



Annual REPORT

*African Union Development
Agency - NEPAD*

2022

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Foreword

AUDA-NEPAD Chief Executive Officer

The COVID-19 pandemic has set Africa's economic convergence with the world economy back. Africa's economic growth was projected to decelerate to 4.1% in 2022 and 2023, 8 percentage points lower than the growth rate for the rest of the world. Across the continent, we have seen an increase in economic vulnerability with higher government debt, inflationary pressure, and tighter monetary policies. Against this background, Member States continue to face difficult socio-economic challenges. Over the past two years, more than 59 million Africans have been pushed into extreme poverty. Furthermore, at least one in five Africans goes to bed hungry and an estimated 140 million people in Africa face acute food insecurity. These statistics not only reflect the severity of the socio-economic challenges facing Member States, but more importantly, they highlight that local actors, policymakers, regional bodies, development institutions and AUDA-NEPAD need to intensify efforts to respond to present socio-economic crises, prepare for future challenges, reduce vulnerability, and build resilience in all facets of society.

When I took office as the Chief Executive Officer of the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD) on May 1, 2022, I was confronted with the question of how the Agency will address these challenges and contribute to the development of the continent. Our system-wide response has been to strengthen the Agency's technical and financial capacity to deliver its mandate, embrace an integrated development approach, redefine, and adopt a more agile strategy to ensure that we fully execute our mandate, deliver a people-centred inclusive transformative impact and champion the implementation of Agenda 2063.

Towards this end, in 2022 we adjusted our programmes and budget to respond to the emerging needs and priorities including disruptions and shocks triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, geo-political tensions on the continent, the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict and the impacts of climate change. This process resulted in a strategic reprioritisation and focus on transformational results in three areas taking into account Africa's goals of sustainable socio-economic development through rapid industrialisation within the framework of the African Continental Free Trade Area. These include (i) Health systems—focusing on building capacity in the pharmaceutical and manufacturing sector and improving access to essential healthcare services; (ii) Economic growth and job creation through interventions aimed at enhancing infrastructure development, trade and markets and productivity-enhancing innovations, and (iii) Food systems— aimed at increasing agricultural and food productivity to ensure food and nutrition security. This Annual Report highlights some of the key achievements made by AUDA-NEPAD in these areas.

As part of these initiatives, AUDA-NEPAD has developed and initiated the implementation of innovative and locally adapted interventions. AUDA-NEPAD in partnership with the African Union Commission (AUC) has developed a monitoring tool to track the significant progress made across all goals, priority areas and targets, and subsequently launched the Second Biennial Continental Report on the Implementation of Agenda 2063. Furthermore, AUDA-NEPAD and AUC have embarked on the evaluation of the first ten-year implementation plan and the preparation of the successor ten-year plan

of Agenda 2063— a process also dubbed "The Special Project". These interventions will help us to better prepare and build the necessary capacities to respond to current challenges and future needs of Member States towards realising "The Africa We Want". We also launched the AUDA-NEPAD Energize Africa Initiative which focuses on catalysing and harnessing the youths' potential, creativity and innovativeness into Africa's economic growth and development drive. The aim is to expand income opportunities for the youth—through the creation of jobs, dynamic innovations and entrepreneurship contributing to rapid industrialisation. AUDA-NEPAD has already rallied a significant number of stakeholders and partners behind Energize Africa. The multi-year and partner initiative serves as a catalytic AUDA-NEPAD flagship towards realising Agenda 2063.

In pursuit of operational excellence, AUDA-NEPAD has enhanced its business processes through the deployment of digital solutions. This has enabled AUDA-NEPAD to implement a dynamic business model towards becoming a more agile and efficient organisation. Furthermore, the Agency successfully completed a comprehensive EU IX pillar capacity assessment in the areas of internal controls, accounting, external audits, grants cycle management, procurement, exclusion from access to funding, publication of information on recipients and protection of personal data. Importantly, as the Agency moves forward in speeding and scaling up its interventions, the Agency's delivery model will be enhanced, and a fit-for-purpose organisational structure defined with the required competencies.

I wish to extend my deepest gratitude to the Heads of State, members of the NEPAD Steering Committee and the African Union Commission for the immense support I have received since my appointment. I sincerely appreciate the unwavering support and trust from H.E. Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda and Chairperson of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee, H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the AUC, all the AUC Commissioners, and Chief Executives of the Regional Economic Communities. I am grateful to all AUDA-NEPAD staff and our development partners. Without your commitment and efforts, we would not have achieved the milestones highlighted in this report.

Looking ahead to 2023, the Agency recognises that getting ahead of Africa's development complexities requires leaping forward into new and uncharted opportunities. The Agency intends to do this by continuing to forge dynamic and productive working relations with Member States, and all of Africa's stakeholders and partners through collective approaches.

H.E. Nardos Bekele-Thomas

Chief Executive Officer
AUDA-NEPAD



Acronyms

ABNE	African Biosafety Network of Expertise	MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
AFR100	African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative	NDPs	National Development Plans
AfDB	African Development Bank	NAIP	National Agriculture Investment Plan
AIDA	Accelerated Industrial Development for Africa	OSBPs	One-Stop Border Posts
ALM	Africa Leadership Meeting	PAVM	Partnership for Africa Vaccine Manufacturing
AMA	Africa Medicines Agency	PIDA	Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa
AMRH	African Medicines Regulatory Harmonisation	PQL	Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa Quality Label
ASPYEE	African Skills Portal for Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship	PRC	Personal Representatives of African Heads of States Committee
AU	African Union	R&D	Research and Development
AU-3S	Africa Union Smart Safety Surveillance	REC	Regional Economic Community
AUC	African Union Commission	SAATM	Single African Air Transport Market
AUDA-NEPAD	African Union Development Agency-NEPAD	SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme	SDM	Service Delivery Mechanism
CARI	Coalition for African Research and Innovation	SIFA	Skills Initiative for Africa
CESA	Continental Education Strategy for Africa	STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa	STISA-2024	Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024
EAC	East Africa Community	TLS	Traffic Lights System
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States	UNFSS	United Nations Food Systems Summit
FTYIP	First Ten-Year Implementation Plan		
HSGOC	Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee		
IFNA	Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa		
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development		
IVM	Integrated Vector Management		
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding		

Agenda 2063 Aspirations and Goals



Aspiration 1

A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development



Aspiration 2

An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and a Vision of the African Renaissance



Aspiration 3

An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law



Aspiration 4

A peaceful and secure Africa



Aspiration 5

Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, value and beliefs



Aspiration 6

An Africa whose development is people driven, relying on the potential of the African People



Aspiration 7

Africa as a strong and influential global partner



Goal 1

A High Standard of Living, Quality of Life and Well-Being



Goal 2

Well-Educated Citizens and Skills Revolution underpinned by Science, Technology and Innovation



Goal 3

Healthy and Well-Nourished Citizens



Goal 4

Transformed Economies and Job Creation



Goal 5

Modern Agriculture for Increased Productivity and Production



Goal 6

Blue/Ocean Economy for Accelerated Economic Growth



Goal 7

Environmentally Sustainable Climate Resilient Economies and Communities



Goal 8

United Africa (Federal or Confederate)



Goal 9

Key Continental Financial and Monetary Institutions Established and Functional



Goal 10

World Class Infrastructure Criss-Crosses Africa



Goal 11

Democratic Values, Practices, Universal Principles of Human Rights, Justice and the Rule of Law Entrenched



Goal 12

Capable Institutions and Transformed Leadership in Place at All Levels



Goal 13

Peace, Security and Stability are Preserved



Goal 14

A Stable and Peaceful Africa



Goal 15

A Fully Functional and Operational African Peace and Security Architecture



Goal 16

African Cultural Renaissance is Pre-Eminent



Goal 17

Full Gender Equality in All Spheres of Life



Goal 18

Engaged and Empowered Youth and Children



Goal 19

Africa as a major partner in global affairs and peaceful co-existence



Goal 20

Africa Takes Full Responsibility for Financing Her Development



2022 Annual Report

The AUDA-NEPAD 2022 Annual Report is a landmark document as it marks both the end of a successful five-year transition of AUDA-NEPAD into a full-fledged Agency of the Union under the AU institutional reform process; and the first Ten-Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063. During the year under review, AUDA-NEPAD led regional projects and initiatives which impacted lives in 55 Member States. Through partnerships with the AUC, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and key development actors, institutions and organisations at national, regional, continental and global levels, AUDA-NEPAD achieved a tangible impact in the areas of economic growth and jobs; food systems; and health systems.

The evolving development dynamics, risks, financing, and investment challenges confronting Africa's transformation have continued to challenge the Agency to innovate holistically and re-engineer its strategic focus and delivery model. Hence, 2022 witnessed the consolidation of cross-functional and team coordination mechanisms needed to ensure the optimal utilisation and leveraging of financial, technical, network and process assets at the Agency's disposal.

About AUDA-NEPAD

In July 2018, the African Union (AU) Assembly through Dec.691(XXXI) endorsed the reform of the New Partnership for Africa's Development Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) into the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD). As Africa's first-ever continental technical and development agency of the AU, AUDA-NEPAD aims to accelerate the implementation of Africa's 50-year development framework—Agenda 2063 towards a prosperous Africa which is driven by its own citizens and is globally competitive. The foundation of AUDA-NEPAD is built on the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). NEPAD was established as Africa's continental renewal and development programme by the OAU (now AU) Heads of State and Government Summit in July 2001 in Lusaka, Zambia, and championed through the then NEPAD Secretariat, based in Midrand, South Africa.

The NEPAD vision represented a pledge by African leaders, based on a common vision and shared conviction, to eradicate poverty and foster Africa's sustainable economic growth and development through the promotion of regional and continental integration; halt the marginalisation of Africa in global processes and enhance its full and beneficial integration into the global economy; and accelerate the empowerment of socially disadvantaged groups, such as women and children.

Embracing the ever-evolving demands and complexities of Africa in the 21st Century and the need to fully respond to country-needs, the 2010 AU Summit (Assembly/AU/Dec.283(XIV)), transformed the NEPAD Secretariat into the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NEPAD Agency). This included a change in the mandate, with the Agency formally flagged as the AU's technical implementation support agency and integrated into AU systems and processes.

AUDA-NEPAD has therefore been undergoing a complete transition into the Development Agency of the AU to lead the accelerated implementation of Agenda 2063 and the emerging second Ten-Year Plan of Agenda 2063 towards re-imagining innovation-led models that are people-centred and inclusive. The approach builds on key lessons from the execution of the first ten-years of Agenda 2063 while gearing itself to systematically facilitate the mitigation of risks by Member States to stabilise inclusive growth. Within the ambitions of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) geared to position Africa as a major production hub strategically, the challenge now is to rapidly foster discovery and scale up the best of African solutions and innovations. The Agency is therefore seeking to consolidate efforts towards a critical pathway that strikes a balance to simultaneously help address short-term demands while pursuing long-term goals through industrialisation to spur socio-economic transformation.



July 2001

African Heads of State and Government adopt NEPAD at the 37th OAU Assembly in Lusaka, Zambia



July 2002

- The African Union—successor to the OAU—endorses NEPAD as a programme of the AU
- The NEPAD Secretariat is established to coordinate the implementation of NEPAD programmes and projects



February 2010

The NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NEPAD Agency) is established as an outcome of the integration of NEPAD into AU structures and processes

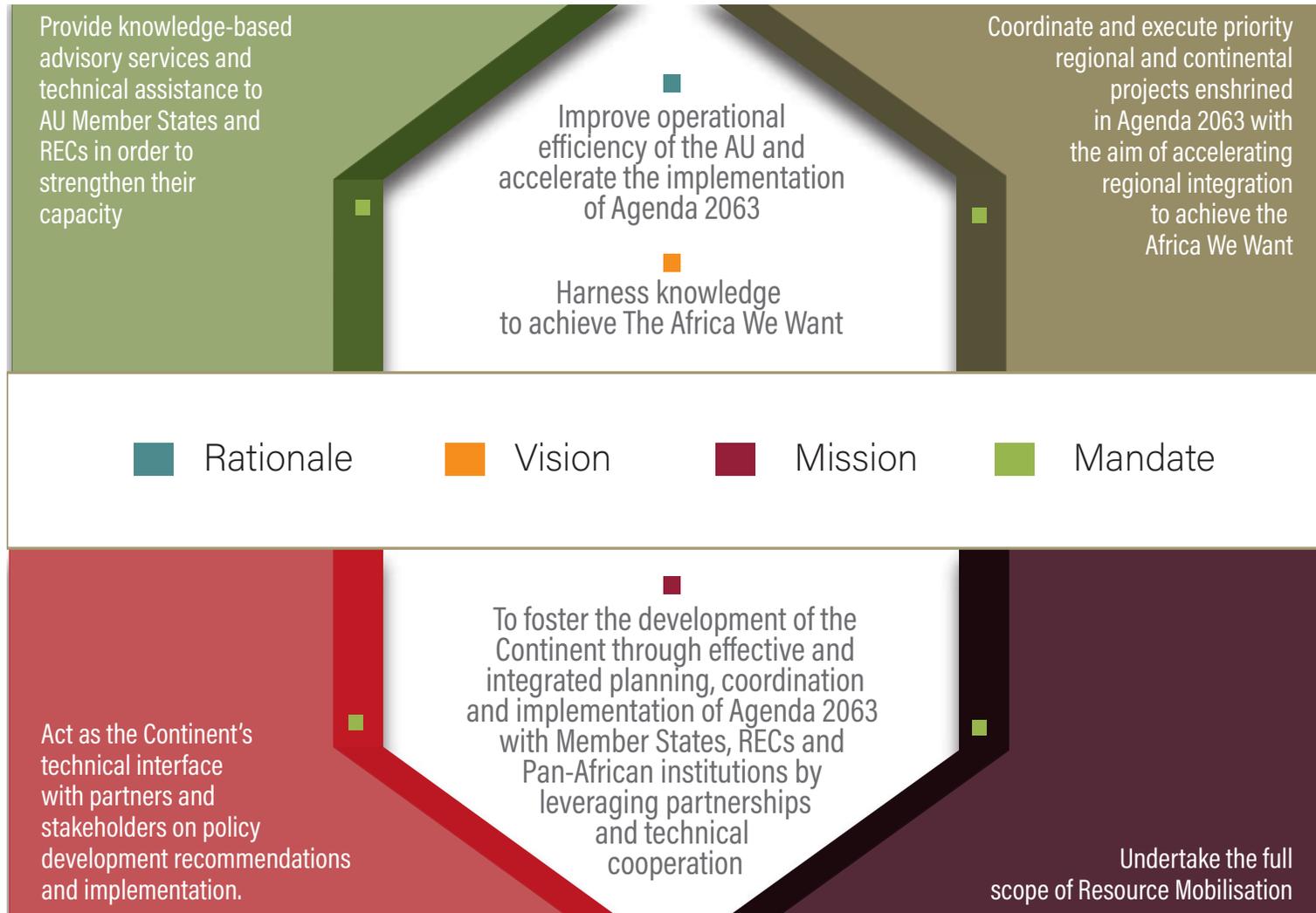


January 2018

A decision is taken by African Heads of State and Government to transform the NEPAD Agency into the first African Union development agency—AUDA-NEPAD—to champion the implementation of Agenda 2063

How AUDA-NEPAD Works

AUDA-NEPAD is a fully-fledged development agency primarily charged with coordinating and executing priority regional and continental projects outlined in Agenda 2063. The Agency is mandated to mobilise the full range of resources required for the effective implementation of priority projects and to provide knowledge-based advisory services and technical assistance to AU Member States and RECs. Furthermore, AUDA-NEPAD monitors and evaluates the implementation of programmes and projects and serves as the continent’s technical interface for policy development recommendations and implementation with partners and stakeholders.



AUDA-NEPAD Governance

Assembly of the African Union

The Chairperson of the Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC) reports to the African Union Assembly on AUDA-NEPAD activities and makes recommendations for decisions for consideration and adoption.

Personal Representatives of African Heads of States Committee (PRC)

The committee consists of the personal representatives of African Heads of States and meets typically about four times a year. It provides policy guidance and strategic advice to AUDA-NEPAD. The Sub-Committee is composed of 15 members based on the agreed geographical distribution.

AUDA-NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC)

A sub-committee of the AU Assembly consisting of Heads of State of 25 Members States and Chairs of the 8 RECs that provides political leadership and strategic guidance on Agenda 2063 priority issues and reports its recommendations to the full Assembly for endorsement. The Chairperson of the AUC also participates in HSGOC Summits.

 Algeria	 Egypt	 Malawi	 Nigeria	 Togo	 CEN-SAD	 ECOWAS
 Benin	 Equatorial Guinea	 Mali	 Rwanda	 Tunisia	 COMESA	 IGAD
 Cameroon	 Gabon	 Mauritania	 Senegal	 Uganda	 EAC	 SADC
 Chad	 Kenya	 Mauritius	 South Africa	 Zambia	 ECCAS	 UMA
 DRC	 Lesotho	 Morocco	 Sudan	 Zimbabwe		

AUDA-NEPAD Steering Committee

The intermediary body to interface between the HSGOC and AUDA-NEPAD, which oversees the activities of AUDA-NEPAD. The Committee is composed of the personal representatives of the Heads of State and Government of the HSGOC. In addition, representatives from the eight AU-recognised RECs, the AUC, the African Development Bank (AfDB), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (UNOSAA) and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) participate in AUDA-NEPAD Steering Committee meetings as observers.



What Progress has been Made Towards Achieving Agenda 2063?

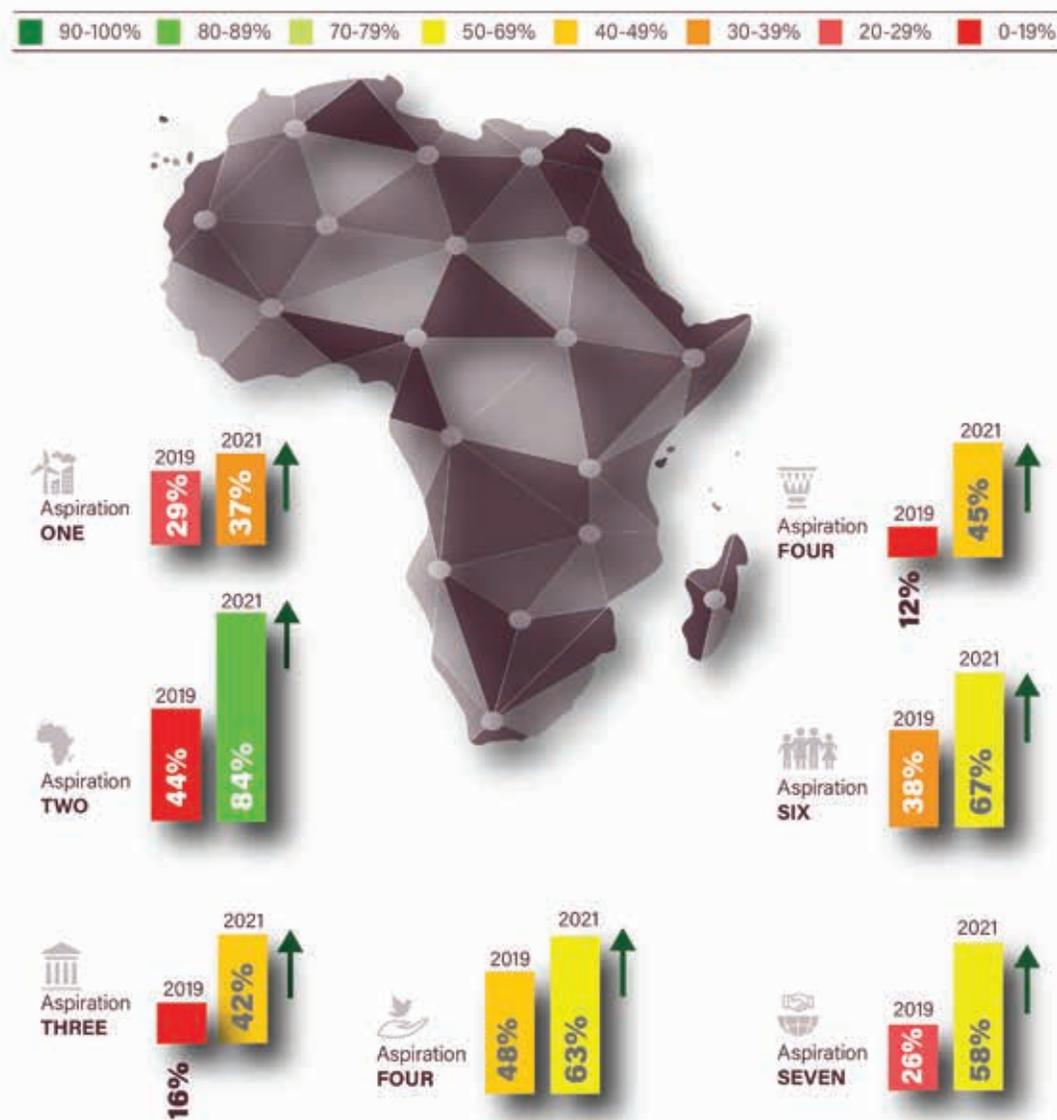
The African Union has continued to prioritise the need to accelerate efforts towards socio-economic transformation and development through strategic continental and regional initiatives. Agenda 2063 aims to bring the continent closer to “The Africa We Want”—an integrated, prosperous, and peaceful Africa driven by its citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international arena. It is the continent’s blueprint and master plan for transforming Africa into the global powerhouse of the future within 50 years. Agenda 2063 is anchored on seven aspirations.

-  **Aspiration 1:** A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development
-  **Aspiration 2:** An integrated continent, politically united, based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa’s Renaissance
-  **Aspiration 3:** An Africa of good governance, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law
-  **Aspiration 4:** A peaceful and secure Africa
-  **Aspiration 5:** An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics
-  **Aspiration 6:** An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children
-  **Aspiration 7:** Africa as a strong, united, resilient and influential global player and partner

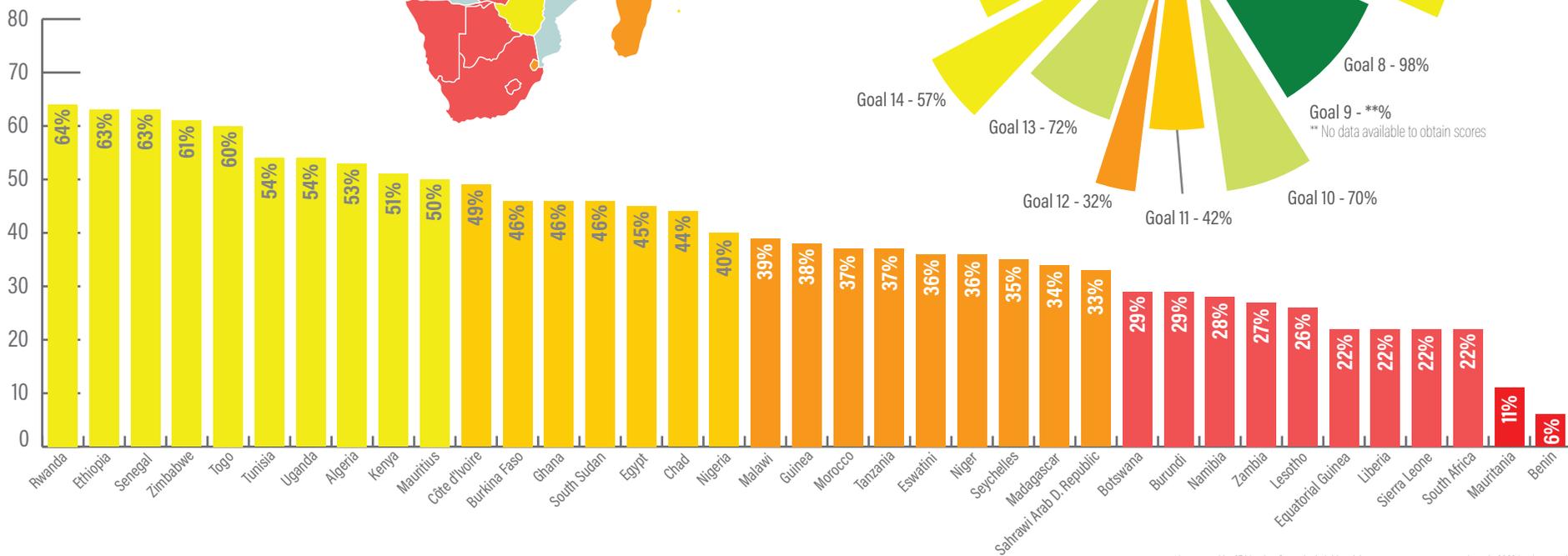
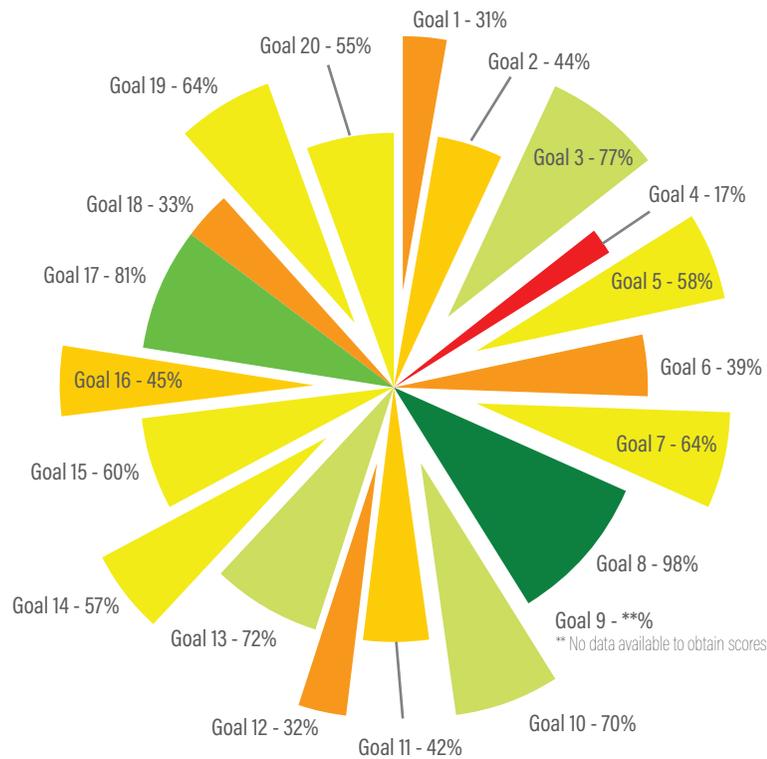
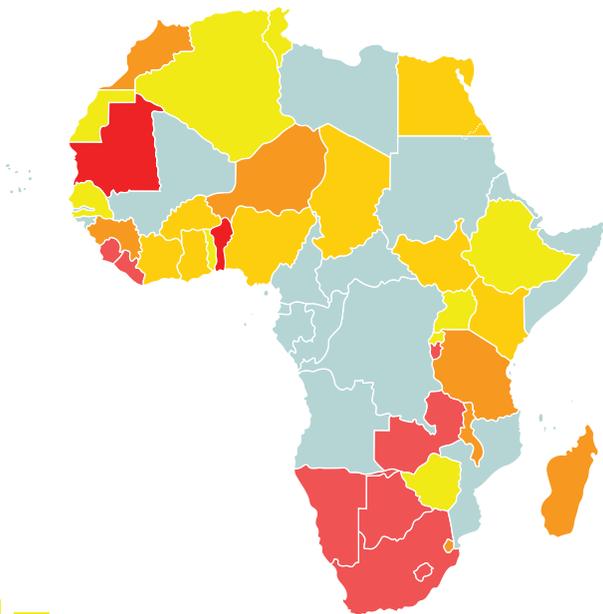
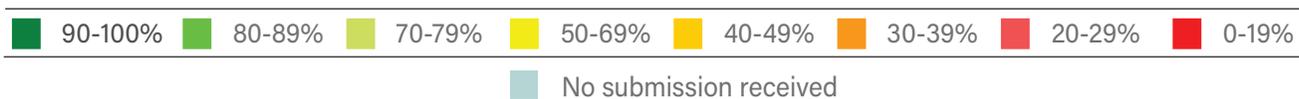
The fifty-year plan of Agenda 2063 is operationalised through five ten-year implementation plans. Eight years into the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063 (2014 to 2023), the AU is tracking progress towards realising the continent’s goals and targets. Against this background, policy organs of the AU tasked the AUC and AUDA-NEPAD to coordinate and prepare biennial performance reports on Agenda 2063. Technical support has been provided to thirty-eight (38) AU Member States in preparing their country-level progress and performance reports on the domestication and implementation of Agenda 2063.

In February 2022, H.E. Alassane Ouattara, President of Côte d'Ivoire and AU Champion of Agenda 2063, launched the Second Continental Report on the Implementation of Agenda 2063 at the 35th AU Summit. The report is an evidence-based assessment of progress made at the continental, regional and national levels. It shows that Agenda 2063 initiatives have gained substantive momentum. The challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic notwithstanding, Africa performed quite strongly and better than it did in 2019. At the aspiration level, the continent recorded a positive upward trend for most of the 20 goals, with an overall score of 51% against the 2021 targets compared to the 32% score registered in the first continental progress report in 2019.

Progress made by the Continent on Agenda 2063 implementation - by Aspiration



Agenda 2063 implementation - by Goal and Member State



*As reported by 37 Member States in their biennial country progress report on Agenda 2063 implementation in 2021

Evaluating Agenda 2063's First Decade - AUDA-NEPAD Achievements

In line with the AU Executive Decision that called upon AUC and AUDA-NEPAD to lead on the evaluation of the first ten-year implementation plan and the formulation of the successor ten-year plan of Agenda 2063 - a process dubbed the 'Special Project' - the Agency posted some fundamental results. These include the development of guidelines for national multi-stakeholder consultations that were subsequently used by 51 Member States. Furthermore, the Agency made available seed funding to all AU Member States which was accessed by 40 AU Member States. The Special Project was launched on 30 June 2022 and had the participation of ministers in charge of national planning, finance, and other high-level dignitaries. Regional orientation sessions covering all five regions of Africa were held and attended by fifty-two (52) Member States and eight (8) RECS. The orientation sessions were purposed to equip Member States with information and guiding tools for coordinating national consultations to assess the implementation of Agenda 2063's first decade and identify priorities to be considered in the Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan. The evaluation report of the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan and its successor plan will be presented to the AU Assembly in February 2023. Furthermore, a country needs assessment based on the findings evaluation report on the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan and the Second Biennial Report on the Implementation of Agenda 2063 was undertaken to identify the needs and priorities as expressed by the thirty-eight (38) AU Member States.

38 Member States

prepared country progress reports on the 2021 targets of Agenda 2063, culminating in the Second Continental Progress Report

52 Member States

were oriented and received technical guidelines to undertake multi-stakeholder consultations on the evaluation of the first decade and preparation of the successor plan of Agenda 2063

40 Member States

received seed funds towards undertaking national consultations on the Agenda 2063 Special Project

32 Member States

prepared national consultation reports on the evaluation of the first ten years of Agenda 2063 and the priorities for the next decade to come

20 Member States

provided additional data points to report on Agenda 2063 progress

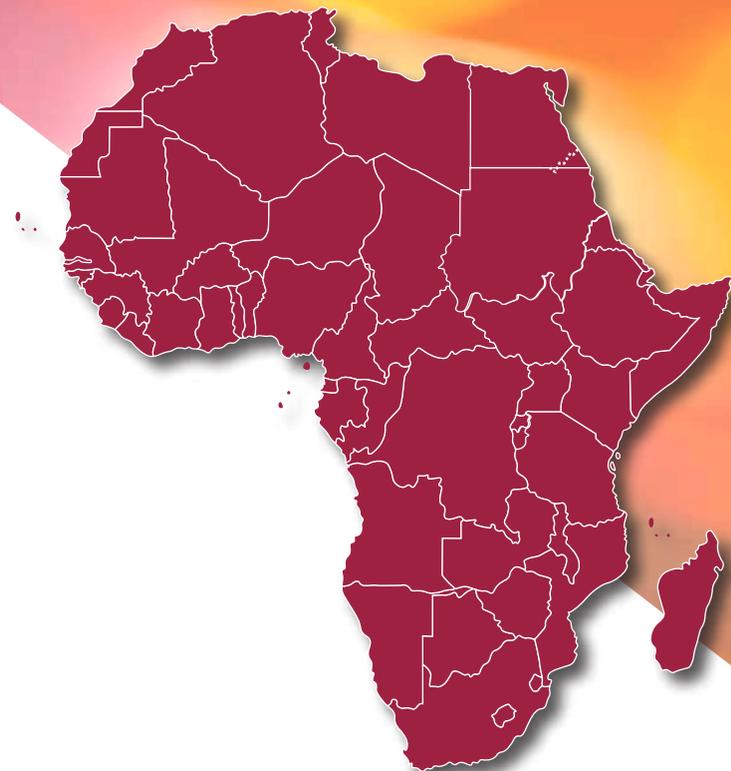




AUDA-NEPAD's 2022 Programmatic Contribution to Agenda 2063's First Decade

With a footprint in all AU Member States, AUDA-NEPAD continued to advance the implementation of Africa's development blueprint—Agenda 2063, by having a focus on three priority areas:

Footprint in all 55 AU Member States



Economic Growth and Jobs — paying particular attention to enhancing economic competitiveness and diversification by strengthening cross-border infrastructure development, home-grown innovations and empowering youth and women with access to skills, markets and finance



Health Systems — with thrust on building capacities in the pharmaceutical and manufacturing sector and increasing access to primary health care services and vaccines

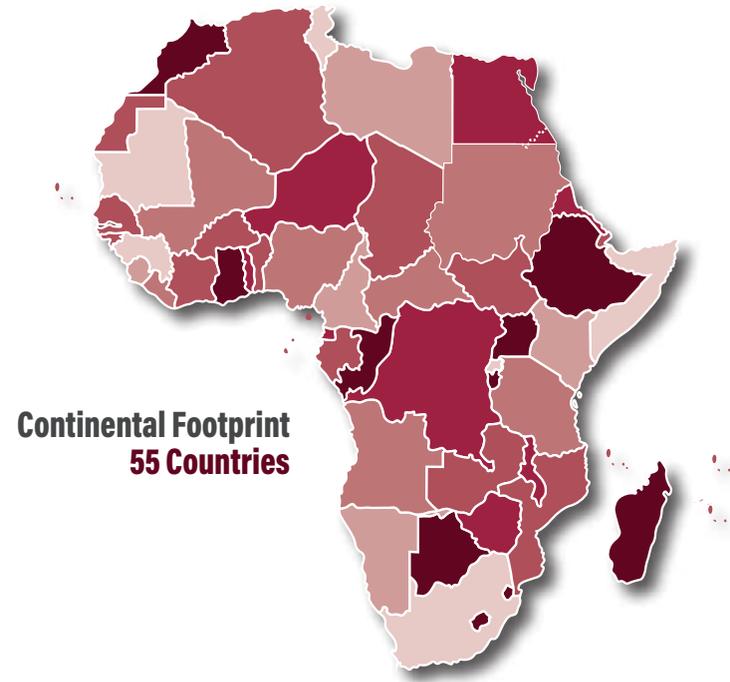


Food Systems — purposed at increasing agricultural and food production and resilience building, thereby ensuring food and nutrition security and supporting rural communities



2022 Highlights

Economic Growth and Jobs



Launched Energize Africa

AUDA-NEPAD's new flagship programme to harness the continent's youths' creativity and skills into economic growth and development



Supported the Development of an African Continental Qualifications Framework

to make cross-border comparison of qualifications possible in line AfCFTA



Launched a new funding window for Innovative TVET Solutions And Practices

in 8 African countries



DE-RISKED 10 High-Impact Infrastructure Projects

to accelerate investment in transformative regional projects across the continent



Launched PIDA Quality Label

to award excellence in project preparation

Fast-Tracked 43 PIDA Projects

through a needs assessment for project preparation



Continental Power Systems Masterplan in Advanced Stages

to accelerate the implementation of the African Single Electricity Market



Assisted 7 African Countries

in building a bankable pipeline of green infrastructure projects



Launched Africa Water Investment Programme Scorecard

as a "game changer" for the mobilisation of water and sanitation investments

Energize Africa



“*The Energize Africa initiative is about harnessing the youths’ creativity and skills into the continent’s economic growth and development, whilst expanding income opportunities for the youth – through the creation of jobs, innovation, and entrepreneurship.*”

- H.E. Nardos Bekele-Thomas, AUDA-NEPAD Chief Executive Officer

Energize Africa—AUDA-NEPAD’s new flagship recognises that Africa’s youth and women making up more than half of the continent’s populations, must be at the core of Africa’s economic growth and inclusive development strategies. Energize Africa acknowledges that youth are partners for the sustainable development, peace, and prosperity of Africa, with a unique contribution to the continent’s present and future development. The flagship was successfully co-launched in partnership with Afreximbank on the margins of the 77th United Nations General Assembly in New York, United States.

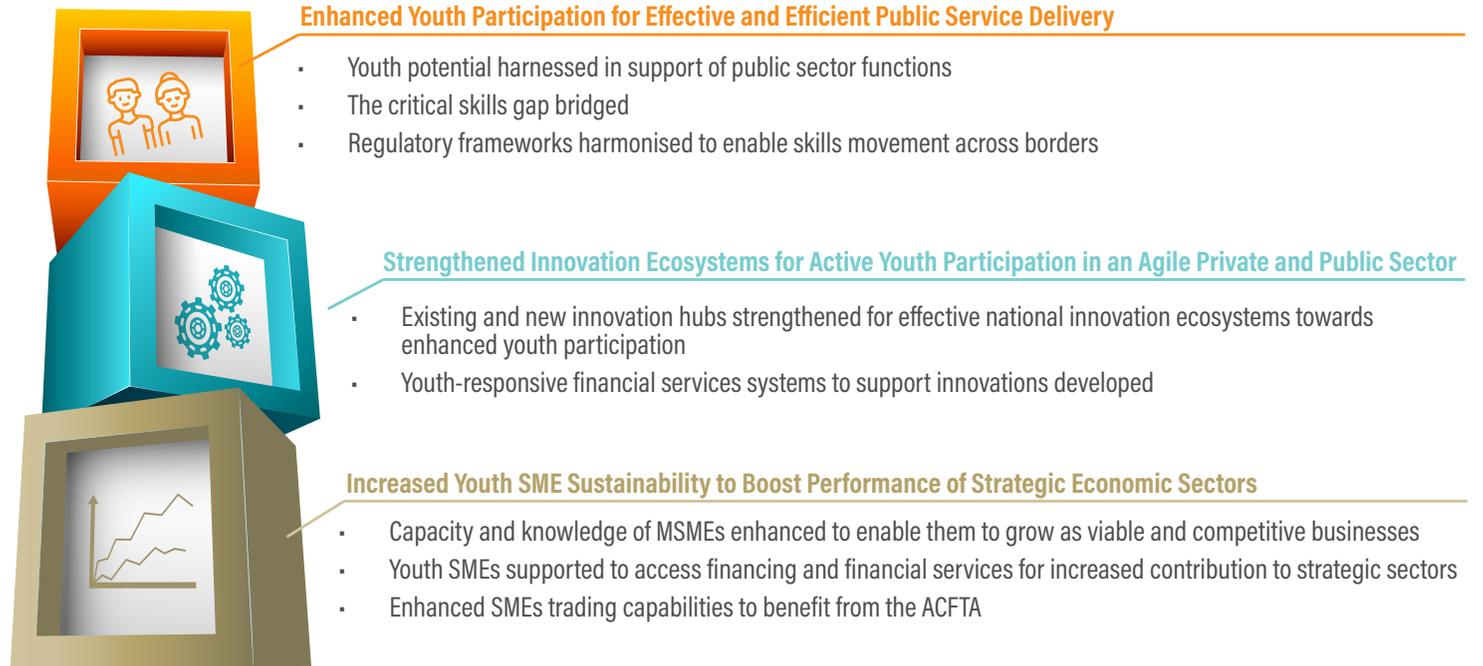
Energize Africa focuses on young professionals to enhance public sector efficiency, stimulate solution-focused research and development through innovation hubs, and develop entrepreneurship opportunities for Africa’s youthful populations for improved socio-economic well-being.

More specifically, Energize Africa aims to:

- Mobilise Africa’s dynamic technical and professional youth with a passion for Pan-Africanism to support the delivery of AUDA-NEPAD flagship and priority projects towards achieving Agenda 2063
- Create a pool of highly qualified and competent youth committed to contributing to the operations and activities of Africa’s public and private sectors to ensure better capacity enhancements for African countries
- Enhance the role of the youth as the principal architect for sustainable human development and security in Africa as envisioned by the African Youth Charter

The flagship is set to directly respond to Member States’ needs and priorities, with tangible results and impacts in mind. It is defined around three (3) core components:





Partners

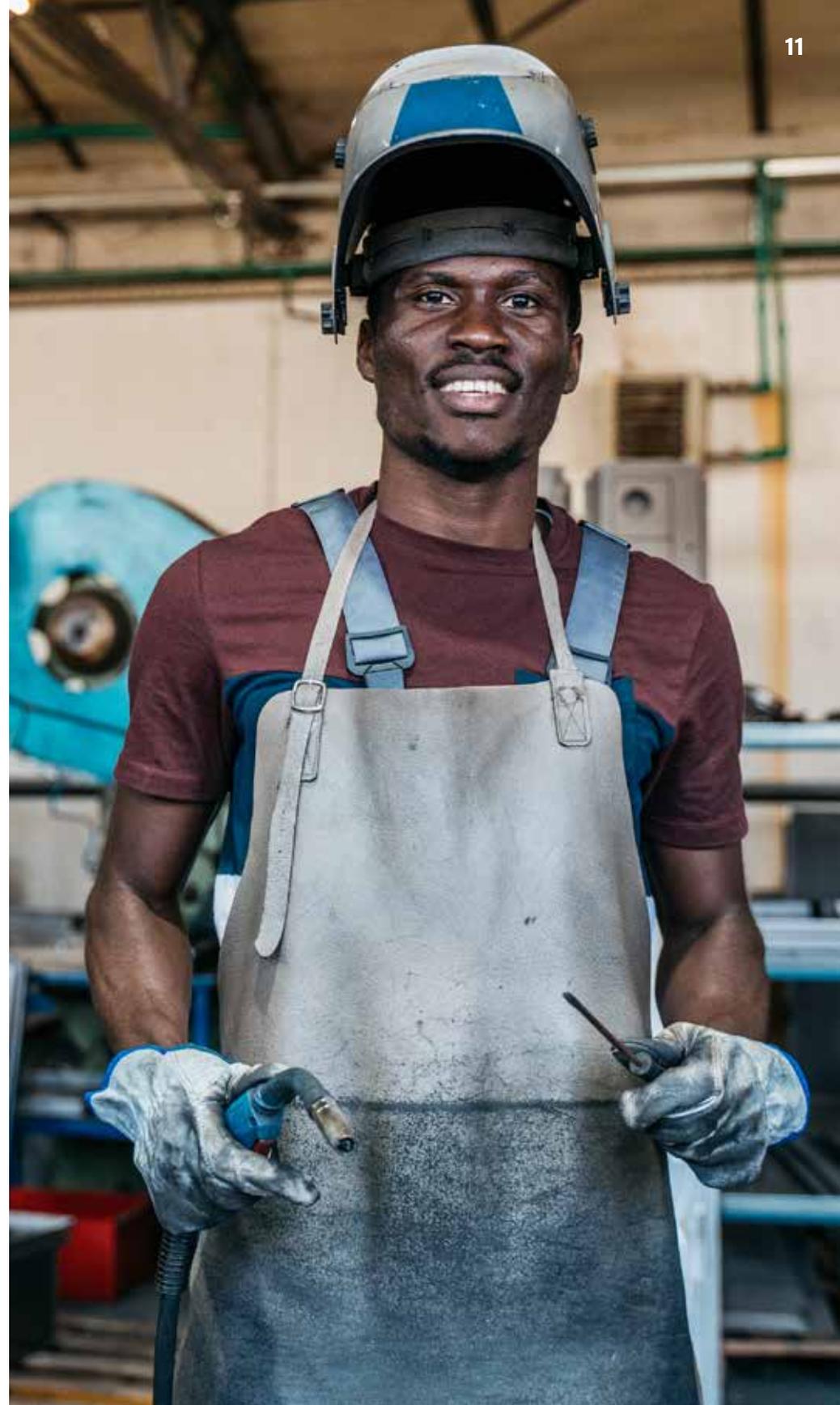
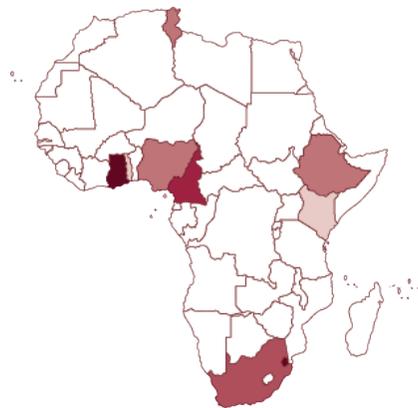
Energize Africa is a multi-partner and multi-year framework expected to galvanise support from Member States, regional bodies and international players. Several partners are already collaborating and supporting Energize Africa.



Strengthening Occupational Prospects of Young Africans

- **Ghana National Action Plan launched by the Minister of Labour to strengthen labour market information and skills anticipation systems and practices launched**
- **Undertook a Rapid Skills Assessment in Africa**
- **Developed Sector Skills Strategies for Ghana's garment/textile sector and Zimbabwe's horticulture sector**

AUDA-NEPAD, in partnership with GIZ, continued to promote the occupational prospects of young Africans through the support of innovative skills development programmes and close cooperation with the private sector as an integral key stakeholder in the creation of jobs. Under the Skills Initiative for Africa (SIFA) financing facility financed by KfW, funding for 16 innovative employment-oriented skills development projects has been provided following a competitive application process. The SIFA finance facility is currently active in eight (8) African countries (Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Togo and Tunisia): The selected projects are agile and provide responsive solutions to common challenges in the TVET sector, designed to coherently strengthen local and regional skills development systems to be more creative, innovative, and sustainable for the African continent. A new funding window has been launched to validate the feasibility of TVET innovations in the market by seeking to pilot, demonstrate and replicate new or improved concepts and prototypes before rolling them out to the market as products, services or processes. Moreover, a continental platform for knowledge exchange and private sector engagement in skills development has been strengthened. In addition, SIFA partnered with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to promote skills anticipation and worked with the European Training Fund (ETF) to develop an African continental qualifications framework (ACQF). The ACQF is a vital policy initiative of the AU, built to enhance transparency and portability of qualifications of all sub-systems and levels of education and training. It will complement national and regional qualifications frameworks and contribute to the continental integration agenda of AfCFTA, making the cross-border comparison of qualifications possible. SIFA, in partnership with ILO, provided technical support to Ghana and Eswatini in developing national action plans. Targeted interventions also included assessing Africa's future skills needs to strengthen labour market information.

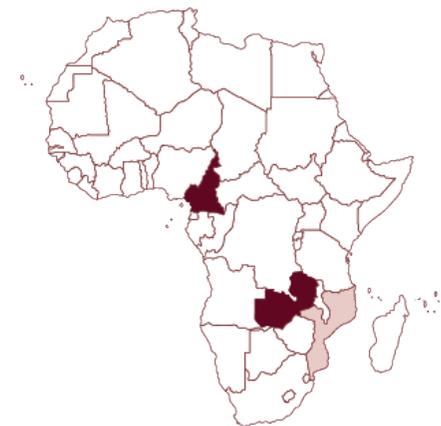




Promoting Decent Rural Jobs for Youth

- **Upskilled 729 rural youths** to strengthen rural enterprise development in Cameroon, Mozambique and Zambia
- **Supported 54 youth start-ups** along agriculture and agribusiness value chains in Cameroon

Africa may not reach its transformation goals defined in Agenda 2063 without fully harnessing the demographic dividend through investments in African youth. While youths currently constitute approximately 40% of the working-age population, over 60% are unemployed. Africa has policies and programmes to tackle unemployment amongst the youths, but the different policies at both continental and national levels need to address the challenges of rural youths holistically and adequately. AUDA-NEPAD's Decent Rural Jobs Programme aims to address this gap and support African youth in becoming entrepreneurs, employers and employable. Interventions focus on the development of national action plans for rural youth employment and entrepreneurship, adapting and piloting youth skills development in ATVET training, and strengthening policy dialogue on innovative and inclusive financial services for entrepreneurship and employment for rural youths. 729 rural youths were upskilled to strengthen rural enterprise development in Cameroon, Mozambique and Zambia. Furthermore, 54 youth start-ups along agriculture and agribusiness value chains in Cameroon were supported and 20 curricula were developed and piloted in Cameroon, Mozambique, and Zambia.



Third Africa Rural Development Forum (ARDF)

AUDA-NEPAD hosted the Third Africa Rural Development Forum (ARDF) held under the patronage of H.E. Félix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo, President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Chairperson of the African Union in January 2022 in Kinshasa, DRC. Two major outcomes were achieved. These included the launch of the Operation Strategy for the Blueprint to Implement Rural Development in Africa and the Kinshasa Declaration on Rural Transformation which recommended priority action to implement the rural development and rural transformation programme.

Agricultural Technical Vocational Education and Training for Women

- **2,045 Graduates completed gender-sensitive and job-oriented training**

In many African countries, women still lack access to essential knowledge and training opportunities due to existing socio-cultural barriers. Through the Agricultural Technical Vocational Education and Training for Women (ATVET4W) Programme, AUDA-NEPAD aims to increase women's access to formal and non-formal training in agriculture by ensuring inclusive training delivery, labour market-oriented and income-enhancing. The programme also addresses gender norms and stereotypes to dismantle structural inequalities for women in entrepreneurship and employment. To date, 2,045 graduates have completed a gender-sensitive, job-oriented training programme. 25% of these graduates completed an internship programme to strengthen their practical skills and improve their employability.

Training Women in Financial Literacy and Entrepreneurship Skills

- **190 Businesswomen from 6 Countries trained in financial literacy and e-commerce**

In partnership with the Presidency of the Republic of Niger, AUDA-NEPAD deployed a training dedicated to 150 African women entrepreneurs from Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Gabon and Togo. The women received training in financial literacy, personal branding, packaging, emotional intelligence and e-commerce skills to boost their business competitiveness and enable them to share experiences and best practices. Furthermore, 40 businesswomen have been trained in financial literacy in Ghana. The interventions are aimed at supporting the AU's Women and Youth Financial and Economic Inclusion Initiative, which seeks to enhance the empowerment of women and girls on the continent.



Accelerating PIDA and Agenda 2063 Infrastructure Flagships Projects

- **Appraised 69 PIDA Priority Action Plan Projects to accelerate regional integration and cross-border infrastructure development**
- **7th PIDA Week brought together international and regional expertise to fast-track infrastructure delivery in Africa**

Strengthening cross-border infrastructure development and trade to drive regional integration has been a key focus under the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) in line with Agenda 2063. Progress has been made in the detailed appraisal of 69 PIDA Priority Action Plan (PAP 2) Projects through the PIDA Service Delivery Mechanism (SDM). The PIDA PAP 2 Projects include priority regional and continental infrastructure in the transport, energy, transboundary water resources, and ICT sector. These projects will accelerate regional integration while ensuring inclusiveness and sustainability concerning gender, rural connectivity and environment.

The objective of the SDM is to address the need for more capacity for early-stage project preparation of infrastructure projects at the national and regional levels. One of the key instruments of the SDM is the PIDA Quality Label (PQL), a quality recognition tool awarded to projects that excel in preparing PIDA projects at an early stage. The Central Corridor Transit Transport Facilitation Agency (CCTTFA), the East African Community (EAC), and the Orange-Senqu River Commission (ORASECOM) were the first recipients of the inaugural PQL Awards at the 7th PIDA Week in February 2022 for excellence in project preparation, especially feasibility studies and design.

The 7th PIDA Week in Nairobi, Kenya, took place amidst continued global economic and social uncertainty due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A project concept memorandum for eight PIDA PAP 2 Projects was presented and promoted to the private sector and investor roundtables, including PIDA Week, the Chinese Private Sector, the Singapore Africa Business Forum, the Indonesian Private Sector, the EU-Africa Business Forum, COP27 as well as at the Africa Infrastructure Project Financing Summit.

A needs assessment for project preparation of 43 PIDA PAP-II projects was undertaken, including 16 transboundary water resources projects, as well as an appraisal of 36 projects.

Advanced advisory services are ongoing for the following projects:

- Advisory services to mobilise financial resources for the development of the environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) and resettlement action plan (RAP) of the Masaka – Mwanza Interconnector Project connecting Uganda and Tanzania.
- Advisory services to mobilise financial resources for the development of technical feasibility studies for the Luapula Hydropower Project transmission lines for Zambia and the DRC.
- Advisory services to mobilise financial resources for the construction of the Kalundu Port-Uvira-Bukavu Road, connecting Tanzania, DRC, Burundi and Rwanda.

A roundtable was organised to promote the project to investors and development partners. Moreover, terms of reference were finalised for a study on the facilitation of transport and trade along the trans-Maghreb corridor which will be launched in December 2022 with an architectural study of the one-stop-border posts (OSBPs). Funds were secured for these two studies.



Building a bankable pipeline of green infrastructure projects

- **Launched Africa Green Infrastructure Alliance to assist countries in mobilising climate finance for PIDA projects**



The infrastructure sector is sensitive to the adverse impacts of climate change, such as droughts, heat waves, and more frequent and intense floods. The continent requires considerable investments to close the infrastructure gap and build integrate climate resilience into the planning and implementation of infrastructure investments. This requires more financing and investment from the private sector. AUDA-NEPAD made significant progress in assisting seven African countries (Burundi, DRC, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania,

Uganda, and Zambia) in building a bankable pipeline of green infrastructure projects to tackle the issue of climate-proof infrastructure. The Africa Green Infrastructure Alliance (AGIA) was launched under the SDM green project appraisal methodology, aimed at assisting African countries in mobilising climate finance for PIDA Projects. Moreover, AUDA-NEPAD launched the development of a guideline for climate-resilient infrastructure design to fast-track integrated economic corridor development in Africa.

Continental Master Plan as the Central Pillar for Solving Africa's Energy Challenge

The Continental Power Systems Masterplan (CMP) development is in the advanced stages. The objective of the CMP is to establish a long-term continent-wide planning process for power generation and transmission involving all five African power pools (Southern, Eastern, Central, West and Northern African Power Pool) to accelerate the implementation of the African Single Electricity Market (AfSEM). The AfSEM is envisaged to become the world's largest continent-wide energy trading programme to interconnect all 55 AU Member States through an efficient, affordable and sustainable electricity market. As part of these efforts, AUDA-NEPAD developed the Reference Continental Electricity Demand Forecast up to 2040, which the power pools approved to build capacities for identifying energy surplus and deficient African regions through forecast modelling. Close to USD 10 million in financial and technical support were mobilised to implement the CMP.

Second Dakar Financing Summit for Africa's Infrastructure Development

Partnerships were built to organise the Second Dakar Financing Summit for Africa's Infrastructure Development (DFS-2). The primary purpose of the DFS-2 is to increase and secure the necessary funding for project preparation. 61% of PIDA PAP 2 projects do not yet have complete or up-to-date feasibility studies.

The requirements to make these projects bankable will be presented at the Summit. And second, to match project financing needs to existing sources of financing. This includes the necessary collaboration and commitment of multiple stakeholders to support the flow of investment in economic infrastructure projects to support intra-African trade. To this end, a list of 10 high-impact and de-risked cross-border projects at the maturation stage and awaiting funding will be presented to investors.



AIP-PIDA Water Investment Scorecard is a “game changer” for water and sanitation investments on the continent

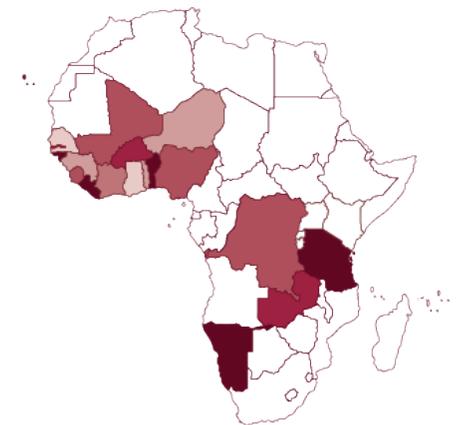
Delivery of water and sanitation services in Africa currently needs to be improved by a USD 50 billion-dollar investment shortfall each year. Against this background, AUDA-NEPAD launched the Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP-PIDA) Scorecard as a “game changer” for mobilising water and sanitation investments on the continent. The scorecard aims to track progress and identify bottlenecks to be addressed to accelerate and narrow the gap in transboundary water investments. It also aims to mobilise political and leadership commitment and serves as a tool to engage with public and private investors on financing water infrastructure that will contribute to regional development. The launch was attended by ministries of finance, water and sanitation from 18 African countries and hosted by AUDA-NEPAD, the African Ministers’ Council on Water (AMCOW), the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the Development Bank of Southern Africa, the Global Water Partnership Southern Africa and Africa Coordination (GWPSA-Africa Coordination), the OECD, the Sanitation and Water for All Global Partnership (SWA), UNICEF and UNDP.



Unlocking Transport And Logistics Challenges

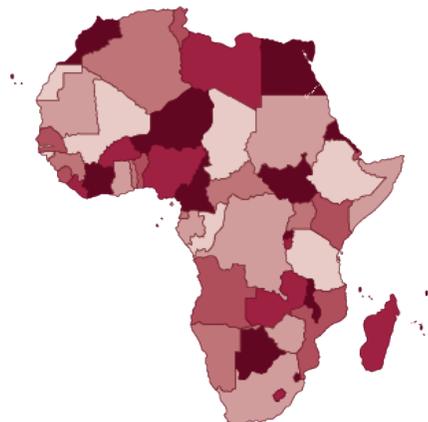
- **Supported ECOWAS in operationalising a trade facilitation logistics tool to monitor informal cross-border trade**

One-stop border posts (OSBPs) are a unique approach for improving efficiency at land border crossings by combining the stops required for processing exit and entry formalities of the adjoining states at one location. They are also central to enhancing interconnectivity and deepening regional market integration through processing border clearance at one location. Since the launch of the MoveAfrica Initiative, AUDA-NEPAD focused on implementing the traffic light system (TLS). The TLS ranks and tracks the ability of the continent to move goods and services along the transport and trade corridors. A roadmap for electronic data exchange was developed to upscale coordinated border management of OSBPs between Zambia and neighbouring Namibia, Tanzania and DRC. Furthermore, capacity support was provided to ECOWAS to operationalise the TLS and monitor informal cross-border trade. Progress was also been made in the revision of the OSBP Sourcebook with the support of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) as Africa moves towards a single customs union through the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).



Increased Information and Knowledge Sharing on Infrastructure Development in Africa

- **Updated 500 PIDA Projects with Data on project readiness, investability and implementation bottlenecks**



Tracking progress on the implementation of priority infrastructure development projects under PIDA is vital to ensure the continent keeps on track with its goal for regional integration. Against this background, a comprehensive data collection exercise was undertaken on over 500 PIDA projects, including the 1st and the 2nd PIDA Priority Action Plans. Data on project readiness, investability and implementation bottlenecks was collected and finalised for 95 % of the PIDA portfolio.

Advocating for sustainable development of Africa's blue economies

- **Hosted the World Aquaculture Society - African Chapter to serve as a functional multi-stakeholder platform for sustainable aquaculture development in Africa**

Technical support was provided at continental and regional levels, including in identifying actions for enhancing the role of women in aquatic biodiversity and environmental management, establishing a platform for small island developing states (SIDS) to address their needs and strategic priorities, mapping blue economy economic and innovation opportunities for Africa, and training on private sector investment and financing in the IGAD region. This also included technical support to develop strategic positions to strengthen a common African voice on Africa's blue economy sectors in global fora such as the 2022 UN Oceans Conference, the FAO's 35th Committee on Fisheries and the World Small Scale Fisheries Congress. Moreover, technical support was provided to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) in strengthening aquaculture value chains in the region. During 2022, AUDA-NEPAD continued to host and support the operationalisation of the African Chapter of the World Aquaculture Society (WAS-AC), which was successfully held the inaugural African Aquaculture Conference and Trade Exhibition (AFRAQ21) in Egypt.



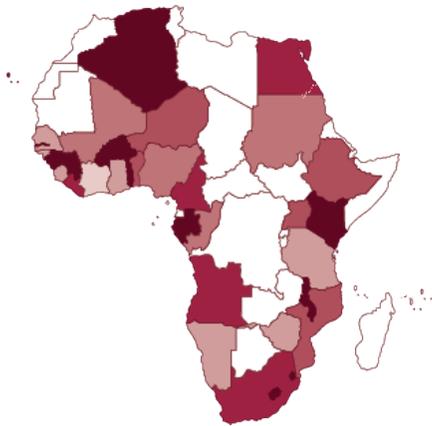
Building Cybersecurity Resilience in Africa

- **30 African Countries Are Part of A Network of Cyber Security Specialists to build cybersecurity resilience across the continent**

The emergence of a global and borderless information society brings new opportunities to all countries worldwide as technologies play an even more critical role in social and economic development. Thanks to ICT applications, health, education, business, finance, or public administration services are possible. ICTs also bring new challenges for citizens. It necessitates safely conducting e-health transactions, accessing e-government services, or online business transactions. Despite the low level of ICT development and internet penetration, Africa is experiencing rapid growth in cybercrime. In the two years since its inception in 2021, the Collaboration Project—a partnership between the AU and Global Forum on Cyber Expertise, sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and implemented by AUDA-NEPAD—has progressed to strengthen capacity in cybersecurity knowledge. Interventions were aimed at improving the capabilities of African countries to enhance cybersecurity resilience. The network includes cyber professionals from over 30 AU Member States and a coordination network of over 20 multinational bodies. As part of these efforts, knowledge modules were developed to enhance the understanding of cybersecurity capacity building among governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.

Harnessing Innovation and Emerging Technologies for Africa's socio-economic development

- **Convened 24 AU Member States through a high-level policy dialogue to harness innovation and emerging technologies to strengthen education and food systems**



The adoption and application of emerging technologies are essential to Africa's development, in line with Agenda 2063 and the AU's Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA 2024). As a direct response, AUDA-NEPAD established the AU high-level panel on emerging technologies (APET). APET is composed of 10 eminent experts to advise the Union, its various organs and Member States on how Africa should harness innovation and emerging technologies for socio-economic development. In recognising that science,

technology and innovation (STI) remain the bedrock for progressive and sustainable development and inclusive growth, APET established the Calestous Juma Executive Dialogues (CJED).

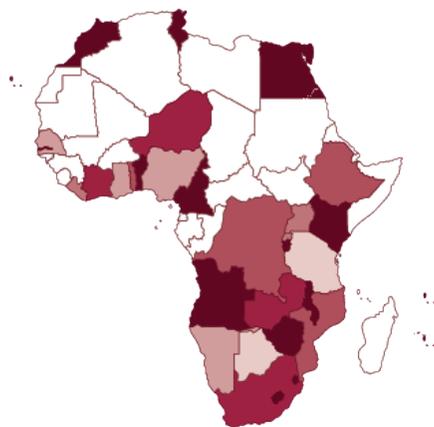
As part of these efforts, APET, through the CJED, has provided capacity support to 560 education and STI experts from seven AU Member States, including Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Gabon, Malawi, Mozambique and Nigeria, through the deployment of STI courses. 165 senior executives, policy and decision-makers from 24 AU Member States were convened for two dialogues focused on harnessing innovation and emerging technologies to strengthen education systems and food and nutrition security. APET-CJED also provided technical support to revise a report for gene drive technology and the draft AU artificial intelligence continental strategy. APET also developed advanced drafts of technology overview reports on the Internet of Things, 5G Technologies, 3D Printing and Water Purification and Management.

Strengthening Education Systems through the promotion of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

In recognition of the wide gap in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) competency and skills across the continent, the AUDA-NEPAD STEM Education Project contributed to African countries' efforts to address the challenges of STEM education delivery and learning outcomes across the continent. The project focused on exploring the challenges of each country and developing context-specific interventions directed at strengthening the capacity of pre-service, in-service and tertiary institutions that train teachers for deployment to primary and secondary schools. In 2022, 280 pre-service and in-service teachers, policy and decision-makers in ministries of education, science and technology, and education were supported in STEM-responsive pedagogy and teaching methodologies. Capacities of over 40 education practitioners from ECOWAS Member States were enhanced to engage more effectively in informal and formal education curriculum reforms driven by science and technology. This was framed in light of the demands in the job market, the 4th Industrial Revolution and the growing need to harness emerging technologies. Moreover, awareness of the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA) was deepened through four in-country sensitisation workshops held in Ethiopia, Mozambique, Nigeria and South Africa reaching over 30 national educational practitioners from educational institutions, ministries of education and STI as well as universities. Technical advice was provided to Malawi in reviewing the country's education policy to be more STEM-responsive.

African Science Technology and Innovation Indicators

The African Science Technology Innovation Indicators Initiative, which is in its fourth phase, reached more than 30 African countries and different actors within the research and innovation ecosystems as part of the Annual STI Forum. The Forum shared experiences and knowledge used to shape the measurement of research and innovation performance in all sectors of the economy.



Strengthening National Planning Systems

- Supported Eswatini to strengthen Country Data Infrastructure for national planning systems



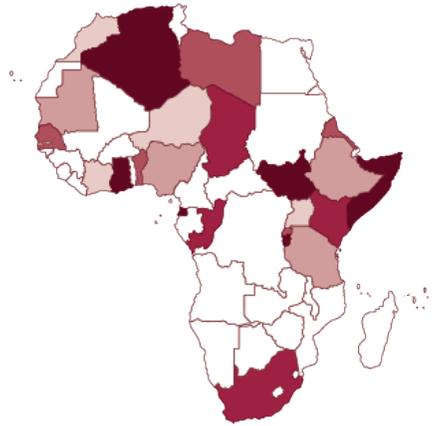
Efforts are underway to strengthen national and sub-national data infrastructure systems for national planning systems in Senegal, Ghana, Eswatini, Mozambique, and Kenya. Relatedly, technical support was provided to Eswatini in the procurement and deployment of data infrastructure for linking and integrating multisectoral innovation data and insights. Moreover, technical support was provided in the development of the African Union Data Policy Framework, which was approved by the AU Assembly in 2022.



Looking into the Future - Foresight and Scenario Building

- **18 African Countries oriented on Forecasting Platform to build systemic in-country capacity for scenario building**

In collaboration with the Institute of Security Studies (ISS), AUDA-NEPAD has oriented eighteen (18) AU Member States (Algeria, Burundi, Chad, Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Kenya, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, and Uganda) on a standard methodology and forecasting platform anchored on the International Futures (Ifs) model. The orientation was framed as part of efforts towards building systemic in-country capacities for scenario building, foresight modelling and long-term planning. Additionally, national-level stakeholder platforms were produced and three country-level forecasting study reports for Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda. Moreover, AUDA-NEPAD convened leading African think tanks to bridge the gap between knowledge and evidence-based policymaking, covering nine (9) countries, namely Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, Senegal and Tanzania.



Strengthening AU Member States Capacities for Effective Citizen Engagement

AUDA-NEPAD worked with the AUC and other implementing partners to produce the AU Handbook on Citizens Engagement. The handbook provides guidance on a common framework for citizen engagement across different AU Organs, institutions, MS and non-state actors. The handbook is a critical tool in fostering a structured participation and engagement by citizens in the implementation of Agenda 2063. The handbook will be officially launched at the February AU Summit 2023.

AUDA-NEPAD places prime value on data, skills, tools and information to develop solutions that are accessible to African citizens to foster inclusive growth and create economic and social value. In this regard, AUDA-NEPAD is developing a Citizen Engagement Platform (CEP) for African citizens to engage and access information, interact and engage in development

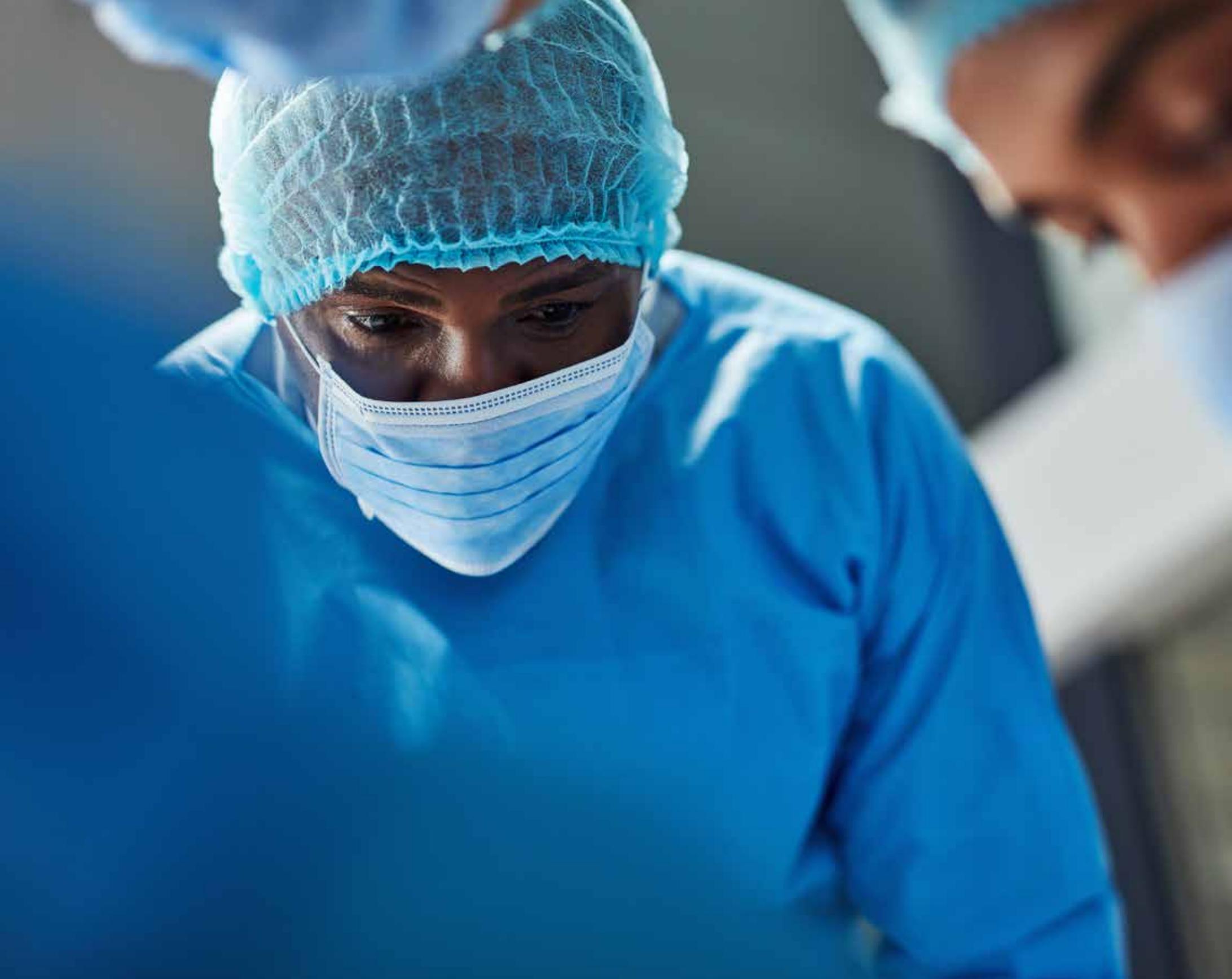
initiatives at the continental, regional, national, and sub-national levels within the framework of Agenda 2063. The platform is at the testing stage and modules were developed.

As part of these efforts, AUDA-NEPAD undertook in-country capacity strengthening and multistakeholder consultations on the Citizen Engagement Platform and Citizen Engagement Handbook in Uganda and Cameroon. The government-led engagements supported national-level domestication and advocacy for the DataCipation frameworks and CEP and CEH tools for effective citizen engagements. Kenya, Egypt, Senegal and Eswatini have been earmarked for capacity strengthening in 2023.

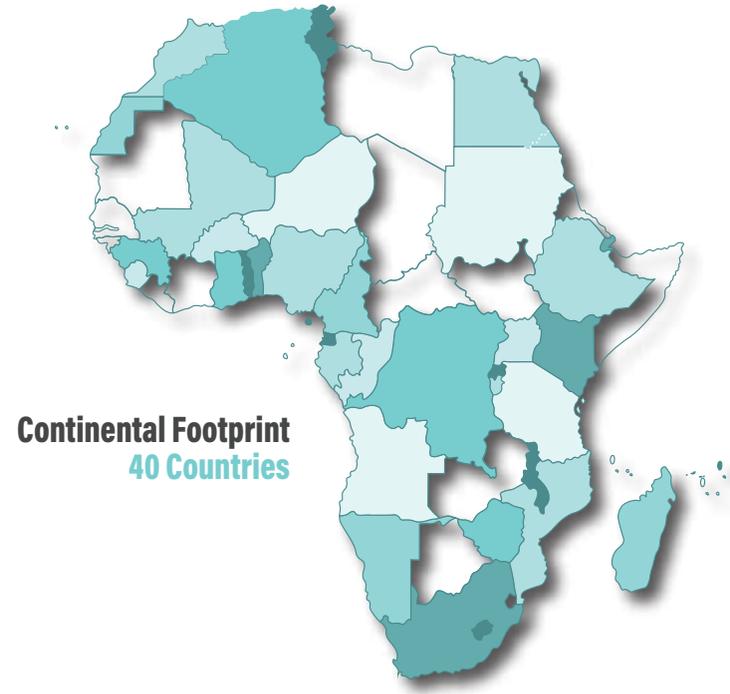
Implementation of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation

AUDA-NEPAD with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) as co-chair is supporting AU Member States on the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC). AU Member States are championing country-led development priorities as the basis for effective development cooperation. In the year under review, three regional consultations with Member States, non-state actors and parliamentary groups were undertaken in Benin, Rwanda and Zambia towards development of an African Common Position. The Common Position guided the negotiations at the 3rd High-Level Meeting (HLM3) on the GPEDC, held in Geneva, Switzerland. As part of this effort, 37 AU Member States will carry out monitoring on effective development cooperation using a common framework in support of results-based implementation.





Health Systems



23 Member States Ratified African Medicines Agency

to improve access to quality, safe and quality-assured medicines



13 Member States Domesticated The AU Model Law On Medical Products

seven of these countries established semi-autonomous regulatory agencies



950,000



African Patients Served

through AUDA-NEPAD supported home-grown healthcare businesses

Supported 7 African Countries on Regulatory Systems for Vector Control Tools

to strengthen the development, regulation and deployment of gene-drive technology



Developed a Regional Strategy and Country Plans

to engage the private sector in TB control



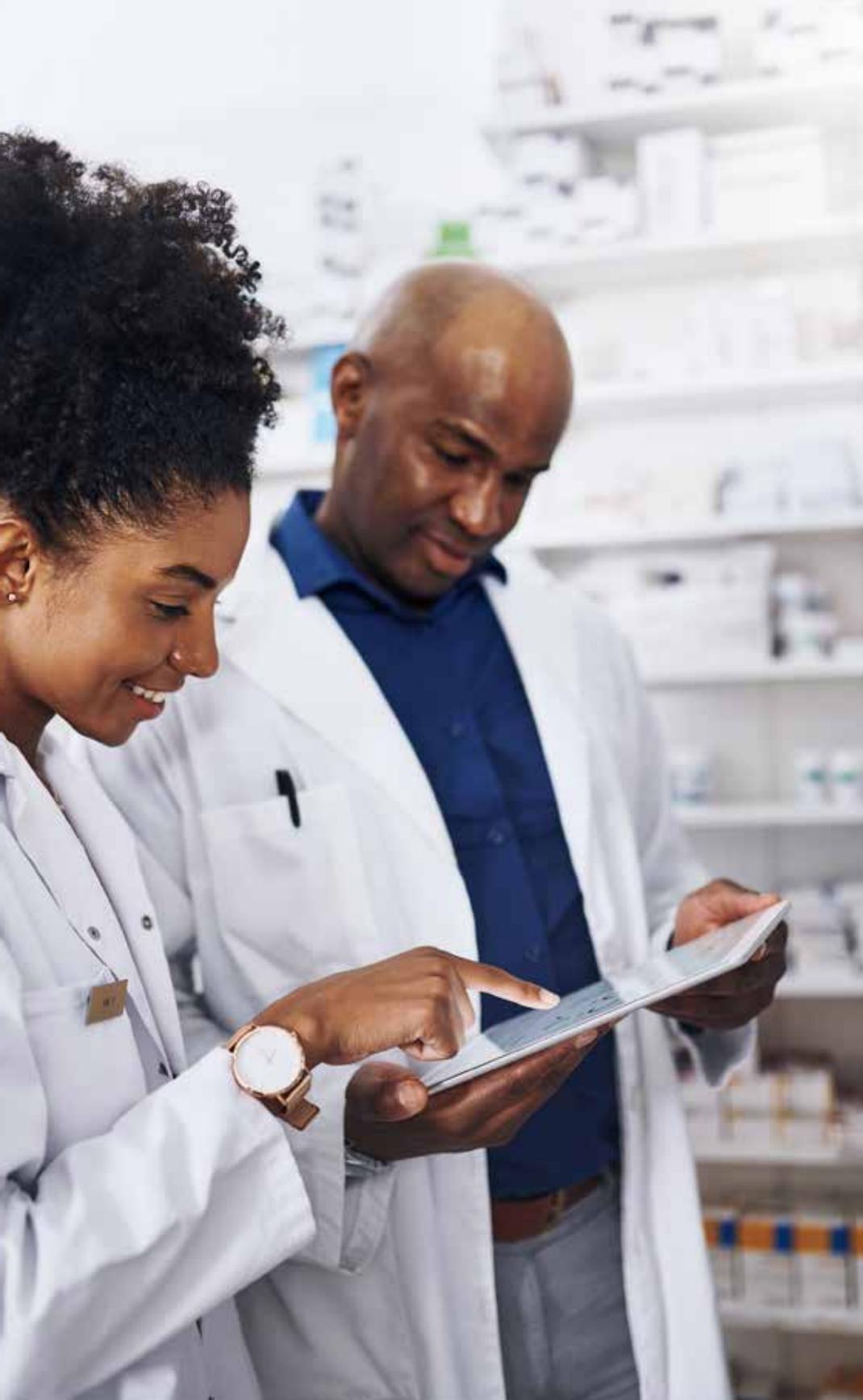
Drafted A Compendium of Good Pharmaceutical Policies and Practices

based on a convening of 8 Member States, 2 RECs and 3 African Regional Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations



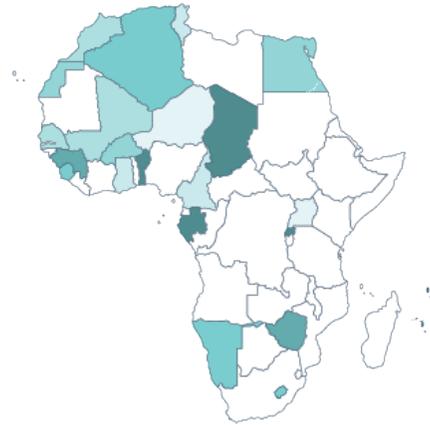
Strengthened Africa's Voice on Gene Drives

to eliminate vector-borne diseases, including Malaria



Improving access to safe, effective, and quality-assured medicines through the establishment of the African Medicines Agency

- Supported the operationalisation of the African Medicines Agency (AMA) - A total of 23 countries ratified the AMA Treaty



Safe, good quality and affordable medicines are not widely available in many African countries due to non-existent, weak or outdated legal frameworks and limited capacity. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated this situation. At the continental level, AUDA-NEPAD pushed for the establishment of the African Medicines Agency (AMA) through the African Medicines Regulatory Harmonisation (AMRH) Programme. AMA entered into force on 5 November 2021 as a specialised agency to improve access to safe, effective, and quality-

assured medicines by enhancing the capacity of countries to improve regulatory harmonisation and reliance, increase efficiency and effectiveness, and unify the approach to product reviews and approvals across the region. So far, AMA has been ratified by 23 AU Member States. AUDA-NEPAD undertook country assessments and prepared assessment reports for the eight (8) countries that expressed interest in hosting the AMA headquarters. The conference of state parties endorsed the report. The Executive Council meeting in Lusaka, Zambia, in July 2022, selected Rwanda to host the headquarters of AMA. Moreover, the African Medicines Regulators Conference approved a total of nine Technical Committees (TCs), the highest decision-making body of the AMRH, to support the operationalisation of AMA and provide vaccine regulatory oversight through the Partnerships for Vaccine Manufacturing in Africa. The TCs are the African Vaccine Regulatory Forum, Good Manufacturing Practices, African Medicines Quality Forum, Pharmacovigilance, Regulatory Capacity Development, Medicines Policy and Regulatory Reforms, the Information Management Systems and African Medicines Devices Forum and the Evaluation of Medical Products. Eight out of nine of these TCs have been established and are operational.

Moreover, AUDA-NEPAD signed a EUR5 million grant with the EU for the AMRH programme and operationalisation of AMA to accelerate the implementation of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA) and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Domestication of AU Model Law on Medical Products

- **13 Countries Domesticated AU Model Law On Medical Products.** Out of these, seven (7) countries have established semi-autonomous regulatory agencies.

Implementation of the African Union Model Law on Medical Products has gained momentum as four (4) countries in ECOWAS (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, and the Gambia) have domesticated the AU Model Law on Medical Products Regulation, bringing the total number to 13 AU Member States. Of these, seven (7) countries have established semi-autonomous regulatory agencies. The AU Model Law guides Member States and RECs in harmonising medical products regulatory systems.



Enhancing Local Pharmaceutical and Vaccine Manufacturing



- **Convening of 8 Member States resulted in a compendium of good pharmaceutical policies and practices**

The COVID-19 pandemic has reignited the importance of building resilient health systems. Strengthening Africa's local capacities to produce much-needed medical products, health technologies and medical equipment is pivotal.

AUDA-NEPAD leveraged this momentum and developed a governance framework to ensure the increasing number of local production initiatives are effectively coordinated and delivered in line with the vision of the PMPA. The governance framework structures aim to coordinate and galvanise efforts pooling multi-stakeholder support for the day-to-day implementation of seven key workstreams namely: regulatory affairs, research & development (R&D) and tech transfer; data systems and market intelligence; capacity enhancement and training; procurement and supply chain management; access to capital and Policy and Incentives. Furthermore, a compendium of good pharma-policies and practices was developed to create an enabling environment for the growth of the pharma sector in Africa.



Strengthening Africa's Pandemic Resilience through acceleration support for Home-Grown Solutions

- **USD18 Million Raised** to scale up home-grown healthcare businesses
- **1,400 Employees Hired** through AUDA-NEPAD supported home-grown healthcare businesses
- **USD9 Million in Local Manufacturing Value** of Goods Created

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted persistent gaps in African health systems, notably low healthcare capacity and a reliance on external supply chains. African home-grown solutions (HGS) have the potential to make the continent more resilient to outbreaks, but given the nascent state of the support ecosystem, many currently face challenges in scaling, particularly cross-border. The Home-Grown Solutions (HGS) Accelerator for Pandemic Resilience has supported the growth of African healthcare companies to strengthen the continent's pandemic resilience. This has been achieved by offering hands-on and tailored support to growth- and mature-stage healthcare businesses. The accelerator is a joint initiative founded by AUDA-NEPAD in partnership with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). It has been successfully expanded across Africa, where it assisted its second cohort of 14 home-grown solutions bringing the total number to 19 HGS with a footprint in 28 African countries. The new cohort consists of African Health Holdings (now known as CarePoint), Appy Saúde, DataPathology, Dawa Life Sciences, Doctoora, Doctor on Call, MdaaS Global, Online Clinic Yathu (OCLIYA), Polyclinique Pasteur, Rology, Simbona, Sinapi, Streamline and WiiQare, supported by a network that includes the World Food Programme, Africa CDC, GIZ, Rwandan Development Board, CSIR, AAIC, Ecobank Foundation, Aga Khan Foundation, World Health Organization, UNIDO, Afreximbank and others.

Safety Surveillance for COVID-19 Vaccines

- **36,000 Adverse Events Following Immunisation Recorded** in the African-owned cross-country data system to monitor vaccine safety

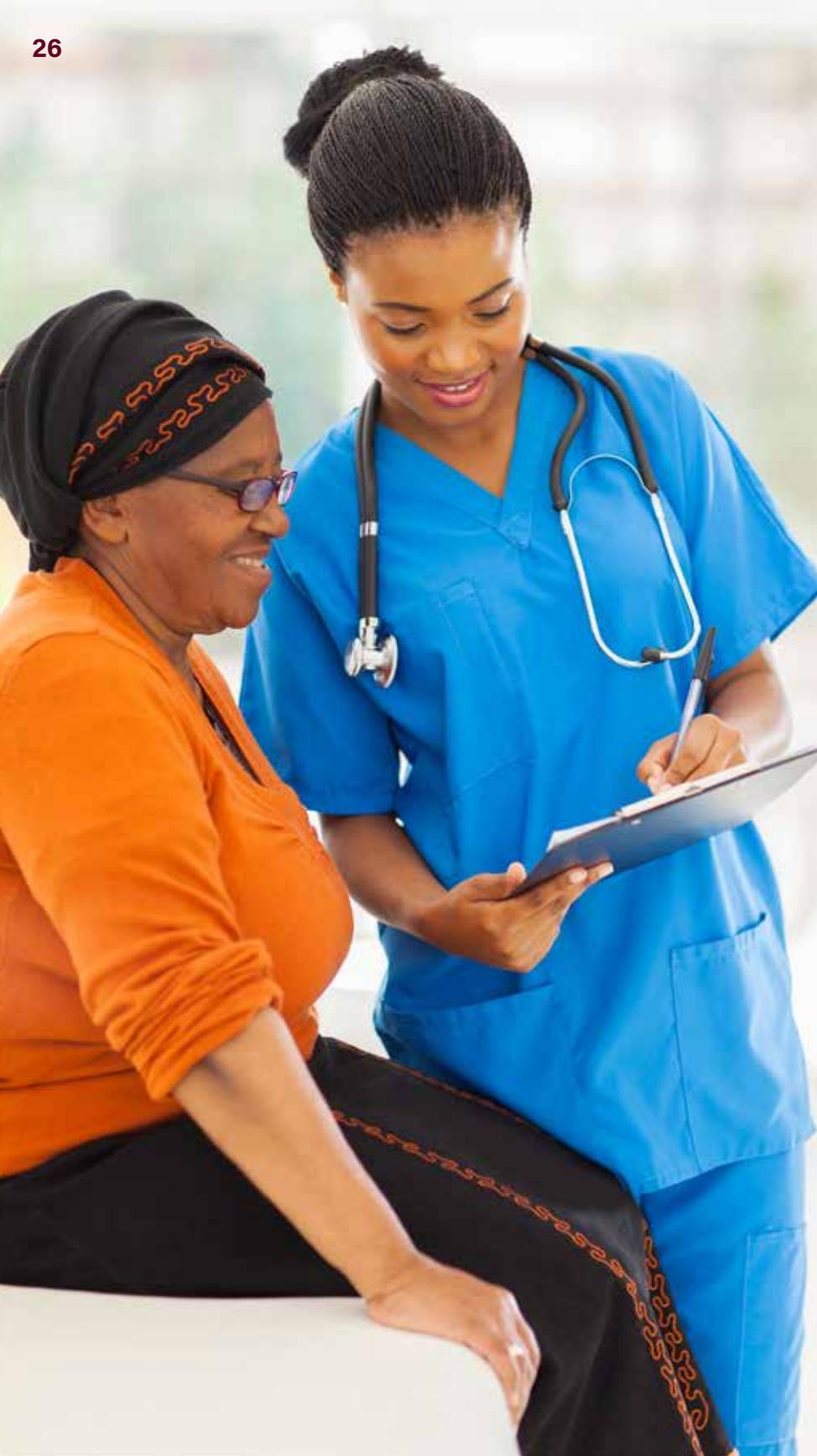
Detecting adverse effects following immunisation is critical to ensure that vaccine products are safe and safely administered. However, there is currently no standard vaccine surveillance system and African-owned data to monitor the safety of vaccines for Africa's population. The AU Smart Safety Surveillance (AU3S) programme supports safety surveillance for COVID-19 vaccines in Africa for five countries, including Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, and South Africa, covering 35% of the continent's population. The programme established a multi-country group of safety experts endorsed by the Ministers of the 4th AU Bureau of the Specialised Technical Committee on Education, Science and Technology to enable sound scientific recommendations



for the safe use of medical products. Electronic safety data collection were improved through the roll-out of the Med Safety App across the pilot countries. The Med Safety App is a mobile application for healthcare professionals and members of the public to submit reports of suspected adverse events from medicines and vaccines. The App was developed through a collaboration between Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) WEB-RADR, the WHO and the WHO Collaborating Centre for International Drug Monitoring, the Uppsala Monitoring Centre (UMC) and currently has 80,000 users.

AU3S developed and launched a vaccine-specific reporting form for the Med Safety App based on the 25 WHO core variables for the adverse event following immunisation (AEFI) reporting. So far, more than 36,000 adverse events following immunisation reports have been recorded in the African-owned cross-country data integration system from the five pilot countries. Work has progressed towards including other priority medical products for AU priority diseases such as HIV, TB and Malaria and ultimately establishing a centralised African-owned safety database known as the AfriVigilance system.





Fight against Tuberculosis

- **143 Occupational Health and Safety Practitioners trained to strengthen capacity in TB prevention, detection and treatment in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia**

Tuberculosis (TB) remains a significant public health concern in Southern Africa, with a substantial economic impact. Despite global progress in tackling the disease, the burden is still unacceptably high in Southern Africa. The region has one of the world's highest TB per capita burdens. Under the Southern Africa TB and Health Systems Support (SATBHSS)

Project, 143 Occupational Health and Safety Practitioners were trained to strengthen regional capacity for the prevention, detection and treatment of TB, benefitting Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia. SATBHSS also supported interventions on private sector engagement in health. This included the development of a regional strategy and country plans on private sector engagement in TB control, the AU private sector engagement in health framework, and a private sector engagement dialogue.



Strengthening Primary Healthcare Systems

- **5 Countries Supported in establishing training, upskilling and health education needs**



Evidence supports the fact that primary healthcare, when effectively delivered, is the most cost-effective tier of the health system and can address existing health inequalities. In this regard, AUDA-NEPAD designed and launched the Primary Health Care Project Bijimi in five (5) Member States (Burundi, Central Africa Republic, Chad, Lesotho and South Sudan) to upskill community healthcare workers and strengthen supply chain infrastructure in support of primary healthcare services. A baseline study in the five pilot countries was conducted to establish the training, upskilling and health education needs in rural areas of the pilot countries targeting 45,000 people.

Integrated Vector Management to Eliminate Malaria

- **Strengthened Africa's Voice on Integrated Vector Management** by supporting the African Group of Negotiators at international fora
- **Developed 7 Guidelines to Regulate Gene Drive Research**, including genetically modified mosquitoes
- **Supported 7 Countries on Strengthening Regulatory Systems for Vector Control Tools**; these include Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Uganda

Africa has a troubling high burden of vector-borne diseases, primarily malaria, yellow fever, chikungunya, dengue and schistosomiasis. Malaria is the most devastating vector-borne disease on the continent, causing an estimated 400,000 deaths annually, especially in children under the age of five. It is estimated that USD 12 billion is lost yearly due to malaria. AUDA-NEPAD's Integrated Vector Management (IVM) Programme continued to support the development, regulation and deployment of gene-drive technology with an initial focus on eliminating malaria. As part of these efforts, AUDA-NEPAD supported the African group of negotiators in key meetings and processes on risk assessment guidance tools for living modified organisms (LMOs) to strengthen a common African voice on gene drives. Seven guidelines for regulating the gene drive research in various domains—including genetically modified mosquitoes and supporting institutional biosafety committees were developed by the West Africa Integrated Vector Management platform in collaboration with the West Africa Health Organisation (WAHO). A supplementary report on gene drives for malaria elimination to guide Member States in harnessing the technology through effective regulation for malaria elimination was produced by the AU high-level panel on emerging technologies (APET). The panel also developed the APET genome editing policy document to guide genome editing use in food and health systems. Support on strengthening regulatory systems for vector control tools was provided to Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Uganda. Expert consultations were undertaken with new countries to develop a strategy for providing advisory technical support on gene drives for malaria eradication. Moreover, IVM stakeholder discussions with genetically based vector control developers and health regulators from Burkina, Ghana and Mali were held to guide regulation and guideline developments around upcoming field trials. In addition, institutional biosafety committees were established in Mali and Burkina Faso to provide technical assistance in the review application for PCR studies with non-viable modified mosquitoes in both countries. Training and technical assistance to international biosafety committee (IBC) members on a dossier review and decision document were provided for applying gene drive technology in Burkina Faso.



Establishment of Innovative Health Financing Hubs

AUDA-NEPAD coordinates the operationalisation of the regional health financing hubs and the private sector engagement work streams of the African Leadership Meeting (ALM) Declaration on health financing. The ALM Declaration aims to increase domestic investments in health. Through the regional hubs, Member States are receiving technical support from AUDA-NEPAD to enhance national health financing systems and attract private capital into the health sector by creating a conducive investment climate and ensuring alignment of partner efforts to the health financing priorities of the continent. Significant progress was made in the transition from design to establishment and operationalisation of the regional health financing hubs. A design and operational manual, which was developed through a consultative process, has been critical in developing a context-based understanding and application of the basic principles, objectives, functions, and overall operational framework of the hubs, as well as the roles and responsibilities of AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, RECs, and Member States in implementing the ALM-Investing in Health Declaration. In close coordination with the ALM stakeholders, AUDA-NEPAD was provided technical support for the establishment and operationalisation of a regional financing hub in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) following approval by African ministers of finance and health, as well as the operationalisation of one hub in the East African Community (EAC). In SADC, implementation is underway through key activities, including the health financing dialogues with technical and financial support provided by AUDA-NEPAD, Global Fund and other development partners. Malawi has started the process of domesticating the ALM Declaration. In EAC, the operational plan and budget were approved by the Expert Working Group (EWG) and are being implemented across the region through the rollout of the health financing tracker, piloting in Burundi, Kenya and Rwanda with plans to hold National Health Financing Dialogues in the same countries.

AUDA-NEPAD expanded its engagement with other regions, including the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), to commence the design and implementation activities for their regional financing hubs. These initial engagements aim to assess the existing health financing structures, programmes, and capacities within the Member States and RECs that will inform the design and operationalisation process in these RECs. Action plans were developed to accelerate establishing and operationalising these regional financing hubs.



Research and Development Financing through the Coalition for African Research and Innovation (CARI)

African countries need to invest in research and development (R&D) to fully explore and realise the potential of STI for economic growth. Mobilising adequate and sustainable domestic resources for R&D is crucial to increase resource volumes and investment productivity, thus improving R&D quality. Through the Coalition for African Research and Innovation (CARI), AUDA-NEPAD continues to broker research investments in Africa on domestic and international platforms. AUDA-NEPAD engaged in technical consultations with Member States on mobilising domestic investments for R&D in Africa. These engagements allowed AUDA-NEPAD to examine and assess the optimal strategies for unlocking domestic investments in R&D on the continent. Furthermore, they provided a platform for brainstorming mechanisms that can be adopted to further harness domestic investments in R&D through establishing national grand challenges in Member States that amplify governments' role in boosting resources towards their STI, health, and development priorities. AUDA-NEPAD continues to draw on its convening powers and mandate to coordinate and convene diverse groups of stakeholders from the public and private sectors to increase R&D investments.

Scientific Priority Setting

The shock of the global COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the need for Africa to strengthen its health systems and increase its preparedness to face future health crises. AUDA-NEPAD has convened Member States and RECs to review the scientific priorities set by Agenda 2063, the AU's Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA) 2024, and National Development Plans to address the challenges faced due to the pandemic and realign the priorities to the current health landscape. Interventions were aimed at building consensus around which scientific priorities will give African countries the greatest return on investment and address the needs of the citizens. Several policy briefs were developed to guide the scientific priority-setting process for resource allocations on national scientific programmes or appropriate high-level evidence and political intelligence to strengthen the arguments of the advocacies to the political leadership of AU Member States. Through AU channels and other platforms, key messages and communiqués on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) scientific priorities were disseminated to streamline and strengthen Member States' commitments towards the scientific priorities.

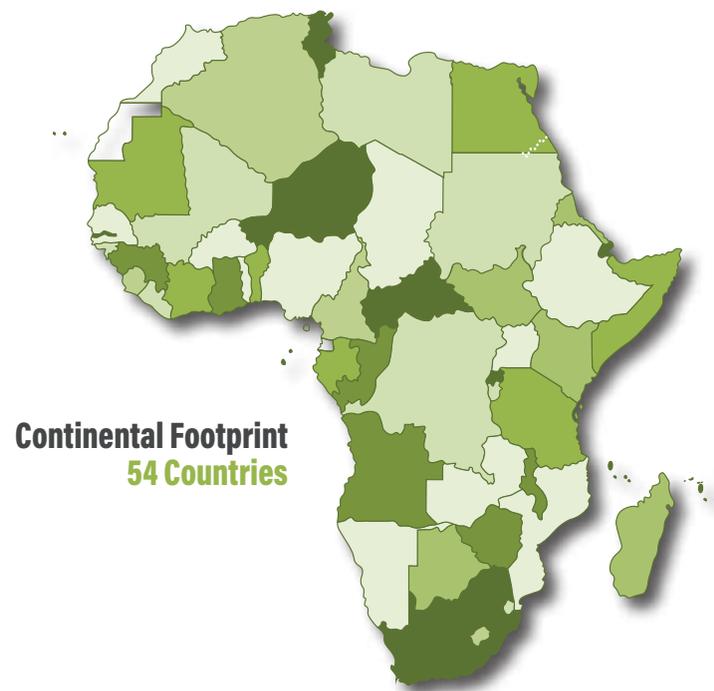
AUDA-NEPAD Development Fund

The immense task of realising Africa's development objectives, as defined in Agenda 2063, can only be met with sufficient and sustainable resources efficiently channelled towards Africa's most pressing issues. As a result, Africa's leaders have acknowledged an urgent need to explore, broaden and implement sustainable funding models to close resource gaps in Africa's transformative growth. AUDA-NEPAD aims to operationalise the AUDA-NEPAD Development Fund (AUDF) fully, as mandated by the AU 35th Summit. This flagship funding instrument aims to boost resource mobilisation efforts and innovative financing mechanisms by designing and administering flexible fund models to extend and direct sustainable development resources to Africa's most critical priorities. The Fund intends to support key regional and continental efforts by serving as a bridge finance instrument for underfunded critical transformative programmes while maintaining financial coherence and alignment for effective resource utilisation. In line with the Fund's functions of receiving, holding, disbursing, and replenishing resources, considerable progress was made in 2022. At the start of the year, Member States allocated USD 233,000 to support the work on innovative health financing. In addition, the AUDF received USD 5.5 million from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) to finance the work on intelligent safety surveillance within the Member States under the African Union Smart Safety Surveillance (AU-3S) programme. Furthermore, the Fund has further replenished its resources by mobilising an additional USD 4 million to support Member States under the AU-3S programme.





Food Systems



Tracked Progress of **51** Member States on Agricultural Goals And Targets to attain on Malabo Declaration by 2025



33

African Countries Committed to Restore



129 Million Hectares of Degraded Land and Forests by 2030



Tracked Progress on Agricultural Commitments

and co-launched the 3rd CAADP Biennial Progress Report

Implementation of African Common Position on Food Systems

spearheaded and coordinated the assessment of MS needs for sustainable food systems in 8 countries



Amplified Africa's Voice at COP27 and COP15

to advocate for the continent's interests and priorities in climate change, biodiversity and desertification



11 Member States Capacitated In Biosafety And Biotechnology Practices

to enhance agriculture and food systems



Advocated for Home-Grown School feeding

to increase the volume and quality of nutritious school meals through locally-produced foods





Promoting Resilient Food Systems in Africa

- **Africa's Common Position on Food Systems and Climate Change strengthened**
- **Convened 34 AU Member States to take stock of National Agriculture Investment Plans and implementation of food systems**

Leveraging the momentum from the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) and the Africa Common Position on Food Systems, the Agency has held eight (8) in-country engagements to support Member States towards a clear articulation of needs for resilient and adaptive country-level food systems in the context of Agendas 2063 and 2030 to be addressed through an evidence-based continental programme. Essential data was collected from national stakeholders from West Africa, Central Africa, and East Africa for completion of the capacity building needs analysis in the first quarter of 2023 under the Centre of Excellence of Rural Resources and Food Systems Centre. The analysis to date shows several intersecting needs which call for an integrated approach to food systems and socio-economic development. Interventions need to focus on value and supply chains, including financing and investments with an expected demand placed on research and development (R & D) and, in particular science-driven innovations and technologies to optimise production, processing, storage and markets. AUDA-NEPAD also held continental consultations on National Agriculture Investment Plans (NAIPS) in Dakar, Senegal. In this regard, the Agency gathered 34 AU Member States to take stock of NAIPS and food systems implementation in order to inform the design of the next programming of NAIPs. Following requests for support from Member States, AUDA-NEPAD mobilised technical experts to develop the CAADP-Malabo implementation guidelines for national-level design and implementation of bankable agriculture and food systems programmes.

Africa Year of Nutrition and Food Security

- **Launched the AU Year of Nutrition in Nigeria to raise awareness on food and nutrition security**

2022 was declared the Africa Year of Nutrition and Food Security under the theme "Strengthening Resilience in Nutrition and Food Security on the African Continent: Strengthening Agri-Food Systems, Health, and Social Protection Systems for Acceleration of Human, Social, and Economic Capital Development". This theme builds on the outcomes of the UN Food Systems Summit and the Africa Common Position on Food Systems adopted by the African leaders in 2021. AUDA-NEPAD Agency continued to catalyse and address food and nutrition security challenges through a multi-sectoral and stakeholder approach involving an array of synergistic actions by several sectors and through multi-stakeholder coordination. During the AU Year of Nutrition, one of the priorities has been strengthening data management, information systems and knowledge dissemination to inform decision-making. In this regard, technical support towards the national launch of the AU Year of Nutrition in Nigeria and the sharing of good practices on nutrition data and management was provided.

Accelerating Home-Grown School Feeding across the Continent

- **Convened 16 Countries to share good practices on home-grown school feeding programmes**

The Home-grown School Feeding Programmes aims to increase the volume and quality of nutritious school meals through producing and procuring locally diverse foods, especially by smallholder farmers. This involves advocacy interventions towards enhancing the engagement of the private sector in home-grown school feeding (HGSF). Sixteen (16) Member States were convened to share good practices and lessons learned in the implementation of their respective national home-grown school feeding programmes. To this end, guidelines for designing and implementing home-grown school feeding programmes in Africa were developed. The guidelines serve as a reference document to strengthen existing or establish new national HGSF programmes across the continent.

Strengthened Africa's Voice at COP27 and COP15

- **Advocated on Africa's interests and priorities on matters of climate change and desertification**

AUDA-NEPAD has strengthened Africa's voice AUDA-NEPAD supported AU Member States to strengthen Africa's voice in global climate change negotiations at the 27th UN Climate Change Conference (COP27). Capacity support was provided to the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) in preparation for the common positions on the key thematic subject matters that were negotiated, including financing, loss and damage, agriculture and adaptation, amongst others. AUDA-NEPAD worked closely with the AUC to provide support to the Committee of African heads of state on climate change (CAHOSCC) to ensure that Africa speaks with one voice in global climate change negotiations. AUDA-NEPAD collaborated with other Africa-based institutions to provide financial and technical support to set up the Africa Pavilion at the COP. The Africa Pavilion is a physical space at the COP that allows Member States and many African actors to hold events that showcase innovations and climate actions. Moreover, AUDA-NEPAD participated in the 15th Conference of Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in Montreal, Canada, in December 2022, aimed at strengthening Africa's voice in protecting nature and halting biodiversity loss around the world. AUDA-NEPAD also supported African countries at the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD COP15), in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. In this regard, AUDA-NEPAD co-hosted a capacity building training workshop for West Africa Great Green Wall countries. These included Burkina Faso, Benin, Cabo Verde, Côte D'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.

Supported African Countries in advancing an African Common Position on Biodiversity at COP15

In the year under review, AUDA-NEPAD in its capacity as the lead technical agency of the Union, in partnership with the AUC supported Member States and the Africa Group of Negotiators to prepare and engage at the 2022 UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15) held in Montreal, Canada. COP15 was held under the Presidency of China and involved the concurrent meetings of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing of genetic resources. AUDA-NEPAD successfully provided Member States with preparatory technical support through science-based reference background documentation to advance African country needs towards a common position. In addition, the Agency provided financial support to sixty (60) Member States delegates, with forty-seven (47) successfully participating in the Biodiversity Conference. This ensured adequate representation in negotiations given the diverse issues that were under consideration and the development interests of the continent. The Agency also provided technical and drafting support, as subject matter specialists, on the various agenda items. The support also included organising preparatory and daily strategy planning sessions that culminated in the successful advocacy for, and the safeguarding of Africa's interests in the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). Key outcomes from the conference which were of interest to Africa included a decision to have a dedicated biodiversity fund with its own equitable governance arrangements and a substantial ODA commitment; a resource mobilisation strategy that ensures funding remains a permanent feature in subsequent meetings with a process outlay for discussing modalities; a call to review and reform multilateral financial institutions. Further, as part of the GBF, a decision was secured to establish a fair and equitable benefit-sharing mechanism for digital sequence information on genetic resources; considerable national implementation flexibility on the 4 goals and 23 targets of the GBF; a high-level recognition for the importance of indigenous peoples and local communities; and provisions on capacity building, technical and scientific cooperation to address capacity gaps between the developed and the developing parties. As is the established practice, AUDA-NEPAD and AUC, plan to provide coordinating support to AU Member States through a stock-taking meeting on the outcomes and a work programme in the lead-up to the next UN Biodiversity Conference. This will inform the programmatic interventions that are necessary for Africa to be a global force in the negotiations towards securing Africa's interests for its sustainable socio-economic transformation.

Advancing Genome Editing to Enhance Agriculture and Food Systems in Africa

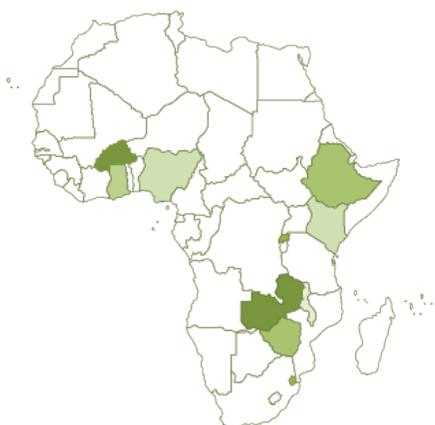
Engaged Six Countries to advance Genome Editing for product development and commercialisation



Taking a market-led approach, in-country stakeholder engagements in six (6) countries from East, Southern and West Africa covering scientists, policy and decision-makers, R & D, the media and the private sector have been completed. A baseline was built on receptiveness and public awareness of genome editing tools and their usefulness in optimising agriculture by lowering production costs and damage to the environment, enhancing climate-risk resistance, improving nutrition and shelf-life towards enhanced food systems, agri-businesses, and overall socio-economic transformation. What emerges is that there is a good level of receptiveness among stakeholders with very clear views on the value of genome editing, which builds on previous national and regional engagements in biotechnology in general, and explicit is the need for the continent to enhance its capabilities to develop, consume, and market genome-edited products resulting from Africa's own scientific, biosafety and R & D efforts. There are more powerful pointers to the need to enhance the enabling environment, science and R & D capabilities working with the private to address actual societal and development needs through genome editing for product development and commercialisation. Two (2) countries are in the process of developing national genome editing communication strategies and action plans, starting with Ghana to guide the initiative that will encompass small-holder farmers.

Supporting the functionality of biosafety systems to enable the safe adoption of biotech crops to increase food and nutrition security

Supported 10 Countries with risk assessments and decision-making for field testing or environmental release of biotech crops



Biotechnology offers an excellent opportunity for Africa to enhance food and nutrition security and improve the incomes and livelihoods of a cross-section of society, including farmers, consumers, food processors and traders. But adopting modern biotechnology needs to be supported by robust functional biosafety systems to ensure the safety of human and animal health and the environment. As part of these efforts, the biosafety programme of AUDA-NEPAD provided training and technical backstopping for regulators with risk assessments and decision-making for field testing or environmental release of biotech crops in Burkina Faso, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Malawi, Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Rwanda. Crops and agronomic traits and their regulatory clearance at various stages have been supported. These included insect-resistant maize, insect-resistant cowpeas, herbicide-tolerant and insect-resistant stacked traits cotton, late blight disease-resistant potato and virus disease-resistant cassava. To help with the adoption of already-approved stacked trait biotech crops and genome-edited biotech crops under development, training has been provided to biosafety regulators in Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi and Nigeria on the regulation of both stacked traits and genome-edited biotech crops. Support was also provided to these countries for the development of guidelines for the regulation of both stacked traits and genome-edited crops. Sensitisation of high-level decision-makers is vital to help countries adopt science-based regulations that enable them to access beneficial biotech crops for agricultural development and economic growth. A sensitisation training was held in Zimbabwe for key stakeholders, including members of the parliamentary portfolio committees for higher and tertiary education science and technology development, agriculture, health and environment.

AUDA-NEPAD, serving together with AUC as the Secretariat to the African Group of Biodiversity Negotiators, provided support to the AU Member States that are Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols (the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing of genetic resources) in the development of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. The support included organising several virtual and physical preparatory meetings and strategy planning sessions, providing financial support to delegates to attend intercessional meetings and providing technical and drafting support to Member States as subject matter specialists on various agenda items. The support led to increased participation in all meetings/processes and successful advocacy for Africa's interests in matters of biodiversity and STI for socio-economic development.

Continental Footprint of the African Biosafety Network of Expertise (ABNE)

NIGERIA

- Capacity building support for stewardship, quality management of GM products and/or post-release monitoring
- National Biosafety Management Agency (NBMA) in Nigeria issued a commercial release permit for drought-tolerant and insect-resistant (TELA) maize
- Nigeria developed and released the National Biosecurity Policy and Action Plan 2022 – 2026 to ensure, among other things, biosecurity for the protection of the environment and human health from harmful biological agents
- Adopted the national biosafety guidelines for risk assessment and management of GM breeding stacks, pending stakeholder validation and adoption

SENEGAL

- Stakeholders capacitated in safe biosafety regulatory and decision-making processes

GHANA

- Technical support for the review of an application that led to the environmental release/placing on the market of pod-borer-resistant cowpea
- Validated guidelines on labelling of GM food/ingredients

TOGO

- First-time import applications for Corn-soy blend plus (CSB Plus), Bulgur, soy-fort (SFB), and vegetable oil from the USA intended as GM derivative products for human consumption were approved

ZAMBIA

- Stakeholders capacitated in safe biosafety regulatory and decision-making processes

ZIMBABWE

- Biosafety and biotechnology sensitisation was provided for key stakeholders, including the Parliamentary Portfolio Committees, to enable informed introduction, testing and adoption of biotech crops.

ETHIOPIA

- Approved confined field trials (CFT) of insect-resistant and herbicide-tolerant genetically modified (GM) cotton and CFT of late blight-resistant GM potato
- Capacity building support for quality management of GM products and/or post-release monitoring
- Approved environmental release of drought-tolerant and insect-resistant GM maize (TELA maize)
- Approved and adopted guidelines for the regulation of genome-edited crops

KENYA

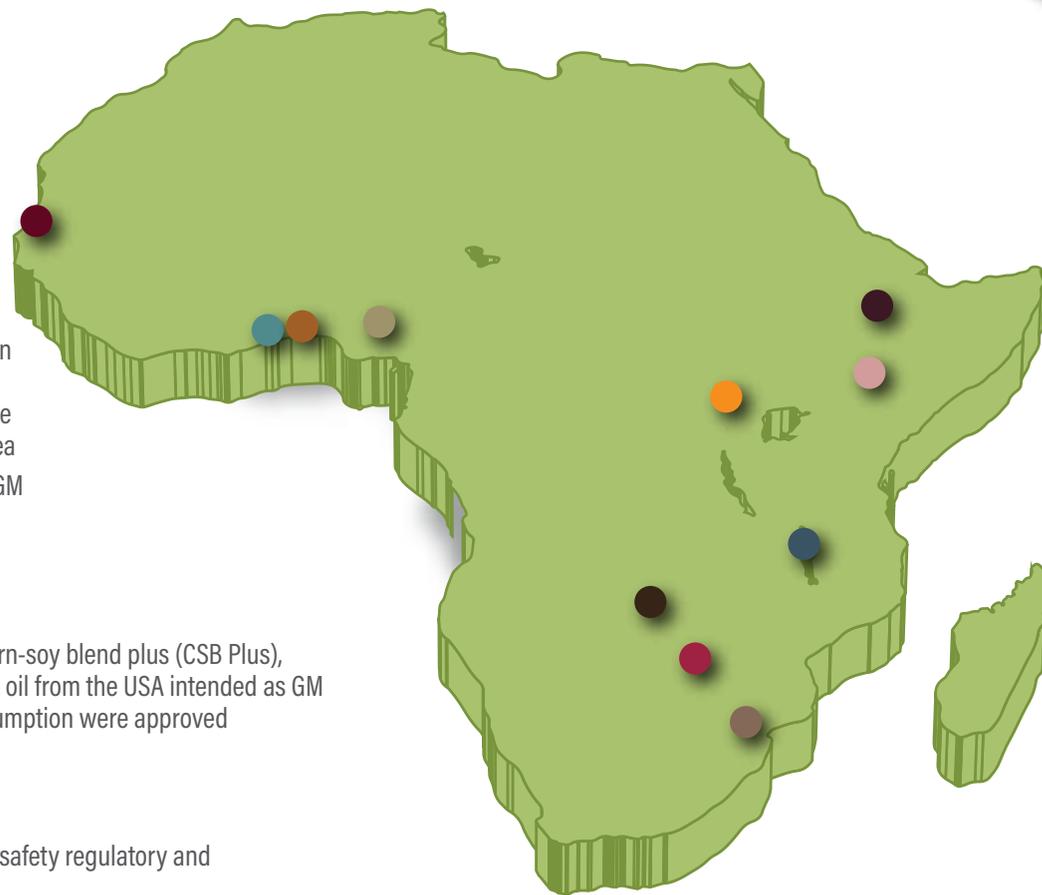
- Supported the development and release of a paper on the value chain of the cotton industry in Kenya with a focus on product stewardship for the timely provision of certified quality hybrid Bt cotton seeds to farmers
- The National Biosafety Authority (NBA) approved the application by the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) for the environmental release and placing on the market of insect-protected Bt maize
- Kenya NBA approved field testing and seed multiplication of genome-edited maize lines and hybrids of disease-resistant Maize
- Approved genome-edited bacterium species with enhanced nitrogen-fixing capabilities to help promote sugarcane growth

RWANDA

- Approved CFT for cassava brown streak disease and cassava mosaic disease resistant cassava on three trial sites as well as CFT for late blight resistant (LBR) potato
- Approved the national strategy for implementation of the biosafety framework (Biosafety Policy document)

MALAWI

- Malawi adopted and published guidelines on the regulation of genome-edited crops, stacked traits GM events and the safety assessment of biotech crops



ESWATINI

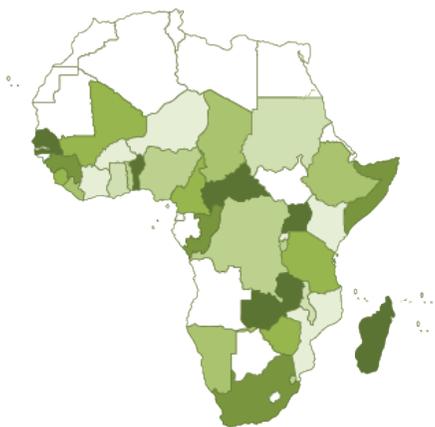
- Capacity building support for quality management of GM products and/or post-release monitoring

Harmonising food standards for increased food safety in Africa

Considering the establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), AUDA-NEPAD developed continental guidelines for the harmonisation of food safety standards in Africa. The guidelines aim to support African countries in defining harmonised standards, regulations and legislations to adopt food safety and quality management frameworks in line with national, regional and international trade requirements. The guidelines will support Members States in agreeing on common regulatory objectives, help conduct risk assessments on priority food commodities and processes and facilitate harmonising standards of such commodities within existing national, regional and international institutional arrangements. This will ensure that commitments at the international level are maintained while concrete steps are made to align African food standards to international standards taking into account local conditions, systems and needs where necessary.

Restoring Degraded Land and Forests in Africa

- **33 African Countries Committed to Restoring 129 million Hectares Of Degraded Land and Forests by 2030**



Thirty-three (33) African countries committed to the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100) to restore over 129 million hectares of degraded land and forests by 2030. AFR100 developed an implementation monitoring platform to track progress in restoring degraded land. The land accelerator programme provided innovation grants and mentorship to empower 100 women and youth restoration entrepreneurs from 27 AFR100 countries. AUDA-NEPAD also participated in the 15th Conference of Parties to the UN Convention to combat

desertification held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, in May 2022, to highlight and strengthen Africa's voice in the fight against desertification, land degradation and drought.



Access to Safe Drinking Water and Clean Energy

- Healthcare facility in Nigeria equipped with a solar PV system to support internally displaced people



In promoting renewable energy interventions in line with the African vision to increase access to 80% of domestic users and 90% of industries by 2040, AUDA-NEPAD deployed off-grid solutions to provide affordable electricity for domestic and productive use to drive sustainable economic growth and build resilience in underserved communities.

To mitigate the effects of the rising humanitarian crisis in Nigeria caused by COVID-19 and insurgency, the Agency installed another solar system project in Nasarawa state, one of the states where

internally displaced persons (IDPs) camps are established. The healthcare facility was equipped with a solar PV system to provide emergency and complex healthcare to thousands of IDPs. The facility also serves as a centre for training specialist doctors, pharmacists, nurses, medical laboratory scientists and referrals from other general and private hospitals within the northern states of Nigeria with poor access to energy and unavailability of clean water supply.

Tracking Agricultural Commitments for accelerated Agricultural Growth And Transformation

- Tracked Progress of 51 Member States on Agricultural Goals And Targets to attain on Malabo Declaration by 2025

Technical support was provided in developing and disseminating the Third Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Biennial Review Report in partnership with AUC. The report aims to track progress made by individual Member States and collective performances in attaining the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth. CAADP is an Agenda 2063 continental initiative that aims to help African countries eliminate hunger and reduce poverty by raising economic growth through increased public investment in agriculture by a minimum of 10 per cent of national budgets and to boost agricultural productivity by at least 6 per cent. Out of the 51 Member States, that reported, 25 have registered increased scores between the 2019 and 2021 review cycles. This reflects the commitment of Member States to fast-track agricultural growth and transformation. However, mid-way through the deadline of 2025, the continent needs to be on track towards meeting the Malabo goals and



targets. In addition to providing technical support to regional focal points of the Biennial Report, AUDA-NEPAD supported mainstreaming fisheries and aquaculture into the CAADP biennial review process. Moreover, feasibility studies on two pilot investment projects in Uganda and Niger aimed at integrating risk management strategies into national development and investment plans were finalised and appraised at the national level under the agriculture and food insecurity risk management programme.





Engagements with African Heads of State and Government

In 2022, the CEO of AUDA-NEPAD met Heads of State and Government of thirteen (13) AU Member States, namely: Botswana, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The high-level engagements discussed national, regional and continental development issues and agreed upon strategies and actions that AUDA-NEPAD can facilitate or undertake.

One of the observations was the need for establishing a mechanism that will enable AUDA-NEPAD to systematically identify, assess and respond to Member States' needs, anchored on regular dialogue. The Heads of State pledged to support AUDA-NEPAD's flagship programmes, including the Energise Africa initiative and AUDA-NEPAD's infrastructure and industrialisation programmes that have been endorsed at the AU Summit in Niamey, Niger.

The CEO actively participated in the G20 and provided leadership in several constituencies and high-level meetings. In this context, the CEO re-affirmed the commitment of AUDA-NEPAD, as the Development Agency of the African Union, to support the AU Member States with the necessary information and analysis to ensure formidable participation and contribution of Africa in global geo-political and economic platforms such as the G20.



H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda and Chairperson of the NEPAD HSGOC



H.E. Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal and Chair of the African Union in 2022



H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission



H.E. Mokgweetsi Masisi, President of the Republic of Botswana



H.E. Denis Sassou Nguesso, President of the Republic of Congo



H.E. Felix Tshisekedi, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo



H.E. Teodoro Obiang Mbasogo, President of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea



H.E. Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia



H.E. Nana Akufo-Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana



H.E. William Samoei Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya



Honourable Raila Odinga, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya and AU High Representative for Infrastructure Development



H.E. Mohamed Bazoum, President of the Republic of Niger



H.E. Samia Suluhu, President of the United Republic of Tanzania



H.E. Hakainde Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia



H.E. Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe



Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation

AUDA-NEPAD continued to leverage partnerships for resource mobilisation and technical cooperation, benefiting continental priority programmes and de facto the AU Member States. AUDA-NEPAD's partnership and resource mobilisation strategy focuses on a win-win approach by aligning the priorities established by policy organs of AU Member States with those of partners through strategic partnerships and alliances.

AUDA-NEPAD is adopting a dynamic approach to resource mobilisation and private sector engagement to develop an adequate funding pipeline with timely and predictable funding windows. The development of an organisation-wide private sector engagement strategy is underway. As part of this work, AUDA-NEPAD is working towards establishing, operationalising, and strengthening private sector platforms in the areas of infrastructure, health logistics and food systems.

Working visits and study tours were undertaken to European Agencies and European Development Agencies (EU INTPA, BMZ, KfW, GIZ, EEAS, AFP) to strengthen collaboration between AUDA-NEPAD and Team Europe as well as knowledge exchange to develop a comprehensive support programme to roll out AUDA-NEPAD's resource mobilisation strategy. Working visits and engagements were expanded to US-based multilateral and financial institutions (World Bank, IFC, US Chamber of Commerce, Corporate Council on Africa, US International Development Finance Corporation) in Washington, DC.

AUDA-NEPAD also participated in the U.S.-Africa Leaders' Summit held under the theme "Strengthening Partnerships to Meet Shared Priorities." The Summit strengthened ties with African leaders and bolstered collaborative efforts with U.S.-based institutions, partners, and key private sector organisations in various strategic areas, including health, technology, innovation, and youth development.



Snapshot of Partnerships and Alliances



Presidential Agency of International Cooperation of Colombia APC - Colombia

The Presidential Agency of International Cooperation of Colombia (APC-Colombia) provided support in the areas of entrepreneurship and the orange economy, as well as agriculture and production. Specifically, APC Colombia supported AUDA-NEPAD's work on aquaculture value chains in East Africa.



African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank)

A new flagship of AUDA-NEPAD aimed at harnessing the potential of the youth and re-energising the public and private sector — was co-launched with the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank). Afreximbank also provided a grant of USD 205,000. Partners of Energise Africa include the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), ECOBANK, EQUITY, GIZ and TDB.



African Development Bank (AfDB)

The African Development Bank (AfDB) availed two facilities for accelerating the deployment of the Service Delivery Mechanism (USD7 million) and Continental Master Plan (USD5 million).



African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat

AUDA-NEPAD deepened areas of collaboration with the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat towards the AU Theme of the Year for 2023, "Acceleration of the AfCFTA Implementation", to eliminate barriers to trade in Africa.



Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)

AUDA-NEPAD strengthened the partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on four agriculture, food systems, and healthcare projects. USD 5.5 million have been availed to finance the work on vaccine intelligent safety surveillance.



Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) will support PIDA PAP II and the establishment of the AUDA-NEPAD African Project Development Facility.



Belgium Development Agency (ENABEL)

The Belgium development agency (ENABEL) signed an MoU with AUDA-NEPAD to collaborate in the following areas: regulation of medicines and vaccines and vaccine manufacturing; agriculture and rural development; TVET and education, training and employment; renewable energy; digitalisation; inclusive growth; peace, stability and strong institutions; and human mobility.



Corporate Council on Africa

The Corporate Council on Africa will support the pre-financing of project feasibility studies and fast-tracking of project preparation to accelerate trade and strengthen health product regularisation in Africa.



U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)

The US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) pledged support towards AMA, AMRH, PMPA, Energise Africa, digital infrastructure development, diaspora mobilisation, feasibility, and project preparation up to bankability. DFC signed an agreement to avail a guarantee for MSMEs in east Africa to the value of USD74 million.



European Union

The European Union and AUDA-NEPAD signed a EU5 million grant for the African Medicines Regulatory Harmonisation Programme and the operationalisation of the African Medicines Agency to secure the provision of quality, safe medical products in Africa. AUDA-NEPAD engaged the EU Support for institutional capacity building in preparation for the development of a continental comprehensive support programme under the Africa EU Partnership.



Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

AUDA-NEPAD and GIZ continued to partner under the '100,000 SMEs for 1 million jobs' initiative, Agricultural Technical Vocational Education and Training for Women (ATVET4W), Data-cipation Project, Home-Grown Solutions (HGS) Accelerator for Pandemic, Skills Initiative for Africa (SIFA) and Programme for Infrastructure Development (PIDA).



G20 and B20

AUDA-NEPAD attended the special ministerial meeting on emerging opportunities and engaged with a wide range of public and private stakeholders attending the G20 & B20 to strengthen Africa's voice in building resilient food systems.



Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) collaborated with several programmes, including the Regional Integration (RI) Programme, the Africa Kaizen Initiative (AKI), the Initiative for Nutrition and Food Security in Africa (IFNA), the Home Grown Solution (HGS) Accelerator initiative for Pandemic Resilience, Policy Bridge Tank and joint side events on the margins of TICAD8.



Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW)

The Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) continued to support the Skills Initiative for Africa (SIFA) and operationalise the innovations funding for SIFA (120USD million).



Norwegian Foreign Affairs and Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)

Norwegian Foreign Affairs, the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and AUDA-NEPAD identified new areas of partnership.



Regional Economic Communities

AUDA-NEPAD engaged with all RECs representatives from resource mobilisation divisions and developed a EUR800 million funding proposal in the six EU Sub-Saharan Africa key priority areas of transport, ICT, agriculture, trade, energy and private sector for accelerated implementation of Agenda 2063.



Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID)

AUDA-NEPAD successfully undertook the closure of the Business Incubators for Women (BIAWE) Project of the NEPAD Spanish Fund for the Empowerment of African Women, which has been running for 15 years to advance women's rights and economic empowerment. A proposal for the second phase of funding has been made for consideration by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID).



Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)

AUDA-NEPAD and the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) agreed after 3 consecutive project phases of the African Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (Phases 1-3; 2007-2019) to partner in the 4th phase (2021-2025). The total grant approved by Sweden is estimated to be SEK70,000,000. The overall objective is to improve STI measurement among least developed countries and those with poor visibility in STI for policy alignment and in accordance with regional and continental STI frameworks. By end of 2025, at least 50 AU member States shall be involved in the ASTII Programme.



United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

AUDA-NEPAD signed an MoU with the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) on the margins of the 77th UNGA in New York to address education, nutrition and healthcare challenges facing children and young people in Africa. The three-year agreement aims to scale-up African solutions, for African children, through increased access to technical assistance and promoting regional and international cooperation.



World Bank

The World Bank pledged support to at least three PIDA PAPII projects for capacity support, especially to the RECs. This also includes support to 4 pillars, including infrastructure, climate and gender dimension (NAIPs, Reg Value chains), food systems, investments (private sector), multi-faced and sector approaches.



World Food Programme

AUDA-NEPAD and the World Food Programme collaborated on the finalisation of the Home-Grown-School Feeding Guidelines. Furthermore, joint advocacy activities were undertaken in support of the 2022 AU Year under the theme "Strengthening Resilience in Nutrition and Food Security on the African Continent" as well as Africa's common position during the Food Systems Summit.



Tripartite Agreement between AUDA-NEPAD, Commonwealth and UNCCD



Six investment pillars for the Great Green Wall Initiative in the Southern Africa Development Community (GGWI SADC) have been identified under the tripartite partnership between AUDA-NEPAD, the Commonwealth and UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). These are water for all, access to renewable energy, productive and resilient ecosystems (land and biodiversity), climate-resilient green infrastructure, strengthening agricultural productivity and resilient food Systems, Transformative Economic and Business Development.

N8 Universities Research Partnership



AUDA-NEPAD is collaborating with the N8 Universities Research Partnership to support economic and societal development through innovation and practical research with universities designed to bring solutions to address Africa's challenges. The N8 Universities Research Partnership is a collaboration of the eight most research-intensive Universities in the North of England: Durham University, Lancaster University, University of Leeds, University of Liverpool, University of Manchester, Newcastle University, University of Sheffield, and University of York.

Rethinking Development Cooperation and International Partnerships



In 2022, H.E. Macky Sall, President of Senegal and Chairperson of the AU, made recommendations on financing for Africa's development, including issues on debt, taxation to post-pandemic recovery, climate change, governance, trade barriers and migration. As a direct response, AUDA-NEPAD, with AUC and supported by the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the OECD Development Centre and the EU, developed a concept paper on rethinking development cooperation and international partnerships. The paper was launched at a high-level dialogue at Columbia University on the margins of the 77th United Nations General Assembly. The paper addresses how Africa should reposition itself within the international system and harness its potential to participate better in the global economy. In this process, it is necessary to consider harmonising support for Africa and promoting Africa's self-sufficiency through investment in improving productive capacities. Accessing new ways for development finance are paths that would allow a reassessment of the relationship between Africa and its development partners.





Institutional Enhancement towards Operational Excellence

AUDA-NEPAD successfully undertook a comprehensive EU IX Pillars Capacity Assessment in the areas of internal controls, accounting, external audits, grants cycle management, procurement, exclusion from access to funding, publication of information on recipients and protection of personal data.

Successfully undertook a Comprehensive EU IX Pillar Capacity Assessment



Social Media Outreach



1,000,000
Users

reached on
AUDA-NEPAD
Knowledge Web
Platform

164,000
Views

of the African Skills Portal
for Youth Employment and
Entrepreneurship -
ASPYEE serves as a
knowledge hub to share
nationally tried-and-tested
approaches



162,000
Combined
Followers



on AUDA-NEPAD and CEO's Social
Media Channels



Strategic Focus Areas 2023 - 2024

AUDA-NEPAD thrives on remaining agile, dynamic and responsive to the development needs of AU Member States, anchored on its mandate to champion the implementation of Agenda 2063 and deliver a people-centred and inclusive transformative impact. This will require the Agency to institute a more flexible mechanism to assess and respond to the priorities and needs of AU Member States. Furthermore, dedicated efforts will be made to strengthen the Agency's technical and financial capacity to deliver on its mandate by embracing an integrated development approach. Efforts will be made to strengthen AUDA-NEPAD's presence at the regional and country level and harness Africa's human resources to promote youth and women empowerment, entrepreneurial development, STI-driven skills revolution and industrialisation.

Building on the gains to date - from developing as well as promoting Continental policies and strategies to leading the implementation of Agenda 2063, the AUDA-NEPAD is intensely looking to support African countries to strengthen their innovative capabilities, with set objectives to promote indigenous innovations, thereby expanding manufacturing, jobs and livelihood opportunities for all.

Technological innovation has never been more significant if Africa is to become globally competitive while benefitting from the AfCFTA decisively. African countries are transitioning to knowledge-based economies at different paces, which calls for the need to upgrade scientific and technological innovation capabilities to drive industrialisation and further development.

Such a strategic focus means that the AUDA-NEPAD will intensely focus on human capital and institutions, industrialisation and infrastructure; environment, climate resilience and adaptation; food systems and agriculture, with science, technology and innovation as a driver.

Further, within the framework of domesticating and implementing Agenda 2063, a focus will be placed on accelerating the implementation of existing frameworks (e.g., PIDA PAP 2, CAADP, AIDA and STISA-24), developing and implementing catalytic programmes in response to the development needs of Member States; fostering practices in strategic foresight planning and scenario building, and undertaking specialised studies—for example on the impact of free trade on national economies—as part of accelerating the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

The Agency will also develop and implement specific initiatives, such as Energise Africa—aimed at harnessing the potential of the youth and re-energising the public and private sector, and the triple nexus comprehensive programme focused on conflict, peace, and development. Furthermore, a premium will be placed on optimising benefits from strategic fora such as the Conference of Parties (COP 27 and COP28), the African Union Summit on Industrialisation and Economic Diversification, and Africa infrastructure financing platforms.

As a prerequisite for effectively delivering its mandate, the Agency will adhere to values that underpin operational effectiveness and efficiency. Accordingly, AUDA-NEPAD's delivery model will be enhanced, and a fit-for-purpose organisational structure will be defined with the required capacities. Furthermore, the Agency will strengthen its capabilities in mobilising predictable and sustainable financing, to be pursued in part through the operationalisation of the AUDA Development Fund and institutionalising statutory funding of the Agency's work by the AU Member States. In all the undertakings of AUDA-NEPAD, strengthened coordination and partnership with the RECs and AUC will remain a critical success factor and will be nurtured consistently. All these strategies will help to reorganise, strategise and find appropriate solutions that will enable the Agency to fulfil its mandate successfully.

