



# **THE AFRICAN PEER REVIEW MECHANISM (APRM): its role in fostering the implementation of Sustainable development goals**

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at

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# Objective of the presentation

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- Presenting the APRM: What it is and how the process works
- Discuss the APRM's potential to foster the implementation of the sustainable development and monitor progress and achievements at Africa regional level

# What is the APRM?

- The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) is a self-monitoring instrument, established in 2003, voluntarily acceded to by member states of the African Union.
  
- It is designed to help African States create an enabling environment for sustainable development by analyzing:
  - (1) Democratic and Political Governance;
  - (2) Economic Governance and Management;
  - (3) Corporate Governance, and;
  - (4) Socio-Economic Development
  
- Africa is the only region in the world with an extensive governance peer review mechanism voluntarily agreed to by the member states.

# Objective and Principles underpinning the APRM process

## APRM Main objectives

- 1) To foster the adoption of policies, standards and practices that lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated sub-regional and continental economic integration through sharing of experiences; &
- 2) To share experiences and reinforce successful and best practices including addressing identified challenges.

## Key principles

- ✓ National ownership and leadership by participating country
- ✓ Open and participatory process involving all key governance and development stakeholders: government, other state institutions, civil society and private sector
- ✓ Technical competence, credibility and freedom from political influence

# African countries participating in the APRM



Regions	Countries
Central Africa (6)	Cameroon, Congo Republic, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe, Chad
East Africa (6)	Rwanda, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda
North Africa (5)	Algeria, Egypt, Mauritania, Soudan, Tunisia
Southern Africa (7)	South Africa, Lesotho, Mauritius, Mozambique, Zambia, Angola, and Malawi
West Africa (11)	Ghana, Nigeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Niger, Senegal, Togo, Cote d'Ivoire
Total membership	35 countries 17 peer reviewed

# APRM review process

## Stage One

- Establishment of National Structures
- Conduct an inclusive National self-assessment
- Development of Preliminary Program of Action to address identified gaps

## Stage Two

- Visit of the Country Review Team of experts to undertake wide consultations with stakeholders on the content of the Self-Assessment

## Stage Three

- Drafting the Country Review Report by the Review Team and the Panel

## Stage Four

- Peer review of the assessed country by the Forum of Heads of State and Government participating in the APRM

## Stage Five

- Publication of the Country Report in the country, and AU organs, i.e. PAP, RECs, etc
- Start of implementation of NPOA

## Stage Six

- Monitoring and reporting on the implementation progress of NPoA to the APR Forum

# Potential of the APRM in fostering the implementation & monitoring of SDGs



- For the last 12 years, APRM Country Assessments have provided an in-depth analysis of country-specific governance and development challenges, as well as local approaches to problem-solving. This was accomplished by adapting the APRM extensive questionnaire to fit with country priorities, fielding national surveys, and organizing focus groups.
- APRM National Plans of Action (NPOAs), which derive from the reviews translate key findings of country assessments into recommendations that are harmonized with country plans and policies for action by government and non-governmental actors, thereby facilitating implementation.
- The key principles that guide the APRM review process of inclusiveness and participation of state and non-state stakeholders creates a sense of ownership and commitment to the implementation of the recommendations.
- The peer review exercised at the highest level of Heads of State facilitates knowledge sharing & peer learning and fosters accountability through (soft) peer pressure.

# Potential of the APRM in fostering the implementation & monitoring of SDGs (cont'd)



- The APRM process provides for an “annual reporting” on progress in implementing the National Plan of Action by the reviewed country. The process which is led by a multi-stakeholder National Governing Council empowers the stakeholders to track progress and ensures mutual accountability.
- The progress report is further discussed at the Forum of Heads of State. This platform could complement & synergise with the “regional reporting forum”, which is envisaged for the SDGs.
- The Common African Position and the Africa Report on SDGs recognize the need to build on existing regional (Africa) mechanisms, including the APRM and enhance their capabilities, effectiveness and impact.



## Conclusion

- The APRM has the methodological tools necessary to monitor common African goals emanating from global commitments, including the SDGs.
- In Africa and in line with its mandate, APRM has helped countries determine pertinent issues, find solutions and targets to address them in a way that is effective for sustainable development. Cross-cutting issues have emerged and best practices highlighted for peer sharing and reinforcement.
- APRM appreciates the fact that it has been listed among the Follow up and Review Processes, in particular for Goal 16 which seeks to “**promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build elective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels**”
- With global support, the APRM can play a significant role in the fostering of sustainable development

# Annex: SDGs and APRM Complementarities

Goal 1	End poverty in all its forms everywhere	APRM-SED	
Goal 2	End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	SED	
Goal 3	Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	SED	
Goal 4	Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	SED	
Goal 5	Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	DPG & SED	
Goal 6	Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all	SED	
Goal 7	Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	EGM, SED	
Goal 8	Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	EGM, CG, SED	
Goal 9	Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and	EGM	

# SDGs and APRM Complementarities

<b>Goal 10</b>	<b>Reduce inequality within and among countries</b>	<b>EGM, SED</b>	
<b>Goal 11</b>	<b>Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</b>	<b>Missing</b>	
<b>Goal 12</b>	<b>Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</b>	<b>Missing</b>	
<b>Goal 13</b>	<b>Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts</b>	<b>SED</b>	
<b>Goal 14</b>	<b>Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development</b>	<b>Missing</b>	
<b>Goal 15</b>	<b>Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</b>	<b>SED</b>	
<b>Goal 16</b>	<b>Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build elective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels</b>	<b>DPG</b>	
<b>Goal 17</b>	<b>Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development</b>	<b>Missing</b>	<b>11</b>