



**Fifth session of the Africa Regional
Forum on Sustainable Development**
Empowering people and ensuring
inclusiveness and equality



2019 Africa Sustainable Development Report

Summary

Paul Mpuga, Macroeconomics &
Governance Division

16 - 18 April 2019
Marrakech, Morocco

**Fifth session of the Africa Regional Forum on
Sustainable Development**



2019 Africa Sustainable Development Report
assesses progress on **six** SDGs & related Goals of
Agenda 2063

Fourth year of implementation; Reporting builds
on earlier reports (2017, 2018) & legacy of MDGs

Consistent with the Theme of 2019 High-Level
Political Forum: “*Empowering people and ensuring
inclusiveness and equality*”

Prepared by ECA, AUC, AfDB, UNDP, APRM-
Secretariat.





Progress on primary education; but coverage low

Expand child-friendly, disability- gender- sensitive schools

Inclusive growth needed: GDP growth <7% target to achieve sustainable development.

Higher labour productivity key to sustainable development efforts: ↑ by only 0.8% (2017-2018) [2.7% globally]

Trade a key to sustainable development and structural transformation: *Aid-for-Trade commitments to Africa more than doubled - 2007-2016*

Large investment needs for SDGs: \$600-638 bn p.a.

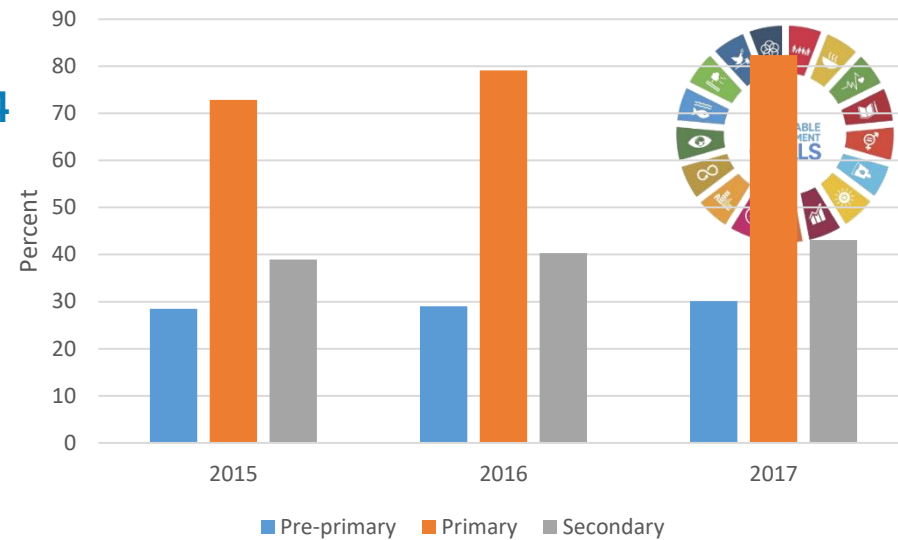
Infrastructure spending ≈\$72 bn p.a; gaps \$50-\$93 bn p.a

Progress

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



4



Enrolment improving: 28.5% (2015) → 39.2% (2017) Pre-primary
78.9% (2015) → 82.3% (2017) Primary

But completion rates low: 64%, 37% & 27% - primary, lower- & upper-secondary, resp. [Globally ≈85%; 73% & 49% at primary, lower- and upper- secondary]

High out-of-school population high: 21%, 36% & 57% in primary, lower- & upper- secondary, resp.

Invest more to ensure inclusive & equitable quality education & promote lifelong learning opportunities for all



New frontier of growth



Sustained growth since 2000

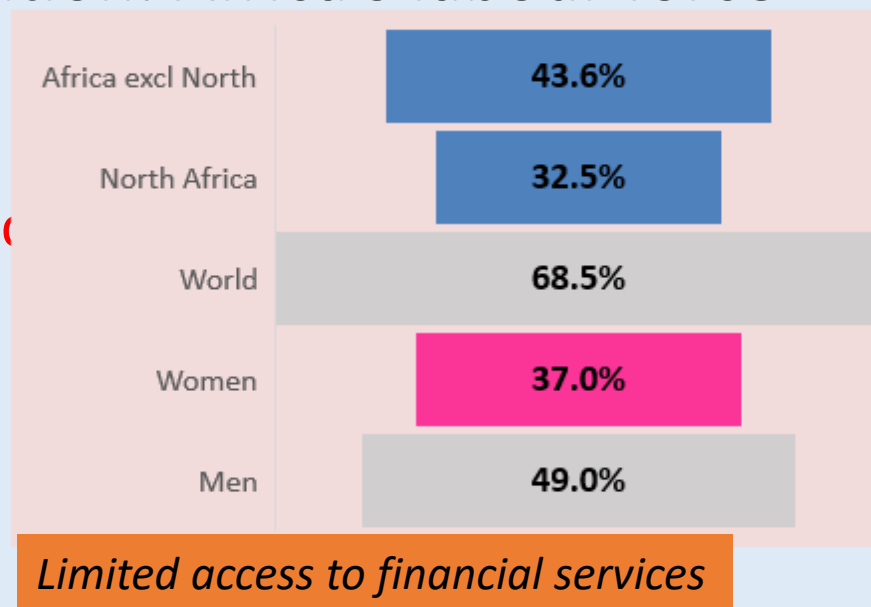
$\approx 4\%$ p.a. (2010-15); $\approx 3.2\%$ (2017-18)

Positive medium-term prospects

Potential of Africa's young population: Africa's labour force will be ≈ 1.1 billion by 2030.

But growth is:

- Below 7% p.a. needed to achieve SDG 8
- Not inclusive, ...
- Low levels of technology
- Large informal sector



Africa is one of the most unequal regions globally

Income; access to & outcomes in health and education, ...

- Gini Coef. for Africa excl. N. Africa was ≈ 0.43
- 7/10 of world's most unequal countries in Africa;
- Incomes of bottom 40% grew by $> 5\%$ in only two countries (2012-2016).
- Four countries registered negative growth

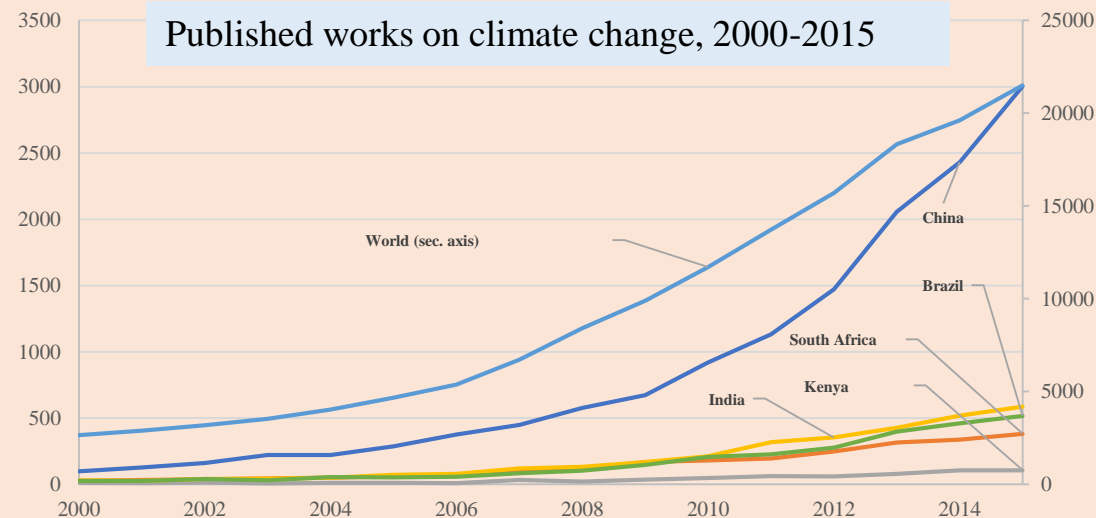
Social protection systems serve only a few:

- Only 5% of unemployed persons received cash benefits in 2015; [22% globally]
- Children & women bear the brunt of poverty: $\approx 49\%$ of children live in extreme poverty



Africa is making progress on this goal

- Increasing investments & progress in implementing disaster risk reduction actions
 - Stronger coordination and partnerships
 - All countries signed the Paris Agreement; over 70% ratified
 - The N'gor Declaration on climate change and disaster risk reduction scale up efforts to address climate change
 - Large data gaps!
-
- The graph, titled 'Published works on climate change, 2000-2015', shows a significant increase in publications over time. The left y-axis represents the 'World (sec. axis)' from 1000 to 3500, and the right y-axis represents individual countries from 1000 to 2500. The x-axis shows years from 2000 to 2015. The 'World' line (blue) starts at approximately 1000 in 2000 and rises to about 3000 by 2015. China (red line) starts near 0 in 2000 and reaches approximately 2000 by 2015. Brazil (green line) starts near 0 in 2000 and reaches approximately 1500 by 2015. South Africa (purple line) starts near 0 in 2000 and reaches approximately 1000 by 2015.
- | Year | World (sec. axis) | China | Brazil | South Africa |
|------|-------------------|-------|--------|--------------|
| 2000 | 1000 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2005 | 1250 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2010 | 1750 | 500 | 250 | 250 |
| 2015 | 3000 | 2000 | 1500 | 1000 |





*Slow progress in reducing violence and related death rates;
large data gaps*

- 3 countries had homicides of >10,000 per 100,000;
- 25 countries had 100-5,000 deaths/ 100,000 in 2015.

*Only nine countries reported of victims of trafficking by age
and sex (2014-2016)*

- Over 40% of trafficked victims under-15 girls
- For nine countries with data, 1/10 of women aged 18-29 experienced sexual violence; incidence higher (15%) in conflict areas



Large financing needs

- Annual investment needs: \$600-638 bn; $\approx 1/3$ of total GDP
- Infrastructure spending at \approx \$72 bn p.a.; 65% from domestic resources
- But, infrastructure financing gaps \approx \$50-\$93 bn p.a.
- Energy access for all needs at \approx \$30-\$55 bn p.a. by 2025

Government revenue-to-GDP ratios low; some improvements,

- Government revenue-to-GDP ratio $\approx 24.7\%$ (2000-2017);
- Tax-to-GDP ratio \uparrow from $\approx 12\%$ (2000) to 16% (2014)
- ➔ scope for more tax revenue generation



Emerging issues, opportunities, challenges

- **Quality education and effective learning** critical to realizing sustainable development
- Address **inequality for greater traction**
- Measures to combat climate change a priority and responsibility of all
- Mobilize **additional resources from multiple sources for sustainable development**: scope for raising tax & non-tax revenue
- **Trade above aid**: Africa's share of global merchandise exports is low, 2.4% in 2017



THANK YOU!

Follow the conversation: #ARFSD2019

More: www.uneca.org/arfsd2019