I. About the Event

This workshop is funded by the Ford Foundation, and organized by the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) located in Accra, Ghana in partnership with the United Nations African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) in Dakar, Senegal. The Ford Foundation West Africa office gave a grant to prepare policy briefs documenting sustainable development challenges in the Mineral, Oil, and Gas (MOG) sector. The goal is to strengthen the capacity of civil society groups to engage constructively with policymakers using reliable information about issues that impact citizens of resources rich countries.

The project covers governance, accountability, human rights, business ethics, environment (social), environment (physical), and conflict minerals. Focus countries are Burkina Faso, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Senegal, and Sierra Leone.

The briefs will be disseminated for public good and used to convene dialogues with civil society groups, policymakers, development partners, and industry experts. The first of these dialogues was held in Accra on the 8th of October 2013 on good governance. The Dakar event will be the second in a series of four events.

The one-day Dakar workshop will combine plenary and breakout sessions on the subject of accountability. The focus discussions will be preceded by a presentation on extractives accountability.

II. About ACET and its Extractive Resources Service (ERS)

ACET is an economic policy institute supporting the long-term growth of African countries through economic transformation. Our vision is that by 2025, all African countries will drive their own growth and transformation agendas, led by the private sector and supported by capable states with strong institutions and good policies.

As a think-and-do tank, ACET pursues this mission through three interlocking activities: analysis, advice, and advocacy. Cutting across each of these areas, ACET’s Extractive Resources Service (ERS) is a specialized unit that provides support to African governments in formulating policies for the mineral, oil, and gas (MOG) sector. ERS work is an integral part of ACET’s long-term vision to remove policy and institutional barriers to economic transformation through sustainable exploitation of natural resource wealth.

The ERS analytical work stream includes research and targeted case studies to inform policy advice and provide benchmarks. ACET’s advisory work engages and works with policymakers at the country level to design programs tailor-made to respond to the unique country challenges. And as part of the advocacy work stream, ACET hosts periodic seminars for policymakers, investors, and civil society groups to debate development challenges. In so doing, the program positions ACET strategically to broker constructive dialogue. This role is crucial in bringing policymakers and their partners together to respond effectively to the variety of governance issues.

For more information about ACET, please visit: www.acetforafrica.org

III. About the Ford Foundation: West Africa Region

Established in 1936, the foundation is an independent, global organization with a legacy of commitment to innovative leaders on the frontlines of social change. The foundation works in three program areas, each led by a vice president. Together, these programs build on the foundation’s mission and values and respond to a new generation of challenges in a changing world. They encompass our eight issue areas and the corresponding initiatives through which we make our grants.

In addition to grant making through our main program areas, we occasionally undertake major initiatives that reflect elements of all our programs. These Special Initiatives usually require significant funding over a period of years in an effort to make a groundbreaking impact in a particular area.

Our work reflects what we believe to be the best way to help those most in need. We support efforts to engage government on behalf of the marginalized and underrepresented, and help civil society empower these communities.

Source: http://www.fordfoundation.org/regions/west-africa

IV. About IDEP

The African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) is a pan-African institution created in 1962 by the General Assembly of the United Nations and began its operations on 21st November, 1963. The Institute functions as a subsidiary body of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). It is headquartered in Dakar, Senegal and its membership comprises of all the 54 African Member States. Its primary purpose is accompanying and supporting newly independent African countries in their quest to build their human resource capacities as a necessary prerequisite for sustaining independence and promoting socio-economic development. IDEP is the pioneer pan-African institution established on the African continent for the building, upgrading and/or updating of the technical aptitudes and proficiencies of mid-career and senior government officials in economic management and development planning.

Its main activities, derived from its mandate, are organized around a portfolio of capacity development and training programs as well as a set of policy research and dialogue initiatives. It also offers on-demand advisory services to governments and public institutions, and serves as a forum for exploration of alternative thinking on African development.

The changing context and agenda of global and local development call for the generation of new policy knowledge for which the revival of development research, specifically policy research and various dialogue initiatives is central to IDEP work. Central to this research work is the determination to ensure that it is appropriate to the needs of the policy communities that animate development across the continent, it being understood that these communities are embedded primarily but not exclusively within the state system.

For more information about UNIDEP, please visit: www.unidep.org
Sunday, November 3

9:00am – 5:30pm
Arrivals & Registration

7:30pm - 10:00pm
Dinner

Monday, November 4

8:00 am—9:00 am
Registration

9:00 am—9:30 am
Welcoming and Opening Remarks
- Prof. Adebayo Olukoshi, IDEP

9:30am- 10:00 am
Key-note Remarks on Sustainable Development: Why is Accountability Important? What is its Context in Economic Transformation?
- Prof. Joe Amoako-Tuffuor, ACET

10:00 am—10:30 am
Key-note Remarks on Overview of the Accountability Challenges Facing the Sustainable Development of Minerals, Oil, and Gas in ECOWAS
- Prof. Herbert Robinson, IDEP

10:30 am—11:00 am
Tea Break & Group Photo

11:00 am—12:00 am
Presentation of Accountability Brief
- Dr. Muzong Kodi

12:00 pm—1:00 pm
Comments, Questions, and Discussion on Aspects of Accountability

1:00 pm—2:00 pm
Lunch Break

2:00 pm—3:15 pm
Breakout Session: Interactive Groups to Analyze and Discuss Two Dominant Cases of Accountability; Reflect on Lessons Learnt and Make Recommendations
- Group 1: Trinidad and Tobago Case Study
- Group 2: Angola Case Study

3:15 pm—4:00 pm
Plenary Discussion and Learning Outcomes from Group Sessions
- Moderator: Dr. Muzong Kodi

4:00pm—4:30 pm
Afternoon Break

4:30 pm—4:45 pm
Details of the Remaining Events
- Prof. Amoako-Tuffuor, ACET

4:45 pm—5:00 pm
Vote of Thanks
- One of the Participants, IDEP

5:00 pm—7:00 pm
Opportunity for Interviews with IDEP, ACET and Participants

7:00 pm
Dinner: Radisson Blu Hotel