



Panel discussion *Building Africa's financial ecosystem for development*



Wednesday 25 October, 2pm-4pm



University Foundation, Room Emile Francqui
Rue d'Egmont 11, 1000 Brussels

How can the EU, civil society and private sector partners effectively support women's economic empowerment in developing countries? What will it take to financially include the 1.1bn women that are currently excluded? How do we ensure women are financially and socially empowered in the long run? This event will offer practical insights based on CARE's experience of facilitating 5.1 million members of village savings and loans groups across Africa.

The event will inform the forthcoming fifth **EU-Africa Summit** (29-30 November 2017) which focuses on youth and economic empowerment where the EU will launch the **European External Investment Plan**, which aims to encourage private sector investments in partner countries in Africa and to strengthen partnerships.

The panel will give particular attention to the global agenda recently put forward by the UN Secretary General's **High-Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment** to guide businesses, governments and civil society for advancing women's economic empowerment and achieving inclusive economic growth.

The session will have the following panel of **eminent speakers**:

- **Abigail Burgesson, African Women Development Fund**, Special Project Manager
- **Zissimos Vergos, European Commission, DG DEVCO**, Team Leader, Unit C.4 - Private Sector Development Policy, Business Enabling Environment, Competitiveness, Public Private Partnership
- **Cécile Poulain, Advans Côte d'Ivoire**, Project Officer
- **Cynthia Kamikazi, African Development Bank**, Chief Partnerships and Outreach, Legal and Property Rights Expert, Gender, Women and CSOs (AHGC)
- **Claudia Fumo, UK Department for International Development**, Senior Social Development Adviser

Moderator: Alice Allan, CARE International UK, Head of Advocacy and Policy

Please note that attendance requires registration [here](#).

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