

# Concept Note and Agenda: Annual Meeting Governance Fund

## **Place and date**

Berlin, 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2019 (Representative Office of the Regional State of Bremen in Berlin)

## **Background**

Commissioned by BMZ (Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development) in 2016, the Advisory Fund for Structural and Regulatory Policy Reforms (FSRP) / Governance Fund aims at integrating German policy experiences into the advisory work of German Development Policy. In our partner countries there is a high level of interest in analysing the specific structural and regulatory approaches taken by Germany, and in using elements of these and lessons learned in their own reform projects. To this end the fund is establishing and developing high ranking networks of German experts, active and former policy makers and administrative authorities in the fields of Political Participation, Public Financial Management, (Green) Economic Policy/Innovation Policy, Decentralization, E-Governance and recently Rule of Law. The new project phase will start in October 2019 with a focus on African partner countries.

## **Objectives of the meeting**

The main objective of this year's meeting is to foster cooperation between Germany and African partner countries in the area of good governance and to bring together German and African partners to exchange views and experiences on key governance issues.

Furthermore, we want to:

- Initiate partnerships between German stakeholders and their African peers
- Link up the communities (administration, development, Africa, Germany)
- Pre-plan future collaborations between the Governance Funds and African partners in the upcoming new phase of the project

## **Participants**

- Ca. 100 participants in total
- Participants from 8 African partner countries (policy makers, technical administrative staff, partners of GIZ programs from Ghana, Morocco, Madagascar, Benin, Burkina Faso, Mozambique, Zambia and South Africa interested in an exchange with their German peers)
- Participants from Germany (active and former policy makers, technical administrative staff, who are interested in reform processes in African partner countries and ready to share their own experiences)
- BMZ, GIZ

Moderation: Ms. Kah Walla (STRATEGIES! from Cameroon)

**Conference language** is English with simultaneous translation into French, Portuguese and German

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Berlin, 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2019

Representative Office of the Regional State of Bremen in Berlin, Hiroshimastr. 24

## Agenda

<b>8.15</b>	<b>Registration and coffee</b>
<b>9.00</b>	<b>Introduction and opening remarks by:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Ms. Ulrike Hiller</b>, Representative of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen to the Federal Government, with Responsibility for European Affairs and Development Cooperation</li><li>• <b>Dr. Maria Flachsbarth</b>, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development</li><li>• <b>Mr. Tianarivelo Razafimahefa</b>, Minister of the Interior and Decentralisation of the Republic of Madagascar</li></ul>
<b>9.45</b>	Keynote by <b>Dr. Obiageli Ezekwesili</b> , Senior Economic Advisor and Public Policy Expert, Africa Economic Development Policy Initiative (AEDPI)
<b>10.30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>11:00</b>	Introduction to the program by <b>Kah Walla</b> (Moderator) and <b>Karen Losse</b> (Head of Governance Fund, Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit - GIZ)
<b>11.15</b>	Opening Panel with African Partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Short statements on the respective reform processes in each country as a teaser for the upcoming discussions</li></ul>
<b>12:00</b>	Presentations on <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Local Finances and Municipal Fiscal Equalization in Germany - Benefits for Development Cooperation</b> by Dr. Michael Thöne, Managing Director of the FiFo Institute of Public Economics at the University of Cologne, and Jens Bullerjahn, former Minister of Finance of the regional State of Saxony-Anhalt</li><li>• <b>Citizen participation in Germany and selected African countries</b> by Hendrik Schober and Nils Napierala, Hertie School of Governance</li></ul>
<b>13.00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>14.00</b>	Parallel in depth discussions on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local fiscal equalization (plenary)</li><li>• Citizen participation (third floor)</li></ul>
<b>15.30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>16.00</b>	Wrap up by rapporteurs
<b>17.00</b>	Closing remarks (GIZ)