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INVESTING IN THE SDGs: AN ACTION PLAN



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PREFACE

This edition of the World Investment Report provides valuable analysis that can inform global discussions on how to accelerate progress toward the Millennium Development Goals and shape a long-range vision for a more sustainable future beyond 2015.

The Report reveals an encouraging trend: after a decline in 2012, global foreign direct investment flows rose by 9 per cent in 2013, with growth expected to continue in the years to come. This demonstrates the great potential of international investment, along with other financial resources, to help reach the goals of a post-2015 agenda for sustainable development. Transnational corporations can support this effort by creating decent jobs, generating exports, promoting rights, respecting the environment, encouraging local content, paying fair taxes and transferring capital, technology and business contacts to spur development.

This year's World Investment Report offers a global action plan for galvanizing the role of businesses in achieving future sustainable development goals, and enhancing the private sector's positive economic, social and environmental impacts. The Report identifies the financing gap, especially in vulnerable economies, assesses the primary sources of funds for bridging the gap, and proposes policy options for the future.

I commend this Report to all those interested in steering private investment towards a more sustainable future.



BAN Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iv
KEY MESSAGES	ix
OVERVIEW	xiii
CHAPTER I. GLOBAL INVESTMENT TRENDS	1
A. CURRENT TRENDS	2
1. FDI by geography	2
2. FDI by mode of entry.....	7
3. FDI by sector and industry.....	9
4. FDI by selected types of investors	17
B. PROSPECTS	23
C. TRENDS IN INTERNATIONAL PRODUCTION	29
CHAPTER II. REGIONAL INVESTMENT TRENDS	35
INTRODUCTION	36
A. REGIONAL TRENDS	37
1. Africa	37
2. Asia	45
3. Latin America and the Caribbean	61
4. Transition economies	70
5. Developed countries	77
B. TRENDS IN STRUCTURALLY WEAK, VULNERABLE AND SMALL ECONOMIES	82
1. Least developed countries	82
2. Landlocked developing countries	88
3. Small island developing States	94

CHAPTER III. RECENT POLICY DEVELOPMENTS AND KEY ISSUES.....	105
A. NATIONAL INVESTMENT POLICIES	106
1. Overall trends	106
2. Recent trends in investment incentives	109
B. INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT POLICIES	114
1. Trends in the conclusion of international investment agreements	114
2. Megaregional agreements: emerging issues and systemic implications	118
3. Trends in investor–State dispute settlement	124
4. Reform of the IIA regime: four paths of action and a way forward.....	126
CHAPTER IV. INVESTING IN THE SDGs: AN ACTION PLAN FOR PROMOTING PRIVATE SECTOR CONTRIBUTIONS	135
A. INTRODUCTION.....	136
1. The United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals and implied investment needs.....	136
2. Private sector contributions to the SDGs	137
3. The need for a strategic framework for private investment in the SDGs.....	138
B. THE INVESTMENT GAP AND PRIVATE SECTOR POTENTIAL.....	140
1. SDG investment gaps and the role of the private sector	140
2. Exploring private sector potential.....	145
3. Realistic targets for private sector SDG investment in LDCs.....	146
C. INVESTING IN SDGs: A CALL FOR LEADERSHIP	150
1. Leadership challenges in raising private sector investment in the SDGs.....	150
2. Meeting the leadership challenge: key elements.....	150
D. MOBILIZING FUNDS FOR INVESTMENT IN THE SDGs.....	153
1. Prospective sources of finance	153
2. Challenges to mobilizing funds for SDG investments	157
3. Creating fertile soil for innovative financing approaches	158
4. Building an SDG-supportive financial system	161

E. CHANNELLING INVESTMENT INTO THE SDGs	165
1. Challenges to channelling funds into the SDGs	165
2. Alleviating entry barriers, while safeguarding public interests.....	166
3. Expanding the use of risk-sharing tools for SDG investments	167
4. Establishing new incentives schemes and a new generation of investment promotion institutions.....	170
5. Building SDG investment partnerships	173
F. ENSURING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPACT OF INVESTMENT IN THE SDGs.....	175
1. Challenges in managing the impact of private investment in SDG sectors	175
2. Increasing absorptive capacity.....	177
3. Establishing effective regulatory frameworks and standards.....	179
4. Good governance, capable institutions, stakeholder engagement	181
5. Implementing SDG impact assessment systems	182
G. AN ACTION PLAN FOR PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT IN THE SDGs	185
1. A Big Push for private investment in the SDGs	186
2. Stakeholder engagement and a platform for new ideas	189
REFERENCES	195
ANNEX TABLES	203
