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# The COP26 Africa Needs

By Akinwumi A. Adesina, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Vera Songwe, Ibrahim Assane Mayaki

*As world leaders head to Glasgow for the United Nations Climate Change Conference, Africa needs decisive collective action rather than more encouraging words. In particular, rich countries should support a four-part financial and trade package that can ensure a transformative shift of resources to the region.*

Almost two years into the COVID-19 pandemic, the unequal nature of the global response to the crisis is glaringly obvious. Whereas very few African countries have managed to spend the equivalent of even 1% of their GDP to combat this virtually unprecedented health emergency, Western economies have mustered over \$10 trillion, or 30% of their combined GDP, to tackle it. Europe and the United States have fully vaccinated, respectively, 75% and 70% of their adult populations against COVID-19, but fewer than 6% of Africans have been vaccinated. And while some Western countries are already administering booster shots, Africa cannot get initial doses.

This systemic inequity is equally evident in efforts to address the climate crisis. Climate disasters, like viruses, know no boundaries. But whereas governments in the Global North respond to such events by borrowing on capital markets at negligible cost in order to finance stimulus and investment packages, African countries must rely on either a trickle of liquidity through debt-suspension initiatives, aid pledges, or exorbitantly expensive capital-market funding. None of these options currently provide these economies with the upfront capital investment they need to improve their long-term prospects.

As world leaders head to Glasgow for the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26), Africa needs decisive collective action rather than more encouraging words. We therefore propose a strategic financial and trade package that can transform climate inequality into inclusiveness by ensuring



a transformative shift of resources from historic greenhouse-gas (GHG) emitters to Africa.

Our plan rests on four pillars. First, developed economies must keep the promise they made in the 2015 Paris climate agreement to deliver \$100 billion per year to help cover developing countries' adaptation and transition costs. After all, the commitments that developing countries made in Paris were conditional on this pledge. Failure to fulfill this overdue commitment now, with half of the \$100 billion earmarked for adaptation costs, will undermine the very principle of multilateral action. It is a provision in an international agreement, and it must be honored.

The fact that the developed world mobilized \$10 trillion to counter the pandemic in 2020 alone demonstrates just how small an amount \$100 billion per year really is. Yet, in that same period, official development assistance increased by only 3.5% in real terms.

The second pillar is to align financial markets with the Paris agreement's goals.

Mainstreaming the impact of climate change in investment decisions is critical, and judicious deployment of private capital in green sectors will transform African countries and developing economies in general. To that end, the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero, chaired by former Bank of England Governor Mark Carney, has brought together firms with a combined \$90 trillion in assets.





There must now be an urgent and determined effort to channel this private finance into growing climate-friendly sectors in Africa and other developing countries. With that in mind, the UN Economic Commission for Africa earlier this year proposed a liquidity and sustainability facility that aims to reduce borrowing costs linked to green investments by developing a repurchasing (“repo”) market for the continent. The initiative, which ideally will be financed through seed funding of \$3 billion in special drawing rights (the International Monetary Fund’s reserve asset), is intended to de-risk private investments in Africa and help the region increase its share – currently less than 1% – of the global green bond market.

The Republic of South Africa recently issued a R3 billion (\$196 million) green bond to refinance its energy sector. Such issuances are an example of the type of investment that is possible by unlocking bond markets for Africa. We need to make such investments the rule rather than the exception.

In addition, the African Development Bank (AfDB) Group has proposed establishing an African Financial Stability Mechanism. Such a scheme will help prevent future financial shocks in Africa – the only continent without a Regional Financing Arrangement – from having spillover effects.

The third pillar is to provide the significant resources Africa needs to enable its economies to adapt to global warming. Climate change is costing the continent \$7-15 billion annually and threatens both food security and the use of hydropower. But Sub-Saharan Africa, which accounts for less than 4% of global GHG emissions, receives just 5% of total climate finance outside the OECD.

Instead of simply waiting for such financing to materialize, Africa is tackling climate adaptation head-on with homegrown solutions. The AfDB currently devotes 63% of its climate finance to adaptation, the highest share of any multilateral financial institution, and has committed to double such funding to \$25 billion by 2025. The AfDB and the Global Center on Adaptation have also created the Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program (AAP) to help scale up bankable adaptation investments in the region. The mobilization of \$25 billion via the AAP will be a first step toward investing in a green recovery for Africa.

Lastly, any solution to climate change must address trade, the lifeblood of the global economy. The key to ending our current economic malaise is to ensure continued openness and predictability, including by committing to global trade rules that are aligned with the Paris agreement’s goals.

Regional blocs such as the newly formed African Continental Free Trade Area can provide an impetus for hardwiring our commitment to low-carbon development. We must recognize Africa’s specific needs, acknowledge the continent’s vulnerability to climate change, and identify the regions and communities where its consequences have caused the most harm.

Next year’s UN climate summit, COP27, will take place in Africa, and we look forward to welcoming the world. But developed countries must fulfill their longstanding climate promises to the region well before then – starting in Glasgow.

Development; Science, Technology and Innovation; Economic Integration, Macroeconomics and Governance Policy; Wealth Creation - Industrialization.

A previous MoU signed with ECA during the time of the then NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) entered into force in October 2014 for three years, with possibility to be extended for two more years. The same will apply to the new MoU.

**Source: Project Syndicate**

# Spotlight on Infrastructure Development in Africa at Expo 2020

The first ever stocktake of restoring Africa's forests and landscapes, launched during Africa Climate Week, shows that more needs to be done to fully tap the enormous opportunity for the continent to return land to sustainable production, protect biodiversity, and shield livelihoods in the battle against climate change.

The conference on Infrastructure Development in Africa at Expo 2020 featured high-level personalities and thought leaders from the continent, articulating the African vision for transformational infrastructure, while engaging stakeholders on the effective delivery of infrastructure and energy in Africa.

"We believe that Africa's better days lie ahead of us. Appropriate infrastructure is a prerequisite for implementing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). However, the lack of well-prepared and bankable infrastructure projects has been a major constraint. This is why we are working with AUDA-NEPAD, AfDB and other partners in the NEPAD Project Preparation Facility, encouraging strategic partnerships with the private sector," Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga, the AU Higher Representative on Infrastructure Development in Africa stated, during the opening session of the event.

Dr Ibrahim Mayaki, the AUDA-NEPAD CEO, remarked that "Infrastructure is not about economic transformation alone, but the transformation of people's livelihoods," in agreement with Mr Atef Marzouk, Ag. Director of I&E at the AUC, who also emphasised that infrastructure development is not an end in itself, but a means to an end.

The conference highlighted, among others, the recently adopted Second Phase of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA-PAP2). "Before the onset of PIDA, regional infrastructure projects were not prioritised. When we moved from PIDA Priority Action Plan 1 to PIDA Priority Action Plan 2, we took on a corridor approach, in order for us to think beyond country boundaries. The



corridor approach is the main change in paradigm in our continent's infrastructure development. Africa is therefore ready for investment – it has gone through a process of consultation, prioritisation and development of tools with strong political will," Dr Mayaki said.

The second PIDA Priority Action Plan, known as PIDA-PAP 2 (2021-2030) has adopted the Integrated Corridor Approach, a multi-infrastructure corridor approach to infrastructure development that works toward a more prosperous Africa by emphasising projects that maximise job creation and climate friendliness. The approach also contributes to continental integration by prioritising projects that improve connectivity between urban and rural areas and link different infrastructure sectors. Mr Symerre Grey-Johnson, AUDA-NEPAD's Director of Technical Cooperation and Programme Funding, AUDA-NEPAD pointed out that projects in PIDA-PAP 2 were curated this way to also guarantee a people-driven Africa as they strengthen the role of women through gender-sensitive infrastructure development.

Mr Amine Adoum, AUDA-NEPAD's Director of Programme Delivery and Coordination Directorate explained that "The objective of regional integration is to facilitate movement of people, goods and services, a bottleneck in the realisation of Agenda 2063. Hence the corridor development is an integral part for regional integration and realising of the AfCFTA goals together with PIDA-PAP 2."

Mr Adoum also expounded on the importance of other infrastructure sectors and the tools that have been developed to accelerate the implementation of continental and regional projects. "Energy corridors are also important hence we are working towards implementing the Continental Power System Master Plan. Three tools that have been developed to accelerate infrastructure projects rollout are: the Service Delivery Mechanism, the Continental Business Network (validated by the African Union), and the publishing of de-risking infrastructure projects in Africa reports," Mr Adoum declared.

Participants at the event also learnt that financial viability was also taken into



consideration for all PIDA-PAP2 projects, with new partners sought. Mr Robert Lisinge Chief, Operational Quality Section at United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, clustered the partnerships for Africa's infrastructure development into the following:

- Green Funds - PIDA projects are eligible for financing through green funds, including road, water and energy projects.
- Impact Investors - Impact investors are important as inclusiveness is a major component of PIDA-PAP 2 projects, aimed at improving the wellbeing and livelihoods of African citizens.
- Public-Private Partnerships.
- Strategic Partnerships.

The importance of financing for infrastructure was also brought to the fore, in a session led by Dr Towela Nyirenda-Jere, the Head of Economic Integration at AUDA-NEPAD. She informed the conference participants that African Heads of State approved 69 PIDA-PAP 2 projects. "Therefore, more investments are needed for infrastructure with the opportunities that the AfCFTA brings," Dr Towela said.

The PIDA PAP II consist of 28 transport projects, 18 energy projects, 12 water projects, and 11 Information Communication Technology projects. PIDA-PAP 2, as the second PIDA priority action plan will runder for the period 2021 to 2030. This portfolio is based on an inventory of projects proposed by Regional Economic Communities and African Union Member States as one of the key deliverables in Africa's Agenda 2063 towards the continent's development.

His Excellency Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga, AU Higher Representative on Infrastructure Development in Africa spoke at the opening of the Spotlight on Africa - Infrastructure Development held at the Dubai Exhibition Centre at Expo 2020 Dubai. His opening remarks can be downloaded [here](#)





# We Need A Moonshot for Africa's Land Restoration Movement

By Ibrahim Mayaki (AUDA-NEPAD) and Wanjira Mathai (World Resources Institute)

Six years ago, African leaders recognized that the degradation of 65 percent of Africa's agricultural land threatens economic and environmental ruin for millions of farmers. They realized this just as the effects of climate change – lower crop yields, erratic rainfall, prolonged droughts – are making life harder for millions of farmer communities, herders and city dwellers.

The AFR100 Initiative was born to reverse this destructive trend. Locally led, this program aims to begin restoring 100 million hectares of land by 2030 with a wide variety of techniques that support healthy rural communities and thriving ecosystems.

African leaders had the evidence to back up that goal. Every \$1 invested in land restoration can bring \$7-30 in economic benefits, and a fully healed nature could provide up to one-third of the cost-effective climate mitigation needed to keep global warming below 2 C. Restored landscapes produce more food while making communities more resilient to desertification, droughts and floods.

They also knew it could be done. Champion farmers like Yacouba Sawadogo mobilized communities to regreen 5 million hectares in the dry Sahel. Through the Green Belt Movement, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Wangari Maathai empowered more than 4,000 women's groups to protect and restore their farms and Kenya's forests, even under the threat of death. Her legacy continues to inspire: Communities in Senegal have grown more than 150 million mangrove buds in the country's wetlands under the leadership of former minister Haidar el Ali.



That history of grassroots success has inspired 32 African governments to join the AFR100 movement. Countries have created national restoration programs that create jobs for young people, and thousands of local entrepreneurs, nonprofits and cooperatives have mobilized communities to protect and regenerate ecosystems.

But we know that Africa is far from achieving that lofty goal. Even though funders have committed more than \$16 billion to AFR100 and the Great Green Wall, little has reached frontline communities. Deforestation and ecosystem degradation continue at a rapid pace. In 2020 alone, Africa lost 4 million hectares of tree cover according to Global Forest Watch. Political instability and conflict threaten fragile wins. And a few poorly planned tree-planting projects have harmed ecosystems and communities by introducing invasive species and destroying native grasslands.





But the core of the problem is that there is little financial support for the continent that has contributed least to climate change but will suffer from its worst consequences. Governments in developed countries, private sector corporations, and the rich and powerful – the source of most of the world’s carbon pollution – owe a debt to climate innovators in Africa. Local leadership is key because communities manage nearly 70% of African land, and they know how to make thousands of ecologically and socially sustainable projects bloom. There is no equitable path toward net-zero emissions by 2050 that doesn’t invest in the entrepreneurs and community leaders restoring land.

We need a moonshot for Africa’s restoration movement, and it starts today. African heads of state at COP26 in Glasgow issued a call to action to private funders and government donors: Mobilize \$2 billion for locally led African restoration programs by the end of 2022.

With those resources, we could invest in hundreds of local champions and provide them with the technical assistance they need to succeed. That could spur more funding to begin the regeneration of a projected 20 million hectares by 2026 and bring an estimated \$135 billion in benefits to 40 million people. Add a transparent monitoring system for tracking progress and the 100-million-hectare goal becomes a real possibility.

To kickstart this new phase of AFR100, the Bezos Earth Fund, One Tree Planted and Facebook announced an initial \$20 million, with an eye toward catalyzing much larger investments in 2022. A grant to the Albertine Rift Conservation Society will enable this network of women-led cooperatives to grow hundreds of thousands of trees on smallholder farms. In South Africa, a loan will empower entrepreneur Siyabulela Sokomani to expand his nursery and plant dozens of native tree species throughout marginalized city neighborhoods and rural areas. And a grant to local organizations in Freetown, Sierra Leone, will increase tree cover, lowering street temperatures and helping Mayor Yvonne Aki Sawyerr’s transform her city into the “Treetown she has envisioned.”

As representatives of the African Union and an international research organization, we are calling on donors, technical experts, and African governments to build customized solutions for people restoring land. We need to make flexible finance more easily accessible, build rigorous monitoring tools that track progress in near-real-time, and craft strong public policies that help farmers restore land.

Most importantly, we call on public donors and private funders to step up their investments in community organizations and entrepreneurs through AFR100. This is a step they must take if their professed belief in Africa’s future is more than empty platitudes. In 2030, we want to look back with pride on our actions to restore hope and prosperity to Africa’s rural and urban landscapes. Failure is simply not an option.

## AFR100 Issues COP27 Challenge to Mobilize \$2 Billion for Africa's Locally Led Land Restoration Movement



ECOTRUST works with farmers to create sustainable agroforestry systems in Uganda | Photo credit: ECOTRUST

**B**y COP27, which will be held on African soil, funders must invest \$2 billion in AFR100, the continent's locally led campaign to restore vitality to 100 million hectares of degraded and deforested land. Jeanne d'Arc Mujawamariya, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Rwanda; Nancy Tembo, Minister of Forestry and Natural Resources of the Republic of Malawi; and Mohammad Abubakar, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Federal Republic of Nigeria issued that challenge today at COP26.

The African Development Bank, Government of Germany, Global Environment Facility, Bezos Earth Fund, the Global EverGreening Alliance, and Green Climate Fund responded, announcing their plan to significantly invest in land restoration by 2026 and have called on their peers to join them in mobilizing that \$2 billion in investable capital by COP27 in November 2022.

"Africa is home to the world's greatest restoration opportunity, with 700 million hectares of degraded land that can be restored. Africa is the continent most dependent on the land for livelihoods, and most vulnerable to climate change. Africa must therefore lead the way. We warmly welcome partnership with ambitious funders like the Bezos Earth Fund," said Ibrahim Mayaki, CEO of the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD).

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic,

which could push an estimated 30 million Africans into extreme poverty, land restoration — with a return of \$7-30 for every \$1 spent — has become a critical tool to improve food security and create sustainable jobs. The impacts of climate change make these types of solutions all the more urgent: The most recent IPCC report shows that several African regions like the Sahel will experience rising temperatures, exacerbating the vulnerabilities of people and nature. If desertification continues to advance unchecked, the decline in revenue from cereal crops alone could cost people in Africa \$4.6 trillion through 2030.

It's clear that Africa needs to massively and quickly restore nature and farmland to reduce poverty, reverse biodiversity loss and store planet-warming greenhouse gases — and local action is the only path toward success. An initial \$2 billion investment in the work of NGOs, entrepreneurs and government-led projects could catalyze \$15 billion of funding. That larger sum could begin the restoration of a potential 20 million hectares by 2026 and bring an estimated \$135 billion in benefits to 40 million people.

"Local communities own and manage nearly 70% of Africa's land. That is why a future where rural Africa's landscapes are fully restored is only possible if we believe in and fund the work of thousands of community groups and leaders, especially young people, women

and entrepreneurs," said Wanjira Mathai, Vice President and Regional Director for Africa, World Resources Institute (WRI), and Friend of COP26.

Combined with a robust financial architecture anchored in Africa that can channel million-dollar investments to people restoring land, in-depth technical assistance, and a comprehensive system to track progress, these investments would kickstart the second phase of AFR100. Thirty-two countries have joined that engine of restoration replication and pledged to restore nearly 128 million hectares since COP21 in 2015.

"Africa is where the opportunity is the greatest, where the need is greatest, and where vulnerability to climate change is greatest. It is also where political commitment is increasingly the greatest, as heads of state and governments more and more recognize that investing their natural capital has one of the highest returns," said Andrew Steer, President and CEO of the Bezos Earth Fund. "With enough flexible capital, the blossoming of a thousand locally led projects and businesses can realize the AFR100 vision of high-quality restoration work that builds climate-resilient and thriving rural communities. Please count on us!"

"One billion dollars in funding will support landscape restoration, with an initial focus on Africa and the U.S. Restoration efforts in Africa will include planting trees on degraded landscapes, revitalizing



grasslands, and integrating trees into farmland,” added a press release issued by the Bezos Earth Fund. “This work will help drive critical outcomes that include climate benefits, food security, job creation, economic growth, soil fertility, and improved connectivity between protected areas to protect biodiversity. The Bezos Earth Fund will partner with Africa-owned partners, including AFR100, to deliver these benefits at scale.”

To start this new phase of AFR100 with local action, a group of funders (Bezos Earth Fund, One Tree Planted, Good Energies Foundation, DOEN Foundation, Lyda Hill Philanthropies and Facebook) announced an initial investment in these innovators. After receiving more than 3,200 applications for funding across 31 African countries, WRI, One Tree Planted and Realize Impact will provide 100 grants and loans of \$50,000 USD to \$500,000 USD to community-based non-profits and local businesses. The first cohort of 20 organizations that will receive capital from this “TerraFund for AFR100” was announced today ([details here](#)).

“Mayors know that local action is the cornerstone of transformative change,” said Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr, Mayor of Freetown, Sierra Leone. “Building up the capacity of entrepreneurs and community organizations is how we plan on growing 1 million trees by 2022. I am thrilled that AFR100 will help our champions realize their dream of turning our city into a ‘Treetown’ that will help our people thrive for decades to come.”

Partners will independently monitor and report on each project with a combination of field verification techniques and satellite monitoring with support from the new Land & Carbon Lab initiative.

“AFR100 presents an opportunity for both the private and public sectors to demonstrate large-scale transformative action to restore degraded land. That action would not only mitigate climate change, but also help secure millions of livelihoods and agricultural supply chains. Diversified financing instruments are needed now if we are to achieve this grand ambition by 2030,” said Charles Karangwa, Regional Head of Land Systems for Africa, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).





# The Home-Grown School Feeding Validation Process in the Republic of Botswana with AUDA-NEPAD

African governments, regional economic communities, and development agencies have been urged to strengthen and harmonise innovation and emerging technology policies and regulations to create an enabling environment for Africa's innovation and emerging technology development. It was revealed that there is a need to bridge the disconnect between policymaking and evidence-based research to obtain better innovation outputs. Hence a further call was made to increase science diplomacy to bridge social development priorities and policymaking in addressing Africa's grand challenges.

In 2003, AUDA-NEPAD in partnership with the World Food Programme launched a pilot Home-Grown School Feeding and Health programme in 12 African countries, designed to link school feeding programmes to agricultural development through the purchase and use of locally produced foods to improve nutrition and quality of school meals on the continent. Home-Grown School Feeding was later endorsed by African Union Heads of State and Governments as a means of tackling hunger, improving nutrition as well as increasing children's access, participation and achievement in school for sustainable livelihoods on the continent.

During the Home-Grown School Feeding validation process in Botswana, Ms Fati N'zi – Hassane, AUDA-NEPAD's Head of Human Capital and Institutions Development made mention of the fact that the agency has sustained its cooperation with the country in the area of nutrition and school feeding. "I wish to express my appreciation for the great collaboration that AUDA-NEPAD has sustained with the Government of Botswana, the World Food Programme, the Partnership for Child Development and other key partners scaling up home grown school feeding over the years," Ms N'zi – Hassane said.

In Botswana, AUDA-NEPAD contributed to the school feeding research and development component by undertaking



evidence-based school feeding case studies in 2011. In 2019, the agency rendered technical support in convening a national multisectoral school feeding policy development workshop. Moreover, one of the main follow-up actions was for AUDA-NEPAD to develop guidelines to help countries manage and implement school feeding programmes more efficiently

At the validation meeting, the Deputy Permanent Secretary in Botswana's Ministry of Local Government, Ms Masego Mooketsi stated that, "Developing a Botswana National School Feeding is the only way to bridge the challenges of nutrition sensitive interventions with the focus on small holder farmers to create the market for them and boost their household income".

Ms Mooketsi's sentiments were echoed by the Director of the Department of Local Government Finance Procurement Services, in the Ministry of Local Government, Mr Olebogeng Moipisi, who remarked that "School feeding procurement systems needs to be strengthened, including the monitoring and evaluation which will improve the financial accountability aspect".

At last month's United Nations Food Systems Summit (UNFSS), many African leaders recommitted to more investments for school feeding as a game changer solution for the sustainable food systems, including the President of Botswana, H.E Mokgweetsi Masisi. During the UNFSS, he remarked on Botswana's contribution in the development of the Africa Common Position, particularly the inclusion of indigenous foods in the local production. He further committed to the implementation of the Africa Agenda 2063 and Malabo Declaration to fast track the game changing solution for the UNFSS.

The consequences of the COVID-19 lockdowns included school closures that led to 90 percent of the world's school age children – 1.6 billion children - who at some point had no longer access to school. The AUDA-NEPAD initiatives include therefore include enforcing and recommitting resources to strengthening the Home-Grown School Feeding Programme and promoting the quality of nutritious school meals for Africa's children.



# CAP-F Pledges Support For Private Sector Agribusiness Investments In Nigeria

By Oluseyi Taiwo-Oguntuase

CAP-F's partners; AUDA-NEPAD, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), and Nigeria Agribusiness Group (NABG), have pledged to work with multi-stakeholder agriculture value chain platforms to promote private sector investments that can improve agriculture productivity in Nigeria.

Grow Africa's flagship programme is the Country Agribusiness Partnership Framework (CAP-F), a mechanism for establishing effective public private engagement to create agribusiness partnerships in a country.

According to the United Nations Conferences on Trade and Development (UNCTD), between 2016 and 2018, the continent imported about 85% of its food from outside the continent.

This cost the continent about \$35 billion. This cost is expected to rise to \$110 billion by 2025.

The impact of this is two-fold; African economies are unable to guarantee food security for the continent and are unable to take advantage of the global food market, which is expected to reach \$11 trillion by 2030.

To achieve Africa's agricultural potential, the Grow Africa Partnership was jointly founded in 2011 by the African Union, African Union Development Agency-New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD) and the World Economic Forum.

Emmanuel Ijewere, Vice President, Nigeria Agribusiness Group (NABG) while speaking during the engagement stakeholders' programme expounded on the context of a private-sector led agribusiness investment ecosystem in Nigeria.

"Agriculture has the credentials to be Nigeria's most attractive investment option. It is very important that stakeholders across the public and



private sectors work together to align their interests and expectations. This is the value that CAP-F brings to the table," Ijewere noted.

Also, Ibrahim Gourouza, Chief Operating Officer of Grow Africa noted that the optimised participation of private sector investors will help build more sophisticated agriculture value chains across Africa.

"One of CAP-F's key success factors is that it is owned by countries and anchored on existing structures. With this in mind, in collaboration with stakeholders, we selected NABG as the anchor of CAP-F coordination in Nigeria."

He noted that Grow Africa is committed to CAP-F in Nigeria in a number of ways.

"Grow Africa has provided the CAP-F Secretariat in Nigeria with a business model that has generated close to \$500m in private sector investments in Africa across six countries and in five value chains.

"This will be an invaluable tool for business deal generation in Nigeria. We will continue to provide technical

assistance for the team in Nigeria. While we have attracted funding from AGRA for the CAP-F Secretariat in Nigeria, we will work to expand the partnership support to ensure a more sustainable CAP-F implementation in Nigeria. Finally, we will provide a database of financiers who we will connect to provide sector deals in agriculture in Nigeria," Gourouza noted.

CAP-F's activities in Nigeria are funded by AGRA. In its address, the funders, represented by David Adama, Senior Programme Officer, noted that the engagement with private sector stakeholders is extremely important in driving agricultural transformation in the country.

"CAP-F provides an opportunity for government and the private sector to engage on some of the opportunities that have been identified through the National Agriculture Investment Programme (NAIP) in order to know where private sector investments are necessary.

**Source: Independent Nigeria**

## Upcoming Events

### 9-12 November 2021: FishGov 2 Media Training | Zanzibar, Tanzania

The workshop's overall objective is to bring together African media (print, online, radio and TV journalists) to raise awareness on the Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa through the FishGov 2 project. The past media training conducted under the FishGov 1 project in 2016 set reference for reporting fact-based information on fisheries and Aquaculture issues in Africa. Participation is by invitation in only.

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### 17 November 2021 | 1:00 – 3:00PM GMT: CJED WEBINAR SERIES - Leading through Crisis: Critical Skills for African Leaders Across Sectors

Speakers:

1. Dr Dumisani Magadlala - Executive Coach, Team Coach, and Leadership Training Facilitator, Pan African Capacity Building Programme (PACBP), Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)
2. Dr Modupe Taylor Pearce – Chief Executive Officer, Breakfast Club Africa. Founding Dean, ALU School of Business

Registration Link: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_VYwcgBA3RzaeXmTcFIKLO](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_VYwcgBA3RzaeXmTcFIKLO)

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### 20-24 November 2021 | Niamey, Niger: AU Summit on Industrialization and Economic Diversification

Preparations are underway to convene Africa's Summit on Industrialization and Economic Diversification, scheduled to be held on the 19th to the 24th of November 2021 in Niamey, Niger. The Summit is touted as yet another opportunity for the African continent to provide high-level political support to drive a globally competitive Africa-industrialization program through public-private alliances, at the national, regional and continental levels, and through policy coherence, coordination and investment financing. The Summit will be convened as part of the week-long activities of the "Africa Industrialization Week", commemorated annually by the African Union on the 20th of November. It is also timely to accelerate the process of industrialization and economic diversification in Africa, in the context of the entry into force and the start of trading under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

More information is available at: <https://au.int/en/summit-africa-industrialization-economic>

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### 22-26 November 2021: 5<sup>th</sup> Biennial Scientific Conference on Medical Products Regulation in Africa (SCoMRA V) and the Seventh African Medicines Regulators' Conference (AMRC VII)

Theme: Regulatory systems in Africa – Lessons from the COVID-19 experience and strategies to build back better after the pandemic

The conference brings together over 300 participants from African and global organizations involved in regulatory systems strengthening and harmonization and serves as a platform for the discussion and advancement of regulatory sciences in Africa. The objective is to support countries to accelerate patient's access to safe, efficacious and quality medical products through strengthened regulatory systems and collaborations between NRAs, researchers, academia, procurement agencies, industry and patient organizations.

More details on the above event are [available here](#)

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### 1-3 December 2021: Third Africa Rural Development Forum (ARDF III) | Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

AUDA-NEPAD, in collaboration with partners is organising the third Africa Rural Development Forum (ARDF) to be held in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The theme of this high-level forum is: Decentralized Rural Transformation Planning through Experience Capitalization.



## 24-26 November 2021: The 17th CAADP Partnership Platform

The theme chosen for the 17th edition of the CAADP PP is centred on “Ending hunger in Africa by 2025 through resilient food systems”. The theme was chosen for this annual event to take advantage of renewed momentum that has been created by the UN Food System Summit, at a moment when the continent is halfway through the Malabo Declaration timeframe. The two previous BR reporting cycles had shown that pace at which implementation of CAADP was taking on the ground was not good enough to lead to the intended goals. More specific to this year’s theme of the PP, these same reports have revealed that Africa, as a whole, is not on track towards meeting the ending hunger by 2035 commitment. Besides this worrying underperformance, the COVID-19 global pandemic has dealt the efforts by the continent a serious blow for close to two years now.

Against this backdrop, the 17th CAADP PP will serve as an opportunity for main constituencies involved in supporting agriculture transformation on the continent to reflect on the main course of actions to bring Africa back on track towards ending hunger through resilient food system by 2025.

Registration is at: <https://au.caadp.org/register-for-the-17thcaadp-pp>

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## Fast Facts on Climate Change in Africa



- African forests absorb 205 of the carbon that is absorbed by trees across the world.
- In Ethiopia, a survey of 48 annual crops grown in the Nile Basin shows that farmers who adapted to climate change produced about 95-300kg more food per hectare than those whose chose not to adapt.
- The right combination of solar and hydropower could meet 80% of the continent’s electricity demands.

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