



AUDA - NEPAD
AFRICAN UNION DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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FOOTPRINT REPORT

2020 REVIEW

**PROMOTING AN INCLUSIVE
AND SUSTAINABLE
INDUSTRIALISATION IN
THE AFCFTA ERA**

**AUDA-NEPAD'S
COVID-19 WORKPLACE
INTERVENTION BRINGS
CHANGE**

**AUDA-NEPAD'S SKILLS
INITIATIVE FOR AFRICA
(SIFA)**

**CLOSING THE NUTRITION
GAP: COST OF HUNGER
IN AFRICA (COHA) STUDY**





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*The Africa we want,
is clearly visible on the
horizon today more than
ever before. So too is
the road we will travel
together to get there*

H.E. President
PAUL KAGAME
President of the
Republic of Rwanda

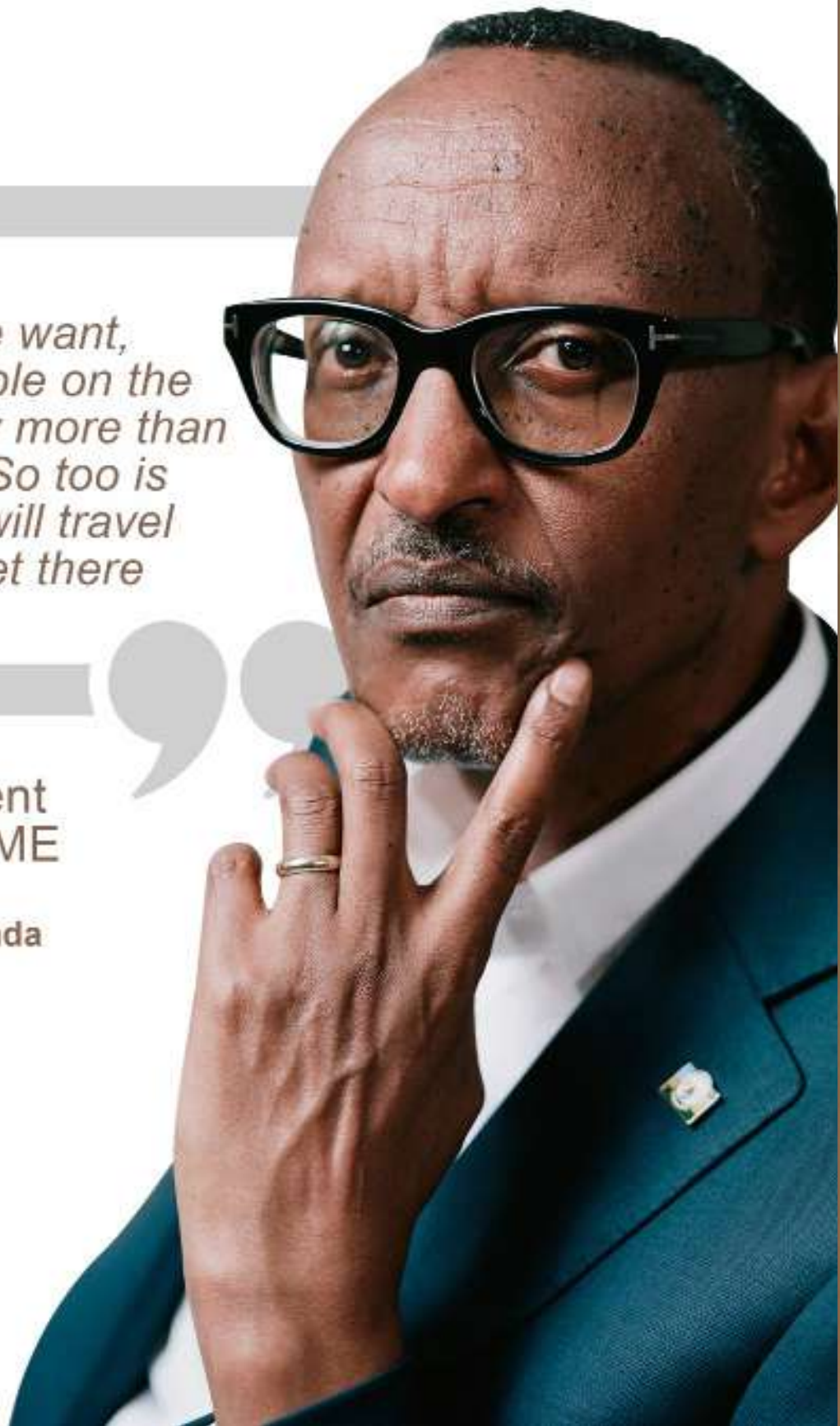


Table of Content

- 05 Health**
The African Medicines Regulatory Harmonisation (AMRH) Initiative
- 15 Skills & Employment**
AUDA-NEPAD's 100,000 SMEs initiative
- 20 Nutrition**
11th edition of the Africa Day for Food and Nutrition Security (ADFNS)
- 28 Infrastructure**
AUDA-NEPAD and Arab Maghreb Union workshop on tolls
- 38 Industrialization**
The Food Systems Initiative Partnership
- 47 Agriculture**
Implementing the 2017-2021 CAADP business plan
- 50 Renewable Energy**
Increasing access to energy in primary health care centres: A gate way to improved standards of living
- 54 Environment**
Developing Capacities of AU Member States towards the implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements

Health

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The African Medicines Regulatory Harmonisation (AMRH) Initiative

The AMRH Initiative, which was created as a platform for strengthening capacity for regulation of medical products on the continent- working through the African Union (AU) and recognised regional economic communities, has played a key role in facilitating approval of quality, safe and effective medical products for COVID-19 therapeutics and vaccines. This was done through its established technical committees (TCs) namely the African Medical Devices Forum (AMDF) and the African Vaccines Regulatory Forum (AVAREF).

On 31st March 2020, the AMDF Technical Committee leadership, through its Chair Dr Andrea Keyter, and Vice Chair and Dr Paulyne Wairimu together with the AMRH Joint Secretariat- made up of the African Union Development Agency and the World Health Organisation (WHO) convened

a meeting to deliberate on a COVID-19 response. The meeting was convened in recognition of challenges that African Union Member States were facing in accessing information on recommended in-vitro diagnostics, other medical devices and personal protective equipment (PPEs) for surveillance and management of COVID-19.

The aim of the meeting was to discuss and provide recommendations on how to address the challenges on the African continent. During the occasion, the establishment of a COVID-19 Task Force was agreed upon with main goal to provide technical advice and recommendations to the AMDF Technical Committee and subsequently to the AMRH Steering Committee (SC) including National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs).

On 2nd April 2020, AMDF established the COVID-19 Task Force comprised of experts from National Regulatory



management, mechanism(s) to receive information on substandard and falsified diagnostic tests and, the preparation of guidance document on management of IVDs and medical devices donations for COVID-19.

The working groups conducted virtual meetings from the 6th to 14th April 2020 and provided feedback to the AMDF Task Force on 14th April 2020. The outcome of these meetings was meant to assist AUDA-NEPAD and the African Union Commission (AUC) guide the African Union (AU) Member States on approval, importations, procurement and donations for COVID-19 medical products and related supplies.

Thanks to the recommendations at the end of the meetings, the African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization (AMRH) Joint Secretariat with the African Medical Devices Forum (AMDF) Technical Committee was able to update the list of COVID-19 diagnostic tests and medical devices including personal protective equipment (PPEs).

During the month of August and September 2020, a new updated list containing the number of COVID-19 in-vitro diagnostics and medical devices authorised by various jurisdiction for Emergency use during the current epidemic was made public.

The list included amongst other things, one on medical devices and their manufacturers such as Iv Giving Sets for Paediatric Measures Volume, Resuscitator, King Vision Video Laryngoscope and Display Video Adapter, Ventilator, Suction Apparatus, Pulse Oximeter, Endotracheal Tube, Oxygen Mask among others. More than 300 products have been recommended to date.

Apart from medical devices, we equally had another list of domestic manufacturers covering Ethiopia, Botswana and Kenya and South Africa such as, Healthcare Direct (K) Ltd, Dream Medical Company Ltd Revitalhealthcare (Epz) Ltd, Pristine Manufacturing Company Ltd, Everest Apparel (Ethiopia)

The aim of the meeting was to discuss and provide recommendations on how to address the challenges on the African continent

Authorities (NRAs), Laboratories, Research Institutions, African Society for Laboratory Medicines (ASLM), African Centres for Disease Control (Africa CDC) and WHO experts.

Within the Task Force, four (4) separate working groups were established to address the following four key areas including a list of commercial COVID-19 in vitro diagnostics tests, list of selected medical devices and protective, preventive equipment (PPE) used in COVID-19

S.C Biniam Mengistu Meskela Legetafo, Eben Global Resources Limited, Transerve Disc Technologies Limited, David Pharmaceuticals Tlokweng.(Eagle Medical Industries (Pty) Ltd.), Dichaba consumer electronics, Alcon Laboratories (Covid), Bring my South Africa etc.

In addition to these, we had a list of COVID-19 medical devices approved by IMDRF Member States including VG70 ventilator, Critical Care Ventilator,

Stellar 150, Ventway Sparrow, Emergency Ventilator, Emergency Transport Ventilator, Face Mask etc




Photo Credit: AP Photo/Sylvain Cherkoui

Emergency authorization framework for COVID-19 vaccines

The AVAREF TC has endorsed the emergency authorization framework for COVID-19 vaccines aimed to guide the African National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) on the WHO emergency use listing (EUL) process. The framework will support countries to meet emergency timelines for regulatory review and approval of COVID-19 vaccines. AVAREF TC plans to convene joint regulatory review of COVID-19 vaccines by African NRAs with a view to accelerate NRAs emergency authorization at a maximum of 14 days. Tanzania, Ghana, Ethiopia and South Africa have provided assessors to the WHO joint review process.

In order to address regulatory barriers to COVID-19 vaccines, AUDA-NEPAD, WHO and Africa-CDC are working out a framework which will guide African countries on an effective and efficient way to facilitate regulatory approval. In addition, AUDA-NEPAD through the AU Smart Safety Surveillance Project (AU-3S) is working on a framework for safety monitoring of COVID-19 vaccines in consultation with countries NRAs.

AUDA-NEPAD's COVID-19 workplace intervention brings change



The African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) successfully launched a series of twelve COVID-19 Workplace

Response Training Sessions for all sectors of the economy as part of its COVID-19 emergency response.

The training sessions took place from 18th of May 2020 till the 10th of July 2020 with over 2,158 participants joining from 33 Member States.

The training sessions were organised in partnership with the African Union Commission (AUC), International Labour Organisation (ILO), East Central and Southern Africa- Health Community (ECSA-HC), Department of Health South Africa, the National Institute for Occupational Health South Africa (NIOH) and OSH-Africa.

The training sessions focused on the implications and management of COVID-19 in the workplace and strengthening Occupational Safety and Health (OSH).

Impacts of COVID-19 in the workplace range from an increase of working hours for frontline Health Care Workers, psychological challenges associated with changes in the way work is done, and an increase in medical cost and loss of wages.

Out of the 12 training sessions, the most-attended were *“Epidemiology and Management of COVID-19 in the Workspace”*, followed by *“Rational use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) during COVID-19”*, and *“COVID-19 Health Risk Assessment”*.

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Repurposing African Industrial capacity towards critical medical supplies



On the 13th of April 2020, AUDA-NEPAD organised a COVID-19 webinar under the theme: *“African industrial capacity towards critical pharmaceutical and medical supplies”*.

The webinar organised with the support of the Federation of African Pharmaceutical Manufacturers, The African Development Bank (AfDB), African Import and Export Bank (Afreximbank) and other relevant partners, assessed the current status and developed a strategy to boost the technical and financial capacity of local pharmaceutical and manufacturing industry. Its purpose was to enable them to supply the much-needed essential medical products.

The event, which brought together participants from 32 African countries, 144 local pharma and medical supply companies, 45 multilaterals and development agencies 25 researchers, 24 government officials, 12 investors and Development Financial Institutions (DFIs), 15 NGOs and civil society organisations and representatives from the media was, the first in a series aimed at ensuring Africa’s access to essential products while at the same time, making the African pharmaceutical and manufacturing sector sustainable.

On the 28th of April 2020, the Agency organised a second webinar under the theme, *“Access to affordable financing for local manufacture of pharmaceutical and medical supplies in Africa.”*

The objective of this second event was to identify strategies capable of increasing access to public and private finance by local manufacturers of pharmaceutical and medical supplies on the Continent.

Additionally, a special consideration was given to criteria for private sector companies receiving investment funds from DFIs and their roles in ensuring access to capital for small and medium businesses specialised in medical supplies within the COVID-19 context.

Maintaining the momentum in addressing Tuberculosis (TB) during the COVID-19 pandemic in Africa



The AUDA-NEPAD continued to provide technical assistance to countries to strengthen the health sector's response to Tuberculosis and occupational lung diseases.

The Southern Africa Tuberculosis and Health Systems Support (SATBHSS) project is one of the projects which is being implemented through a multisectoral regional approach to support these efforts.

The project is a collaborative effort between AUDA-NEPAD, East, Central and Southern African Health Community (ECSA-HC), the World Bank and participating countries. The SATBHSS project aims at:

- *Improving the coverage and quality of TB control and occupational lung disease services;*
- *Strengthening the regional capacity to manage the burden of TB and occupational lung diseases ;*
- *Strengthening country-level and cross-border preparedness and response to disease outbreaks.*

The project, which is being implemented in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia, emphasises on rolling out a standardised package of occupational health services and mining safety standards across the four countries. For this to be effectively achieved, investment has been made to support regional learning and innovation.

In this regard, countries have spearheaded studies in different areas of occupational health and safety, with the view to create and share regional knowledge and support evidence-based policies and interventions.

Furthermore, countries are supported to undertake policy and regulatory reforms, adopt guidelines that meet international standards and best practices, build infrastructure and human resources in targeted areas.

AUDA-NEPAD also supports the implementation of Tuberculosis in Mines in Southern Africa (TIMS) project. The project responds to the need for a regionally coordinated response to Tuberculosis (TB) and related illnesses among mine workers, ex-mineworkers and their families and communities.

The programme which began in January 2016 focused on developing infrastructure, processes and systems as part of a regional initiative to address the TB burden. Participating countries

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), between 2020 and 2025, it is estimated that, an additional 1.4 million TB deaths could be registered as a direct consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic.

are: Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

One of the outcomes of TIMS 2 include the establishment of Occupational Health Service Centres (OHSCs) which provide TB and other occupational health services, mainly targeting ex-mineworkers. Those found with TB and/or silicosis and worked in the South Africa mines are linked to the Medical Bureau of Occupational Health (MBOD) for compensation.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), between 2020 and 2025, it is estimated that, an additional 1.4 million TB deaths could be registered as a direct consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is therefore inevitable that efforts to respond to TB are strengthened during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Photo Credit: UNICEF/
UNI317699/*



Community participation in primary health care in the post COVID-19 era



Photo Credit: UNDP Zambia/2020

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he African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) has embarked on efforts to strengthen primary health care in line with its COVID-19 response strategy.

The project's interventions build on steps taken by Member States to

improve community participation in primary health care.

So far, African countries are making significant positive strides in the fight against COVID-19. Primary health care has provided a critical first line of defence and response to keep people safe and healthy during the pandemic.

Primary healthcare providers have played a fundamental role in most African countries to support community education and awareness of COVID-19 and measures aimed at reducing transmission.

They have also supported contact tracing efforts, screening community members, and referral

of suspected cases for testing. These interventions have been implemented at community level cognisant of the social and economic dynamics hence improving community participation, understanding and vigilance in the fight against COVID-19.

As the Continent moves into the deployment of vaccines against COVID-19, primary health care's role will be critical in ensuring equitable distribution and safety monitoring. Strengthening community

participation in primary health care does not only reduce the impact of COVID-19 on millions' health and well-being.

Therefore, strengthening primary health care is critical to limit susceptibility to other pandemic or disease burdens while ensuring the Continent still stays on track towards fulfilling the 2063 Agenda goal on healthy and well-nourished citizens.

Notwithstanding the progress made on COVID-19, the Continent continues to face several challenges in tackling the scourge of communicable diseases and emerging non-communicable diseases, presenting a double burden.

The emergence of COVID-19 underscored the inequalities and limited access to health services in many African countries, especially in the rural areas, and limited investments in primary health care compound this.

Occupational Health and Safety Research and Publication Training



A series of training sessions were convened from 14th to the 19th of November 2020 to equip Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) practitioners from countries with knowledge on research and publication writing.

Publication of study results in peer-reviewed journals has always and will remain an essential step

towards communicating findings while providing an opportunity for the research community to evaluate the findings.

Participants during the training were therefore encouraged to uphold these practices as a way of giving more visibility and accessibility to their work.

Participants were also encouraged to uphold the development and dissemination of policy briefs to

communicate research findings to a diverse group of stakeholders to better translate research into the improvement of OHS policies and services.

The project focuses on improving OHS and TB policy landscape in Southern Africa and the Continent. At the close of the training, country teams developed manuscripts for publication from their completed research work.

Skills & Employment

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AUDA-NEPAD's 100,000 SMEs initiative



An initiative under the framework of African Union Development Agency's (AUDA-NEPAD) COVID-19 emergency response, it sought to accelerate

African economic transformation and build resilience against economic shocks triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 100,000 SMEs initiative had as main goal capacity building of 100,000 SMEs in Africa through training in entrepreneurial and

business skills in order to improve their access to finance and new markets. Overall, it aimed at establishing networks for support and incubation to bolster their success.

To achieve this goal, a series of training webinars were held in 8 countries across the Continent including Ghana, Togo, Kenya, Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire, Niger, Rwanda and Chad between the 21st of August and 23rd of September 2020.

Webinars were a massive success: at the wrap of the first phase, the initiative had recorded significant results, including a cumulative of 8 webinars 16,768 registered MSMEs in the platform, 6,736 MSMEs attending the events through MS Teams, Facebook live and YouTube channel. More than 3,112,000 people had access to the trainings via local radio stations and 11 Ministers and officials were mobilized and actively took part.

AUDA-NEPAD's 100,000 MSMEs Initiative is part of the African Union Commission Chairperson's Initiative "1 million youth by 2021", a direct translation of the implementation of the first objective of Agenda 2063.

This milestone was achieved thanks to the support of partners especially Ecobank Group under the leadership of Group Executive of Commercial Banking- Mrs. Josephine Anan Ankomah, Ecobank Foundation and Ecobank Academy also played a pivotal role in ensuring Ecobank Group's partnership with AUDA-NEPAD on this project is a success.

AUDA-NEPAD's 100,000 MSMEs Initiative is part of the African Union Commission Chairperson's Initiative "1 million youth by 2021", a direct translation of the implementation of the first objective of Agenda 2063. A goal aimed at building a Prosperous Africa, based on Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development.

One of the components is the MSMEs Academy, which is structured around three programmes aimed at providing support to African MSMEs. The initiative is made up of three phases with phase one constituting informative webinars, phase two training sessions and phase three mentorship.

After a successful wrap on phase one therefore, AUDA-NEPAD is bracing up to move to the second phase in 2021 with an online aggregator platform containing available resources for African MSMEs for their easy access to both online and offline support.

*Photo Credit: Robyn Dixon/Los Angeles Times/
MCT*



Livelihood Skills Development for Youth in Africa: approaches to remote & digital learning during the pandemic



etween May and June 2020, the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) hosted

four pan-African webinars in English and French to discuss youth experiences with skills development under COVID-19 lockdown conditions and beyond. These webinars were accompanied by surveys and interviews on good practices.

The most salient ideas, challenges, strategies and, national and regional policy implications were captured. Among the challenges identified, issues related to leadership, pedagogy, technology and community participation were recurrent.

After identifying the challenges, the webinars called for bold and decisive African leadership at regional, national and institutional levels to confront the devastating social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Calls for the reimagination of youth skill formation, youth livelihoods and economic development were equally made.

To address the issues, a good number of recommendations were made amongst which we had, the need for a shift away from narrow supply and demand labour market-centred approaches by focusing on institutional building and systems-strengthening.

This approach was considered important because, a narrow labour market-centered approach loses sight of the multi-faceted nature of skills development and, places pressure on weak institutional systems to adapt.

On the other hand, a focus on strengthening institutional capacity would be better placed to respond to youth vulnerability and build sustainable youth livelihoods.

AUDA-NEPAD's Skills Initiative for Africa (SIFA)



The COVID-19 pandemic, which broke out in early 2020, forced economies around the world to a global lockdown of

most of the continent's educational institutions in the middle of their first semester of teaching.

An immediate response to ensure the survival of these institutions and continuous learning was therefore inevitable. The Skills Initiative for Africa (SIFA) project, an initiative created in 2015, responds to such a challenge.

This initiative of the African Union Commission (AUC), implemented by the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) and supported by the German government and the European Union (EU), was created with the aim of improving the employment prospects of young people in Africa. SIFA's Financing Facility finances projects to develop the skills of young people, facilitating their access to employment and adapted to the needs of the labor market.

Through this initiative, AUDA-NEPAD documented the learning

experiences of training/learning institutions from a few countries in Africa that previously implemented good practice and innovation in response to the pandemic.

This resulted in a lesson brief bringing to light the agile responses of training institutions in Africa as well as the common challenges encountered in the domain of skills development. The brief looked into sustainability measures and provided insight into the future of learning.

To obtain more targeted results, Kenya and South Africa were selected for a comparative study at the end of which, a couple of recommendations were made.

The recommendations included; the adoption of sustained collaborative problem-solving, financing and accountability, scaling up public service delivery and social protection for all formal and informal workers, re-thinking youth skills and employment by reducing the digital divide, promoting continuous demand driven skills development, encouraging youth innovation and entrepreneurship and finally, making MSMEs and informal workers

resilient by providing access to skills, finance and markets.

These recommendations further formed the basis of action plans taken by AUDA-NEPAD in response to the pandemic. Some examples of these action plans included the 100,000 SMEs initiative, the Livelihood Skills Development for Youth in Africa initiative, Cost of Hunger in Africa Study (COHA) initiative amongst others.

Nutrition

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11th edition of the Africa Day for Food and Nutrition Security (ADFNS)

O

n the 30th of October 2020, AUDA-NEPAD joined The Department of Rural

Economy and Agriculture (DREA) of the African Union Commission and development partners in commemorating the 11th Africa Day for Food and Nutrition Security under the theme: *“Resilient Food Systems toward Healthy Diets for the Vulnerable during Emergencies: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic”*.

This edition, had as main objective to motivate and, appreciate the underlying benefits and potential that investment in resilient

food systems can create on the Continent.

With upsetting statistics of under-nutrition, over-weight, micronutrient deficiencies, uncontrolled marketing and consumption of unsafe food and their related dire effects on health, nutritional status, well-being and economies on the Continent, it had become evident much still had to be done and concerted efforts from all stakeholders was an assert.

To improve the situation, a number of policy recommendations- including high level decisions were documented. However, there remain substantial bottlenecks hindering efforts to reverse the

situation with persistent disparities as well as emerging challenges including conflict and climate variability.

The commemoration of the ADFNS therefore, provided a platform at national, regional and continental levels to share experiences, knowledge and, to take stock of progress made in assuring availability of quality food for improved nutrition and health of all Africans.

Photo Credit: Kempton Express



Promoting traditional and indigenous knowledge to enrich Africa's diets and food systems



he theme of a webinar held in October 2020 as part of the activities leading up to the commemoration of The Africa Day for Food and Nutrition Security (ADFNS).

Organised by the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), this webinar brought together stakeholders to share their knowledge on how their investment in indigenous crops and animal species had made a significant difference, as well as challenges and opportunities.

Presentations and discussions informed by this sub-theme centred on what lessons existed which could be replicated on the rest of the Continent as a means of limiting the effect of major emergencies from worsening the rates of under-nutrition, overweight and obesity in Africa. This, by building resilient food systems that meet local peculiarities and contexts.

To contribute in resolving this, the African Union Commission (AUC) and AUDA-NEPAD in a bid to spur more informed consumer decisions documented recommendations from nutrition experts demonstrating the fact that, several indigenous African crop and animal species could play a vital role in reducing micronutrient deficiencies and that such crops needed to be integrated into the African food baskets.

On the 23rd of July 2020, AUDA-NEPAD organised the first technical webinar to review the Guidelines for harmonising Food Safety Standards and Legislation.

The webinar brought over 75 participants from the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), African Union Member States, (African Union Commission) AUC, African Union Partnership for Aflatoxin Control in Africa (AUC/PACA), African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), the World Food Program (WFP), the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Food and Agricultural Organisation

(FAO), academia and research institutions, to present and share more technical information on food safety and quality management related issues. In addition to this, the participants shared their comments and provided more insights on the existing food safety strategies and programmes to enrich the guidelines.

AUDA-NEPAD's Guidelines for harmonising Food Safety Standards and Legislations come in as part of the implementation of their Nutrition and Food Systems Strategic Programme (2019-2025). Under this programme, it AUDA-NEPAD seeks to support countries to establish harmonised standards, regulations and legislations and, to adopt food safety and quality management frameworks that effectively combat food safety hazards plaguing the Continent.

Specifically, the guidelines define: the objectives and scope of the food safety standards and regulations harmonisation programme, key considerations for successful harmonisation outcomes, approaches adopted for the harmonisation of standards and regulations, roles and responsibilities of institutions, guidelines for the maintenance of a listing or database of harmonised standards and regulations and, capacity development and awareness creation.

Photo Credit: UNDP Zambia/2020



Closing the nutrition gap: Cost of Hunger in Africa (COHA) Study



s Africa strives to know the cost of addressing undernutrition, the African Union Commission

(AUC) and the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), in collaboration with development partners such as the World Food Programme (WFP), the Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA), the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) among others are working towards the adaptation of a methodology developed in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC).

Hence, the COHA study aims to enable the Continent understand what it will cost to address hunger.

The study methodology was initially developed in 2014 by the WFP and ECLAC (Closing the Gap) to estimate the costs of closing the gap by reducing the prevalence of chronic malnutrition (stunting) in countries of the Latin America and the Caribbean Region (LAC).

The methodology includes the assessment of existing lines of intervention in the national policies of food and nutritional security to combat stunting and collect information as well as estimated costs of implementing each of these programmes. So far results from LAC show that, costs of closing the gap are a small fraction of costs incurred from inaction.

The Cost of Hunger in Africa study (COHA), a continental initiative led by the African Union Commission (AUC), and so far, undertaken in 21 countries, will evolve to be able to offer complementary

technical expertise to identify the most effective intervention(s) with an additional aim of providing estimations of the investment on the gap that a country will need to cover in order to achieve the Global and Continental goals on nutrition.

The results of the COHA study so far, provide an estimate of the social and economic cost of child undernutrition by country hence, making investment in nutrition more evident.



Save our Future: averting an education catastrophe for the world's children

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he theme of a webinar organised by the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) on the 4th of November

2020 under the theme: School Health and Nutrition: vital services

to reopen schools safely. Education and nutrition are some of AUDA-NEPAD's focus areas under the COVID-19 emergency response and so far, a lot has been done to combat malnutrition, stunting, food insecurity and unequal access to education leading up to the adoption of the agency's

Nutrition and Food Systems Strategic Programme (2019-2025). Under this programme, it seeks to support countries to establish harmonised standards, regulations and legislations and to adopt food safety and quality management frameworks that effectively combat food safety hazards plaguing the Continent.

The call for action resulting from this webinar focus on seven action areas including:

1. Prioritise reopening of schools, delivering vital services to children, and treating the workforce as frontline workers;
2. Making education inclusive, engaging, and adaptive;
3. Strengthening the education workforce; Focusing on education technology (EdTech) where it is proven to be effective and most equitable;
4. Protecting education budgets and targeting public spending at those left furthest behind; Mobilising international resources to fully finance education;

Using resources better by improving evidence generation, coordination, alignment, and effectiveness.

On the Continent, millions of children are missing out on education, going hungry, and becoming increasingly vulnerable to early marriage, child labour, and violence.

About 370 million children missed out on free or subsidised school meals and the number of families struggling to put food on the table has doubled during the pandemic; for the most vulnerable children, school meals may be their only regular source of nourishment.

When not in school, girls face additional risks of child marriage and child pregnancy (7.6 million girls from pre-primary to secondary school are at risk of not returning to school because of COVID-19).

A huge number of the world's children were learning very little even before the pandemic hit and, have now been set back even further. Before COVID-19, more than 175 million children were not enrolled in pre-primary education and 258 million children were out of primary and secondary school.

Even more shockingly, far greater numbers of children were in school but not learning. In low-income countries, a staggering 90% of children are in "learning poverty" meaning that they are not even learning to read a basic text by the age of 10.

Most of these children are in school but learning very little. Across all low- and middle-income countries, 53% of children are in learning poverty already and this could go up to 62% as a result of the pandemic.

AUDA-NEPAD's Home-Grown School Feeding Program

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program, launched as an important step towards curbing malnutrition in the school milieu. It identifies school

feeding, and particularly the Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF) approach, as one of its flagship programmes within the nutrition and food security programme to be promoted for addressing hunger and malnutrition as a means of keeping children in school and contributing to the overall social economic development of the communities that supply food to these schools.

AUDA-NEPAD's HGSF programme has been in existence since 2003 when it was conceptualised as part of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) following the Maputo Declaration.

Although African countries have been slow to commit resources to HGSF in the past, there is renewed interest and effort to ensure that HGSF is planned for and implemented more successfully on the

Continent because of its multiple benefits.

Following this line of thought, in 2016 African Heads of State declared HGSF as a strategy to improve education, boost local economies and smallholder agriculture, while also advancing attainment of the CAADP Malabo Commitments (2025), the Sustainable Development Goals SDGs (2030), and the Africa Agenda 2063.

In the current phase of AUDA-NEPAD's programme on school feeding, special attention is given to the quality of school meals as well as ensuring that food or ingredients for school meals are sourced locally and consequently better linked to the small holder farmers.

This with an intention to contribute positively to the value chain especially at the local level.

Some key success stories in the first countries can be found in countries like Botswana, Nigeria and Ghana.

In Nigeria for example, the country through the AUDA-NEPAD support was able to train State Level staff from all 35 States (approximately 150 staff members) and this means that meal planning is rolled out throughout the country.

In Ghana, the Ghana School Feeding Program (GSFP) which commenced in 2005 is an initiative of CAADP pillar 3 of AUDA-NEPAD.

From the initial 10 pilot schools in 2005, the beneficiary pupils increased to 2,848,580 in 8,683 beneficiary primary and KG schools, employing 9,017 caterers in 260 districts with a national coverage of 54% by the end of 2019.

Infrastructure

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AUDA-NEPAD and Arab Maghreb Union workshop on tolls



The virtual workshop which took place on 12th of October 2020 was jointly organised by The General Secretariat of the Arab Maghreb Union (Department of Infrastructure), in collaboration with the African Union Development Agency, under the theme *“Toll and operating systems at the highways of the Maghreb countries “*.

It was attended by representatives of the ministries of transport and public works and institutions responsible for highways in the Maghreb countries as well as representatives of AUDA-NEPAD.

After a series of discussions, the in-depth deliberations that ensued resulted in the following recommendations:

- The appointment of contact points for the Member States to follow the highways of the Maghreb countries;
- Uniformization of legislation in the field of road traffic and work to ensure the compatibility and interoperability of the systems used in the Maghreb countries;
- Exchange of information and experiences in the field of highway toll systems between the Maghreb countries;
- Exchange of field visits, experiences and information in the field of highway between the Member States;
- Creation of a regional database for management, maintenance and road safety on highways;
- Creation and development of border posts to facilitate the passage of vehicles between the Maghreb countries;
- Cooperation in the field of the fight against fraud in the system of free movement;
- The conclusion of a Maghrebian protocol to ensure permanent coordination between the authorities responsible for highways;
- Encourage investment in highways and involve the private sector;
- Organisation of a workshop on fundraising for highways;
- Training of technical executives in the fields of toll stations, highway maintenance and its service installations.

Accelerating PIDA Priority Project Development – EAC Multisectoral Corridor Packaging



The study, financed by the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) aims to help partner states of the East African Community (EAC) (Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda and South Sudan) to ac-

celerate the development of priority infrastructure projects included in the Plan.

Program for Infrastructural Development in Africa (PIDA) priority action 2012-2040 extend to the domain of transport, energy, ICT and transboundary water sectors.

The study assessed 37 projects and ranked them according to their relative attractiveness for private and public investment. It subsequently, prepared the investment plan for the development of the corridor and its marketing plan (CDIP-MP).

Amongst other things, it:

- Conducted stakeholder consultations throughout the East African Community (EAC) region;
- Categorized projects based on project readiness and revenue potential;
- Conducted technical, financial, economic, legal and social/environmental analyses of each project;
- Conducted market sounding to assess potential interest from the private sector and international financial institutions to invest in the projects;
- Developed the Corridor Development Investment Plan (CDIP);
- Prepared a CDIP marketing strategy and plan, including a project compendium and a project documentary.

Overview of the SDM achievement in 2020

In 2020, the Service Delivery Mechanism (SDM) Experts Service Pool (ESP) became fully operational, supporting a sizeable pipeline of the Program for Infrastructural Development in Africa (PIDA) projects with early-stage advisory. ESP is a competitively contracted Pool of Expertise to assist regional and national infrastructure projects owners (countries, RECs, River Basin Authorities,) with advisory services to accelerate projects' processing times from the conception stage to the projects' financial close.

The initiative aims at increasing the number of projects that reach the financing stage more efficiently.

During the course of the year, the SDM Pipeline consisted of 89 regional infrastructure projects at various stages of development. Among them, the SDM supported ten projects with various advisory services and technical assistance.

The SDM 2020 supports consisted of 7 Project Concept Memo (PCM) Produced, 10 Project Notification Reports, and two full advisory services and technical assistance interventions engaged. In the course of implementation, the SDM mission witnessed a couple of challenges amongst which we had a lack of sufficient capacity and financial resources for sustainable services in the long run.

There were equally challenges in establishing consistent communication with the project's sponsors, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nevertheless, we remain hopeful as opportunities exist for the SDM operation to build a strong AUDA-NEPAD Early-Stage Project Preparation team to deliver PIDA-PAP projects efficient (fast, cost-effective) sustainably. PIDA PAP II can now be delivered in a proven project preparation model.

In addition to the Expert Service Pool's full operationalization, AUDA-NEPAD developed the following processes over the year:

- Updated SDM Operational Guideline;
- Draft SDM Cost Recovery Approach;
- Draft SDM Stakeholders Engagements and Partnerships Strategy ;
- Establishment and Operationalization of the SDM Technical Working Groups and SDM Transaction Working Group.

In the future, the SDM will foster strategic engagement with existing Projects Preparation Facilities and Development Finance Institution across Africa.

Towards PIDA PAP II



The first Program for Infrastructural Development in Africa (PIDA) phase was translated into the PIDA Priority Action Plan I (PIDA PAP I) which represented a list of regional priority projects for implementation from 2012 to 2020.

At its conclusion in 2020, PIDA stakeholders including the African Union Commission (AUC), the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), United Nation's Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) have developed the second phase, PIDA PAP II, with an implementation horizon from 2021-2030.

PIDA PAP II will be adopted by the African Heads of State and Government during the AU Summit in February 2021. The preparatory process for the second phase of the PIDA PAP was inclusive of all stakeholders: Member States of the African Union (AU), Regional Economic Communities (RECs), African institutions, African and non-African development partners. It went through eight main stages which included:

- The mid-term review of the implementation of the PIDA PAP I;
- PIDA Market and Demand Study;
- The development of an integrated corridor approach;
- Development of project selection criteria for PIDA PAP II;
- The selection of PIDA PAP II priority projects;
- Development of a PIDA Partnerships Strategy;

- Development of a PIDA Implementation Strategy ;
- Development of a PIDA Financing Strategy.

The development of the second phase of PIDA, PIDA-PAP II, included the updating of regional project selection criteria as well as the selection of the projects and programmes. Projects and programmes under PIDA PAP II will represent the first batch of agreed priorities resulting from consultations with RECs and their member states.

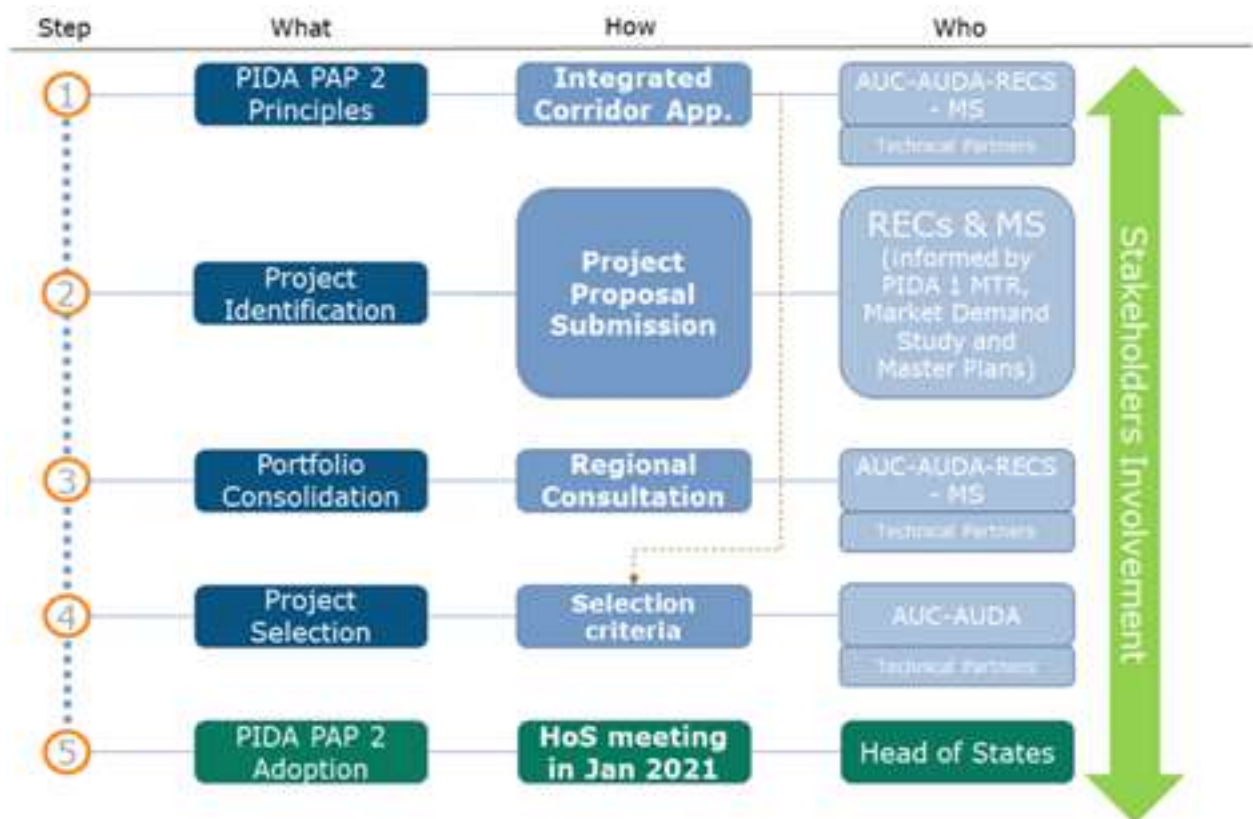
The project selection criteria were derived from the Integrated Corridor Approach, taking into account the lessons learnt from PIDA PAP I.

The Integrated Corridor Approach is based on two pillars:

- The corridor planning concept that ensures that all related corridor infrastructure, such as ports, roads, rail, pipeline, inland waterways, border post facilities, optical fibre and other telecommunications, link to and complement each other, and
- The integration of inclusivity, social and sustainability features into the planning process mirroring the AUC Vision, in order to realise the full socio-economic development impact of regional projects.

The technical aspects of the process followed in illustrated in the figure below.

Based on these criteria, 73 projects under PIDA PAP II were selected in a participatory and transparent process from a long list of over 240 projects proposed by the Member States, RECs, and Specialised Institutions. This PIDA PAP II portfolio is composed of 10 projects from each of the 5 African regions, 18 cross-regional projects and 5 projects from Small Island Development States (SIDS).



Development of Africa Single Electricity Masterplan



The development of a Continental Power Systems (Transmission) Masterplan (essential for the development of an Africa Single Electricity Market) was first recommended by the Africa Energy Ministers during the African Union (AU) Specialised Technical Committee meeting on Infrastructure (Transport, Energy and Tourism) held in Nouakchott, Mauritania in 2018.

At that meeting, AUDA-NEPAD was tasked to lead the development of the Masterplan. The Energy Ministers' Directive was confirmed by the Executive Council Decision of the AU Summit held in Niamey in 2019, which specifically requested AUDA-NEPAD to lead the project by collaborating with other Pan-African institutions such as the AUC, AfDB, UNECA, other regional organisations and development partners.

The first part of the Continental Masterplan development was implemented in 2020 under the following two key activities:

- i. Review of Existing Power Pool Masterplans;
- ii. Establishment of Baseline Scenario

Following the completion of Phase 1 of the Continental Power Systems Masterplan, a (virtual) stakeholders' roundtable was held on 28 October 2020 to present the results of the Phase I Baseline Study funded by the EU.

Apart from presenting the study, the objectives of the Roundtable engagement were to agree on the study's recommendations for Phase II

activities and to solicit the interests of partners funding for the project.

Over 85 participants attended the virtual roundtable, including representatives from the East African Power Pool (EAPP), the West African Power Pool (WAPP), Southern African Power Pool (SAPP), Energy Regulator for Eastern Africa, COMESA, the Governments of Rwanda and Egypt, Morocco's Office National de l'Electricite et de l'Eau Potable (ONEE), AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, EU, AfDB, the German Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), the World Bank, Power Africa, DFID, Africa Finance Corporation (AFC), and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

The session agreed on the next steps in the development of the Masterplan, namely:

- The revision of the terms of reference by the end of the year for the whole of Phase II, to accommodate comments from the reviewers and participants;
- The synchronisation of Priority 1 and Priority 2 components to commence in 2021;
- The carrying out of a capacity needs assessment for institutions involved in implementing the Masterplan;
- Engagement in further discussions with financiers to concretise their commitments;
- Operationalisation of the proposed governance structure for the Continental Power Masterplan.



Photo Credit: Reuters/Siphiwe Slibeko

AUDA-NEPAD and USAID- Power Africa MoU Renewal

In September 2014, the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) and Power Africa signed a MoU to accelerate the implementation of priority energy projects throughout sub-Saharan Africa with the intention of bringing them to financial close.

The MoU entailed the selection of priority energy projects under the Africa Power Vision (APV), a roadmap to accelerate the effective implementation of priority energy projects under the aegis of AUDA-NEPAD.

The Power Africa and AUDA-NEPAD MoU was renewed on September 17 2020 in a virtual ceremony

by Ambassador Jessye Lapenn, United States Ambassador to the African Union, and Dr. Ibrahim Mayaki, CEO of AUDA-NEPAD.

In the MoU, the signatories renewed their commitment to the sustainable development of power sectors across Africa, prioritising least-developed countries, land-locked countries and Island States.

They also committed to efforts towards increasing the bankability of power transactions in Africa, reinforce and expand Africa's transmission networks, support regional energy trade and, develop opportunities for battery storage of energy.

The key objectives of the 2020 MoU include the need to:

- ***Advance the development and reinforcement of transmission lines, transmission-related support systems and processes, and regional integration;***
- ***Collaborate on the implementation of a mega solar initiative in Southern Africa;***
- ***Pursue projects in the generation of renewable energy;***
- ***Collaborate on the development of a capacity-building program for energy storage;***
- ***Mobilise institutional capital for the benefit of Africa's energy security.***

The 2020 MOU builds five years of successful collaboration between Power Africa and AUDA-NEPAD and reinforces the synergies between the signatories' objectives and approaches. It emphasises the need for collaboration and liaison

in the implementation of priority transmission, generation and renewable-energy interventions, transaction advisory assistance and support to RECs in achieving their master plan targets for transmission, generation and power pooling.

Projects Packaging for Praia-Dakar-Abidjan Multimodal Development Program



The Praia-Dakar-Abidjan corridor is a subsection of the Dakar-Lagos Coastal Corridor, stretching from Dakar in Senegal to Lagos in Nigeria, crossing nine (9) other countries namely, The Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, and Benin. It also includes a maritime link between Praia and Dakar.

The Corridor is designated as part of key continental routes in Africa and listed amongst the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) Priority Action Plan (PAP) 2012-2020 – in short PIDA-PAP under the auspices of the African Union Commission (AUC).

For the purpose of accelerating the implementation of the Praia-Dakar-Abidjan Multi-modal Multi-sectoral Corridor (PDAMMC), the Economic Commission for West African States (ECOWAS) in collaboration with the AUDA-NEPAD's Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA) decided to engage the services of a CPCS Transcom Limited (CPCS).

It was hired as a Consultant to carry out the assignment and package 20 Shortlisted Projects for market intervention, through the development of the Corridor Development Investment Plan (CDIP), and, a marketing strategy for the PDAMMC.

On 3rd of April 2019, the ECOWAS Commission entered contract with CPCS and the study officially commenced on 2nd of May 2019.

The purpose of the assignment was to prepare a Corridor Development Investment and Marketing Plan for the Praia-Dakar-Abidjan Multi-modal Multi-sectoral Corridor.

The Project objective is to have a Corridor Development Investment and Marketing Plan (CDIMP) and an implementing plan prepared for the Praia-Dakar-Abidjan Multimodal Corridor Project based on 21 shortlisted projects in the transport, energy, transboundary water, and ICT sectors selected by experts from relevant Corridor Member Countries.

The following key messages came out of targeted discussions with 15 different investors on the corridor projects:

- 1. The importance of ensuring an Enabling Environment;*
- 2. The requirement for deep and proven Stakeholders' Engagement;*
- 3. The requirement for a thorough and deep Market and Demand Analysis on each project;*
- 4. The importance of project Scale;*
- 5. The importance of project Maturity. The 21 shortlisted projects shall help increase connectivity amongst the economies of the Corridor, which contributes to greater and better flow of goods and people, energy, or data across the region. The projects therefore provide the necessary infrastructure to foster regional integration.*

Industrialization

FOOTPRINT REPORT



The Food Systems Initiative Partnership

In April 2020, the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and World Economic Forum virtually convened 80 global and continental leaders across governments, businesses, farmer associations, civil society, international organisations and innovators to discuss actions needed in response to COVID-19.

Recognising as well that the crisis has provided a window of opportunity to accelerate corrective actions, the leaders overwhelmingly called for joint action in support of unlocking reliable and timely data upon which they could base their decisions and actions leading up to the Food Systems Initiative Partnership.

The partnership initiative comprised three tracks along specific priority areas identified by the collaborators; the Policy Action Track, Data and Information

Track and, the Finance Action Track.

These were all aimed at achieving multi stakeholder collaboration to drive coordinated action in response to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and associate mitigation measures. For the purpose of greater understanding, we will highlight the main focus and outcomes of these 3 tracks.

The community paper: “Data-Driven Food Systems for Crisis Resiliency” includes recommendations that were incorporated into the Joint call to Action of the Policy Action Track.

To begin with, the Policy action track, led by AUDA-NEPAD and Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), focused on articulation of broader policy needs to ensure the maintenance of food systems, the sustainability of COVID-19 related responses and, the influence of relevant policies to improve food and nutrition security and value chain integrity for resiliency of food systems. This track concluded with a Joint Call for Action across governments and businesses and, initial dissemination of the Joint Call for Action at the African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) Ministerial Roundtable.

This track concluded with a Joint Call for Action across government and business and, initial dissemination of the Joint Call for Action at the African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) Ministerial Roundtable.

On the other hand, the Data and Information Track led by the World Economic Forum (WEF), aimed at

developing a framework to promote access to reliable and timely data for stakeholders to address disruptions to agriculture from COVID-19 response. Collaborators on the track designed a framework that supported coherent data aggregation and flow, to inform knowledge-based and coordinated action from partners.

The framework was launched as a community paper, to advance actionable understanding on an emerging set of approaches for data-driven food systems across stakeholders.

The community paper: *“Data-Driven Food Systems for Crisis Resiliency”* includes recommendations that were incorporated into the Joint call to Action of the Policy Action Track.

Lastly, the Finance Action Track, led by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), aimed at the collaborative mobilisation of resources, bringing to scale financial instruments,

and/or de-risk investments to prevent a further exacerbation of the COVID-19 crisis on Africa’s food systems.

The COVID-19 Action for Food Systems Africa Finance working group shortlisted 3 potential areas of need which pivoted around the broader theme of Finance for SMEs.

The Finance track led to a proposal for the design of a new mechanism to connect lenders to Agri-SMEs via finance solutions already in development or operation. The proposed joint COVID-19 Agri-SME Financing & De-Risking Facility is envisaged as a flexible, non-sovereign fund to be supported by multiple International Financial Institutions.

The track also yielded a booklet outlining the agreed approach to financing SMEs and showcasing a number of the solutions. The plan was to present a concrete blueprint of the Facility at The Finance in Common Summit in

The Role of Kaizen in Accelerating Industrialisation in Africa: Under the Challenge of COVID-19 and Beyond



This was the theme of the 5th edition of the Africa Kaizen Annual Conference (AKAC 2020) and the 2nd Africa Kaizen Awards (AKA 2020), held from the 1st to the 3rd of September 2020 .

Attended by Heads of African Kaizen institutes, Productivity centres, Kaizen professionals and consultants from all over the world, the organising and partner institutions; African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) and Japan International Corporation Agency (JICA), representatives of Member States as well as other distinguished invitees, Kaizen (which signifies Quality and Productivity improvement) was once again reaffirmed as a critical enabler towards the attainment of AU's Agenda 2063 especially with regards to industrial transformation.

During the occasion, while noting the progress made by Kaizen institutes and Productivity centres in the course of the year 2019 including the provision of services to 6 414 enterprises and organisations, participants in this year's event were encouraged to:

- *Draw a roadmap to establish and strengthen the function of Centre of Excellences committed to quality and productivity improvement activities;*
- *Enhance the on-going efforts of mitigating the effects of COVID-19 in developing new training and consultancy schemes that include e-Learning and virtual services;*
- *Continuously building and upgrading the capabilities of Kaizen promoting institutions/ Productivity Centres and Consultants to provide quality services at the highest standards;*
- *Motivate and encourage companies and start-ups to apply Kaizen technologies and related productivity improvement tools and participate in the African Kaizen Award (AKA 2021);*
- *Design and Launch a comprehensive Kaizen plan of action (AKIAP) 2021-2025.*

At the close of the event, the following recommendations were made with the aim of enhancing stakeholder engagement towards the finalisation and implementation of the Africa Kaizen Initiative Action Plan:

- *Consolidation of ongoing concerted efforts towards the putting in place of necessary aspects within Members States, RECs and the AUC in order to facilitate successful implementation of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) ;*
- *Adoption of creative and innovate approaches to mitigate the effects of shocks like COVID-19 on our MSMEs in order to build resilience and contribute to their survival, sustainability and integration to regional and global value chains;*
- *Ensuring further commitment in the efforts to develop new and improved ways of reaching out the MSMEs in their struggle to survive, sustain and connected to the global value chains.*

Photo Credit: Luc Gnago / Reuters



COVID-19 underscores Africa's reliance on external supply chains and relatively weak health systems

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peaking during the opening ceremony of the Africa Industrialisation week on Monday 16th November 2020, under the theme: "Inclusive and sustainable industrialisation in the AfCFTA and COVID-19 era", the Secretary General of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) H.E Mr. Wamkele Mene reiterated: "Africa needs to deploy more efforts towards achieving its industrialisation goal."

The COVID-19 pandemic, which has recorded 55 million plus cases globally took the world unawares creating devastating impacts across diverse sectors. Its abrupt outbreak and rapid spread has made it one of the most challenging pandemics to deal with both by governments, private institutions and individuals.

At the level of the Continent, the pandemic has gone a long way to underscore Africa's high reliance on external supply chains and relatively weak health systems. With low levels of

“ Africa needs to deploy more efforts towards achieving its industrialisation goal. ”

Secretary General of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) H.E Mr. Wamkele Mene

industrialisation in most parts of the Continent, internal lasting solutions to the Continent's problems need more urgent and concerted efforts.

To resolve some of the weaknesses exposed by the pandemic, there is need for increased focus on home grown solutions as a means to tackle developmental challenges on the Continent.

It is against this backdrop that, the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) has come up with the Home-Grown Solutions (HGS) Accelerator for Pandemic Resilience in Africa project with objective to strengthen Africa's pandemic resilience within the immediate and longer-term periods- by accelerating the development and application of home-grown solutions.

With the HGS project, AUDA-NEPAD intends to build the capacity and provide necessary support needed by internal structures on the Continent to provide necessary solutions during and beyond the pandemic.

The HGS accelerator project aims at a focused approach to select high-potential HGS and connect them with enabling resources in order to scale impact. The end goal of the project is to build a complete ecosystem around home grown solutions that permit for innovation in this area to thrive.

To achieve this, AUDA-NEPAD hopes to be able to count on the support of Member States and Regional Economic Communities (REC) especially because, achieving Africa's development objectives set out in Agenda 2063 requires joint efforts in all areas.



Promoting an inclusive and Sustainable Industrialisation in the AfCFTA Era



Africa Industrialization Day which was launched on 16th of November 2020 brought together various stake-

holders involved in Industrialisation on the Continent.

The goal of this year's commemoration was to raise awareness on the strides made to industrialise Africa, to highlight the various activities being implemented as well as the challenges faced in the efforts to advance structural transformation in Africa.

It also provided an opportunity to share best practices from other parts of the globe that made advancements in their Industrialisation drive including the development of start-ups possible.

The series of weeklong activities were attended virtually by Heads of States, Ministers of Trade and Industry, representatives from

African Union (AU) Member States, representatives of the private sector, quality infrastructure institutions and stakeholders, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), United Nations (UN) Agencies, African Union Commission (AUC), African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), Development Banks among others.

The week rallied all energies at the level of Member States, regional, continental and global levels to drive Africa's industrialisation, to anchor the prospects of delivering on Agenda 2063, and Agenda 2030.

Despite the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic on the delivery of the "Africa we Want", and on the AfCFTA implementation, it was acknowledged that, the current context also presents an opportunity for the Continent to re-think its development narrative towards optimally leveraging its diverse natural and rich cultural

resources to deliver a sustainable and equitable structural transformation agenda. At the end of the week-long celebrations, the following recommendations were brought forward:

To start with, the need to build consensus among the African Union Member States and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to align policies and champion renewed political, technical, public-private sector drive towards Africa's industrialisation and AfCFTA goals was highlighted.

Also, as regional value chains play are crucial in achieving industrialisation, Member States were encouraged to develop more sustainable regional value chains with a focus on selected sectors to facilitate intra-Africa integration and its integration into the global economy.

This will enhance Africa's competitiveness and innovation capabilities. Targeted value chains should be developed within the context of stemming pandemics such as; COVID-19, and other future shocks that may be encountered, prioritise selected sectors, including local pharmaceutical

production (e.g., essential medicines and vaccines).

Equally, the promotion of circular economy approaches and the sustainable and equitable exploitation of natural resources was recommended, with a focus on value addition to strengthen

production capacity to supply the African Continental Free Trade Area and other markets.



**AFRICAN
CONTINENTAL
FREE TRADE AREA.**

Creating One African Market

52 countries have signed and 15 have Ratified, 22 countries are required to Ratify the AfCFTA for the treaty to come into effect.

A High Level Report of

Agenda
2063

the African
We Want

Agriculture



Implementing the 2017-2021 CAADP business plan

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uring the year 2020, the African Union Development Agency's (AUDA-NEPAD) initiatives in the

domain of agriculture focused on the implementation of the 2017-2021 business plan of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Plan (CAADP) with a view to increasing agricultural production and productivity.

Technical and financial support was provided to seven (7) AU Member States to undertake Independent Technical Reviews for newly developed NAIPs.

The development of second generation NAIPs is a key milestone in the domestication of the Maputo and Malabo declarations on Agriculture. In addition, the Malabo Knowledge Compendium featuring best practices and lessons from implementation of CAADP interventions, was translated into other AU languages.

These lessons will be helpful in guiding AU Member States to enhance resilience of the agriculture sector during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Second Biennial Review report was finalised and launched on the margins of the 33rd AU Summit in February 2020. AUDA-NEPAD provided financial and technical support to Member States during the process of producing the Biennial Review report.

The Biennial Review contributes to Africa's Agricultural transformation through guiding planning and decision making by Member States.

Leveraging investments from the private sector into advancing the agricultural development, the Grow Africa Country Agribusiness Partnership – Framework (CAP-F) was deployed, especially in agricultural value chains.

CAP-F has been integrated into the process of revising and the development of second-generation NAIPs. Subsequently, investments were made and agribusiness

Technical and financial support was provided to seven (7) AU Member States to undertake Independent Technical Reviews for newly developed NAIPs.

initiatives implemented across the agriculture value chain, informed by national priorities reflected in NAIPs.

Furthermore, value chain platforms have been established, including the rice industry stakeholders' platform in Côte d'Ivoire, the cassava industry sector platform in Ghana and Nigeria, the pineapple industry platform in Benin, the potato sector platform in Kenya, the horticulture sector platform in Rwanda, and the maize sector platform in Malawi.

A rapid qualitative study on desert locusts was undertaken in collaboration with IGAD and CEN-SAD.

Subsequently, the Agency has embarked on providing technical support to RECs and Member States in regions affected by desert locusts to implement the recommendations of the study.



Photo Credit: Tim Smith

Renewable Energy



Increasing access to energy in primary health care centres: A gateway to improved standards of living

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he African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) is cognisant of the reality that, access to electricity through national grids will continue to play a major part in energy access

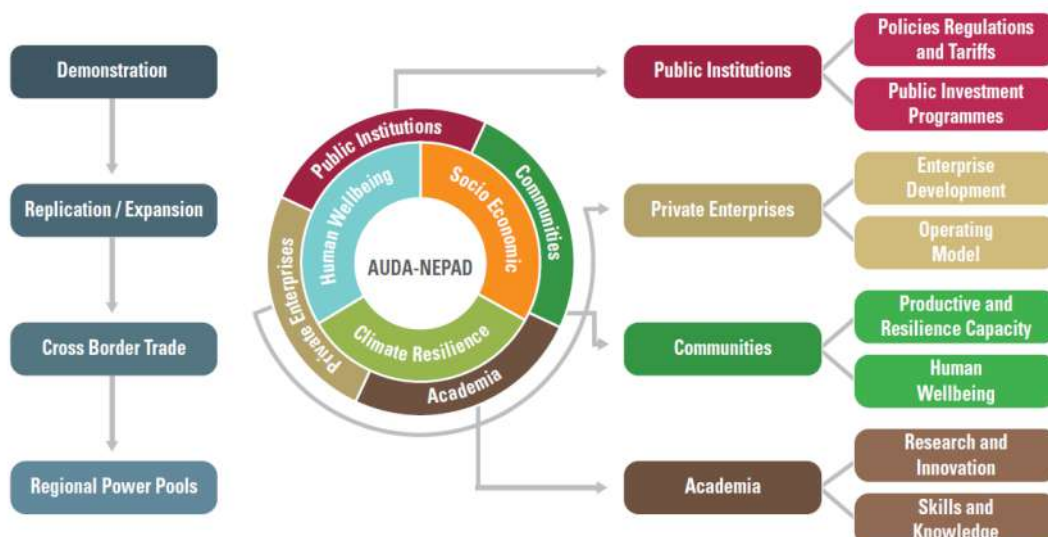
solutions on the continent. In this regard, the Agency promoted the application of mini grid solutions using an integrated model.

The model was rolled out in twelve first-wave African Union (AU) Member States, namely: Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Eswatini, Malawi, Mo-

zambique, Niger, Sierra Leone, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

The Initiative aims at increasing access to energy in the primary health care centres, increasing access to clean water and sanitation, and improving food productivity and resilience. Multi-stakeholder teams were established in each country and tasked with coordinating renewable energy policy and programmatic initiatives, including identifying project sites and developing project proposals that are aligned national priorities.

Integrated Model (Public - Private - Community)



Arrangements

Each country has established national steering committee with specific terms of reference chaired by the Ministry of Energy. AUDA-NEPAD was tasked to deliver the following services: partnership and alliances, procurement and supply chain, technical and advisory services and skills and entrepreneurship development.

Furthermore AUDA-NEPAD has allocated seed funding to support the implementation of the mini grid projects.

Project sites are as follows: Sierra Leone (Njala community), Niger (Torodi et Addaré), Burkina Faso (Basnéré, Commune de Kaya region), Uganda (Nairambi island in

Lake Victoria), Burundi (Kyonza, Commune Bugabira, Province Kirundo), Chad (Linia), DRC (Bena Leka, Province du Kasai), Eritrea (Barentu), Malawi (Kasungu District, Central Region) and Mozambique (Matchedje, Sanga District, Niassa Province), and Zimbabwe (Soti source, Masvingo Province).

To-date, technical teams have been established, composed of AUDA-NEPAD and national steering committees of the countries.


In addition, technical specifications for Sierra Leone, Niger and Zimbabwe projects were developed and pre-tender interaction with potential bidders completed.

Technical evaluation of the proposals was completed, and procurement processes are underway to enable work to commence in the second half of 2020.

Relatedly, a consultancy to review policies and regulatory frameworks on renewable energies in five countries is under implementation.

Technical evaluation of the proposals was completed, and procurement processes are underway to enable work to commence in the second half of 2020.

Strategic Climate Resilience, Environment and Natural Resources Management



The fifth Assessment Report of the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change showed that, global climate is warming faster than earlier estimated.

It is also increasingly obvious that, climate change will continue at a pace determined by past, present and future emissions of heat-trapping gases.

The effects of climate change are widespread and significant, affecting agriculture, energy, health, terrestrial and marine ecosystems, water resources, and some industries across the world and especially in Africa.

Under this strategic priority, AUDA-NEPAD's interventions target five areas, namely:

- Climate change;
- Sustainable natural resources and extractive industries management;
- Disaster risks and recovery management;
- Ecotourism;
- Environment and social impact assessment and governance.

In the course of the year 2020, AUDA-NEPAD attended to the urgent needs expressed by AU Member States to design robust approaches that will effectively address environmental-related disasters.

Accordingly, the Agency undertook interventions that supported environmental sustainability; the latter is situated as an important element in accelerating Africa's transformation anchored on sustainable and resilient pathways to development.

Environment

FOOTPRINT REPORT



Developing Capacities of AU Member States towards the implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements



Guided by Goal 7 of Agenda 2063's First Ten-Year Implementation Plan "bio-diversity, conservation and sustainable natural resource management", the Agency focused on developing capacities of AU Member States to implement global frameworks and Multilateral

Environmental Agreements. These include: the African Strategy on Wild Flora and Fauna Conservation and Illegal Trade in Wildlife; the Great Green Wall of the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative; the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030; the Sahel Drought Strategy; Programmes of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change; the Paris Accord on Climate Change; and the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) initiatives.

To this end, AUDA-NEPAD hosted the 31st AMCEN Bureau meeting in 2020. AUDA-NEPAD has integrated climate change mitigation, adaptation and risk management practices into CAADP and other programmes that promote rural transformation.

A risk management framework for climate and other hazards was established. Paving way for enhanced collaboration with the Green Cli-

mate Fund (GCF) to make available financial resources for scaling-up initiatives.

A toolkit for mainstreaming land governance issues in national and regional development processes was developed.

Furthermore, an online geoportal has been developed as part of the efforts to promote the application of enhanced ICT systems for land governance.

For more details, visit <https://geospatial.nepad.org/portal/apps/MapSeries/index>

Furthermore, the Agency has developed training modules on supporting the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for use by Member States.

The modules take into consideration the revelation that, successful implementation of NDCs hinges on developing solid bankable designs that meet measurement, verification and reporting standards.

A risk management framework for climate and other hazards was established. Paving way for enhanced collaboration with the Green Cli-



For clarifications, technical support or specific capacity building in any of the areas listed, AU Member States Officials are welcome to contact the AUDA-NEPAD COVID-19 Task Force using this email address : COVID19@nepad.org.



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AUDA-NEPAD Agency, 230 15th Road, Midrand, South Africa.
Tel: +27 11 256 3600 -Email: info@nepad.org
<https://www.nepad.org/>