

UNCTAD World Investment Forum 2018

Opening Investment Village

Statement by Mukhisa Kituyi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD

Geneva, 22 October 2018

AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome you to not only the Investment Village but to the World Investment Forum. The Investment Village brings a festival atmosphere to the World Investment Forum, showcasing investment potential from around the world. This year, almost 50 countries are represented in the village – double the number at previous forums.
- The countries represented here in the Village are from all developing regions, Africa, Asia, The Middle East and Latin America, including several least developed countries (LDCs). The Village is distributed in the circulation areas of the Palais des Nations over two floors of the building, allowing you to browse the local products on offer and to engage with investment professionals from each country.
- The Village provides each country a platform to present their investment offer to WIF participants, including investors. Investors can browse what is on offer to discover investment opportunities and discuss the investment climate with representatives from the investment promotion agency in each country.
- This year, the best country stands will be recognized by the Investment Village Awards. Judges will be looking at several criteria which include: the effort made to target investors in sustainable development projects; the quality of the promotional material and visual aspects of each stand; and specific contributions for their involvement in the village. I will present the awards, together with high-level government representatives, towards the end of the forum on Friday.

Thank you and enjoy the visit!