

## Call for contributions:

### **Sustainable development and the role of the media - Change of perspective between Africa and Europe**

A book published by Africa Positive

Planned publication: mid-2024

Deadline for submission of entries: January 15, 2024

A conference with the same theme will be held in Dortmund on November 18, 2023.

## **Background**

Since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in June 1992, the term "sustainability" has been ubiquitous. Today, concern about climate change and efforts to deal with global warming and related issues of environmental protection, natural disasters, carbon emissions, etc. are deeply rooted in various grassroots-level initiatives to keep the global temperature rise below 1.5 °C. Greenpeace, the Greenbelt initiative of Wangari Maathai in Kenya, or the "Friday for Future" protest initiated by Greta Thunberg are prominent examples. Global climate activists and campaigns by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations have alerted the whole world to climate change and the resulting socio-economic problems.

Nevertheless, there is little evidence on how widespread an awareness of these problems is in Africa. It is well known that Africa, particularly sub-Saharan Africa, contributes least to global warming but is most affected by climate change-induced problems such as droughts and floods, as well as the many associated socioeconomic problems.

The objective of this call is therefore to provide input on, first, understanding the concept of sustainability from the perspective of Africa's cultural, social and economic realities; second, understanding the role of traditional and/or social media in raising awareness and initiating action for sustainable and inclusive growth; third, the state of implementation of the SDGs and the shortcomings that need to be addressed in order to assess the challenges in formulating and implementing the goals.

Book contributions may focus on the following topics, among others:

- Development and Narratives - Africa and Europe in mutual consideration, how do we understand the terms development and underdevelopment? What does sustainability mean from these perspectives?
- Development narratives and sustainability: EU sustainability discourses and African responses.

- SDGs and the role of the media: What influence does the media have on sustainable economic and social development in Africa and Europe in relation to the 17 SDGs?
- Analysis of the influence of the media on sustainability, ecology and partnership between Africa and Europe.
- Media and public awareness on environmental protection and climate change.
- media as fellow travelers of a certain political direction or as independent actors.
- Intercultural communication as media competence for a peaceful, tolerant and democratic society.
- Media-spread narratives and social change in the context of development cooperation from a global perspective.
- How do narratives disseminated through the media influence global investments, social transformations, and international development cooperation?

Each paper should be between 10,000 and 18,000 characters (excluding spaces) in length. The structure of the papers should include an introduction (geographic and theoretical context, research objective/questions), methods and data, discussion and conclusion (practical and theoretical considerations, possible options for the future).

It is planned to publish the volume in SPRINGER Nature. The contributions can be written in English, French or German.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- Deadline: January 15, 2024
- Length of posts: 10,000 - 18,000 characters without spaces
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**Please send your contribution to: [25jahre@africa-positive.de](mailto:25jahre@africa-positive.de)**

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