

100,000 SMES By 2021: A Wrap on The first phase

ADDRESSING MALNUTRITION AS A GATEWAY TO ACHIEVING AGENDA 2063

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

MAINTAINING THE MOMENTUM IN ADDRESSING TUBERCULOSIS DURINGTHE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN AFRICA





66 Action without thought is empty.
Thought without action is blind.

Kwame Nkrumah First President of the Republic of Ghana



**Employment - 100,000 SMEs**100,000 SMEs by 2021: a wrap on the first phase.

Nutrition

Addressing malnutrition as a gate way to achieving Agenda 2063.

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

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Health

Maintaining the momentum in addressing TB during the COVID-19 pandemic in Africa.





# 100,000 SMEs by 2021: a wrap on the first phase



e are pleased to announce the official wrap up on the first implementation phase of the 100,000 SMEs initiative, consisting of a total number of eight virtual training sessions held in eight Member States.

Information webinars have been successfully held in Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Niger, Rwanda and Togo recording outstanding results in terms of participation. Cumulatively, a total of 8 webinars have taken place, 16,768 MSMEs registered in the platform, 6,736 MSMEs attended 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.

DATE	MEMBER STATES
21/08/2020	GHANA
25/08/2020	тово
02/09/2020	KENYA
03/09/2020	NIGERIA
08/09/2020	CÔTE D'IVOIRE
15/09/2020	NIGER
17/09/2020	RWANDA
23/09/2020	CHAD

This milestone was achieved thanks to the support of partners especially Ecobank Group, under the leadership of Group Executive Commercial Banking, Mrs Josephine Anan Ankomah. Ecobank Foundation and Ecobank

Academy also playeda pivotal role in ensuring Ecobank Group's partnership with AUDA-NEPAD on this project is a success. A partnership that will accelerate the implementation of the "100,000 SMEs by 2021" initiative, designed as a contribution to the "1 million youth by 2021" initiative of the Chaiperson of the African Union Commission in the words of Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki-Chief Executive Officer of AUDA-NEPAD,

"AUDA-NEPAD intends to jointly build a continental platform based on our initial '100,000 SMEs by 2021' campaign which will provide an immediate response to the potential impact of COVID-19 on SMEs and job creation on the continent. We thank Ecobank Group for being the first strategic partner to support the initiative and invite all institutions with an interest in protecting and creating jobs in Africa, to join us in our journey.", he said.

We reported on some of the webinars in our previous edition of the Footprint Report which can be downloaded here (https://www.nepad.org/publications). For the rest of the Member States not initially covered in the previous issue, below are specific indicators on the outcome of these webinars.

### Nigeria





Organised for Nigeria (03/09/2020) with the involvement of government representatives and the private sector such as Mr. Tony Okpanachi- MD Development Bank of Nigeria, Mr. Philip Yila Yusuf- Director of Development Finance Central Bank of Nigeria, Mr. Patrick Akinwuntan- MD/ Regional Executive Ecobank Nigeria among other key persons, the event regrouped a total of 1,093 participants who attended the live informational webinars tailored for MSME operating in Nigeria. Thanks to the support of Star FM Lagos, Rhythm FM Abuja, Rhythm FM, Port Harcourt



and, Odinigbo FM, Anambra, the content was customised and diffused through these channels recording a total outreach estimated 2 million. More details on this event can be accessed here: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/192356224503908/videos/3093625380760985/?">https://www.facebook.com/192356224503908/videos/3093625380760985/?</a>

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### Côte d'Ivoire





Organised in Côte d'Ivoire (08/09/2020) with high level participation from the private and public sector including speakers such as Mr Salimou BAMBA- Director General of the Ivorian agency for SMEs, Mr Paul-Harry Aithnard-Regional Executive Director Director, Ecobank WAEMU Region and Mr Roland DIBI, Director, Commercial BankEcobank Côte d'Ivoire among other key persons, the event recorded a total of 1,236 participants through the live session. Thanks to our media partners such as Radio ATM, Youpougon FM, the content was then customised for the radio and through this, we recorded a total outreach estimated 30,000. More details on this event can be accessed at <a href="https://cutt.ly/2fSvKAi">https://cutt.ly/2fSvKAi</a>

### Niger



Organised in Niger (15/09/2020) with the participation of key persons such as Mr Sofo Magagi Ibrahim- Director of Mint, Credit and Savings at the Ministry of Finance, Mr Ibrahim Chaibou Oumarou- Supervisor of Credit Institutions at BCEAO, Mr Didier Correa- Director General, Ecobank Niger, among others, the event recorded a total of 474 participants through live session. Thanks to our media partners such as Voix du Sahel and Dounia radio, the content was customised for the radio and through this, we recorded a total outreach estimated 17,000. More details can be accessed at <a href="https://cutt.ly/GfSvUe4">https://cutt.ly/GfSvUe4</a>

### **Rwanda**



Organised in Rwanda (17/09/2020) with the participation of Mr Jonas Munyurangabo, Director-General of Planning, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Mr. Stephen RUZIBIZA- CEO, Private Sector Federation (PSF), Mrs Alice Kilonzo Zulu- Managing Director Ecobank Rwanda, Mr. Maurice K. Toroitich- CEO, People's Bank of Rwanda (PBR) amongst others, the event recorded a total of 854 participants through the live session. The content was customised for the radio and thanks to the support of KissFM we recorded a total outreach estimated 16,000 participants. More details can be accessed here: <a href="https://web.facebook.com/EcobankGroup/videos/368830897604499/?extid=ayr5vVb97K7S4WwZ">https://web.facebook.com/EcobankGroup/videos/368830897604499/?extid=ayr5vVb97K7S4WwZ</a>

### Chad



Organised in Chad (23/09/2020) with the participation of the Honourable Minister of Youths and Sports - H. E Christian Mohamed Routouang, Alassane Sorgo-Managing Director Ecobank Chad, Abdramane Issa-Commercial Banking Manager Ecobank Chad, Alfred Beingar Moyangar- Director of Project Organization and Information Systems at Commercial Bank Chad, Sandra Chankouin- Group Manager in charge of ETI Group Value Chain Management among others recorded a total of 812 participants during the live session. The content was then customised for the radio and thanks to the support of Radio diffusion Nationale du Tchad (RNT), we recorded a total outreach estimated at 10,000 participants.

More details can be accessed here: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/GroupeEcobank/videos/1671372253044228/?\_rdc=2&\_rdr">https://www.facebook.com/GroupeEcobank/videos/1671372253044228/?\_rdc=2&\_rdr</a>





# Addressing malnutrition as a gateway to achieving Agenda 2063



ver the years, Africa's economic growth has been remarkably resilient despite an uncertain global economy. With robust economic growth from 2004-2014 of around 6% per annum, the continent

witnessed significant changes with an economic outlook that continues to strengthen. According to the African Development Outlook published early this year, Africa's real GDP growth was estimated at 3.4 percent for 2019, and six of the world's fastest growing economies are in Africa. There is no doubt that the continent is on a path towards attending its development objectives. However, undernutrition in children continues to be a challenge with approximately 1 million children suffering from severe acute malnutrition; with undernutrition being the underlying cause of half of child deaths-according to the Cost of Hunger in Africa Regional Report published in 2018. For more details, visit: https://au.int/en/coha/background

The study also states that 38% of children in sub-Saharan Africa have had their growth stunted by malnutrition- and their potential severely damaged. Stunted children are more likely to score 7% lower on maths tests, are 19% less likely to be able to read, 12% less likely to be able to write a simple sentence and, are 13% less likely to be in the appropriate grade for their age at school. Estimates suggest that, in low- and middle-income countries, the impact of malnutrition decreases GDP by about 2% and 17%. Malnutrition will continue to act as a big barrier to economic growth largely due to, the effects of malnutrition on physical stature, the ability to do physical work, and on cognitive development, can lock children into poverty and entrench inequalities.

The multiple benefits from nutrition for development are substantial and nutrition can supercharge the demographic dividend adding 1%-3% to economic growth rates. Investing now in a package of proven nutrition

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interventions, along with policy changes to address underlying causes of malnutrition, would help millions of children to develop into healthy, productive and engaged members of society.

With the largest youthful population globally, there is no doubt the cognitive and physical abilities of Africa's youthful population will be key determinants of its growth trajectory in the future. However, this is severely compromised by the prevalence of malnutrition in African children.

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

As Africa strives to know the cost of addressing undernutrition, the African Union Commission and 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). A study methodology 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 therefore 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 provided an estimate of the social and economic cost of child undernutrition by country hence, making investment in nutrition more evident.

Investing properly will facilitate focused and structured resource allocation, ensure adequate coverage of goods and services needed to reduce vulnerability among the populations most at risk, particularly those aimed at maintaining infant development from conception to 24 months of age- particularly crucial at the optimal



development stage. Furthermore, investing in key social safety-net programmes such as School Feeding will offer an opportunity to use meals provided at schools as a conduit to address malnutrition and improve education outcomes. AUDA-NEPAD has been working relentlessly to ensure children have access to balanced meals especially in the school milieu.

This requested study on the cost of closing the gap will go a long way to offer answers to recent questions from stakeholders such as 'by how much should national investment for nutrition be increased' to address the issue of child undernutrition. More information on the study and its outcomes will be available in our subsequent editions.



### Back to school: AUDA-NEPAD's Homegrown School Feeding Program

fter many months of lockdown as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, schools are about to resume in many parts of the continent. A critical time to revisit the subject of nutrition centre to economic development. As an

important step towards curbing malnutrition, AUDA-NEPAD identified 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 AUDA-NEPAD CEO, at the African Union Coordination Summit - High level event on HGSF, in 2019, he reiterated -

"Home Grown School Feeding programme offers a platform for coordinated action among partners committed to ending hunger and improving food security and nutrition in Africa. Investing in food and nutrition security is a fundamental factor to human capital development and contributes positively to Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Moreover, benefits of the home-grown school feeding approach far outweigh the costs."



in school and contributing to the overall social economic development of the communities that supply food to these schools.

AUDA-NEPAD's Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF) approach is a good subject to revisit at this time as it provides guidelines useful for curbing malnutrition and stunting notably in the school milieu. This, especially if the guidelines adopted and implemented successfully in previous pilot countries are adapted and applied in others. In a statement made by Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki

The AUDA-NEPAD's HGSF programme has been in existence since 2003 when it was conceptualized 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, the focus is on strengthening the School feeding programmes overall. 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.

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The good news is, there is increasing interest globally, and within the African continent to upscale the sensitization on the importance of nutrition for human, social and economic development, coupled with the drive for political commitment and leadership to invest in strategies that will reduce all forms of malnutrition. We remain hopeful that. as schools resume, increased actions will be taken to ensure this initiative is expanded as one of the solutions to combat the adverse effects of the pandemic on livelihood. 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 9017 caterers in 260 districts with a national coverage of 54% by the end of 2019.

For more details on this initiative, Guidelines for the Design and Implementation of Home-Grown School Feeding Programmes and the results, download AUDA-NEPAD's school feeding handbook at <a href="https://www.nepad.org/publication/home-grown-school-feeding-handbook">https://www.nepad.org/publication/home-grown-school-feeding-handbook</a>.







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

his project was executed within the framework of a World Bank-funded project launched in 2016 with the aim of strengthening the health sector's response to Tuberculosis and occupational lung diseases. AUDA-NEPAD and the East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSA-HC) collaborate to provide technical support in project implementation in the participating Member States. It is implemented in four Southern African Development Community (SADC) Member States: Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia.

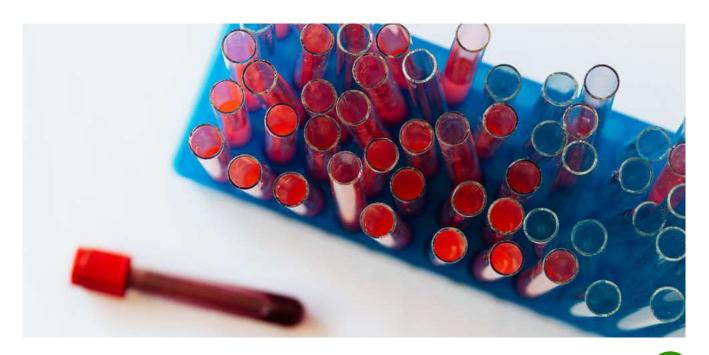
According to The World Health Organisation (WHO) in an Information Note released on 12 May 2020, modelling work suggests that, if the COVID-19 pandemic led to a global reduction of 25% in expected TB detection for 3 months then we can expect a 13% increase in TB deaths, bringing us back to the levels of TB mortality that we had five years ago. The WHO further estimates that between

2020 and 2025 an additional 1.4 million TB deaths could be registered as direct consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Dr Patrick Lungu, TB Programme Manager in Zambia, elaborated on how COVID-19 in Zambia has negatively affected TB indicators.

"Since the notification of the first two cases of COVID-19 in Zambia on March 18 2020, modification of service delivery was initiated in response to the outbreak," says Lungu. "This resulted into a low turnout of patients in the outpatient department, resulting into reduced number of presumptive TB cases being identified; inadvertently, TB notifications plummeted," he stated.

For more details on this, read the rest of the article at https://www.satbhss.org/





## **COVID-19 Digest: Taking it up a Gear!**

"How AUDA-NEPAD is supporting Member States with global and continental level health information to curb the pandemic."

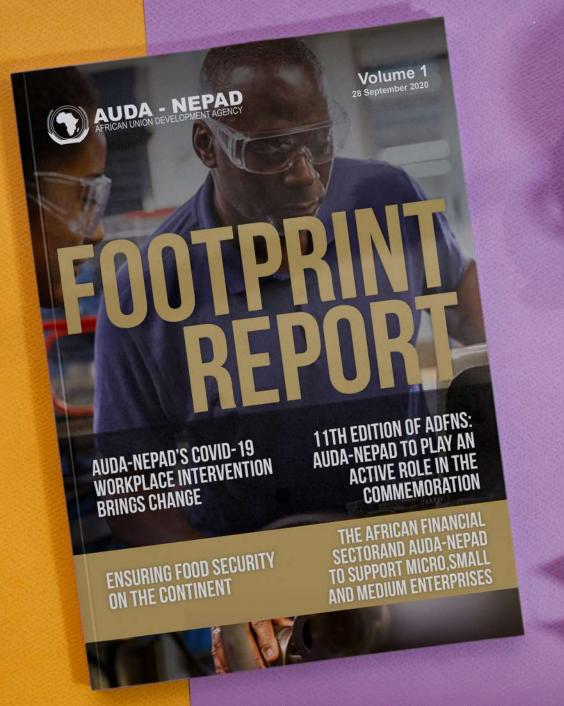
See more in our biweekly COVID-19 Digest!

https://www.nepad.org/publication/auda-nepad-covid-19-digest-issue-001-2020



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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