



**AUDA - NEPAD**  
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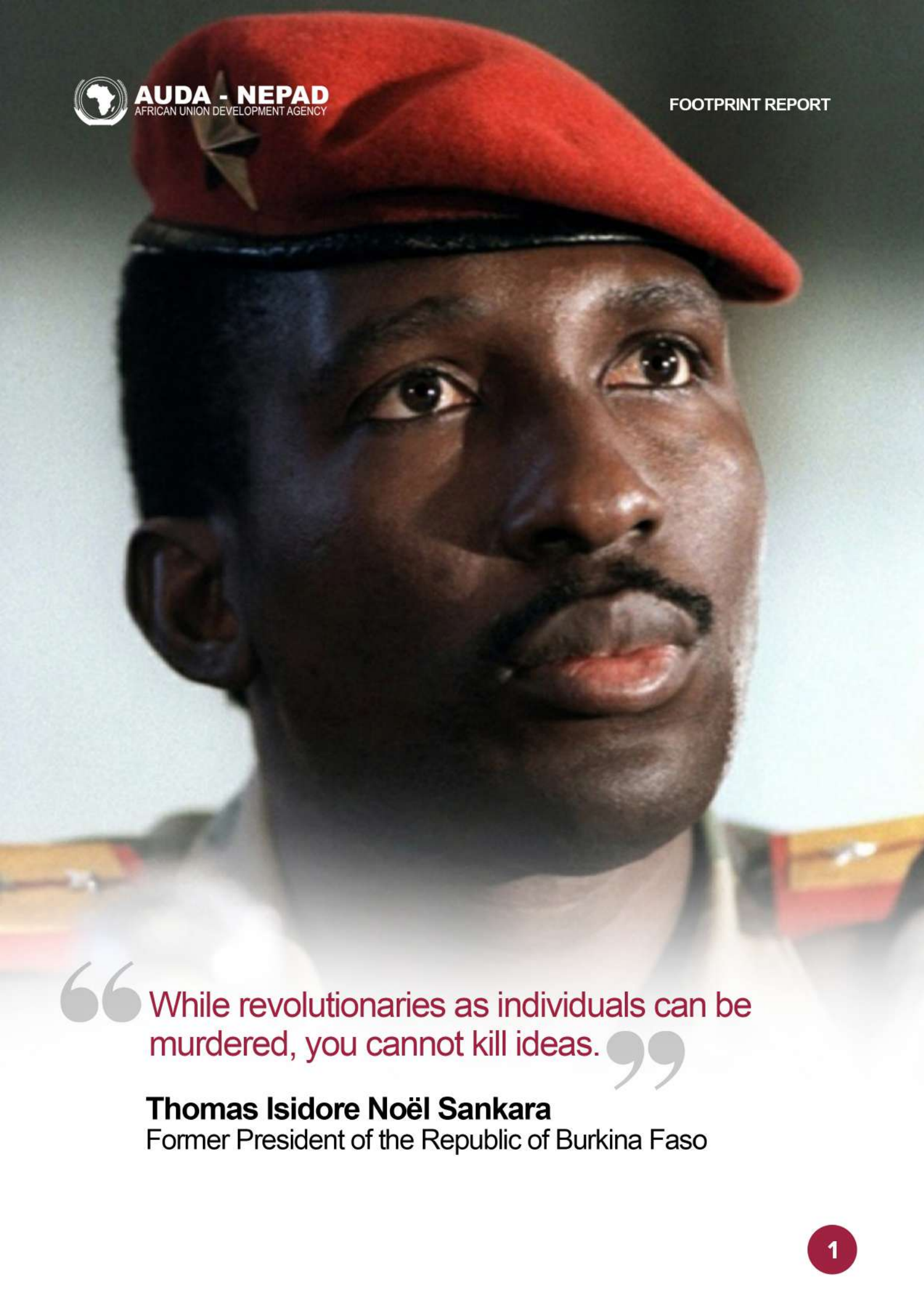
# FOOTPRINT REPORT

**THE FOOD SYSTEMS  
INITIATIVE PARTNERSHIP**

**CELEBRATION OF AFRICA  
INDUSTRIALISATION WEEK 2020**

**UNDERSTANDING  
THE MSMES ACADEMY  
ARCHITECTURE**

**SAVE OUR FUTURE: AVERTING  
AN EDUCATION CATASTROPHE  
FOR THE WORLD'S CHILDREN**



“While revolutionaries as individuals can be murdered, you cannot kill ideas.”

**Thomas Isidore Noël Sankara**  
Former President of the Republic of Burkina Faso



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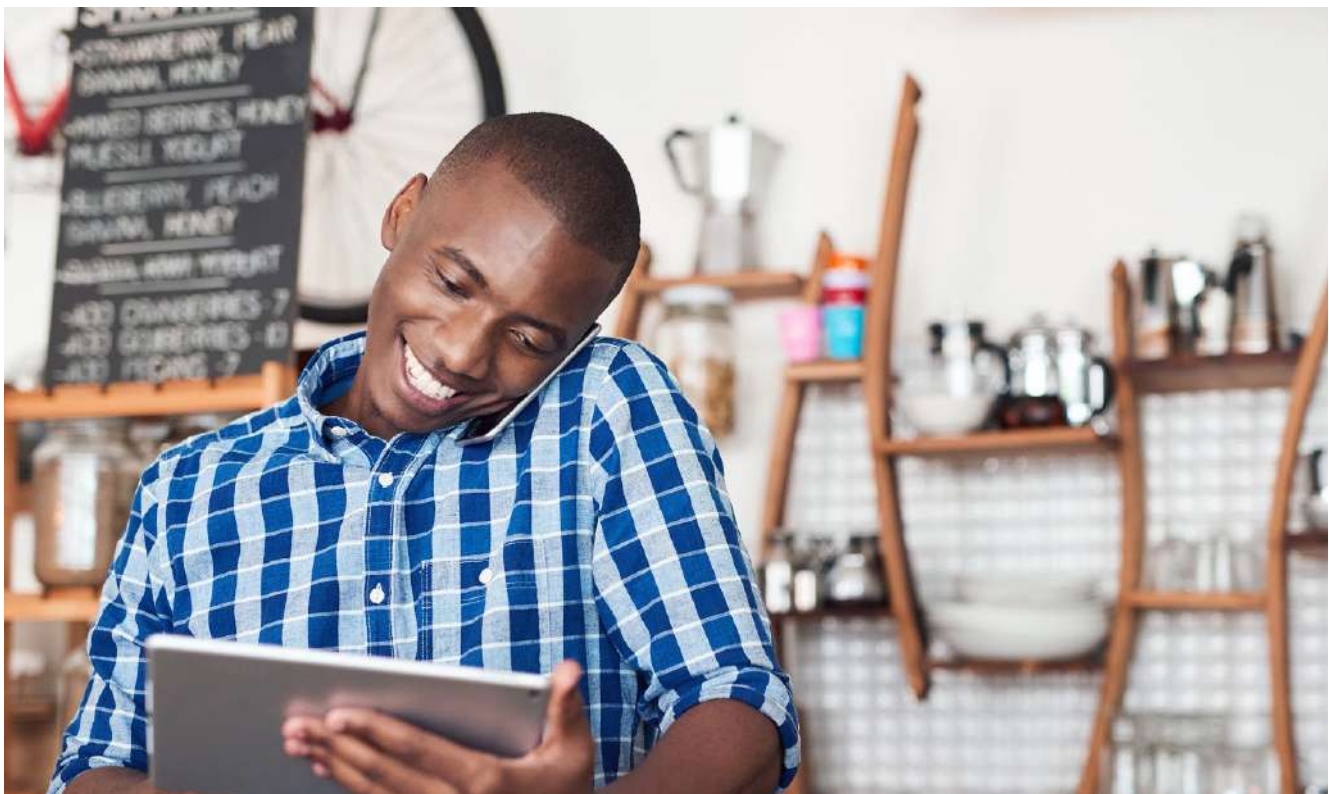
# Employment

Understanding the MSMEs Academy architecture

# Understanding the MSMEs academy architecture

**T**he African Union Development Agency's (AUDA-NEPAD) 100,000 MSMEs Initiative is part of the African Union Commission Chairperson's Initiative "1 million young people by 2021" is a direct translation of the implementation of the first objective of Agenda 2063. A goal which aims 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, witnessed great success during the first phase. Details on the outcome of the webinars can be found on previous editions of the Footprint Report (<https://www.nepad.org/publication/auda-nepad-impact-report-volume-2-october-2020>). Bracing up to move to the second phase, the platform will be an online aggregator of available resources for African MSMEs for their easy access both to online and offline support.



*Photo Credit: InvestSmall*

SMEs are vital actors for enhancing innovation, competitiveness, entrepreneurship and the establishment of an effective innovation system for developing countries. They contribute substantially to the development of the economy but, to achieve stable economic development, the business of SMEs must be supported. They need financial and consulting services which can help them to overcome difficulties during the start-up phase or to carry out their normal business activities. Hence, AUDA-NEPAD'S SME academy's architecture is designed to provide all round support and comprise of tools, trainings, mentorship and, an advisory.



## With trainings involving:

**With trainings involving:** On-demand/scheduled training on topics such as cashflow management, social media marketing, leveraging digital tools to scale etc.

## Mentorship interpreted to be:

One-on-one relationships with experts/successful MSMEs within the same field to serve as sounding boards and guides over time.

## Tools meaning:

Access to easy-to-use digital tools for scaling business, managing process and performance etc and,

## Advisory designed to involve:

Tailored (and often paid) support to address specific business problems e.g. post-COVID recovery planning on new ways of working/accessing new markets. More details on the implementation of the second and third phase of the project will be available in our subsequent issues.



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# Nutrition

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



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



Photo Credit: Pexels

**T**he coronavirus has disrupted education systems across the world, forcing school closures that have affected 90% of the world's students and pupils. These closures have had devastating impacts on children and their ability to exercise their rights to education. Education systems were already in crisis even before the pandemic and are now facing the likelihood of drastic budget cuts. If governments and development partners do not act immediately, this crisis could turn into a catastrophe from which, millions of children may never recover. The vital news is, there are solutions and a way forward that can turn this crisis into an opportunity, but requires urgency and collective efforts.

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 subsidized 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, and 7.6 million girls from pre-primary to secondary school are at risk of not returning to school as a result of COVID-19.

The pre-existing learning crisis is becoming a catastrophe. 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. Perhaps 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.

Education is clearly a victim of the pandemic, but it can also be a key driver of the recovery. Education creates the health workers, educators, entrepreneurs, engineers, activists, and politicians essential for creating more resilient systems for the future. Education is at the heart of the entire sustainable development agenda, benefiting global economies and individual incomes, and serving as a powerful driver for healthy populations and a peaceful planet. Protecting and upholding the right to education is the key to addressing the economic, health, environmental, and social crises we face- and the opportunity to build back better.

The call for action proposes 7 focus areas:

1. Prioritize reopening schools, deliver vital services to children, and treat the workforce as frontline workers
2. Make education inclusive, engaging, and adaptive
3. Strengthen the education workforce
4. Focus education technology (EdTech) where it is proven to be effective and most equitable
5. Protect education budgets and target public spending at those left furthest behind
6. Mobilize international resources to fully finance education
7. Use resources better by improving evidence generation, coordination, alignment, and effectiveness

It is against this back drop that, AUDA-NEPAD organised a workshop 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.

Other actions linked to the above include the Cost of Hunger in Africa study (COHA), a continental initiative led by the African Union Commission (AUC) and partnership

with AUDA-NEPAD and other development partners. The COHA lays emphasis on the fact that, 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. For more details on AUDA-NEPADs response in this area, download previous editions of the Footprint Report at (<https://www.nepad.org/publication/auda-nepad-impact-report-volume-2-october-2020> - both English and French)



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# Industrialisation

The Food Systems Initiative Partnership

Stakeholder Engagement towards the Finalisation and Implementation of the  
Africa Kaizen Initiative Action Plan

Celebration of Africa Industrialisation Week 2020

# The Food Systems Initiative Partnership

**I**n April 2020, African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and World Economic Forum virtually convened 80 global and continental leaders across government, business, farmers associations, civil society, international organizations and innovators to discuss actions needed in response to COVID-19, recognizing 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. More on the outcome of this forum will be available in our next issue.

The Food Systems Initiative Partnership is a joint effort to drive coordinated action in response to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and associate mitigation measures. It involved a series of consultations and regional sprint action groups that ran between April and September 2020 to reprioritize efforts towards addressing broader societal and economic implications of the pandemic and identify ways to increase the resilience of food systems.

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.

To commence with, the Policy action track, led by AUDA-NEPAD and 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 on relevant policies to improve food and nutrition security and value chain integrity for resiliency of food systems. The policy track drew from an understanding of the focus and direction of the Data and Information and Finance Action Tracks, to articulate the broader policy needs to ensure that COVID-19 responses with respect to food systems are sustainable. The Policy Action Track was

framed around 3 key objectives: a) advancing resilience; b) enabling recovery; and c) promoting enablers and concluded with a Joint Call for Action across government and business. Initial dissemination of the Joint Call for Action at the AGRF Ministerial Roundtable. The intention is to hold a high-level meeting with relevant decisionmakers to socialise the Call to Action further.

On the other hand, the Data and Information Track led by 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 supports 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.

In this unprecedented fight against COVID-19, digital technologies offer the only opportunity for governments, individuals and businesses to cope with social distancing, ensure business continuity and prevent service interruptions. Immediate action is needed; especially, to leverage digital technologies to respond to challenges presented by COVID-19, from governments and regulators around the world, supported by the private sector and the digital development community. Today, there are 3.9 billion internet users globally, leaving almost 50% of the world’s population still excluded from digital technologies. In addition, there is also a “usage gap” with 3.3 billion people covered by mobile broadband networks but who are not using mobile internet services. Of the 25 least connected countries in the world, 21 are in Africa.

African countries and fragile, conflict and violence-affected states with relatively high prices for mobile broadband connectivity, high voice and data taxes, and limited penetration will be most affected by the digital divide. Socially marginalized groups, including rural communities, persons with disabilities young people and children, and



*Photo Credit: Pexels*

women and girls who are often excluded from digital development opportunities, will be disproportionately affected. Since the start of COVID-19, over 1 billion students are now out of school and in need of online/distance learning and safe environments to learn and communicate.

Voice calls have almost tripled in some countries while the use of some communications apps has more than doubled, causing increased congestion and the need to support network resilience. On the other hand, data traffic has increased by at least 20% and cyberattacks on the health sector infrastructure and mobile networks have increased by 150% in the last two months. We can go on and on, but all these go to emphasize the key role Digital Development occupies on the continent.

Lastly, the Finance Action Track, led by IFAD, aimed at the collaborative mobilization 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 pivot around the broader theme of Finance for SMEs. COVID-19 rapidly evolved from a health crisis to an economic and social crisis. As shut-downs occurred and markets closed, African stakeholders throughout the food supply chain experienced broader implications on their economic integrity and that of their businesses. Lines of credit for farmers to have access to inputs, cash flow to support SMEs for their operations and their employees, and other short-term finance options are necessary to protect the food system in Africa in the months to come. Given the implications of COVID-19 for the economic integrity of SMEs, how might we collaboratively mobilize resources, bring to scale financial instruments, and/or de-risk investments to prevent a further exacerbation of the crisis on Africa's food systems?

The Finance track led to the 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 is to present a concrete blueprint of the Facility at The Finance in Common Summit in November 2020) and, to mobilize support towards SME finance in Africa through bilateral and other development partners.

COVID-19 is dramatically accelerating weaknesses in food systems, driving risk of future widespread food insecurity beyond the current immediate logistical roadblocks. As the implications keep expanding from immediate healthcare needs to the broader societal, economic and knock-on implications of this crisis, the resiliency and inefficiencies of global, regional and local food systems has become increasingly apparent for the African continent. In Africa, food and corresponding agriculture systems play a central role in livelihoods and economics, and the continent is highly exposed in times of international crisis given its

dependency on trans-border food imports.

While food insecurity across the continent was widespread before COVID-19, the challenges presented to the food systems by the pandemic (from market closures and trade blockages, to labour and income shortages) are primed to be particularly acute. Additionally, for many, COVID-19 is worsening the already desperate circumstances smallholder farmers are usually faced with, further amplifying their predicament. The pandemic is predicted to have the potential to spark a food security crisis in Africa, with agricultural production potentially contracting between 2.6% to 7%. The expected contraction will cause a decline in Africa's agricultural exports, putting livelihoods and jobs at risk. Furthermore, food imports could decline substantially, from up to 13% to 25%, due to higher transaction costs and reduced domestic demand from the crisis, further exacerbating the crisis.

# Stakeholder Engagement towards the Finalisation and Implementation of the Africa Kaizen Initiative Action Plan

**P**ivate sector development is one of the key factors for industrialization, creation of employment and decent work. Since the late 2000s, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has implemented several projects for private sector development in Africa leading up to the adoption of Kaizen (a comprehensive knowledge that consists of broad technologies to pursue quality, productivity, and managerial capabilities). “Kaizen Handbook 1” assumes that, Kaizen contributes to enhance “firm capabilities”, which is regarded as a factor essential to the innovation process. In order to further accelerate the dissemination of these activities and impact throughout the continent, JICA and AUDA-NEPAD launched “Africa Kaizen Initiative (AKI)” in 2017 with 4 key strategies; Advocating at Policy Level, Creating and Strengthening the Function of Centre of Excellence, Standardizing Kaizen in Africa and, Networking with Kaizen Promoting Institutions around the World. So far 25 countries, over 280,000 people, and over 18,000 enterprises have benefited from Kaizen in Africa.

Africa Kaizen Annual Conference (AKAC) is one of core activities of AKI, organised since 2016 and has served as a platform for stakeholders to expand network, share knowledge, and deepen understanding of Kaizen activities. In 2019, AKAC held in Tunis and came up with key messages which were conveyed to the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VII). The messages included the fact that, Kaizen:

- is a highly effective tool for achieving economic growth in Africa through enabling human resources and enhancing institutional capabilities.
- is an integral part of innovation, which is the key source to economic development.
- is not only critical for incremental innovation but also for achieving radical and sustainable innovation.

At the close of the event, participants recognize that, other factors such as political leadership and improved access to finance were crucial for enterprises to enhance their Kaizen impact. As a result, Africa Kaizen Initiative (AKI) was highlighted as one that could be used to achieve pillar 1 of the 2019 Yokohama Plan of Action- a birth child of TICAD (Tokyo International Conference of African Development) VII aimed at “Accelerating economic transformation and improving business environment through innovation and private sector engagement”. It is worthy of note that, TICAD is an initiative of the Japanese government targeting development in Africa. Japan has been leading this conference since 1993, co-hosted by United Nations, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Bank and, the African Union Commission (AUC). In order to further contribute to the TICAD Process and corresponding AU Initiatives, Africa Kaizen Annual Conference (AKAC) was adopted and viewed as a platform that could provide opportunities for stakeholders to discuss and enhance Kaizen in Africa.

In principle, (Africa Kaizen Annual Conference) AKAC aims to promote and upgrade Kaizen in African countries through:

- the encouragement of mutual learning process of the know-how and practical experiences of Kaizen activities in Africa and in the world,
- strengthening and expanding network among Kaizen practitioners, promoters and researchers at the global level and,
- comprehending and conveying key messages from Kaizen or quality and productivity improvement promoters and practitioners to African heads of states and policy makers.

Today at its 5th edition, the Africa Kaizen Annual Conference (AKAC 2020) and the 2nd Africa Kaizen Awards (AKA 2020), held from the 1st to 3rd of September 2020 under the theme: “The Role of Kaizen in Accelerating Industrialization in Africa: Under the Challenge of COVID-19 and Beyond”. Attended by Heads of African Kaizen institutes, Productivity centres, Kaizen professionals and consultants from all over the world, the organizing and partner institutions; AUDA-NEPAD and 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.

Also, 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,
- Encourage and assist member states to fully utilize the Kaizen Projects assisted by JICA to produce critical numbers of Kaizen consultants and practitioners and make use of the outputs of the projects.
- Encourage researches on the successes, limitations and outcomes of Kaizen/Quality and Productivity endeavours in the continent and the use of such research results.
- 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

## Recommendations towards achieving greater engagement.

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.
- Increasing efforts to reactivate national commitments at all levels; political, institutions, company and employee to expand the achievements gained so far and move forward to scale-up nationwide.



- Encouragement of counterparts' organizations to allocate adequate budget for covering local costs of Kaizen activities as stipulated in project design matrix (PDM).
- Encouraging the assignment of adequate and permanent personnel by Member States for knowledge transfer from Japanese experts to local consultants during the project period.
- Encouraging Kaizen institutes and Productivity Centres to network and strengthen their relationship in exchanging experiences using different communication systems including virtual/video conferences and meetings and expand their experiences to their neighbour countries.
- Encouraging Member States to design a national convention system at company and national level as part of AKA.
- Encouraging Member States to share the experiences of Kaizen/Productivity improvement efforts and disseminate the philosophy within the local contexts.
- Accelerating the implementation of the AKI Action Plans.

## Celebration of Africa Industrialisation Week 2020

**G**iven the importance of industrialization for structural transformation, 20th November was set aside annually as Africa Industrialization Day (AID). The day was adopted by the assembly of heads of state and government of the organization of African Unity at its Twenty-fifth Ordinary Session held on 26 July, 1989 Addis Ababa, Resolution AHG/res. 180 (XXV), which was followed by the UN General Assembly "UNGA" Resolution 44/237 of 22 December 1989. The AID provides an opportunity to key stakeholders to reflect on Africa's industrialization by looking at how the continent can change its current status quo. Since 2018, the Africa Industrialization Day has been successfully commemorated with weeklong events, an innovation marking a departure from the one-day set-up tradition to afford more time given its significance to Africa's cause for delivering structural transformation, as an entry point towards meeting the objectives of Agenda 2063, and

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 2030.

This year's celebration of Africa Industrialization Week aims to bring forth Africa's renewed determination and commitment to Industrialization as one of the central pillars in attaining the continent's economic growth and development goals as articulated in Agenda 2063. Amongst other things, it aims more specifically to, reinforce the development of cross-border supply and value chains to clearly articulate Africa's quest to industrialize, get transformed, create jobs and entrepreneurship opportunities for Africa's MSMEs, youth and women within the context of current and emerging continental and global socio-economic trends.

The prospects for Africa's development in the medium to long-term have been brightened by recent landmark political milestones including the decision to establish an African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Building on



*Photo Credit: Pexels*

decades of expressed ambitions for a one-Africa integrated economy, on 21st March 2018 at the 10th Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of Africa Union Heads of State and Government in Kigali, Rwanda, Member States took a key milestone by opening for signature of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement. At this occasion, 44 member states appended their signatures to the grand free trade statute, and at the beginning of 2020, 54 signatures, had been inscribed - a clear testimonial of the political will.

Beyond this, the 12th Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government hosted on 7th of July 2019 in Niamey, Niger scaled yet another political milestone to launch the Operational Phase of the AfCFTA. Paving way for ushering in of an inaugural free trade regime in Africa on 1 July 2020 which, due to the outbreak of the pandemic, was moved to January 2021. The coming on stream of the AfCFTA has thus rekindled hopes for a re-configuration of Africa's development narrative, presenting huge possibilities for an acceleration in economic expansion, as the domestic, regional and continental enterprises deploy under-utilised industrial capacity in the wake of new and dynamic opportunities ushered in by free trade agreement.

Against this backdrop, the 33rd Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union held from 9th to 10th February 2020 in Addis Ababa Ethiopia, the AU requested the African Union Commission (AUC) in collaboration with UNIDO, UNECA, AUDA-NEPAD, and the Afro-Champions, to organize a Summit on Africa's Industrialization and Economic Diversification during the Africa Industrialization Week in November 2020. However, due to Covid-19 pandemic attendant risks, in September 2020 a decision was taken to defer the Summit to 2021. To be organized from the 16th to the 20th of November 2020 under the theme: "Inclusive and sustainable industrialisation in the AfCFTA and COVID-19 era", Africa Industrialization Week Celebrations (AIW2020) will englobe a series of thematic sessions spread over five days along with high-level opening and closing ceremonies. This year's event will take place virtually, due to the COVID-19 as indicated above.

The current negative impacts of COVID-19 on global supply chains, global trade, and the attendant economic pressure Africa has had to bear, signals the urgency and significance of driving industrialisation on the continent. More fundamentally, the pandemic has openly exposed the hollowness of African economies on several fronts

including the fragility and weakness of Africa's industrial capabilities. While COVID-19 is creating a major economic and health crisis, it is also presenting an invaluable opportunity for the continent to re-configure its development narrative towards prioritization of initiatives that foster and accelerate Africa's industrialisation. As the AfCFTA comes into play, there is a significant opportunity for Africa's industrialisation and transformation agenda to be afforded a high ranking at the level of Member State, regional, continental as well as global stakeholders.

Such a focus will be key to accelerate efforts in a selected number of key policy areas such as energy and road infrastructure, trade facilitation, financial sector development, education development, agriculture transformation and technological transformation. Advancing the AfCFTA and Africa-Industrialization side-by-side with deliberate efforts to realize the mutually reinforcing interdependences between the two will provide Africa's critical success pillar and condition for Agenda 2063. This is critical in Africa's pursuit to create the much-needed jobs and entrepreneurship opportunities for local populations including the continent's micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). This is central in building public focus and hence ability of governments to provide for the welfare and livelihood needs of the population.

Without such a transition from commodities to value addition and economic diversification- including tradeable services, as well as embracing the rapidly evolving technologies, African economies will have limited room to grow national incomes, or expand fiscal space, further limiting scope to finance the expansion of the health care system. Thus, industrialisation holds the key towards building socio-economic resilience, and self-reliance in Africa. It is crucial in boosting the prospects for the continent's capacity to manage future pandemics and lingering diseases such as malnutrition-inflicted diseases, malaria and tuberculosis. More on the outcome of these weeklong activities will be available in our next issue.



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FOOTPRINT REPORT

# Health

Fostering Alignment between the SATBHSS and TIMS: progress made in implementation of TIMS 2

TB case finding among ASM communities

Removal of human rights and gender barriers

# Fostering Alignment between the SATBHSS and TIMS: progress made in implementation of TIMS 2

**T**uberculosis in Mines in Southern Africa (TIMS) programme emerged from a recognized need for a regionally coordinated response to the issue of Tuberculosis (TB) and related illnesses among mineworkers, ex-mineworkers and their families and communities. The programme began in January 2016 focused on developing infrastructure, processes and systems as part of a regional initiative to address the TB burden. Participating countries are: Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

The programme focus areas are :

- (i) TB Care & Prevention
- (ii) Health Information & M&E
- (iii) Community Response and Systems
- (iv) Programme management.

TIMS 2 which comes to an end on 31 December 2020, covers the period 2018 to 2020. A new Funding Request covering the period 2021-2023 which builds on the achievements and takes into account challenges faced by TIMS 2 has been submitted to the Global Fund.

To ensure alignment, mechanisms are in place to avoid duplication and ensure complementarity of interventions between the SATBHSS and the TIMS Initiative. Regular information sharing and joint planning between TIMS and SATBHSS have been maintained. It should be noted that, The Southern Africa Tuberculosis and Health Systems Support (SATBHSS) project aims at (i) improving the coverage and quality of TB control and occupational lung disease services; (ii) strengthening the regional capacity to manage the burden of TB and occupational lung diseases; and (iii) strengthening country-level and cross-border preparedness and response to disease outbreaks. More on the SATBHSS can be accessed on

the previous edition of the Footprint Report <https://www.nepad.org/publication/auda-nepad-impact-report-volume-3-october-2020>

Progress made in implementation of TIMS 2 include:

## Occupational Health Service Centres:

The OHSCs provide TB and other occupational health services mainly targeting ex-mineworkers and 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. OHSC and CSO activities resumed in June 2020, with a focus on re-orientation and re-training of OHSC and CSO staff vis-a-viz, business continuity under COVID-19.

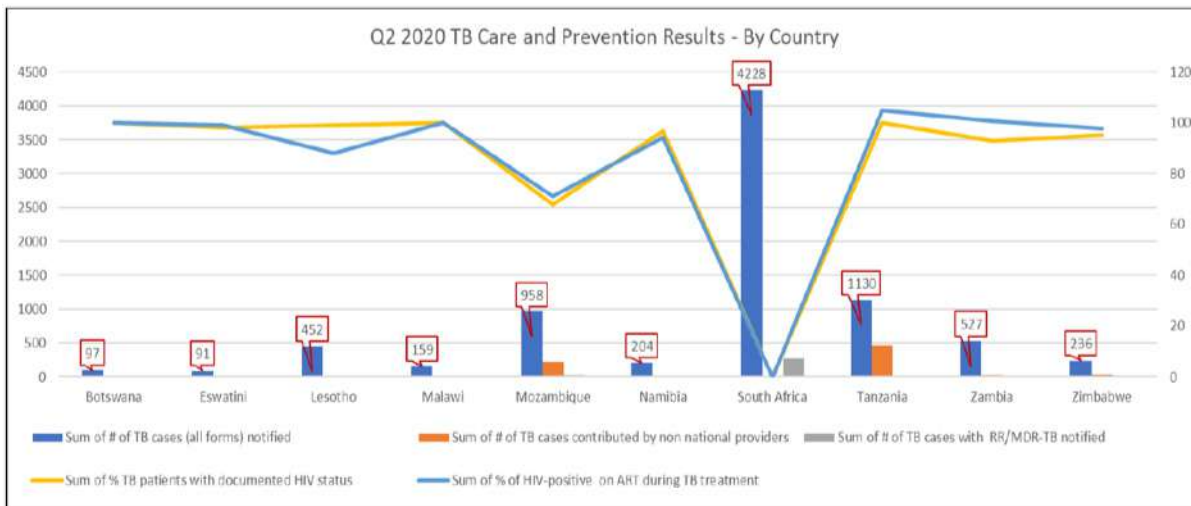
TIMS 2 also aims at transitioning the management of the OHSCs to countries to ensure ownership and sustainability. All 8 countries have established National OHSC Transition Planning and Coordination Committees (NOTPCC) to lead the transition process. Meanwhile, all countries are aware that funding for OHSCs by GF will end in December 2020 and are exploring country specific modalities for managing the centres from 2021.

## TB case detection and diagnosis

TIMS 2 supports countries to screen and diagnose TB cases among mining communities. It also enhances the diagnostic capacity of national programmes in the targeted districts through placement of GeneXpert in selected health facilities. Although contracting of SRs and SSRs was delayed and hence TB screening and diagnosis commenced in late 2019, 38% of the target was reached by December 2019. The screening of mining communities for TB will be strengthened in TIMS 3 through integrating regionally designed and agreed TB interventions into national TB programmes.

## Cross Border Referral System (CBRS)

The CBRS was developed to improve continuity of TB care among mobile/migrant mineworkers. Stage 1 roll out of CBRS has commenced in 5 countries (Eswatini, Lesotho, Mozambique and Zimbabwe). 10 health facilities in each country where CBRS will be installed have been identified, IT equipment have been delivered to the NTPs and training of HCWs will commence in September 2020. Countries in stage 2 roll out are in the process of selecting 10 health facilities each where CBRS will be installed. The process for handing over the CBRS to SADC Secretariat has been agreed and the TIMS programme is developing required documentation to facilitate the transfer of servers to SADC Secretariat. This process will be completed by December 2020.



## TB case finding among ASM communities

TIMS 2 is supporting mobile outreach clinics to provide TB screening and diagnosis services for ASM communities in Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Implementation of this interventions faced delays due to late identification of sub-recipients. The mobile clinic van has been procured for Tanzania and the process for procuring for Zimbabwe is on-going.

## Removal of human rights and gender barriers

Timely implementation of activities under this module was also affected by the delay in selection of SRs. Progress made so far include the design and implementation of SpotTB CLM tool in 5 countries - Botswana, Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Data from this tool has been disseminated to TB managers to address issues identified. In addition, in 2019, 77,806 and by August 2020, 145,819 people were provided information on TB and Occupational Health activities.

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](mailto: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](mailto:info@nepad.org)  
<https://www.nepad.org/>