AUDA-NEPAD PROGRAMME ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN POST CONFLICT STATES: THE TRIPLE NEXUS ON PEACE SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT

PROGRAMME DOCUMENT

DECEMBER 2022

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AfCFTA	Africa Continental Free Trade Area
AU	Africa Union
AUC	African Union Commission
AUDA	Africa Union Development Agency
CCA	Common Country Assessment
CHA	Coordination of Human Affairs
CAP	Common African Position
CRESTA/A	Community Recovery and Extension of State Authority / Accountability
DCAF	Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance
DPCG	Development Partners Coordination Group
DPR	Development Partners Retreat
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
DSRSG	Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General,
EAC	East Africa Community
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
GDP	Gross National product
GoR,	Government of Rwanda
HDP	Humanitarian Development Peace
HC	Humanitarian Coordinator
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MTNDP	Medium-term National Development Plan
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development

NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NST	National Strategy for Transformation
NWOW	New Way of Working
OAU	Organization of African Unity
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
PBF	Peacebuilding Fund
PCRD	Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development
PfRR	Partnership for Recovery and Resilience
PSD	Peace, Security Development (nexus)
R-ARCSS	Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan
RC	Resolution of Conflict
RC	Resident Coordinator
RCO	Resolution of Conflict Office
REC	Regional Economic Communities
RM	Regional Mechanisms
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa
SHRIM	Security and Human Rights Implementation Mechanism
UN	United Nations (UN)
UNPBF	United Nations Peacebuilding Fund
UNOCA	United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.
UNOWAS,	United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel
UNSMIL	United Nations Support Mission in Libya
UNSOM	United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia
USWG	Urban Settlement Working Group

WB	World Bank,
WDR	World Development Report
WFP	World Food Program
VPs	Vice President

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The interlinkages between peace, security and development and their implications for realising the African Union's vision of “creating an integrated, prosperous and peaceful continent driven by its citizens, are well established in the foundational instruments of the African Union. Moreover, the Constitutive Act's preamble and the Protocol's objectives relating to establishing the Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU) affirm the promotion of peace, security, and stability as prerequisites for sustainable development (AU, 2022). The quest for promoting these interlinkages has perennially informed the Peace and Security Council's activities and the African Union Commission as a whole.

Considering this and with a particular focus on selected post-conflict African countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Libya, Mozambique, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia and South Sudan, an integrated programme is proposed that aims to promote sustainable development and peace through regional integration that is anchored on the principles of peace, security, and development nexus. The following are the programme objectives:

i. To operationalise the AU Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) Policy Framework, specifically focusing on the Socio-Economic Development Pillar.

ii. To create linkages with Regional Economic Communities (RECs) programmes on Socio-Economic Development in Post Conflict States.

iii. To establish pooled funding mechanisms to support catalytic programming linking humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding efforts on the ground through area-based programming[1].

iv. To establish a monitoring and evaluation mechanism to track compliance on matters related to the Peace-Security-Development nexus in the target countries.

The programme will be financed through a pooled fund mechanism with contributions from partner states and local and international development partners.

[1] Area-based programming is an approach that defines an area as the primary entry point, rather than a sector or target group. It is particularly appropriate in areas with complex, inter-related and multi-sectoral needs.

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1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 The Peace, Security development Nexus Approach

The nexus approach stems partly from recognising that emergency needs (and the identities of those most affected) are often symptoms of underlying issues that reflect broader inequalities and injustices. The nexus represents an opportunity to engage with these root causes and recognise that security crises can be caused and/or heightened by poor development policies and a lack of inclusive and appropriate development investment. Thus, meeting lifesaving needs while ensuring longer-term investment addressing the systemic causes of conflict and vulnerability has a better chance of reducing the impact of cyclical or recurrent shocks and stresses and supporting the peace that is essential for development to be sustainable (Oxfam, 2019). Unlike the previous efforts, the nexus dialogue goes beyond a programmatic or conceptual approach. It relates to ongoing structural shifts across the aid system that change how aid is planned and financed. These will have profound implications for what we do, how we do it and with whom we do it.

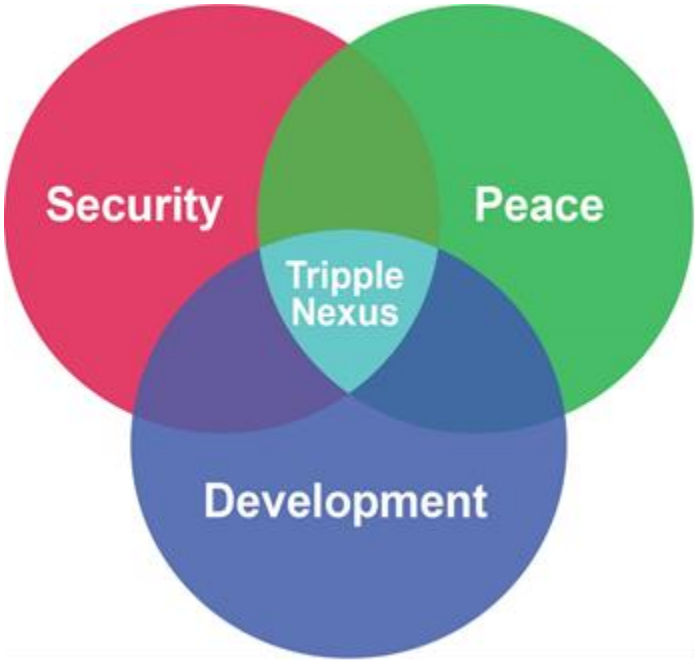
The nexus approach has been complemented by the African Union's reflections on resilience, mitigation, and adaptation strategies, given the heavy toll of climate change on peace and security. Africa's development, peace and security, and integration landscape have registered several achievements over the last decade, including sustained economic growth. However, the rate is still low, with several successful election cycles and sustained cooperation between the AU and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Regional Mechanisms (RMs) to promote integration and develop mechanisms to address complex security challenges. However, the resurgence of unconstitutional changes of governments, with the varying intensities of armed conflicts, violent confrontations, and violent extremism, have continued to derail the continental development agenda, being held back by poorly functioning governments.

The triple nexus approach underscores that security is a public good and can no longer be de-coupled from the continent's economic development and prosperity. Security issues must, therefore, be factored into investments and development interventions. If the current escalating conflict and insecurity worsen, the momentum generated by the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFA) and the AU regional integration initiatives will wane. It is, therefore, critical to engage and reflect on ways to amplify the potential of the regional integration initiatives to promote peace, security, investments, and development. There is a need for a deeper and more meaningful engagement at the strategic and policy levels to open new channels of dialogue and exchanges among various parts of governments, academics, the private sector, and civil society to increase mutual trust and understanding to tackle the root causes of insecurity.

The triple nexus approach was proposed to address the complex and intertwined socioeconomic, political, and humanitarian crises that affect and feed into each other. The approach acknowledges that today’s complex and protracted crises can’t be addressed through the development approach alone but should be complemented with security actions

and peacebuilding strategies (see figure 1). The triple nexus concept also acknowledges that human insecurity may be caused or affected by political actions, which feed inequality and increase vulnerability and conflict.

Figure 1: Illustration of the triple nexus Concept[2]



The first World Humanitarian Summit was held in 2016, and the Agenda for Humanity that came out of it was the first to propel the concept of the triple nexus into mainstream development discourse. The Summit had a clarion call for a shift from a silo approach to a comprehensive and integrated strategy involving peacebuilding, security, and development to effectively respond to today's complex crises that require a multidimensional strategy.

At the Summit, the United Nations (UN) Secretary General spoke emphatically about the importance of this approach to address the security crisis, violent conflicts and peace and security. In line with the resolution of the Summit, the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and other development agencies have begun advocating the importance of prioritising the triple nexus approach. Consequently, the UN and the World Bank developed the New Way of Working (NWoW) to deliver the triple nexus approach.

[2] https://www.sipri.org/commentary/topical-backgrounder/2019/connecting-dots-triple-nexus

The first African Union (AU) Policy Conference on Promoting the Peace, Security, and Development Nexus was held in Tangier, Kingdom of Morocco, from 25-27 October 2022. The conference reaffirmed the importance of the triple nexus approach to development, especially in post-conflict countries. The participants underscored the importance of African capacities for planning and implementing programmes and peacebuilding projects; the nexus between security and developmental programmes; the need for inclusive and accountable governance; the role of the border communities and agro-pastoralists in promoting regional socio-economic integration.

They also emphasised the critical role of connecting communities for sustainable development and the interlinkages between inter-African trade, industrialisation, infrastructure development and peace through the effective implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Conference participants also pledged to achieve regional integration and the free movement of people, goods, and services through harmonising economic, financial, and monetary cooperation.

The link between peace, security and development was also articulated in the 2000 Millennium Declaration and documented in the outcome of the 2005 World Summit with the acknowledgement that peace and security, development and human rights are three fundamental pillars of the UN system and foundational to the achievement of collective security and global well-being. It was subsequently affirmed by the 2014 United Nations (UN) General Assembly-ignited discussions on the nexus between peace, security and development and its relevance to the post-2015 development agenda.

The World Bank, in its 2011 World Development Report (WDR), unpacked the linkage between peace, security and development and recommended specific strategies for fragile and stable nations, citing that the former require: restored confidence, institutional transformation for the provision of citizen security, justice, and jobs; regional and international action to mitigate external tensions; and specialised donor support.

It is, therefore, important to emphasise that sustainable development in Africa requires deliberate clarity on the factors that continue to hinder peace and security while paralysing the continent's economic development. Regional integration remains a highly plausible route to addressing security challenges for enhanced economic cooperation and trade relations for sustainable development in Africa.

1.1 Regional Context of Socio-Economic Development in post-conflict states

Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) is home to more than 1 billion people, half of whom will be under 25 years old by 2050 and is a diverse continent offering human and natural resources that have the potential to yield inclusive growth and eradicate poverty in the region. With the world’s largest free trade area and a 1.2-billion-person market, the continent is creating an entirely new development path, harnessing the potential of its resources and people (World Bank, 2022). Economic growth in Sub-Saharan Africa is estimated at 4 per cent in 2021, up from a contraction in economic activity of 2 per cent in 2020 (World Bank, 2022). However,

growth in the region is expected to decelerate in 2022 amid a global environment with multiple (and new) shocks, high volatility, and uncertainty.

Prospects for the East and Southern African sub-region show a sustained recovery (4.1 per cent) from the recession, down to 3.1 per cent in 2022 and settling around 3.8 per cent in 2024. The Western and Central Africa sub-region is projected to grow by 4.2 per cent in 2022 and 4.6 per cent in 2023. The 2022 forecast is revised up by 0.6 percentage points compared to the October 2021 forecast, largely reflecting upgrades in Nigeria. Economic activity in Sub-Saharan Africa is projected to grow by 3.9 per cent and 4.2 per cent in 2023 and 2024, respectively (World Bank, 2022). A recovery in global demand is expected in 2023 as most of the shocks dragging down the global economy are expected to dissipate.

The region comprises low, lower-middle, upper-middle, and high-income countries, 22 of which are fragile or conflict-affected. Africa also has 13 small states, characterised by a small population, limited human capital, and a confined land area. The economy is set to expand by 3.6 per cent in 2022, down from 4 per cent in 2021, as it struggles to pick up momentum amid a slowdown in global economic activity, continued supply constraints, outbreaks of new coronavirus variants, high inflation, and rising financial risks due to high and increasingly vulnerable debt levels (World Bank, 2022).

The invasion of Ukraine compounds the factors holding back recovery in the region. Although the direct trade and financial linkages with Russia and Ukraine are small, the war will likely impact Sub-Saharan African economies through higher commodity prices, higher food, fuel, and headline inflation, tightening of global financial conditions, and reduced foreign financing flows into the region. The growth effects in the region are expected to be marginal. However, the largest impact is on the increasing likelihood of civil strife because of food- and energy-fueled inflation amid an environment of heightened political instability.

As a result of supply shocks predating the war in Ukraine, emerging signs of stagflation are posing challenges to monetary policymaking. Central banks are facing a trade-off between accommodating the weak economy with the risk of exacerbating inflationary prospects and fighting inflation at the high cost of triggering a recession. Many central banks in the region have chosen the second policy option of fighting inflation and embarked on a tightening cycle, but others have maintained a more dovish stance.

Since October 2021, countries in the region have been either at moderate or high risk of debt distress, with the share of countries at high risk of debt distress growing from 52.6 to 60.5 per cent. To address the rising risks of debt sustainability, some countries in the region implemented austerity measures; however, these actions have been insufficient to reduce debt levels[3].

There is increasing recognition among development partners that peace, security, and development are the most important pillars of a healthy social system. Although these concepts are independent, they are mutually interlinked and complementary pillars of sustainable development. Linking development, peacebuilding and promoting security and integrating them into national strategy and planning processes in post-conflict African countries has the potential to create synergies and more effective policies that prevent relapses into conflict, as well as social/regional inequalities and vulnerabilities.

[3] https://www.worldbank.org/en/region/afr/overview

Conflict and insecurity inhibit development and integration by diverting resources to non-socio and economic development areas such as the military. In 2021, military expenditure in sub-Saharan Africa totalled $20.1 billion, 4.1 per cent higher than in 2020. Today, the amounts that AU member states are allocating to military spending places significant strains on national budgets, threatening debt sustainability and negatively impacting budget allocations to social investments in health, education, water, and sanitation (AU, 2022).

1.2 Lessons learned from past and current work on African States Emerging from Conflict

A sample of African countries emerging from conflict representing Africa's regional economic blocks that would be targeted for the triple nexus approach is highlighted below[4].

1.2.1 Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) faces various challenges ranging from staggering security needs and chronic under-development to political instability and protracted armed conflict in the Eastern part of the country. Security development and peace actors are present in the country to support the Government and the population. Given the DRC's multifaceted challenges on the one hand and the country's enormous potential to strengthen the coherence and effectiveness of different actors and flows of assistance, on the other hand, discussions about implementing a Peace, Security and Development nexus approach in DRC began in 2018.

The Peace Security Development (PSD) nexus approach in the DRC is an inclusive, collective process aimed at reducing security needs, risks and vulnerabilities in the medium and long term while addressing underlying causes of crises and underdevelopment. It also works towards better coordination and complementarity between the three pillars. Key stakeholders include the Government, the UN, and other international organisations, as well as national and international NGOs and donors. The approach is guided by four collective outcomes: food insecurity and malnutrition, access to basic social services, forced displacement and gender-based violence.

A Nexus Donor Group in the country, chaired by Sweden, provides a forum for donors to achieve common definitions of the nexus and coordinate and ensure communication between donors across the pillars of the Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) nexus. The aim is for donors to integrate the collective outcomes into their bilateral strategies. Funding is provided in accordance with the three plans that guide the work in the three pillars of the nexus. The donor group aims to create convergence among implementing organisations in the prioritised territories to achieve higher-level results and contribute to collective outcomes. In addition, the World Bank has recently opened an office in Kananga (Kasai Central) for closer oversight of its operations.

1.2.2 Libya

Nine years after the initial outbreak of violence against the regime of Muammar Al-Qaddafi, Libya is still at war, marred with the refugee and migrant crises, internal strife between opposing militias, haunted by Islamist groups, and unable to govern its territory. In addition to an over-inflated narrative of Al-Qaddafi's prominent role in inciting violence in 2011, the

[4] A detailed report on the inventory of socioeconomic development programmes and initiatives is Annexed.

aftermath of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) intervention in Libya left a harsh environment of tribal, ethnic, religious, and ideological violence that had a negative spill-over effect on the neighbouring countries, the most prominent example being the case of Mali in 2013.

The 2011 uprising led to a Libyan polity that was able to remove Qaddafi from power yet remained short of addressing the tribe-government nexus, which was later swallowed by a vortex of militias, extremist groups, and external players. This, exacerbated by the NATO intervention in Libya and the intense involvement of external forces in the country's civil war, is a factor that marks the conflict even today and continues to be one of the greatest impediments to any serious peace negotiation. As an antithesis to any on-ground progression toward peace, the role of external forces further complicates the situation in the country internationalising its conflict without tackling its domestic drivers.

The UN has been involved in the country since the beginning of the Libyan revolt in 2011. Following the NATO intervention in Libya, the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), established in September of the same year, became the primary international body seeking reconciliation between various revolutionary groups. According to some reports, Egypt and Russia have steadily supported the House of Representatives in Tobruk to drive other groups out of Benghazi and Eastern Libya. In contrast, Turkey, Qatar and Sudan have supported the Tripoli-based government.

In Libya, the World Food Program (WFP) established a Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus Working Group in line with the undertakings of the UN-led New Way of Working (NWOW). In 2019, the Nexus Working Group began piloting an HDP Nexus strategy in Sebha (South of Libya). The process undertaken so far has included the following steps: (i) Joint data collection and analysis, including referral to the Common Country Assessment (CCA) as well as all available security, development, and peacebuilding data (ii) Defining strategic priorities in the areas in which there is a demand to reduce vulnerability and risk to reduce needs.

1.2.3 Mozambique

The shifting security landscape, with its impact on an expanding proportion of the civilian population in Mozambique, is worsening the humanitarian crisis in Cabo Delgado as security aid and government programmes fall short of meeting the needs of a growing number of people on the move. The new threat of insurgent attacks has triggered a new wave of displacement from areas previously considered relatively safe, with data from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) indicating that 57,880 individuals fled their homes in June alone (Sierra, 2022).

The ongoing national Voluntary Principles implementation process in Mozambique benefits from strong cross-government support and engagement from the business community and civil society. The heart of this process is the establishment of multi-stakeholder working groups that seek to nurture trust-based relationships to find common solutions to security and human rights challenges. Contributions to the VPs implementation process have been channelled through the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF) (a multi-donor trust fund, and the Security and Human Rights Implementation Mechanism (SHRIM). Pooled funding has enabled a long-term, sustainable approach to the project. Another way to promote coherence is to move beyond notions of 'brand loyalty'. The working groups in Maputo and Pemba should be considered as platforms for coordination rather than narrowly

in relation to the Voluntary Principles. These groups can and should be used to align approaches and build political will on a range of HDP-related issues.

1.2.4 Rwanda

Since the emergency and recovery period that followed the Genocide against the Tutsi in 1994, Rwanda has achieved substantial socioeconomic progress, with economic growth rates among the fastest in the world coupled with substantial gains in poverty reduction. GDP growth is projected at 6 per cent for 2022, after reaching 11 per cent in 2021. Growth across all sectors has been positive and resilient in the face of a slowing global economy. Significant socio-economic transformation has emerged as the labour force moves from agriculture to higher productive services and industry (GoR, 2019). Vision 2050 aspires to take Rwanda to high living standards by the middle of the 21st century and high-quality life. The implementation instrument for the remainder of Vision 2020 and the first four years of Vision 2050 will be the National Strategy for Transformation (NST1), which provides the foundation and vehicle for Vision 2050.

Rwanda has an active and well-established aid coordination architecture coordinated by the Development Partners Coordination Group (DPCG). The DPCG consists of all key development partners, government agencies, and civil society organisations. The Government of Rwanda (GoR) holds an annual Development Partners Retreat (DPR) to discuss the government's annual and medium-term plans with development partners within the context of the NST-1 and sector strategies to shape policy dialogue. In addition, DPCG meetings are held quarterly to follow up on achievements made on the annual targets set at the DPR and to discuss any emerging issues that would have arisen during the quarter. Based on the donor division of labour, each development partner is limited to three working groups, depending on mandate and expertise, and is expected to participate actively in policy dialogue in these groups.

1.2.5 Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone is widely viewed as one of the more successful cases of post-conflict reconstruction, which has been spearheaded in part through the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone. Since the civil war officially ended in 2002, the country has avoided a relapse into wide-scale conflict and successfully organised national elections in 2007 and 2012. Yet, significant challenges remain, including youth marginalisation and violence carried out by gangs and 'secret societies. Effective local efforts have addressed these challenges, which implicitly link development with security. Yet, these efforts are largely disconnected from larger peacebuilding operations in the country (Allouche and Lind, 2013).

The Government of Sierra Leone's new Medium-term National Development Plan (MTNDP) 2019–2023 has been founded on a strong political commitment to deliver development results that would improve the welfare of its citizens. The plan charts a clear path towards 2023, achieving middle-income status by 2039 through sustainable, inclusive growth that leaves no one behind. For the next five years, the Free Quality School Education Programme will be the government's flagship programme to provide a solid base to enhance human capital development and facilitate the economy's transformation.

Sierra Leone has been receiving foreign aid since independence, like many other African countries. Hence, the country has remained highly aid-dependent, with disbursed volumes

of aid higher than the average for the most aid-dependent sub-region; Sierra Leone's foreign aid receipt ranged from 30 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2001, end of the civil war, to 12 per cent of GDP in 2018. As a result, the country remains poor, with high malnutrition and infant mortality rates (Kargbo, 2012).

1.2.6 Somalia

In December 2019, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) estimated that 5.2 million Somalis needed humanitarian assistance, of which 63 per cent were children. Up to 2.1 million Somalis were facing severe hunger if humanitarian assistance was unavailable; food and nutrition deficiencies are especially prevalent in agro-pastoral, marginalised and displaced communities. Inadequate water, sanitation and health services in many areas increase the risks of disease outbreaks, including cholera, diarrhoea and, more recently, Covid-19 (UNOCHA, 2019). The absence of legislation is due to a lack of progress on reconciliation which results in the political space not being inclusive yet and marginalised groups continuing to use violence or align with violent extremist groups as a means of protection. Those groups included in the state-building process continue to oppose each other, thereby blocking constitutional reforms and passing key laws.

With funding from the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), the Resolution of Conflict Office (RCO) piloted a multi-sectoral analysis product combining security, development, and peace data to inform the operationalisation of the Community Recovery and Extension of State Authority / Accountability (CRESTA/A) strategy. While the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General/UN Resident Coordinator's Office/United Nations Humanitarian Coordinators (DSRSG/UNRC/UNHC) had envisioned it to play an enabling role for security and humanitarian, development, and United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) teams to work together on Community Recovery and Extension of State Authority and Accountability, the team has primarily remained focused on its stabilisation support role. In Somalia, the PBF has been a key enabler for the United Nations to do joined-up programming linking recovery, stabilisation of local governance, and peacebuilding. Since 2015, it has invested close to USD 40 million in programmes that seek to improve governance by enabling local authorities and communities to rebuild trust around the delivery of services, resolution of local conflicts, and provision of employment opportunities to Somalis.

1.2.7 South Sudan

Characterised as a protection crisis, communities in South Sudan experience multiple challenges, including intensified conflict and sub-national violence, a third consecutive year of major flooding, and the impacts of COVID-19. The South Sudan refugee crisis remains the largest in Africa since 2016. The signing of the peace agreement in 2018 – the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) – led to a fragile truce that resulted in the formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity in February 2020. As a result, hostility between the Government and the main opposition has decreased, thus reducing insecurity and increasing access to development operations.

The Triple Nexus approach in South Sudan provides substantial potential, given that a series of criteria are met. Further research has identified criteria relevant to analyse in which local contexts a Triple Nexus can result in a helpful overcoming of silos and where it might be counterproductive (Südhoff, Hövelmann, and Steinke 2020). With local ownership, local

capacities, limited external security interests, a peace-oriented UN approach, and a supportive UN framework, South Sudan can become a concrete example of action in the so far rather abstract Triple Nexus debate.

The South Sudan Partnership for Recovery and Resilience (PfRR) is a collection of donors, UN agencies, and NGOs working together to increase resilience and reduce the vulnerability of the South Sudanese people and the institutions who represent them.[5]" A central tenet of this effort is to provide a cohesive, comprehensive effort to cover a single geographic region, addressing that region's security, development, and peacebuilding needs, including addressing vulnerabilities and poverty reduction. The platform has attempted to push this agenda through the coordination of multiple actors proactively. The effort, led by the Steering Committee, is dominated by donors and UN agencies (PfRR, 2018). In essence, the PfRR is a platform for donors and UN agencies to create a common understanding of how they, through partners, will approach security, peacebuilding, recovery, resilience, and development needs within a geographic area.

1.4 Rationale for AUDA-NEPAD involvement in Socio-economic Development in Post-Conflict Reconstruction: The triple Nexus

The interlinkages between peace, security and development and their implications on realising the African Union's vision of "creating an integrated, prosperous and peaceful continent driven by its citizens, are well established in the foundational instruments of the African Union. Moreover, the Constitutive Act's preamble and the Protocol's objectives relating to establishing the Peace and Security Council of the African Union affirm the promotion of peace, security and stability as prerequisites for sustainable development (AU, 2022).

Peace has always been at the centre of the vision of African countries and the Organization of African Unity (OAU), now known as The African Union (AU). Peace continues to take centre stage in Africa's developmental agenda as enshrined in the agenda 2063, whose vision is to **"**Build an integrated, prosperous, and peaceful Africa, driven and managed by its citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international arena[6]". The quest for promoting these interlinkages has perennially informed the Peace and Security Council's activities and the African Union Commission as a whole.

The African Union adopted a Common African Position (CAP), in which the continent's leadership acknowledged the importance of peace and security and the undeniable link between peace, security and development[7]. The AU committed to addressing the root causes of conflict by, among other things: strengthening cross-border cooperation for the resolution of disputes and the promotion of cross-border security while addressing the economic and social inequalities and exclusion; strengthening good and inclusive governance, fighting against all forms of discrimination; and forging unity in diversity through democratic practices and mechanisms at the local, national, and continental levels.

The increasingly protracted and recurrent nature of crises means that there is a greater range of overlapping and compounding needs and rising uncertainty within these contexts,

[5] https://www.southsudanpfrr.org/

[66] Agenda 2063: towards the Africa we want

[7] AU (2014) Common Africa Position (CAP) on the post 2015 Development Agenda https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1329africaposition.pdf

which put the marginalised and affected groups, such as women and youth, at long-term risk. As a result, it exacerbates their already disadvantaged position in economic development participation, making them more vulnerable.

Related to the above challenges are youth unemployment and marginalisation, which increases the risk of extremism of this important group and entices them to join terrorist groups that contribute to insecurity. Extremism, which often evolves into terrorism, originates in human insecurity, linked to exclusion, poverty, marginalisation and lack of access to resources. Hence, there is a greater urgency to respond to and address the inequalities that put these target groups at risk, effectively managing and conserving their resources and strengthening their cultural understanding and trust, ultimately bringing about sustainable peace, security and development.[8]

In addition, due to cultural, societal and community perceptions of the role of women in society, women continue to be denied access to planning and decision-making forums that make crucial choices/decisions on issues that affect their communities, even though women and the youth (both girls and boys) are the most vulnerable victims of conflict and human insecurity.

A more holistic approach would offer opportunities to respond more effectively to people's needs. The need to holistically address the issue of conflict, security and peacebuilding is articulated in NEPAD's African Post-Conflict Reconstruction Policy Framework (2005), which aims to "address the nexus between peace, security, security and development dimensions of post-conflict reconstruction and peacebuilding".
Although there is policy guidance in tackling the issue of post-conflict reconstruction and increasing awareness of the triple nexus, there is a gap in practice. There has not been commensurate action on the ground in terms of intentional socio-economic developmental programmes in post-conflict countries. The issue of Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) is still tackled in a piecemeal fashion without giving socio-economic development its rightful space. Unfortunately, this again creates the risk of the country's regressing into conflict.

There is, therefore, an impetus to have a concrete plan on how socio-economic development issues should be central to the continent's security and peace-building efforts. Given this background, the AUDA-NEPAD seeks to develop the AUDA-NEPAD programme on Socio-economic Development in Post Conflict Reconstruction: The Triple Nexus.

2.0 PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

2.1 Programme objectives

The programme aims to promote sustainable development and peace through regional integration anchored on peace, security, and development nexus principles. The following are the programme objectives:

[8] Totemeyer, G. K. H. *et. al*. (1996). *Editorial Introduction. Regional Development Dialogue*, 17(2): iii-vii.

1. To operationalise the AU Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) Policy Framework, specifically focusing on the socio-economic development pillar.

2. To create linkages with Regional Economic Community programmes on Socio-Economic Development in Post Conflict States in Post Conflict States to articulate peace, security and development nexus agenda.

3. To establish pooled funding mechanisms to support catalytic programming linking, development and peacebuilding and security efforts on the ground through area-based programming
4. To establish governance and management structures with a monitoring and evaluation mechanism to track compliance on matters related to the Peace-Security-Development nexus in the target countries.

2.2 Programme Components/outcomes and activities

1. To operationalise the AU Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) Policy Framework, specifically focusing on the Socio-Economic Development Pillar.

The following activities will be undertaken under this outcome:

i. Establishing partnerships between the African peacekeeping and peacebuilding actors and policy development institutions such as the Department of Peace and Security of the African Union Commission (AUC), the Department of Social Affairs of the AUC, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and other relevant agencies under the leadership of AUDA-NEPAD.

ii. Capacity building, networking, and advocacy for the adoption of national laws by governments to address protracted crises, including gender and youth issues.

iii. Policy coordination and technical guidance on Peace, Security and Development Nexus (PSDN), including capacity development in policy formulation geared towards mainstreaming gender and human rights and addressing gender issues in budgeting processes.

iv. Identification of aspects of partnerships and the inter-relationships of the peace, security, and development agendas.

i. Safeguarding humanitarian principles and humanitarian space. Conduct integrated strategic humanitarian development and peace planning exercises with common needs analysis, scenario planning, and risk analysis scenarios and programming options.

2. To create linkages with Regional Economic Community programmes on Socio-Economic Development in Post Conflict States to articulate peace, security and development nexus agenda.

Coordination between the AU, the UN Regional offices, e.g., the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA), etc. as well as the Regional Economic Communities, e.g., East Africa Community (EAC), Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), Economic Community of Central

African States (ECCAS) Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) under the leadership of AUDA-NEPAD.

ii. Establishment of common vision and Multi-Year Programming.

iii. Establishment of Regional, National and Local Integrated PSDN Analysis and Coordination with relevant partners.

3. To establish pooled funding mechanisms to support catalytic programming linking, development and peacebuilding and security efforts on the ground through area-based programming

i. Conduct integrated strategic humanitarian development and peace planning exercises with common needs analysis, budget scenario planning, risk analysis scenarios and programming options in Resident Coordinators' Offices (RCOs).

ii. Adopting funding mechanisms (pooled funds under the same governance structure but with multiple windows – United Nations, NGOs, Government) at the country level, bridging the peace-security-development spectrum.

iii. Use of flexible and pooled funding mechanisms to incentivise PSDN approaches.

4. To establish governance and management structures with Monitoring and Evaluation mechanisms to track compliance on matters related to the Peace-Security-Development nexus.

i. Develop governance and implementation structures for multi-Year planning by target countries.

ii. Development of continental, regional and country levels monitoring and evaluation framework for assessment of the peace-security-development nexus.

iii. Expert support to programme development/design implementation and evaluation and actively empower women and youth to participate in the data collection processes and focus group discussions on livelihood opportunities.

iv. Track progress and monitor the effects of peace support operations and special political missions through quarterly and annual reviews, one mid-term and final evaluation.

v. Strengthen strategic planning and standardise data analysis.

2.3 Proposed programme approaches

i. Facilitate knowledge and experience-sharing through networking and innovative processes and delivering innovative programmes. Special attention will be given to the concerns of women and youth of the society to enhance their active participation at various stages of the project,

ii. Enhancing effectiveness by leveraging national, regional and continental partnerships.

iii. Advocacy and policy influence.

iv. Peer review and reflection.

2.4 Theory of Change

The programme is based on the premise that Africa's regional integration and sustainable development are wholly dependent on its ability to ensure a climate of peace and security. It acknowledges that conflict and insecurity inhibit development and integration by diverting resources to military purposes.

AUDA/ NEPAD proposes to lead a pathway to achieve this goal through programming that focuses on the peace-security-development nexus. The peace-security-development nexus represents a complex interlinked relationship between the peacebuilding process of security and the development agenda.

The pathway, therefore, represents interventions in the policy area, linkage with regional programmes and institutions, developing a pooled funding mechanism to allow programming flexibility and establishing institutional frameworks of accountability, monitoring and evaluation. When all these four areas of interventions work together and are coordinated under the leadership of AUDA/NEPAD, then sustainable development and regional integration will be achieved.

Hence, the triple nexus approach underscores that security is a public good and can no longer be de-coupled from the continent's economic development and prosperity.

The programme design is based on the assumption that **if** the AU Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) Policy Framework is operationalised with a specific focus on the Socio-Economic Development Pillar and Linkages created with Regional Economic Community programmes on Socio-Economic Development and pooled funding mechanisms established to incentivise PSDN programming approaches and Governance and Management structures established with Monitoring and Evaluation mechanisms to track compliance on matters related to Peace-Security-Development nexus **then** sustainable development and peace through regional integration anchored on the principles of peace, security, and development nexus will be achieved.

The policy framework outcome will be achieved through the development of partnerships and coordination with policy development institutions, with special attention to women and youth of the society under technical guidance on PSDN and promotion of national laws to be adopted by governments to address protracted crises using humanitarian principles.

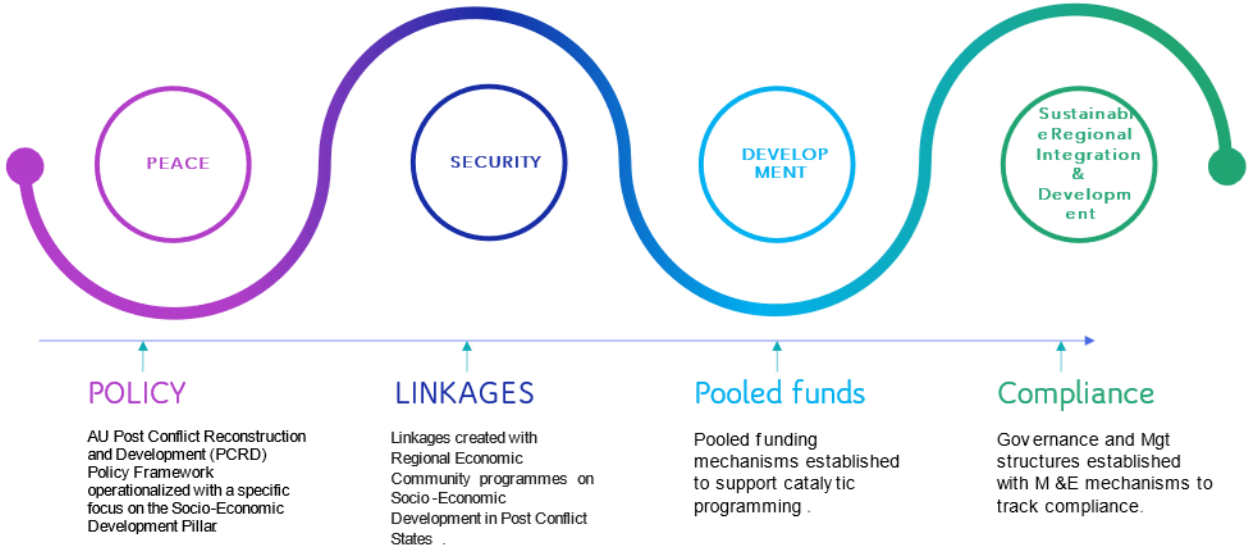
The linkage with regional economic community programmes outcome will be accomplished through coordination between the AU, the UN Regional offices, and Regional Economic Communities with a common vision and Multi-Year Programming for target countries based on national and Local Integrated PSDN Analysis and Coordination in RCOs.

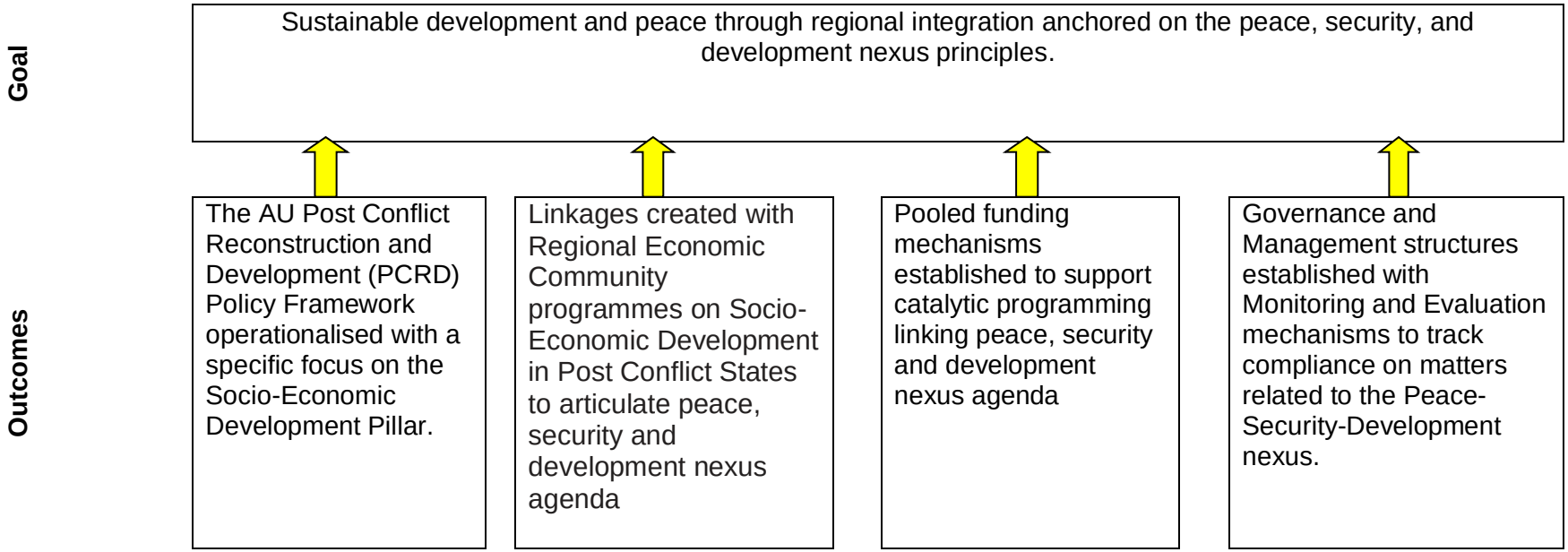
The Pooled funding mechanisms to support catalytic programming linking peace, security and development nexus approaches will be achieved through national and local integrated PSDN analysis and budget in RCOs, coordination with donors and governments to fund common enabling services.

For all the above to sustainably exist, governance & implementation structures will be developed for multi-year planning by target countries with continental and country-level M&E frameworks for the assessment of peace-security-development nexus, for tracking and monitoring progress on gender issues and effects of peace support operations on the countries and launching of special political missions based on strengthened standardised strategic planning and data analysis. All these intervention areas working together in synergy will ultimately contribute to sustainable development and peace through regional integration anchored on the peace, security and development nexus principles.

The diagrams below represent the theory of change pathways:

GOAL: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE THROUGH REGIONAL INTEGRA TION THAT IS ANCHORED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF PEACE, SECURITY, AND DEVELOPMENT




Goal
Sustainable development and peace through regional integration anchored on the peace, security, and development nexus principles.
Outcomes
The AU Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) Policy Framework operationalised with a specific focus on the Socio-Economic Development Pillar.
Linkages created with Regional Economic Community programmes on Socio-Economic Development in Post Conflict States to articulate peace, security and development nexus agenda
Pooled funding mechanisms established to support catalytic programming linking peace, security and development nexus agenda
Governance and Management structures established with Monitoring and Evaluation mechanisms to track compliance on matters related to the Peace-Security-Development nexus.

Outputs	- Partnerships and the inter-relationships established with policy development institutions - Policy coordination and technical guidance on PSDN gender and human rights and address gender issues in budgeting processes. - National laws adopted by governments to address protracted crises - Humanitarian principles and humanitarian space safeguarded		- Coordination between the AU, the UN Regional offices, and Regional Economic Communities - Common vision and Multi-Year Programming established for target countries - National and Local Integrated PSDN Analysis and Coordination established in RCOs		- National and Local Integrated PSDN Analysis and budget Coordination established in RCOs - Pooled funding mechanisms to incentivise PSDN approaches - Fund common enabling services funded		Progamme governance & implementation established for multi-Year planning by target countries Continental and country-level M&E framework developed for assessment of peace-security-development nexus Progress and effects of peace support operations and special political missions tracked and monitored Strategic planning strengthened and data analysis standardised.
Approaches	- Facilitate knowledge and experience-sharing through networked and innovative processes and delivering innovative programmes. Special attention will be given to the concerns of women and youth of the society to enhance their active participation at various stages of the project, - Enhancing effectiveness by leveraging partnerships at national, regional and continental levels - Advocacy and policy influence - Peer review and reflection						

2.5 Alignment, Ownership And Partnerships

Coherence across the peace and security pillar is driving the AU's holistic approach to peacebuilding and sustaining peace. This is, most notably, manifested in the merger of the AU Peacebuilding Support Office and the Department of Political Affairs into the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. The **alignment** of regional strategies and peace operations in the Sahel, Great Lakes and Horn of Africa regions are further positive developments. Further alignment will be made in consideration of the regional economic blocs; EAC, ECOWAS, SADC, and Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

National and local **ownership** is critical. The recent progress in Somalia's debt relief process can be traced back to the government's ability to mobilise and generate domestic revenues. For example, the infrastructure programme leveraged the private sector, chamber of commerce, local communities, and the public. This signifies how a country can accelerate its peacebuilding progress if it can generate political will and follows a whole-of-government approach. In the same vein, continental **ownership** by the AU is vital. The AU's main financial mechanism is the AU Peace Fund, launched in 2018.

Coherence of peacebuilding efforts, especially between the UN and AU as the two main actors in Africa, is crucial to ensuring impact. The organisation's joint efforts on Peace and Security (2017) are guided by the UN-AU Enhanced Partnership Framework, the framework for implementing Agenda 2063 and the 2030 agenda for sustainable development (2018). The 2017 Memorandum of Understanding on UN-AU **partnership** in peacebuilding provides a framework to strengthen (i) cooperation in support of peacebuilding and sustaining peace efforts in Africa and (ii) UN-AU partnership in areas of conflict prevention, political dialogue, national reconciliation, democratic governance, and human rights. The programme takes cognisance of the fact that Africa remains a priority of the European Union, which based its strategic partnership on the Cotonou Agreement and the Euro-Mediterranean partnership recently reaffirmed at the Africa-Europe summit in Cairo.

2.6 Programme Logical Framework Matrix

Programme hierarchy	**Objectively verifiable indicators**	**Means of verification**	**Assumptions**
Impact: Sustainable development and peace anchored on Africa's peace, security and development nexus principles	Level of regional integration for sustainable development and peace	Signed regional integration and cooperation policy documents	The process of regional integration will be smooth and lead to sustainable development and peace
	Principles of peace, security and development	Regional commitments on principles of peace, security, and development nexus	

Programme hierarchy	Objectively verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions
	Level of sustainable development and peace	level of financial contributions towards sustainable development and peace	
Outcome 1: Operationalized AU Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) Policy Framework, specifically focusing on the Socio-Economic Development Pillar and gender and youth issues.	Agreed agenda on Africa's integration and development Number of countries aligning their peace and security policy framework with the AU Agenda	Regional compacts signed for integration of peace and security in development agenda Policy documents addressing the nexus agenda and women and youth issues.	There will be harmonisation between countries and the AU agenda on peace, security, and development policy architecture
Outcome 2: Linkages created with Regional Economic Community programmes on Socio-Economic Development in Post Conflict States to articulate peace, security and development nexus agenda	Number of countries with integrated peace, security and development programmes linked to the programme	National development Plans, Ongoing Programmes linked with peace, security, and development nexus	Budget allocation for government policies and programmes
Outcome 3: Pooled funding mechanisms established to support catalytic programming linking peace, security and development nexus agenda	Level of pooled funding mechanisms established	Amount of funding raised at continental, regional and national levels and pooled towards peace security and development agenda	Collaboration between actors, donors, AU, RECs and national governments towards pooled funding mechanisms
Outcome 4: Governance and Management structures established with Monitoring and Evaluation mechanisms to track compliance on matters related to the	Number of countries with established governance management structures with M&E mechanisms for peace security and	Functional Governance structures implementation units and M&E reports	The established governance and implementation structures with the M&E mechanism will be operational

Programme hierarchy	Objectively verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions
Peace-Security-Development nexus.	development nexus.		across target countries
Output 1.1 Partnerships and the inter-relationships established with policy development institutions	Level of partnership among actors focusing on policy agenda	Memoranda of Understanding (MoU), letters of Intent (LoI) or agreements	Effective policy partnership for PSD nexus
Output 1.2 Policy coordination and technical guidance on PSDN and gender and human rights and gender issues in budgeting processes put in place	Number of policy notes, briefs, and advisory guidelines on PSDN	Policies and guidelines on PSDN	Compliance by the countries
Output 1.3: National laws adopted by governments to address protracted crises	Number of countries that have taken steps towards the adoption of laws to address protracted crises	Laws and policies against protracted crises	Donors are willing to support designed programmes Compliance by the countries
Output 1.4: Humanitarian principles and humanitarian space safeguarded	Number of countries with safeguarding humanitarian principles and space for engagement	Key humanitarian principles	Integration between PSD nexus
Output 2.1: Coordination mechanism between the AU, the UN, Regional offices and Regional Economic Communities established	Level of coordination between AU, UN, Regional offices, and Economic Communities	Tripartite and bilateral Agreements	Effective coordination among key actors
Output 2.2 Common vision and Multi-Year Programming established for target countries	Number of Multiyear programmes linked with PSD planning exercises.	PSD Multiyear planning documents Funded programmes linked to PSD	All countries conduct PSD planning exercises
Output 2.3: National and Local Integrated PSDN	Number of countries with national and	PSDN analysis reports	PSDN analysis to inform

Programme hierarchy	Objectively verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions
Analysis and Coordination established in RCOs	local PSDN analysis		interventions
Output 3.1: Donor's fund common enabling services	Level of donor funding	Donor funding commitments	Donors provide funds for common enabling services
Output 3.2: Funding mechanisms adopted at the country level peace-security-development spectrum	Number of funding mechanisms adopted	Funding mechanisms and commitments	Countries establish funding mechanisms
Output 3.3: Flexible and pooled funding mechanisms used to incentivise PSDN approaches	Level of flexible and pooled funding mechanisms utilised	Approved budgets/funding mechanisms	Funds to be utilised to incentivise PSDN approaches
Output 4.1: Programme governance & implementation established for multi-Year planning by target countries	Governance structure and organisation structure for programme implementation	Organogram and Programme Implementation manuals	Established structures work well for PSD.
Output 4.2: Continental, regional and country levels monitoring and evaluation framework developed for assessment of peace-security-development nexus	Number of countries with M&E frameworks Number of countries that aligned with the continental M&E framework	Continental and country M&E frameworks	Alignment of country and global M&E frameworks
Output 4.3: Progress and effects of peace support operations and special political missions tracked	Regular progress monitoring and reporting	Progress /monitoring reports	Decisions made based on M&E reports

Programme hierarchy	Objectively verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions
and monitored through 1 MTR and 1 ETR and quarterly progress reviews	1 MTR conducted 1 ETR conducted 4 annual and quarterly reviews	MTR report ETR report Quarterly reports Annual reports	
Output 4.4: Strategic planning and monitoring conducted. Data management and analysis standardised	strategic planning and monitoring Data quality	Strategy documents and Data quality reports	Strategic plans reflect countries' context and inform M&E and decisions based on quality data.

2.7 Governance and Implementation arrangements

The Project Board/Steering Committee

The Intergovernmental Steering Committee will assume the role of Project Board for this project (herein referred to as "Steering Committee". It provides overall programme guidance, coordination, strategic directions, and oversight of project implementation to ensure that the project's objectives and goals are properly achieved. The Committee will meet at least twice a year to ensure coherence, review progress, adjust programming as required and approve annual plans.

The Project management unit (PMU)

The Project Management Unit (PMU) will include staff carrying out various functions and tasks, including technical assistance, administration, and management. The project management staff includes professionals with extensive experience who are fully proficient and experienced in the local context. The proposed team structure will be carefully selected to cover the needed management, coordination and policy guidance, required technical knowledge, monitoring, and communication assets. AUDA-NEPAD will hold the role of the Executive.

The executive/ Programme manager: The Executive is ultimately responsible for the project, assisted by the Team Leader. The Executive's role is to ensure that the project is focused throughout its life cycle on achieving its objectives and delivering outputs and results that will contribute to higher-level outcomes. The Executive should ensure that the project gives value for money, ensuring a cost-conscious approach and balancing the demands of beneficiary and supplier. The executive will also be responsible for fundraising and implementing the financing mechanism for member states.

Team Leader will manage and provide technical support, cooperation, and collaboration in the programme. S/he will be responsible for programme planning, management, monitoring and evaluation and ensure smooth, cost-effective, efficient, and timely implementation of interventions, including integration of conflict-sensitivity approaches and operational and administrative activities.

Peace Building and Conflict programme Analyst will provide overall support to effectively implement the program's capacity building, conflict prevention, and peacebuilding goals and objectives. He/She will provide high-quality policy advice and technical, programmatic support in capacity development, conflict, and peacebuilding; provision of policy advice, programmatic guidance, and donor outreach; and support the coordination and conflict prevention and peacebuilding. The Analyst will submit quarterly reports on the progress and challenges encountered in implementing the programme's activities in capacity development, peacebuilding and conflict prevention.

Programme Management and Evaluation Officer: Under the supervision of the Team Leader, the Project Management and Evaluation Officer will be responsible for the

successful project management and implementation by contributing to the effective achievement of the project outputs and outcomes. He/She will also oversee all the project activities' monitoring and evaluation functions. He/She will also ensure that project activities contribute to programme outcomes by delivering planned outputs through efficient and effective management of resources. He/she will also be responsible for regular monitoring and evaluation as well as reporting on the progress of the project implementation and supporting the implementation of the project activities by undertaking research and analysis of relevant data and information. The project manager will be responsible for developing the monitoring and evaluation frameworks, tracking progress in achieving the outputs and outcomes, and preparing the requisite progress reports.

In addition to the project staff, several technical and administrative roles and services are required for the execution. Based on the needs of the action and the projected inputs, the following positions are included, on a pro-rata basis, as direct costs to the programme. Different positions are as follows:

Procurement Analyst: Responsible for providing support in the identification of procurement modalities, facilitating quality, transparent, effective and fast competitive procurement processes as per AUDA/NEPAD policies; supporting the project in the launch and publicity of procurement processes; advising in project procurement evaluation processes; supporting in negotiations with potential contractors; assisting in the process of contracting, monitoring of contracts and giving the appropriate advice thereon. The Procurement Analyst will be charged through direct project costs for the time spent directly attributable to implementing the Action.

Programme Admin Assistant: Responsible for administrative duties related to the implementation of the project activities in assisting with organising administrative tasks and processes for Action, including visa requests, logistical arrangements, travel authorisations and arrangements, ticketing, and commons services.

Finance Assistant: Responsible for providing support in facilitating bank disbursements for the project and payroll processing, including supporting the overall financial monitoring. As per AUDA / NEPAD, these tasks cannot be delegated to the project staff concerning the segregation of duties.

3.0 RISKS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

The following risks are envisaged during programme implementation:

Risks	Probability of Occurrence	Severity of risk impact (high, medium, low)	Mitigating Strategy
Poor coordination	Medium	Medium	Efforts will be made to ensure effective consultations at the beginning for buy-in at the continental, regional and country level
Communication problems	Medium	Medium	The programme will invest in infrastructural and virtual support for timely translations and interpretation for effective communication.
General lack of oversight, evaluation	Medium	Medium	This will be addressed through a multi-sectoral approach at all levels.
Different government policies and priorities.	High	Medium	To be addressed gradually, considering that target countries are at different levels in terms of policies and programmes.
Willingness and ability of the partners to fully participate in the processes	Low	Medium	Identify and work closely with critical partners in the national government and representatives.
Because of the high level of poverty and lack of alternative livelihood in the post-conflict countries, the possibility of relapse into violent conflict exists	Low	High	Improve the livelihood of the community by creating and promoting alternative livelihood projects

4.0 COSTS AND BENEFITS

Building resilient communities and supporting national development objectives mitigate the losses inflicted on countries due to insecurity. Particularly disturbing is the observation that conflict is always associated with underdevelopment or regression. The security of countries, no matter how advanced, is intricately linked to development not just within their borders but also in other countries and regions of the content. Responses to security threats cannot be limited to military action. Still, they will incorporate development solutions to entrench the 'peace dividend' in communities, create more inclusive societies, and create conditions for sustained economic growth.

The programme will explore new frontiers for innovative and cost-effective engagement. A recent example is the technical peacebuilding mission in The Gambia,[9] undertaking targeted capacity-building programs. The mission is integrated within the government, providing it with direct and quick access to information and cost-efficiency.

[9] AU Technical Mission to The Gambia

5.0 EXIT STRATEGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Efforts will be made to enshrine several guidelines and principles critical to the effectiveness and sustainability of the programme interventions, moving beyond quick fixes and short-term stabilisation to creating conditions conducive to positive peace. A central aspect in this regard is the emphasis on strengthening national ownership and advancing inclusivity, including building national and local capacities. Investing in the sustainability of systems requires balanced and predictable financing across the peace continuum. Political processes must be linked with economic and development processes and human rights capacity development. Moreover, funds need to be deployed rapidly. Suppose peacebuilding tools are not rapidly deployed after the signing of peace agreements. In that case, the peace dividend may not be harnessed, and the necessary processes for the sustainability of the agreement, such as transitional justice and reconciliation, security sector reform, disarmament, demobilisation, and reintegration, do not bear their fruits.

At the continental level, there is a need for an informed, inclusive, participatory approach. Fundamentally, such an approach towards the nexus needs to be promoted within each pillar and across pillars for all concerned actors from the local and sub-national levels upwards, through to national and international, sub-regional, multi-lateral and top-end global levels.

Secondly, the focus will be on knowledge production, awareness-raising, and capacity building. These issues are critical for improving the uptake of the nexus approach at every level. There are many missed opportunities by not implementing the nexus approach. Therefore, the need exists to regroup and leverage existing knowledge on the nexus while promoting fresh engagement in keeping with the New Way of Working. High-level engagement among agencies, such as OCHA and OHCHR, in related exercises would help uptake. This dovetails with the promotion of institutional leadership, along with incentivisation for nexus-inspired leadership through ongoing performance evaluation, such as witnessed by the APRM. Capacity development will be encouraged for member states to integrate the nexus approach into national development strategies and, beyond this, into civil society and broader stakeholders.

The programme will adopt an adaptive, collaborative and coordinated approach. Adaptation to context is key – one-size-fits-all solutions should be avoided at all costs. The necessity of information cannot be stressed enough, as this is critical to identifying the root causes of issues and conflicts. Detailed assessments to gather context-specific information and promote knowledge of situations and crises will be necessary to promote more effective and durable solutions across the different pillars of the nexus approach.

The programme will promote coherent, integrated, and flexible assessment and financing frameworks. This will be required internationally to support continued funding for the nexus. Along with assessment, financing needs to be prioritised as it has not been available to drive the approach at subregional, national, and sub-national levels, especially in the longer term and where needed for scaling up implementation operations.

Finally, the programme nurtures good governance and strong institutions. This will foster the nexus approach and help ensure that development resources are efficiently distributed and accounted for. The importance of governance, political will and leadership to set up an appropriate framework to promote the nexus approach will be strongly emphasised.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Five-year Detailed Work Plan and Budget[10] with Programme Components

Programme Costs							
Outcome 1: Operationalisation of the AU Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) Policy Framework, with a specific focus on the Socio-Economic Development Pillar							
Expected Outputs	Planned Activities	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	**Total Budget**
Output 1.1 Partnerships and the inter-relationships established with policy development institutions	1.1.1 Identify potential partners for Capacity building through assessments	100,000	100,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	440,000.00
	1.1.2 Conduct workshops for advocacy and networking with depts of AUC, ECA and others	120,000	120,000	150,000	150,000	120,000	660,000.00
Output 1.2 Policy coordination and technical guidance on PSDN and gender and human rights and gender issues in budgeting processes put in place	1.2.1 Conduct policy coordination meetings with stakeholders and offer technical guidance on PSDN	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	750,000.00

[10] Indicative budget

Output 1.3: National laws adopted by governments to address protracted crises	1.3.1 Hold meetings with governments to lobby for adopting national laws and producing policy briefs, notes and advisories.	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	1,000,000.00
Output 1.4: Humanitarian principles and humanitarian space safeguarded	1.4.1 Conduct integrated strategic humanitarian development and peace planning exercises.	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	750,000.00
	1.4.2 Conduct common needs analysis, scenario planning, risk analysis scenarios and programming options for PSD.	200,000	200,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	700,000.00
	Sub-Total Outcome 1	**920,000**	**920,000**	**830,000**	**830,000**	**800,000**	**4,300,000**
Outcome 2: Linkages created with Regional Economic Community programmes on Socio-Economic Development in Post Conflict States to articulate peace, security, and development nexus agenda							
Expected Outputs	Planned Activities	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total Budget
Output 2.1: Coordination mechanism between the AU, the UN, Regional offices, and Regional Economic Communities	2.1.1 Mapping of regional integration mechanisms	150,000	150,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	600,000.00
	2.1.2 Organize regional forums	100,000	100,000	200,000	250,000	200,000	850,000.00

established	2.1.3 Establish coordinating mechanisms	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	500,000.00
Output 2.2 Common vision and Multi-Year Programming established for target countries	2.2.1 Conduct country-level needs assessment	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	100,000	700,000.00
	2.2.2 Conduct workshops for strategy and multi-year planning	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	750,000.00
	2.2.3 Identify cross-cutting issues for integrated programming	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	250,000.00
Output 2.3: National and Local Integrated PSDN Analysis and Coordination established in RCOs	2.3.1 Needs analysis of national and local PSDN	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	500,000.00
	2.3.2 Establish coordination of country programmes	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	750,000.00
	Sub-Total Outcome 2	**950,000**	**950,000**	**1,000,000**	**1,050,000**	**950,000**	**4,900,000**
Outcome 3: Pooled funding mechanisms established to support catalytic programming linking peace, security, and development nexus agenda							
Expected Outputs	Planned Activities	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total Budget
Output 3.1: Donor's fund common enabling services	3.1.1 Donor mapping	100,000	100,000	100,000	50,000	50,000	400,000.00
	3.1.2 Establish round donor tables	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	750,000.00

	3.1.3 Establish donor coordination mechanism	100,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	100,000	650,000.00
Output 3.2: Funding mechanisms adopted at the country level peace-security-development spectrum	3.2.1 Country-level resource mobilisation	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	500,000.00
	3.2.2 Resource allocation based on identified needs	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	500,000.00
Output 3.3: Flexible and pooled funding mechanisms used to incentivise PSDN approaches	3.3.1 Budget allocation	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	250,000.00
	3.3.2 Budget monitoring and reporting	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	750,000.00
	Sub-Total Outcome 3	**750,000**	**800,000**	**800,000**	**750,000**	**700,000**	**3,800,000**
Outcome 4: Governance and Management structures established with Monitoring and Evaluation mechanisms to track compliance on matters related to the Peace-Security-Development nexus.							
Expected Outputs	Planned Activities	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total Budget
Output 4.1: Programme governance & implementation established for multi-Year planning by target countries	4.1.1 Establish country-level programme governance mechanism	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	100,000	700,000.00
	4.1.2 Set country targets	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	250,000.00
Output 4.2: Continental, regional and country levels monitoring and	4.2.1 Conduct continental and country-level M&E capacity assessment	250,000	150,000	150,000	100,000	100,000	750,000.00

evaluation framework developed for assessment of peace-security-development nexus	4.2.2 Design continental and country-specific indicators	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	500,000.00
	4.2.3 Establish continental and country-level M&E frameworks	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	500,000.00
Output 4.3: Progress and effects of peace support operations and special political missions tracked and monitored	4.3.1 Establish clear targets	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	250,000.00
	4.3.2Conduct regular monitoring and reporting	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	1,000,000.00
Output 4.4: Strategic planning and monitoring conducted Data management and analysis standardised	4.4.1 Establish country-specific data needs	150,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	550,000.00
	4.4.2 Conduct regular data quality audits and reporting	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	500,000.00
	Sub-Total Outcome 4	**1,150,000**	**1,000,000**	**1,000,000**	**950,000**	**900,000**	**5,000,000**
Administrative Costs							
Salaries and remunerations		**1,000,000**	**1,000,000**	**1,000,000**	**1,000,000**	**1,000,000**	**5,000,000**
Operational costs		**400,000**	**400,000**	**400,000**	**400,000**	**400,000**	**2,000,000**
Total Budget		**5,170,000**	**5,070,000**	**5,030,000**	**4,980,000**	**4,750,000**	**25,000,000**

Annex 2: Development Fund for Socio-Economic Development in Post-Conflict States financing mechanism

The AU, RECs, partner states and other stakeholders will develop strategies for mobilising resources for implementing the programme. One of the initiatives will be a donor round table dialogue organised by the partner states to discuss areas of possible collaboration. Some groups that will be invited include Governments, Development Partners, Private Sector, Civil Society and RECs Organs and Institutions.

Financing Procedures and commitments

Member states will contribute to the fund, and the development partners will supplement this through the pooled fund mechanism. This fund is in the form of basket funding with no conditional ties attached by the donors or earmarking for specific projects and programmes. Another possible source of funding is through the private sector by formalising public-private partnerships.

Management of funds

AU, RECs, and partner states will employ a Programme Based Budgeting (PBB) to guide decisions for the allocation and disbursement of funds for implementing the programme. PBB directly addresses the enabling environment for all women and girls; for example, it addresses social norms regarding the value of women and girls in the community and engages the community to ensure that women/girls are safe from all forms of violence in their homes, schools, and communities.

At the regional, national, and local levels, CSOs will play an important role in ensuring transparency and accountability in AU, RECs, and donor spending. Organisations will be involved in defining priority areas and planning processes at the regional and national levels. At the local level, they will oversee and monitor expenditures and use ground-level findings to call for changes in budget allocations and to plan priorities to ensure that funds for strategic plan implementation are utilised efficiently and effectively.

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