



6th AMCEN Special Session - Launches/Side Events



Cairo, Egypt 16-19 April 2016

"Agenda 2030 and Paris Agreement: From policy to implementation in Africa"

PRE - SESSIONS AND LAUNCHES

No	Date/Time	Event	Venue	Contact	Remarks
1	15.04.2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Group Civil Society consultation/forum - The meeting will deliberate on key issues on the agenda of the 6th AMCEN Special Session with the aim to deepen and broaden common understanding and analysis. It will broadly reflect on the COP21 outcomes, the Sustainable Development goals and plan for the second United Nations Environmental Assembly scheduled for 23rd -27th May, 2016 in Nairobi-Kenya. The workshop will be vitally important in setting the agenda for subsequent African engagements and to a larger extent the post-Paris perspectives that will determine positioning with focus now shifting to COP22, regarded as the "Implementation COP", to be hosted in Morocco 	Daliah	Mohamed Atani PACJA- Sam Ogallah	
2	18.4.2016	Press Conference to launch the National Action Plan for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) for Egypt	Lilly	Ghada Moghny, CEDARE Mohamed Atani, UNEP	

SIDE EVENTS- All the side events are expected to be aligned to/contribute to the overall theme of the 6th AMCEN special session: "Agenda 2030 and Paris Agreement: From policy to implementation in Africa"

No	Date /Time TBC	Title of Side Event	Venue	Contact	Remarks
1	16.04.2016 13:15-14:15	<p>Gaborone Declaration for Sustainability in Africa - The Gaborone Declaration for Sustainability in Africa (GDSA) is a regional policy framework for sustainable development that was developed and signed by ten (10) African countries in the run-up to the Rio +20 UNCSD. The founding signatory countries are Botswana, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, and Tanzania. It is a platform and commitment to incorporating the values of natural capital into public and private policies and practices, working towards poverty reduction through sustainable development and production, and increasing the data, knowledge and capacity to pursue a sustainable development pathway in support of attaining international commitments such as the SDGs, the Paris Agreement NDCs, CBD Aichi Targets etc.</p> <p>The side event will provide an update on the implementation of the GDSA to-date within the context of AMCEN's regional flagship programme on Green Economy and discuss pertinent GDSA implementation issues. The focus of the side event will thus be on briefing the audience on progress on implementing the GDSA, discussing ideas and opportunities for further programmatic development through bilateral and multi-sectoral partnerships, offering avenues for growth in membership of the GDSA</p>	Purple Daisy	Ruud Jansen Executive Secretary, GDSA	
2	17.04.2016 13:15-14:15	<p>Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora in Africa: Status, Challenges, Approaches and Opportunities - Illegal trade in wildlife and its adverse impacts contributes to damage to ecosystems and rural livelihoods, undermines good governance and the rule of law and threatens national security and negatively impacts on sustainable utilization, including eco-tourism and wildlife-based tourism. Governments and the international</p>	Purple Daisy	Ken Mwathe	Organizers: African Union, IUCN, BirdLife International, WWF, TRAFFIC, AWF

		<p>community have recently directed substantial attention to addressing threats posed by the increased involvement of transnational organized criminal networks in the illegal trade of wildlife.</p> <p>The side event will be a platform to showcase how efforts by civil society can support Member States implement the African Strategy to Combat Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora. It will showcase current efforts towards tackling illegal trade and trafficking in Africa and its ecological, social and economic impacts. Case studies will be presented on key species such as elephants, rhinos demonstrating effectiveness of local, national, regional to international action. A case study linking the disappearance of African vultures and poaching of big mammalian species such as elephants will be presented</p>			
3	17.04.2016 13:15-14:15	<p>Land solutions -- The Economics of Land Degradation (ELD) Initiative aims to raise awareness of decision makers and the public on the impacts and challenges of land degradation and land-based ecosystems from an economic perspective. It presents a cost-benefit analysis of sustainable land management, to inform political and business decision-makers to take the necessary measures to promote sustainable land practices for sustainable rural development and food security.</p> <p>This side event aims to show case the findings of the ELD Initiative studies and work under the Initiative. During the side event, the ELD in Africa report will launched and discussed. According to the report, the benefits of taking action towards sustainable land management (SLM) across Africa are on average 7 times the cost of action during the next 15 years. The event will also provide a platform for participants to share knowledge on land degradation / land restoration, show case best practices in sustainable land management and explore possible further collaboration options.</p>	Hydranga	Pushpam Kumar- UNEP	
4	18.04.2016 13:15-14:15	<p>Towards more Resilient Ecovillages in Africa - GEN-Africa is the African ecovillage association, promoting social resilience, environmental protection and restoration of nature through the concept of ecovillages as models for sustainable human settlements. GEN-Africa actively support the development of ecovillages and networks in all parts of Africa.</p>	Purple Daisy	Dr. Ibrahim Abouleish, Sekem Development	

		The side event will provide a platform to present best practices on ecovillages in Africa and have an open discussion about how Governments can support sustainable ecovillages in Africa.		Foundation	
5	18.04.2016 13:15-14:15	<p>Natural Capital Management in Africa: How Accounting and Valuation Can Help Achieving SDGs - Countries have long kept a close watch on their national income accounts to evaluate economic performance and assess the effectiveness of their development policies and plans. Except some of the successful initiatives, valuation and assessments of natural capital including biodiversity do not lead to development of policy reforms needed to mitigate the drivers of decline in natural capital. Moreover, such assessments do not facilitate an increase in financial flows for management of natural capital. Development and financial planning should integrate the value of natural capital so that those decisions provide incentives for sustainable management.</p> <p>Therefore, it is critically important that understanding on natural capital is further enriched including the following</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is needed to move forward to operationalize natural capital approach in Africa 2. What would be a simple and common standard? 3. What is needed to institutionalize natural capital accounting and valuation? <p>The side event is expected to help decision makers to have access to strengthened capacity and advisory services to link economic analysis of natural capital with development and financial planning through improved understanding of the potential for the benefits of natural capital responsive budget planning.</p>	Hydranga	Pushpam Kumar- UNEP	

Remarks:

- *All side events scheduled during the day are expected to start right after the sessions in the main meeting and will not exceed 1 hour from 1:15 pm to 2:15 pm.*
- *Rooms are equipped with all conference facilities.*
- *A template will be circulated to all organizers for them to provide feedback/information on the outcomes of their respective side-event so that these could be captured in the report of the 6th AMCEN Special Session.*
- *Advertising the events to AMCEN participants will be mainly the responsibility of the organizers.*