

FIRST ACTION PLAN (2008-2010)

FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFRICA-EU STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Introduction

The Joint Africa-EU Strategy identifies strategic priorities in the area of peace and security, democratic governance and human rights, trade and regional integration and other key development issues. To implement the commitments made in the Joint Strategy, the EU and Africa will address and advance all identified objectives on all the strategic priorities, with a wider view of supporting African countries in their efforts to attain all Millennium Development Goals by the year 2015.

However, to reach early results on the key deliverables of the Lisbon Declaration, special attention will be devoted to a number of selected priority actions in the initial period 2008-2010, all of which have a positive impact on the daily lives of the citizens of Africa and Europe. The Parties agree to implement these selected priority actions in the context of specific '**Africa-EU Partnerships**' on subjects of common interest, which add value to existing cooperation and political dialogue. The Partnerships will focus in particular on actions at the global, continental or regional level, with a clear comparative advantage as compared to cooperation at the national level, where the participating actors have a collective capacity to deliver. In addition, other agreed initiatives and partnerships will continue to be implemented. In this context, the development of infrastructure as a cross-cutting priority, and the implementation of the EU-Africa Infrastructure Partnership launched in Addis Ababa on 24 October 2007, are of particular relevance.

The Partnerships will work under the political guidance and responsibility of the existing Africa-EU Ministerial Troika, where appropriate with inputs from sector-specific ministerial Troikas. Partners also agree to take the necessary steps in the initial period 2008-2010 to establish and implement the institutional framework. The monitoring of progress will take place in the framework of the Joint EU-AU Task Force, which will report to their respective constituencies.

The Partnerships are to be seen as political relations between interested partners who have organised themselves on a voluntary basis around a shared vision with the intention of launching concrete activities. Their actors and duration will vary, in function of the objectives of the cooperation.

Each of these 'Africa-EU Partnerships' are open for a wide range of actors, which could include the European and AU Commissions, EU and AU Ministerial Councils, the EU Council Secretariat, EU Member States and African States, EU and African Parliaments, local and decentralised authorities, EU and African civil society actors, African sub-regional organisations, research institutions, international organisations or institutions and the private sector.

The actions under each of these 'EU Africa Partnerships' will be financed out of existing or new financial resources, which could include, where appropriate, the 10th European Development Fund (EDF) and its facilities and trust funds, the relevant EU budgetary instruments (European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument–ENPI, Development Cooperation

Instrument-DCI) and the geographical and thematic programmes deriving from these, bilateral contributions from both African or EU States, contributions from interested third states, international financing institutions, international organisations and civil society groups as well as private sector investments.

Partnerships and Priority Actions

The following Partnerships and Priority Actions have been agreed:

- 1. Africa-EU Partnership on Peace and Security**
 - o Enhance dialogue on challenges to peace and security;
 - o Full operationalization of the African Peace and Security Architecture;
 - o Predictable Funding for African-led Peace Support Operations.
- 2. Africa-EU Partnership on Democratic Governance and Human Rights**
 - o Enhance dialogue at global level and in international fora;
 - o Promote the African Peer Review Mechanism and support the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance;
 - o Strengthen cooperation in the area of cultural goods.
- 3. Africa-EU Partnership on Trade, Regional Integration and Infrastructure**
 - o Support the African integration agenda;
 - o Strengthen African capacities in the area of rules, standards, and quality control;
 - o Implement the EU-Africa Infrastructure Partnership.
- 4. Africa-EU Partnership on the Millennium Developments Goals**
 - o Ensure the finance and policy base for achieving the MDGs;
 - o Accelerate the achievement of the Food Security Targets of the MDGs;
 - o Accelerate the achievement of the Health Targets of the MDGs;
 - o Accelerate the achievement of the Education Targets of the MDGs.
- 5. Africa-EU Partnership on Energy**
 - o Implement the Energy Partnership to intensify cooperation on energy security and energy access.
- 6. Africa-EU Partnership on Climate Change**
 - o Build a common agenda on climate change policies and cooperation;
 - o Cooperate to address land degradation and increasing aridity, including the "Green Wall for the Sahara Initiative".
- 7. Africa-EU Partnership on Migration, Mobility and Employment**
 - o Implement the Declaration of the Tripoli Conference on Migration and Development;
 - o Implement the EU-Africa Plan of Action on Trafficking of Human Beings;
 - o Implement and follow up the 2004 Ouagadougou Declaration and Action Plan on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa.
- 8. Africa-EU Partnership on Science, Information Society and Space**
 - o Support the development of an inclusive information society in Africa;
 - o Support S&T Capacity Building in Africa and Implement Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action;
 - o Enhance cooperation on space applications and technology.

Making it work: institutional architecture and implementation

To ensure the swift and effective implementation of the Joint Strategy and the Partnerships and Priority Actions agreed in this first Action Plan, as well as to promote the broadest possible ownership and visibility of this process, the EU and Africa will establish the appropriate **institutional architecture** and **implementation modalities**. In this context, the EU and Africa agree on the following activities:

Together

- Establish more frequent contacts between **African and EU political leaders**, in particular between the Presidents of the EU and AU institutions;
- Complement bi-annual **Troika meetings** of Foreign Ministers with sectoral Ministerial meetings as necessary;
- Establish mechanisms for closer cooperation and dialogue between the **Pan-African Parliament (PAP)** and the **European Parliament (EP)**, as well as between the **AU Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC)** and the **European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)** and local authorities;
- Pursue the annual meetings between the College of Commissioners of the **European and AU Commissions** and of the 6-monthly **Joint AU-EU Task Force** meetings, and enhance their efficiency through focused upstream preparation and agenda-setting, a clearer identification of priorities, and greater operational continuity;
- Establish a **mapping** of existing European and African civil society networks;
- Establish a platform for European and African **research institutes and think tanks** to provide independent policy advice;
- Create a **web portal** to facilitate consultations with civil society organisations (CSOs) ahead of key policy decisions;
- Invite representatives from European and African **civil societies** to express themselves ahead of Ministerial Troika meetings;
- Establish planning and priority setting mechanism for future Action Plans;
- Establish informal **joint expert groups** on all priority actions identified in the Action Plan. These informal Groups will bring together African, European and international key-actors (including civil society organisations) with the necessary competence and commitment to work on the priority action concerned. The Groups will discuss the implementation and financing of the respective priority actions. They will decide on their own efficient working arrangements (composition, frequency and venue of meetings, coordination with other actors, chairmanship/secretariat, etc.). They will report to the Troika, and will provide inputs to sectoral Troika Meetings;
- Draw up an **annual joint report** on the progress and implementation of the Action Plan to be presented to the Ministerial Troika meetings;
- Hold a **third EU Africa Summit** at the end of 2010 in Africa. This Summit will review the results of the first Action Plan and approve the following one.

For the EU side

- Further enhance the **coherence of EU action**, in particular through:
 - The opening of EU Delegation exclusively dedicated to the African Union, representing the EU in all areas of competency and activity of the AU;
 - A closer cooperation between, and strengthened coherence within, institutions in Brussels in view of the effective implementation of the Action Plans;
 - A reflection on options to better align policies, instruments and procedures to the need to treat Africa as one;
- Hold regular meetings between **civil society organisations** (CSOs) and relevant Council bodies on progress made in implementing partnerships by institutions and CSOs.

For the African side

- Strengthen the **role of the African Union and its Commission** in policy formulation and implementation, and as the interlocutor for all matters of the Africa-EU partnership;
- Simplify the framework for **regional integration** in articulation with Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) and rationalise EPAs, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Sub-Regional Organisations within the Banjul framework;
- Strengthen the cooperation between AU Institutions;
- Hold regular meetings between civil society organisations (CSOs) and relevant AU bodies on progress made in implementing partnerships by institutions and CSOs;
- Further strengthen the AU Representation in Brussels.

The following '**fiches**' provide details on the rationale, the objectives, the expected outcomes, the anticipated activities and the possible actors and financial resources of each of the Africa-EU priority actions.

(1)

AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP

ON

PEACE AND SECURITY

RATIONALE

Peace and security lie at the foundation of progress and sustainable development. The objective of the Joint Strategy is to cooperate in enhancing the capacity of Africa and EU to respond timely and adequately to security threats, and also to join efforts in addressing global challenges.

PRIORITY ACTION 1: ENHANCE DIALOGUE ON CHALLENGES TO PEACE AND SECURITY

Objective

- Reach common positions and implement common approaches on challenges to peace and security in Africa, Europe and globally.

Expected outcomes

- Deepened common understanding on the causes of conflicts and their resolution;
- Strengthened cooperation on conflict prevention, management and resolution, including long-term post-conflict reconstruction and peace building;
- Improved coordination of continent-wide and regional approaches and initiatives;
- Increased EU and African cooperation and influence in international and global fora.

Activities

- Hold a systematic and regular dialogue on all issues related to peace and security, at technical, senior official and political levels in the most effective format. This dialogue could also include innovative tools such as conflict sensitivity analysis;
- Hold consultations, in an appropriate format, between the AU Peace and Security Council (AU PSC) and the EU Political and Security Committee (PSC);
- Facilitate ad hoc consultations for exchange and coordination at the highest political level;
- Coordinate efforts in relevant international fora on global issues of common concern;
- Set up mechanisms for consultation at ambassadorial level, in particular in Addis Ababa, Brussels and New York;
- Enhance capacity building and cooperation in the fight against terrorism;
- Enhance capacity building, networking, cooperation and exchange of information on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) and Anti-Personnel Landmines (APM), as well as fight against illicit trafficking;
- Enhance the sharing of analyses and reports on crisis and conflict situations, including on their root causes, and put in place the required security arrangements for the exchange of sensitive information;
- Address the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on the role of women in conflict and post-conflict situations and of UN Security Council Resolution 1612 on Children in Armed Conflicts;
- Raise awareness through campaigning involving African and European NGOs on mainstreaming human rights, gender issues, and children affected by armed conflict;
- Undertake joint assessment missions to conflict and post conflict areas, and launch joint initiatives when appropriate;
- Facilitate exchange of experience and lessons learned between EU and African mediators.
- Strengthen cooperation and enhance dialogue on issues relating to the security/development nexus, including on the identification and the use of best practices.

Actors

- AU Commission, African States, AU PSC, Regional Mechanisms for Conflict Prevention, Management, and Resolution, Pan-African Parliament, ECOSOCC, African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, African Centre for Studies and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT);
- European Commission, HR/Council Secretariat and EU Member States;
- African and EU Heads of Mission in Addis Ababa, Brussels and New York;
- Research centres, training centres, think tanks and relevant civil society actors;
- African and European local authorities.

Finance

- AU Peace Fund;
- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as 10th EDF, Africa Peace Facility (APF), the European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument (ENPI), Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI), Instrument for Stability (IfS), CFSP-Budget;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African states.

PRIORITY ACTION 2: FULL OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE AFRICAN PEACE AND SECURITY ARCHITECTURE (APSA)

Objective

- Effective functioning of the African Peace and Security Architecture to address peace and security challenges in Africa.

Expected outcomes

- Full operationalization of the various components of the APSA, in particular the Continental Early Warning System, the Panel of the Wise, and the African Standby Force;
- Enhanced capacities of AU and the regional mechanisms;
- Concrete progress in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts;
- Strengthened African capabilities through the implementation of relevant proposals in the Action Plan of the related EU Concept adopted in May 2007.

Activities

- Work towards the operationalization of the Continental Early Warning System, and facilitate cooperation between the AU Situation Room and corresponding structures in the EU;
- Work towards the operationalization of the African Standby Force and its civilian dimension, including through EU support for regional brigades training, exercises, validation and logistics (such as Euro-RECAMP);
- Facilitate training courses, exchanges of experts and of information, joint seminars and initiatives at continental, sub-regional and national levels;
- Strengthen coherence between different policies, initiatives, financial instruments and all relevant actors;
- Organize specific and regular co-ordination meetings;
- Establish and empower an EU-African civil society network capable of supporting peace and security initiatives;
- Strengthen conflict prevention mechanisms and effective post-conflict reconstruction, including through a reinforcement of the role of women;
- Enhance capacity-building, networking and collaboration between the AU and the EU regarding the implementation of the AU Policy on Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development.

Actors

- AU Commission, African States, AU PSC, Regional Mechanisms for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution;
- EU Commission, Council Secretariat and EU Member States;
- Research centres, think tanks and relevant civil society actors;
- UN, G-8 and other relevant international actors.

Finance

- AU Peace Fund;
- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, African Peace Facility (APF), ENPI, DCI, Instrument for Stability, CFSP-Budget;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African states.

PRIORITY ACTION 3: PREDICTABLE FUNDING FOR AFRICA-LED PEACE SUPPORT OPERATIONS**Objective**

- To financially enable the AU and regional mechanisms to plan and conduct Peace Support Operations.

Expected outcome

- Reduction of funding gaps and of the prejudicial uncertainty for African-led peace support operations;
- More effective deployment of these operations.

Activities

- Take steps towards the establishment of a predictable and sustainable funding mechanism, building on the experience of the African Peace Facility (APF) and EU and AU Member States' bilateral contributions;
- Work with G-8 and other members of the international community to contribute to the funding of African-led peace support operations;
- Work together to achieve, within the framework of Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, a UN mechanism to provide sustainable, flexible and predictable financial support for peace keeping operations undertaken by the AU, or under its authority and with the consent of the UN Security Council.

Actors

- AU Commission, African States;
- European Commission, EU Council, EU Member States;
- Interested actors, such as UN, G-8, and other partners.

Finance

- AU Peace Fund;
- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, African Peace Facility (APF), ENPI, DCI, Instrument for Stability, CFSP-Budget.
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African states, as well as from other partners.

(2)

AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP

ON

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

RATIONALE

Democratic Governance and Human Rights are key for sustainable development and for cooperation between partners, and are an integral part of both the EU's and the AU's core values. The Africa-EU Partnership on Democratic Governance and Human Rights will enable a comprehensive continent-to-continent dialogue and cooperation on aspects and concepts such as local capacity strengthening, the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, democratic principles, the rule of law and equitable access to legal systems, management of natural resources, the fight against corruption and fraud, accountable management of public funds, institutional development and reform, global governance, and security sector reform.

PRIORITY ACTION 1 - ENHANCE DIALOGUE AT GLOBAL LEVEL AND IN INTERNATIONAL FORA

Objectives

- Common positions and specific initiatives on key aspects of the governance and human rights agendas;
- Coordinated positions on global issues in international fora such as the UN Human Rights Council, the 2nd and 3rd Commission of UNGA, the Conference of State Parties to the AU and UN CAC;
- Co-operation in the prevention of, and fight against, international terrorism, drugs and organised crime.

Expected outcomes

- Ratification and implementation of the international and continental legislative framework (UN conventions, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, ILO Conventions, Financial Action Task Force recommendations);
- Progress in the compliance with international obligations in the field of democratic governance and human rights;
- Enhanced influence through coordinated positions of the EU and AU in the Human Rights Council;
- Enhanced cooperation in the fight against corruption;
- Progress in the areas of prevention of ill-treatment and torture, promotion of international justice.

Activities

- Develop a platform for dialogue on all governance issues of mutual interest, including political issues, human rights, children's rights, gender equality, local governance and on "situations of fragility", as well as on the death penalty;
- Maintain and continue in this context a dedicated Senior Officials human rights dialogue, flanked by an Africa-EU civil society dialogue;
- Enhance co-operation in global fora on issues relating to election organization and observation;
- Enhance cooperation in the fight against corruption under the UN Convention on Anti-Corruption, the AU Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption and other relevant instruments;
- Enhance cooperation in the context of international initiatives against the illicit trade in natural resources, such as the Kimberley process and the Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade (FLEGT);
- Promote transparency in the management of natural resources and conduct a dialogue on relevant international initiatives such as the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI);
- Step up capacity building and the exchange of information on the fight against terrorism, drugs and organized crime, including trafficking of human beings;
- Enhance cooperation on women's rights and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHRs) as set out by the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD);
- Strengthen the representation of African children networks in the EU Child Forum.

Actors

- African States, AU Commission/NEPAD, Pan African Parliament, African Court of Justice, African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, other Pan-African Institutions, RECs, African think tanks;
- EU Member States and Council, European Commission, European Parliament, other EU Institutions and Agencies, European Court of Human Rights;
- Decentralized authorities, Parliaments, and Civil society organizations;
- UN agencies and programmes and specialised international organisations including the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI, Instrument for Stability (IfS) and the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR);
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African States;
- African Development Bank instruments.

PRIORITY ACTION 2 – PROMOTE THE AFRICAN PEER REVIEW MECHANISM (APRM) AND SUPPORT THE AFRICAN CHARTER ON DEMOCRACY, ELECTIONS AND GOVERNANCE

Objectives

- A more efficient African governance architecture through enhanced support for the implementation of the outcomes of the APRM process and the implementation of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance;
- Strengthened capacities to combat corruption;
- More effective and efficient public services and administration in Africa;
- Enhanced awareness of the APRM processes in African countries.

Expected outcomes

- The consolidation of an effective and functioning Pan-African governance architecture through ratification and enhanced implementation of its instruments;
- Improved cooperation on the implementation of the recommendations of the APRM process.

Activities

- Strengthen the dialogue and cooperation on the implementation of the recommendations of the APRM process;
- Step up EU support to the Pan-African governance architecture, including the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance;
- Speed up ratification and implementation of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance;
- Strengthen capacities of the AU, regional and national institutions and civil society in the fields of election organisation and observation;
- Promote the participation of women in political processes and governance;
- Strengthen the capacities of independent organisations to combat corruption, impunity and fraud.

Actors

- African States, AU Commission/NEPAD Secretariat, APRM Secretariat, Pan African Parliament, other Pan-African Institutions, RECs;
- EU Member States and Council, European Commission, European Parliament, other EU Institutions and Agencies;
- Local and decentralized authorities;
- Civil society actors, universities and research institutes;
- UN organizations and specialized international organizations.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI, Instrument for Stability (IfS) and the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR);
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African States;
- African Development Bank.

PRIORITY ACTION 3 - STRENGTHEN COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF CULTURAL GOODS

Objective

- Enhanced cooperation in the area of cultural goods and enlarged cooperation to include other cultural activities.

Expected outcomes

- Common positions on policies, strategies and cooperation in the area of cultural goods;
- Enhanced cooperation and exchanges between European and African cultural actors, such as museums, artists, experts, research institutes;
- Progress in the implementation of relevant international instruments to facilitate the protection and promotion of cultural goods, and to combat illicit trade of cultural goods;
- Progress towards the return of illegally acquired cultural goods to their countries of origins in line with relevant international conventions;
- Enhanced cooperation to facilitate the protection and promotion of cultural expressions and cultural diversity.

Activities

- Launch an inventory of cooperation in the area of cultural goods between Africa and Europe;
- Enhance the exchange of information on existing African cultural goods in EU and African countries with a view to establishing a database;
- Conduct an effective dialogue and cooperation in the area of return of illegally acquired cultural goods, including the exchange of experiences and sharing of best practices;
- Put in place appropriate mechanisms for the fight against illicit trade in cultural goods;
- Encourage the signature and ratification of all relevant international conventions on cultural goods, and support the elaboration of legislation in this field;
- Build capacities in, and provide technical assistance to, African countries, in particular in areas such as the establishing of inventory systems in cultural goods, training of technical staff, the setting up of security and safety systems to protect and preserve cultural goods and institutions, increasing the awareness among holders, curators and other actors, and the strengthening of institutions;
- Enhance dialogue between African and EU delegations to UNESCO;
- Promote Culture for Development, and reinforce the safeguarding of African World Heritage sites and of the diversity of cultural expressions;
- Engage in effective dialogue and cooperation on culture, the promotion of exchanges and twinning arrangements in the area of cultural expressions and diversity and sports;
- Take necessary steps towards fully integrating local culture in development cooperation.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African States, Pan African Parliament;
- European Commission, EU Member States, European Parliament;
- UNESCO and other international organisations;
- Civil society actors in the field of culture and sports;
- Museums, Universities and Research institutions.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI, Instrument for Stability (IfS) and the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR);
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African States;
- Private sector, international organizations.

(3)

AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP

ON

TRADE AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION

RATIONALE

Enhanced trade and deeper regional integration are essential contributions to development, economic growth and employment, and ultimately the eradication of poverty. Further efforts shall be made in particular to enhance the African integration agendas, both at the regional and Pan-African levels, and to strengthen African capacities to meet rules, standards and quality requirements which are essential to enable effective access to regional and international markets.

Africa has adopted socio-economic and political integration as a key development strategy. The EU has undergone a successful process of integration and can usefully share its experience with Africa.

The EU and Africa are determined to remove all obstacles to market access. Capacity building initiatives in this area will focus, in particular, on sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures. Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in Africa are key actors to facilitate these harmonization and capacity enhancement processes.

PRIORITY ACTION 1: SUPPORT THE AFRICAN INTEGRATION AGENDA OBJECTIVE

- The socio-economic and political integration of the continent in line with the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community (Abuja Treaty).

Expected outcomes

- An accelerated integration process with the participation of all stakeholders, including those in the informal sector;
- Improved coherence and convergence of the integration processes between the AU Commission and the RECs;
- Enhanced African capacities to implement the integration agenda;
- Synergies between African integration processes and the EPAs, the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, and bilateral trade agreements.

Activities

- Implement the Minimum Integration Programme for Regional Economic Communities (RECs);
- Ensure that the EPAs support Africa's regional integration efforts;
- Conduct the Study on the Quantification of Scenarios within the context of the rationalisation process;
- Enhance the role of the AU in the monitoring of the EPAs and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership involving North African countries;
- Enhance the capacity of the AU Commission, the RECs, and African countries to effectively coordinate and implement the integration agenda (including training in trade policy and negotiations);
- Engage other stakeholders such as the private sector, civil society and cooperating partners, to participate and support the integration process;
- Implement the African Charter on Statistics and exchange statistical and other information between the EU and the African side.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African States, Pan African Parliament, RECs;
- European Commission, EU Member States, European Parliament;
- Joint Parliamentary Assembly (JPA);
- Pan African organizations, such as United Cities and Local Government-Africa, African Institute on Governance, Alliance for a Renewed Governance in Africa;
- Civil society, private sector, local authorities, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), AfDB and other interested actors.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI and DCI;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African States;
- AfDB, European Investment Bank (EIB).

PRIORITY ACTION 2: STRENGTHEN AFRICAN CAPACITIES IN THE AREA OF RULES, STANDARDS, AND QUALITY CONTROL

Objectives

- Enhanced capacity of administrations, producers and exporters at all levels to meet the regulatory requirements of export markets within Africa and the EU, thus allowing diversification away from simple processed products;
- Enhanced competitiveness of African agriculture and agri-food industry through particular attention to Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary Standards (SPS).

Expected outcomes

- Better informed producers and exporters capable of complying with the rules and regulatory requirements of export markets;
- A sufficient number of trained inspectors and customs officials to efficiently facilitate exports;
- A sufficient number of well-equipped and accredited laboratories, possibly to be shared amongst countries, for testing and certifying exports;
- Mutual recognition agreements on certain standards;
- A network to share information on market access, technical rules and regulations
- Diversification of exports;
- Progress towards the elimination of intra-regional non-tariff barriers to trade.

Activities

- Provision of training, in particular in the areas of inspection techniques, standards, quality assurance, accreditation, metrology, maximum residue levels, for inspectors and customs officials handling exports;
- Rehabilitation and modernization of African testing and certification laboratories, some of which could be shared by several countries, to empower them to perform more effectively;
- Negotiation of mutual recognition agreements as necessary on certain standards;
- Creation of a platform to share information on relevant issues and developments, including market access, rules and regulations;
- Improve technical knowledge to ensure that food and feed inspection services are operating efficiently and transparently;
- Strengthen risk-based animal health, plant health and food safety systems;
- Support the participation of African countries in SPS standard setting organizations.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African States, Pan African Parliament, RECs;
- European Commission, EU Member States, European Parliament;
- Civil society, private sector, ECA, AfDB and other Interested other actors;
- SPS standard setting organizations.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI and DCI;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African States;
- African Development Bank, European Investment Bank.

PRIORITY ACTION 3: IMPLEMENT THE EU-AFRICA INFRASTRUCTURE PARTNERSHIP

Objective

- Improved and sustained African infrastructure and services.

Expected outcomes

- Enhanced continental and regional integration and trade through better interconnectivity;
- Improved infrastructure networks and services;
- Strengthened African capacities in infrastructure management and policy development;
- Increased participation of the private sector in infrastructure development, including through Public-Private Partnerships;
- Increased and sustainable investments in physical infrastructure;
- Improved management of shared water-course systems.

Activities

- Implement the EU-Africa Partnership on Infrastructure signed in Addis Ababa on 24 October 2007, including through the operationalization of the Partnership Steering Committee;
- Support the implementation of the AU/NEPAD Infrastructure Initiatives, including the Pan-African Infrastructure Development Fund;
- Improve the legal and regulatory environment for Public-Private Partnerships;
- Build capacities in the field of safety standards and regulations, in particular for air and maritime transport.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African States, Pan African Parliament, RECs;
- European Commission, EU Member States, European Parliament;
- Civil society, private sector, ECA, AfDB and other interested other actors.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI and DCI;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African States
- African Development Bank, European Investment Bank;
- Private Sector.

(4)

AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP

ON

THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

RATIONALE

Many countries in Africa are confronting particular challenges in meeting the targets of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015, and will require a broad range of strengthened efforts to meet those targets. Such efforts must include effective action to tackle the shortfalls in policy, predictable financing, data collection and implementation capacities. Children, gender, HIV/AIDS and the environment will be addressed as cross-cutting priorities.

This Africa-EU Partnership will serve as a forum for intensified continent-to-continent policy dialogue, cooperation and joint action at all levels, with a view to achieving the MDGs in all African countries.

PRIORITY ACTION 1: ENSURE THE FINANCE AND POLICY BASE FOR ACHIEVING THE MDGS

Objective

- To overcome policy and financing gaps for achieving the MDGs;

Expected outcomes

- Africa-EU policy dialogue and common positions in support of both quick wins and longer term sustainable action to tackle the MDGs in the context of global partnerships and international fora, including in the context of the MDG Africa Steering Committee, chaired by the United Nations Secretary-General;
- Integrated, comprehensive and balanced approaches in addressing all MDGs;
- Stronger institutional capacity and better coordination within and between the AU and EU to tackle the MDGs;
- Enhanced networking among African and European civil society organizations and other non-state actors.

Activities

- Develop joint assessments, analysis and approaches to enhance country ownership and to overcome gaps in long term predictable financing and human resource development;
- Strengthen national systems for planning, monitoring and evaluation to achieve the people-centred MDGs;
- Share the results from the two above mentioned activities with all relevant interlocutors, and in particular with the MDG Africa Steering Committee chaired by the United Nations Secretary-General;
- Work towards the fulfillment of the EU commitment of collective ODA of 0,56% of GNI by 2010, as an intermediary step towards achieving the UN target of 0,7% by 2015;
- Work in line with the Paris Declaration and enhance the coordination among donors and with partner governments;
- Establish a system to address the rights of persons with disabilities and vulnerable groups in interventions to achieve the MDGs;
- Assess and develop the institutional capacity to enhance the roles of, and collaboration between, the AU and the EU in direct action to tackle the people-centred MDGs;
- Enhance coordination between AU, EU and civil society organizations in the framework of global partnership meetings and international fora;
- Establish effective mechanisms for enhanced collaboration between African and European experts, such as joint workshops, twinning initiatives, and exchange visits;
- Strengthen networking among African and European civil society organizations and ensure effective civil society inputs into policy dialogue.

Actors

- AU Commission, African States and RECs;
- European Commission, Council and EU Member States;
- EU and African Parliaments;
- Civil society organizations;
- Private Sector;
- United Nations agencies, including UNICEF, UNESCO, UNAIDS, WHO, UNDP, UNIFEM, UNFPA;
- EIB, AfDB, and other International Financial Institutions;

- Global partnerships, including Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria, Education Fast Track Initiative, Global Coalition on Women and AIDS, International Health Partnership;
- African local authorities;
- Secretariat of the African Decade of Persons with Disabilities.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI;
- Direct contributions from African and EU States and from the private sector;
- Global partnerships, including African and EU States support to those.

PRIORITY ACTION 2: ACCELERATE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE FOOD SECURITY TARGETS OF THE MDGs

Objective

- Make substantial progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Objective of halving the proportion of people who suffer from hunger and malnutrition by the year 2015 in all African countries.

Expected outcomes

- Better access to food;
- Increased agricultural growth rates, improved agricultural productivity and reduced rural poverty;
- Agriculture and food security to be integral and strategic parts of the development agenda at national, regional and continental levels;
- Improved governance in the agricultural sectors, including in the area of sanitary measures and management regimes for land, fish and forest resources;
- Progress towards the Maputo commitments, including 10% of African national budgets devoted to the agricultural sector and rural development;
- Enhanced intra-Africa trade in agriculture, including staple foods;
- Reduced malnutrition, in particular under-5 chronic and acute malnutrition, as well as reduced maternal and child mortality;
- Improved food-security early warning systems;
- Wider application of safety-net / social transfer systems;
- Reduced vulnerability in food-insecure communities.

Activities

- Accelerate the development and implementation of pillar 3 of the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) at regional and national levels, with particular attention to the involvement of non-state actors such as farmers associations;
- Enhance agricultural research and strengthen institutional cooperation and coordination between national agricultural research systems (NARS) and regional and international research programmes, notably with EU research institutes, in the framework of the new partnership on agriculture between the EU and Africa;
- Remove bottlenecks to intra-Africa trade in agricultural products, including staple food crops;
- Include agriculture and food-security related indicators in budgetary support programmes;
- Strengthen regional and continental-level representations of producers and professional organisations, with effective advocacy and lobbying capacity;
- Increase national and regional capacities to monitor levels of acute and chronic malnutrition;
- Increase continental and regional food security information systems and capacities to address famine crises.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African Member States, RECs;
- European Commission, EU Member States;
- CAADP pillar lead institutions, such as the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA);
- Private sector, civil society, local authorities and economic actors;
- International organizations, including the World Food Programme (WFP), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO).

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African States;
- Development Banks and Private Foundations;
- Private Sector;
- African local authorities.

PRIORITY ACTION 3: ACCELERATE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE HEALTH TARGETS OF THE MDGs

Objective

- Make substantial progress towards achieving the MDG Targets in the area of health in all African countries.

Expected Outcomes

- Improved access to prevention, treatment, care and support services, including for HIV/AIDS, Malaria, and Tuberculosis and sexual and reproductive health;
- Progress towards the Abuja commitments, including 15% of African national budgets devoted to the health sector, and towards the Maputo commitments (Maputo Action Plan on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights), within the context of established EU positions;
- Increased national capacities in participatory and evidence-based health strategy planning and budgeting;
- Equal access to healthcare and rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities;
- Progress towards universal access to affordable quality medicines, vaccines, contraceptives, and commodities;
- Increased production of medicines and vaccines in Africa;
- Coordinated African and EU positions in the relevant international fora;
- Increased capacity to train, retain and stimulate the return of health workers;
- Increased risk-awareness on emerging and re-emerging diseases, medical emergencies and epidemics.

Activities

- Develop joint strategies to enhance access to affordable quality medicines, in particular for HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Tuberculosis, other endemic diseases and meningitis through:
 - Enhanced capacity for regional and local production of generic medicines;
 - Strengthened regulatory capacity through EU/AU cooperation on the implementation of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa;
 - Facilitation of the import of generic and affordable patented drugs in accordance with the TRIPS provisions on compulsory licensing and parallel imports;
 - Strengthened mechanisms to fight counterfeit medicines;
 - Encourage political support for the WHO Inter-Governmental Working Group (IGWG) process aimed at improving the availability and accessibility of priority medicines for Africa and cooperation on issues relating to public health, innovation and intellectual property.
- Increase the capacity of African countries to train and retain health workers, including through the implementation of the Africa Health Strategy 2007–2015 and the European programme for action to tackle the shortage of health workers in developing countries (2007–2013);
- Identify joint actions to initiate the creation or reinforcement of social health protection systems;
- Identify joint actions to strengthen district and national health systems, including participatory and action-led health management information systems, the elimination of fees for basic health care, strengthening preventive health care systems and health education, and stronger involvement of civil society partners;

- Jointly address environmental health challenges by implementing water and sanitation programs and projects, in conjunction with the partnerships on Energy and Climate Change;
- Improve operational research on health systems and synergies with traditional medicine, including through the implementation of the action programme of the African Decade on Traditional Medicine;
- Support the implementation of the Maputo Action Plan for the operationalization of the continental policy framework for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights 2007-2010 within the context of established EU positions;
- Implement the African Child Survival Strategy, and the follow up of the Abuja Call for Accelerated Action towards universal access to HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria services in Africa;
- Coordinate African and European positions in appropriate international fora and negotiations;
- Explore and test possibilities to improve access to health services through the use of telemedicine and e-health within Africa and beyond;
- Seize the opportunities presented by 2008 being the UN International Year of Sanitation, and prepare a Joint Statement for the Conference on Sustainable Development 16;
- Promote twinning initiatives and other appropriate exchanges to accelerate progress towards MDGs 2 and 3;
- Support the implementation of international health agreements.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African Member States, RECs;
- European Commission, EU Member States;
- Private sector, civil society, academic institutions and health practitioners ;
- WHO, UNAIDS and other UN/International organizations;
- Global partnerships such as International Health Partnership and the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM);
- African local authorities.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African States;
- African local authorities;
- AfDB, EIB;
- Private sector;
- Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

PRIORITY ACTION 4: ACCELERATE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE EDUCATION TARGETS OF THE MDGs

Objective

- Make substantial progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the area of Education in all African countries.

Expected Outcomes

- Greater access to free, equitable and quality education;
- Universal primary education including for children with disabilities;
- Higher enrolment and completion rates with gender parity;
- Improved quality of education infrastructure, facilities and management systems.

Activities

- Establish a mechanism for strategic partnerships for the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Second Decade of Education for Africa;
- Take measures to eliminate school fees for primary and secondary education;
- Advance the effective training, deployment and retention of teachers;
- Accelerate the introduction of social protection programmes, including school feeding for disadvantaged families;
- Develop special programmes adapted to the needs of orphans and vulnerable children;
- Promote the integration of life skills for HIV/AIDS and health education into curricula at all levels;
- Implement initiatives to increase the enrolment and completion rate of girls at all levels of education;
- Enhance education infrastructure and improve teaching and learning materials;
- Promote twinning initiatives and other appropriate exchanges to accelerate progress towards MDGs 2 and 3;
- Strengthen the capacities of the Pan-African Institute for Education for Development;
- Promote exchange of best practice relating to the access of children with disabilities to education.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African States, RECs, Pan-African Institute for Education for Development, Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA), Association of African Universities (AAU)
- European Commission, EU Member States;
- African local authorities;
- Private sector, non-state actors and educational institutions
- UNESCO and other International organizations
- Global partnerships such as the Education For All Fast Track Initiative.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African states;
- African local authorities;
- Private sector, Foundations;
- International financing institutions, African Development Bank.

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AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP

ON

ENERGY

RATIONALE

The global concerns on energy security, energy access and climate change have reinforced the links between the energy future of Africa and Europe. The Africa-EU Energy Partnership will be a long-term framework for structured political dialogue and cooperation between Africa and the EU on energy issues of strategic importance and reflecting Africa's and Europe's needs. Through the Partnership, Africa and Europe will work together to develop a shared vision and common policy, answers, and to stimulate specific action that addresses the energy challenges of the 21st century. It aims at creating a momentum that will also mobilise increased financial, technical and human resources in support of Africa's energy development.

The Africa-EU Energy Partnership will strengthen the existing Africa-EU dialogue on access to energy and energy security. It will aim at scaling up European and African investments in energy infrastructure, including promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency and improving the management of energy resources, as well as to mainstream climate change into development cooperation. The new political dialogue and cooperation on energy will further address the energy issues at the local, national, regional, continental and global levels.

PRIORITY ACTION: IMPLEMENT THE ENERGY PARTNERSHIP TO INTENSIFY COOPERATION ON ENERGY SECURITY AND ACCESS

Objectives

- Effective Africa-EU dialogue on energy access and energy security;
- Improved access to reliable, secure, affordable, climate friendly and sustainable energy services for both continents;
- Increased European and African investments in energy infrastructure in Africa, including promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Expected outcomes

- Scaled up investment in energy infrastructure, including the promotion of sustainable renewable energy and improved energy efficiency on both the supply and demand sides;
- Improved management of energy resources, including increased development-oriented use of oil and gas generated resources;
- Improved electrification rates, development of networks and of cross-border interconnections and other energy exchange infrastructure in Africa and between Africa and Europe;
- Improved institutional, technical capacities, and donor coordination;
- Expanded Africa-EU technology cooperation and transfer in the energy field;
- Climate change mainstreamed into energy development cooperation.

Activities

- Further implement already agreed EU support to the African energy sector;
- Jointly analyse and discuss the operational aspects of the Africa-EU energy cooperation, support energy policies and planning at all levels, and build capacity;
- Make progress towards the establishment of enabling legal, fiscal and regulatory frameworks at the continental, regional and national levels in Africa, and strengthen African energy institutions;
- Facilitate contacts and exchange know-how between relevant EU bodies (such as national energy agencies and energy research centres) and their African counterparts, including possibly via twinning arrangements;
- Explore the ways and means to launch a dialogue on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, within the framework of all relevant IAEA - and NPT- provisions and in line with international safety standards and rules;
- Explore the possibility of using innovative financing and guarantee methods, notably small-scale facilities through public-private partnerships;
- Mobilise increased grant funding and investment capital from public sources, financing institutions and the private sector both in Africa and Europe;
- Examine the creation of African Energy Funds, such as Rural Electrification Funds and Stabilization Funds;
- Elaborate Associated Gas Recovery Plans (industry) and Country Implementation Plans (oil/gas producing countries) through the Global Gas Flaring Reduction partnership;
- Promote the regional integration of the energy markets in Africa, including through the completion of ongoing initiatives like the Maghreb electricity markets' integration project, and explore their possible extension and replication in other African regions;
- Promote the development of energy interconnections between Africa and Europe;

- Explore the possibilities for launching a major cooperation programme in the field of renewable energy sources in Africa, including the possible establishment of regional centres for promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency;
- Mainstream climate change into development cooperation in the area of energy;
- Hold a high level Africa-EU energy dialogue meeting every two years.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African States, RECs, AFREC, and other African Energy Institutions;
- European Commission, EU Member States;
- Private sector (in particular energy companies), AfDB, EIB, other IFIs, energy centres, civil society and other Interested actors;
- African local authorities.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI;
- Infrastructure Trust Fund, Energy Facility, Thematic Programme for Environment and Natural Resources Management, including Energy (ENTRP);
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African States;
- African Development Bank, European Investment Bank;
- Private sector contributions.

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AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP

ON

CLIMATE CHANGE

RATIONALE

Climate Change is affecting all countries, but Least Developed Countries and other vulnerable developing countries are expected to be hit earliest and hardest. Africa will be particularly affected in terms of food security, sustainable water supply and extreme weather phenomena such as floods, droughts and threats of desertification. Economies and livelihoods of an increasing number of communities, countries and sub-regions in Africa continue to decline due to desert encroachment partly emanating from climate change and locally generated land degradation processes.

In addressing these pertinent issues, Africa and the EU will engage in a partnership that will provide for dialogue, cooperation and exchange on concrete actions to respond to climate change and an effective channel for holding deliberations on a shared Africa-EU vision, with close links to the proposed Global Climate Change Alliance. This will take into account African initiatives such as the African Climate Information for Development in Africa (ClimDev Africa) Programme and the need to implement and further develop climate change related instruments, especially the 1992 UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol (KP), but also the UN Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD) and will represent an integrated framework for Africa-EU cooperation on climate change.

PRIORITY ACTION 1: BUILD A COMMON AGENDA ON CLIMATE CHANGE POLICIES AND COOPERATION

Objectives

- Enhanced dialogue, and common approaches, including at multilateral level, on climate change challenges in Africa, Europe and globally, in particular in view to the negotiations for a global and comprehensive post-2012 climate agreement;
- Strengthened capacities to adapt to climate change and to mitigate its negative effects.

Expected outcomes

- A strengthened Africa-EU dialogue on the development, implementation and further improvement of climate change related initiatives and treaties, in particular in view of the negotiations of a global and comprehensive post-2012 climate agreement;
- Systematic integration of climate change into African national and regional development strategies as well as into Africa-EU development cooperation;
- Increased capacity in African countries to adapt to climate change and mitigate its negative effects, including through climate risk management and resilience to deal with climate-related disasters;
- Improved data, analytical methods and infrastructure for sectoral Climate Risk Management (CRM), monitoring climate variability and detecting climate change with strengthened observation networks and service centres in Africa;
- Reduced rates of deforestation and better preservation of forest ecosystems, while improving the livelihood of forest dependent populations;
- Increased benefits for Africa from participation in the global carbon market and enhanced capacity of African negotiators in the international market;
- Increased energy efficiency and resilience to climate change in the African economies.

Activities

- Coordinate approaches on climate change challenges in Africa, Europe and globally, in particular in view of the negotiations of a global and comprehensive post-2012 climate agreement;
- Set up national/regional adaptation plans to climate change, and support the implementation of ClimDev Africa;
- Jointly promote and deploy environmentally friendly technologies and improve the monitoring of environmental effects of climate change;
- Launch risk-awareness and preparedness campaigns on climate-related natural disasters, in particular for vulnerable communities;
- Strengthen climate-monitoring and forecasting capacities;
- Elaborate and implement adaptation and mitigation strategies, particularly in relation to water, energy, health, environment, agricultural and food security issues;
- Integration of climate change in African development planning and in Africa-EU development cooperation;
- Build up reporting systems to monitor deforestation, support innovative performance based mechanisms to provide incentives for reducing emissions from deforestation and improve sustainable management of natural resources;
- Facilitate the participation of African countries in the global carbon market, including through the Clean Development Mechanism;
- Enhance capacities of African negotiators;

- Contribute to initiatives like European Capacity Building Initiative (ECBI);
- Promote climate observation, in particular for the African continent, and enhance links to global climate observatory systems.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African States, RECs
- European Commission, EU Member States;
- Local authorities;
- Private sector, civil society
- UN Agencies, AfDB, Global Climate Observing System;
- Regional technical institutions like Agrhymet, OSS (Observatory of Sahara and Sahel).

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI, and appropriate thematic programmes on Environment and Natural Resources;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African states;
- Private sector, African Development Bank;
- Funds under UN Framework Convention on Climate Change/Kyoto Protocol (Least Developed Countries Fund, Special Climate Change Fund, Adaptation Fund);
- Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA);
- Funds deriving from the Bonn political commitment;
- GEEREF (risk sharing and co-funding options for commercial and non-commercial investors).

PRIORITY ACTION 2: COOPERATE TO ADDRESS LAND DEGRADATION AND INCREASING ARIDITY, INCLUDING THE "GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA INITIATIVE"

Objective

- Combat desertification and improve the livelihoods of the inhabitants of the countries of the Sahara and Sahel zones of Africa.

Expected outcomes

- Progress towards reversal of desert encroachment and soil degradation;
- Improvement of micro-climatic conditions and reduction of land degradation.

Activities

- Identify the relevant activities in the "Green Wall Initiative" adapted to the national and regional context;
- Enhance environmental sustainability within the framework of regional and international environmental agreements;
- Advance the implementation of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification;
- Improve the knowledge on land degradation and desertification;
- Control land degradation, promote sustainable land management with a view to integrate land management issues in national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSPs), and increase land productivity and food production;
- Promote integrated natural resource management and conserve biological diversity;
- Address the problems of land degradation and increasing aridity at all relevant levels to respond to local needs and build on local and individual efforts and successes;
- Create awareness and promote wider public involvement in arresting desertification in a sustainable manner;
- Identify and promote alternative livelihoods and productive systems for the populations affected by desertification.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African States, RECs, local communities;
- Regional technical institutions and networks;
- European Commission, EU Member States;
- AfDB, civil society and other interested actors.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI, and appropriate thematic programmes on Environment and Natural Resources;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African states;
- Private sector, African Development Bank.

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AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP

ON

MIGRATION, MOBILITY AND EMPLOYMENT

RATIONALE

The Africa-EU Partnership on Migration, Mobility and Employment will provide holistic responses to these various issues in the interest of both partners, with the particular objectives to create more and better jobs for Africa and to better manage migration flows.

This partnership will ensure that better-managed migration and employment issues become an essential part of poverty reduction strategies or other national development and co-development strategies of African countries. The partnership will ensure that migration and employment works for sustainable development and that all relevant international agreements and declarations are implemented.

The partnership will in particular build on the Tripoli Declaration on Migration and Development and the Ouagadougou Declaration and Action Plan on Employment and Poverty Alleviation.

At the Tripoli EU-Africa Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development in November 2006, Africa and the EU adopted for the first time a joint strategy, in the form of the Tripoli Declaration, to respond to the challenges and maximise the benefits of international migration. The EU-Africa Action Plan on trafficking in human beings, which was formally endorsed on the same occasion, is part and parcel of the comprehensive strategy adopted in Tripoli, even though, for practical reasons, it is addressed separately in this document.

PRIORITY ACTION 1: IMPLEMENT THE DECLARATION OF THE TRIPOLI MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Objectives

- To facilitate mobility and free movement of people in Africa and the EU and to better manage legal migration between the two continents;
- To address the root causes of migration and refugee flows;
- To find concrete solutions to problems posed by illegal or irregular migratory flows;
- Address the problems of migrants residing in EU and African countries.

Expected outcomes

Migration

- Better utilisation of potential synergies between migration and development;
- Concrete progress towards tackling the critical human resource situation in the health sector and other sectors of concern;
- Enhanced cooperation on migration management in Africa and the EU;
- Improved co-operation in all domains in the fight against illegal or irregular migration, including reaching agreements on the issues of return and readmission of illegal migrants to their country of origin, as foreseen by the Tripoli Declaration;
- Enhanced capacity to ensure international protection for persons in need of it;
- Better integration of African migrants in their respective EU and African countries of residence.

Mobility

- Further reduction of obstacles to free movement of people within Africa and within the EU;
- Enhanced mechanisms to facilitate circular migration between Africa and the EU.

Activities

Migration

- Further integrate relevant issues concerning migration, mobility and employment into poverty reduction strategies and country strategy papers, in particular through support to continued improvement and updating of individual countries' migration profiles, with a particular focus on skills gaps and mismatches in labour markets;
- Advance progress towards the implementation of the AU Migration Policy Framework, in particular in the field of capacity building;
- Promote regional schemes to enhance cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination on migration and development along migratory routes;
- Further improve cooperation on international protection;
- Create a network of migration observatories to collect, analyse and disseminate data on migration flows;
- Make further steps towards the facilitation of safer, faster, and cheaper remittances, including for investments; ensure that sufficient data, research and know-how is made available to governments; promote innovative solutions for transferring money;
- Take action to combat exploitation, discrimination and social exclusion of migrant workers;
- Further improve joint action on fighting illegal immigration, human smuggling and human trafficking;

- Mobilize adequate financial resources, from within the framework of existing funds and programming mechanisms, for the effective implementation of the measures outlined in the Tripoli Declaration;
- Urge the two Commissions to speed up the examination of the feasibility of setting up a Fund as provided for in the Tripoli Declaration;
- Establish regular dialogue on African migrants residing in EU and African countries with a view to addressing their problems.

Mobility

- Promote dialogue and cooperation on visa issues with a view to facilitating mobility between Europe and Africa, giving a priority to officials involved on a regular basis in the Africa-EU partnership; Identify mechanisms and projects that facilitate circular migration between Africa and the EU;
- Promote 'ethical recruitment' policies in the EU and in Africa to minimise brain drain pull factors in critical sectors; support the implementation of retention strategies to address push factors;
- Scale up education and vocational training in critical sectors, in particular through the creation of schools/workshops to provide adequate training to young professionals and workers, in direct response to local, national and external labour market needs;
- Set up and maintain appropriate incentive mechanisms which will encourage the retention and return of key qualified personnel;
- Assist African governments to set up Migration Information and Management Centres, as an instrument to better manage labour mobility in Africa and between Africa and the EU;
- Facilitate the mobility of members of the diasporas and/or migrant communities, to allow them to act as agents of development; launch an inventory of diaspora organizations to enhance cooperation; promote co-development schemes;
- Support partnerships and twinning initiatives between institutions in Africa and the EU, such as hospital and universities.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African States, Pan-African Parliament, RECs, African Development Bank (AfDB), African local authorities;
- European Commission, EU Member States, European Parliament, European Investment Bank (EIB);
- Civil society actors, migrant associations, research institutions;
- UN organisations and specialised international organisations.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI, and the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR), and appropriate thematic programmes for the cooperation with third countries in the area of migration and asylum;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African states.

PRIORITY ACTION 2: IMPLEMENT THE EU-AFRICA PLAN OF ACTION ON TRAFFICKING OF HUMAN BEINGS

Objectives

- To effectively combat trafficking in human beings through a victim-centred approach, in particular of women and children;
- To address the root causes of trafficking in human beings in countries of origin, as well as in countries of destination;
- To contribute to the empowerment of women and children.

Expected outcomes

- Measurable reduction in trafficking of human beings, in particular of women and children;
- Enhanced awareness on trafficking in human beings among all stakeholders and especially high risk groups;
- Protection of victims of trafficking;
- Legislative frameworks and effective instruments in place to arrest and prosecute the organizers of trafficking.

Activities

- Sign and ratify relevant international conventions, in particular the UN Convention on Transnational Organised Crime and its Protocols;
- Establish or reinforce the necessary legal framework, prepare national and regional strategies and action plans, and ensure effective implementation and enforcement;
- Establish multi-disciplinary task forces within existing regional mechanisms;
- Raise awareness of officials and potential victims;
- Strengthen preventive measures in countries of origin, transit and destination;
- Strengthen capacities for law enforcement;
- Provide legal, medical and social protection and assistance to victims;
- Enhance bilateral and multilateral cooperation and coordination between European and African countries of origin, transit and destination, and establish trans-national referral mechanisms among them.

Actors

- AU Commission, African States, Pan-African Parliament, RECs, African local authorities;
- European Commission, EU Member States, European Parliament;
- Civil society actors, migrant associations, research institutions;
- UN organisations and specialised international organisations.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI, and appropriate thematic programmes for the cooperation with third countries in the area of migration and asylum;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African states.

PRIORITY ACTION 3: IMPLEMENT AND FOLLOW UP THE 2004 OUAGADOUGOU DECLARATION AND ACTION PLAN ON EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN AFRICA

Objective

- To create more, more productive and better jobs in Africa, in particular for youth and women in line with the UN "Decent Work for all" Agenda.

Expected outcomes

- Progress towards creating an enabling non-discriminatory business environment for private sector development; investments in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders; encouragement of entrepreneurship and self-employment;
- Improved employability and productivity of workers and a better match between supply and demand of labour;
- Improved understanding of the informal economy with a view to a progressive formalisation of the informal sector;
- Enhanced understanding and implementation of the internationally adopted Decent Work principles;
- Implementation of the EU's commitments on Policy Coherence for Development, particularly in the areas of trade, fisheries and agriculture.

Activities

- Integrate full and productive employment and decent work for all into national development strategies including poverty reduction strategies and country strategy papers;
- Strengthen the capacity of employment agencies and of other labour market actors and institutions, such as organisations of employers and workers, labour administrations, in Africa and encourage links and networks among them;
- Create a more direct link between skills training and the needs of local labour markets as well as possible investment opportunities, including through the provision of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET);
- Encourage the elaboration of Decent Work Country Programmes and participation in joint awareness raising activities on Decent Work, with a specific focus on the informal sector, in particular for women and young people;
- Strengthen the quality of local tertiary-level education, revitalise African universities and promote the training of high-level technical and professional manpower, including through the Nyerere and Erasmus Mundus programmes;
- Promote investment in private sector and microfinance schemes.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African States, Pan-African Parliament, RECs, African local authorities;
- European Commission, EU Member States, European Parliament;
- EU and African civil society actors including the social partners;
- Research institutions;
- UN organisations and specialised international organisations.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI, and the thematic programme 'Investing in People';
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African states.

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AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP

ON

SCIENCE, INFORMATION SOCIETY AND SPACE

RATIONALE

Africa is the continent where the scientific and digital divides are the widest. The MDGs identify the essential role of science and technology for socio-economic transformation. Investments in African scientific capacities have not been prioritized and the continent is losing some of its best scientific and technical expertise to other regions. It is in this context, that the Africa Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action was developed, consolidating the AU Commission and NEPAD programmes related to science and technology capacity building, knowledge production and technological innovation.

The MDGs also identify information and communication technologies (ICTs) as key enablers for poverty reduction and growth. Although ICTs are multi-sectoral tools for socio-economic development, a dedicated coherent strategy needs to be implemented in order to develop an inclusive information society in Africa. It is on these principles, and in the context of the World Summit on Information Society, that the African Regional Action Plan for Knowledge Economy (ARAPKE), an AU initiative, was developed.

Space applications provide, by their very nature, an effective platform to address problems from a regional perspective. The use of space science for development in Africa presents considerable opportunities, and there is a need to establish institutional arrangements to enable Africa to tap their benefits. Space-based systems can play a key enabling role in the attainment of Africa's sustainable development objectives and contribute to the monitoring of climate change.

Bridging the digital and scientific divide within African countries and between Africa and other regions, as well as fostering cooperation on space applications and technology to support Africa's sustainable development objective underlie the Africa-EU Partnership on Science, Information Society and Space.

PRIORITY ACTION 1: SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INCLUSIVE INFORMATION SOCIETY IN AFRICA

Objective

- Bridging the digital divide and to enhance the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) as key enablers for poverty reduction, growth, and socio-economic development.

Expected outcomes

- A more sustainable, accessible, affordable and effective African ICT infrastructure;
- Enhanced use of ICT applications in order to achieve MDG objectives, notably in the health and education sector;
- Progress toward inclusive and equitable knowledge-based societies;
- Common African-EU positions and approaches in international and regional ICT fora.

Activities

- Complement investments made on physical infrastructures, as planned in the EU-Africa Partnership on Infrastructure, through support to key capacity-building initiatives identified in the African Regional Action Plan for Knowledge Economy (ARAPKE);
- Create the right conditions for setting-up efficient public-private partnerships to ensure affordable service costs and the widest diffusion on ICTs and related services;
- Ensure coherence between activities carried out at continental and regional levels;
- Increase the use of ICTs and ICT-applications of high societal impact in Africa, in particular the e-health and e-learning domains;
- Enhance ICT human resource development, promoting e-skills and digital literacy;
- Reinforce the deployment of regional research and education networks and their interconnection with the GEANT-2 network;
- Harmonize efforts and initiatives with regard to ICTs that include infrastructure, internet exchange points, interconnectivity and interoperability;
- Promote ICT policies and strengthen regulatory frameworks in Africa;
- Promote telemedicine and early warning systems for epidemics, linked to rapid response plans;
- Hold a systematic and regular dialogue on all issues related to ICTs on technical, senior official and political level in the most effective formats.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African States, RECs;
- European Commission, EU Member States;
- Private Sector;
- Civil Society and NGOs;
- Local authorities;
- International Financing Institutions;
- UN and specialized agencies.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African States.

PRIORITY ACTION 2: SUPPORT S&T CAPACITY BUILDING IN AFRICA AND IMPLEMENT AFRICA'S SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CONSOLIDATED PLAN OF ACTION (CPA)

Objective

- Bridging the scientific divide, to strengthen African capacities in the area of science and technology, and to enhance the use of science and technology as key enablers for poverty reduction, growth, and socio-economic development.

Expected outcomes

- A strengthened African S&T base;
- Increased number of scientists, technicians and engineers;
- Mainstreaming of S&T into RECs' sectoral programmes and projects;
- Improved infrastructure and facilities for R&D;
- Strengthened AU- EU cooperation on science and technology programmes.

Activities

- Start implementation of the Addis Ababa Declaration on Science and Technology for Development in Africa;
- Enhance cooperation with RECs on mainstreaming science and technology for socio-economic development and competitiveness, and strengthen their capacities in this area;
- Promote the application of S&T to achieve specific MDGs;
- Promote integrated health research strategies and improve national capacities in areas such as health management information systems, epidemiological surveys, clinical and operational research, and enhance links with the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP);
- Define innovative ways and means of financing science and technology in Africa;
- Develop harmonized science and technology policies in Africa;
- Reinforce the S&T dimension in education and training;
- Promote the exchange of good practices of cooperation in S&T at the regional and international levels;
- Advance institutional and policy arrangements that enable African countries to mobilize and share their scarce resources to conduct science and generate technological innovations;
- Promote the participation of the African research community into European programmes of Research and Technological Development;
- Promote twinning arrangements between relevant African and European actors.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African States, RECs;
- European Commission, EU Member States;
- Private Sector, universities, science and technology institutions and research centres;
- International Financing Institutions;
- UNESCO and other UN agencies;
- European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP).

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African States;
- African Science and Technology fund;
- EDCTP, Thematic Budget Investing in People.

PRIORITY ACTION 3: ENHANCE COOPERATION ON SPACE APPLICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

Objective

- Enhanced cooperation in the use of sustainable and affordable space application and technology to support Africa's sustainable development objectives.

Expected outcomes

- Space-related issues fully integrated in specific dialogues and cooperation initiatives in areas such as environment and resource management, climate change, peace and security;
- Specific projects based on space technologies to achieve regional and global development goals.

Activities

- Jointly analyse the potential to use space applications to better manage natural resources, improve living conditions of populations and promote sustainable development, in particular in the areas of:
 - Telecommunications and bridging the digital divide;
 - Monitoring of climate change, desertification or fires, and water and food resources through Earth Observation, such as Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) for Africa;
 - Navigation applications such as GALILEO, European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS);
 - Facilitating humanitarian aid operations and improving security of populations through integrated space applications,
 - Space technologies and scientific applications as contributions to the knowledge-based society.
- Ensure effective follow-up of the event "Space for Development - the Case of GMES and Africa" (Lisbon, December 2007);
- Develop concrete joint cooperation initiatives in selected areas.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African States;
- European Commission, EU Member States;
- European agencies such as the European Space Agency (ESA) and Eumetsat;
- Private Sector.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African State.