

## **An overview of 1<sup>st</sup> National Economic Conference**

The Government of South Sudan is convening its first National Economic Conference from 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in Juba under the theme: “**Towards a Diversified, Inclusive, and Sustainable Economic Growth**”. This conference provides a pivotal platform that underscores the urgency and strategic importance of economic reforms for the nation's progress. It serves as a catalyst to address economic challenges, capitalize on untapped opportunities, and promotes Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to partake in the country's growth trajectory. The space provides for high-level government officials, economists, business leaders, and other stakeholders to collectively address and outline a comprehensive economic reform.

### **Why the National Economic Conference?**

To address economic reforms through transformation and diversification in the following areas:

- 1. Investment Opportunities:** the investment sectors beyond oil are not only beneficial to investors, but also contribute to skills development, technology transfer, knowledge sharing, and the infusion of capital to boost economic growth and development.
- 2. Stimulate the Economic Growth:** foster conducive investment environment, facilitate the ease of doing business, enhance transparency and accountability, and strengthen the governance economic system. It focuses on sectors beyond oil, such as: agriculture, manufacturing, infrastructure, mining, energy, tourism and services, which have the potential to drive economic diversification, create jobs, and boost inclusive growth.
- 3. Promote Economic Diversification:** The conference aims to explore avenues for reducing reliance on oil by promoting investments in non-oil sectors.
- 4. Enhance Investment Climate:** The focus is on showcasing policy reforms, regulations, and incentives that attract external investors.
- 5. Facilitate Partnerships:** The conference facilitates partnerships between local and international businesses, fostering knowledge exchange and resource-sharing.
- 6. Showcase Potential:** By highlighting investment opportunities, the government aims to project the untapped potential in various sectors.
- 7. Generate Support for Reforms:** Engaging stakeholders and international partners builds consensus for economic reforms.

## **Expected outcomes**

The National Economic Conference is expected to yield several outcomes. These include: the identification of priority sectors for investment, agreements on policy reforms, establishment of public-private partnerships, and commitment from potential investors. Ultimately, the conference's success will be measured by tangible economic growth, job creation, and the transformation of South Sudan into a diversified and resilient economy. This National Economic Conference reflects South Sudan's commitment to charting a new economic discourse, inviting collaboration with potential investors to create a foundation for sustainable development.