



MEDIA RELEASE

SADC to hold the third Industrialisation Week

July 18, 2018 Gaborone, Botswana: The Republic of Namibia will from 30th July -1 August, 2018 host the third SADC Industrialisation Week (SIW) at Safari Court Hotel and Conference Centre in Windhoek under the theme; ***Promoting Infrastructure and Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development***.

The SADC Council of Ministers endorsed the convening of the annual SADC Industrialization Week to intensify engagement with various partners, including the Private Sector in order to accelerate the implementation of the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063 which was approved by the SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government in April 2015 in Harare, Zimbabwe.

The SADC Industrialisation Week is a public-private engagement platform that helps to foster new opportunities for intra-African trade and investment in the southern African region. The first Industrialisation Week was held in Matsapha, Kingdom of Eswatini in August 2016 under the theme; ***“Resource Mobilization for Investment in Sustainable Energy Infrastructure for an Inclusive SADC Industrialization and for the Prosperity of the Region”***. The second was held in July 2017 at Sunninghill in South Africa under the theme ***“Partnering with the Private Sector in Developing Industry and Regional Value-Chains”***.

The commemoration of the 2018 SADC Industrialization Week aims to;

- Spread knowledge among the SADC community at large, including Governments, private sector, academia, research institutions and think tanks, members of the public, etc.; to ensure wider understanding and acceptability of the Strategy;
- Acquire and use the knowledge and opportunities arising from implementation of the Strategy by the wider SADC community with the ultimate objective of improving one’s social and economic life;
- Elicit action from the various stakeholders, including the regional, continental and international private sector, on the implementation of the Industrialization Strategy and build coalitions to enhance understanding and cooperation among stakeholders on how to implement the Industrialization Strategy including the development of regional value chains;
- Increase engagement on the Industrialization Strategy at national and regional levels and in particular, encourage youth and women participation and innovation in the 2018 Industrialization Week to show case their innovations.



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For background, registration and programme of the SADC Industrialisation Week click [here](#).

About SADC

SADC is an organisation of 15 Member States established in 1980. The mission of SADC is to promote sustainable and equitable economic growth and socio-economic development through efficient, productive systems, deeper cooperation and integration, good governance and durable peace and security; so that the region emerges as a competitive and effective player in international relations and the world economy.

