

# Environmental Diplomacy Dialogue

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#### **Environmental Innovative Solutions**

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### Introduction

- The attainment of Agendas 2030 and 2063 requires reorientation of development policies to focus on key sources of economic growth, associated with the use of innovative scientific and technological knowledge and related institutional adjustments.
- Countries have to deviate from the 'business as usual' approach and devise ways and means to address issues such as rising energy costs, poverty, environmental degradation, pollution and social inequality or changes in legislation.



## What is Innovation?

- Application of better solutions that meet new requirements, unarticulated needs or existing market needs that can be accomplished through moreeffective business models that are readily available to markets, governments and society
- It is both a process and an outcome
- Eco-innovation??? Focuses on the environmental dimension



# Is Africa ready for Eco-Innovation?

- Yes: Demand-driven from pollution, poverty, unemployment, environmental degradation, etc.
- No: Supply-driven financing (aid), 'no money' syndrome, capacity deficit (especially human)
- Who is in the middle: one leg in fire and the other in ice (living and hoping on average)
- Position determines the negotiating capacity



## Drivers of Environmental Innovations

- Governments (political will; policy, institutional and regulatory framework)
- Private Sector (contributes to business and economics in which innovation is the catalyst for growth);
- Green Financing (facilitate faster absorption and adoption of green business options by the private sector);
- Infrastructure
- Research and Development



# Negotiating Positions on Eco-Innovation

- Investing and promoting innovative environmental solutions such as clean energy, resource efficiency;
- Innovative financing schemes, education, research and development, private and public partnerships, policy harmonisation;
- Innovative technology development, transfer and Capacity Development
- Opportunities for partnerships to finance ecoinnovations
- Institutional and legal measures and reforms



## Ready for Negotiations during UNEA 3

- Pollution as a case e.g. waste as money in transition;
- Innovative environmental solutions as a strategy;
- Common position: should one be worried about sea pollution when landlocked?
- Intra-regional solutions
- Appropriate technology and research
- Human and financial resources
- Adopt or adapt
- Friends and partners



If we don't change our direction, we're likely to end up where we're headed — Chinese proverb



# Thank you