



southern african
development community
development finance
resource centre

SADC DFI
CEO'S FORUM

20TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

HEALTH AND
SAFETY

Newsletter

September - December **2023**

BACKGROUND

The Southern African Development Community – Development Finance Resource Centre (SADC DFRC) was founded in 2003 as a subsidiary of Southern African Development Community (SADC). The DFRC is owned by SADC Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) Network, currently at forty-one (41) members. Both the DFRC and SADC DFI Network are recognized as SADC institutions under the SADC Finance and Investment Protocol (FIP) as per the responsibilities that follow:

Strengthen DFIs in all sectors of their respective activities;

- Offer a policy research and analysis capability for the region;
- Effect capacity building and training of DFI staff;
- Facilitate the mobilization and sharing of information through a central hub for ICT;
- Engage in confidence building measures within the region for purposes of supporting investments;
- Offer advisory services to the governments of the state parties and DFIs in respect of development resources and financial services; and
- Identify and promote opportunities for cooperation and coordination in development finance in the region.

The DFRC has therefore developed a new 2019 – 2024 corporate strategy which seeks to align to the FIP objectives previously enumerated. The strategic foundations along with an intent which seeks to describe how the organisation proposes to meet its vision for the defined period are presented below:

MISSION

To support development finance institutions and governments to achieve national and regional development and integration through capacity building, research and advisory services.

VISION

To be a centre of excellence for development finance solutions.

UNDERPINNED BY A CULTURE OF

INNOVATION

STAKEHOLDER CENTRIC

TRANSPARENCY

PROFESSIONALISM

TEAMWORK



DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INSTITUTIONS EXECUTIVES MEET IN LESOTHO

The SADC Development Finance Resource Centre (SADC-DFRC), in collaboration with Lesotho National Development Corporation (LNDC) and Basotho Enterprises Development Corporation (BEDCO), hosted the CEOs' Forum at Maseru, Lesotho on the 7th December 2023 at the Avani Lesotho Hotel and Casino.

This forum was held under the theme "Development Finance Institutions & Regional Cross-Border Investments: Experiences and Challenges". The objective of this forum was to share experiences and assess to what extent DFIs are collaborating on investments in the region and what challenges, including policy, regulatory and institutional-related, they are facing as well as proposals to mitigate them. The forum took the format of presentations

and panel discussions. Participants benefited from the lessons learned from regional experts including the Development Bank of Southern Africa, Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa, the Trade and Development Bank, African Development, SADC Secretariat, and a few DFIs with cross border mandate.

This forum was Chaired by Mr. Molise Ramaili, Chief Executive Officer of the Lesotho National Development Corporation and officially opened by Honourable Mokhethi Shelile, Minister of Trade and Industry, Business Development and Tourism, of the Kingdom of Lesotho.

Attendance was at ninety nine (99) participants, while the performance evaluation index reached 92%.



SADC DFI CEOs Forum

20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Commemoration of the SADC DFRC's 20th anniversary which was launched at the June Swakopmund meetings was celebrated on 7th December, at a dinner held back to back with bi-annual meetings in Maseru. The event which was held at the Thaba Bosiu Cultural Village exposed delegates to the distinctive Sotho tradition demonstrated by wearing of blankets and hats.

The Lesotho National Development Corporation CEO, Mr Molise Ramaili; Basotho Enterprise Development Corporation CEO, Mr Ts'epang Tlali; and SADC-DFRC CEO, Mr. Stuart Kufeni, undertook remarkable and noteworthy speeches highlighting some milestones and achievements of the SADC DFRC over the past two decades, and these included among others expansion of the Network membership from seventeen (17) at inception to the current forty-one (41); acquisition of office and establishment of the SADC Public Private Partnerships Network among others

Entertainment was received from some traditional Sotho dancers and choir who set the stage ablaze and this attracted exciting networks where everyone joined with moves to honor the institutions achievements.



CHANGES IN NETWORK MEMBERS MANAGEMENT

The DFI Network members had the following changes during this quarter:

1. **Mr. Jonathan Davies**, has been appointed Acting Chief Executive Officer of the Norsad Capital following departure of Mr. Kenny Nwosu. The appointment was effective 21st November 2023.
2. **Dr John Steytler** was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Development Bank of Namibia effective 1st September, 2023. This follows retirement of Mr. Martin Inkumbi.

RIAN COETZEE SPEARHEADS THE SADC DFRC BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Mr Rian Coetzee
Head of Industry
Planning Industrial
Development
Corporation

Mr. Rian Coetzee, Head of Industry Planning, Industrial Development Corporation (SA) was appointed the new Chairperson of the SADC DFRC Board at the December 2023 Maseru DFI Network Meetings. He brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience in leadership, governance and institutional strengthening. He is an Economist by profession and has advanced through various positions at the IDC (RSA). Rian comes in when the DFRC is developing its new Strategy for 2024 – 29 and will drive the first year of the new Business Plan 2024 -26 for that Strategy.

His Deputy will be elected at the next board meeting scheduled for March 2024.

NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

The tenure of office for the following Board members ended in December 2023, and new members were elected through the pre-determined rotational system of Board appoints.

The retiring members are:

1. **Mr. Muzikayise Dube**, Chair of the Board and Managing Director, of Eswatini National Industrial Development Corporation;
2. **Mr. Thomas Sakala**, Chief Executive Officer of the Infrastructure Development Bank of Zimbabwe; and
3. **Mr. Fredrick Chanza**, Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee and Managing Director, Export Development Fund of Malawi.

The newly elected members are:

1. **Mr. Frank Nyabundege**, Chief Executive Officer of the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank;
2. **Mr. Mduduzi Dlamini**, Chief Executive Officer of Eswatini Housing Board; and
3. **Mr. Herilaza Woel Lala**, Director General of the Société Nationale de Participations (SONAPAR).



PROGRAMMES

Corporate Governance and Board Induction

The DFRC facilitated a special in-house programme on Corporate Governance (Board Induction) for the Botswana Building Society Bank Board of Directors and EXCO team. The purpose of the programme was to raise awareness of the concept, practice and relevance of good corporate governance. The programme was held in Gaborone, Botswana on the 7th – 8th July 2023, and was attended by fourteen (14) participants and received an overall rating of 99.5%.

Capacity Building Training for Board Members of CISNA

As part of extending services to other stakeholders, the DFRC has, at the request of the Committee of Insurance, Securities and Non-Banking Financial Authorities (CISNA), facilitated a programme on Capacity Building for its Board Members. The programme was held at CISNA offices in Port Louis, Mauritius on the 24th – 25th August, 2023. It was facilitated by Mr. Jonnah Pongaponga, the DFRC Consultant, and attended by thirty-eight (38) participants.

Export Credit Finance

The DFRC, in collaboration with the Export Development Fund (EDF), Malawi Agricultural and Industrial Investment Corporation (MAIIC), and NBM Development Bank, co-hosted the above training at the Bingu International Convention Centre, Lilongwe, Malawi on the 28th – 30th August, 2023. This practical and interactive course was designed for professionals seeking to build and improve their knowledge of Export and Trade Credit Insurance, as well as widen their understanding of the range of products offered by Export Credit Agencies (ECAs) and their modus operandi. Furthermore, participants were introduced to approaches by ECAs in assessing country risk and evaluating projects, with a benefit of illustrations involving real-life transactions for case studies.

The programme was officially opened by Honourable Simplex Chithyola Banda, Minister of Trade and Industry of the Republic of Malawi. Ms Sindiso Ndlovu, Acting Head of Political Economic, Analysis and Research Unit; and Mr. Paul Mojalefa, Senior Deal Originator, both from the Export Credit Insurance Corporation (ECIC) of South Africa facilitated the training. Attendance was at fifty-nine (59) with programme evaluation index of 78.8%.

IT Security, Anti-Money Laundering & Cyber Crime

The programme was held virtually on the 6th – 7th September, 2023. It defined fraud and gave an overview of the extent of fraud, its causes and effects and also covered key components of an anti-fraud strategy (methods, tools and techniques) for preventing, detecting and responding to fraud. The training further provided insights into money laundering activities and the impact of money laundering and cyber-crime on economic and social activities of a country. Money laundering stages were explored using practical examples and this included Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CTF) and Cyber Crime. Fifteen (15) participated with an evaluation index of 87.8%.

Project Financing and Resource Mobilisation

The programme was held in Eswatini on the 20th – 22nd September 2023. The objective of this programme was to develop skills to plan and assess investment projects, redesign projects to add value, prepare project financing agreements, and mobilise resources for these projects, as well as address stakeholders' concerns. The programme was targeted at business, treasury and investment analysts who are involved in the appraisal, design of investments in projects and treasury management in development and investment banking as well as government, such as Investment Officers, Projects and Treasury Analysts, and Finance Managers.

Corporate Governance and Strategic Leadership for Board Effectiveness Best Practice

This programme was held in Tanzania on the 25th – 27th October 2023. The programme aimed to deliver understanding of good corporate governance principles, business dynamics, strategic leadership imperatives, risks, and the risk management process in the context of a business. It also aimed to provide the opportunity for serving directors to improve their skills in the Board room through a practical and interactive approach that involved case studies, group work and discussions. The programme was physical and targeted directors, chairpersons, executive directors, and senior management.

International Financial reporting Standards – IFRS

The programme was held virtually on the 8th – 9th November 2023. This programme was a mix of lecture and case studies, and it equipped participants to achieve understanding of the latest IFRS 9 standard, Basel II/III both for financial assets, liabilities and derivatives, including:

- The classification and measurement of financial instruments
- Basel II/III Best Practices – modelling, documentation, implementation, validation
- Data quality issues
- The new IFRS 9 impairment methodology based on expected losses – the modelling of the risk parameters
- Regulatory and IFRS 9 Disclosures.

The programme targeted credit risk analysts, loan officers, model developers, model validators, internal auditors, and model risk auditors.

DFI HR Capacity Building Review

The DFRC hosted this workshop in South Africa on the 22nd – 24th November 2023. The aim of the workshop was to provide an opportunity amongst DFI HR members to collaborate, network and engage in value-adding discussions. It was also aimed for Capacity Building Review where members examined progress in Capacity Building interventions in the SADC DFI Network and thereafter develop a roadmap to enhance the provision of high quality, relevant and cost-effective capacity building plan.

The participants heard from leading market HR experts on topics including leadership fundamentals for effective corporate culture, leader shape thriving across generations, 22nd Century Human Capital Professional, and holistic Wellness in the workplace.

The programme targeted human resource development directors /managers, managers responsible for capacity building in the DFIs, including line managers as well as training managers. This review is essential for drafting the 2024/25 training calendar, and is also used as a platform to strengthen relations among the Network HR practitioners as key agents in the development finance space.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENTS

BRICS ANNUAL MEETING AND FINANCIAL FORUM

At the invitation of the Chairman of the Development Bank of Southern Africa, the CEO attended the BRICS Annual Financial Forum held on 22nd August 2023 in Cape Town, RSA.

In line with the theme of this year's BRICS Summit, viz. "BRICS and Africa: Partnership for Mutually Accelerated Growth, Sustainable Development and Inclusive Multilateralism", the structure of the Financial Forum was planned along the priorities of Sustainable Development towards the attainment of Agenda 2030 and building a partnership towards a just transition. The DFRC participation was partially sponsored by DBSA.

STAFF MATTERS



Ms Maipelo Stroh

NEW SENIOR CAPACITY BUILDING OFFICER

Ms Maipelo Stroh joined the SADC DFRC as Senior Capacity Building Officer with effect from 1st September 2023. Ms Stroh is a seasoned HR Practitioner with over a decade experience in digital transformation, talent management, change management and organizational development as well as employee engagement among others. Her expertise is a valuable addition to the capacity building department which is a core function and has been the flagship of the institution over the years.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

CHOLERA OUTBREAK

Stakeholders are cautioned on the outbreak of Cholera cases in Southern Africa's member states, particularly in Zambia and Zimbabwe. The SADC Ministers of Health had on 24th January, 2024 convened virtually to discuss measures to prevent and control cholera.

Cholera is an acute diarrhea infection caused by ingestion of contaminated food or water. It remains a global threat to public health and an indicator of inequity and lack of social development.

Activities to disinfect water are being scaled up and dosing rates are being increased in fragile and highly vulnerable communities to curb the spread of the disease. Clean water is also being trucked to affected locations. UNICEF is also engaging with communities and sharing information about the causes, symptoms, and prevention of cholera. Everyone is advised to practice good hygiene to prevent this terrible disease.

COVID-19 IS BACK

The SADC region has recently reported cases of Covid-19 in some countries, with Health Ministries cautioning the public to exercise vigilance and protect themselves as advised by Health Authorities.

Protective measures advisable include the following:

- Practicing hand hygiene protocols;
- Promptly seeking medical attention if experiencing symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, fatigue and difficulty in breathing, among others; and
- Observing physical distancing measures and wearing protective masks.

The SADC community is advised to stay informed through credible sources of information.

NAMIBIA MOURNS THE DEMISE OF PRESIDENT HAGE G GEINGOB

The SADC DFI Network and its DFRC sends a message of condolences to the Environmental Investment Fund, Development Bank of Namibia, National Housing Enterprise and the Agribank for the demise of H.E. Dr. Hage G Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia who passed on 4th February 2024. Thoughts and prayers are with the family, the Government of Namibia and its nation. May his soul rest in eternal peace.



H.E Dr. Hage G. Geingob



Upcoming Events

Programmes below are planned for the last quarter of the financial year 2023/24.

	PROGRAMME	VENUE	DATE
1	Trade Finance	Virtual	28th February – 1st March 2024
2	Public Private Partnership (PPP) Infrastructure Project Finance	Lesotho	19th – 21st March 2024

For more information on upcoming programmes or requests for customised and institution specific programmes, please contact us at programmes@sadc-dfrc.org/mstroh@sadc-dfrc.org or **+267 3191146**.

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