

SDG Summit - September 25, 2019

Leaders Dialogue 3: Measures to Leverage Progress

Ann Cairns – Executive Vice Chairman, Mastercard

Business and Industry Major Group

Your Excellencies, distinguished delegates.

It is my privilege to add Mastercard's perspective to this global conversation.

Promoting inclusive growth is teaching us how best to combine talents across sectors.

It has taught us that the private sector brings two major components to Agenda 2030.

- The first is technology and expertise. Innovation is not free. Nor is there any other sector with a greater incentive to innovate. Companies that fail to innovate, fail to survive.
- Secondly, it is the ingenuity of the private sector that helps create new business models for social impact. Development goals are only as sustainable as their commercial viability. Philanthropy and corporate social responsibility alone won't deliver true change and real impact. It requires a new way of thinking to create commercially sustainable social impact.

How do we know this?

- We are on the cusp of achieving financial inclusion for 500 million people – a goal we set in 2015 alongside the World Bank's Universal Financial Access by 2020 initiative.
- Kupaa is a mobile payment platform in partnership with UNICEF and Uganda's Ministry of Education, that allows parents, schools and governments to make and track school payments while opening new pathways for community access to other important services.
- City Possible is a new model for urban collaboration that brings city officials, companies and communities together to identify common challenges and create solutions that can be scaled up broadly (from inclusive transit solutions to smarter tourism investments).
- Jaza Duka is a digital lending platform in Kenya in partnership with Unilever that enables micro-finance for mostly women-owned micro-retailers. A private-private partnership only possible because of an effective regulatory and business environment.

There is much more to be done. No one country or one organisation is capable of providing the solutions alone.

And finally, I urge all of you, to ensure that women have an equal voice at the table. Inclusive businesses perform better and create opportunities for us all. Agenda 2030 requires the inclusion of everyone.

Thank you.