Background

Strong economic growth in the past decades has considerably improved human development across Africa. Nevertheless, challenges remain and millions of Africans remain in extreme poverty. Thus, the imperative for robust and inclusive economic growth across Africa, that brings new jobs and opportunities for all and improves the quality of life for all Africans, remains clear. Going forward, growth interventions would also need to ensure adaptation measures for the communities and economies vulnerable to the impending effects of climate change and ensure utilization of the vast natural capital of the continent in a sustainable way. This growth would need to be decoupled from the rise of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and the precious ecosystems supporting livelihoods of millions in the continent would need to be adequately protected. In essence, sustained economic growth and prosperity for Africa warrants transition to an inclusive and green growth model across the continent. Development financiers including the African Development Bank (AfDB) and international organizations such as GGGI are playing an important role in realising this transition in Africa. Understanding the state, trend, and readiness to implementation of green growth are important to understand the factors for successful implementation of NDCs and SDGs, and identify indicators to monitor the progress of implementation.

About the Side Event

The side-event will present findings from the study “Africa Green Growth Readiness Assessment and Prospects in the context of NDC and SDG implementation” jointly conducted by the Climate Change and Green Growth Department (PECG) of AfDB and the Office of Thought Leadership (TL) of GGGI. The assessment is being jointly conducted with the close involvement of and support from respective country focal points and stakeholders. The outcome of the study will inform AfDB and GGGI with insights to better design, implement, and achieve objectives under AfDB’s Green Growth Framework and High 5 priority areas, as well as GGGI’s Thematic Focus Areas and GGGI Strategic Outcomes. The assessment includes analysis of Africa in general and in-depth analyses and case studies involving seven target countries. The target countries were selected with a view of balanced regional mix and representation of size and state of development, and are Morocco, Rwanda, Mozambique, Senegal, Gabon, Kenya and Tunisia.

Africa GGRA covers following dimensions: current state of green growth in Africa, including challenges and opportunities; Africa’s readiness in promoting green growth in the context of the NDC and SDG implementation; prospects towards ensuring greater green growth impact during the implementation of the NDCs and SDGs; and roles of development partners (including AfDB and GGGI) in promoting green growth in the context of NDC and SDG implementation.
This side-event will present the findings and recommendations from this joint study and also hear from selected country stakeholders on their countries’ achievements in and challenges to green growth, and necessary south-south cooperation to scale up the transition to greener economic models of growth.

Agenda

**Moderator:** Mr. Dorsouma Al-Hamndou, Climate Change and Green Growth Department, AfDB

16:30 - 16:45 **Opening remarks:**
*Dr. Frank Rijsberman*, Director General, GGGI
*Prof. Anthony Nyong*, Director, Climate Change and Green Growth Department, AfDB

17:20 - 17:45 **Country perspectives on green growth achievements, challenges, and south-south collaboration**
Kenya (proposed), Speaker TBD
Gabon (proposed) Speaker TBD
Rwanda (proposed), Speaker TBD
Mozambique (proposed), Speaker TBD

17:45 – 18:00 **Q & A, closing remarks**