



The SDG Business Forum
High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
United Nations, 19 July 2016

SDG 1: Tackling Poverty by Empowering the Poorest

Speaker: Dyborn Chibonga, National Association of Smallholder Farmers of Malawi

After a stakeholder consultation in 2013 revealed a severe shortage of agri-warehousing in Malawi, the Trade Hub worked to convene relevant organizations to facilitate financing and investment into warehousing and to address investment bottlenecks.

Once completed and fully operational, the agro-processing complex will deliver major developmental outcomes to both NASFAM farmer members and Malawi as country as follows:

- reduce post-harvest losses from 20% to less than 1% through rapid evacuation of crops immediately after harvest to the rural warehouses, proper storage and hygienic handling in the warehousing; generate foreign exchange of up to US\$70 million per annum;
- secure direct employment for up to 2,250 people, targeting 50% of them to be women;
- generate payroll tax remittances of approximately MWK250 million per annum, to Malawi government;
- generate income for smallholder farmers of over MWK15 billion per annum;
- raise the standards within the Country to fully meet ISO 9002 and other current international requirements.

SDG 2: Working Co-operatively to Train Farmers

Speaker: Michael Spaans, Global Dairy Platform

The dairy sector alone affects 1 billion people's livelihoods, and feeds 6 billion people. As the SDGs were being negotiated, the New Zealand Government and Sri Lankan Government signed an agreement to further public and private sector dairy sector cooperation. Fonterra, which is a member of the Global Dairy Platform and a co-operative owned by farmers, will assist with a programme to sustainably increase the capacity of local milk producers.

Farmer training and development uses the "hands on" approach through field days, discussion groups, practical demonstrations and mentoring. It is aiming for best practice farming techniques to be learnt and adopted by local farmers so they can farm more sustainably, productively and profitably. Already the co-operative is buying from 4000 smallholders and works together to provide quality milk to Sri Lanka.

SDG 3: Pfizer: Accelerating Health Innovation in Africa

Speaker: Angela Wassuna, Assistant General Counsel, Pfizer

To help improve health care delivery and advance the development of new health models in low and middle income countries, the Pfizer Foundation provides grants to innovative health entrepreneurs in four strategic areas—(1) primary healthcare delivery (2) women and children's health (3) health care technologies (4) innovative finance mechanisms. Pfizer Inc. also partners with universities, health entrepreneurs, innovators and other stakeholders in Africa to support the creation of an enabling legal regulatory and policy environment to help unlock the social and economic benefits of their health innovations—and make them widely accessible. Our overall objective is to support the private sector, mainly small-medium size enterprises, to develop innovations that provide healthcare solutions to local problems and drive efficiencies in the provision of healthcare services for underserved populations.

SDG 4: Affordable Access Unlocks Opportunity



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Speaker: Paul Mitchell: General Manager, Technology Policy for Microsoft Corporation.

Achieving inclusive and equitable quality education for all is critical to creating sustainable and growing societies that enable opportunities for everyone to achieve more. In today's world, that cannot happen without access to ICTs – specifically ubiquitous, robust, and affordable access to the Internet and all of the information that connectivity makes available. Students without this access are at a real disadvantage without the ability to benefit from the most up-to-date content and experiences that are available through the Internet.

As part of its affordable access initiative, Microsoft works with partners around the world to deploy cost-effective connectivity solutions for schools and communities to address this problem. Through these projects 104 k-12 schools and 9 universities on 5 continents have been connected to the Internet, covering a population of over 400,000 people.

The first of these projects, connecting Gakawa Secondary School in Nanyuki, Kenya, launched in 2013 – connecting its students to the wider world for the first time. According to the school principle, since the program launched “students’ academic performance has shot up and their grades improved greatly in National Exams (KCSE) unlike the past.”

This problem is not only in developing countries. In Virginia, USA, schools are connected, but many students have no connectivity at home to help with homework. The Virginia project is focused on extending the coverage from the schools into the surrounding community.

SDG 5:

Speaker: Balaji Ganapthy (TCS)

SDG 6: A Full “Water Cycle” Approach to Water, Central to the Platform of Sustainable Development.

Speaker: Jack Moss, Executive Director, Aquafed – The International Federation of Private Water Operators

- The Water SDG, recognising that water forms part of the essential platform of sustainable development, has been carefully crafted to cover all aspects of the water cycle “from source to tap to source again”.
- It has specific targets to tackle water pollution, which is as dangerous as air pollution but poorly recognised.
- The span of the water targets is too wide for any single business to tackle. Therefore, segmentation, collaboration and specialisation is essential.
- Targets 6.1 and 6.2 are a big and meaningful enhancement of the MDG water and sanitation targets. They cover the core activity of AquaFed’s members. Extending services, and devising special pro-poor initiatives are underway (examples from Haiti and Europe). Other companies are involved in WASH in the workplace, devised within WBCSD and now adopted by the UN Global Compact.
- Targets 6.3 and 6.4 aim at managing pollution and extending water resource availability. (Example Aquapolo: an example of partnership between public organisations, SABESP, a private operator, Odebrecht Ambiental, and a consortium of Brazilian chemical companies. This recovers wastewater from the city of São Paulo de-pollutes it to a very high quality to provide feedstock for a multi-industry chemical complex.



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SDG 7: “Supporting the Development and Deployment of Sustainable Bioenergy”

Speaker: Adam Monroe, President, Americas, Novozymes

The Sustainable Bioenergy High-Impact Opportunity (HIO) is a voluntary partnership of likeminded stakeholders, under the auspices of the UN Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) Initiative.

The [HIO](#) seeks to facilitate the development and deployment of sustainable bioenergy solutions in line with the SDGs and is centered on SDG Targets 7.1 and 7.2, as well as 7a and 7b. Its initiatives focus on-farm bioenergy production; waste to energy; cellulosic ethanol for clean cooking and transportation, and sustainable aviation biofuels.

Formally launched in May 2015, the HIO has become a global partnership platform for developing a community of good practice, enhancing knowledge, and scaling up implementation. It has linked the private sector with national governments and civil society, to foster sustainable rural economic development and reduce the use of fossil fuels.

Just one year later the Sustainable Bioenergy HIO is now accelerating the deployment sustainable biopower and biofuels projects in 18 countries. To help de-carbonize the transportation sector, it is also working with the WBCSD to develop below50, a global campaign to increase the number of companies using sustainable fuels with emissions reductions greater than 50%.

The presentation will highlight practical examples and the positive role that business has played in facilitating multi stakeholder partnerships.

SDG 8: The MAMA-LIGHT® Initiative for Sustainable Energy

Speaker: H.R.H. Princess Abze Djigma, Founder, ABZESOLAR S.A.

In several countries of Africa up to 90% of urban and rural workers have informal jobs. On average for all of Africa 84% of women are informally employed as compared to 63% of men. This informal sector is an under-estimated and under-recognized driver of local economic growth.

With the ‘MAMA-LIGHT® Initiative for Sustainable Energy’ we provide access to affordable energy for women, small business and children. This empowers local and informal businesses, drives the generation of new jobs and creates a sound basis for gender equality and women empowerment.

We are rolling out the Initiative in Africa. We will create 1000 cooperatives in combination with the MFP’s per country. It will provide 20.000 jobs per country and over 200.000 people will benefit in each area.

We also launched the Global Expertise Hub for the Informal Sector as a means of implementation of the Agenda 2030. This Hub works with and on behalf of the informal sector. It brings together the Top Down actions and the Bottom Up needs and challenges in a structured and integrated manner.

The moment we unlock the potential of the informal sector we mobilize the power and value of the largest economic force in the developing countries: the millions of informal, small and medium sized companies.

Let’s work together to accelerate!



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SDG 9: Transforming Roads Into Development Zones for 2030

Speaker: Igor Runov, International Road Union

SDG 9 promotes the development of sustainable investment in infrastructure and innovation to drive economic growth and development. Road infrastructure is a vital element for development. The disparity in existing road infrastructure among countries is striking. The World Bank noted in 2008 that France's road network exceeded 1 million kilometres while in 2011, the Democratic Republic of Congo's road network comprised only 48,000 kilometers. The absence of roads threatens food security when transit is impeded. Without roads, access to critical services such as education and health care is compromised. Limited road networks also deprive populations of mobility for access to employment opportunities particularly from rural areas to more vibrant urban centres, which is vital to drive sustained local and national growth. The solution to expanding national road networks lies in identifying innovative and effective mechanisms to mobilise financial and technical resources for their development, maintenance and expansion to accommodate the needs of today's growing populations. Well-planned and managed road networks stimulate local commerce, and when supported by effective soft infrastructure systems that simplify procedures and reduce delays at border crossings, they facilitate the transit of goods to markets and strengthen global value chains. This expands regional and global trade, in accordance with the SDGs.

SDG 10: The Power of Identity to Advance Equality

Speaker: Tara Nathan, Executive Vice President for Public Private Partnerships, MasterCard

MasterCard plays a significant role in public/private partnerships to further SDG implementation. It is a business imperative for us to drive equality, women's empowerment and inclusion. Our mission is to create solutions that address the needs and challenges of our partners so that they can extend the reach and scale of their efforts. One such way is through our efforts to extend identity to more women around the world. Nearly 2.4 billion people live without any form of official personal identification, and the majority of them are women. Research has shown that as soon as a person has a formal identity and access to electronic payments, they can prosper in ways they haven't imagined before. Proof of identity allows you to be counted and is therefore a critical, essential first rung on the ladder toward gender equality, independence, and greater political voice. Without proof of identity, it's nearly impossible to receive government benefits. There are women who've never seen a birth certificate, so they have to estimate their age by putting a knot on a rope. We're working with governments and NGOs around the world to help change this. Nigeria is a key example, where millions of people are now getting their government benefits on a National ID card that doubles as an electronic payments card. MasterCard has partnered with UN Women to provide half a million Nigerian women with ID cards enabled with electronic payments functionality. We are also working with Mercy Corps to register 18,000 Nigerian girls and women to receive an eID card, giving most access to their first formal identity.

SDG 11: UN SDG Goal 11

Speaker: Nick Davies, Founder and CEO, Neighbourly.com

Goal 11's ambition is to ensure cities are inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable for future generations. In most cities, business already has some involvement at an infrastructure level. But in every case there's more to give, with initiatives such as food surplus, small community grants and volunteering time of colleagues and customers ready to be activated by local people.



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Neighbourly is a digital match-maker that works with businesses to connect their expertise and resources to address many Goal 11 targets. For example we have connected all 560 Marks and Spencer stores in the UK to homeless charities, foodbanks and schools in order to redistribute food surplus. In its first 6 months this programme's environmental impact has been to save over 240 tonnes of food from landfill and reduce CO2 output by 120 tonnes. But more importantly it's provided over 340,000 meals to vulnerable local people who would otherwise go hungry.

Starbucks want to encourage inclusive, sustainable living by backing community projects that their local colleagues put forward for help. Last Christmas they gave £200,000 to 150 community projects in a 3 week period. But in doing so they gave a voice to these projects so that more people would learn about their work and get involved. Incredibly, over 12,000 people shared project details with over 38 million of their online friends. For Starbucks, both the social impact and business case for supporting sustainable communities is clear.

To make activation easier for business, all projects on the Neighbourly platform are categorised by the 17 Global Goals, which helps them choose which projects to support and to measure their collective impact. Neighbourly is currently working with the world's biggest companies to design new programmes that help bring business and citizens together to accelerate Goal 11 impacts in the places where we all live.

SDG 12: Actions taken on responsible consumption

Speaker: Lea Rankinen: Senior Vice President, Sustainability, S-group

S Group is a cooperative group with over 1,600 outlets in Finland. It is owned by its 2.2 million co-op members.

S Group's own activities have an major impact on Finland. However, to make a difference it is important to get all its co-op members to consume responsibly as well. S Group aims to make this easier by providing different solutions.

For example Finns eat too much meat and too little vegetables. As a solution to this, S Group launched the 'Satokausituotteet' (Seasonal produce of the month) concept. The concept provides consumers with a more extensive range of vegetables of the season in question, with the best value. The seasonal produce increased the sale of vegetables at S Group's stores by 12 million kilograms from the previous year.

One of S Group's solutions for tackling food waste, contributing to circular economy and reducing our customers' carbon footprint is E85 fuel offered at our gas stations. E85 contains 80–85 % of bioethanol and over 100 S Group's outlets direct its food waste (inedible) as raw material for the production of bioethanol. The carbon dioxide emissions of E85 during its life cycle are up to 80 per cent lower than those of fossil fuel.

SDG 13:

Speaker: Rowan Douglas, Willis Group

SDG 14: "Smart Ocean - Smart Industries": Ocean Industry Leadership in Sustainable Development

Speaker: Paul Holthus, Founding President and CEO, World Oceans Council



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SDG 14 seeks to “Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development”, and the SDG 14a Means of Implementation calls for “Increasing Scientific Knowledge”.

Through the WOC “Smart Ocean - Smart Industries” Platform, leadership companies are improving our understanding of the ocean by using commercial vessels and platforms to cost effectively collect ocean, weather and climate data from the blue planet. This information supports the ability for the international community to understand climate change, measure, manage and protect marine biodiversity, advance disaster reduction.

The World Ocean Council (WOC) is the international, cross-sectoral alliance for private sector leadership and collaboration in ocean sustainable development, stewardship and science, i.e. “Corporate Ocean Responsibility” for the ocean 71% of the planet. The WOC includes member companies from a range of industries (e.g. oil and gas, shipping, cruise tourism, fisheries, aquaculture, marine mining, renewable energy, investment, etc.) and a network of 35,000+ ocean industry stakeholders worldwide.

The WOC’s multi-stakeholder “Ocean Sustainable Development Platforms” tackle cross-cutting ocean sustainable development challenges, e.g. ensuring food security, reducing pollution (e.g. plastics, marine sound, invasive species), adapting to sea level rise, increasing renewable energy.

SDG 15: Syngenta’s commitment to improving “Life on Land”

Speaker: Dr. Juan Gonzalez-Valero, Head of Public Policy and Sustainability, Syngenta

Under SDG 2030 #15 – Life on the Land the UN seeks “to conserve and restore the use of terrestrial ecosystems such as forests, wetlands, drylands, and mountains.” The goal is supported by the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) that has set the Zero Net Degradation goal, as part of SDG 15.

Our commitment: As part of The Good Growth Plan Syngenta has commitment to:

- Improve the fertility of 10 million hectares of farmland – this will help to halt and reverse land degradation, and combat desertification; and
- Enhance biodiversity on 5 million hectares of farmland – and thus support the halt of biodiversity loss.

How: Syngenta is promoting conservation practices based on minimum soil disturbance, crop rotation, permanent ground cover, and biodiversity enhancing landscape management through e.g. multifunctional field margins. These are aimed at preventing, halting, and reversing land degradation by contributing to organic carbon storage, water retention and soil biological activity, and on planting rich habitats on marginal and less productive farmland alongside fields and waterways to create interconnected habitat infrastructures.

Specific Action: Our concrete action is to embed soil and biodiversity enhancing protocols in our commercial offer, use demonstration farms in partnership with universities and local stakeholders, and to engage decision makers and other stakeholders in our partnership with the UNCCD Soil Leadership Academy for policy and decision makers and with commercial partners.

Progress: Two years into our Good Growth Plan, we have a fully transparent and audited system of measuring and reporting on progress. The progress made today is 4 million hectares, about 25% of our 2020 target of 15 million hectares. We have projects in over 30 countries in Europe, Latin America, North America and Asia. These encompass a variety of local partnerships and environmental and cultural approaches to soil conservation, create multifunctional field margins, managed forests, and



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biodiversity-friendly farming, directly contributing to the objective of SDG 15, to halt biodiversity loss and zero net land degradation.²

SDG 16:

Speaker: Kevin Coon, Baker McKenzie

The UN General Assembly for many years has recognized that the Rule of Law is essential to achieving economic growth, inclusive social development and environmental sustainability. The Sustainable Development Goals have been established within a framework of six essential elements, including both Justice-to promote safe and peaceful societies and strong institutions and, Partnerships-to catalyze global solidarity for sustainable development.

The inclusion of justice as a core element recognizes that it is not merely an end in itself but an enabler of achieving the other elements and SDG's.

So it is that Baker & McKenzie, the worlds geographically largest law firm with offices in 44 countries, partnered with the UNGC, and corporate leaders such as Unilever, Nestle, Lexis Nexis and others to develop and publish a Business for the Rule of Law Framework document. This Framework was launched at the UNGC Business Leaders Summit in June 2015 as a complement to government action. It was the culmination of of global consultation engaging 400 senior representatives in 20 countries, government officials, legal practitioners, academics and civil society.

The Framework provides guidance on how business can respect and support the rule of law in a way business can relate to. It provides a business case, practical examples and guidance on how to get started including approximately 100 case examples. It is a practical tool that any business can use.

As a second phase, our team of corporate leaders are planning activity around the globe to promote the Framework within the business community. Business, and it's associations have a critical role in the advancement of Goal 16 and the rule of law."

SDG 17: Gavin Wilson – Input to Fire-Starter Session

Speaker: Gavin Wilson, CEO, IFC Asset Management Company LLC

The **first 16 goals** cover a range of critical development needs, expanding on the Millennium Development Goals, which have guided development efforts since 2000. **The final SDG** is qualitatively different. Rather than expound on *what* we want to achieve, it addresses *how* we will achieve the goals. **It focuses on the means of implementation.**

What will it take? Essentially, knowledge, financing and **partnership**. Just as important as the finance is the need to bring together the right partners so we can leverage scarce official flows as much as possible. We need to work closely with those operating partners, especially domestic ones, who are best placed to deliver better infrastructure, higher growth and more jobs.

Blended finance investment solutions capitalize on partnerships among diverse actors, including international organizations, development co-operation agencies and private enterprise. An example of such a partnership is the Women Entrepreneurs Opportunity Facility, launched in March 2014 by the International Finance Corporation and Goldman Sachs' *10,000 Women*. This is the first of its kind global facility dedicated to expanding access to capital for women-owned small and medium enterprises. Through the facility, the International Finance Corporation aims to invest up to USD 600 million in financial



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institutions that are committed to expanding their financial services to small and medium enterprises owned by women in emerging markets. It also aims to signal the relevance of this asset class to the broader investor market. The funding for the facility also includes USD 50 million of blended finance from Goldman Sachs' *10,000 Women* to create performance incentives for financial institutions to boost their lending to this segment, and to support capacity building among financial institutions and women borrowers.