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## The Forum

The DRC Strategic and Economic Forum will seek to focus activities on launching massive efforts towards economic development in key sectors of the DRC economy, specifically leveraging the unique competitive advantage of each province. The Strategic and Economic Forum (SEF) will be an annual event with global reach.



#### Contextualization

For more than a quarter of a century, practically since the 1990s, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has been facing several problems: conflicts, political and tribal-ethnic tensions on a large scale, recurrent wars followed by acts of vandalism (looting, destruction of basic infrastructure and production units...). All this turbulence has paved the way for political and economic instability. The economic development boom was disrupted and destroyed.

The country also faces the challenge of global governance. For some partners (Investors, Donors...), the DRC is classified as a high risk country. Moreover, the population, exhausted and homeless by the horrors of war, has expectations. It is especially for the improvement of social living conditions (access to basic social services employment, etc.) and to rekindle the hope of seeing the country finally take off!

#### **Actions**

With BSS-CSD and NSBD, the in-depth analyses of the outstanding Experts, will propose high-level options and solutions, likely to improve the overall governance of the DRC, guaranteeing political and economic stability. This is the sacrosanct prerequisite of any serious and/or most demanding investor. « The DRC must be a land of unlimited opportunities looking to the futur. »

Details: see the Terms of Reference (ToR), www.csnd-rdc.net

### National Stategic Board for Development

### **Our Mission**

The National Strategic Board for Development (NSBD) (Web platform: <a href="https://www.csnd-rdc.net">https://www.csnd-rdc.net</a>) is a non-political, independent, professional institute (a public benefit institution); founded on bold and deep thinking and visionary leadership with concerted action. Our mission is to change the paradigm and approach to governance.

It is a question here of trying to restore the image tarnished by the scourges that have long been decried; to propose solutions, options and advanced strategies that contribute effectively to the most efficient governance possible, in short: good global governance. The DRC must be a land of unlimited opportunities turned towards the future.

The **NSBD** aims, among other things, to: (i) generate innovative and powerful ideas, (ii) project into the future; (iii) develop judiciously scrutinized policies, programs, systems and (iv) play the role of a reference institution (a resonance instrument, a Think Tank) that informs decision-making on key and/or strategic issues for the development of the DRC



# Key challenges

### The **NSBD** will:



1. Open horizons and promote the DRC: change the current negative image of an epicenter of high-risk, low-return business opportunities into a positive image of a unique investment location, encouraging people to position themselves in the various economic sectors (Primary sector for the direct exploitation of natural resources; Secondary sector for the raw materials processing

industry and the Tertiary sector for the service industries),

- 2. Generate a mass of reliable/credible information (on the economies: the productivity and production of the Provinces and the Decentralized Administrative Entities "DAE"; on access to the services available in the Public Administration, judicial, fiscal, migration, etc.); contribute to the improvement of the quality of these services in order to place the country in an incentive position for public and private investments,
- 3. To focus attention on the strategic position of the DRC in the global development of the various regional economic pacts (ECOWAS, COMESA, SADC, EAC, CEPGL, EEAC, etc.), supported by the policy of economic, political, socio-cultural integration, etc.
- 4. Identify megaprojects of strategic interest and facilitate their access to financing on better terms,
- 5. Encourage all those who have great ambitions (those who know how to dream and make others dream) to express them and make them a reality,
- 6. Promote and trigger direct investments (foreign/international, national and diaspora) targeted to boost key sectors of the economy that have suffered due to poor management or insecurity due to tensions, conflicts, recurrent wars, etc.

7. Encourage the opening up of a competitive economic and financial system that is accessible to the bearers of projects that transform our socio-economic ecosystems,

8. To align the economies of the 26
Provinces on successive projections that favor the integration of the country's economy; to give the chance to the blossoming of a diversified economy, because it has diversified resources and many unexploited assets,

9. To reverse the prisms of the inexplicable paradox of the DRC: a country with an enormous potential (immense human and natural resources) on the one hand and on the other hand, the extreme poverty in which the major part of the population languishes.



- 10. To provide the government with a platform from which to give opportunities to regional initiatives to build better infrastructure and other regional profit centers; job creation, services that also broaden the tax base; in short, to boost economic development,
- 11. Provide momentum by offering the population a sense of direction and confidence in their leadership,
- 12. To encourage informed debate, to seek benchmarks, to identify and promote geniuses in different fields, to confront the most complex sciences and to ensure that the best among us occupy strategic positions in the public and private administration, and thus expect efficient results,
- 13. Etc.

## Our Approach

To achieve our objectives, starting from a careful analysis of the problem, we develop policies, systems, programs and strategic and/or promising projects (with effect on linear and/or exponential growth); we deepen reflections and challenge all layers of society to respond, so as to cover the deficits and shape a debate on a national, regional and international scale, with optimized and tangible dividends and added value.

With outstanding experts, we do not hesitate to go "off the beaten track" to propose new ideas to decision makers at all levels (political, socio-economic, scientific, ...), partners and other internal and external authorities, in order to bring about a real qualitative change. Through our reports and other publications, with certain contextual and evolutionary adaptations, we present the studies that have been carefully scrutinized, with the aim of giving orientations for the impulse of development and good governance.



### **Our vision**

Being a visionary means having the capacity to anticipate, the right intuition and the best projection of the future. We exchange ideas with national, regional and international networks; credible and certified studies defying disinformation. We engage in in-depth analysis of key issues and/or pressing problems and address to government, concerns that impede development.

### **Main Domains**



- 1. Energy
- 2. Industry (Agro-industry, manufacturing industry, tourism industry, ...), Trade,
- 3. Digital opportunities and the whole ecosystem of information technology and new technologies
- 4. Political and Economic Governance
- 5. More professional economic diplomacy
- 6. Improvement of the business and investment climate



- 7. Modernity and modernization (of public and private administration, basic/critical infrastructure, ...)
- 8. The health system
- 9. Financial systems
- 10. Laws, social policies and areas of national sovereignty
- 11. The educational system, research and modern sciences
- 12. National, regional and international integration (political, economic, socio-cultural, scientific, ...)
- 13. Environment and climate change
- 14. Etc.

## THANK YOU

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