



Recalibrating Market Forces: How **Greener** and more Inclusive Economies and Finance are Delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals

CONCEPT NOTE

17 July 2017, 18:30

Scandinavia House, Volvo Hall, 58 Park Ave, New York
followed by a reception

HOSTED BY:

Government of Finland, PAGE/UN Development Programme

COLLABORATING PARTNERS:

Government of Germany, UN Development Programme, UN Environment, International Labour Organization, UN Industrial Development Organization, UN Institute of Training and Research

SPEAKERS (listed alphabetically):

Risto Artjoki, State Secretary to the Ministry of Finance, Finland

Sonja Gibbs, Senior Director of Global Capital Markets, Institute of International Finance

Edgar Gutiérrez-Espeleta, President of the UN Environment Assembly

Denis Lowe, Minister of Environment and Drainage, Barbados

Mirgul Moldoisaeva, Permanent Representative of Kyrgyz Republic Mission to the United Nations

Edna Molewa, Minister of Environmental Affairs, South Africa

Guy Ryder, Director General of the International Labour Organization (ILO)

Rita Schwarzelühr-Sutter, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, Germany

Achim Steiner, UN Development Programme (UNDP) Administrator

Ibrahim Thiaw, Deputy Executive Director of UN Environment and Assistant Secretary-General of the UN

Simon Zadek, Advisor to UN Secretary General on Financing for Sustainable Development Goals

BACKGROUND:

Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals will require an unrelenting focus on the environment-development nexus and a radical decoupling of environmental degradation from growth. Current growth models are environmentally unsustainable with unforeseen consequences for present and future generations, including women and men living in poverty. The livelihoods of the world's rural poor depend on ecosystem services and natural resources, and extreme poverty remains a key challenge, with more than 700 million people globally living on less than US \$1.90 PPP per day. Inequalities are either high or widening, especially within countries. Unemployment and vulnerable employment levels are high in many countries, particularly among youth.

Against this sobering backdrop, there are now a range of tools and inclusive green economy approaches that can be used to help ensure more sustainable consumption and production in ways that manage ecosystems within their limits— maintaining their ability to provide services vital to life, development, and their own regeneration. Shocks associated with macroeconomic instability, disasters linked to natural hazards, environmental degradation, and socio-political unrest can be avoided in ways that improve the lives of millions. Through more integrated approaches, progress already achieved in meeting national and internally agreed development goals can be accelerated.