

Challenges and opportunities for the Central African economy in the face of COVID-19

Webinar, 09 July 2020, 16:00 - 17:30

Central Africa is rich in raw materials, which are sought after all over the world and thanks to which it is experiencing continuous economic growth. Regionally, Central Africa is booming, with growth of 3.2% in 2019 compared to 2.7% in 2018. Many consumer needs are not being met in this region today, which is leading to strong growth in demand for products and services, creating a favourable investment climate. The SME Alliance Africa of the BVMW is therefore organising a series of webinars entitled "Africa Roadshow" and **invites you via video conference on 9 July 2020, at 4 p.m. to an exclusive Central Africa webinar with the guest of honour, Ambassador Gabon, H.E. Marianne Odette Bibalou Bounda**. You will be introduced to the economic Central Africa in the time of COVID-19 in general and Gabon in particular will be discussed.

Gabon is one of the most attractive countries in Central Africa, politically stable, rich and economically strong. With 13% of the regional GDP it is the third largest economy in Central Africa. It is also the second richest country in Africa in terms of GDP, with a per capita GDP of more than USD 7,500 in 2018. Gabon is one of the countries in Africa that most favours direct investment in agriculture, agro-industry, transport, telecommunications, tourism or raw materials processing. Given the economic situation, the country is expected to grow steadily in the coming years. It remains one of the most attractive countries for German SMEs.

The webinar will be held in English.

When: Thursday, 09 July 2020, 16:00 - 17:30

Where: Zoom Webinar

Der BVMW. Gemeinsam für einen starken Mittelstand.

The Webinar Program

- 16.00 Welcome and moderation by **Andreas Jahn**, Head of Politics and Foreign Trade BVMW e.V.
- 16.05 Greetings from **Bienvenue Angui**, Managing Director of the Africa SME Alliance
- 16.10 **I.E. Marianne Odette Bibalou Bounda**, Ambassador of the Republic of Gabon
- 16:25 **Dr. Gernot Wagner**, Managing Director of Evagor GmbH, Honorary Consul General of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and representative of the Entrepreneurial Advisory Board of the Africa SME Alliance
- 16:35 **Walter Englert**, Managing Partner at E&P Focus Africa Consulting GmbH
- 16:45 **Rosine-Annick Michaelis**, Managing Director of expats gms Global Mobility and representative of the Business Advisory Board of the Africa SME Alliance
- 16:55 **Joseph Lwanga Nguetack-Sonkoue**, Head of the BVMW Foreign Office CEMAC Region
- 17:05 **Mert Dorman**, Senior Vice President, Turkish Airlines
- 17:15 Questions and answers
- 17.30 End of the webinar