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Preparing the Country-level Progress Reports on the Implementation of Agenda 2063



Overview and Purpose of the Guidelines:

These notes have been prepared to provide guidance to AU Member States in preparing their progress reports on the status of implementing Agenda 2063 and the emerging results. They form part of the tools and templates of a methodology for reporting on Agenda 2063 implementation.

Member States are encouraged to produce short narrative reports which will be presented at different platforms - sub-national, national, regional and continental level for purposes of collective reflection, learning, peer support and mutual accountability against the stipulated goals and targets in Agenda 2063.

The guidance notes place emphasis on referencing the narrative to the scores in the dashboard; in other words, the reports are expected to be framed as narrative explanations of the performance values depicted in the country dashboard. In the first iteration of the country reports, Member States are advised to keep the reports short and concise, espousing empirical assessments of progress made against selected major goals and associated measurement parameters.

Components of the Country Report

1.0 Brief of the country's Socio-economic Status

Provide a short narrative of the country's status on socio-economic aspects of development and the key instruments for programming and development planning.

2.0 Key strategies for Implementing Agenda 2063

Highlight the major strategies that the country has put in place to internalize, mainstream into National Development Policy and Planning Instruments, implement and report on Agenda 2063 First Ten year Implementation Plan. These strategies may be in the form of:

- Policy frameworks
- Institutional mechanisms
- Others

3.0 Country level Status on the Implementation of Agenda 2063 Goals

Provide a concise narrative of the status of implementation at goal level. This should essentially entail providing **short explanations to the scores** of strategic priority areas and targets contained **in the dashboard**. The narrative could include **major policy interventions** or **investments** in place, high impact **positive or negative occurrences**, as well as concrete **results**. Furthermore, an outline of **key opportunities, challenges** and **areas where support is required** on the specific goal or target can be included in the text.

For example, if the dashboard on goal 2 reads thus:

Goal 2: Well Educated Citizens and Skills revolution underpinned by Science, Technology and Innovation				
Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
1. Education and STI driven Skills Revolution	2.1.1 Enrolment rate for early childhood education is at least 300% of the 2013 rate	% of children in pre-school age attending pre school	11%	37%
	2.1.2 Enrolment rate for basic education is 100%	Net enrolment rate by Sex and age in basic education level	71%	
	2.1.3 Increase the number of qualified teachers by at least 30% with focus on STEM	Proportion of teachers qualified in Science or Technology or Engineering or Mathematics by Sex and Level (Primary and Secondary)	40%	
	2.1.4 Universal secondary school (including technical high schools) with enrolment rate of 100%	Secondary school net enrolment rate by Sex	28%	

The narrative text could be phrased as follows:

“Significant improvements have been made in improving net enrolment in basic education – inferred from a **71%** performance of the expected target. This is mainly attributed to the introduction of free Universal Primary Education (*the major intervention*) that has seen an increase of over 1.6 million children (*major result*) enrolled in primary schools.

However, the country is significantly lagging behind on attaining its 2021 expected pre-school targets; **the policy framework for early childhood education was endorsed only four years ago** in 2017, and substantial effects of its operationalisation will only be realised after a couple of years (*the explanation*). Similarly, limited progress has been registered on increasing the net enrolment rates at secondary school levels; while Government has consistently increased investments in secondary education facilities over the last 3 years, the cost of secondary school education continues to have a toll on enrolment figures (*the explanation*) – currently standing at **28%** of the 2021 expected value.

Support on designing innovative models and approaches (**the support required**) that provide access to credit or insurance facilities for secondary schooling will be helpful in fast tracking realisation of the country’s targets in secondary school enrolment.”

The narrative could focus on the most significant goals and the associated priority areas and targets that have high priority to the country; these, in most cases, should be areas that rank highly on the national development agenda of the respective country.

4.0 Responses to Covid -19 Pandemic

Provide a brief analysis of the impact of Covid-19 pandemic to the socio-economic progress of your country, and outline the major policy and implementation measures that have been put in place to mitigate the effects of the pandemic. The following questions may provide guidance in preparing this section of the report:

- How have shifts in investments directed towards addressing Covid-19 and its effects impacted other development outcomes of your country?
- What areas have been most affected by the fiscal policy response associated with the COVID-19 outbreak and response?
- What are the major challenges (please mention 3) the country is facing in the fight against Covid-19 and its effects?
- What policy and / or implementation measures has your country put in place to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 outbreak and its response?
- What are the 3 key lessons your country has learnt from the fight against Covid-19?

5.0 Challenges and Opportunities

Enumerate the **overarching challenges** of, and the **opportunities** for accelerating the implementation of Agenda 2063 in the country. Where applicable, outline the strategies or support required to harness the opportunities, in pursuit of Agenda 2063 targets that are embodied in the National Development Planning and Programming instruments.

6.0 Key lessons learnt and Best Practices

Enumerate the lessons that the country may have learnt during the processes of domesticating, implementing and / or reporting on Agenda 2063. These lessons could take the form of **positive** or **negative experiences, planned or unplanned occurrences**, or any evidence-informed advice that may help frame improvements in various aspects, such as the assessment processes, knowledge exchange and peer learning mechanisms of the implementation of Agenda 2063 at different levels.

Provide a brief narrative of 1 or 2 best practices identified in the process of implementing Agenda 2063. Please find more information in annex 2 of this document.

7.0 Conclusions

Provide short conclusions on the overall experiences and issues of high interest resulting from the country's implementation of Agenda 2063.

Annex 1: The Country Dashboard

Agenda 2063 First Ten Year Implementation (FTYIP) Progress Reporting Template			
Member State		3,6	
ASPIRATION 1: A PROSPEROUS AFRICA BASED ON INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT			
Goal 1: A High Standard of Living, Quality of Life and Well Being for All		Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Priority Area	Agenda 2063 Target		
1. Incomes, Jobs and decent work	1.1.1 Increase 2013 per capita income by at least 30%	61%	69%
	1.1.2 Reduce 2013 unemployment rate by at least 25%	89%	
	1.1.3 Reduce Youth and Women unemployment rate by 2% per annum	54%	
	1.1.4 Reduce 2013 unemployment rate for vulnerable groups by at least 25%	91%	
2. Poverty, Inequality and Hunger	1.2.1 Reduce 2013 income inequality level by at least 20%	0%	4%
	1.2.2 Reduce stunting in children to 10% and underweight to 5%.	0%	
	1.2.3 Reduce 2013 level of proportion of the population without access to safe drinking water by 95%.	13%	
3. Modern and Liveable Habitats and Basic Quality Services	1.3.1 Increase access and use of electricity and internet by at least 50% of the 2013 levels	83%	107%
		84%	
		153%	
Goal 2: Well Educated Citizens and Skills revolution underpinned by Science, Technology and Innovation			
1. Education and STI driven Skills Revolution	2.1.1 Enrolment rate for early childhood education is at least 300% of the 2013 rate	11%	37%
	2.1.2 Enrolment rate for basic education is 100%	71%	
	2.1.3 Increase the number of qualified teachers by at least 30% with focus on STEM	40%	
	2.1.4 Universal secondary school (including technical high schools) with enrolment rate of 100%	28%	

Annex 2: Best Practice Guidelines

Definition

A “best practice” is defined as a practice, technique or method that has proven to work well and produced good results and is therefore recommended as a model or benchmark.

Principles

- Provides a method or technique that has consistently shown good results compared with those achieved with other means;
- Provides a set of guidelines, ethics or ideas that represent the most efficient course of action;
- Is usually evidence-based and hence can be used as a benchmark;
- Can evolve to become better as improvements are discovered;
- Can be used to maintain high quality and efficiency.

Criteria

Identifying best practices involves judgement, which requires prior analysis using the following set of criteria: effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, ethical soundness, sustainability, denoting a high possibility of replication and upscaling, and with strong interest – promising the involvement of partners, the community and securing political commitment (Table 1). By definition, a best practice should meet at least the **effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, ethical soundness, and possibility of replication criteria**, in addition to a few other criteria highlighted in table 1 below.

Table 1. Best Practice Criteria

Criterion	Description
Effectiveness	This is a fundamental criterion implicit in the definition. The practice must work and achieve results that are measurable
Efficiency	The proposed practice must produce results with a reasonable level of resources and time
Relevance	The proposed practice must address the priority areas of current or potential users
Ethical soundness	The practice must respect the current rules of ethics for dealing with related socio-economic and people-centred development dynamics
Sustainability	The proposed practice, as carried out, must be implementable over a long period with the use of existing resources
Possibility of replication	The proposed practice, as carried out, must be replicable elsewhere in the Member State or region or continent
Involvement of partnerships	The proposed practice must involve satisfactory collaboration between several stakeholders
Community involvement	The proposed practice must involve the participation of the affected communities
Political commitment	The proposed practice must have support from the relevant national or local authorities

Table 2. Attributes of Best Practices

Criterion	Description
Credibility	Documented, sound evidence/results that can be advocated by respected persons or institutions
Observability	Potential users can see the results in practice, e.g. pilot/experimental or demonstration sites
Relevance	Addresses a persistent or serious problem or policy priority
Relative advantage	New practice offers a benefit over existing practices so that potential users are convinced that the costs of implementation are outweighed by the benefits
Easy to install and understand	Process of scaling up the practice is not complex and complicated, but rather simple
Compatibility	The practice fits well with the practices of the national programme and with the potential users' established values, norms and facilities
Testability	The practice can be tried out incrementally on a small pilot scale before large-scale adoption

Table 3. Outline for Documenting Best Practices

Item	Description
Title of the best practice	Catchy and easy-to-understand the description of the practice
Brief description	<p>This should provide the context of and justification for the practice, and address the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was the problem that needed to be addressed? • Where was the best practice implemented? • Which population was affected, and where? • What was the practice set out to do? • What results were achieved?
Detailed description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the problem being addressed? • Which population is being affected? • How did the problem impact the population? • What were the objectives and targets of implementing the best practice?
Implementation of the practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were the main activities carried out? • When and where were the activities carried out? • Who were the key implementers and collaborators? • What resources were used?
Results of the practice to date – Outputs and Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were the concrete results achieved with regard to: • A) outputs (immediate) and

- B) outcomes (changes in target population's practices)?
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Lessons learnt and success factors

- Was an in-depth review, assessment or evaluation of the practice carried out? If yes:
- What worked really well – and what facilitated this?
- What did not work – why did it not work?
- What could have been done better or differently?
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Innovation and Adaptation

- What are the 3 to 5 key features of the practice that make it stand-out as a best practice?
- How has the practice contributed to innovations in the thematic or geographical area of operation?
- To what extent is the target population embracing and assimilating the new practice – as an innovation in its socio-economic development pursuit?

Recommendations

- What are the key considerations if the practice is to be replicated elsewhere successfully?
- What are the conditions (institutional, economic, social, and environmental) that need to be in place for the good practice to be successfully replicated (in a similar context)?

Contact details

- Contact details of the “owners”, implementing institutions of the best practice

Further reading

Provide a list of references and source documents (e.g. URL) that give additional information on the “best practice” for those who may be interested in knowing how the results benefited the Member State.