



**Policy Forum on Development  
Side Event on External Investment Plan  
Gaborone, 9 October 2018**

**"ENGAGING WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR ON INVESTMENT CLIMATE FOR INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: THE ROLE OF THE EU'S EXTERNAL INVESTMENT PLAN"**

### **1. Context**

The side event will be organised in the margins of the Africa Policy Forum on Development regional meeting, which will take place from, 8-10 October 2018 in Gaborone, Botswana.

### **2. Objectives**

Global experience shows that structured dialogue with the entire spectrum of the private sector, from export value chains to the informal sector, is essential in order to effectively identify obstacles to the private sector development, provide valid responses to competitiveness challenges, promote an investment climate that generates opportunities and creates incentives for investment mobilisation while supporting inclusive and sustainable growth.

The aim of the meeting shall be threefold:

1. Discuss the role of the EU's External Investment Plan, its integrated approach and report on the current state of affairs of its implementation.
2. Exchange views and debate with African and European private sector constituencies regarding challenges and opportunities for effective structured dialogue with the private sector in support of investment climate and business enabling environment and ways of an effective operationalisation. Sustainable Business for Africa (SB4A) platform will be presented.
3. Share information and build partnership to promote investments towards the African and the EU private sector together with the European financial institutions.

This meeting will be looking for business inputs to sustain the ongoing EU -Africa business dialogue, following the outcomes of the EU-Africa Business Forum in Abidjan (November 2017) and preparing for the African Investment Forum that will be held in South Africa in November 2018.

### **3. Participants**

80 participants from African and European private sector, IFIs, African and European financial sector, EU MS and EU MS Development Agencies are expected.