normative standards and guidelines and is a global body.

HPW: Is the establishment of the AMA also expected to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) for the manufacture of medicines and medical products in Africa for the 1.2 billion people strong market, given the lack of a harmonized standards has been viewed as an impediment to such investments?

ANGAMA-ANYETEI: Yes, I also think that the pharmaceutical industry itself is a multi-billion dollar industry and we haven’t even begun to link it with active ingredients which can be produced on the continent. Its a big job market for young people-Africa has the largest young population in the world- There’s lots of room for innovation, and major opportunities. Most external investors look at laws, they always want to feel they are protected when they invest in foreign markets.

HPW: What about the issue of Intellectual Property Rights. Will the AMA also oversee IP and international norms such as those of the World Trade Organization?

ANGAMA-ANYETEI: Most of the AU members have also signed up to the WHO and the WTO and have good intentions of respecting the WTO TRIPS Agreement. However, Africa also has not taken advantage of the TRIPS [World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights].

HPW: Like the TRIPS flexibilities?

ANGAMA-ANYETEI: Yes, so the opportunity is right there and of course, regulating bodies like this (AMA) should build the capacity of member states to take advantage of the TRIPS given the opportunities that are available.

HPW: Any final thoughts?

ANGAMA-ANYETEI: I think the media have an important role in supporting the continent and showing that we are able to establish agencies and encourage donors and multilateral entities to partner with us to make sure that it is established. After all, it is a win-win for everybody. There is a 1.2 billion market out there and there’s a place for everybody. Of course, the more the continent is able to stand on its feet and advance in the right direction, the more the opportunities for everybody.
OMS, « La 71e Assemblée mondiale de la Santé s'achève sur de nouvelles orientations », 26 mai 2018

Le Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Directeur général de l’OMS, a dit aux délégués à l’Assemblée mondiale de la Santé qu’ils avaient donné une nouvelle orientation à l’Organisation.

Dans son allocution de clôture de l’Assemblée, il a déclaré que, désormais, tout ce que ferait l’OMS serait évalué par rapport aux cibles du «triple milliard» qui ont été approuvées cette semaine dans le cadre du nouveau plan stratégique quinquennal de l’Organisation. Ces cibles, à atteindre d’ici à 2023, sont les suivantes:

- 1 milliard de personnes supplémentaires bénéficiant de la couverture sanitaire universelle;
- 1 milliard de personnes supplémentaires mieux protégées face aux situations d’urgence sanitaire;
- 1 milliard de personnes supplémentaires bénéficiant d’un meilleur état de santé et de plus de bien-être.

Le dernier jour de l’Assemblée, les délégués sont également parvenus à un accord sur la nutrition chez la mère, le nourrisson et le jeune enfant, et sur le confinement des poliovirus.

**Nutrition**

Les délégués ont renouvelé, à l’unanimité, leur engagement à investir dans les politiques et les programmes d’amélioration de l’alimentation du nourrisson et du jeune enfant, et à porter ces programmes à plus grande échelle.

Les États Membres ont examiné les efforts déployés pour atteindre les cibles mondiales sur la nutrition et en ont conclu que les progrès avaient été lents et inégaux. Ils ont toutefois noté une légère progression dans la réduction du retard de croissance; en effet, le nombre
d’enfants de moins de cinq ans présentant ce type de retard a été ramené de 169 millions en 2010 à 151 millions en 2017.

L’OMS dirige une action mondiale pour améliorer la nutrition et notamment une initiative mondiale afin que tous les hôpitaux soient adaptés à l’accueil des nourrissons, pour porter à plus grande échelle la prévention de l’anémie chez l’adolescente et pour prévenir le surpoids chez l’enfant grâce à des conseils sur l’alimentation complémentaire. Un nouveau rapport sur l’application du Code international de commercialisation des substituts du lait maternel a été présenté. Il montre que six pays supplémentaires ont adopté ou renforcé, en 2017, la législation visant à réglementer la commercialisation des substituts du lait maternel.

**Poliomyélite**

Alors que les niveaux de transmission du poliovirus sauvage sont plus faibles que jamais et que le monde est plus près que jamais d’être déclaré exempt de poliomyélite, les débats ont porté sur la façon de libérer durablement le monde de la poliomyélite. En mai 2018, seuls neuf cas dus au poliovirus sauvage avaient été notifiés dans deux pays seulement: l’Afghanistan et le Pakistan. Les délégués ont examiné les plans d’urgence pour interrompre la transmission des dernières souches de virus restantes.

Dans le cadre de la préparation pour un monde sans poliomyélite, les activités mondiales de confinement continuent à s’intensifier et les États Membres ont adopté une résolution historique sur le confinement des poliovirus. Après l’éradication, les poliovirus continueront à être conservés dans un nombre limité d’établissements pour assurer des fonctions essentielles aux niveaux national et international telles que la production de vaccins antipoliomyélitiques ou la recherche.

Il est crucial que les poliovirus soient correctement confinés, dans des conditions de sûreté et de sécurité biologiques strictes lors de leur manipulation et de leur stockage, afin qu’ils ne soient pas disséminés dans l’environnement – accidentellement ou intentionnellement – et n’en entraînent pas à nouveau de flambées dans des populations sensibles.

Les États Membres se sont massivement engagés à mettre en œuvre et à financer intégralement, à très court terme, toutes les stratégies visant à libérer durablement le monde de la poliomyélite. Le représentant du Rotary International, qui s’exprimait au nom de l’Initiative mondiale pour l’éradication de la poliomyélite (dont sont membres l’OMS, le Rotary, les CDC, l’UNICEF et la Fondation Bill & Melinda Gates), a passionnément plaidé auprès de la communauté internationale en faveur de l’éradication d’une maladie humaine pour la deuxième fois seulement dans l’histoire et pour que plus aucun enfant, où qu’il se trouve, ne soit jamais paralysé par un poliovirus quel qu’il soit.

**Allocation de clôture**

Dans son allocution de clôture de l’Assemblée de cette année, le Dr Tedros a dit que partout où il allait, il recevait le même message: la santé est un pont vers la paix. «La santé peut changer la vie d’une personne mais aussi transformer les familles, les communautés et les nations», a-t-il fait remarquer aux délégués.
Il a également précisé que le nouveau plan stratégique quinquennal de l’Organisation appelait l’OMS à mesurer ses succès non pas selon ses résultats mais selon ses réalisations, c’est-à-dire en fonction de l’impact mesurable qu’elle a là où c’est le plus important – dans les pays.

« En fin de compte, nous ne sommes pas au service des gens qui ont le pouvoir mais au service des gens qui n’ont pas de pouvoir », a dit le Directeur général. Il a précisé aux délégués que pour savoir vraiment si les débats de cette semaine à l’Assemblée ont été fructueux, il faudra déterminer s’ils se sont traduits par de vrais changements sur le terrain, et il a appelé les délégués à rentrer dans leur pays en étant plus déterminés que jamais à œuvrer chaque jour pour la santé de la population.

« L’engagement dont j’ai été témoin cette semaine me remplit d’espoir et me permet d’être sûr qu’ensemble nous pouvons promouvoir la santé, préserver la sécurité mondiale, et servir les populations vulnérables », a-t-il conclu.

**ODD 4**

**ONU Info, « 2016, une année record pour l’aide à l’éducation (UNESCO) », 24 mai 2018**


L’aide à l’éducation en 2016 a atteint le niveau record de 13,4 milliards de dollars, son plus haut niveau enregistré depuis le début des analyses en 2002, a annoncé jeudi la Directrice générale de l’UNESCO, Audrey Azoulay.


« Cette augmentation est un signe positif. L’éducation est de plus en plus reconnue par les donateurs comme une pierre angulaire du développement. » a déclaré Mme Azoulay, qui a annoncé les résultats auprès d’une soixantaine de ministres de l'éducation au cours de la Conférence ministérielle de l’espace européen de l’enseignement supérieur (E.E.E.S) qui s’est déroulée à Paris le 23 mai.

« Le programme ambitieux de l’Objectif de développement durable 4 (ODD 4) qui englobe tous les niveaux d’éducation, ne peut être mené à bien sans un financement accru de l’éducation, tant au niveau national qu’à l’extérieur du pays », a souligné la Directrice générale.

Le document, intitulé ‘Aide à l’éducation : un retour à la croissance’, révèle que les deux tiers de l’augmentation observée en 2016 concernait l’éducation de base, financée à environ 50 % par les États-Unis, le Royaume-Uni et la Banque mondiale, les trois plus grands donateurs individuels. La Norvège en revanche, a dépensé 12 fois plus que les États-Unis en termes de part du produit national brut (PNB) consacrée à l’aide à l’éducation de base.

**Priorité à l’enseignement élémentaire et secondaire et aux pays les plus pauvres**
Selon les dernières données du rapport, moins d’un jeune sur deux achève un cycle d’enseignement secondaire.

Si tous les pays développés et certaines économies émergentes s’engageaient, comme la Norvège, à allouer 0,7 % de leur revenu national à l’aide à l’éducation et 10 % de leurs portefeuilles de projets à l’éducation, il y aurait suffisamment de ressources pour assurer l’achèvement universel de l’enseignement secondaire.

Le Directeur du Rapport GEM, Manos Antoninis, appelle à un réexamen des priorités. « Les donateurs doivent se concentrer davantage sur l’enseignement élémentaire et secondaire, ainsi que sur les pays les plus pauvres, afin de combler le déficit de financement qui freine les progrès de l’éducation dans le monde », a-t-il dit.

M. Antoninis prévient toutefois que « cela ne résoudra pas les défis majeurs auxquels sont confrontés les pays à revenu intermédiaire inférieur dans le domaine de l’éducation ».

**Réduire le coût de l’emprunt pour l’éducation et actionner les partenariats**

Il ressort du document que plus d’un tiers de l’aide allouée aux pays à revenu intermédiaire inférieur revêt la forme de prêts et que le coût du crédit dissuade de nombreux pays d’emprunter pour l’éducation. En fait, la part de l’éducation dans les prêts de la Banque mondiale aux pays à revenu intermédiaire a reculé de 8,2 % en 2012 à 4,7 % en 2017.


Le document d’orientation du Rapport GEM précise qu’un tel mécanisme constituerait certes une avancée importante, mais qu’il reste beaucoup à faire pour s’assurer que les fonds soient dépensés là où ils sont les plus nécessaires.

Il est par ailleurs essentiel que ce nouveau mécanisme de financement fonctionne de pair avec les autres institutions multilatérales : le Partenariat mondial pour l’éducation (PME), qui cible les pays à faible revenu, et l’initiative Education Cannot Wait (ECW), qui met l’accent sur l’éducation dans les situations d’urgence.

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Project Syndicate, “How to Pay for Africa’s Education Gains“, 31 mai 2018

Africa is in the midst of an education crisis. Despite pledges to improve access to education for all children by 2030, many African governments are failing to fund this ambitious component of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). There is still time to address the financing shortfall, but only if new investment strategies are embraced with vigor.
Today, roughly half of the world’s young people, including some 400 million girls, are not being educated to succeed in the workplace of the future. This challenge is most acute in Africa; although 75% of girls in Sub-Saharan Africa start school, only 8% complete secondary education. Sub-Saharan Africa is the only region where women still do not enroll in or graduate from tertiary education at the same rates as men.

These problems are well known, if not always addressed. Less understood is the contradictory impact that Africa’s future growth will have on the availability of education funding.

By 2030, nearly 30 countries in Africa are expected to have reached lower middle-income status, defined by the World Bank as a per capita gross national income (GNI) between $1,026 and $4,035. As countries approach this level of development, new investments will be needed to pay for health and education upgrades, and mobilizing domestic tax revenue will become a critical component of budgeting strategies.

At the moment, however, estimated tax revenues in most countries will be insufficient to cover the costs associated with improving educational outcomes. As a result, an education-funding crisis threatens to dash hopes of sustained rapid growth and lasting prosperity.

Traditional forms of international aid will continue to play a role in the development of Africa’s education sector. And yet, owing to the projected increases in GNI, most lower-middle-income countries will no longer qualify for the grants and low- or zero-interest loans that are currently available. As a result, millions of young Africans will suffer the effects of a paradox in international development: countries will be too prosperous to qualify for the best funding options, but too poor to meet the educational needs of their citizens on their own.

Fortunately, the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity, where I serve as a commissioner, has helped to develop a solution. Called the International Finance Facility for Education, this innovative approach aims to help lower-middle-income countries invest in education – especially programs for women and girls – in more sustainable ways.

By leveraging $2 billion in donor guarantees, we aim to deliver about $10 billion in grant and concessional education funding to countries that need it most. But there is a catch: governments seeking to access these funds must first demonstrate an interest in and capacity for long-term educational reform.

This approach is designed to improve grants’ effectiveness and give countries the ability to strengthen their economic resilience with a better-educated workforce. Research shows that in lower-middle-income countries, every $1 spent on education increases the earning power of graduates by $4. In other words, our long-term goal is broader than building schools or teaching math; it is to create conditions for lasting social and economic change.

Similar funding strategies have already proved to be successful in the health-care sector. For example, the International Finance Facility for Immunization was created to provide financing for GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance. Eventually, billions of dollars in new funding was mobilized to help vaccinate more than 640 million children and save over nine million lives. The economic returns were also dramatic; one study that surveyed outcomes in 73 countries found that...
every $1 spent on immunizations translated into $18 in health-care-related savings. The education finance facility has the potential to produce a similar impact.

Millions of young people around the world, and particularly young girls in Africa, are failing to excel because they continue to be denied access to quality education. With just 12 years to go before the expiration of the SDGs, Africa’s education crisis must be moved to the top of the development agenda. Government leaders routinely claim that children are our future. If they truly believe it, programs like the International Finance Facility for Education must be given the priority they deserve.

**ODD 6**

IISD, “Changes Recommended to SDG 6 Targets and Indicators”, 29 mai 2018
http://sdg.iisd.org/news/changes-recommended-to-sdg-6-targets-and-indicators/

Advisors to the UN Joint Monitoring Programme for Drinking-water, Sanitation and Hygiene (JMP) have published an independent critique of the means of implementation (MoI) targets for SDG 6 on water and sanitation. Their review, in the open-access journal npj Clean Water, calls for changes to the two MoI targets (SDG 6.a and 6.b), as well as the target (SDG 6.5) on integrated water resource management (IWRM) and their associated indicators. The authors recommend that the SDG 6 targets should: reflect the role of the state in planning and leadership; emphasize people’s rights to information, voice and remedy; separate financial assistance from capacity building aims; and highlight the need for investment from sources other than official development assistance (ODA).

The co-first authors of the paper are unpaid advisors to two UN processes relevant to water: the World Health Organization (WHO) and UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) Joint Monitoring Programme for Drinking-water, Sanitation and Hygiene; and the Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-water (GLAAS). Their critique titled, “Policy Review of
the Means of Implementation Targets and Indicators for the Sustainable Development Goal for Water and Sanitation,” is published in their own capacity and not on behalf of the UN.

The SDGs have outcome targets indicated by a number (such as SDG 6.1 on achieving universal access to safe drinking water by 2030) and MoI targets indicated by a letter (such as SDG 6.b on supporting and strengthening the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management). The paper argues that MoI targets in the SDGs have been framed inconsistently, sometimes appearing more like outcomes rather than MoI, whereas SDG 6.5 on IWRM is a management approach rather than an outcome, and reads more like an MoI target.

The authors argue that the MoI targets for SDG 6, in their current form, are insufficient for achieving the outcome targets for water and sanitation, and that their associated indicators should be revised to better monitor achievements. Detailed recommendations are provided in this regard.

The policy review has been published ahead of the July 2018 meeting of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), which will review progress on SDG 6, among other Goals.

ODD 7

ONU Info, « Fracturation hydraulique : pas d’extraction du gaz de schiste au détriment des énergies renouvelables », 24 mai 2018
https://news.un.org/fr/story/2018/05/1014921

La fracturation hydraulique, une méthode parfois décriée d’extraction du gaz naturel à partir des formations de roche mère, devrait être envisagée avec précaution par les pays qui
cherchent à accroître leur accès à l’énergie, selon un nouveau rapport de la CNUCED sur le gaz de schiste.

« Le changement climatique implique que tous les pays doivent, de toute urgence, se désengager des énergies fossiles et notamment du gaz de schiste », a déclaré le Secrétaire général de la CNUCED, Mukhisa Kituyi.

Le rapport indique que le gaz naturel, dont le gaz de schiste, offre des avantages et des inconvénients en tant « qu’énergie de transition » entre les importantes sources d’émissions de dioxyde de carbone (CO2), que sont le charbon et le pétrole et les énergies renouvelables.

« Mais étant donné que l’énergie est nécessaire pour éliminer la pauvreté et stimuler le développement, les pays potentiellement riches en gaz de schiste devraient être informés des avantages et des inconvénients liés à son exploitation avant de prendre des décisions sur l’élaboration des politiques relatives à leur bouquet énergétique à court-terme. »

 Au nombre de ces avantages figure le fait que les émissions de CO2 du gaz naturel sont environ 40% inférieures à celles du charbon par unité d’énergie produite, point sur lequel la plupart des experts s’accordent.

Par ailleurs le gaz naturel peut être stocké en vue d’être utilisé à la demande et satisfaire ainsi des besoins d’énergie variables de manière plus efficace que l’énergie produite à partir de sources renouvelables, telle que l’énergie éolienne.

**Le gaz naturel est une énergie fossile**

Toutefois, au nombre des inconvénients figurent le fait que le gaz naturel est une énergie fossile et qu’en tant que telle elle représente une source d’émissions nocives de CO2, lorsque celui-ci est brûlé.

Selon le rapport les investissements dans le secteur du gaz de schiste ne devraient en aucun cas être effectués au détriment du déploiement des énergies renouvelables et des stratégies d’efficacité énergétique.

Aussi le manque de connaissances concernant la géologie locale et notamment la présence des aquifères, l’absence de « permis social d’exploitation » et un environnement réglementaire inadéquat pourraient constituer des obstacles majeurs au recours à la fracturation hydraulique comme méthode d’extraction du gaz de schiste.

En outre, bien que la durée de vie du méthane (CH4) – principal composant du gaz naturel – soit plus courte que celle du CO2, dans l’atmosphère, son potentiel de réchauffement global est 28 fois supérieur à celui du CO2 sur un horizon de 100 ans. En 2016, selon l’Organisation météorologique mondiale, la concentration du méthane dans l’atmosphère avait atteint une teneur record avec 1,853 parties par milliard – soit environ 257% son niveau préindustriel.

« Des réserves ont été émises quant aux grandes quantités d’eau utilisées par la fracturation hydraulique, ainsi que les risques potentiels que ferait encourir ce type d’opérations sur la qualité de ces ressources, notamment par le biais de la contamination des eaux souterraines et de surface », mentionne le rapport.
Un potentiel énergétique certain

Selon l’Energy Information Administration américaine, les ressources mondiales techniquement récupérables de gaz de schiste s’élèveraient à environ 215 mille milliards de mètres cubes en 2015, soit environ 60 années de consommation. La moitié des ressources est située en Algérie, en Argentine, au Canada, en Chine et aux États-Unis.

Malgré la disponibilité du gaz de schiste dans plusieurs autres pays, les États-Unis ont restés le premier pays producteur de gaz de schiste en 2015 avec 87% du total mondial. Les États-Unis sont également devenus exportateurs nets de gaz naturel depuis le mois de juillet 2017.

En outre, de nombreux investissements sont effectués aux États-Unis afin de développer les infrastructures de liquéfaction, ce qui pourrait conduire le pays à posséder les troisièmes plus importantes capacités au monde d’ici 2020, après l’Australie et le Qatar – des changements qui pourraient conduire à une globalisation du marché du gaz naturel qui est actuellement régionalisé.

Aussi, le rapport examine l’évolution de l’extraction du gaz de schiste, aux États-Unis ainsi que dans d’autres pays, afin d’évaluer sa pertinence vis-à-vis des engagements pris dans le cadre de l’Accord de Paris sur le climat et ceci dans un contexte de besoins énergétiques en pleine croissance.

Le recours au gaz naturel « devrait contribuer à faciliter une transition en douceur du modèle économique actuel, principalement alimenté par les énergies fossiles, à une économie sobre en carbone, tout particulièrement dans le contexte de l’Objectif de développement durable (ODD) 7 d’ici 2030 ». L’objectif 7 garantit l’accès de tous à des services énergétiques fiables, durables et modernes, à un coût abordable.

**ODD 8**

**IISD, ILO Report: Implementation of Paris Agreement, SDGs Can Create 24 Million Jobs by 2030**, 22 mai 2018


Implementation of policies that promote a greener economy and better social safety nets for workers could create 24 million new jobs by 2030, according to an International Labour Organization (ILO) flagship report titled, ‘World Employment and Social Outlook 2018: Greening with Jobs.’ The report finds that efforts to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement on
climate change will create enough jobs to more than offset the expected six million job losses in industries that rely heavily on fossil fuels and carbon-based production.

According to the publication, adopting sustainable practices in the energy sector, including electric vehicle use and energy efficient buildings, will create new jobs. In addition, transitioning to more sustainable agricultural systems will create jobs in medium and large organic farms, and allow smallholders to diversify their income sources, given the right skills.

At the regional level, measures taken in sustainable energy production and use will result in net job creation in the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, and Europe, while the Middle East and Africa could experience net job losses, due to their dependence on fossil fuels and mining, respectively.

At the same time, the report warns, jobs depend on a healthy environment, which is threatened by climate change, increasing the incidence of heat stress, for example, which can lead to exhaustion, stroke and other illnesses and, subsequently, to a 2% global loss in hours worked by 2030.

More specifically, the report finds that, of the 163 economic sectors analyzed, most will benefit from net job creation. Only 14 will face more than 10,000 job losses, and only two (petroleum refinery and extraction of crude petroleum) show losses of 1 million or more jobs. According to the study, 2.5 million jobs will be created in renewables-based electricity generation, offsetting around 400,000 jobs lost in fossil fuel-based electricity generation. The report also shows that transitioning to a circular economy could create up to six million jobs related to recycling, repair and remanufacture.

Although measures to address climate change may result in short-term employment losses, negative impacts can be reduced through appropriate policies and synergies between social protection and environmental policies. The report calls on countries to train workers in the skills needed to transition to a greener economy, and provide social protections that facilitate the move to new jobs, help prevent poverty, and reduce household and community vulnerability. The publication advocates for a policy mix comprised of cash transfers, stronger social insurance and limiting fossil fuel use to help workers. It notes that such a mix will lead to faster economic growth, stronger employment creation, fairer income distribution and lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The report concludes that environmental laws, regulations and policies that address labor issues can advance the ILO’s Decent Work Agenda and environmental objectives. It recommends social dialogue to enable employers and workers to participate in the political decision-making processes, alongside governments.

The report acknowledges that, given the current pace of progress, some of the commitments made in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and the SDGs may not be met by the target year. However, it shows that SDGs that promote environmental sustainability, including SDGs 13 (climate action), 14 (life below water) and 15 (life on land), can be compatible with achieving zero hunger (SDG 2), and ensuring affordable and clean energy for all (SDG 7), along with decent work and economic growth (SDG 8).
Fabien Tondel de l’ECDPM s’entretient avec Sylvie Sagbo, Présidente de SENAR Les Délices Lysa, un fabricant sénégalais de produits alimentaires, et Cécile Carlier, Directrice de I&P Conseil, la branche conseil de la société française Investisseurs & Partenaires, qui soutient et investit dans les petites et moyennes entreprises émergentes en Afrique.

Fabien Tondel : Pouvez-vous nous parler de SENAR Les Délices Lysa ? Quel est son modèle économique ?


Nous allons nous agrandir en construisant une nouvelle unité de production de plus grande capacité à l’extérieur de la ville. Cette usine, qui sera aux normes internationales, nous permettra de répondre à la demande grandissante pour nos produits. Nos ventes se font essentiellement sur le marché national, dans les supermarchés sénégalais, même si nos ventes directes ont crû rapidement. Les exportations ne représentent que deux à trois pour cent du total de notre production.

La force de notre entreprise repose sur la qualité gustative supérieure et l’authenticité des produits que nous offrons, comme l’avait voulu ma mère dès les débuts de SENAR... Et sur l’esprit d’innovation.

Cécile Carlier : La haute qualité des produits SENAR et la capacité d’innovation et de différenciation des produits pour satisfaire les consommateurs sont des atouts de l’entreprise. SENAR a aussi réussi à gérer le risque de l’aflatoxine. Ce sont des facteurs importants non seulement pour la viabilité de l’entreprise et de la filière, mais aussi pour la confiance des investisseurs comme Teranga Capital, le fonds d’investissement d’impact qui est récemment entré au capital de Lysa & Co.

Comment gérez-vous la qualité, facteur crucial de votre succès ?
Notre procédé atteint en effet des taux très bas d’aflatoxine, ce qui nous donne accès aux marchés internationaux. La présence de cette mycotoxine dans les arachides et les noix de cajou, qui peut être toxique pour l’homme, est un problème fréquent dans ces filières. Pour l’éviter, nous opérons un triple tri : notre fournisseur d’arachide, avec qui nous travaillons depuis trente ans, retire les graines immatures ; ensuite nous effectuons un tri lorsque nous recevons la matière première ; enfin, un troisième tri intervient après la torréfaction.

Notre méthode de torréfaction lente au four à bois nous permet d’obtenir des produits de qualité exceptionnelle, très appréciés des consommateurs, comme par exemple des pralines de cajou au sésame, des pralines d’arachide au gingembre, du nougat de cajou à l’anis et du beurre de cajou pur.

Nous avons collaboré avec l’Institut de Technologie Alimentaire du Sénégal pour améliorer nos procédés. Les marchés en ville sont pour nous des laboratoires pour tester de nouveaux produits auprès des consommateurs. Nous sommes présents sur le Dakar Farmers Market, un marché de vente directe qui promeut les produits artisanaux.

La responsabilité sociale et environnementale (RSE) a-t-elle une place dans la gestion de votre entreprise ?


Nous exploitons différents circuits de commercialisation, une grande partie de notre production étant vendue à travers l’enseigne de grande distribution Auchan, qui possède 20 magasins au Sénégal. En s’implantant en Afrique, cette enseigne a fait le choix de servir non seulement les classes moyennes mais aussi les classes plus pauvres. Certains de nos produits y sont vendus en vrac, ce qui les rend accessibles aux clients moins fortunés.

Comment concilier la performance économique et les retombées sociales de l’entreprise ?


Quels ont été les impacts de Lysa & Co. dont vous êtes le plus fiers ?

Sylvie Sagbo : Nous avons continué à offrir des produits de qualité et à contribuer à l’économie locale. Je suis fière de passer maintenant à un nouveau stade du développement de notre entreprise avec l’expansion de notre capacité de production.

Cécile Carlier : L’entreprise met sur le marché des produits de qualité pour les consommateurs sénégalais, alors que le secteur de l’anacarde reposait traditionnellement sur l’exportation de produits bruts, avec le retour de quelques produits finis de marques étrangères pour les consommateurs fortunés. Ce changement est aussi une belle réussite !

Comment assurez-vous le financement de votre entreprise ?

Sylvie Sagbo : Avant nous nous financions essentiellement sur fonds propres et avec des contributions de la famille, bien que nous ayons recouru à deux petits prêts pour acquérir une voiture de livraison et une ensacheuse. Mais, avec la croissance de notre production et le peu de capital que nous avions, il était devenu difficile de financer les achats de matières premières. Nous préférons avoir un stock d’amande de cajou d’un an pour éviter les ruptures d’approvisionnement. Les banques ne sont pas prêtes à travailler avec les entreprises comme la nôtre. Suite à l’investissement de Teranga Capital dans Lysa & Co. en 2017, notre banquier est rassuré et il devenu plus facile d’obtenir un crédit de campagne.

Pouvez-vous nous en dire plus sur cet investissement ? Quels sont les facteurs qui l’ont rendu possible ?

Cécile Carlier : Teranga Capital est un fonds d’investissement d’impact établi au Sénégal, qui est sponsorisé par Investisseurs & Partenaires. Teranga a investi dans l’entreprise de Sylvie en capital et en dette. Sylvie témoigne du changement de génération se déroulant en Afrique qui rend possible de nouvelles approches de développement des entreprises. Avant les entrepreneurs Africains étaient frileux à l’idée d’emprunter ou de laisser rentrer un « étranger » au capital de leurs entreprises. Les jeunes entrepreneurs d’aujourd’hui sont plus ouverts à ces perspectives. I&P s’intéresse particulièrement au secteur agro-alimentaire local, celui-ci ayant un fort potentiel économique et social et présentant des opportunités de développement de filières agricoles et industrielles. Enfin, la personnalité de l’entrepreneur, sa vision surtout, est un facteur capital pour notre implication.

Sylvie Sagbo : Il a fallu en effet convaincre ma mère de prendre le risque. Cet investissement va nous amener à renforcer notre outil productif, développer de nouveaux produits, embaucher du personnel et respecter les normes de qualité internationales. Nous allons
pouvoir donner à nos employés l’accès à une Institution de Prévoyance Maladies, une mutuelle de santé. Et aussi nous prévoyons de mettre en place une certification biologique ECOCERT.

Le financement de la campagne semble être un défi majeur...


Qu’attendez-vous des politiques publiques sénégalaises pour pouvoir développer durablement votre entreprise ? Et des organisations régionales ?


Cécile Carlier : Comme pour le secteur du riz, où le gouvernement sénégalais demande aux importateurs de s’approvisionner en partie localement, il faudrait mettre en œuvre des politiques nationales et régionales permettant d’exploiter le potentiel des filières agro-alimentaires locales. Les politiques publiques doivent mieux soutenir les producteurs agricoles locaux, pour se rassembler, travailler ensemble et renforcer leur rôle de partenaires dans le développement des filières. Les entreprises en pleine croissance comme Lysa & Co. ont aussi besoin de démarches administratives simplifiées, d’un meilleur accès à l’énergie et du développement des infrastructures à l’échelle régionale.
OCDE, « Les pays s’engagent à intensifier leurs efforts pour favoriser l’adoption d’une conduite plus responsable des entreprises en adhérant à un nouvel instrument juridique », 31 mai 2018


Les ministres des pays de l’OCDE et des économies en développement se sont engagés à intensifier leurs initiatives visant à favoriser l’adoption d’une conduite plus responsable par les entreprises afin de promouvoir une croissance économique plus inclusive et plus durable.

Quarante-huit pays ont adopté le Guide OCDE du devoir de diligence pour une conduite responsable des entreprises lors de la Réunion annuelle de l’OCDE au niveau des Ministres, et ont accepté de concourir à sa mise en œuvre et d’en assurer le suivi. Il s’agit des pays de l’OCDE, plus la Colombie et la Lithuanie qui ont été invités à devenir membre de l’Organisation, ainsi que l’Argentine, le Brésil, le Costa Rica, l’Égypte, la Jordanie, le Kazakhstan, le Maroc, le Pérou, la Roumanie, la Tunisie et l’Ukraine, signataires de ce nouvel instrument juridique.


« Il incombe aux entreprises de mener leurs activités en tenant compte à la fois du résultat final de ces dernières et de leur impact sur la société », a déclaré le Secrétaire général de l’OCDE, M. Angel Gurría. « Ce guide constitue une étape majeure dans les efforts déployés pour veiller à ce que les gouvernements et les entreprises puissent œuvrer ensemble à la promotion d’une croissance plus inclusive et durable dans le monde entier par le biais d’un devoir de diligence pour des chaînes d’approvisionnement responsable ».

Le soutien apporté au Guide par les gouvernements contribuera à dégager une communauté de vues à l’échelon international, à informer clairement les entreprises de leurs devoirs en matière de conduite responsable et à garantir que les mêmes règles soient appliquées à toutes.

L’OCDE collaborera avec les pays adhérents pour assurer le suivi de la mise en œuvre du Guide. Certains pays, comme la France, ont inscrit les obligations des entreprises dans leur législation afin d’éviter les impacts sur les droits de l’homme dans les chaînes d’approvisionnement mondiales. D’autres, tels que l’Allemagne, se sont engagés à suivre l’application du devoir de diligence dans le cadre de leurs plans d’action nationaux sur les entreprises et les droits de l’homme.

Les entreprises devraient notamment entreprendre de réviser, de mettre à jour et de diffuser leurs politiques sur des questions telles que le travail, les droits de l’homme, la publication d’informations et la corruption ; communiquer ces mesures auprès de leurs fournisseurs et
intégrer des dispositions relatives à la conduite responsable des entreprises dans leurs contrats ; identifier et prévenir les impacts négatifs dans leurs activités et leurs chaînes d’approvisionnement ; et communiquer sur la manière dont elles traitent ces impacts.


**ODD 11**


L’île Maurice en quête d’un second « miracle ». Port-Louis a prévu des incitations administratives et fiscales pour faire du pays un centre de l’urbanisation futuriste.

Le vent des smart cities souffle sur l’île Maurice. Séduites par cette nouvelle vitrine de modernité, les autorités se sont converties à ce concept de « villes intelligentes » qui associent Internet à la gestion des énergies et des déchets. A l’image de ce qui se pratique déjà en Europe, en Asie ou aux Etats-Unis, Port-Louis a lancé en 2015 un ambitieux « Smart City Scheme ». Son objectif ? Sous l’appellation générique de « Smart Mauritius », faire du pays un centre de l’urbanisation futuriste.

« Ce plan directeur est une façon d’anticiper l’urbanisme de demain sur notre île, précise Sachin Mohabeer, chef du département « Smart City » à l’Economic Development Board (EDB). Pour les habitants, ces futures cités ont une triple vocation, résumée dans le slogan...
“Travailler, vivre et se distraire”. Pour l’État, c’est un levier de sa politique en matière d’aménagement du territoire.

**Pôle éducatif et maison de retraite**

En avril, Port-Louis a déclaré avoir identifié dix projets de smart cities, dont cinq ont obtenu le certificat d’agrément de l’État. « Mon Trésor » et « Cap Tamarin » au sud, « Médine éducation village » à l’ouest, « Beau Plan » au nord et « Moka City » au centre... Qu’il s’agisse de villages créés ex nihilo ou développés à partir de noyaux urbains préexistants, ces cinq projets présentent des caractéristiques communes : « Entre 2 000 et 4 000 foyers de résidence, des terrains de 500 et 1 000 arpents [entre 125 et 250 hectares] et une maîtrise d’œuvre qui va s’étaler sur dix à vingt ans, parfois plus », indique Sachin Mohabeer.

A Moka, les travaux ont débuté en 2017 en agglomérant le projet d’urbanisme au village existant. Sur les plans, les maisons côtoient bureaux, commerces, écoles et centres de santé. Située à proximité de Bagatelle, le plus moderne des centres commerciaux de l’île, Moka City poussera au cœur d’une zone urbaine comprenant la capitale, Port-Louis, et concentrant 40 % de la population active de l’île et 70 % de son pouvoir d’achat. Des avantages qui ont séduit le groupe ENL, leader dans l’immobilier à Maurice et promoteur du projet.

Dans la plaquette d’ENL consacrée à Moka City, les images 3D vantent les futures infrastructures : salle de congrès, pôle éducatif, country club, centre de recyclage, parc d’affaires... Avec un « retour sur investissement garanti », assure l’ENL dans une note destinée aux investisseurs étrangers. Des compagnies européennes sont pressenties pour construire une clinique privée ou une maison de retraite. La valeur des terrains ayant déjà triplé dans la zone en dix ans, le rendement locatif est évalué à 6 % par an, sans parler des futures reventes de villas, exonérées d’impôt sur les plus-values.

**Un programme jugé « inégalitaire »**

Car pour financer ce plan futuriste, Port-Louis a dû soigner son business plan. Dans une note d’avril 2017, l’ambassade de France notait que « le gouvernement mauricien ne disposant pas des ressources financières pour mener à bien de tels investissements, son rôle consiste à fixer le cadre institutionnel et à donner les impulsions nécessaires. Reste au secteur privé, qu’il s’agisse des grands groupes mauriciens ou de promoteurs étrangers, à définir le périmètre des projets ». L’État stratégie encadre, donc, et coordonne, avec notamment la société publique Landscope Mauritius, chargée d’administrer les terrains de l’État où pousseront certaines smart cities.

L’État a aussi prévu des incitations administratives et fiscales. Parmi ces avantages, l’absence de taxe en cas de conversion d’un terrain agricole ou commercial ; la suppression de la taxe douanière pour tous les matériaux importés pour les travaux ; la suspension de l’impôt sur les sociétés pour les huit premières années du projet ; l’octroi de la nationalité mauricienne pour tout investisseur professionnel qui participe à hauteur de 5 millions de dollars à une smart city ; et l’octroi du statut de résident fiscal pour tout particulier étranger qui décide d’investir au moins 500 000 dollars dans une villa.

World Resources Institute, “Barriers to a Circular Economy: 5 Reasons the World Wastes So Much Stuff (and Why It’s Not Just the Consumer's Fault)”, 24 mai 2018

If you need motivation to skip the straw at lunch today, consider this: Scientists found that even Arctic sea ice—far removed from most major metropolitan areas—is no longer plastic-free. According to Dr. Jeremy Wilkinson of the British Antarctic Survey, "this suggests that microplastics are now ubiquitous within the surface waters of the world’s ocean. Nowhere is immune."

Humanity has a waste problem. Globally, we generate about 1.3 billion tons of trash per year, far more than we can properly process or recycle. This leads to environmental tragedies like ocean plastic pollution and geopolitical tensions as Western countries search for new places to stash their trash.

Because we waste so much, we must extract unsustainable quantities of natural resources to keep pace with growing consumption. OECD has calculated that flow of materials through acquisition, transportation, processing, manufacturing, use and disposal are already responsible for approximately 50 percent of greenhouse gas emissions. The UN International Resources Panel projects the use of natural resources to more than double by 2050.

How did we get here? In short, most of our global economy is designed for linearity—take, make, waste—rather than circularity. To create a truly circular economy, the world must overcome the following five barriers:

1. Meeting consumers’ expectations for convenience.

Imagine living your life without producing any trash. How would you do it? Bea Johnson, author of Zero Waste Home, coaches everyday people on how to live a trash-free life through habits like bringing linen bags to the grocery store and buying rice, beans and other staples.
from bulk bins. The lifestyle she models was typical before disposable, single-use plastic products and packaging became the norm, but today we use 20 times as much plastic as we did 50 years ago. Can we expect consumers to change the way they operate and the types of products they buy? Will they abandon commonplace conveniences like plastic bottles and bags?

These consumer choices matter, but much of the problem lies with the business and regulatory environment that keeps our economy running. Which brings me to the next four points...

2. Government regulations can create waste.

Sometimes, laws and regulations unintentionally incentivize wasteful behavior among companies and consumers. This is a common problem in the food and beverage sector. For example, expiration date labels are often required by law to protect the consumer, but may not account for differences in how food is stored—so the date label on eggs in Europe may be labeled for pantry storage, but will last longer when refrigerated. Expiration dates are also often misunderstood to mean that a food is no longer edible, when in reality it is still safe to eat but may not meet the manufacturer’s quality standards. (Good news: a consortium of companies have agreed to fix this.)

3. Many places lack proper waste infrastructure.

Nearly one-third of plastics are not collected by a waste management system and end up as litter in the world's lands, rivers and oceans. There could be more plastics than fish in the ocean by 2050, shows one study. This problem is especially severe in developing countries that lack strong waste management infrastructure. More than half of plastic litter comes from China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, so improving waste management and recycling systems in these countries could make a big difference in keeping plastic out of our natural spaces.

4. Recycling technology isn't good enough.

Most plastics that are recycled are shredded and reprocessed into lower-value applications, such as polyester carpet fiber; only 2 percent are recycled into products of the same or similar quality. This is largely due to limitations in how plastics can be sorted by chemical composition and cleaned of additives. We need better recycling technology that can maintain quality and purity so that product manufacturers are willing to use recycled plastics. Once this technology is deployed at a large scale, we can start recapturing the economic value of plastics, incentivizing their recovery and recycling.

5. We use the wrong business models.

The world is on track to exceed 9.5 billion people by 2050, with far fewer living in poverty than today. Thanks to the rapid industrialization of developing countries like China, Brazil and India, the global middle class is exploding—meaning a lot more people want to buy a lot more stuff.

This is a human development victory, but a grave threat to our environment unless the businesses that produce and sell goods can reinvent how they do so. For example, clothing
companies can lessen their environmental impacts by using non-toxic dyes and recycling cloth scraps. But to clothe the booming middle class within planetary boundaries, they will need to upend the current "fast fashion" business model in favor of alternative models such as rental and resale. For example, Rent the Runway allows consumers to rent designer clothing for a fraction of the retail price. This service is great for consumers, and it benefits the planet because an item of clothing is used more than if it were sold to single buyer.

Companies should also design products for circularity. For example, if lithium ion battery manufacturers designed their products with similar mixtures of chemicals, it would allow for more recycling because recyclers could standardize their process.

How Do We Overcome the Barriers? Partnerships Are Key

The barriers listed here prevent companies, governments and consumers from solving our trash problem and making better use of natural resources. Each of these barriers must be overcome, but we cannot rely exclusively on companies, governments or consumers to do it all.

We need innovative public-private partnerships like the ones sought by platforms P4G and PACE. Companies, investors, governments and civil society each offer unique financial, intellectual and operational assets that can be strategically deployed to solve big problems they couldn't solve alone. For example, the World Bank found that private-public partnerships to build water infrastructure in Africa were most effective when financed by a mix of private and public sources, since public funding reduced risk to private investors and private investors' return requirements improved efficiency and prevented cost overruns.

We need government policies that provide essential protections while fostering innovation and risk taking by the private sector to advance circular solutions. We also need to ensure that the most vulnerable in society have a strong voice in designing solutions so that their concerns for jobs and health are assured. This is an "all-hands-on-deck" moment in history—and early movers are likely to capture significant market opportunities. The coalitions are forming. If you run a major company, investment vehicle or government agency, you should be securing your seat.
A collaborative research team from China has published a new analysis that shows the Earth’s climate would increase by 4 °C, compared to pre-industrial levels, before the end of 21st century.

To understand the severity of this, consider the Paris Agreement of the United Nations. It’s a global effort to prevent an increase of 2°C. Nearly every country on the planet--the United States is the only country to withdraw--has agreed to work to prevent the catastrophic effects of two degrees of warming.

The researchers published their analysis projecting a doubling of that increase in Advances in Atmospheric Sciences.

"A great many record-breaking heat events, heavy floods, and extreme droughts would occur if global warming crosses the 4 °C level, with respect to the preindustrial period," said Dabang Jiang, a senior researcher at the Institute of Atmospheric Physics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. "The temperature increase would cause severe threats to ecosystems, human systems, and associated societies and economies."

In the analysis, Jiang and his team used the parameters of scenario in which there was no mitigation of rising greenhouse gas emissions. They compared 39 coordinated climate model experiments from the fifth phase of the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project, which develops and reviews climate models to ensure the most accurate climate simulations possible.

They found that most of the models projected an increase of 4°C as early as 2064 and as late as 2095 in the 21st century, with 2084 appearing as the median year.

This increase translates to more annual and seasonal warming over land than over the ocean, with significant warming in the Arctic. The variability of temperature throughout one year would be lower in the tropics and higher in polar regions, while precipitation would most likely increase in the Arctic and in the Pacific. These are the same effects that would occur under 1.5°C or 2°C increases, but more severe.

"Such comparisons between the three levels of global warming imply that global and regional climate will undergo greater changes if higher levels of global warming are crossed in the 21st century," wrote Jiang.

The researchers continue to investigate the changes associated with 4°C of global warming in extreme climates.
"Our ultimate goal is to provide a comprehensive picture of the mean and extreme climate changes associated with higher levels of global warming based on state-of-the art climate models, which is of high interest to the decision-makers and the public," said Jiang.

ReliefWeb, “When Two Becomes One: Blending Public and Private Climate Finance”, 23 mai 2018

With the landmark Paris Agreement now almost two years old, funding for climate-related activities continues to be a challenge. However, efforts have been underway to bring two seemingly very different sectors together to address climate change.

While developed countries have committed to channeling 100 billion dollars to developing countries by 2020, trillions may be needed in order to keep global warming below 2 degrees Celsius.

“Trying to address climate change at current financing levels is like walking into a Category 5 hurricane protected by only an umbrella,” said head of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Patricia Espinosa during a conference.

“Right now, we are talking in millions and billions of dollars when we should be speaking in trillions,” she continued.

Achieving the ambitious climate goals set out by the international community will require major financial investments by both the public and private sectors in order to fill funding gaps.

It also requires coming up with ways for the two sectors to work together.

“International organizations such as the Global Green Institute (GGGI) and development banks are trying and testing different structures, different methods of financing, different blends of public and private financing all the time. And occasionally, things work,” GGGI’s Principal Climate Finance Specialist Fenella Aouane told IPS.

The Green Climate Fund (GCF), set up by UNFCC, was given an important role to serve the Paris Agreement and has since used public investment to mobilize private finance towards low-emission, climate-resilient development.

In March, the GCF approved concessional funding to 23 projects in developing countries valued together at 1 billion dollars.

“This large volume of projects for both mitigation and adaptation – and the additional USD 60 million for readiness support – shows that GCF is ready to shift gear in supporting developing countries to achieve their climate goals.... The projects adopted here will make a real impact in the face of climate challenges,” said GCF Co-Chair Paul Oquist.
Aouane echoed similar sentiments about GCF’s efforts to IPS, stating: “They are testing the waters but that was a very good move by the GCF to say if we’re going to get the private sector, we have got to start dealing with them.”

And waving a magic wand won’t get the private sector, whose sole purpose is to make profits, to funnel money into climate mitigation and adaptation.

“[We need] to make projects more attractive for private sector investment. Reduce the costs, reduce the risks, and do a few using that concessional funding to show that they worked,” Aouane said.

Already, successes can be seen in renewable energy development.

With the help of concessional finance and continued political will, there has been a boom in renewable energy development across the world, opening the door to more players.

According to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the private sector paved the way in renewable energy investment in 2016, providing 92 percent of funding compared to 8 percent from the public sector.

This has helped rapidly reduce the cost of renewable energy, which is set to be cheaper than fossil fuels by 2020.

In fact, solar and wind energy is already cheaper than fossil fuels in many parts of the world.

The forestry sector, on the other hand, is finding it more difficult to attract investments, Aouane told IPS.

“Forestry is a struggle in the sense of what is return, where do you make your money in a project?” she said.

But there is an ongoing initiative by the aviation industry that could help protect forests, Aouane noted.

In an effort to offset its carbon emissions, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has looked to buy credits from projects that reduce emissions such as forestry.

This could not only help level out their emissions, but also help nations protect their forests from deforestation and ensure biodiversity.

“If they do this, then there will be a possible clear return for investors in forestry because they will be able to purchase the forest and then sell the emission reduction assets to an airline who will pay for it. If the price is sufficient, then it’s attractive enough for the private sector,” Aouane said.

The idea has been controversial, however, with environmental groups noting that the move is not enough to substantially offset or reduce emissions.

The environmental group Fern also found that the Virgin Atlantic airline’s carbon offsetting projects in Cambodia have actually led to local residents being “exploited and kicked off their
land,” while another project in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) by Austrian Airlines and the San Diego Airport has resulted in increased deforestation.

Other challenges arise when bringing together two very different sectors with different goals, Aouane said.

“Using some World Bank finance and some GCF finance is relatively simple because they are both heading in the same direction culturally. But when the private sector gets involved, there can often be an issue with trying to get mindsets to work together,” she told IPS.

“You can imagine that the mindsets are very different about how you put a deal together and how you actually get the motives right that the project is right for everybody,” Aouane continued.

The GCF provides a model for bringing the two sectors together, and its new projects could help the private sector become even more involved. But it will take time, Aouane said.

“There is work happening, but I think quite often people forget how long it takes for things to change…but it will get done,” Aouane said.


The vision for a sustainable future in Africa is being realized at a time of great possibilities and this vision is underpinned by a shift in continental focus towards sustainable and inclusive economic growth and development. This focus highlights strategic efforts towards poverty alleviation, resilience building, promoting sustainable infrastructure and, efficient management of natural resources.

With this, East Africa stands as one of the fastest growing regions on the continent, with a projected economic growth rate of 5.9% in 2018 and 6.1% in 2019. Within the region, Ethiopia
is amongst the top contributors to this growth, with notable growth in real gross domestic product (GDP) averaging 10.8% between 2003 and 2015 (Second Growth and Transformation Plan – GTP II 2015/16-2019/20).

Ethiopia’s rapid development is largely attributed to a public investment-led development strategy that has produced tangible growth and has measurably improved social circumstances. These interventions have been guided by a series of targeted macro-economic planning instruments, namely, the First and Second Growth and Transformation Plans (GTP I 2010-2015 & GTP II 2015-2020), which outline the goals and benchmarks for Ethiopia to reach middle-income status by 2025.

Still, while inclusive growth and development is occurring, it has been differentiated in terms of distribution of gains across geographical regions and socio-economic groups. This is partly attributed to the fact that Ethiopia has one of the most complex and variable climates in the world as a result of its location between various climatic systems and its diverse geographical structure.

Ethiopia, and its expanding socio-economic systems, are thus left vulnerable to adverse effects of climate change. So much so that by 2050, several key shifts in the climate are expected to develop, namely: Continued temperature increases; Annual rainfall variability and; Overall shifts in seasonal rainfall patterns.

Thus, climate change has the potential to leave the goals of reaching middle-income status by 2025, highly susceptible – the negative impact on the GDP is estimated to possibly reach 10% or more by 2050 – leaving the most vulnerable groups disproportionally impacted.

Recognizing the seriousness of this, Ethiopia stands committed to building a Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE), through developing a CRGE Strategy, which has been fully integrated into the GTP II at federal and sector levels. The CRGE embodies a political commitment to green growth nationwide as well as a realization that climate resilience is a core development priority for the future.

The CRGE is anchored in the following pillars: Sustained economic growth, at an average of 11% per annum (in real terms); Protection from the adverse effects of climate change and build resilience and; Limited emissions for this development trajectory and achievement a 64% reduction by 2030. It is based on this that Ethiopia has submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC’s), making it one of the first Least Developed Countries (LDC’s) to do this, with one of the most ambitious targets set by any economy globally.

As such, the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) has been supporting the Government of Ethiopia since 2010, with the development and implementation of its CRGE vision and strategy – developed at sector level for Agriculture and Forestry (2014) and for Water and Energy (2015). GGGI’s in-country delivery model consists of embedded expert/advisory technical support and capacity building to support CRGE ambitions and remain responsive to the dynamic issues facing its full realization.

Interventions are in fundamental alignment of CRGE strategic priorities, namely incentivizing targeted interventions and focused investment approaches that go well beyond the notion of
‘growth at all costs.’ Interventions are instead anchored in the principle of shared responsibility in building long-term, sector-wide resilience capacity to achieve carbon neutral growth.

To help ensure the bold vision and ambitions of the CRGE are fully realized by all of its principal stakeholders, GGGI supported the establishment and operationalization of the CRGE Facility, the CRGE’s principal national financing vehicle, based in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation (MoFEC).

This work has been focused on supporting the facility with positioning itself to mobilize and channel resources for climate action from domestic, international, public and private sector sources and the capitalize bankable green growth projects. In line with this, in 2015 and 2016, GGGI supported MoFEC attain direct access accreditation by the Adaptation Fund (AF) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF), respectively.

Further, in 2017, GGGI supported the Facility with the mobilization of USD 60 million from the AF and GCF and mobilization of USD 75 million from bilateral development partners towards Ethiopia’s large scale Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) Implementation Program.

With all that said, as we move forward and continue to build on the milestones reached in Ethiopia thus far, we draw on key lessons to continue to develop, scale-up and replicate climate-smart interventions to collectively achieve transformation and advance green growth development in the country and on the continent at large.

Our work moving forward shall continue to be focused on interventions that: Are aligned with Ethiopia’s key national strategies and implementation plans and anchored by its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs); Demonstrate real potential for transformational impact and; Demonstrate replicability/scale-up potential at national and continental levels, towards further unleashing climate smart opportunities in Africa.

**IPS, “Designing adaptation projects for the Green Climate Fund”, 30 mai 2018**

http://www.ipsnews.net/2018/05/designing-adaptation-projects-green-climate-fund/

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) was set up under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to channel much of the USD 100 billion a year starting from 2020 onwards that the developed countries have promised to provide to developing countries to tackle climate change through both mitigation and adaptation projects and activities.

The GCF with its headquarters in Songdo, South Korea has already started functioning and has also approved a number of projects for mitigation and only a few for adaptation.

The reason is that although the GCF Board has tasked the managers to award only half the funds for mitigation and ensure that at least half goes for adaptation with a focus on the most vulnerable developing countries, they are finding it difficult to approve adaptation projects.
Hence in practice the projects approved so far have been mostly for mitigation rather than for adaptation. One major reason is that the GCF’s mandate is to support projects that tackle climate change and not just support run-of-the-mill development projects—and adaptation to climate change project proposals looks very similar to development projects. Indeed the GCF Board has already rejected two projects (one from Bangladesh and the other from Ethiopia) on the grounds that (some of) the Board members were unconvinced that the projects were not just development projects dressed up as adaptation projects.

So the project submitter, UNDP, had to go back and redesign the proposals to demonstrate that they were primarily adaptation projects with some development co-benefits. Fortunately, they were able to redesign, resubmit and get approval for both proposals, but a lot of effort was wasted in the process.

I will discuss some reasons for this skewed performance in favour of mitigation and provide some ideas on how the GCF can restore the balance by enhancing investment in adaptation projects.

The first and foremost reason why mitigation projects are easy to approve is that the climate change benefit of reducing emissions of greenhouse gases by mitigation is relatively easy to calculate and demonstrate. Identifying and calculating adaptation to climate change benefits that are different from development benefits is an impossible task.

The GCF should try to benefit from the more than a decade of developing, funding and implementing adaptation projects around the world by others, including the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and Adaptation Fund (AF) as well as national governments and NGOs to find some practical guidance on how to design adaptation projects well. Based on some of my own experiences, I am going to share some lessons and suggest ways forward for consideration by the GCF Secretariat and Board.

My first observation is that almost all adaptation projects will have development co-benefits but not all development projects will have adaptation co-benefits. Hence using climate change impact analysis as the basis for selecting the location, the beneficiaries and the proposed interventions is the correct methodology to follow. Once that is done, development co-benefits can also be included in the proposed interventions. This, I will call the “climate first” principle.

The second lesson is the timescale issue: a normal development project would generally have the development benefits delivered during the project period itself so that the benefits of the investment are immediately visible (and can be evaluated). Take for example a project to install tube wells for drinking water where the number of wells installed and amount of water being supplied can be measured immediately after the project ends and the project can thus be evaluated a success (or failure as the case may be).

On the other hand, the impacts of human-induced climate change lie decades ahead and are unlikely to occur during the project period (which is typically around five years or so). Hence it will be impossible to evaluate the success of the project immediately after it is over since the success (or lack of it) can only be judged many years later.
Thus an adaptation project is more like a programme for planting fruit trees, where the project output is the number of seeds planted, but the outcome is the number of trees which grow to provide fruits many years later. Someone needs to continue to take care of the trees as they grow and someone else needs to monitor their growth and evaluate the fruit production.

Hence for a project to be truly about adaptation to climate change, it needs to include in its design both a clear “exit strategy” and a post-project “sustainability plan.” This is the “sustainability” principle.

The third lesson flows from the above: the need to focus the project investment in capacity building of the project’s “legacy partners,” who will be responsible for developing and implementing the post-project sustainability plan. Thus the real investment of an adaptation project is building the adaptive capacity of the legacy partners. I call this the “capacity building” principle.

The fourth and final lesson is that adaptation to climate change is still a relatively young science and the practice and new knowledge are being developed in a learning-by-doing manner. This means that new knowledge comes from practitioners who will learn what works and what doesn’t through experiential knowledge. This will allow future investment to focus on the successful investments and not in those that don’t work. However, it will require investment in harnessing the experiential knowledge by including specialists (or researchers). I will call this the “inclusion of researchers” principle.

Finally, I would like to suggest that the GCF invest in setting up a specialist group of researchers who would be able to serve this function at the national level as well as be a network of knowledge across countries. A network of universities and research institutions would be ideally placed to maximise the potential knowledge generated from the future portfolio of adaptation projects that the GCF will hopefully fund over the coming years.

This group of universities and research institutions can also develop and help deliver capacity building through training and mentoring of the project implementers.

Xinhua, “Kenya to reform laws to enhance biodiversity conservation”, 22 mai 2018

Kenya plans to reform its laws in order to enhance biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization of national resources, a government official said on Tuesday.
Keriako Tobiko, cabinet secretary in the Ministry of Environment, said in a statement published in the Daily Nation that the country's efforts to conserve biodiversity have not matched increasing evidence of biodiversity loss.

The Ministry of Environment has formulated and reviewed laws and regulations to implement the provisions of the constitution as well as the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Tobiko said.

"The new legislative frameworks are geared to enhance biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization of our national resources," Tobiko said in remarks marking the International Day for Biological Diversity.

He said the day is important to international, regional, national and local communities, as it creates public awareness on the link between biodiversity and sustainable development.

"It therefore provides an opportunity for Kenya to communicate to the world the importance of biodiversity, its conservation and sustainable use of its components, and the equitable sharing of benefits by the uses of genetic resources," Tobiko said.

He said the key challenges impeding Kenya's progress in sustainable use of biodiversity includes poaching, illegal trade in wildlife and timber products, human-wildlife conflicts, encroachment of habitats, pollution, as well as poor disposal of waste.

According to the ministry of environment, Kenya is abundantly endowed with biodiversity, and this has direct and indirect benefits to livelihood support systems of local communities and Kenya's socio-economic development.

Tobiko added that biodiversity also plays a major role in climate change adaption through the provision of a variety of genetic materials that can be used to develop crops that can cope with extreme climatic conditions and mitigation through carbon sequestration by the different ecosystems.

Charles Sunkuli, principal Secretary in the Ministry of Environment, said Kenya has made considerable progress in implementing the Nagoya Protocol on access to genetic resources, which was adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Kenya signed the protocol in 2012 and ratified it in 2014.

Dorington Ogoyi, CEO of National Biosafety Authority, said that Kenya is currently domesticating the provisions of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety that is a party to the Convention on Biological Diversity.


He said Kenya’s 2009 Biosafety Act was meant to domesticate the provisions of the Cartagena Protocol.

"The country has further developed four regulations to implement the biosafety laws and has submitted three national reports on the Implementation of Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Biosafety Clearing House," Ogoyi said.
He noted that the lack of a state-of-the-art molecular laboratory for detection and testing of genetically modified organisms poses a challenge to the full implementation of the Cartagena Protocol.

**DW, “African deforestation: 'If nothing is done, we may lose everything’”, 30 mai 2018**

http://www.dw.com/en/african-deforestation-if-nothing-is-done-we-may-lose-everything/a-43924887

Africa's tropical forests, which include the Congo Basin, are under constant threat. Deutsche Welle speaks to Proforest’s Abraham Baffoe on what stands to be lost and what needs to be done to tackle deforestation.

Africa's tropical forests include the Guinean Forests of West Africa and the Congo Basin, a sprawling rainforest often referred to as the world’s second set of lungs. The continent’s forests store 171 gigatons of carbon, are home to many plants and animals that exist nowhere else in the world and support an estimated 100 million people.

Abraham Baffoe, Africa regional director at Proforest, speaks to Deutsche Welle about the threats facing these forests and the urgent work that needs to be done to tackle deforestation.

**DW: What is the state of deforestation in Africa today?**

Abraham Baffoe: Africa houses about the second largest forest block in the world but unfortunately this forest is going, and it is going very fast. Currently in some African countries they are losing forest at a rate of about 2-3 percent per year, in some countries much faster. At this rate, if nothing is done, we may lose everything.

In the last 100 years, West Africa has lost about 90 percent of forest coverage. In many African countries the only forests left are reserved for permanent forestry, which means they are
protected. Now in places like Ghana and the Ivory Coast we don't have any forest left outside the reserves and now even the reserves are being encroached upon and being degraded by excessive logging and exploitation. In the Congo Basin, where there are still forests outside the reserves, these areas are going very fast because of agriculture, commodity development and farming activity by small-holder farmers.

What are the wider impacts of deforestation on the continent?

Well frankly speaking, the impact of deforestation, from my point of view, goes beyond what we as human beings can imagine. There are several things we don't know and so we can't fully understand what the impact of losing our forest will be.

What we do know is the impact it will have on biodiversity. If you look at the West African Forest, it is one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world. There are several animals and plants that only exist in these forests. They can’t survive without their habitat, so when you lose the forest, they will also disappear. Then there is the impact in accelerating climate change — that is something we now all know — as well as the huge economic impact. What is also critical is the impact it has on people who depend on the forest socially and economically. For example, there are indigenous people who live in the Congo Basin, and the forest is their source of livelihood. We are destroying the habitat of these people — and that means we are driving them out of this world, which we don't have the right to do.

How much collaboration is happening between decision makers at the policy level?

I think collaborating and working together is essential if you really want to address deforestation. Tackling the underlying causes of deforestation is not something that government alone can address. It is also not something the private sector alone can address. It requires collaborative efforts of the private sector, the government and even the communities who live in the forest.

It is also important that we don't just think about conservation and protection. We also have to make sure we develop livelihood options and economic opportunities for the local communities. We need to get their support, and we can’t do that if they don’t know how they will survive — how they will get up in the morning and provide food for their children and family.

How significant was the 2016 African Palm Oil Initiative?

That was where the collaboration all started. It was a significant moment when the key stakeholders in African countries came together and realized that things such as palm oil used for commodities were the major drivers of deforestation.

In Latin America the focus is more on soy and cattle, but we recognized that our focus in Africa needs to be on palm oil. The heart of the initiative is the recognition that government and the private sector needed to work together to create principles on how land should be allocated and used. The initiative is not about saying all palm oil is bad but instead pushing for it to be sourced responsibly and sustainably, and about making sure that the wealth is shared
between private companies and the local community. The fact that we had the major countries agree on this is an important mark of progress.

What this means on the ground, is that for instance in Liberia we saw a community saying if farmers come onto our land, we don't want to just be oil palm plantation workers, we also want to be owners of our palm. And for me that is a phenomenal statement. The Liberian government have integrated the principles of the initiative and stated that no company will be given land without a requirement for the company to create small-holder farms for the community.

**As an expert working on this issue, do you feel hopeful about the future of tackling deforestation in Africa?**

If we were to maintain the status quo then I'm going to be very disappointed and feel that there is no hope for the forests of Africa. However, if we keep moving toward more collaboration between the government and private sector, agreeing what needs to be done, then I am very positive and hopeful. But I can't say I am 100 percent certain about the future — because it is one thing to agree on these principles, like those in the African Palm Oil Initiative, and it is another to translate them into action on the ground. The agreement only happened two years ago so we haven't yet seen what it can do. But I'm hopeful that if we go on as we have started then in three or four years there will be concrete impact that can be demonstrated.

**WWF, “Mountain gorilla numbers surpass 1,000 despite challenges”, 31 mai 2018**

http://wwf.panda.org/wwf_news/?uNewsID=328641

Numbers of critically endangered mountain gorillas are on the up, following conservation efforts in the transboundary Virunga Massif, one of the two remaining areas where the great ape is still found.
Survey results released today reveal that numbers have increased to 604 from an estimated 480 in 2010, including 41 social groups, along with 14 solitary males in the transboundary area. This brings the global wild population of mountain gorillas to an estimated 1,004 when combined with published figures from Bwindi Impenetrable National Park (where the rest of the sub-species is found) and makes it the only great ape in the world that is considered to be increasing in population.

The findings are the result of intensive surveying coordinated by the Greater Virunga Transboundary Collaboration and supported by the International Gorilla Conservation Programme (IGCP – a coalition programme of Fauna & Flora International and WWF) along with other partners.

Despite this good news, the survey found that direct threats from wire or rope snares persist. During the surveys, the teams found and destroyed more than 380 snares, which were set for antelope but can also kill or harm gorillas. One of the snares discovered by the teams contained a dead mountain gorilla. There are also new threats looming large on the horizon, including climate change, infrastructure development and the ever-present spectre of disease, which has the potential to devastate the remaining populations.

Ongoing conflict and civil unrest in the region also present an ongoing risk, impacting people and wildlife. A number of rangers have been killed in recent weeks in the Democratic Republic of Congo’s Virunga National Park.

Margaret Kinnaird, Wildlife Practice Leader, WWF (World Wide Fund For Nature) said:

“This is fabulous news for mountain gorillas and shows what we can do for wildlife when NGOs, governments and their communities work together. However, the high number of snares encountered and the numerous other threats they face including climate change indicate that the battle is far from won. The three gorilla range countries and their partners must continue to work together to safeguard the Virunga Massif – not only for the protection of these incredible creatures but also for the welfare of the local people with whom they share the landscape. The mountain gorilla story can be a model for how to restore and maintain our earth’s precious biodiversity.”

Alison Mollon, Director of Operations for Africa at Fauna & Flora International (FFI), said:

“Since FFI first began working to protect mountain gorillas in the 1970s, we have seen a remarkable transformation in the fortunes of this great ape, which at that time was on the very precipice of extinction. This turnaround is thanks to the extraordinary efforts of all those who have persisted through immense challenges – sometimes even risking their own lives – to protect these great apes. Today, mountain gorilla numbers are looking much healthier, but this is no time for complacency. We need to remain extremely vigilant, particularly in light of the ever-present and growing threat posed by the transmission of human-borne diseases that are relatively innocuous for us, but potentially fatal to other primates.”

The census involved twelve teams - comprising people from more than 10 institutions – which covered over 2,000 km of difficult, forested terrain systematically searching the mountain
gorilla habitat for signs of the animals, recording nest sites and collecting faeces samples for genetic analysis. The teams also looked for evidence of threats to gorillas and other wildlife.

Reacting to the news, Fauna & Flora International vice-president and WWF-UK ambassador, Sir David Attenborough said:

“When I first visited the mountain gorillas in 1979, the situation was dire; the number of these remarkable animals was dreadfully small. It is incredibly heartening therefore to see how the efforts of so many different groups – communities, governments, NGOs – have paid off. The threats to mountain gorillas haven’t disappeared entirely, of course, so now the challenge must be to ensure that these achievements are sustained long into the future.”

The survey results underscore the need for continued attention and action by government agencies, protected area staff, tourism operators, tourists and communities alike, to ward off these threats and keep mountain gorillas safe in the long term.

ODD 16

ONU Info, « Le chef de l’ONU appelle les Etats membres à faire plus pour lutter contre la corruption », 23 mai 2018
https://news.un.org/fr/story/2018/05/1014802

Lors d’un débat à l’Assemblée générale des Nations Unies sur la lutte contre la corruption, le Secrétaire général de l’ONU, António Guterres, a encouragé mercredi les Etats membres à faire plus pour lutter contre le fléau.

Le chef de l’ONU a estimé que ce débat destiné à marquer le 15e anniversaire de l’adoption de la Convention des Nations Unies contre la corruption, tombait à point nommé pour réfléchir à la façon de mettre en œuvre l’objectif de développement durable 16 (Paix, justice et institutions efficaces), dont le but est de lutter contre la corruption, de renforcer les
activités de restitution des biens volés et de promouvoir des institutions ouvertes et transparentes.

« La corruption affecte aussi bien les pays développés que ceux en développement, et la complicité ne connaît pas de frontières », a déclaré M. Guterres, soulignant que ceux qui peuvent le moins se permettre de voir fleurir la corruption chez eux sont généralement ceux qui en souffrent le plus. « Elle freine le développement économique, fige l’esprit d’entreprise et décourage les investissements étrangers ».

Selon M. Guterres, une société ne peut fonctionner équitablement et efficacement quand ses fonctionnaires, qu’il s’agisse des médecins, des policiers, des juges ou des hommes politiques, s’enrichissent personnellement au lieu de s’acquitter de leur tâche avec intégrité.

« La corruption vole les ressources des écoles, des hôpitaux, des infrastructures et des services vitaux », a-t-il encore dénoncé. Mais la corruption favorise également l’apparition de la traite, du trafic illégal de migrants, des flux financiers illicites et du trafic illégal de ressources naturelles, d’armes, de drogue et de bien culturels.

Non seulement la corruption attise les conflits, mais elle fragilise également la paix obtenue durement obtenue. Elle pousse ses victimes à chercher de meilleures opportunités ailleurs, voire à se laisser séduire par des groupes terroristes et l’extrémisme violent.

« La solution est de déraciner et d’éradiquer la corruption à tous les niveaux et de restaurer la confiance lorsqu’elle a été perdue », a déclaré M. Guterres, estimant que l’ONU avait un rôle crucial à jouer pour y parvenir. Selon lui, l’Organisation peut appuyer les États Membres dans leur lutte contre la corruption de plusieurs façons, y compris en faisant la promotion des bonnes pratiques et en soutenant les commissions nationales de lutte contre la corruption, telles que la Commission internationale contre l’impunité au Guatemala.

Dans ce cadre, le Secrétaire général a estimé que la Convention des Nations Unies contre la corruption avait permis de reconnaître le fait que la corruption n’était « ni acceptable, ni un mal nécessaire ». C’est un crime sérieux tout simplement inacceptable, a-t-il insisté.

Forte de ses 184 parties, la Convention est presque un instrument universel qui permet de lutter contre le blanchiment d’argent et les flux financiers illicites et rend possible le retour des actifs volés, a souligné M. Guterres. Toutefois, a-t-il mis en garde, nous n’arriverons pas à lutter durablement contre ce fléau sans l’implication du secteur privé, l’engagement de la société civile et la vigilance de la presse libre et indépendante.

Selon lui, les pays africains doivent aussi jouer un rôle moteur dans cette lutte, qui s’est d’ores et déjà incarnée dans des initiatives pour lutter contre le blanchiment d’argent au Nigéria et en Tunisie. « Les gouvernements doivent joindre le geste à la parole », a-t-il dit, appelant, en ce 15e anniversaire de la Convention, à instaurer une « culture de l’intégrité à l’échelle mondiale ». 
UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has announced a vision and agenda for global disarmament, aiming to eliminate nuclear arsenals and other deadly weapons around the world. He said the initiative has a strong basis in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and that spending resources on weapons drains resources from sustainable development efforts.

Guterres introduced the agenda in remarks at the University of Geneva, Switzerland, on 24 May 2018. It is also presented in a publication titled, ‘Securing Our Common Future,’ released on the same day.

Recalling that the UN was created with the goal of “eliminating war as an instrument of foreign policy,” Guterres noted that arms control continues to be “in the news everyday.” The Agenda will focus on three priorities: reducing and eliminating weapons of mass destruction, “to save humanity”; reducing and mitigating the impact of conventional weapons, “to save lives”; and addressing new battlefield technologies, “for future generations.”

Guterres explained that disarmament of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons can prevent and end violence, support sustainable development and support the UN’s values and principles. Observing that 15,000 nuclear weapons are stockpiled around the world, he said the world is “one mechanical, electronic or human error away from a catastrophe that could eradicate entire cities from the map,” and appealed to States with nuclear weapons to take action to avoid catastrophe. He called for the US and the Russian Federation to: resolve the dispute over the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty; to extend the New START Treaty on strategic offensive arms, which is scheduled to expire in three years; and to take new steps towards reducing nuclear stockpiles.

On small arms, the UN Secretary-General announced a new initiative to combat the illicit circulation and trade in small arms. He said he will dedicate resources within the Peacebuilding Fund to support government action on illicit small arms and light weapons.

On new technologies, Guterres urged the use of big data and analytics and artificial intelligence, among other new technological tools, to help combat and mitigate climate change, protect the environment and create conditions for development and growth for all. However, governments must improve oversight, transparency and accountability to ensure that science and technology is used for peaceful purposes, he said.

The UN Secretary-General also highlighted linkages between the disarmament agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, underscoring that “excessive spending on weapons drains resources for sustainable development” and is incompatible with creating inclusive, stable societies, strong institutions, effective democracy and governance and a culture of respect for human rights. The disarmament agenda underscores a “vast potential” to operationally link implementation of disarmament objectives with many SDGs, the report
notes, arguing that such action can help to bring back the historical relationship between disarmament and development.

‘Securing Our Common Future’ explains that disarmament can support progress on SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions), which includes targets on disarmament and arms regulations. In addition, it identifies connections between disarmament and SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities), SDG 14 (life below water), SDG 15 (life on land) and SDG 17 (partnerships for the Goals).

On SDG 3, for example, the report cites armed violence as a leading cause of premature death, and argues that disarmament and arms control can reduce the impact of conflict on human health. Gender-responsive disarmament and arms control can reduce violence against women and girls, in line with SDG 5. Disarmament and arms control can support SDG 14 and SDG 15 by reducing the impact of weapons on the environment; previous testing and use of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons have contaminated the environment.

Linkages between the ‘Securing Our Common Future’ agenda and the SDGs are highlighted throughout the document, with specific recommendations for how States can address disarmament and the SDGs.

**ODD 17**

**ECDPM Great Insights magazine, Spring 2018 (volume 7, issue 2)**

FAO’s promotion of sustainability criteria for leveraging finance in agriculture, 24 mai 2018


Achieving sustainable development – and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – calls for significant investment over the coming years. In the case of food and agriculture, this will need to come from governments, development partners and, on a far greater scale than in the past, from the private sector. Developing new financial models for sustainable development and ensuring harmony with the demanding policy vision and high ambitions of the 2030 Agenda is more than feasible; they are necessary and indispensable elements of our way forward.
1. In your view, what is the role and strategy of FAO to attract and accelerate private investments for sustainable development?

The ultimate objective is sustainability at scale. This means putting the development process – which we now understand as a universal process – on a different pathway. Development must conform to all three pillars of sustainable development: it must be socially inclusive, economically dynamic, and respectful of the needs of our common planetary home. The public funds available now, or even in the past, simply are not sufficient to achieve these transformative ambitions of the 2030 Agenda. FAO, accordingly, is increasingly concerned with mobilizing private sector investment, with a particular focus on transforming food systems, which have a powerful bearing on nearly all of the SDGs. As we know, the SDGs were developed by UN member governments – the main counterparts of FAO – but in consultation with people from all walks of life, and with the intention that they should apply to everybody – producers, including family farmers, small local companies and large multinationals, and consumers, NGOs, philanthropies, experts and individuals. Reaching so many actors requires FAO to move beyond its traditional inter-governmental sphere, and find new ways to make an impact on what is happening on the ground. The challenge is to ensure that food and agriculture sector investments encourage sustainability, based on FAO’s extensive experience and technical knowledge.

2. Where do you see differences between FAO’s past practice and new ideas and strategies?

Although FAO is an intergovernmental organisation, the food and agriculture sector – farming and food production in all their variety, along with distribution and consumption – are predominantly private activities. As such, FAO has always interacted with the private sector, though largely indirectly. Traditionally, public investment programmes supported by FAO aimed at small-scale farmers, fishers, pastoralists and forest people. This continues today, albeit with a strong focus on youth and women. FAO’s contribution to public finance came primarily through the FAO Investment Centre, which supported the undertakings International Financial Institutions (IFIs), such as the World Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), in making investments in food and agriculture. The recently-launched EU External Investment Plan (EIP) provides FAO with a new kind of opportunity, along the lines of the private sector window of the World Bank (WB), to support direct investment in the private sector. The EIP blends traditional development assistance (ODA) to subsidize public funding and encourage lending to riskier private clients. In exchange for this subsidy, it has been proposed that the IFIs should attempt to de-risk their lending activities by explicitly linking their investments to the norms and standards of the 2030 Agenda. In this way, a powerful incentive is created for private entities to behave in ways that are consistent with the aims and aspirations of the 2030 Agenda. In the areas of food and agriculture, FAO is the world’s primary supplier of these norms and standards, and can play a decisive role in enabling this linkage between lending to private entities and compliance with the UN norms embedded in the SDGs and through inter-governmentally agreed normative frameworks.

3. But how do you ensure that the investments are both sustainable and inclusive?
This is the crux of the matter. FAO’s normative work, which combines a solid knowledge base with policy dialogue, can help address practical challenges of sustainable investment. Let’s take a practical example – land tenure or land grabbing. In order to tackle these issues, the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure were developed under the auspices of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS). These guidelines were intended for governments to make laws that embody the notion of responsible governance, including environmental, economic and social sustainability. The technical guide for investors on the ‘Responsible governance of tenure’ derives from the principles in the Voluntary Guidelines, and is a practical tool for potential and future investors to ensure that their investments are sustainable. In this way, a strong UN knowledge base can underpin investment contracts – loans, guarantees and equity – signed by bankers. The same principle can apply to standards in decent employment, in the use of pesticides or other agrochemicals or in the sustainable exploitation of natural resources. Investors can commit (only) to investments which support, or even embody these principles.

4. What is your comparative advantage and role?

FAO is not a financial institution and does not have the mandate to leverage directly any finance; this is left to our development finance partners. However, what we can do – in accord with our mandate – is support our member countries in ensuring that public and private investments are compliant with sustainability principles. In particular, FAO is responsible for leading the work to define the SDG indicators relating to sustainable food and agriculture, which will provide a basis to assess the quality of investment. This is part of a UN process bringing together statisticians and technical experts to define indicators of sustainability which are both meaningful, and affordable for countries to collect.

5. Nevertheless, how do you do this, ensuring sustainability in such investments?

Here again, the example of land tenure is an interesting one: from a policy document meant for governments, we have derived a technical guide destined for investors. Further, we can then derive an instrument, a checklist of two or three pages, that should become the technical specification of any loan contract. This practice transfers the knowledge on sustainability from regulatory frameworks into concrete practical action. That is extremely interesting, because the principle can apply not only on land tenure but also on fisheries, soil management, decent employment, child labour, carbon trading, sustainable supply chains, etc. By doing so, the knowledge built up in FAO over decades can serve a very practical purpose, informing and influencing financial transactions and investments. Exploiting more effectively the extensive knowledge capabilities here at FAO in this way is a new and exciting prospect. Ultimately, it will enable our member countries to ensure effective and sustainable investments are made which achieve impact at a scale.

6. So where does the FAO’s complementarity towards other actors lie and how is such sustainability being monitored?

Turning norms, standards and knowledge into practical aspects of contracts and using the regulatory environment to enhance sustainability are essential and natural complements to existing areas of FAO’s mandate. But financial institutions have a complementary role to play.
FAO interacts with a wide range of organisations – development banks, private equity funds, private banks, etc. As a UN body we cannot give some sort of competitive advantage to one company over another, through endorsement by FAO. Our work is rather to provide sector-wide guidance on the sustainability issues raised by proposed classes of transactions. And in this context, monitoring is crucial. It is all very well to create a system to transform complex guidelines on sustainable management of soil, water, forest etc. into contractual obligations. But there needs to be follow up to ensure that these contractual obligations are actually met by the parties to the loan. That is where the custodianship of the SDG indicators entrusted to FAO means developing methodologies – and new partnerships – for monitoring, not only at country level with governments, but also at the individual investment level. To avoid conflict of interest, we will need to work with reputable service providers in the field of third-party verification, civil society organizations, universities and, of course, governments.

7. Looking at the Rome-based agencies, how does FAO’s role relate to the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in mobilizing private investments?

We, FAO and IFAD, work closely together, and in a complementary manner. FAO supports smallholders through policy, programming and technical advice that helps governments and their partners provide improved and more sustainable livelihood options. IFAD looks at financing smallholders and agribusiness entrepreneurs through governments to achieve a broader rural transformation with specific economic objectives. We are natural complements.

8. Where does differentiation between big companies and smallholders come in?

One thing is also clear: because they have more capacities, larger players have more obligations to ensure that development is sustainable in all dimensions. That said, smallholders are key agents of change, and so we must have a framework that is local and relevant. The example again, from FAO, would be fisheries, which are critical for sustainable food security. Drawing upon extensive knowledge and experience at a full range of different scales, FAO provides practical suggestions on how to achieve and maintain sustainable use of the world’s fisheries. We have a global code of conduct for responsible fisheries – with a strong emphasis on the sustainable exploitation of resources; but we also have voluntary guidelines for small-scale fisheries with emphasis on local governance and the social inclusion.

Project Syndicate, “The Debt Challenge to African Growth”, 23 mai 2018

From increases in life expectancy to steep declines in infant mortality, many of Sub-Saharan Africa’s development indicators are heading in the right direction. But with public-debt levels increasing, fiscal reforms are needed to ensure that the region’s progress isn’t stifled by interest payments.

Sub-Saharan Africa is confronting a pronounced rise in public debt. At the end of 2017, average public debt in the region was 57% of its GDP, an increase of 20 percentage points in just five years. While this is well below the peaks of the early 2000s, the current spike is concerning.
Government borrowing to finance public investments is an essential part of any country’s macroeconomic toolkit. Over the last two decades, countries in Sub-Saharan Africa have used this option often, greatly improving human development outcomes as a result. For example, between 1990 and 2015, average life expectancy increased, infant mortality rates were halved, secondary school enrollment soared, and infrastructure gaps narrowed. These and other gains would have been impossible without pragmatic spending of borrowed resources.

But this progress could be jeopardized if current debt trends in some countries continue. Africa’s increasing public-debt burden means higher interest costs, which divert resources from education, health care, and infrastructure. Therefore, government debt must be reined in.

According to our most recent Regional Economic Outlook for Sub-Saharan Africa, six of the region’s 35 low-income countries (LICs) are in “debt distress,” meaning they are unable to service external commitments. A further nine LICs are classified as being at “high risk of debt distress.”

In the broadest sense, three factors account for the current debt challenges. For starters, the region’s commodity exporters, and particularly its oil exporters, were hit hard by the 2014-2016 slump in prices. Africa’s lost output and associated debt increases are comparable to the experience of advanced economies following the global financial crisis. Today, eight of the region’s fifteen debt-troubled LICs are commodity exporters.
Additionally, most countries that have funded development and infrastructure through borrowing have failed to generate sufficient additional tax revenues to repay that debt. In many cases, countries have not been effective at capturing the return on their investments through their tax systems.

Finally, in many Sub-Saharan countries, portions of the debt build-up can be traced to shocks in the migration of liabilities – such as losses by state-owned enterprises – to the public-sector balance sheet and exchange-rate depreciations. In a handful of countries, poor governance can also be blamed for unsustainable debt practices.
As we have been saying for some time, if governments stick to their medium-term fiscal-consolidation and reform plans, debt levels should stabilize or decrease, alleviating debt-related challenges. However, the required adjustments have been delayed repeatedly, owing to political constraints, social pressure for much-needed development spending, and favorable external financing conditions. This is a recipe for long-term pain; there is no scope to delay the adjustment any longer. As countries work to meet their development goals, it is essential that they move debt sustainability to the top of the policy agenda. But how?

For this to happen, four key areas will need special attention, depending on country circumstances. First, in resource-intensive countries, especially the region’s eight oil exporters, fiscal consolidation plans must be enacted without delay. This should be coupled with economic diversification, for which the recent recovery in commodity prices provides wider scope.

In much of the rest of the region, the required fiscal adjustment is more modest and can be achieved through steady increases in tax revenues. In most cases, there is potential to raise revenue by 3-5 percentage points of GDP over the next few years. Reaching this level will require broadening the tax base, streamlining exemptions, and strengthening the administration of value-added tax.

Third, efforts should be made to account for off-balance-sheet risks, improve debt-management capacity, and enhance data coverage of debt and debt exposure.

And, fourth, governments must improve prospects for private investment. For decades, public expenditures offset low levels of private investment. But, faced with growing public-debt vulnerabilities, it is unclear how long this trend can continue. Sub-Saharan Africa’s economies should orchestrate a transition from public to private investment by strengthening regulatory and insolvency frameworks, increasing intra-African trade, and deepening access to credit.

Sub-Saharan Africa’s public-debt burden has not yet hindered investment demand. On the contrary, as a measure of GDP, foreign financial flows to Africa are higher than those to emerging markets, and they come from a broader range of sources. So-called frontier economies have issued record levels of sovereign bonds, while bilateral creditors, like China, continue to invest heavily.

But, as we have seen recently, capital flows are fickle, and if Sub-Saharan Africa is to take full advantage of the current global economic upswing, policymakers must tackle public-debt vulnerabilities head-on while they can. Doing nothing will only constrain the region’s tremendous potential to achieve sustainable and inclusive growth.
Le fléau de la dette africaine fait toujours couler beaucoup d’encre, de mots et de maux. Les « requins » de la finance mondiale sont pointés du doigt à juste titre, mais sont-ils vraiment les seuls responsables ? Dans son article, KRAMO Germain, sans passion, rétablit le débat et équilibre les responsabilités. Certes les financiers ont une responsabilité mais les Etats africains emprunteurs ne sont pas innocents : dépenses expansives ; dépendance aux seules matières premières ; fiscalité dissuasive et mal gérée ; mauvaises habitudes consécutives aux remises de dettes multiples. La liste est longue.

Selon le rapport du FMI sur les perspectives économiques régionales (2017), le nombre de pays à faible revenu surendettés ou risquant de le devenir est passé de 7 en 2013 à 12 en 2016. Il y en a même qui se sont déclarés en défaut de paiement comme le Mozambique, en janvier 2017. Une histoire qui semble se répéter en dépit des séquelles indélébiles des anciennes crises de l’endettement. Alors, pourquoi les vieux démons de la dette reviennent encore roder autour du continent africain ?

A qui la responsabilité ?

Pour beaucoup d’Africains, les « requins » de la finance internationale, de façon générale, et les institutions de Bretton Woods en particulier, sont les seuls responsables de l’endettement sans fin des pays africains. Sans dédouaner ces acteurs de leur part de responsabilité, il est désolant de constater que les premiers responsables du boulet de la dette que traînent les pays africains à leurs pieds depuis des décennies sont avant tout leurs propres dirigeants.

D’abord, l’augmentation rapide de la dette des pays africains est la conséquence des politiques budgétaires expansionnistes. Il s’agit des dépenses dans des infrastructures pharaoniques (« les éléphants blancs ») pas toujours en adéquation avec les besoins urgents de la population ; de nombreuses subventions distribuées pour des raisons politiciennes, du nombre pléthorique et souvent mal utilisé des fonctionnaires de l’administration, etc. Ces dépenses souvent improductives sans retour rapide sur investissement entraînent inéluctablement des déficits publics et rendent l’endettement incontournable.

La dépendance aux matières premières

Ensuite, la dépendance des économies africaines rentières aux cours des matières premières apparaît comme un facteur favorisant l’endettement. Des indépendances jusqu’à ce jour, les pays africains au sud du Sahara n’ont pas réussi la transformation structurelle susceptible de diversifier leurs économies. Ces dernières mono-productrices restent très vulnérables aux fluctuations des cours de matières exportées à l’état brut. Ainsi, une baisse significative des cours de ces matières premières se traduit par une chute des ressources, de laquelle naît des déficits importants. Pour les financer, les dirigeants africains ont souvent recours à l’endettement. A titre d’illustration il faut noter que à la suite de la chute du prix du cacao en 2017, premier produit d’exportation de la Côte d’Ivoire, le gouvernement ivoirien a sollicité et obtenu auprès de la France un appui budgétaire pour le financement de son déficit budgétaire.
d’un montant de 65,6 milliards FCFA. Cette exposition aux chocs sur les prix des matières premières est accentuée par l’absence de politique contra-cyclique. En effet, au lieu d’économiser en période de vache grasse, pour financer leurs dépenses en période de vache maigre, les gouvernements africains font l’inverse. Ils dépensent trop lors des périodes de boom en s’engageant dans des projets coûteux et improductifs, et quand les cours des matières premières baissent ils manquent de ressources et sont obligés de s’endetter pour boucler leurs budgets.

**La faiblesse des recettes**

Par ailleurs, la faiblesse des recettes de l’Etat constitue aussi un facteur favorisant l’endettement. Le niveau des recettes fiscales représente moins de 20% du PIB de ces pays ; un niveau largement inférieur à celui des pays de l’OCDE. De plus, la pression réglementaire et fiscale des États incite les entreprises formelles à se cacher et frauder pour échapper au poids écrasant de la fiscalité. Elle encourage aussi celles qui sont déjà dans l’informel à y demeurer. Ce secteur est une composante essentielle de la plupart des économies subsahariennes, où sa contribution au PIB s’échelonne entre 25 % et 65 % [1]. Donc au lieu de faire des réformes pour améliorer l’environnement des affaires et faire sortir les entreprises de l’informel et accroître leurs recettes fiscales, les dirigeants africains choisissent la voie de la facilité en continuant de s’endetter.

**Les remises de dettes**


**Comment sortir du cercle de la dette ?**

Somme toute, pour pouvoir résister à la tentation de la dette, les dirigeants africains doivent d’abord améliorer la qualité des dépenses publiques à travers l’augmentation de l’efficience des dépenses, la redéfinition des dépenses prioritaires et la mise en œuvre d’une politique macroéconomique saine. Il s’agit aussi pour l’État de se consacrer à ses fonctions régaliennes en cédant certaines activités au secteur privé. Ensuite, il apparaît urgent d’augmenter les recettes fiscales des pays africains. Ces derniers doivent renoncer à la facilité et faire des réformes pour l’accroissement de la base imposable. Il s’agit d’améliorer l’environnement des affaires en réduisant la pression réglementaire et fiscale pour attirer le secteur informel vers le formel et augmenter ainsi les ressources de l’État et réduire le recours à l’endettement extérieur. Enfin, il est indispensable de faire de la transformation structurelle des économies
africaines la priorité pour amoindrir les effets des chocs consécutifs aux fluctuations des cours des matières premières. Bref, il faut sortir de l’économie de rente et aller vers l’économie productive du marché.

Documentation

ISSUU, « Financer les start-up pour construire les économies de demain en Afrique », 11 mai 2018
Consacrer un numéro de Secteur Privé & Développement au capital-risque et à l’univers des start-up en Afrique, c’est s’intéresser à un marché en pleine expansion, en comprendre les éléments constitutifs et évoquer les potentielles externalités négatives qui peuvent en découler. Nous avons ainsi souhaité donner la parole à des experts et des acteurs passionnés qui nous livrent leur expérience.

Pour le télécharger :
https://issuu.com/objectif-developpement/docs/proparco_revue_n29-fr

When discussing development cooperation policy and action in 2018, it is all about leveraging: leveraging the private sector, leveraging private finance, leveraging investments by companies and corporations. More broadly it is about leveraging resources, skills and knowledge the private sector can bring to the table to support and implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Pour le télécharger :

This first progress report shows that members of the Global HIV Prevention Coalition have mobilized around strengthening HIV primary prevention. There are clear signs of renewed political commitment and strengthened institutional arrangements for planning and managing prevention programmes. Most member countries have moved fast to develop HIV prevention action plans, and there are many examples of excellent and innovative new initiatives. Furthermore, interest in the HIV prevention agenda and the Coalition is growing. A global accountability process has been set up, with score cards that track progress across a range of high-priority prevention programme areas.

Pour le télécharger :

ILO, “Greener growth, just transition, and green jobs: There's a lot we don't know”, 8 mai 2018

Greener growth, a just transition and green job creation figure prominently in the global agenda today. However, we do not yet have a full understanding of the likely employment impacts of different policy options. This brief presents the result of a review of the recent green growth literature with a view to summarize existing evidence on employment impacts from green growth and just transition policies, suggesting where evidence is scarce and thus pointing to future areas for investigation.

Pour le télécharger :


Plastics have become one of the most prolific materials on the planet: in 2015 we produced about 380 million tonnes of plastics globally, up from 2 million tonnes in the 1950s. Yet today only 15% of this plastic waste is collected and recycled into secondary plastics globally each year. This report looks at why this is the case and what we can do about it, as the pervasiveness of plastics is becoming an urgent public health and planetary problem. Not only is the diffusion of waste plastics into the wider environment creating hugely negative impacts, but plastics production emits approximately 400 million tonnes of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions annually as a result of the energy used in their production, transport, and final waste
treatment. Improved plastics collection and recycling represents a promising solution to these concerns.

Pour le lire :


Climate service providers and their services are critical in supporting the achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. The majority of the 17 SDGs, many of their 169 targets and activities to be implemented under the internationally agreed objectives are weather- and climate-sensitive. This white paper articulates the contribution of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) to supporting the SDGs (through the activities of GFCS partners), focusing on the five GFCS priority areas, but also covering the multitude of SDGs that could benefit from enhanced availability and access to climate services.

Pour le télécharger :

https://library.wmo.int/opac/doc_num.php?explnum_id=3586

ILO, “World Employment and Social Outlook 2018: Greening with jobs”, 14 mai 2018

This edition examines environmental sustainability in the world of work. It focuses on how climate change and environmental degradation will impact the labour markets, affecting both the volume and quality of employment, and quantifies the shifts expected to take place within and between sectors.

Pour le télécharger :

UN DESA, « How should civil society stakeholders report their contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development? 2018

Paragraph 89 of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development calls on major groups and other stakeholders to report on their contribution to implementation of the SDGs. With specific reference to civil society organisations (CSOs), this technical paper analyses how this call should be understood, and how it should be answered.

Pour le télécharger :

https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18445CSOreporting_paper_revisions_4May.pdf


We’re pleased to release the 2018 Atlas of Sustainable Development Goals. With over 180 maps and charts, the new publication shows the progress societies are making towards the 17 SDGs.

It’s filled with annotated data visualizations, which can be reproducibly built from source code and data. You can view the SDG Atlas online, download the PDF publication (30Mb), and access the data and source code behind the figures.

This Atlas would not be possible without the efforts of statisticians and data scientists working in national and international agencies around the world. It is produced in collaboration with the professionals across the World Bank’s data and research groups, and our sectoral global practices.

**Trends and analysis for the 17 SDGs**

The Atlas draws on World Development Indicators, a database of over 1,400 indicators for more than 220 economies, many going back over 50 years. For example, the chapter on SDG4 includes data from the UNESCO Institute for Statistics on education and its impact around the world.

Throughout the Atlas, data are presented by country, region and income group and often disaggregated by sex, wealth and geography.
The Atlas also explores new data from scientists and researchers where standards for measuring SDG targets are still being developed. For example, the chapter on SDG14 features research led by Global Fishing Watch, published this year in Science. Their team has tracked over 70,000 industrial fishing vessels from 2012 to 2016, processed 22 billion automatic identification system messages to map and quantify fishing around the world.
Industrial fishing takes place in more than half the world’s ocean area, about four times the area of land-based agriculture.

Vessel-hours of fishing activity, 2016 (per sq. km)

This recently published dataset uses radio transmissions, emitted for collision avoidance, to track fishing vessels. It excludes small vessels and, probably, illegal fishing.

New data and methods for measuring development

In addition to trends, the Atlas discusses measurement issues. For example new, more granular definitions of access to water and sanitation presented in SDG6 show that while almost 90 percent of the world has access to “at least basic” water - only 71 percent of access water that’s considered “safely managed”, being both readily available and free from contamination.
In SDG8, new data from the Global Findex Database shows that 69 percent of adults around the world have an account at a financial institution or with a mobile money provider. But some 1.7 billion people still lack an account, and access to accounts varies widely by region, and by age, education, sex and wealth.
SDG3 features recently released data on Universal Health Coverage which shows that globally, in 2010, over 800 million people spent more than 10 percent of their household budgets on healthcare.

**Universal health coverage is about all people having access to the care they need without financial hardship. Service coverage varies widely across countries.**

The index measures a country’s ability to provide essential health services, including reproductive care and treatment of injuries.

Countries with a high index value tend to have a longer life expectancy and lower under-five mortality.

At least half the world’s population lacks access to essential health services.

Source: Hogan and others, Universal Health Coverage (SH.UHC.SV.COV.IND).

**Open data and open code**

The majority of the Atlas is produced using the statistical programming language R and the ggplot graphics library. The code used to produce each graphic is available on github and you can view source code for individual figures such as the one below.

**Since about 2008 the majority of the world’s population has lived in urban areas. Only South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa remain more rural than urban.**

Share of total population (%)

Source: UN Population Division, WDI (SP.URB.TOTL.IN.ZS; SP.RUR.TOTL.ZS).
Working this way helps users to understand how a particular figure was derived, what transformations were made to the data and with what assumptions. It also allows figures to be easily maintained and updated, and for others to take our code and data and adapt it to their needs.

Much of the data comes from the World Bank Data API, and a snapshot of the API data used in the publication, as well as data from other sources is included in the Bank’s Data Catalog.

Stay tuned for a separate blog post on what the team learned by setting out to make a fully reproducible publication, and how we’ve addressed the challenges inherent to the process.

Pour le télécharger :

https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/29788/9781464812507.pdf?sequence=5&isAllowed=y

**ONU Office for Disarmament Affairs, “Securing our common future. An Agenda for Disarmament”, 2018**

The cover of the Agenda, a 73-page document, depicts Orizuru, an origami paper crane. Its significance is that Japanese legend has it that anyone who folds a thousand paper cranes, will have their wish granted by the gods.

In her hospital bed, Sadako Sasaki - a survivor of the atomic bomb explosion at Hiroshima in 1945 – folded more than a thousand paper cranes, praying that she would recover from the deadly leukaemia caused by the blast.

She died at the age of 12, but her story spread around the world and origami cranes have since become symbols of peace.

In the final paragraph of the Agenda, Mr. Guterres quotes the late Secretary-General, Dag Hammarskjöld, saying “in this field, as we well know, a standstill does not exist; if you do not go forward, you do go backward”.

The Agenda concludes with an appeal to all “to use every opportunity to carry forward momentum for disarmament where it exists, and to generate new impetus where it is needed, in order to achieve a safer and more secure world for all.”

Pour le télécharger :

https://front.un-arm.org/documents/SG+disarmament+agenda_1.pdf