

## **Driving Africa's Transformation:**

*Good Practices and Strategies for Development Practitioners*

Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

November 7 - 10, 2016

Transformation requires a change in mindset that must draw on what works, what does not work—and why—to succeed.

AfDB Development Evaluation Week 2016 aims to help drive Africa's transformation by convening development practitioners to share evidence-based knowledge about what works and why, in a bid to inform the way forward towards achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The learning event aims specifically to foster sharing of evidence-based knowledge related to the five core areas (the "High 5s")<sup>1</sup> the AfDB has chosen to focus on during the next five years. Discussions are expected to inform implementation and evaluation of the "High 5's", which are complex by virtue of their nature and African context. Discussions and presentations will focus on the following areas:

- What evidence is available on what works, what does not work, and why?
- What lessons from the AfDB and sister institutions can inform the design and implementation of policies and operations in the five priority areas?
- What are the innovative solutions to some of the challenges that can affect the success of the initiative?
- What will success look like, and how do we measure and evaluate success/failure in order to improve the quality of implementation and results of the "High Fives", and of the TYS? In this regard, how relevant, practical, effective and sustainable, are the strategies/measures envisaged by the AfDB to monitor, evaluate and learn from the implementation of the five core areas?
- What are the best evaluation approaches and indicators for measuring success? How do we ensure the evaluability of these five core areas?

AfDB Development Evaluation Week 2016 will bring together a cross-section of development experts to share knowledge and learn from each other. Discussions will be grounded in evaluative evidence and will be enriched by input from relevant AfDB departments and stakeholders. This will ensure a conversation about the issues; allow the voices of key players to be heard; and ensure that innovative solutions proposed are implementable and can bridge the gap that often exists between theory and practice.

---

<sup>1</sup> The "High 5s" (Light up and power Africa, feed Africa, integrate Africa, industrialize Africa, and improve the quality of life of Africans) are part of the Ten-Year Strategy (TYS) of the AfDB to help Africa achieve sustainable transformation.

# AfDB Development Evaluation Week 2016

## Driving Africa's Transformation | Nov. 7 – 10, 2016

The **four-day event** will be held at the AfDB HQ in Abidjan from November 7-10, 2016.

- **November 7, 2016**
  - *Evaluation Capacity Development Workshop*
  - *Knowledge Café: Evaluation Utilization*
- **November 8—10, 2016:** AfDB Development Evaluation Week high level sessions.

**Structure of sessions:** Given the integrated nature of development work, sessions will aim to bring together viewpoints from a cross section of development actors (academics, policy makers, economists, financiers, philanthropists, evaluators, beneficiaries, and civil society). Discussions will be structured around what the High 5's mean in the current development landscape, the expected challenges, results and outcomes. They will be characterized by:

- *Use of evidence:* The ultimate goal is to learn from past experiences and approaches to determine future directions.
- *Innovative thinking.* Emphasis on innovative ideas and solutions for development. Business as usual may not get us there.
- *Bridging the gap between theory and practice:* Concrete ways in which theory can inform development actions and help improve their implementation.

The event format includes keynote addresses; panel discussions, debates, and roundtables; ignite talks; knowledge fair; awards; and networking opportunities.

**The target audience** for this event, as well as the speakers, panelists and discussants will comprise AfDB staff and senior management (both at HQ and in field offices); influential current and former leaders, development practitioners, evaluators, and decision makers from AfDB member countries; other bilateral donors and multilateral development banks; private sector; civil society; academia; and non-government organizations.

# AfDB Development Evaluation Week 2016

## Driving Africa's Transformation | Nov. 7 – 10, 2016

### Program Overview

#### Evaluation Week Side Events

##### Monday November 7, 2016:

- Evaluation Capacity Development Workshop
- Knowledge Café: Evaluation Utilization
- Welcome Cocktail

#### Evaluation Week - High Level Sessions

##### Tuesday November 8, 2016: Delivering on the High 5's:

*What will it take? | Light up and Power Africa*

- **Welcome**
- **Opening Remarks:** Evaluation. A Critical Link in the AfDB's Learning Ecosystem
- **Launch of AfDB Evaluation Week & Keynote:** Transforming Africa through the "High 5s"
- **High-level Discussion:** Opportunities and Challenges for Delivering on the High 5s
- **Press Conference/Interviews**
- Lunch || Lunchtime Talk
- **Panel discussion:** Lighting up and Powering Africa: On the road to Renewable Energies

##### Wednesday, November 9, 2016: Delivering on the High 5's:

*Feeding Africa | Industrializing Africa*

- **Keynote:** What will it take to Feed Africa? Progress, Challenges & Opportunities
- **Panel Discussion:** Strengthening Agriculture and Food Security

Lunch || Lunchtime Talk

Inclusive Sustainable Industrial Development, in particular, Developing the Private Sector

- **Introductory remarks**
- **Roundtable discussion**

##### Thursday, November 10, 2016: Delivering on the High 5's:

*Improving the Quality of Life for Africans | Integrating Africa | Evaluating the High 5's | Awards*

- **Keynote speech:** What will it take to improve the Quality of Life for Africans?
- **Talk:** Integrating Africa: What Works and Why? Presentation, Discussion and Q & A
- Lunch || Lunchtime Talk
- **Roundtable Discussion:** Climbing the 'High 5' Learning Curve with Independent Evaluation
- **Awards:** Best Evaluation Essay || Evaluation Photo
- Event Closing Remarks