



Angola experienced positive economic momentum in 2022, allowing it to exit its six-year recession, with the economy taking centre stage in the August national multiparty elections. Increased oil prices and high levels of production have driven Angola's economic growth and improved macroeconomic conditions, as well as helping the country to reduce its public debt to 56.5 per cent of gross domestic product (down from 79.7 per cent in 2021). However, a global economic downturn in 2023 with increased inflation means Angola's re-elected MPLA government will need to focus on job creation, greater economic inclusivity, and diversifying away from an oil-led economy. It will also require Angola to navigate its international partnerships more effectively in this era of heightened geopolitical rivalries.

At this virtual Angola Forum, speakers will discuss Angola's social and economic future and what to expect from 2023. Speakers will reflect on the social and economic trends seen in 2021-22, and explore election trends, human rights, and international relations.

This event will be held in English and Portuguese with simultaneous interpretation.

[All timings in London, GMT]

13:00 – 13:10 **Opening and Welcome**

13:10 – 14:10 **Session 1 | Social and Economic Trends in 2021-22**

Alves da Rocha, Director, Study Centre for Scientific Research (CEIC), UCAN

Pietro Toigo, Country Manager for Angola, African Development Bank (ADB)

Chair: **Natalie Russmann**, Representative for Namibia and Angola, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

14:10 – 15:00 **Session 2 | Election Trends and Human Rights**

Carlos Pacatolo, National Investigator for Angola, Afrobarometer

Zenaida Machado, Senior Researcher, Africa Division, Human Rights Watch

Chair: **Carolina Quina**, Executive Administrator and Director of New Partnerships and Communication, Instituto Marquês de Valle Flôr (IMVF)

15:00 – 15:15 **Break**

15:15 – 16:15 **Session 3 | International Relations**

Assis Malaquias, Academic Dean, National Defence University (ACSS), Washington DC

HE Ewa Polano, Ambassador of Sweden to Kazakhstan; Former Ambassador of Sweden to Angola [September 2019 - November 2022]

Chair: **Pedro Esteves**, Managing Partner, Africa Monitor, Lisbon

16:15 – 16:30 **Wrap Up and Close**

Carlos Lopes, Associate Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House

Alex Vines, Director, Africa Programme, Chatham House

Natalie Russmann, Representative for Namibia and Angola, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

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