

## CALL FOR ESSAYS

The Global Development Network and UNECA invite young African students to submit an essay on

### **Imagining the future of Africa 2025**

And participate in the GDN 15th Annual Global Development Conference, Accra (Ghana) June 18-20, 2014.

If you are currently a student enrolled in an African university and are 21 to 29 years old, speak out on the future of Africa 2025: What does the future hold for the African continent? What are the possible scenarios? How will the future be different from the Africa that exists today?

- **Write a paper of 15 000 characters (with spaces).** Submissions will be judged for both their analytical rigour and their quality of exposition and written expression. Your paper must be innovative and able to put forward positive proposals for the future of the African continent on three main issues:
  - **Economic challenges:** What are the main determinants and engines for growth and are they likely to anchor a high potential growth rate for the short, medium and long term? How do you describe and analyse the economic transformation that is taking place?
  - **Environmental challenges:** Is African growth sustainable? How to harness natural resources for structural transformation? How to combine sustainability with the demands of growth and urbanization in terms of access to energy and natural resources?
  - **Social and political challenges:** How inclusive has growth been and how much does it also lead to a social and political transformation? How can we build a bridge between informality and formality and initiate the process of moving out of informality?
- **In partnership or individually, whatever your degree or your specialisation, take this opportunity to** make your voice heard and take part in the discussions on the future scenarios for Africa !

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If you are selected, you will receive an invitation to join the GDN 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Global Development Conference and exchange your views with experts, researchers, policy-makers and economists from around the world.

- **50 selected students** will be invited to attend to the Conference, on June 18-20, 2014 in Accra - Ghana (travel and accommodation paid by the organizers of the conference). Students will participate in a dedicated session the day before the Conference on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

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#### How do you participate?

- Application through the website: [www.gdn.int/conf2014](http://www.gdn.int/conf2014)
- Deadline: **March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014**
- Results of the competition will be available on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014
- **For 50 winners : dedicated session on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014 (Accra – Ghana) and participation to the entire conference, June 18-20, 2014 (Accra – Ghana)**

**Win... and come and discuss with experts, researchers, policy-makers and economists from around the world!**



## About the Conference

GDN 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

'Structural Transformation in Africa and Beyond'

18-20 June 2014, Accra, Ghana

In partnership with:

- The African Capacity Building Foundation
- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
- African Economic Research Consortium
- University of Ghana



GDN's flagship event is its three-day Annual Global Development Conference held in different countries across the globe. These conferences aim to connect developing countries researchers and students with the world's most influential researchers, donors, corporate leaders and political figures on a common platform where they can interact with each other, share their research work and discuss the most pressing challenges in social and economic development.

The GDN's forthcoming 2014 Annual Global Development Conference will be organized around one major theme: '**Structural transformation in Africa and beyond**'. The African continent has undergone major transformation over the last two decades. Growth has been buoyant, and in the face of an international environment deeply and durably affected by the 2007-2008 financial crises, Sub-Saharan Africa has experienced an average real rate of growth of about 5% since 1995 and has been able to sustain such growth in the recent years. Transformation is at play, with its host of structural, political, economic, social and human challenges and of course big questions on whether and how such growth may be sustainable, not only from an economic and social, but also from an environmental perspective. As we address these challenges, it is also crucial to look at how transformation has been taking place in other parts of the world, in Latin America, in Asia or in Central and Eastern Europe.

For more information: [www.gdn.int/conf2014](http://www.gdn.int/conf2014)

