

Side Event on Integrated National Financing Frameworks: integrated approaches to financing Sustainable Development

18 November 2024, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Venue: Conference Room 5, UN Conference Centre in Addis Ababa (UNCC-AA), UNECA

Background

Attaining the aspirational Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Agenda 2063 through leveraging domestic and international resources remains a challenge for Africa. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) for financing the SDGs stresses country leadership in tapping into various financing sources and linking these potential resources with national development plans and priorities. Member States introduced the concept of Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs) in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda as a practical solution to address the need for comprehensive and coordinated approaches to financing their national priorities. The INFFs provide the layout of potential financing sources from public and private sectors of domestic and international sources against the national plans, priorities and their associated financing needs. There has been a remarkable revival of development planning in African countries with a growing recognition of the planning-financing nexus. Increasingly, African countries are developing national development plans paired with integrated financing strategies. The success of these plans depends on the ability to mobilise resources from diverse sources effectively.

INFFs represent a holistic approach to mobilising, allocating and managing financing for development to achieve national priorities and the SDGs. It also aims to optimise resource utilisation, enhance transparency, and foster coherence in policymaking. African countries are using INFFs as avenues to shape and advance financing reforms in line with their development priorities, such as poverty reduction, climate change actions, and gender equality. Africa is the pioneer in implementing INFFs, with the highest number of countries implementing the tools. A growing number of governments are reaching the defining stage of articulating an INFF Roadmap. An increasing number of African countries have been developing Financing Strategies that define how to move forward with public and private financing reforms.

As many more countries are making progress along their INFFs journey, it is important to examine the effectiveness and adaptability of this tool to respond to the unique needs of African countries in the context of huge financing needs and the opportunities that the upcoming Financing for Development Conference entails.

About the Event

The INFF side event provides a platform for countries and partners to examine the potential of the INFF tool to attain financing for sustainable development. In this platform, countries will share their experiences in implementing INFFs by highlighting valuable lessons and identifying opportunities and challenges for using INFF tools to attain financing for sustainable

development. The event aims to critically examine these experiences to identify practical insights for countries to refine their approaches for the future application of INFFs. It also aims to identify strategies that can enhance the effectiveness and adaptability of INFFs to various contexts and contribute to achieving the SDGs and Agenda 2063. Notably, the event will examine the tool's effectiveness in adapting and responding to African countries' needs in the context of the Financing for Development Conference in 2025. The event will also highlight the convergence of support for INFF implementation by governments, development partners, the private sector, civil society, and academia.

Draft Programme

TIME	SESSION
17:00-18:00	<p>Opening of the Side Event: ECA (3 mins)</p> <p>Presentation on INFFs to Attain Financing for Sustainable Development (10 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Ms. Farzana Sharmin, Economic Affairs Officer, Macroeconomics, Finance and Governance Division,</i> - <i>Ms. Resina, Katafono, Ms. Resina Katafono, Policy Analysis and Development, Financing for Sustainable Development Office, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs</i> - <i>Ana-Maria Beldiga, SDG Finance Analyst, UNDP Africa Sustainable Finance Hub</i> <p>Panel discussion:</p> <p>Country experiences</p> <p>Zambia (6 min)</p> <p>Burkina Faso (6 min)</p> <p>Experiences of partners</p> <p>ATAF (TBC) (6 min)</p> <p>Guiding questions:</p> <p>Countries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Why is an integrated approach important? - What is the country experience? Challenges and opportunities in implementing INFFs. What are the next steps? What plans/initiatives exist or are being planned to support INFF implementation in countries? <p>Partner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ATAF: What are some reflections on country interventions? - What plans/initiatives exist or are being planned to support INFF implementation in countries? <p>Discussion and question and answers (20 min)</p> <p>Moderator</p> <p><i>Mr. Gamal Ibrahim, Chief, Economic Governance and Public Finance Section, Macroeconomics, Finance and Governance Division, UNECA</i></p> <p><i>Closing remarks (ECA/DESA) (3 min)</i></p>