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| logos.gif (6993 bytes)  FOSTERING WATER, ENERGY AND FOOD SECURITY NEXUS DIALOGUE AND MULTI-SECTOR INVESTMENT IN THE SADC REGION  **Concept Note**  **SADC WEF Nexus Workshop on validating the Regional Nexus Framework and Testing the Nexus Tool**  17-18 September 2019  Johannesburg, South Africa  July 2019  Gaborone, Botswana |

**Concept Note**

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| **Dialogue Title** | **SADC WEF Nexus Workshop on validating the Regional Nexus Framework and Testing the Nexus Tool** |
| **Date** | 17-18 September 2019 |
| **Background** | 1. **WEF Nexus and SADC**   Sustainable development in the Member States of the SADC region largely depends on goods and services derived from the region’s environment and natural resource base. The environment and natural resources are crucial in countries’ effort to eradicate poverty. Livelihood strategies and food security of the poor often depend directly on functioning ecosystems and the diversity of goods and ecological services they provide. Climate variability and change with its long-term implications for social, economic and ecological systems is an inevitable and urgent challenge in the SADC region.  As the region pursues sustainable growth pathways and structural transformation, the management of natural capital and most importantly water, land and energy resources is critical. National Development Plans of Member States set ambitious targets in a variety of sectors including water, food and energy. In order to avoid trade-offs and create synergies between different development agendas, integrated planning and cross-sectoral coordination is crucial. The Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus approach has potential in the region in facilitating better interactions and synergies between the water, food, and energy sectors in order to unlock and optimize development of the potential for economic growth and transformation in the region.   1. **SADC-EU WEF Nexus Project**   The SADC NEXUS Dialogue Project “Fostering Water, Energy and Food Security Nexus Dialogue and Multi-Sector Investment in the SADC Region” is a project supported by the European Commission as part of the global ‘Nexus Dialogues Programme”. The Nexus Dialogues Programme (Phase I) aims at helping regional organisations and their member states apply a nexus approach in the formulation of multi-sector policy recommendations, strategies, action plans and investment programmes. Phase I also aims at identifying concrete investment projects - with a focus on multi-purpose water infrastructure - which could be funded under Phase II.  The overall objective of the project is to support the transformation required to meet increasing water, energy and food security demand in a context of climate change in the SADC Region through the development of a truly integrated nexus approach. The specific objective of the project is to create an enabling environment that will drive cross-sectoral engagement and implementation of nexus investment projects that contribute to enhancing water, food and energy security in the SADC region. The SADC Nexus Dialogue Project is a strategic fit in the implementation of SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Action Plan (RSAP IV) and the Roadmap and Strategy for Industrialisation.  The two expected results of the project are:   * Establishing a SADC Regional WEF Nexus Framework; and * Developing a prioritised list of Nexus Investment Projects   A draft Regional WEF Nexus Framework was prepared in a multi-stakeholder consultative process. The process involved undertaking of a number of analyses at regional and country levels.  As part of developing a prioritized investment projects for SADC, a draft WEF Nexus project screening tool was drafted. The excel-based tool was developed by considering the different WEF Nexus parameters that are relevant to the region. The tool is now in the process of being converted into a web-based tool.  The draft regional framework and the draft tool were reviewed in November 2018 in Gaborone at the regional technical workshop that brought together a number of technical experts. Both drafts were then introduced to the SADC Member states and other stakeholders in the region during the 9th SADC WEF Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue and the Member States workshop on WEF Nexus in March 2019 in South Africa.  ***SADC WEF Nexus Operational Framework***  The recent SADC Water and Energy Ministers’ Meeting in Namibia made a decision that the regional framework has to be finalized by December 2019.  A regional workshop is therefore organized 17-18 September 2019 in Johannesburg, South Africa to validate the regional framework and test the web-based nexus tool. The workshop is also expected to discuss on ways of operationalizing the action plan of the regional WEF Youth Network. |
| **Workshop objectives:** | * Introduce the draft web-based WEF Nexus Tool and train users * Test the Nexus Tool, and provide feedback to the experts that are developing the tool for further improvement * Review and validate the SADC WEF Nexus Regional Framework and * Discuss on how to operationalize the Action Plan of the Southern Africa Youth WEF Innovation Network (SAYWIN). |
| **Methodologies for facilitating dialogue** | * Presentations, mainly on the draft regional framework, the tool and the Youth Action Plan * Discussions to validate the framework * Working on the web-based Tool (data entry and running the tool) * Group works and facilitated discussions |
| **Desired results/outcomes:** | * Draft SADC WEF Nexus Regional Framework validated * Draft web-based WEF Nexus Tool tested, and input collected for further improving/refining the tool * Ways of implementing Youth Action Plan defined |
| **Target Group-Participants** | * Representatives of the WEF sectors of Member States (3 per Member State) * Two Youth Representatives * SADC Secretariat-Water, energy and food security divisions * Implementing Partners (self-sponsoring) * International Cooperating Partners (self-sponsoring) * Consultants * GWPSA   TOTAL: maximum 70 |