

Joint Perspectives Cooperation with Africa in Times of Change”

25 January 2023, 03:00 to 07:00 p.m. CET
followed by a reception for on-site participants

at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Stresemannstrasse 94, 10963 Berlin, Germany (Konferenzsaal)
with live stream

The event offers a platform for BMZ to present its new Africa strategy and to discuss the future of African-European cooperation in times of change with German, European and African experts.

02:00 p.m. **Registration and Welcome Coffee** (for on-site participants)

03:00 p.m. **Welcoming**
Chair: **Liz Shoo**

03:10 p.m. **Welcome & Opening**
Svenja Schulze, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development
Jutta Urpilainen, EU Commissioner for International Partnerships (video-statement)

03:30 p.m. **Keynote: *Reflecting African-European Perspectives - How Europe Filled Africa's Silence***
Jennifer Makumbi, Ugandan Writer

03:45 p.m. **Panel 1: *Joining Perspectives – Cooperation with Africa in Times of Change***

The world is undergoing radical change; Africa's role is evolving. The African continent is an indispensable partner for Europe in making the necessary comprehensive shift towards a climate-neutral, socially equitable and gender-sensitive social and economic world order. At the same time, Africa is particularly affected by global crises. The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development's (BMZ) Africa Strategy outlines the central ambitions, aims and actors for Germany's cooperation with African countries, in order to meet development goals and address global challenges. The panel will discuss different perspectives on the future of African-European cooperation: How can partnership based on shared values and common/diverging interests successfully be crafted, and what challenges lie ahead? What are the most urgent issues to be addressed and who are the key partners for achieving development goals?

Svenja Schulze, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development

Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa, Deputy Chairperson of the AU Commission

Koen Doens, Director-General for International Partnerships, EU Commission

Ahunna Eziakonwa, Regional Director for Africa, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Mavis Owusu-Gyamfi, Executive Vice President, African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET)



04:45 p.m. **Coffee Break**

05:30 p.m. **Panel 2: *Digital Transformation – A joint journey into the future***

Digital Transformation is disruptively changing societies in both Europe and Africa. In the digital age, a dignified life for everyone in an intact environment can only be achieved through a joint, systematic, and politically responsible design of the digital transformation. There are needs in all dimensions, especially for securing basic needs and participation, the digital transformation of the economy, technology adoption and diffusion, infrastructure, digital skills and the sovereign handling of digital development and data. This session is designed as an exchange between African and European policy makers and important voices of the African digital entrepreneurship and academia to complement and expand perspectives on African-European cooperation on digital transformation.

Dr. Bärbel Kofler, Parliamentary State Secretary, BMZ

Moses Bayingana, Head of Information Society Division, Department for Infrastructure & Energy, African Union Commission

Carla Montesi, Director Green Deal & Digital Agenda, General Direction for International Partnerships, European Commission

Bosun Tijani, CEO of Co-Creation Hub Nigeria

Nanjira Sambuli, Scientist, Author, Political Analyst

06:30 p.m. **Vision for the Future: *What does the African continent look like in 2063?* & Closing**

Jochen Flasbarth, State Secretary, BMZ

Chido Mpemba, Special Envoy on Youth to the AU Chairperson

07:00 p.m. Reception for on-site participants

Music: DJane Nomi

08:00 p.m. End of the event
