



# IN BRIEF

African Union Development Agency-NEPAD

© African Union Development Agency - NEPAD 230 15th Road,  
Midrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

Tel : +27-11 256 3600

Email : [info@nepad.org](mailto:info@nepad.org)

Web : [www.nepad.org](http://www.nepad.org)

Twitter : [@Nepad\\_agency](https://twitter.com/Nepad_agency)

#TheAfricaWeWant

September 2023

Icons: courtesy of Freepik.

This work is a product of the staff of the African Union Development Agency - NEPAD with external contributions. The findings, interpretations, and conclusions expressed in this work do not necessarily reflect the views of AUDA-NEPAD. The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of AUDA-NEPAD concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

**Recommended citation:**

African Union Development Agency - NEPAD. 2023. Briefing Note for New AUDA-NEPAD Heads of State and Government Committee. AUDA-NEPAD, Midrand, South Africa.



# CONTENT

Message from Chief Executive Officer	<b>v</b>
Background	<b>1</b>
Rationale	<b>2</b>
About	<b>3</b>
Governance	<b>4</b>
Agenda 2063	<b>6</b>
Programmes	<b>7</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Agriculture, Food Systems and Environmental Sustainability</li><li>▪ Infrastructure, Trade and Market</li><li>▪ Human Capital and Institutional Development</li><li>▪ Science, Technology and Innovation</li><li>▪ Triple Nexus</li></ul>	
Partnership and Resource Mobilisation	<b>25</b>



# MESSAGE

AUDA-NEPAD Chief Executive Officer



The COVID-19 pandemic has set Africa's economic convergence with the world economy back. Across the continent, we have seen an increase in economic vulnerability with higher government debt, inflationary pressure, and tighter monetary policies. Against this background, Member States continue to face difficult socio-economic challenges. Over the past two years, more than 59 million Africans have been pushed into extreme poverty. Furthermore, at least one in five Africans goes to bed hungry and an estimated 140 million people in Africa face acute food insecurity. These statistics not only reflect the severity of the socio-economic challenges facing Member States, but more importantly, they highlight that local actors, policymakers, regional bodies, development institutions and AUDA-NEPAD need to intensify efforts to respond to the present socio-economic crises, prepare for future challenges, reduce vulnerabilities, and build resilience in all facets of society.

When I took office as the Chief Executive Officer of the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD) on May 1, 2022, I was confronted with the question of how the Agency will address these challenges and contribute to the development of the continent. Our system-wide response has been to strengthen the Agency's technical and financial capacity to deliver its mandate, embrace an integrated development approach, as well as redefine and adopt a more agile strategy to ensure that we fully execute our mandate, deliver a people-centred inclusive transformative impact and champion the implementation of Agenda 2063.

Towards this end, AUDA-NEPAD has adjusted its programmes and budget to respond to the emerging needs and priorities including disruptions and shocks triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, geo-political tensions on the continent, the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict and impacts of climate change. This process resulted in a strategic reprioritisation and focus on transformational results in three areas taking into account Africa's goals of sustainable socio-economic development through rapid industrialisation within the framework of the African Continental Free Trade Area. These include (i) Infrastructure, Trade and Industry—accelerating cross-

border infrastructure development and regional integration, fast-tracking the movement of goods, services and people, and advancing industrialisation; (ii) Agriculture, Food Systems and Environmental Sustainability—coordinating the implementation of the African Common Position on Agriculture, advancing food and nutrition security, while mitigating the impact of climate change; and (iii) Human Capital and Institutional Development—strengthening health systems, advancing the empowerment of women and youth, and building strong and capable institutions, underpinned by Science, Technology and Innovation.

As the implementing agency of the African Union, AUDA-NEPAD in partnership with the African Union Commission is tracking progress in the realisation of Agenda 2063. These interventions will help us to better prepare and build the necessary capacities to respond to current challenges and future needs of Member States towards realising "The Africa We Want". We also launched the AUDA-NEPAD Energize Africa Initiative which focuses on catalysing and harnessing the youths' potential, creativity and innovativeness into Africa's economic growth and development drive. The aim is to expand income opportunities for the youth—through the creation of jobs, dynamic innovations and entrepreneurship contributing to rapid industrialisation.

Most notably, AUDA-NEPAD is working with the Regional Economic Communities towards a continental resource mobilisation programme to ensure sustainable funding for the implementation of Agenda 2063.

Looking ahead, the Agency recognises that getting ahead of Africa's development complexities requires leaping forward into new and uncharted opportunities. The Agency intends to do this by continuing to forge dynamic and productive working relations with Member States, and all of Africa's stakeholders and partners through collective approaches.



**H.E. Nardos Bekele-Thomas**

Chief Executive Officer

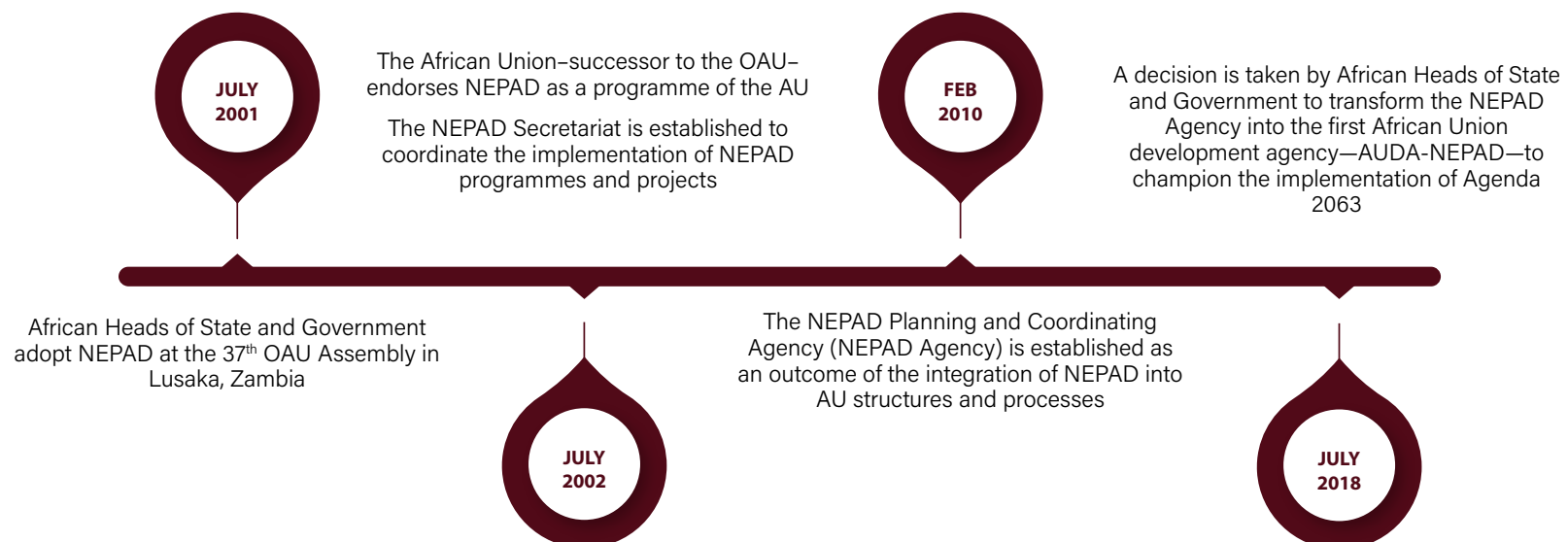
AUDA-NEPAD



# BACKGROUND

The African Union Development Agency-NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD) was established in 2018 at the AU Heads of State and Government Summit in Nouakchott, Mauritania, as the continent's instrument to fast-track the implementation of Agenda 2063 – Africa's 50-year development framework.

AUDA-NEPAD is a direct outcome of the African Union (AU) institutional reforms. In 2001, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Heads of State and Government Summit adopted the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) as a continental vision. NEPAD represented a pledge by African leaders, based on a common vision and shared conviction, with the goal to 1) Eradicate poverty and foster Africa's sustainable economic growth and development by promoting regional and continental integration; 2) Halt the marginalisation of Africa in global processes and enhance its full and beneficial integration into the global economy; and 3) Accelerate the empowerment of socially disadvantaged groups, such as women and children. The NEPAD Secretariat was set up in South Africa to champion the implementation of NEPAD. Subsequently, a decision of the 2010 AU Summit transformed the NEPAD Secretariat into the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NEPAD Agency). This evolution included a change in the mandate, with the Agency formally flagged as the AU's technical implementing arm and integrated into AU systems. The 2018 Decision transformed the NEPAD Agency into the first African Union Development Agency-NEPAD with a distinct legal identity and statute.





# RATIONALE

---

The AU reform process was triggered by the objective to improve the Union's impact and operational efficiency. The outcomes report on the institutional reforms, presented to the January 2017 Summit articulated five strategic recommendations, including i) Focusing on selected continental priorities; ii) Realigning AU institutions to implement selected priorities; iii) Managing the AU effectively and efficiently at all levels; iv) Financing the AU sustainably; and v) Connecting with Africans. The creation of AUDA-NEPAD is a vital outcome of the reforms and represents an affirmation and commitment by Member States to establish an African-owned instrument to champion and deliver on the development priorities of the AU.

As the development agency of the AU, AUDA-NEPAD is uniquely positioned within AU structures, national governments, and development players to become the technical interface and catalyst for Africa's integration. It is designed to play a fundamental role in the operationalisation of Agenda 2063 flagship projects in key thematic sectors, such as agriculture and climate resilience, transboundary infrastructure and human capital development, with cross-cutting enablers that include education, science, technology and innovation, health, gender, capacity development and youth empowerment. The Agency's business and operating model is based on flexibility, autonomy, and efficiency to develop collaborative synergies and complementarities among key development players on the continent. The new mandate also gives the Agency proactive responsibilities to implement priority programme interventions at national, regional, and continental levels in pursuit of Agenda 2063 goals and targets.



# ABOUT

AUDA-NEPAD is a fully-fledged development agency primarily coordinating and executing priority regional and continental projects outlined in Agenda 2063. The Agency is mandated to mobilise the full range of resources required for the effective implementation of priority projects and to provide knowledge-based advisory services and technical assistance to AU Member States and RECs. Furthermore, AUDA-NEPAD monitors and evaluates the implementation of programmes and projects and serves as the continent's technical interface for policy development recommendations and implementation with partners and stakeholders. The Executive Council of the African Union adopted the statute of establishing AUDA-NEPAD as a technical body of the AU. The statute also approved the Agency's core functions and governance structure.



■ Rationale    ■ Vision    ■ Mission    ■ Mandate




# GOVERNANCE

**Assembly of the African Union:** The Chairperson of the Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC) reports to the African Union Assembly on AUDA-NEPAD activities and makes recommendations for decisions for the Assembly’s consideration and adoption.

**AUDA-NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC):** A sub-committee of the AU Assembly that provides political leadership and strategic guidance to AUDA-NEPAD. The AUDA-NEPAD HSGOC provides reports, including recommendations, and decisions for endorsement by the AU Assembly. The AUDA-NEPAD HSGOC comprises 33 members: eight Member States chairing the RECs and five Members States from each of the five AU regions. Membership is rotated every two years, except for the five AUDA-NEPAD founding Member States: Algeria, Egypt, Nigeria, Senegal, and South Africa (see Assembly decisions 691 of July 2018 and 763 of February 2020). The February 2023 Assembly Summit endorsed H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, as Chairperson of the Bureau; H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda and outgoing Chairperson of the HSGOC as Vice-Chairperson and Rapporteur; and three other Vice-Chairpersons to be nominated after regional consultations (Assembly/AU/Dec.852(XXXVI)).







**AUDA-NEPAD Steering Committee:** The AUDA-NEPAD Steering Committee is the interface between the HSGOC and AUDA-NEPAD and oversees AUDA-NEPAD's activities. The Committee comprises the permanent representatives of the Heads of State and Government of the HSGOC. In addition, a representative of the Chairperson of the AUC participates in meetings, and representatives from the eight AU-recognised RECs, as well as the African Development Bank (AfDB), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (UNOSAA) and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) participate as observers.

**Sub-Committee of the Permanent Representatives of African Heads of States Committee (PRC) on NEPAD:** The Sub-Committee consists of the permanent representatives of African Heads of State and Government and meets typically about four times a year. It provides policy guidance and strategic advice to AUDA-NEPAD. The Sub-Committee is composed of 15 members based on the agreed geographical distribution.

# AGENDA 2063

Agenda 2063 aims to realise “The Africa We Want”— an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its citizens, representing a dynamic force in the international arena. It is the concrete manifestation of how the continent intends to achieve this vision within 50 years, between 2013 to 2063. Agenda 2063 is operationalised through five Ten-Year Implementation Plans (TYIPs).

As the first TYIP has come to an end, AU policy organs have tasked AUDA-NEPAD, in partnership with the AUC, to monitor and evaluate progress on attaining the Agenda 2063 goals and targets. In addition, AUDA-NEPAD and AUC are coordinating the design of the second TYIP (2024-2033).

A continental indicator handbook and tracking tool to assess progress made at the continental, regional and national levels biyearly were developed as part of this process. Furthermore, guidelines for national multi-stakeholder consultations were designed and used by 51 Member States to evaluate the first TYIP and to inform the formulation of the second decade of Agenda 2063. This Agenda 2063 Special Project was launched in June 2022 by national planning and finance ministers. Seed funding was made available to all AU Member States for national consultations, which 40 AU Member States accessed, and regional orientation sessions were held in all five regions of Africa.



## Aspiration 1

A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development



## Aspiration 2

An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and a Vision of the African Renaissance



## Aspiration 3

An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law



## Aspiration 4

A peaceful and secure Africa



## Aspiration 5

Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, value and beliefs



## Aspiration 6

An Africa whose development is people driven, relying on the potential of the African People



## Aspiration 7

Africa as a strong and influential global partner



# PROGRAMMES

---

AUDA-NEPAD has a continental footprint of programmatic activities and results in all AU Member States. The Agency has adjusted its programmes to respond to the emerging needs and priorities expressed by the AU Member States. This process resulted in a strategic reprioritisation with a prime focus on three core programmes in line with Agenda 2063. These priority areas of intervention include (i) Agriculture, Food Systems, and Environmental Sustainability; (ii) Infrastructure, Industrialisation, Market and Trade; (and iii) Human Capital and Institutional Development, underpinned by (iv) Science, Technology and Innovation (STI).



## Footprint in all 55 AU Member States



## Agriculture, Food Systems and Environmental Sustainability

---

AUDA-NEPAD is coordinating Africa's Common Position on Food Systems (CAP), targeted at transforming Africa's food systems from production and productivity to processing, distribution, consumption, and disposal. This approach recognises that food systems comprise natural and agroecosystems and economic and socio-cultural dimensions across multiple scales and are influenced by diverse socio-economic drivers. The CAP is anchored in the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP); Africa's framework for agricultural transformation. The CAP underscores the importance of food systems transformation in achieving all the 20 goals of Agenda 2063. It emphasises that transformative change for Africa's food systems requires radical new interventions, policies and partnerships that result in significant long-term changes in how the system operates. The main objective of this intervention area, through the CAADP framework, is to build climate-resilient and inclusive food systems. More specifically, AUDA-NEPAD aims to:

- Increase and expand the use of emerging innovative technologies, including digital, seed-breeding materials and irrigation, to leapfrog climate-smart agricultural productivity and production. Increase access to affordable, safe, and nutritious diets.
- Develop appropriate and accessible instruments, e.g., financing services and insurance specifically tailored to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and increase and strengthen capacities among frontline players in delivering resilient, viable and inclusive food systems.



- Strengthen local (national and transnational) food markets, which currently remain fragmented and informal, while capitalising on potential opportunities offered by the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). The AfCFTA explicitly targets the expansion of food markets and trade in intra-regional trade and regional value/supply chains.
- Double local food production by increasing agricultural productivity. Promote increased uptake of high-yielding crops while supporting agricultural research to develop climate-smart technologies and embracing the advances and benefits of biotechnologies.

Furthermore, the Agency places a prime focus on environmental sustainability, including sustainable land and water management, nutrition, food safety and standards, cross cross-cutting issues such as gender, climate change, the nexus of energy, food and water, sustainable fishing, and aquaculture production. Interventions include the conservation of marine and aquatic resources as well as the implementation of the Kinshasa Declaration on Rural Development.



## African Common Position on Food Systems

Coordinated the design of the African Common Position on Food Systems and the assessment of Member States' needs to implement the CAP



**33 Member States** committed to restore 129 million hectares of degraded land and forest by 2030

**11**

**Member States** capacitated in biosafety and biotechnology practices



**Tracked Progress on Agricultural Commitments**

and co-launched the 3rd CAADP Biennial Progress Report

**Amplified Africa's Voice at COP27 and COP15**

to advocate for the continent's interests and priorities in climate change, biodiversity and desertification



**Implementation of the African Common Position on Food Systems**

spearheaded and coordinated the assessment of Member States' needs for sustainable food systems in 8 countries



### **African Common Position on Food Systems**

AUDA-NEPAD focuses on strengthening a common African voice and galvanising global support to transform the continent's food systems. In this regard, the Agency provided technical support to 46 AU Member States to hold national dialogues and provided – together with the African Group of Negotiators – technical leadership in developing Africa's Common Position (CAP) on Food Systems. AUDA-NEPAD held in-country engagements with Member States towards a clear articulation of needs for resilient and adaptive country-level food systems through an evidence-based continental programme. Essential data was collected from national stakeholders from West Africa, Central Africa, and East Africa to complete the capacity building needs analysis.

### **Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Implementation Support**

47 Member States signed CAADP compacts or formally subscribed to the CAADP delivery architecture which aims to increase public investment in agriculture and raise agricultural productivity. Technical support was deployed to countries in the second-generation of National Agriculture Investment Plans (NAIPs), and RECs' Regional Agriculture Investment Plans (RAICs), which are being expanded to address issues such as resilience building in the face of climate change, nutrition, gender and youth. Complementary frameworks and instruments for Member States and RECs were developed to support the CAADP implementation under the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth. AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, RECs, and partners are working on the 4th biennial reporting cycle to track progress on agricultural commitments.

### **Food and Nutrition Security**

AUDA-NEPAD's Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF) programme supported Angola, Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, and Uganda to increase the volume and quality of nutritious school meals by producing and procuring locally diverse foods, especially by smallholder farmers. Moreover, continental guidelines for the harmonisation of food safety standards in Africa were developed in line with the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

### **Agribusiness Facility for Africa**

AUDA-NEPAD is working with RECs to implement the Agribusiness Facility for Africa to improve the large-scale impact of private and public agribusiness to support MSMEs in climate change resilience of maize, cassava, cocoa, cashew, and livestock value chains, among others.

### **African Biosafety Network of Expertise (ABNE)**

AUDA-NEPAD is providing technical support to RECs and Member States to establish and implement functional biosafety regulatory systems. Several countries formulated new policies on regulating genome editing and stacked GM events (Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria) or made informed decisions on biosafety applications for the conduct of research (Kenya, Mozambique, Rwanda, Zimbabwe). Others approved the commercial release (Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya and Nigeria) or imports (Ghana, Namibia, Nigeria, Togo, Uganda and Zambia) of GM products, while some countries are currently reviewing their policies or laws (Malawi and Zambia).

### Decent Rural Jobs

More than 1,700 rural youth have been skilled in rural enterprises and 48 curricula across different agriculture and agribusiness value chains have been developed under the Decent Rural Jobs Programme. Following the endorsement of the Kinshasa Declaration on Rural Transformation at the February 2020 AU Summit, AUDA-NEPAD is working closely with the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, the Ministry of Planning, and the Ministry of International Cooperation in Egypt to promote South-South-Cooperation through strengthening learning partnerships between countries, key regional and national organisations involved in agriculture and rural development. This is facilitated through the Luxor Coordination Centre for Knowledge Sharing and Innovation.

### Global Negotiations on Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability

AUDA-NEPAD provided technical support to Member States in strengthening Africa's voice in global negotiations at COP27 on Climate Change, including setting up the Africa Pavilion. Technical support was also deployed during the COP15 Conference on Biological Diversity held in Côte d'Ivoire, resulting in the adoption of the Global Biodiversity Framework and COP15 on Combatting Desertification. The Agency also worked closely with the AUC to provide technical support to the Committee of African Heads of State on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) and the Africa Climate Action Summit. In addition, AUDA-NEPAD collaborated with several partner institutions to provide financial and technical capacity support to the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) on the various multilateral environment agreements towards preparing the common African positions. The Agency co-hosted a capacity-building training for West Africa Great Green Wall countries, including Burkina Faso,

Benin, Cabo Verde, Côte D'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo. Technical support was also provided to the work programme of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN).

### Gender, Climate Change and Agriculture Support

AUDA-NEPAD strengthened the capacities of trainers of trainers in Ministries of Gender, Agriculture, Environment, Trade and NGOs from Cameroon, Ethiopia, Malawi, Niger and Rwanda to support women and other vulnerable farming groups in dealing with the effects of climate change on agriculture.

### African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100)

AUDA-NEPAD is working closely with AU Member States to bring 100 million hectares of degraded land and forests into restoration. So far, 34 countries committed to restoring over 130 million hectares of degraded forests and lands by 2030. AFR100 developed an implementation monitoring platform to track progress in restoring degraded land.

### Citizen Engagement in Development

AUDA-NEPAD is strengthening Member States and RECs' capacities for enhanced citizen engagement through the creation and utilisation of digital mechanisms and spaces to enhance the contributions of citizens in policymaking at all levels. The project is being rolled out through the Ministries of Planning in Benin, Cameroon, DRC, Eswatini, Senegal, Uganda, and the COMESA Secretariat. The Citizen Engagement Platform is a critical tool to review and reflect on the implementation of NDPs and Agenda 2063.

## Infrastructure, Trade and Industry

Infrastructure development is a key enabler to promote and accelerate Africa's regional integration, trade and economic transformation. Under the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA), AUDA-NEPAD aims to develop and strengthen the transport, ICT, energy and transboundary water sectors. PIDA's primary objective is to address the pressing need for physical infrastructure and increased intra-African trade and integration. PIDA aims to provide affordable and reliable access to electricity for the 640 million Africans without it, clean drinking water for the 418 million people in need, and significantly reduce logistical costs while enhancing industry efficiency. To realise this vision, Africa requires an investment of USD 161 billion. AUDA-NEPAD collaborates with RECs, countries, specialised institutions, and the private sector to accelerate the implementation and financing of PIDA projects. Moving into the second phase of the PIDA, AUDA-NEPAD is coordinating the implementation of 69 cross-border priority action projects. These include 28 transport projects, 18 energy projects, 12 water projects, and 11 Information and Communications

Technology (ICT) projects. Under the second PIDA Priority Action Plan (PIDA PAP 2), these new projects will accelerate regional integration while ensuring inclusiveness and sustainability regarding gender, rural connectivity, and the environment.

In addition, AUDA-NEPAD is working towards accelerating intra-African trade and the movement of people, goods, and services by unlocking transport and logistics challenges while enhancing access to markets for MSMEs, in line with the AfCFTA. Furthermore, AUDA-NEPAD provides technical support in implementing Africa's Mining Vision to ensure that Africa's natural resources are harnessed efficiently and effectively and, first and foremost, benefit African citizens and African countries.



**Packaged and presented 22 PIDA PAP 2 projects** amounting to USD 65 billion in investment to investors, multilateral development banks and the private sector.



**Identified synergies and strengthened collaboration with the AfCFTA Secretariat** to accelerate the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area

Continental Masterplan in advanced stages to accelerate the **implementation of the African Single Electricity Market**

More than 38,000 African Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises benefited from the 100 000 000 SMEs to advance Africa's Industrialisation

10 PIDA projects raised sound investors and financiers' interest



## **PIDA Priority Action Plan (PAP 2)**

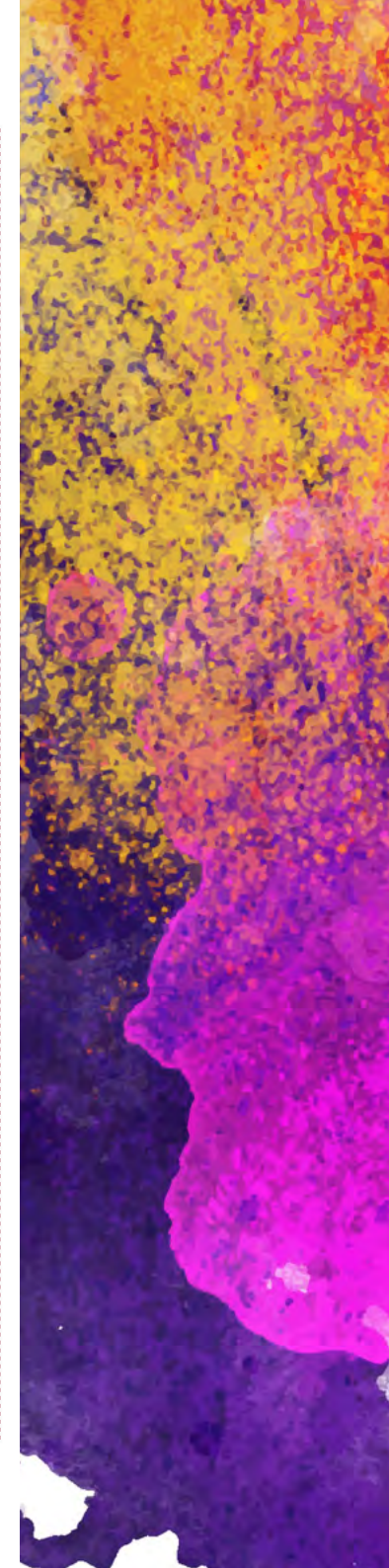
22 PIDA PAP 2 projects amounting to USD 65 billion investment were packaged and presented to investors, multilateral development banks, and the private sector. 10 PIDA projects raised sound investors and financiers' interests. SDM expert support was deployed to the Central Corridor (Burundi, DRC, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia) to develop a bankable green infrastructure project pipeline. 8 Projects were identified for advanced project preparation assistance in Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, DRC, and Burundi. The Central Corridor Transit Transport Facilitation Agency (CCTTFA), the EAC, and the Orange-Senqu River Commission (ORASECOM) are the first recipients of the inaugural PIDA Quality Label PQL Awards for excellence in project preparation. The AIP-PIDA Water Investment Scorecard was developed, and the Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP) was endorsed by the AU Assembly in 2022 and piloted in 10 countries: Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, and Zambia.

## **Challenges/Bottlenecks**

1) Project Preparation Costs (5% - 7%, USD 11.3M): Development of an enabling environment for the project, pre-feasibility & feasibility studies, transaction advisory services, and detailed engineering design, as well as ensuring the financial sustainability of the PIDA institutional mechanisms. 2) Project Implementation Costs (9% - 12%, USD 19.3M): Transnational project supervision and management, ensuring the financial sustainability of specialised agencies responsible for project coordination and implementation. 3) Operation and maintenance costs (21%, USD 34.1M). 4) Conflict-sensitive infrastructure development: Understanding how PIDA infrastructure policy, planning and implementation can be designed to maximise positive impacts on peace and security (P&S) and mitigate the risk of conflict hindering the traditional economic benefits of regional infrastructure in conflict-affected states.

## **Resource Mobilisation**

The Second Dakar Financing Summit (DFS-2) attracted over 1,000 participants, plus 100 CEOs, 25 African Ministers, and Heads of State and Government. AUDA-NEPAD is collaborating with Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) to implement the Accelerating and Scaling up Quality Infrastructure Investment in Africa (ASQUIIA) Project. The Agency also launched the Africa Green Infrastructure Alliance (AGIA) under the SDM green project appraisal methodology to mobilise climate finance for PIDA Projects. Furthermore, it launched the Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP-PIDA) Scorecard to mobilise water and sanitation investments on the continent and the Report of the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments in Africa to mobilise US\$30bn in investments for the sector.



## **African Continental Power Systems Master Plan (CMP)**

The CMP is in its final stages of development. The objective of the CMP is to establish a long-term continent-wide planning process for power generation and transmission involving all five African power pools (Southern, Eastern, Central, West and Northern African Power Pool) to accelerate the implementation of the African Single Electricity Market (AfSEM). The AfSEM is envisaged to become the world's largest continent-wide energy trading programme to interconnect all 55 AU Member States through an efficient, affordable and sustainable electricity market.

AUDA-NEPAD has completed the following reports as part of the CMP Baseline Study: The Integrated Demand Forecast; the Techno-Economic Data, Assumptions, and Resource Assessment; the Integrated Continental Planning Scenarios; the CMP and Power Pool Master Plans Platform and Databases; the Integrated Continental Model and Data (CMP platform); and the Integrated Demand Forecast-Scenario Analysis in collaboration with the power pools. In addition to these reports, six CMP Specific Support Studies were conducted on Battery Storage, Geothermal, Green Hydrogen, Solar, Wind and Hydro Pumped Energy Storage. These studies provide more detailed insights into the emerging technologies' technical, economic, environmental, and social aspects and their role in the continental power system.

### **Challenges and Opportunities**

Several challenges and bottlenecks may hinder the implementation of the CMP recommendations. These include a lack of adequate funding for project preparation and implementation; harmonised policies, regulations, standards, and institutions; adequate data and information sharing; and adequate capacity and skills. Preliminary findings from the baseline study indicate that Africa needs to triple its investment effort (close to USD 1 trillion) in new power generation capacity to attain the goal of universal energy access and transformative socio-economic development by 2040. Moreover, there is a need to develop regional transmission infrastructure to facilitate power trade from countries/regions with excess capacity to countries/regions in deficit.



### Key Recommendations

The baseline study phase of the CMP identified critical areas for regional infrastructure development:

i) Innovative financing. ii) Synergy and Coordination: Leverage diverse partnerships for coherent funding. iii) Strengthening Risk Mitigation Systems: Accelerate private investment.

### Resource Mobilisation

Close to USD 10 million in financial support from the European Union (EU) and African Development Bank (AfDB) and technical support from the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was mobilised to implement the CMP. As the CMP development is nearing completion in September 2023, AUDA-NEPAD is mobilising additional resources to implement the recommendations of the CMP through two pillars: capacity building for long-term energy planning/modelling and implementation of the CMP Projects.

### One-Stop Border Posts (OSBPs) and Trade Facility

The Agency developed a roadmap for electronic data exchange to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the management of OSBPs between Zambia and neighbouring DRA, Namibia, and Tanzania. This will facilitate trade facilitation and regional integration. In addition, capacity support was provided to ECOWAS to operationalise the Traffic Light System (TLS) to monitor and promote informal cross-border trade.

### Action Plan for the Accelerated Industrial Development for Africa (AIDA) and African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Impact Assessment Study

AUDA-NEPAD is coordinating the AIDA and AfCFTA Impact Assessment Study, following the decision of the 17th Extraordinary Session of the AU Assembly on Industrialisation and Economic Diversification. A concept note was developed to outline the scope and methodology and a technical peer review exercise for input was undertaken to mobilise resources. The overarching objective of the study is to develop a standard assessment guide on the impact of the AfCFTA at the national, regional, and continental

levels. The guide will provide evidence-based policy recommendations for the implementation of the AfCFTA.

### 100 Million MSMEs Initiative

The initiative has been implemented in 13 countries, with more than 38,000 African Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises benefiting from the network. The 100 Million MSME Academy, a free online training platform dedicated to African ecosystems and entrepreneurs, was launched with support from the Microsoft Corporation. The Academy provides access to more than 200 courses in various topics ranging from agribusiness, digital literacy, and business compliance in multiple languages such as English, French, Portuguese, Hausa, Igbo, Amharic, and Yoruba +. In addition, in partnership with Stanford University, 40 scholarships were awarded to African CEOs for advanced executive training with the Stanford Seed Transformation Programme. Another cohort of 40 CEOs is expected to benefit from the programme. Moreover, in partnership with DFC, USD 74 million were secured as financial guarantee funds to help MSMEs in Nigeria, Malawi, Tanzania, and Zambia.





### **Homegrown Solutions Accelerator**

African Home-Grown Solutions (HGS) have the potential to make the continent more resilient to outbreaks. The HGS Accelerator for Pandemic Resilience provided hands-on and tailored support to African healthcare companies to strengthen the continent's pandemic resilience. 19 HGS were successfully implemented in 28 African countries. USD18 million were raised to scale up home-grown healthcare businesses, and 1,400 employees were hired through AUDA-NEPAD-supported home-grown healthcare businesses. A total of USD9 million in local manufacturing value of goods was created.

### **African Mining Vision**

Technical support was deployed towards building a cross-border facility to support the implementation of the African Mining Vision. To this end, the focus was placed on cross-border value chain development for local Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Entreprises (ASMEs) and MSMEs' growth in the mineral sector by supporting RECs in strengthening and harmonising the legal and policy framework, mapping and identification of ASMEs along the value chains, legal compliance sensitisation and support state recognition of ASMEs, amongst others.

### **Continental Extractive Industries Programme**

AUDA-NEPAD has joined the strategic advisory board of the African Mineral Development Centre (AMDC) and is building partnerships with other Pan-African development partners. Furthermore, the Agency developed a concept for the Continental Extractive Industries Programme and hosted the Africa Mining Indaba Conference.

### **Africa Policy Bridge Tank Programme (APBT)**

AUDA-NEPAD serves as a co-chair of the T20 working group and has been advocating for an AU seat in the G20. The AU became a full member of the G20 in September 2023 during India's G20 presidency.

Through a Trilateral Cooperation with UK/Brazil/Africa, AUDA-NEPAD conducted an 18-month study on Demographic Dividend in Mozambique to be expanded to five other African countries.

## Human Capital and Institutional Development

Agenda 2063 recognises that the key to achieving sustained, shared, and inclusive prosperity lies in the development of Africa's people. In this regard, AUDA-NEPAD places a prime focus on Human Capital and Institutional Development, encompassing crucial areas such as health, education, skills development, youth empowerment, gender equity, and women empowerment. With a firm belief in the power of quality education, accessible healthcare, and gender equality, AUDA-NEPAD strives to build capable institutions and cultivate transformative leadership at all levels to bring the continent closer to The Africa We Want. By nurturing Africa's human capital and fostering inclusive development, AUDA-NEPAD aims to pave the way for a vibrant and prosperous Africa that is people-driven and inclusive, in line with Agenda 2063.



Launched the Second Phase of the AUDA-NEPAD/ Spanish Fund for the Empowerment of **African Women** which benefitted **1.2 million on the continent.**

# 13

Member States have domesticated the AU Model Law on Medical Products Regulation

Supported the operationalisation of the African Medicines Agency (AMA)—a total of **23 countries** have ratified the AMA

Operationalised AUDA-NEPAD's flagship initiative **Energize Africa** to harness the youths' creativity and skills into economic growth and development

### Energize Africa

Energize Africa is a direct response to calls from Member States to harness the youths' creativity and innovativeness into socio-economic growth. The flagship initiative aims to create a pool of highly qualified young professionals to influence public and private sector performance, stimulate solution-focused research and development through innovation hubs, and develop entrepreneurship opportunities for Africa's youthful populations for improved socio-economic well-being. Energize Africa is a multi-partner and multi-year framework expected to galvanise support from Member States, regional bodies and international players.


### AUDA-NEPAD / Spanish Fund for the Empowerment of African Women


AUDA-NEPAD has launched the second phase of the AUDA-NEPAD / Spanish Fund in partnership with the Government of Spain. The first phase benefitted more than 1.2 million women by implementing 78 selected projects in 38 African countries and RECs.

# Spotlight on the NEPAD Spanish Fund 78 Projects

**1.2 Million**  **38 African Countries**  directly impacted by the NEPAD Spanish Fund. Many of the beneficiaries were youthful women aged below 35 years

**Women involved in informal crossborder trade realised increased sales resulting** in-part, from the construction of a market on the border between Burundi, Rwanda and DRC. Furthermore, sensitisation of police and customs officials along the fish road between Burkina Faso and Mali, and the creation of 2 federations and 10 women's associations boosted the sales of informal women traders.


**530,000**  **Women & Youth** directly **empowered through business and vocational skills training**. This, together with the creation of business incubation units and product certification including bar-coding saw an increase in agricultural productivity, amongst others, and a boost in women's incomes.


**125,000**  **Women** were **capacitated in management and entrepreneurship** for small or medium enterprises. Subsequently, SMEs - especially owned by women involved in informal trade were created, with support from financing institutions.


 **Awareness on reproductive health and HIV prevention raised among 55,000 women and men.** Furthermore, infrastructure was established - including equipping 4 district hospitals in Niger with specialist equipment to treat obstetric fistula.

 **Rural women supported in 27 countries** to access land, and in some cases, to own agricultural land, **acquiring skills and equipment for agro-processing and packaging** in various value chains.

**140,000**  **Jobs and self-employment opportunities created for women and youth** for self-reliance, better socio-economic status and well-being at the family and community level.

**7 Women**  **business incubators in ECOWAS and COMESA region being supported** to foster an enabling environment for women entrepreneurs and provide mentorship for younger women aspiring for, or engaged in economic businesses.


**800,000**  women and men were sensitised on gender and women's rights. Subsequently, centres of excellence were created to implement the SADC Protocol, resulting into more women occupying leadership positions at local government level

**190,000**  **Women** directly reached through provision of **economic infrastructure, access to equipment and ICT**; for example, solar irrigation systems were installed, seed banks, market-sheds and cross-border markets constructed aimed, amongst others, at boosting the economic status of women.

**175 Cooperatives Created and supported benefitting 27,000 women**  purposed at enhancing access to extension services, technologies and financing - for improved livelihoods and sustained shared - national economic growth

**92**  **CSOs and grassroots organisations were strengthened to support the Gender agenda** in Nigeria, for example, a Gender Protection Network was formed to monitor accountability for gender equality and service delivery for women.

 **Set-up and supported financing of micro credit schemes in 18 countries** through partnerships with private banks such as Bank SOL in Angola, and credit guarantee schemes. The mobile banking enabled micro-finance services to reach women in remotest areas, such as in The Gambia.

**11,000**  **women-victims of Gender Based Violence (GBV) were reached** through the support of government institutions and CSOs for the prevention and eradication of GBV. Six safe houses for victims of gender based violence were in Liberia; and security and legal departments in Cape Verde rallied support in the litigation of cases on GBV.

**Supported implementation of regional and international policies and frameworks for gender equality and women's empowerment in 24 countries**, for example ratification of African Union Protocol on Rights of Women in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Guinea Bissau and Zimbabwe



### Gender and Youth

More than 400 women from Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Gabon, Ghana, Niger and Togo were trained and capacitated in financial literacy, digital literacy, e-commerce, packaging, personal branding, and emotional intelligence. AUDA-NEPAD undertook a needs mapping exercise with the Ministries of Gender in Ghana, Niger, and Tanzania. AUDA-NEPAD was instrumental in defining and adopting the roadmap for the AU Presidential Champion on Gender and Development Issues, H.E. Nana Akufo-Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana.

### Skills Initiative for Africa (SIFA)

SIFA is an initiative of the AUC supported by the German Government and the EU. AUDA-NEPAD implements the financing facility of SIFA with financing from Germany and the European Union through the KfW Development Bank. Funding for 16 innovative employment-oriented skills development projects has been approved following a competitive application process. The SIFA finance facility is currently active in eight African countries (Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Togo and Tunisia). The selected projects are agile and provide responsive solutions to common challenges in the TVET sector, designed to coherently strengthen local and regional skills development systems to be more creative, innovative, and sustainable for the African continent. A new funding window has been launched to validate the feasibility of TVET innovations in the market.

### African Medicines Regulatory Harmonisation (AMRH)

Implementation of the AU Model Law on Medical Products has gained momentum as four Member States in ECOWAS (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, and the Gambia) have domesticated the AU Model Law on Medical Products Regulation, bringing the total number to 13 MS. Of these, seven Member States have established semi-autonomous regulatory agencies.

### African Medicines Agency (AMA)

At the continental level, AUDA-NEPAD pushed for the establishment of the African Medicines Agency (AMA) through the African Medicines Regulatory Harmonisation (AMRH) programme. A total of 23 countries have ratified the AMA Treaty. After a rigorous assessment process supported by AUDA-NEPAD, the Executive Council selected Rwanda to host the AMA headquarters. In addition, the African Medicines Regulators Conference approved a total of nine Technical Committees (TCs), the highest decision-making body of the AMRH, to support the operationalisation of AMA and provide vaccine regulatory oversight through the Partnerships for Vaccine Manufacturing in Africa. The TCs are the African Vaccine Regulatory Forum, Good Manufacturing Practices, African Medicines Quality Forum, Pharmacovigilance, Regulatory Capacity Development, Medicines Policy and Regulatory Reforms, the Information Management Systems and African Medicines Devices Forum and the Evaluation of Medical Products. Eight out of nine of these TCs have been established and are operational.



### **Partnerships/Resource Mobilisation**

AUDA-NEPAD signed a EUR 5 million grant with the EU for the AMRH programme and operationalisation of AMA to accelerate the implementation of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA) and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

### **Enhancing Local Pharmaceutical and Vaccine Manufacturing**

The COVID-19 pandemic has reignited the importance of building resilient health systems. Strengthening Africa's local capacities to produce much-needed medical products, health technologies and medical equipment is pivotal. AUDA-NEPAD leveraged this momentum and developed a governance framework to ensure the increasing number of local production initiatives are effectively coordinated and delivered in line with the vision of the PMPA. The Agency also developed a compendium of good pharmaceutical policies and practices to create an enabling environment for the growth of the pharma sector in Africa.

### **Southern Africa TB and Health Systems Support (SATBHSS)**

AUDA-NEPAD trained 143 occupational health and safety practitioners to enhance regional capacity for the prevention, detection, and treatment of TB, benefitting Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia. In addition, the Agency supported interventions on private sector engagement in health, including developing a regional strategy and country plans on private sector engagement in TB control, the AU private sector engagement in health framework, and a private sector engagement dialogue. The project is funded by the World Bank and

implemented in partnership with the SADC Secretariat, ECSA-HC, ILO, WHO and governments.

### **SADC Health Protocol and Declaration on TB in the Mining Sector**

Since 2018, AUDA-NEPAD has been collaborating with the SADC Secretariat and other partners to implement aspects of the SADC Health Protocol, the SADC TB Strategic Plan 2020-2024, and the Declaration on TB in the Mining Sector with funding from the Global Fund. As a result, over 419,957 mineworkers, ex-mineworkers, their families and community have been screened for TB. 11 Occupational Health Service Centres (OHSC) were established in 8 SADC countries and handed over to host governments. Moreover, 4 TB screening models have been developed, and a SADC region IT system and a regional coordinating structure for TB were established at the SADC Secretariat.

### **Strengthening Primary Healthcare Systems**

AUDA-NEPAD designed and launched the Primary Health Care Project Bijimi in five Member States (Burundi, Central Africa Republic, Chad, Lesotho and South Sudan) to upskill community healthcare workers and strengthen supply chain infrastructure in support of primary healthcare services. This was preceded by a baseline study in the five pilot countries.

## Science, Technology and Innovation

---

AUDA-NEPAD aims to effectively harness Science, Technology and Innovation for Africa's socio-economic development and to empower African leaders and innovators to address continental challenges by leveraging cutting-edge and emerging technologies. Interventions are focused on identifying and evaluating promising technologies that hold immense potential for Africa, including artificial intelligence, blockchain, next-generation batteries and genome editing. AUDA-NEPAD supports the development and implementation of a continental African Union Artificial Intelligence (AU-AI) strategy that includes legislative, regulatory, ethical, policy, and infrastructural frameworks in consultation with stakeholders such as AU Member States' governments, the private sector, academia, innovators, and consumers. Through AUDA-NEPAD's innovation financing initiatives, the agency is facilitating funding for ground-breaking research and development projects across the continent. The agency is focusing on strengthening AU Member States and RECs' ability to track STISA-2024 for enhanced evidence-based policy development and monitoring and evaluation. AUDA-NEPAD is also advancing genetic research through innovation and technology. In the domain of public health, the Agency is enhancing safety measures and disease control efforts as well as strengthening surveillance systems to mitigate public health risks, and promote sustainable practices in vector control.



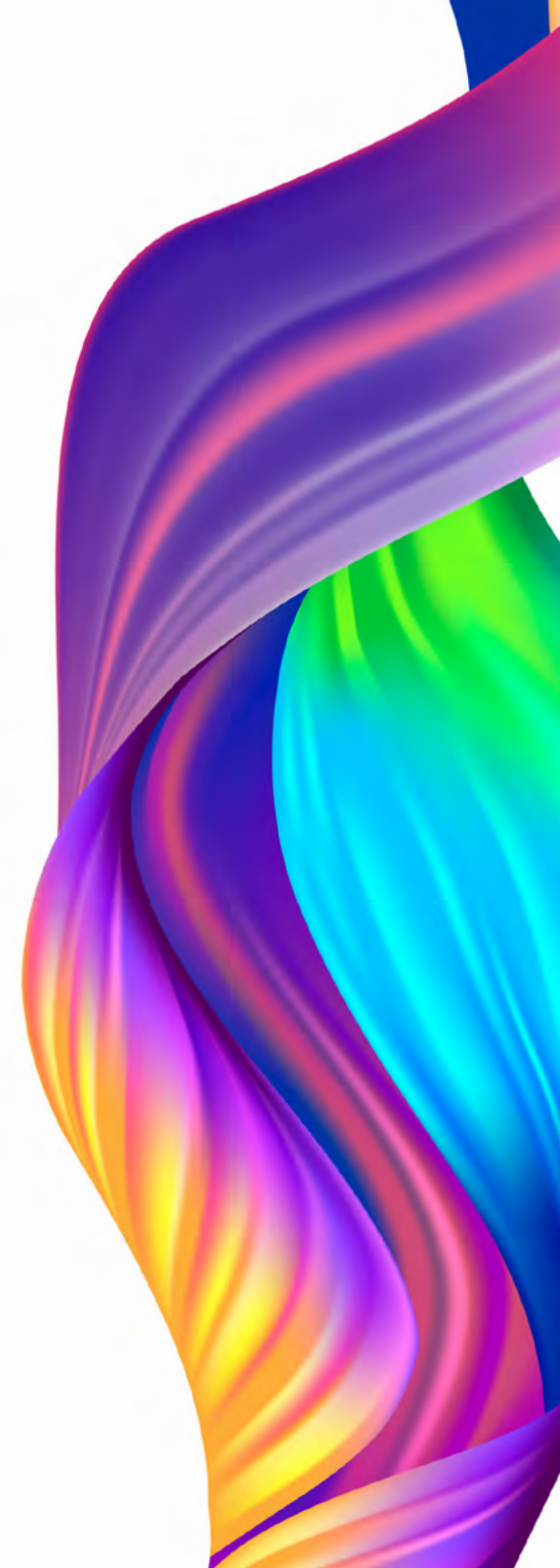
Developed a continental **platform for monitoring the safety of COVID-19 vaccines** and other priority medical products for AU-priority diseases such as HIV, TB and Malaria



Designed the draft **African Union Artificial Intelligence Strategy** to enhance capacity building and strengthen the regulatory environment in AI technology and data management

---

Supported 7 countries on regulatory systems strengthening for malaria vector control tools





### **African Science Technology and Innovation Indicators (ASTII)**

AUDA-NEPAD worked with EAC, ECCAS, ECOWAS and SADC to sustain available and good quality R&D and innovation indicators for evidence-based policy development, tracking and strengthening STI data management and digitisation capacity. AUDA-NEPAD convened 30 MS to share progress in developing STI policies based on evidence gathered through R&D and innovation surveys.

### **Genome Editing**

The Agency engaged ten countries to advance Genome Editing for product development and commercialisation. A baseline assessment was conducted to enhance R&D and commercialisation capabilities of the participating countries. Key actors in GEd technology were identified through a rapid appraisal exercise for a deeper investigation through a planned landscape analysis. The Agency also developed an online community of practice platform. Two countries are developing national genome editing communication strategies and action plans, starting with Ghana to guide the initiative that will encompass small-holder farmers.

### **Africa Integrated Vector Management (IVM)**

IVM supported seven countries, including Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Uganda in strengthening regulatory systems for vector control tools. The programme facilitated stakeholder engagement both nationally and regionally, increasing the level of information and understanding on gene drive and preparing for the future field release of GM mosquitoes. As a result, the regulators gained enhanced capacity for risk assessment and decision-making, while the stakeholders increased their level of information on the potential of gene drives for malaria control.

### **AU 3S Programme**

AU-3S introduced the electronic adverse events following immunisation (AEFI) reporting form which helped to improve the data quality and transition from the use of paper forms in data collection. The form is hosted in a mobile application, Med Safety App, which has increased the rate of reporting and improved data quality. Additionally, the AU-3S programme established the Vigilance Hub, which is a platform used by Member States for safety data collection, with support from the programme technical partner, and the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA). The Vigilance Hub is used for case management and has improved data quality in Africa. Additionally, it helped to integrate cross-country data among Member States. AU-3S is currently in the process of pivoting from a pilot to a continental platform. In the expansion process, the programme has progressed work towards including other priority medical products for AU priority diseases such as HIV, TB and Malaria and ultimately establishing a centralised African-owned safety database known as the AfriVigilance system.



### **AU High-level Panel on Emerging Technologies (APET)**

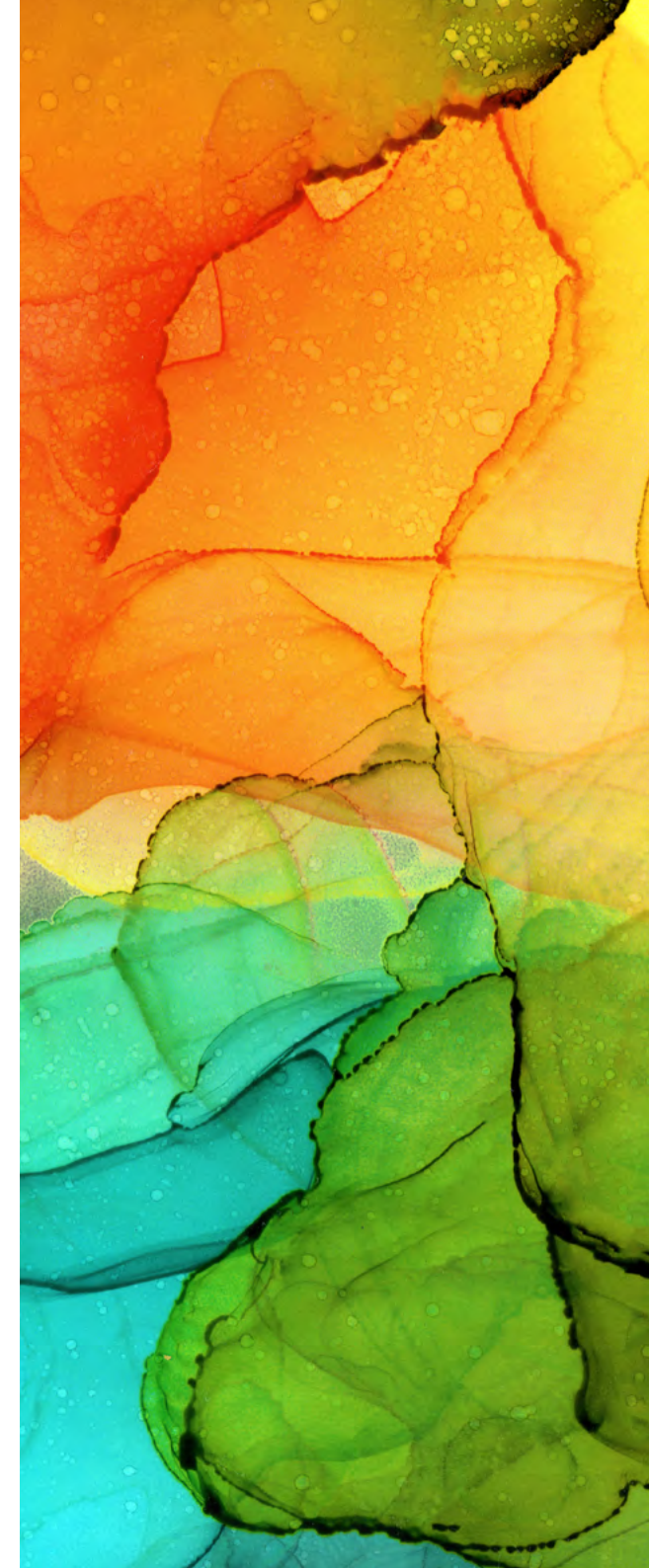
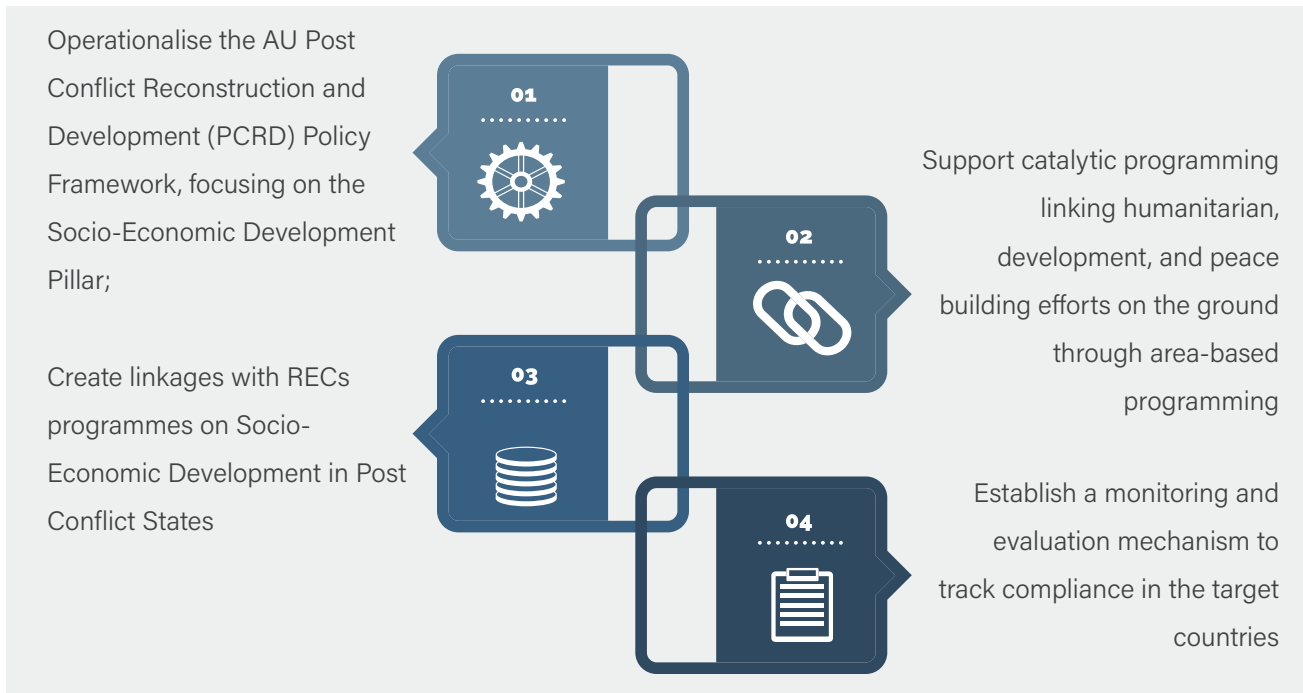
APET launched four technology reports on AI, Blockchain, Next Generation Batteries and Genome Editing. Through the Calestous Juma Executive Dialogue (CJED), APET facilitated strategic discussions and collaborations among key stakeholders, leading to innovative solutions in various sectors. Currently, APET developed the African Union Artificial Intelligence (AU-AI) Continental Strategy, a comprehensive framework that harnesses AI to drive economic growth and social development. Additionally, APET provided capacity support to 560 education and STI experts from seven AU Member States, including Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Gabon, Malawi, Mozambique, and Nigeria. Moreover, APET published over 150 blogs on harnessing science, technology, and innovation on various thematic areas.

### **Calestous Juma Executive Dialogue (CJED)**

Through monthly webinars, the CJED engaged 980 stakeholders, including policy and decision makers, executives, academics, scientists, parliamentarians, youth, researchers, CJED alumni, and innovators, to address challenges and develop solutions for linking STI to various development sub-sectors. Additionally, the CJED provided training in STEM-responsive pedagogy and teaching methodology to 1280 teachers and policymakers from the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology. Furthermore, 240 education practitioners, quality assurance officers, and decision-makers participated in knowledge exchange activities focused on developing homegrown STEM solutions. Moreover, over 450 education practitioners were trained to engage in formal and informal STEM curriculum reforms.

## Triple Nexus on Peace, Security and Development

AUDA-NEPAD designed the Triple Nexus Flagship Initiative to promote sustainable development and peace through regional integration anchored on the principles of peace, security, and development. The programme is based on the premise that Africa's regional integration and sustainable development wholly depend on its ability to ensure a climate of peace and security. There is increasing recognition among the AU that peace, security, and development are the most essential pillars of a healthy social system. Although these concepts are independent, they are mutually interlinked and complementary pillars of sustainable development. Integrating development, peacebuilding and security into national strategy and planning processes in post-conflict African countries has the potential to create synergies and more effective policies that prevent relapses into conflict, as well as social/ regional inequalities and vulnerabilities. The flagship project specifically aims to:





# PARTNERSHIPS AND RESOURCE MOBILISATION

Agenda 2063 – the bedrock of the AU reform process – emphasises a new partnership architecture and modus operandi for mobilising resources through enhanced collaborative planning, execution, and financing of continental and regional programmes, fostering integrated joint efforts. As the continental development agency, AUDA-NEPAD is mandated to undertake the full range of resource mobilisation efforts of the continent and to take a more formal and legally backed responsibility in representing Africa's development interests within the continent, and within global platforms and processes. This function requires enhanced collaboration and coordination among AU organisations, Member States, regional bodies, and development partners. Against this background, AUDA-NEPAD is working with the RECs towards improving continental capacities for joint planning, programming and mobilisation of resources to ensure effective and sustainable financing of Agenda 2063 in partnership with the European Union. The joint AU/EU programme will be based on a win-win approach by aligning the priorities established by policy organs of AU Member States with those of the EU through strategic technical and financing partnerships. In this regard, AUDA-NEPAD successfully engaged the EU Support to Institutional Capacity to develop a continental comprehensive support programme through which the EU, AU and Member States could mobilise resources and investments. The collaboration aims to explore opportunities for harmonised programming in

human development, climate change, digital, STI, sustainable growth, decent jobs, migration and mobility. It will also develop a joint continental investment platform, bringing together IFIs and other EU and African policymakers to design joint investment programmes, to provide sustainable financing of regional and continental programmes. The support is leveraged from the AU Support Programme IV (AUSP IV) with a total budget of Euro 2.4 million mobilised in 2021. Its objectives are to 1) Leverage the momentum from the Africa EU Partnership and design a continental programme for accelerating Agenda 2063. 2) Develop capacity within AUDA-NEPAD and RECs to implement regional cooperation projects. 3) Harmonise programmes aimed at accelerating the implementation of Agenda 2063 in the six EU Sub-Saharan Africa key priority areas. Funding streams for the implementation of Agenda 2063 flagship programmes and regional priority programmes that will feed into the consolidated continental programme have been identified. The AU/EU Resource Mobilisation Programme was presented at the AU Mid-Term Summit in July 2023.

## Challenges and Opportunities

Following consultations between AUDA-NEPAD and the RECs, the following challenges were identified: 1) The lack of clarity in the role of RECs in implementing continental priorities vis a vis their regional mandate and priorities. 2) The lack of continental coordination and harmonisation of programmes and lack of synergies, resulting in external parties coordinating RECs. Moreover, AUDA-NEPAD, RECs and EU held consultative engagements to start developing the structure for the consolidated continental programme that will form part of the proposal to the EU. The six mapped key priority areas include transport, ICT, agriculture, trade, energy, and the private sector.

## Recommendations

- Strengthen AUDA-NEPAD's role in coordinating and increasing the visibility of Agenda 2063 and promulgating the role of RECs has been acknowledged. There is need for a harmonised and coordinated approach towards implementing regional and continental programmes, and to build the RECs' capacity to develop and roll-out Regional Mechanisms (RMs).
- Avoid competition, contestation and duplication among AU institutions and RECs, and leverage core competencies and synergies to advance and identify RECs to champion specific programmes, through a rationalisation process.
- Identify and involve the private sector for effective RM.
- Establish a coordination platform, while respecting the principles of subsidiarity and complementarity, with specific reference made to the AU 2019 decision.

Furthermore, AUDA-NEPAD is adopting a dynamic approach to resource mobilisation and private sector engagement to develop an adequate funding pipeline with timely and predictable funding windows. The development of an organisation-wide private sector engagement strategy is underway. As part of this work, AUDA-NEPAD is working towards establishing, operationalising, and strengthening private sector platforms in infrastructure, health logistics and food systems.



**AUDA-NEPAD**  
AFRICAN UNION DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

