



Sustainable Investment for the Decade of Action

20-22 April 2020

Concept Note

Private finance and investment are essential for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Yet, to date, private investment in areas critical for implementation of the SDGs is vastly insufficient. It is estimated that achieving the SDGs by 2030 in developing countries alone will require investment in the order of trillions of dollars annually, mainly in infrastructure (power, telecommunications, transport, and water and sanitation).

The overarching objective of the SDG Investment Fair is to facilitate direct interaction and connections between representatives of governments of developing countries, the private sector and multilateral agencies with a view to scaling up the mobilization of private investment for the SDGs. In this regard, the 2020 SDG Investment Fair will address ways to better channel investment to countries and sectors where they are most needed and to enhance its impact on sustainable development. Follow-up and specific results will depend on specific actions taken by governments and potential investors.

In order to achieve these objectives, the 2020 SDG Investment Fair will comprise three types of sessions aimed at generating appropriate interactions and partnerships between relevant actors from public and private sectors to tackle challenges to generating adequate investment for the SDGs. These are as follows:

- **Country presentations:** Countries will present their investment projects to investors in a moderated session. The sessions will build on the country investment workshops that have taken place during the preceding months.
- **Policy spotlights:** These constitute moderated discussions on a specific issue pertaining to SDG-related investments with 4-5 speakers and a strong focus on direct interaction with the audience.
- **Café conversations:** Café conversations will have a flexible format with the focus on arriving at solutions to challenges pertaining to scaling and channeling impactful investment. There will be a series of small group discussions, each lead by a moderator or expert, which will allow for more in-depth, detailed discussion and problem solving.

The 2020 SDG Investment Fair will build on the work undertaken by the recently established Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance. The event will take place over three days and will be organized by DESA in collaboration with partners from the GISD Alliance Core Group (UNCTAD, UNDP, UNCDF, Global Compact, PRI, WBG, SIDA), as well as external partners (ICC, GIIN, Global Partnerships Forum).