



HABARI

August - September 2021
Newsletter



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AUDA-NEPAD 100kW Solar, Water Supply and Irrigation Project in Sierra Leone Completed

In November 2020, a contract was awarded to Aptech Africa Limited by the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD to construct and install a 100 kW Solar Pv power generating solution in Sierra Leone. The project was embarked on to provide access to clean water and climate smart technology hydroponic/aquaponic/drip irrigation, with the systems reticulated for the support of primary health care to Njala University Hospital, the Njala community, staff and students, as well as training of ground personnel for its operation, maintenance, repair and sustainability. This project has now been successfully completed.

Programme Officer for Energy Infrastructure at AUDA-NEPAD, Mr Benjamin Akobundu explained that the project entailed drilling a borehole with an overhead reservoir storage facility for a solar-powered drinking water supply to both the University Hospital, its students and the Mokonde Community.

The project also saw the construction of a 20 x 50-meter greenhouse for

vegetable crop cultivation. In addition, a second borehole was drilled for a solar-powered water supply for drip irrigation both in the greenhouse and in a one-hectare crop field at the lower nursery of Njala University. This also included the construction of water storage tanks so as to have gravity flow through a pipe network to the Mokonde Community and then through a drip line network to the greenhouse and crop field.

The completion phase of this project saw the new borehole drilled and a tower built for the whole irrigation water source development that was completed in early April 2021, including the installation and integration of the solar system to drive the irrigation technology.

Mr Akobundu reports that, “The construction of the water supply system consisting of tank towers, pipelines, tap stands et cetera was started in January 2021 and completed in late February, with the water system tested at a laboratory and certified safe for drinking and crop consumption, in compliance with WHO standards. It started supplying water to

the hospital, students and community, as early as February 2021.”

As of today, the whole works are completed and all the three systems: PV plant with containerized energy storage system including inverters and batteries, water supply system, and drip irrigation system are all up and running properly with reticulation to the primary health care centre. By mid-June 2021, all installations with the entire system components were completed and the hospital was powered. The system was tested and is performing very well.

The next activity to be undertaken under this project is an inspection by the AUDA-NEPAD inspection team, led by the Environmental Sustainability Division in collaboration with the service provider, Ministry of Energy, Planning, Agriculture and National Project Steering Committee of Sierra Leone with the facility commissioning and handover.



Installed solar Pv System



Installed borehole with over head reservoir system integrated and driven by the energy system



Installed greenhouse with irrigation system integrated and driven by the water supply from the borehole



Installed borehole with over head reservoir system integrated and driven by the energy system

SIF COLLABORATION WITH AUDA-NEPAD TO ENHANCE INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY IN AFRICA



- Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki
CEO, AUDA-NEPAD

“The AUDA-NEPAD’s PIDA Quality Label reflects projects’ adherence to international best practices in infrastructure development. Building synergies between the PIDA Quality Label and SOURCE is an excellent opportunity to support project preparation and enhance infrastructure delivery in Africa.”



SIF is pleased to announce the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding with AUDA-NEPAD. This collaboration will combine AUDA-NEPAD’s knowledge with SOURCE’s functionalities supporting African governments in the development of well-prepared and sustainable pipelines of infrastructure projects.

The establishment of the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD) is part of the global reforms geared at improving the Union’s impact and operational efficiency. The mandate of AUDA-NEPAD is to coordinate and execute priority regional and continental projects to promote regional integration towards the accelerated realisation of Agenda 2063, and to strengthen capacity of African Union Member States and regional bodies by providing knowledge-based advisory support, resource mobilisation and technical interface with all Africa’s development stakeholders. The PIDA Quality Label (PQL) is a quality recognition by the AUDA-NEPAD Service Delivery Mechanism (SDM). It is awarded to projects that excel in the preparation of PIDA projects at an early stage.

“The AUDA-NEPAD’s PIDA Quality Label (PQL) reflects projects’ adherence to international best practices in infrastructure development and provides African Governments with a framework to achieve excellence throughout the projects’ definition and preparation phases. Building synergies between the PIDA Quality Label and SOURCE is an excellent opportunity to support project preparation and enhance infrastructure delivery in Africa.” Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, CEO, AUDA-NEPAD.

SOURCE is the multilateral platform for sustainable infrastructure led and funded by the MDBs and implemented by the Sustainable Infrastructure Foundation (SIF). SOURCE is a global and scalable IT platform, hosted by the United Nations, acting as a unique delivery system for the world’s best practices in infrastructure project preparation. Its structured data-based approach is designed to strengthen accountability, transparency and help informed decision-making against local, regional and global standards. As part of the MoU, AUDA-NEPAD will collaborate with SIF to link the Virtual PIDA Information Centre (VPIC) with SOURCE as well as to include instruments such as the SDM and PQL into the SOURCE project assessment module.

“AUDA-NEPAD’s unique network and expertise combined with the multilateral platform SOURCE’s unique features will give governments control over the creation of their pipelines of sustainable and well-prepared projects.” Christophe Dossarps, SIF, CEO.

Safiyya Daba: Nigerian amateur photographer who won Agenda 2063 Photojournalism Award

By Adam Alqali

Safiyya Daba, a Nigerian amateur photographer cum techie, was one of the winners at the recently held Agenda 2063 Africa Photojournalism Awards, an initiative of African Women in Media (AWiM), in collaboration with African Union and German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ/GmbH).



When Safiyya Daba, a trained nurse turned rookie photographer, shot her would-be award-winning photograph at the onset of the 2019 harmattan season in remote rural parts of Kano, Nigeria's second city, she had no inkling how far the picture would travel and how it was going to transform her amateur photography carrier.

Daba's snapshot of a shirtless teenage boy scooping water from a stream in rural Kano eventually won in the Agriculture, Rural Environment, Land Rights and Skills Development Category of the Agenda 2063 Africa Photojournalism Awards for African Female Journalists. The Awards is an initiative of the African Women in Media (AWiM), an international nonprofit focused on impacting the way media functions in relation to African women, in collaboration with the African Union and the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ/GmbH).

Now in her mid-twenties, the cub photographer had in 2020 graduated with Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) in Maradi, around 150 miles northwest of Kano across the border in Niger Republic. A passionate techie,

Daba is a member of Google Developer Groups (GDGs), a cluster of developers interested in Google's developer technology. She also leads the Women Techmakers initiative in Kano; created by Google to provide visibility, community, and resources for women in technology.

From Nursing to Photography

Although she majored in clinical nursing at the university, Daba's passion was far away from the hospital; she subsequently found herself in vocations that are not even remotely connected to her course of specialization. "Nursing was my major at Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) but it wasn't my major at heart. My mum wanted me to read something to do with health sciences. I dropped nursing to join the tech ecosystem for the passion I have for Information Technology," the registered nurse told African Newspaper.

As fate would have it, in November 2019 Daba became one of twenty select young people from across Northern Nigeria to participate in a 5-day photo-camp in Kano, led by world-renowned National Geographic (NG) photographers. The participants were trained in media literacy, storytelling, digital photography as well as photojournalism, as part of the Visual Storytelling Fellowship by the global nonprofit Equal Access International (EAI), aimed at empowering the region's youth to become engaged citizens, visual storytellers, and peacebuilders.

Daba's participation in the photo-camp ignited an undying passion for photography in her. "Most of our facilitators were women, seeing how far they had gone in their photography carriers inspired me to begin to take pictures in my community. I decided not to let others tell our story but to tell it from my own perspective.

Therefore, immediately after my training with National Geographic, I decided to embark on a tour around Kano state, to learn about the communities and take as many pictures as I could," she recalls.

It was in the course of her photography tour around Kano that Daba shot her award-winning picture of the teenage boy fetching water from a stream to water his family's plantation in Takai, 50 miles east of Kano.

The Agenda 2063 Africa Photojournalism Awards

The Agenda 2063 Africa Photojournalism Awards is part of the Agenda 2063 Africa Photojournalism Project for African Female Journalists, an initiative of AWiM in collaboration with AU and the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ/GmbH). The awards ceremony, which held virtually on 28 July, recognized and celebrated outstanding female journalists whose photo submissions were assessed against varied categories in accordance with the goals and aspirations of Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want.

Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want is the blueprint for transforming Africa into the global powerhouse of the future. Set to be achieved within a 50-year period (2013–2063), Agenda 2063 is Africa's preeminent framework whose major goal is bringing about the continent's inclusive and sustainable development.

Accordingly, the Agenda 2063 Africa Photojournalism Awards is meant to transform and change narratives and stereotypes about Africa and Africans as well as inculcating the spirit of Pan Africanism as envisioned in Aspiration 5 of Agenda 2063. It seeks to achieve that by tapping into the artistic and creative fundamentals of journalism to portray

Africa's diversity, rich heritage, cultural diversity as well as the continent's economic and social transformation being led by Africans, in line with the AU theme for the year 2021: "Art's Culture and Heritage: Levers for Building the Africa We Want."

"African journalists have a key role to play in defining Africa's development narrative and how we want Africans and the world to view the continent. Photojournalism is a significant lever for storytelling and this project aims to showcase the work undertaken by journalists to capture the stories of this continent through powerful, compelling imagery and also to provide them with the technical training and skills that will enhance their ability to do their work;" said Leslie Richer, the African Union Director for Information and Communication.

Winning the award

AWiM, AU and GIZ believe in the power of pictures to reflect everyday life experiences of Africans and as a valuable tool for storytelling, hence the launch of the Agenda 2063 Photojournalism Project

for African Female Journalists. The Project also aims to build the capacity of African female journalists to enable them enhance their craft and storytelling ability through the use of imagery.

Daba, who learnt about the Awards from a fellow participant at the EAI-NG photo-camp said her participation in the award programme was the first time she was competing in a photography competition. Thus, when she received an email from AWiM informing her she had emerged among the finalists, she was as shocked as she was elated. "When I was announced a winner on the day of the awards ceremony I couldn't believe my eyes and ears. It was such a great honour competing alongside professional photographers and photojournalists; I was really humbled."

Other award winners included Fardosa Hussein (Africa's young research excellence and innovative solution building); Arlette Bashizi (Good governance: Human rights, justice and rule of law); as well as Vanessa Chebet (Regional economic integration, transport and information structure). In addition, there were Miriam Watsemba (Silencing

the Guns in Africa: Conflict prevention and transformation, mediation); and Shirah Paul Mukama (Democracy and digitalization).

No doubt, winning the Agenda 2063 Africa Photojournalism Award has transformed young Daba's fledgling photography career. "Winning the award is really a great achievement for me, it has inspired me to want to take more pictures that will promote positive change in my society. I also want to encourage more women from Northern Nigeria to break this barrier of women not going into photography which is viewed as 'men's occupation.'"



Daba's award-winning picture of a teenage boy fetching water from a stream to water his family's plantation in Takai, 50 miles east of Kano.

Kaizen - Opportunities to Accelerate Industrialization and Trade in Africa

The Africa Kaizen Annual Conference took place this year as a hybrid event, under the theme Opportunities to Accelerate Industrialization and Trade in Africa: Streamlining Kaizen/Quality and Productivity Improvement (QPI) with Digital Technologies, Start-ups, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SME) Development, and Home-Grown Economic Activities in Africa. The theme reflected the imperative to address the ongoing negative impacts of COVID-19 and to realise the opportunities presented by the Kaizen approach.

Mr Shinichi Goto, Ambassador of Japan to Tanzania, "Once fully operational, the African Continental Free Trade Area will bring great benefits to Africa. I am convinced that it is very important for the AfCTFA to be conducive to private sector and SMES to bring benefits to the continent. Despite the COVID pandemic, African economies have remained resilient. It is projected by the AFDB that the continent will grow by 3.6% in 2022. I must point out that Japan's growth was brought on largely by SMEs. Today, there is need to deepen quality and productivity. Kaizen is not just a method, but a way to change mindsets to improve productivity."

In a message delivered on behalf of Hon. Prof. Kitilya Mkumbo, Minister for Industry and Trade in Tanzania Mainland, Mr William Tate Olenasha, Deputy Minister, PMO Investment reiterated that the Africa Kaizen Annual Conference was an important forum for building momentum in changing mindsets and strengthening institutions towards improved productivity and quality.

The highlights of the Kaizen activities undertaken in the last eight months of 2021 were shared by Dr Ibrahim Mayaki, CEO of the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD.

"Despite the extraordinary pressure of COVID-19, encouraging results were achieved. From the reports of six countries, a total of 831 Managers, 4089 workers, 720 MSMES, and 100 large Enterprises benefited from the training provided over different digital platforms. In addition, the tangible and intangible achievements demonstrated by those competing for the 2021 Africa Kaizen Awards last week, illustrate the opportunities offered by Kaizen to realize the GDP growth aspirations that we seek as a continent," said Dr Mayaki.

Dr Mayaki also pointed out that the Kaizen/ Quality and Productivity Improvement approach plays a catalytic role in transforming and enhancing key elements of competitiveness that are critical for Africa to attain its Industrialisation aspirations as envisaged under Agenda 2063. He emphasised the need for countries to adapt to the current circumstances faced by the continent and address the emerging imperative of job creation through support for the development of the continent's MSMES. Dr Mayaki noted further that Kaizen is critical to the realization of productivity goals; enhancing the skills of workers; enhancing decent workspaces; increasing local investments and attracting FDIs.

"Kaizen quality and productivity also helps to modernize productivity across value chains, fostering competitive industries. It also leads to the explicit improvement of competitiveness and productivity for MSMES towards the realization of real benefits," Dr Mayaki stated.

Mrs Ron Osman Omar, representative of the Department of Economic Development, Trade, Industry and Mining, at the Africa Union Commission provided introductory remarks at the opening session, stating that, "The African Union is a supporter of Kaizen and we continue to see benefits across the continent by those countries that have adopted it." "Productivity has always been acknowledged as a key driver for growth [...] but challenges need to be addressed. Creating a culture of productivity and changing mindsets is what it is all about," she added.

The Africa Kaizen Annual Conference is an important platform to deliberate on several issues to improve the performance of Africa Kaizen Initiative activities. The topics selected for this year's conference will contribute to continental, regional and national industrial policy frameworks in at least in two ways:

First, by highlighting the ways in which Kaizen knowledge, systems and improvement toolkits could enhance the efforts by countries towards the development of home-grown solutions and economic reforms. This could facilitate the uptake and customization of successful lessons and best practices on quality and productivity improvement from elsewhere, within the contexts of Africa.

Second, by discussing key dimensions for Africa's industrial development including: the role of Quality and Productivity Improvement for regional connectivity and trade promotion; accelerating Manufacturing and Trade within the digital era; standardization and conformity of products/services in Africa; strengthening competitiveness of enterprises in Africa; and the role of stakeholders such as government, financial institutions, regulatory bodies and the private sector.

The Africa Kaizen Awards 2021, have also proven to be a useful platform to promote Kaizen/Quality and Productivity Improvement activities. The awards have helped to motivate countries implementing Kaizen projects, as well as those who are members of the Pan-African Productivity Association, to learn from the experiences of the awardees and improve on their future activities.

The collaboration among AUDA-NEPAD, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Government of the Union of Tanzania to successfully host the 2021 Africa Kaizen Annual Conference and Awards has built momentum towards effective implementation of the continent's strategies, particularly in the manufacturing sector, and to achieving Africa's aspirations for improved quality and productivity over the long term.

Partnership launched to convene International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa



In The African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), along with the United Nations Development Programme UNDP, United Nations Children's Fund - UNICEF, African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), African Development Bank, Global Centre on Adaptation (GCA), and Global Water Partnership (GWP) established a partnership to mobilize international commitment for water investments and SDGs in Africa.

The partners adopted a resolution to convene an International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa on 12 August 2021.

The International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa will drive global political mobilization and

international engagement to narrow the water investment gap in Africa and meet the social-economic needs for water on the continent. Its goal is to improve the investment outlook for climate resilient gender transformative water security and sustainable sanitation and address the twin challenge of climate change and the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Panel will support the Continental Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP) goal of leveraging US\$ 30 billion annually in climate-resilient water investments by 2030.

"The call for the establishment of the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa originated at the Africa Regional Forum-Water Dialogue for Results convened by AMCOW, and the

Governments of Germany, South Africa, and Senegal, and supported by GWP Africa, on 26 May 2021," said Mr. Thomas Banda, Acting Executive Secretary of AMCOW.

Africa's call for the Panel was reiterated at the High-Level Ministerial Conference in Bonn on 1 July 2021, which is part of the official UN preparatory process for the Mid-term Review of the UN Water Action Decade in 2023.

Prof. Dr. Patrick Verkooijen, CEO of GCA, welcomed the partnership and said: "The GCA will leverage the Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program that was recently jointly launched with the AfDB and which commits to mobilize US\$ 25 billion in climate finance by 2025, of which at least

50% (US\$ 12.5 billion) will support climate adaptation and resilience building.”

“The urgency of the compounded COVID-19 and climate crises requires accelerated momentum to mobilize water investments in Africa’s climate adaptation efforts,” added Prof. Verkooijen.

Urgent action to narrow water investment gap in Africa required

“The water investment gap is largest in Africa, with Sub-Saharan Africa requiring most urgent action, as delivery of water investments is lagging behind economic and social needs to meet the 2025 Africa Water Vision of Water Security for All, the 2030 SDG 6 on water and sanitation, and related targets,” Mr. Banda added.

Current water and sanitation sector investment in Africa stands at between US\$ 10 billion – US\$ 19 billion, according to the Infrastructure Consortium for Africa. The African Development Bank estimates that US\$ 64 billion should be invested annually to meet the 2025 Africa Water Vision.

“AMCOW’s Governance Council recognized the critical water security challenge Africa faces when it adopted a Decision for transformation of Africa’s water investment outlook through increased partnerships and implementation of an African Water Investment Programme (AIP) in February 2019,” said Mr. Banda.

The Panel will develop a high-level report and investment plan for the United Nations and African Union Heads of States with recommendations for countries to mobilise US\$ 30 billion worth of investments each year towards the water infrastructure gap and requirements of US\$ 64 billion per year to meet the Africa Water Vision 2025 and contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

The Panel will serve for a duration of 12 months and will be made up of fifteen representatives drawn from the current and former Heads of States of Africa as well as internationally, captains of industry, foundation leaders, and other influential personalities.

The Panel is expected to be launched in the final quarter of 2021.

Partners confirmed commitment to Panel

Dr. Kelly Ann Naylor, Director for WASH at UNICEF, confirmed UNICEF’s readiness to convene the panel and emphasized the importance of scaling up investments for climate resilient WASH with a particular focus on fragile countries and adaptation programmes in the WASH sector.

Dr. Pradeep Kurukulasuriya, Director of Global Environmental Finance at UNDP affirmed the organization’s commitment to the panel and readiness to explore global finance mechanisms that would support implementation of the recommendations of the panel to mobilise investments.

Dr. Towela Nyirenda-Jere, Head of Economic Integration at AUDA-NEPAD said “The panel’s work will contribute to and elevate ongoing efforts by AUDA-NEPAD to accelerate the implementation of transboundary water projects under the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA).”

The AIP was adopted by African Union Heads of State as part of Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA)’s second Priority Action Plan in February 2021.

Mr. Boniface Aleobua of the African Development Bank said that the panel would need to look into ways to unlock bottlenecks that obstruct countries from accelerating preparation of bankable projects and credible pipelines for water investments.

Mr. Dario Soto Abril, CEO of GWP, welcomed the resolution for a partnership to convene the panel.

“The panel’s goal aligns to GWP’s strategy of mobilising for a water secure world, which aims to influence more than €10 billion in water-related investments over the next six years and significantly advance the water-related SDGs,” Mr. Soto Abril said

The Panel’s work will be supported by a joint virtual secretariat, hosted by the AIP Technical Support Unit hosted by GWP Africa Coordination office in Pretoria, South Africa and will include focal points

comprised from the convenors: AMCOW, UNDP, UNICEF, GWP Africa, GCA, AfDB, and AUDA-NEPAD.

Alex Simalabwi, Head of the Joint Secretariat for the Panel and Executive Secretary of GWP Africa Coordination Unit that supported AMCOW in facilitating the virtual meeting to adopt the resolution for the panel establishment, confirmed that the budget for the panel’s work had been mobilised with contributions from the convenors saying, “The adoption of the resolution paves the way for the founding convenors to proceed with establishment of the panel.”

Call for support to international community

In their resolution, the convening partners called upon UN agencies, development finance institutions, heads of government, international organisations, private sector, civil society, and other stakeholders in Africa and globally to support the partnership for the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa.

ECOWAS in Collaboration with AUDA-NEPAD Trains Border Officials Towards the Operationalization of Ekok/Mfum Joint Border Post between the Republic of Cameroon and Federal Republic of Nigeria

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Commission in collaboration with African Union Development Agency- AUDA-NEPAD commences the training of border officials as part of the operationalization process under the Nigeria-Cameroon Multinational Highway and Transport Facilitation Programme.

The training forms part of the capacity building programme under the MoveAfrica Traffic Light System – TLS. As the continent is geared towards trading under the AfCFTA, efficient borders are critical to the success of the AfCFTA. To that effect the TLS has been positioned as a tool that is necessary for RECs and member states to use to track the status of borders in-terms of efficiency when it comes to processing cross-border trade.

The training which was held at Transcorp Hilton Hotel, Abuja Nigeria from 10th -12th August 2021, also featured the establishment of the Ekok/Mfum Joint Management Committee (JMC) for the border post which will be co-chaired by the ministries in charge of transports of the two partner States.

In attendance at the meeting were Stakeholders from Cameroon, Nigeria, ECOWAS, AFREXIMBANK, UNECA, AUDA-NEPAD, Zimborders and ECCAS.

Representing the ECOWAS Commission's Commissioner for Infrastructure, Pathe Gueye, at the meeting, Mr. Ashoke Maliki, PPO, Roads & Railways and Project Manager of the Programme from the Department of Infrastructure highlighted the objectives of the Joint Border Post concept which is basically to strengthen the coordination and streamline procedural processes at the JBP with a view to enhance better sharing of data, revenue generation, and facilitate trade across borders.

He further emphasized that the successes of the Ekok/Mfum Joint Border Post relies



heavily on the implementation of the Bilateral Agreement that clearly define their duties and what are expected of the Border Officials on the JBP. He therefore called on the JMC to study the Bilateral Agreement for better understanding of their roles and responsibilities. He concluded by urging the JMC to also study and sensitize transporters on the signed Axle Load Control Agreement between Nigerian and Cameroonian for better movement of goods across the border.

In their remarks, the representative from AUDA-NEPAD emphasized on the mandate of AUDA to promote regional projects and to work with RECs and member states in doing so, and secondly to mobilise a full range of resources to promote regional projects. Therefore the work of the Agency through its MoveAfrica programme is to develop tools to support RECs and member states as efforts are being made to expedite efficiencies along border posts. The engagement of MoveAfrica with the RECs is a clear demonstration on how AUDA-NEPAD is also engaging with the RECs in dealing with strategic and critical issues

pertaining to regional integration. At the same time the Agency is equipping the RECs with the necessary tools in the long run.

Training of the border officials was drawn from the experiences from East African as well as from the Zimborders.

The training ended with the emphases on continuous training of border officials to ensure better understanding of JBP concept. The Ekok/Mfum Joint Border Post between Nigeria and Cameroon is expected to be fully operationalization in December, 2021, with the handover of the facility to both governments in a groundbreaking ceremony. AUDA-NEPAD through MoveAfrica is expected to continue to mobilise resources to ensure that the border from the onset acts as a benchmark in-terms of how Joint Border Posts also known as One Stop Border Posts ought to operate and in this case being a border that adjoins two regions ECOWAS and ECCAS respectively.

Upcoming Events

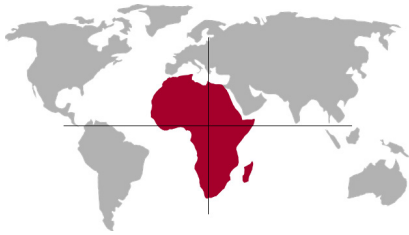
16 September 2021: 2nd AIP Water Investment Scorecard Stakeholder Consultation

The second Pan-African Stakeholder Consultation for the development of the AIP Water Investment Scorecard will take place under the leadership of the AUDA-NEPAD and the African Ministers' Council on Water. The AIP Water Investment Scorecard will raise awareness among African Heads of State and government decisions makers on the need to address the water investment gap by tracking progress and to sustain political and leadership commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 6 on water and sanitation. The objectives of the Second Pan-African Stakeholder Consultation are to update stakeholders on the objectives and rationale of the AIP Water Investment Scorecard, present the overall Theory of Change and seek stakeholder input on the potential thematic areas, indicators, and data sources for the AIP Water Investment Scorecard. Translation in French will be available. [REGISTER HERE](#)

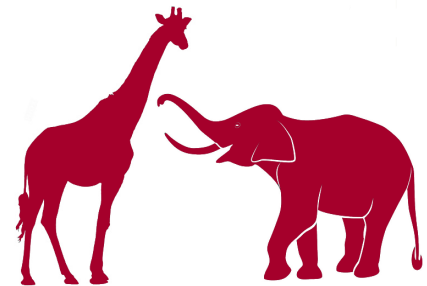
22 - 23 September 2021: The 5th Calestous Juma Executive Dialogue on Innovation and Emerging Technologies (CJED)

The African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) through its Calestous Juma Executive Dialogue on Innovation and Emerging Technologies (CJED) will hold a two-day virtual consultation on 22-23 September 2021. The fifth in the series of the CJED will be under the theme "Effectively harnessing Africa's Health Research, Investment and Innovation in Addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic". Participants will include senior executives, policy and decision makers, experts from various development sectors, academics, innovators and other relevant stakeholders. [REGISTER HERE](#)

Tourism Month: Did you know?



Africa is the most centrally located of all the continents. The prime meridian (the Greenwich meridian) 0° passes through the Atlas Mountains and cuts through the coast of West Africa close to Accra, while the Equator (latitude 0 degrees) also divides the continent into 2 equal parts North and South.



Both the **world's tallest and largest land animals come from Africa.** They are the giraffe and African elephant, respectively

Africa has the **shortest coastline despite being the second largest continent** in the world



Around **2,000 different languages** are spoken in **Africa** and each of them have different dialects while Arabic is the language that is most widely spoken in the African continent. **One in every four of the world's languages are spoken only in Africa.**



Africa has a pink lotus in Senegal, Lake Retba.

HABARI

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