



CALL FOR PAPERS

Afrique durable 2030 - N° 10

« Circular Economy in Africa »

Madam, Sir,



Africa 21 is calling for contributions for the 10th issue of its scientific journal on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa, *Afrique durable 2030*. This thematic and annual publication is intended to be an interface between researchers and practitioners from the South and the North. The first nine issues, which focused on data, governance of the SDGs, the green economy, agriculture, migration, minorities, climate change and biodiversity, were distributed to more than 12,000 readers and on our various media (website and social networks).

It is a diverse audience with a keen interest in African issues, ranging from international civil servants, diplomats, policy makers, researchers, students, NGO executives, ordinary African citizens and members of the African diaspora.

Selected theme: « The challenges and opportunities of the circular economy in Africa ».

Contemporary globalisation has established a liberal economic model based on the principle of linearity, which can be summed up in the pithy formula of "Take - Make - Use - Throw". This translates into an unlimited and uncontrolled extraction of resources and raw materials, and at the other end of the scale, an ever more exponential accumulation of waste, with a nameless waste in between. The result is the basic observation of sustainable development thinking: a double ecological and social divide in our development model. The ecological divide covers the destruction of the planet by a predatory economy, while the social divide accounts for the widening inequalities between social groups and between countries.

It is to respond to this double crisis that new economic models are being devised. Firstly, the recycling economy, which is increasingly in vogue, breaks the linear chain to introduce recycling into use: Take - Make - Use - Recycle - Throw away. Then we moved on to an economy that draws





around the "use", a real virtuous circle: Repair - Recycle - Manufacture - Return - Reuse. This is the circular economy.

« According to ADEME, the circular economy can be defined as an economic system of exchange and production which, at all stages of the life cycle of products (goods and services), aims to increase the efficiency of resource use and reduce the impact on the environment while developing the well-being of individuals »¹.

It is an economy that seeks to maximise the use of resources while ensuring optimal production of goods and services. According to the Institute for Circular Economics, *« The circular economy is about producing goods and services in a sustainable way by limiting the consumption and waste of resources and the generation of waste »².*

In this economy, we find the affirmation of several principles: improvement of human well-being, social equity, low ecological impact, use rather than ownership, efficient global industrial system, etc. It is a truly innovative economy that responds to today's challenges for the world and for Africa in particular, where everything is to be built and where the culture of sharing can be matched with the philosophy of use.

This is why this new issue of Sustainable Africa 2030 is devoted to *« the challenges and prospects of the circular economy in Africa »*.

It should be stressed from the outset that there is no specific goal in the 17 SDGs that is dedicated to the circular economy. But the very philosophy of the circular economy is quite fruitful for taking actions to achieve the sustainability goals. As the Agenda 2030 Platform rightly states (www.plateformeagenda2030.ch), *« A circular model, which keeps extracted raw materials in the loop and uses resources carefully, avoids waste by design and regenerates natural systems, makes a direct or indirect positive contribution to many of the SDGs »³.* In a way, the circular economy is linked to all the SDGs, but if one is to be singled out, many experts agree to highlight **SDG 12 « Establish sustainable consumption and production patterns »**.

So for this new issue, the targets that can be used as a framework are:

¹ Aurez, V. & Georgeault, L. (2019). Économie circulaire. Système économique et finitude des ressources. De Boeck

² « Qu'est-ce que l'Économie circulaire ? » in www.institut-economie-circulaire.fr, consulté en juillet 2022, sur <https://institut-economie-circulaire.fr/economie-circulaire/>

³ « Promouvoir l'économie circulaire contribue au développement durable », sur www.plateformeagenda2030.ch, consulté en juillet 2022 via <https://www.plateformeagenda2030.ch/promouvoir-leconomie-circulaire-contribue-au-developpement-durable/>





- 12.2: By 2030, achieve sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources
- 12.3: By 2030, halve globally the amount of food waste per capita at both distribution and consumption levels and reduce food losses throughout the production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses
- 12.5: By 2030, significantly reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse
- 12.6: Encourage companies, especially large and transnational ones, to adopt sustainable practices and include sustainability information in their reporting
- 12.7: Promote sustainable practices in public procurement in line with national policies and priorities
- 12.8: By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the information and knowledge necessary for sustainable development and a lifestyle in harmony with nature
- 12.a: Assist developing countries in building the scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable consumption and production patterns
- 12.b: Develop and use sustainability impact monitoring tools for sustainable tourism that create jobs and enhance local culture and products

Modalities

- The author must choose at least one of the proposed issues as well as using, if possible, one or more of the previously mentioned SDG or Agenda 2063 targets to write the proposal.
- Africa 21 will only accept original productions. Papers that have been published or submitted to another journal will not be accepted.
- The text can be written in French or English.
- The abstract used as a basis for the initial selection of articles for the journal should be a maximum of one page in length and should clearly explain the approach and issues addressed, and the examples selected to support the demonstration.
- The final work (after validation of the abstract) can take the form of a scientific article (8 to 15 pages, including illustrations and footnotes) on the specific theme of the journal or an essay on a free topic related to the SDGs and Africa (3 to 5 pages, idem).
- Proposals should also include a short biography of the author in a separate document.
- The style is free but must meet the criteria proposed by the Africa 21 editorial team (see attached document)
- All contributions to the journal are made on a voluntary basis, in the same way as other major international journals, and in the spirit of sharing knowledge and science with as many people as possible.





Provisional agenda

- 1 July - 31 July 2022 call for papers, period for sending abstract proposals.
- 1 August 2022 response for selected paper proposals.
- 1 August - 30 September 2022 period for writing articles, submission of first draft.
- 1 October - 31 October 2022 peer-review period.
- 15 November 2022 deadline for submission of the final version of the article.
- 16 November - 30 November 2022 edition of the journal.
- 10 December dissemination of the journal, posted on the website.

