



**Joint Africa EU Strategy
Action Plan 2011-2013
Introductory Part**

(1) On the basis of the Joint Strategy, the Summit meeting adopted the Action Plan 2011-2013, welcomed the major achievements which have been realized since the previous Summit (Dec. 2007) and recognized the Joint Strategy's potential to deliver more and better results.

(2) In view of the overarching Summit theme "Investment, economic growth and job creation" the meeting underlined the essential link between a reinvigorated economic cooperation and regional integration via different sectors, including the private sector, with a reinforced cooperation in the thematic partnerships under the Joint Strategy: peace and security, democratic and economic governance and respect for human rights are prerequisites of development. These assets are essential for the creation of an investment-friendly environment that makes best use of domestic resources and attracts investments. The development of Africa's vast human capital requires a focus on skills-development, innovation and entrepreneurship, which should be complemented with a comprehensive approach to social and labour market policies. Without a food-secure, educated and healthy population, both economic growth and poverty reduction remains elusive. Regional Integration, trade, migration and mobility, adaptation and mitigation regarding climate change together with sustainable investment in key sectors such as ICT, energy, raw materials or Science and Technology, agricultural research can build on these foundations to foster sustainable, knowledge-generating and competitive economies.

(3) In view of these interdependencies, the Action Plan 2011-2013 will focus on the following partnerships:

Partnership 1: Peace and Security

(4) The Summit welcomed the progress achieved in the implementation of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and agreed to build upon the operationalisation of APSA to address peace and security challenges in the African continent. Further work will build on ongoing cooperation with the African regional organizations, the results of AU-conducted APSA assessment and the AU/RECs/RMs indicative APSA Road Map, which will, once finalized, serve as a reference document for future support to APSA by the EU and other partners.

(5) The Summit stressed importance of the follow-up given to the Prodi-Panel Report on predictable, sustainable and flexible funding for African Peace-support operations. Future capacity building measures, including a new cycle of Amani Africa will be priorities with the objective to fully integrate the actual requirements of ongoing conflict prevention initiatives and crisis management operations. The accompanying political dialogue will be reinforced, including with the UN.

(6) The Summit expressed its firm determination to stand united in the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including children, following up on 1674 and UNSC-R 1894. Particular attention should also be paid to women, peace and security, following up on UNSC-R 1325 and UNSC-R 1820, ensuring the equal participation and full involvement of women in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, including peacebuilding.

(7) Furthermore, it agreed to pursue cooperation with a view to building up local resilience capacities to address the transnational security threats posed inter alia by Climate Change, crime and terrorism in an integrated and comprehensive manner.

Partnership 2: Democratic Governance and Human Rights

(8) The promotion of democratic governance and human rights constitutes a central objective of the Africa-EU partnership. In this respect, the newly established Platform for Dialogue on Governance and Human Rights should enable Africa and the EU to jointly address key issues of common concern with a view to formulate shared governance agendas and recommendations and to enhance the Africa -EU Partnership. This should include coordinated action in responding to political crises, support for the African Governance Architecture and economic governance. In this context, the AU decision to dedicate the January 2011 AU Summit to Shared Values was welcomed.

(9) The Summit emphasised the importance of an effective multilateral system and reaffirmed the joint determination to strengthen their cooperation in these multilateral fora. In this context, both sides have committed to work together to ensure a better African and European cooperation in relevant international bodies, including the UN.

(10) The Summit confirmed the joint determination to strengthen cooperation in the area of cultural goods and other areas of cultural cooperation.

Partnership 3: Regional integration, Trade and infrastructure

(11) Regional Integration, Trade and Investment are vectors of economic stability and inclusive and sustainable growth. Well integrated regional markets with efficient infrastructure will attract investment and facilitate business, enhance employment creation and revenues, and improve access to better and more goods and services. The Summit agreed to engage in political dialogue at the appropriate level with a view to finding solutions to common concerns on Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) as well as to exchange views and information on the development dimension and the impact on African economies of EU-Africa trade agreements. This includes the strengthening of the cooperation in the fields of internal markets and financial services, including the sharing of experiences.

(12) Building on the ongoing dialogue regarding cooperation on raw materials, the Summit agreed to cooperate on issues such as capacity building, governance, infrastructure and investment and geological knowledge and skills, and transparency of mining contracts.

(13) Recognising the crucial role of infrastructure development in regional integration, focus will be on areas such as energy, transport, agriculture health, water and ICT infrastructure development in Africa, reinforcing the necessary interconnections within Africa and between Africa and Europe. There is a shared and clear commitment to strengthen the policy and regulatory dialogue in this domain, and enhance concrete cooperation, notably as regards the policy and regulatory framework to attract and to facilitate African and European private direct investment and the development of private-public-partnership (PPP) schemes.

(14) Both sides were committed to intensifying the cooperation on information and communications technologies and space applications with the objective to strengthen Africa's participation in the Information Revolution.

Partnership 4: MDGs

(15) The Summit underlined the need to live up to the respective commitments taken at the UN High Level Event on the MDGs in September 2010 in New York to mobilize the necessary resources, actors and policies, with the aim to accelerate progress towards the attainment of all the MDGs in Africa by 2015. They are all interlinked, mutually dependent and reinforcing and thus require a holistic, rights-based approach which addresses the impact of off-track MDGs on the achievement of progress in all areas. Priority was set to achieving the MDGs in promoting gender equality, health, food security, education and to accelerate progress on underlying policy and structures, including statistics. The implementation of the 2nd Action Plan will be instrumental in this regard, including its specific activities on maternal, newborn and child health, gender, primary and secondary education, land policy and sustainable development, access to water and sanitation and people with disabilities.

(16) In this context, the Summit agreed to further align initiatives of EU and AU Member States behind the CAADP processes for food security and agriculture and to foster the cooperation on accelerating the implementation of the African Land Policy Guidelines.

(17) The Summit recalled the role of agriculture as a dominant economic sector in which Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (SPS) standards are central and agreed to work together towards the harmonization and enhanced capacities of SPS frameworks in Africa, with reference to international food safety, animal health and plant health standards. Capacity building in SPS standards is of great importance for African agricultural sector. In this regard, the Summit agreed to promote intensive cooperation in this area with a view to enhance African capacities. The EU could provide assistance to the African countries in this area.

Partnership 5: Energy

(18) Access to sustainable and affordable energy and energy services is a key issue for African and European citizens. With its vast and untapped natural resources, Africa is an ideal place to develop new technologies and renewable energies, while the EU is particularly well equipped to support capacity building and provide renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and assistance for the establishment of an adequate regulatory- and investment framework.

(19) The Summit fully supported the implementation of the Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme and the political targets agreed at the Vienna High Level Meeting on Energy in September 2010, to be reached by 2020, including to bring access to modern and sustainable energy services to an additional 100 million Africans; to double the capacity of cross border electricity connections both within Africa and between Africa and Europe; to double the use of natural gas in Africa as well as to increase African gas exports to Europe; to increase the use of renewable energy in Africa and to improve energy efficiency in Africa in all sectors.

Partnership 6: Climate change and Environment

(20) Sustainable inclusive growth and development requires strategies that address economic, social and environmental challenges. The development of a 'Green Economy' provides both Africa and the EU with opportunities for new jobs and growth. To this end, cooperation on climate friendly technologies will be intensified and CDM and new emerging mechanisms utilized to the greatest possible extent. In this perspective, the meeting reaffirmed the shared post-Copenhagen objective to finalize an ambitious, legally binding post-2012 agreement.

(21) Having aligned their positions in the preparatory phase, the EU and Africa will unite their efforts for a successful outcome of Cancun, underlining the need of a balanced approach as regards adaptation and mitigation; of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the need to prioritise adaptation funding on the most vulnerable developing countries, particularly in Africa, including through the implementation of the 2nd phase of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI) and the ClimDev initiative.

(22) The Summit recalled the commitment made by European leaders to make available 7.2 bn € in 2010-2012 for fast-start Climate Change projects and initiatives, out of which a significant part will be available for Africa.

Partnership 7: Migration, Mobility and Employment

(23) The Summit stressed the need to facilitate mobility and better manage legal migration in order to enhance the development impact of migration. The importance of eradicating the trafficking in human beings was underlined. Particular emphasis was put on illegal or irregular migratory flows and the further reduction of them, including through application of existing readmission provisions. The need to ensure the human rights of migrants, and strengthen protection for asylum seekers and refugees was also underscored.

(24) The Summit confirmed the commitment of all partners to create more and better jobs through the promotion of sustainable and inclusive growth, acknowledging the role of all stakeholders, including social partners and the private sector. It agreed to further intensify dialogue and cooperation in this area, focusing in particular on questions related to the implementation of the Ouagadougou Action Plan on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa

(25) With respect to the mobility of students and academics, it was agreed to reinforce existing programmes such as Erasmus Mundus, Edulink and Nyerere, together with initiatives such as the Pan-African University and Tuning Educational Structures and Programmes

(26) The Summit emphasized the need to strengthen the role of Diasporas in the African development process, and maximize the development benefits of remittances.

Partnership 8: Science, Info Society and Space

(27) Actions under this partnership, including capacity building, will leverage faster inclusive economic growth and social development in Africa. The resulting knowledge-generating/knowledge based economy will help address more efficiently the major common problems and global challenges, and will be able to compete more effectively in rapidly evolving world markets. The Summit therefore welcomed progress thus far and encouraged all stakeholders to contribute to the timely implementation of the Second Action Plan for Science, Information Society and Space.

(28) The Summit agreed to launch a high-level Science and Technology policy dialogue at Senior Officials- and at Ministerial level to strengthen the Science and Technology cooperation framework and to ensure the necessary guidance in the pursuit of agreed objectives.

Delivering Results: from commitments to joint action

(29) The Summit recalled some of the deliverables achieved under the JAES so far, including the € 1 billion to support the African Peace and Security Agenda and Architecture, the 1bnFood Facility, the training for Election observers, the € 168 million in grants which have mobilised a total financing of about €2 billion for infrastructure projects in Africa, the creation of a Diaspora Network, the access to sustainable energy services for 2.5 million people, the Joint Climate Change Declaration endorsed at this Summit meeting, and the African Research Grants and awards to promote science and technology in Africa. These demonstrate the ability of the two continents to produce visible results that benefit African and European citizens and the potential of the Joint Strategy to deliver more and better in the future.

(30) With respect to the implementation of the Action Plan 2011-2013, the Summit confirmed the principles of shared efforts and responsibilities, and underlined the readiness to cooperate with all committed African and European stakeholders (civil society, parliaments, private sector, local authorities) and with interested international partners.

(31) As a driving force behind the development of African and European economies and translating the above mentioned political objectives into a partnership of concrete results, a stronger engagement of the private sector will be essential. It will be equally important to establish closer relations with EU and International Financial institutions (EIB, WB, AfDB and BADEA). Moreover, following the recent AU Summit in Kampala, both sides agree to further engage in the discussions on the African proposals to jointly establish an African Integration Facility to support the implementation of the Joint Strategy and its Action Plan.

(32) The Summit agreed to examine flagship initiatives in each of the five African regions as soon as they are jointly identified on the basis of existing instruments; NPCA was identified as a key instrument to support and coordinate such agreed initiatives. There was agreement to build future implementation activities on a reinforced cooperation with the Regional Economic Communities concerned.

(33) Finally, the Summit urged all stakeholders to deliver concrete results which will positively and directly affect people's life. Each partnership should be assessed on this basis. With the Lisbon Treaty entering into force, relations with Africa have become an integral part of the EU's overall political, economic, social and humanitarian agenda. This will ensure greater consistency and coherence between the EU's Africa policy and its overall interests, ambitions and policies. It will also offer Africa, which is consolidating its institutional architecture, a chance to better engage with the EU on a strategic level, and allow both partners to coordinate or align their positions in the run-up to major international events and ensure greater impact.

JAES Action Plan 2011-13:

Cross-cutting issues

Both sides agree on the following options on cross-cutting issues to enhance the effectiveness of the Action Plan and to improve its working methods.

Introduction

The Action Plan 2011-2013 provides a framework to implement JAES priorities collectively agreed upon and adopted at the Summit in November 2010 by the African and European Heads of State and Government. The AU and EU Commissions will continue to play an active role in the implementation, but cannot deliver alone on the Action Plan's ambitious commitments. Therefore, priority will be given to better define how activities implemented at the national, regional and continental levels by African and European Member States, RECs and other key stakeholders including the private sector will contribute to deliver on the collective commitments and improve the impact and visibility of the Action Plan 2011-2013.

I. JAES: enhanced political dialogue and coordination

Political and policy dialogue:

Currently, African and European Heads of State and Government meet every three years at Summit level to take decisions concerning relations between the two continents, embedded within the Joint Africa-EU Strategy. In between Summits, six-monthly Ministerial meetings carry the political dialogue forward, review the implementation of the Joint Strategy / Action Plans, and provide political guidance as necessary. Recently, these dialogues of Foreign Ministers have started to be complemented by sector-specific Ministerial or Senior Officials meetings and which were prepared by experts, taking into account inputs from JEGs and the Joint Task Force.

1. Political dialogue at the level of Heads of State and Government and Foreign Ministers: Following the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty on the EU side, the representation of the EU in Political Dialogue meetings at Summit and Foreign Ministers level has changed. The African side will decide on its mode of representation at a later stage. Both sides agree to seize the opportunities offered by the EU's new institutional arrangements to further intensify the formal and informal contacts between European and African Leaders and their respective services on regular and ad hoc basis.
2. Sectoral political / policy dialogue: Africa and EU have agreed to enhance the frequency, scope and effectiveness of their thematic policy dialogue in key priority areas. Joint Experts Groups and other competent African and EU bodies will assess the possibility of holding sectoral Ministerial / SOM meetings, including in the margins of African, European or international high level events, which need to be adequately prepared by the competent bodies on both sides. The AU and EU Commissions will seek to enhance the effectiveness of sectoral policy dialogue in the annual College-to-College meetings, including through broader participation of their respective line DGs, departments and services in the preparation and follow-up.

3. Dialogue at national and at regional level: The Joint Strategy and the implementation of the Action Plan 2011-2013 will be systematically included in political dialogue meetings between African regions and countries and the EU.
4. Cooperation in the UN, in international financial institutions and in other international fora: Dialogue and cooperation between African and European Heads of Missions (HoMs) and experts in New York, Geneva and elsewhere will be systematically strengthened, notably with a view to better understand respective positions, to define and defend common approaches, and to follow-up initiatives in the various partnerships. EU Delegations and the AU representations and other African counterparts will engage on a more systematic basis, including through the setting up of appropriate flexible EU-Africa dialogue- and coordination arrangements.

Coordination

5. AU and EU Commissions: The two Commissions will further strengthen their respective internal coordination mechanisms for the implementation of the Joint Strategy.
6. Coordination of European partners:
 - a. EU Coordination in Brussels: Efforts will be made to strengthen the coordination between capitals and Council working groups in Brussels to ensure coherence and complementarity between bilateral initiatives and collective EU commitments, and to ensure stronger coordination and collaboration between the different geographical working groups dealing with Africa, in line with the principle of treating Africa as one.
 - b. EU Delegations: With the establishment of the European External Action Service (EEAS), the role of EU Delegations in African capitals has been strengthened. All EU Delegations in Africa, but more particularly the EU Delegations to the AU and in RECs capitals, will play an important role in ensuring effective EU coordination and in promoting awareness and ownership among Member States.
 - c. EU coordination in Addis: The coordination between the EU Delegation and Member States' representations will be strengthened with a view to enhancing coherence and visibility of EU positions, including within the AU PG.
7. **Coordination of African partners**:
 - a. AU coordination in Addis Ababa: steps will be taken to strengthen the coordination between the AU-PRC and its relevant sub-Committees on the one hand, and the African capitals and Group of African Ambassadors in Brussels on the other hand.
 - b. Coordination with RECs: efforts will be made to systematically address all JAES-related issues within the framework of the 6-monthly AU-RECs coordination meetings;

- c. AU Delegation to the EU: The AU Permanent Mission to the EU and the ACP Group follows the Africa-EU cooperation, the coordination of the group of African ambassadors in Brussels and the implementation of the Cotonou ACP-EU partnership agreement, and represents the AU in the 27 EU Member States. The role of the AU Mission in the effective implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan will therefore be enhanced. If need be, its capacity will be further strengthened to enable it better perform this role.
8. Synergies and coordination between the Joint Strategy / Action Plan and other EU-Africa cooperation frameworks: Both sides agree to strive for more synergies and better coordination between the Joint Strategy and other existing cooperation frameworks and – instruments between the EU and African Partners (Cotonou-Agreement for sub-Saharan countries, ENP/Union for the Mediterranean for Northern Africa, TDCA/DCI for South Africa), notably through coordination meetings in the margins of the meetings of the respective joint cooperation meetings and institutions.

II. JAES institutional architecture and working arrangements

9. Joint Expert Groups (JEGs): Guidelines defining the mandate, composition and working methods for JEGs have been endorsed by the 11th Africa-EU Ministerial Troika¹ as a living document to steer the Joint Experts Groups in their work. The Ministerial Meeting on 26.04.2010 endorsed a joint paper with options to improve the implementation of the Joint Strategy. JEGs will actively re-examine these options and implement the necessary arrangements to improve their functioning. Such arrangements could include an agreement of internal working guidelines or on handing over responsibilities for coordinating the implementation of specific aspects of the partnerships to other existing bodies such as the African Peace Facility JCC or the Steering Committee of the Infrastructure Partnership.
10. While avoiding a "one size fits all approach, JEGs will also address, in addition to the specific proposals to enhance the effectiveness of their individual work, the following cross-cutting issues:
- a. Co-chairs and the two Commissions will consult their respective constituencies ahead of JEG meetings, by convening coordination meetings.
 - b. JEGs will seek a better connection of their work with the political decision making process, and will examine possibilities to provide inputs to and to receive the necessary guidance from competent political bodies, sectoral Senior Officials or Ministerial meetings (cf. para.2 above)
11. Both sides will seek to involve the the African Development Bank (ADB), the European Investment Bank (EIB), and national or regional development finance institutions more actively in the implementation of the Partnerships.

¹ http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/sites/default/files/20081121_final_jeg_guidelines_and_mandate_1.doc

12. Africa-EU Joint Task Force (JTF): The participation in the JTF has been enhanced to allow stakeholders to contribute more actively to the implementation of the Joint Strategy. The JTF will improve coordination between the key actors for the Action Plan's implementation, namely the two Commissions, the EU External Action Service, the two Parliaments, African and EU JEG co-chairs, chefs de files, RECs, private sector and civil society representatives (for the African side through AU-ECOSOCC). The JTF will address the cross-cutting issues and difficulties, and identify synergies across partnerships. The JTF will also contribute to preparing the JAES-related decisions, which will continue to be taken at the political level in Ministerial meetings

III. JAES financing

13. The Strategy's success is a joint Afro-European responsibility and requires significant political and operational resources to deliver on the ambitious agendas. The implementation, including financing of the JAES, is a joint task for all stakeholders: European and AU Commissions, Member States, Financing Institutions, RECs, as well as private sector and civil society on both sides. It is essential that European and African actors engage at continental, regional, national levels to provide the necessary inputs. This will require in particular the continuing mainstreaming of the JAES in existing instruments. The EU and Africa will therefore cooperate closely to secure the appropriate funding to implement the Action Plan 2011-2013. To this end, the JAES will be mainstreamed and promoted in all relevant instruments, be they managed by the EU institutions (EDF, ENPI, DCI, IfS, EIDHR, EIB instruments...), EU Member States' bilateral instruments, or African contributions. In the same vein, both sides agree to further engage, without delay, in the discussions on the African proposals to jointly establish an African Integration Facility to support the implementation of the Joint Strategy and its Action Plan. These discussions should be concluded as soon as possible.
14. As a Joint political framework, the JAES shall steer policy choices and improve the coherence and complementarity of the EU's and Africa's action. The Joint Strategy will be used to orient the programming of existing instruments, and the priorities of this Action Plan shall be consistently integrated in relevant (African) Strategic Plans and (joint) programming processes of relevant instruments, according to their respective scope and general objectives. Both sides will make further progress to make the relevant financial instruments supportive of the Action Plan. Existing joint programming mechanisms (such as the dialogue between the EU and African National and Regional Authorising Officers and the ACP Secretariat) will be more efficiently used by both sides to ensure JAES priorities are adequately reflected.
15. Both sides will also pursue efforts to translate the Lisbon commitments to treat Africa as one into a reality. All involved actors will work to reinforce synergies between the various policy frameworks and accompanying financial instruments, to increase efficiency in dealing with pan-African challenges. Existing bridges between cooperation instruments will be used to support the continental dimension of the Action Plan activities.

16. Efficiently use capacity building programmes to enhance AU capacities to implement the JAES: Through the EDF's Institutional Support Programme for the AU and similar bilateral initiatives, the EU will continue to provide an integrated and comprehensive support to strengthen the financial, administrative management and the policy making capacity of AU institutions, and to enable the AU Commission to play an effective role in the implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan, notably through the support of its institutional transformation process. Under the 10th EDF Intra-ACP envelope, the future capacity building programme will ensure continuity with the current initiatives under the 9th EDF. Both sides agree to use this programme to support the capacities of the African Union and its organs to implement the Joint Africa-EU Strategy and the 8 thematic partnerships of the Action Plan 2011-2013, in particular through a strengthening of the necessary competencies in the field of policy-making, programme design and implementation, monitoring and follow-up (but excluding the possibility of supporting operational costs of specific projects). This will include in particular a better integration and streamlining of the 8 thematic JAES partnerships in the AUC's structures and work programmes. Finally, cooperation with other international partners supporting the AU capacities will be sought.
17. Set-up the complementary support mechanisms for specific needs / technical support: Based on the experience of the JAES Action Plan 2008-10, both sides will examine the possibility of establishing a small, flexible and demand-driven assistance mechanism to address implementation difficulties and to provide the necessary technical, administrative and secretarial support for the implementation of the JAES Action Plan 2011-2013. Such a mechanism should support, on a demand-driven basis, the functioning of the thematic partnerships (notably the expert groups and their co-chairs in preparing and following-up their meetings, and in facilitating communication and continued work between meetings), and facilitate the engagement of Non-State Actors. The support mechanism should also assist the preparation of bankable projects, for example through the preparation of feasibility studies and other project-preparation activities, provided that the necessary resources are being made available.
18. Both sides agree on the need to communicate better and to increase the visibility of the JAES both in Africa, EU and internationally. The media is a key multiplier of information and can contribute to enhance the people centred dimension of the Africa-EU Partnerships. Both sides agreed to continue implementing communication activities so far undertaken, including the joint JAES website (www.africa-eu-partnership.org), on-line since 1st October 2008.
19. Explore innovative financing options: Both sides agree to explore innovative financing mechanisms such as "Auction Floors" and Public Private Partnerships to reach out actively to the private sector as an essential stakeholder of this Action Plan, and to put in place the conditions to foster more effective participation of the private sector, particularly in the areas of transport, energy and infrastructure. Innovative approaches should be developed to better engage with the private sector and leverage funding, skills and competences, which can contribute to more sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

IV. A people-centred partnership

20. Last, but certainly not least, both sides agree to support the active involvement of the European and Pan-African Parliaments (EP, PAP) in the implementation and the monitoring of this Action Plan, in line with the principles agreed in Lisbon and the arrangements endorsed by the Ministerial Troika of 28 April 2009.

21. Both sides also agree to support the active involvement of the Civil Society (including through ECOSOCC on the African side) to facilitate and promote a broad-based and wide-ranging people-centred partnership.

JAES Action Plan 2011-2013

Partnership on Peace and Security

Overview

Progress has been achieved throughout the implementation of the first Action Plan in the three main areas of focus:

Political dialogue has grown and continues to grow, in order to reach common positions and implement common approaches on challenges and security in Africa, Europe and globally, at two levels: The structural and systematic linkages between decision making organs, such as the EU PSC and the AU PSC, the EUMC and the AU MSC, Crisis management teams on both sides, have been strengthened. African and EU heads of delegations in Addis Ababa, Brussels and New York are in regular consultation. Nevertheless, these exchanges of mutual understanding need to be extended into a more technical and operational cooperation.

The substance of the dialogue has been globally organised around conflict situation and crises. However, thematic issues such as terrorism, and its various sources of financing, disarmament, post conflict reconstruction and development, already listed under this chapter in the first action plan, should become more prominent areas of dialogue and cooperation. New thematic issues such as cross border cooperation and maritime safety and security are added to make this dialogue more comprehensive and sustainable. The EU and the AU will review progress annually in the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and UNSCR 1894.

Progress has been made in the **operationalization of the APSA**. However much remains to be done in order to sustain and consolidate this progress and to achieve a functional Architecture including smooth and effective interaction between all components of the APSA. EU funding for the next three years Action Plan will be jointly articulated on the basis of an AU-RECs-EU operational Roadmap.

Finally, good progress was made to ensure **predictable funding** for Peace Support Operations undertaken by the AU or under its authority. Within the framework of the UN Security Council responsibility for maintaining international peace and security, and in light of the role of Regional arrangements in accordance with Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, a dedicated dialogue has been pursued through the Prodi Panel Report on support to Africa-led peace keeping operations and subsequent elaboration of the UN Secretary-General's Reports on its implementation. Within the framework of this Partnership, through the 1st and 2nd African Peace Facility, predictable support to Africa-led peace support operations has been largely provided for, in parallel with efforts to support AU and RECs Capacity Building programmes. However, the initial objective "to financially enable the AU and regional mechanisms to plan and conduct Peace Support Operations" has not been fully achieved. Further exchanges are required on AU efforts to mobilise additional resources from within the continent, including through the AU Peace Fund. There furthermore remains an acute need for more concerted action between the AU, the EU and the UN to move forward the process of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Prodi Panel's and subsequent UNSG Reports.

1. OVERALL OBJECTIVES

1. Political Dialogue:

- 1) To jointly contribute to the global security related governance in Africa, Europe and world-wide, and make the dialogue more effective.
- 2) Address crises and challenges to peace, security and stability in Africa, Europe and elsewhere and capitalize on commonalities of positions.

Expected results:

- Reinforced structural interaction on conflict situations and crises between the EU, the AU and the RECs.
- Building upon the APSA pillars and the African security agenda, policies such as, Small Arms and Light Weapons, Antipersonnel Landmines, Explosive Remnants of War, Counter-Terrorism, Mediation, Protection of Civilians (UNSCR 1894), Women Peace and Security (UNSCR 1325 and UNSCR 1820), and issues related to Children in Armed Conflicts (UNSCR 1675) will be considered under a more comprehensive approach to contribute to eliminate root causes of conflict, conflict prevention, crises management and resolution, long-term post-conflict reconstruction and peace-building.
- The cooperation aspects of the security-development nexus are systematically assessed.
- Enlarged political dialogue to include RECs/RMs, in the light of the provisions of the EU and AU protocols and MoUs.
- Strengthened dialogue and coordination of positions within the UN framework by respective groups, including jointly sponsored UN Resolutions addressing global risks such as terrorism, Chemical-Biological-Radiological and Nuclear threats and the illicit spread and accumulation of firearms.
- As part of African and European regional organisations' contributions to effective multilateralism, the AU- and EU will work with the UN to address global threats to peace and security as well as the financial and operational capacity of the AU and regional mechanisms to plan and conduct peace support operations.
- Comprehensive and co-ordinated responses to regional security threats, involving political, operational and financial stakeholders and partners.
- Enhance conflict management cooperation and EU support to Peace and Security initiatives undertaken under the auspices of the AU.

2. Operationalization of APSA

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

Expected Outcomes:

- Building upon progress already achieved by APSA structures at continental and regional level, and new evolutions, well reflected by the AU-RECs APSA assessment and by the outcome of Amani Africa, adoption of a comprehensive AU-RECs Roadmap for the operationalization of the APSA.
- Establishment of a EU-AU-RECs APSA operational programme based on the comprehensive AU-RECs APSA Roadmap in line with the Protocole establishing the Peace and Security Council and the AU-RECs MoU.
- Implementation of the EU-AU-RECs programme, leading to a coherent support by the EU institutions and EU MS to different components and policies.
- This operational programme will be developed taking into account other capacity building programmes, including support provided by the UN and other partners.
- A coordinated and concerted partner support for AU and RECs/RMs including a consolidated and institutional liaison mechanism. (e.g. replicate at RECs/RMs level the Addis Ababa based AU Partner Group).

3. Predictable funding for Peace Support Operations undertaken by the AU or under its authority

Make available adequate resources (financial, material, human resources, etc) to plan, equip, deploy, and support, African led peace support operations.

Expected results:

- In view of 2011 UNSG Report on predictable, flexible and sustainable funding of Africa-led Peace Support Operations, based on the EU involvement, on the experience with the APF, and lessons learned from a number of peace support operations so far, elaboration of practical ways ahead on the implementation of the Prodi Panel and UNSG Reports suggestions.
- In view of the elaboration and adoption of a programme under the APF 3, the AU will make efforts to mobilise increased resources from within the continent, including the AU Peace Fund.

II. Specific initiatives and activities of Action Plan 2011-2013 by priority area

1. Political Dialogue

Initiative 1) Completion and implementation of the **political dialogue** framework by establishing systematic and structural linkages between EU COPS-AU PSC, EU and AU Chiefs of Staff, and between the new EU (EEAS) structures, the AUC and RECs Peace and Security Departments. The objective is to increase the involvement at this political level in reviewing actions already undertaken, and on providing increased political guidance for the future.

Initiative 2) Consultations between the Africa Group and the EU will be established in New York on the basis of major global challenges discussed in UNSC and UNGA (e.g. conflicts, terrorism, CBRN proliferation and conventional disarmament). Programmes and agenda for such consultations will be established on a yearly basis and be reviewed every six months in order to allow adequate preparation of the meetings at Headquarters levels.

Initiative 3) Exert coordinated and concerted efforts to combat piracy, including in the framework of the UN; and consider the elaboration of legal instruments which may be deemed appropriate to enhance cooperation on all piracy related issues.

Initiative 4) In addressing crises and challenges to P&S in Africa, Europe and elsewhere, specific Africa-EU ad hoc thematic teams will be established in order to ensure co-ordination and co-operation. To this effect, the added value of these teams might be particularly beneficial for tackling post-conflict stabilisation, reconstruction and development, and strengthening the role of women in all stages, to consolidate the progress made in resolving conflicts in Africa and take advantage of the experience and capabilities of Europe. These teams will involve the International Community stakeholders as appropriate, and will optimize the follow-up to the AU Policy on Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD). In this regard, the African Union will complete a study on the establishment of a Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development Centre.

Initiative 5) Thematic cluster sessions with experts from AU/RECs/RMs/MS/EU will be created on operational objectives in areas such as climate change and security, AU border programme, including exchange of experience, capacity building, cross-border co-operation, development of legal instruments, and disarmament issues (including Explosive Remnants of War), or focusing on geographical areas. These initiatives could lead to the organization of Europe-Africa conferences on these themes.

Initiative 6) Informal consultations between the AU, EU and UN, to follow-up the recommendations of the AU/UN Report chaired by Mr. Romano Prodi, and the UN Secretary General Report of September 2009, should enable the three organisations to advance their respective agendas. Practical suggestions from experts should help to make progress in providing sustainable, flexible and predictable support for peacekeeping operations launched within the framework of Chapter VIII of the UN Charter and undertaken by the AU or under its authority with the consent of the UN Security Council.

Initiative 7) Building on the AU Border Programme, as well as on the rich experience of the EU in this field, we will programme activities to be undertaken together, including exchange of experience, capacity building, cross-border co-operation and development of legal instruments. This initiative could also be extended, through the support of EU Member States, to exchanges of experience on delimitation and demarcation of borders.

Initiative 8) In pursuit of the reinforcement of the Preventive, Peace Building and Post Conflict policies and measures of the APSA at continental and regional levels, plans of action will be drawn up and implemented so as to deal with thematic issues such as: SSR, DDR, AU Border programmes, Early Warning systems, Women Peace and Security, Mediation-Negotiation capacity, and Counter-terrorism.

Initiative 9) The ongoing co-operation to combat the illicit trafficking of SALW will be reinforced through a comprehensive and concrete Plan of Action in support of the implementation of the AU SALW Strategy, in co-ordination with the IC. Similarly, an Action Plan will be drawn up to support the implementation of the Pelindaba Treaty and of the three additional protocols, notably the safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear energy.

2. Adoption and implementation of a comprehensive AU-RECs strategic Roadmap for the **operationalization of the APSA** in the long term, reflecting regional, continental, and global security priorities of the AUC, RECs and AU MS and capable of ensuring coherence of purpose across the different policies addressed.

Initiative 1) As a follow-up to the first action plan and of different evaluations regarding African training needs and capacities for ASF, implement operational and concrete AU/RECs/EU agreed measures to improve the required capacities and capabilities of African training centres.

Initiative 2) Adoption of an APSA AU-RECs Strategic Roadmap consisting of an articulated long-term perspective of the APSA goals and processes through which to achieve them. This AU roadmap, which the EU will support will ensure coherent, co-ordinated and concerted decisions and priorities between the regional and continental levels of the APSA and EU's continental, regional and country instruments. A strengthened framework for a follow-up assessment of the interaction between the different components of the APSA and respective responsibilities will be made available and will give clear indications for further operational support.

Initiative 3) Identify and set priorities and strict timelines for the short-term implementation phase (three-years) of the AU-RECs Roadmap. This short term phase, which covers the period of the second action plan, will build on the conclusions of the APSA needs assessment, lessons learned from the AMANI Africa training cycle, including regional training exercises, and the draft of the AU African Standby Force 3rd roadmap, and will address the APSA policies (captured in the AU-RECs MoU on APSA). The prioritised activities and the sequencing of the steps required to achieve the operational objectives will be assessed on a regular basis to ensure a functional APSA consisting of components that interact in a coordinated way. This plan will become the trilateral AU-RECs-EU APSA Roadmap detailing EU support for envisaged activities.

Initiative 4) Further develop and endorse concepts, doctrines and procedures related to ASF in general (including rapid deployment capabilities, logistics, and maritime components), to APSA (functional connections between Early Warning and Planning Elements at regional and continental level and decision making bodies, training, mediation) and to other security issues (SSR, DDR, SALW, counter-terrorism,).

Initiative 5) Develop human rights and gender training programmes for peace keeping missions in Africa, as requested by the EU-AU human rights dialogue agenda.

Initiative 6) Organise a second training cycle of the APSA structures, according to the AU-set main objectives for the short term (three years) and taking into account lessons learned from the first AMANI AFRICA cycle.

3. **Predictable funding for Peace Support Operations** undertaken by the AU or under its authority.

Initiative 1) The issue of predictable funding for Africa-led PSOs will also be integrated under the relevant initiatives in the first and second priority areas of this Action Plan. In this context and in view of the elaboration and adoption of a programme under the APF 3, a dedicated political and technical forum on the AU Peace Fund will need to connect African political and financial decisions in this area with EU engagements.

Initiative 2) Launch a dedicated, albeit informal, UN-AU-EU dialogue within the UN framework to propose practical steps forward to the Prodi Panel and UNSG Reports.

Initiative 3) Based on to the AU-RECs-EU operational Plan for the APSA operationalisation and on the African Peace and Security Agenda and on the progress under Initiative 1, the EU, AU and RECs will work together in defining the 3rd APF programme.

JAES Action Plan 2011-2013

Partnership on Democratic Governance and Human Rights

Overview

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 AU's core values. The Africa-EU Partnership on 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.

I. Overall Objectives

- To strengthen the open and inclusive Africa-EU dialogue on democratic governance and human rights. This shall also contribute to enhancing the joint influence of Africa and the European Union in international fora and at global level in these fields.
- To contribute to the establishment and strengthening of the African Governance Architecture with coordinated EU support
- To strengthen the close cooperation between Africa and the EU in the area of cultural goods and other cultural activities
- To strengthen synergies and linkages between human rights and democratic governance in its political, economic and social dimension and other areas of the Africa/EU partnership

II. Specific initiatives and activities of Action Plan 2011-2013 by priority area

Priority 1: Enhanced dialogue and cooperation at the global level and in international fora

Activities

1. The Africa-EU DGHR Platform for Dialogue will act as an open and inclusive forum on governance with a view to promoting dialogue and contributing to the formulation of shared governance agendas and recommendations that can feed the political dialogue between Africa and the European Union and deepening their partnership
2. Exchange views and best practices on matters of joint interest within international fora, including NY, Geneva, Vienna and Paris, in particular on UPR, rights of the child, rights of persons with disabilities, economic and social rights and combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and incitement to hatred and other areas of mutual interest
3. Continue a dedicated AU-EU Political Human Rights Dialogue in Troika format, flanked by the Africa-EU Civil Society Human Rights Seminars
4. Cooperate with other thematic partnerships to promote sectoral governance and strengthen synergies to cover cross-thematic issues

Expected Results

- Open and regular dialogue which builds trust, mutual understanding and contributes to developing common agendas and approaches that feed into the political level and decision making process
- Extended dialogue to issues where diverging views prevail
- Enhanced coordination and cooperation on issues of common interest in international fora such as the 2nd and 3rd Committee of UNGA, the UN Convention against Corruption and the Human Rights Council
- Increased awareness of the importance of the relevant governance and human rights dimensions in the other partnerships

Actors

- African States, AU Commission/NPCA, Pan African Parliament, African Court of on Human and Peoples' Rights, 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 Justice;
- 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).

Priority 2: Cooperation in the area of Governance Initiatives

Activities

1. Strengthen and increase intra-African dialogue on AU principles and issues of shared values.
2. Step up and coordinate support to the African Governance Architecture, including the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance in line with Africa's priorities
3. Strengthen the dialogue on the APRM process and the cooperation on the implementation of its recommendations
4. Strengthen cooperation with and among Parliaments, local authorities, civil society and the private sector
5. Strengthen capacities of the AU, regional, national institutions and public authorities in the field of election organisation/observation and of civil society and media in election observation
6. Support the role of public and private media to foster democratic governance

Expected Results

- The African Governance Architecture is consolidated and operational
- Coordinated EU actions to support pan-African governance initiatives
- Balanced and effective support to the APRM at the continental and national level, including to the implementation of the national plans of actions
- The core International and continental instruments related to Governance and Human Rights are ratified, domesticated and implemented
- A structured dialogue about the role of media with a view to strengthening the regulatory framework for the development of free and independent media

Actors

- African States, AU Commission/NPCA, 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.

Priority 3: Strengthen cooperation in the area of cultural goods and other areas of cultural cooperation

Activities

1. Finalize and validate the outcomes of the inventory of cooperation in the area of cultural goods and identify consequent priority actions of cooperation between African and the EU
2. Conduct an effective dialogue and cooperation in the area of the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural goods in line with the UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property and other relevant international conventions, including the exchange of experiences on the return of illegally exported or acquired goods to their countries of origin and encouraging setting up relevant mechanism for sharing best practices including on addressing archives issues
3. Facilitate the access to information on important African cultural goods in EU and African countries,
4. Identify pilot Museums and cultural institutions in Africa and EU and facilitate the establishment of cooperation, twinning and capacity building agreements on cultural goods including inventory systems, security and safety systems, sites management
5. Extend and institutionalize joint cultural events and cultural exchange programmes between Africa and EU, such as the Africa-EU Cultural week
6. Develop and launch joint advocacy and communication campaign for the ratification and implementation of cultural goods related international instruments and conventions in Africa and in Europe, as well as the introduction of these commitments within national legislations.

Expected Results

- Enhanced cooperation to facilitate the protection and promotion of cultural expressions and cultural diversity as well as intercultural dialogue
- Common positions on policies, strategies and cooperation in the area of cultural goods;
- Progress in the implementation of relevant international instruments to facilitate the protection and promotion of cultural goods, and in the joint fight against illicit trafficking of cultural goods.

Actors

- AU Commission/NPCA, 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.

JAES Action Plan 2011-2013

Partnership on Regional Economic Integration, Trade and Infrastructure

This Partnership comprises three components, namely Regional Integration, Trade and Infrastructure.

I. Overall Objectives:

Support of African economic integration and development agenda in line with the Abuja Treaty and its implementing strategies, notably the African Minimum Integration Programme and Action Plan (MIP), Accelerated Industrial Development for Africa (AIDA) Action Plan, the Africa Mining Vision (AMV) and the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA).

Support to the AUC, RECs and African States efforts for rationalising and harmonizing trade and investment laws, regulatory frameworks and procedures with a view to improving the investment climate.

With respect to Infrastructure:

- a. Pursue priority regional and continental-level infrastructure (transport, energy, ICT, water sectors) for increased interconnectivity through continued project development, reinforced coordination and advocacy for backbone infrastructure.
- b. Promote safe and efficient transport services through application of modern technology and support for harmonisation and enforcement of policies and regulations, notably in air and maritime sectors
- c. Support institutional reinforcement and capacity building in continental and regional-level institutions.
- d. Promote digital infrastructures as multi-purpose platforms for safe and efficient regional service delivery including appropriate interconnections and support coordination with capacity development on innovative technologies and applications implemented in sectors such as health, environment or education.

II. Specific initiatives and activities of Action Plan 2011-2013 by priority area

A. Regional integration:

Priority 1: Dialogue on the political dimension, policies and experiences on regional integration in Europe and in Africa and on integration in the global economy, including on:

Activities:

1. exchange of information between the EU, AU and RECs on integration processes;
2. the development dimension and impact on the African economies of existing (EU-MED, TDCA, African regional economic agreements) and up-coming (EPAs) trade agreements to which African States are parties
3. the impact of the implemented agreements on the Africa overall integration agenda
4. the EU experience of developing and implementing common institutions and policies
5. Cooperation on liberalisation of Trade and services ;
6. The findings of the all-ACP study on regional integration monitoring and the AUC study on the Minimum Integration Programme (MIP) and follow-up to be given.

Expected Results: Platform for policy and political dialogue and exchange of information on the regional integration process in Europe with the view to assisting regional integration process in Africa is established

Main actors: AUC, RECs, Africa and EU MS, EC (DG DEV, TRADE, MARKET) and concerned International Organisations.

B. Trade

Priority 2: Customs and Trade Facilitation:

Activities:

1. Facilitate cooperation between EU and African customs administrations on customs reforms to conform to internationally agreed standards, in particular in the context of supply chain security as well as on the current African process for development of common Transit procedures, on training and capacity building, including the organisation of Customs Blueprints seminars.
2. Exchange of information with a view to support the interconnectivity of computerized Customs systems within Africa, taking into account existing customs computer projects, e.g. UNCTAD Asycuda.

Main actors: EC (TAXUD; DEV), the AUC, African and EU Member States, African business community and concerned donors or international organisations such as the World Customs Organisation.

Financing: Different sources can be considered within the European Development Fund (e.g., depending on commitments already made, AUC support programme; ongoing regional or all-ACP programmes with trade, customs, fiscal or capacity components; regional technical cooperation facilities (TCF) or within the cooperation or training programmes of EU Member States.

Expected Results: Creation of efficient customs systems in Africa, enhanced dialogue on NTB issues and improved trade within Africa and between Africa and EU.

Priority 3: Improve the competitiveness and the diversification of African agriculture and industry notably by strengthening African capacities in the area of rules, standards and quality control:

Activities:

1. As far as agriculture and agro-industry is concerned, enhance the capacity of administrations, producers and exporters at all levels to meet the regulatory requirements of export markets within Africa and the EU and strengthen harmonization of SPS frameworks within Africa
2. As far as industry is concerned, enhance the capacity of administrations, producers and exporters at all levels to meet the regulatory requirements of export markets within Africa and the EU and support development of quality infrastructure in Africa
3. enhance competitiveness of African agriculture and agri-food industry through particular attention to Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary standards (SPS);
4. follow up to the 2010 pre feasibility study on TBT

Expected Results: Improved competitiveness and diversification of African agriculture and industry.

Main actors: AUC, RECs, Africa and EU MS, EC, UNIDO

Priority 4: Operationalization of Accelerated Industrial Development for Africa (AIDA) Plan of Action in cooperation of UNIDO, RECs and other institutions:

Activities:

1. Support the implementation of the Accelerated Industrial Development Plan of Action to facilitate, among others, the upgrading of productive and trade capacities
2. Discussion on the African Agribusiness and Agro-industry development initiative (3ADI) and explore possible avenues for cooperation
3. Discuss a policy framework on an enabling environment for promotion of industrial SMEs and explore possible avenues for cooperation.

Expected Results: Progress towards the operationalisation of AIDA

Main actors: AUC, RECs, EC, UNIDO, Africa and EU Member States

Priority 5: Raw materials

We should work toward a coherent vision on development, mining and raw materials, to support African capacity at the appropriate national, sub-regional or continental level and within the available cooperation instruments, in particular:

Activities:

1. On governance:

- Promoting natural resources governance including increasing revenue transparency(e.g. implementation of EITI and AMV), applying appropriate fiscal regimes and involving relevant stakeholders including the civil society;
- Promote and provide training on best practices to negotiate mineral contracts;
- Assist in developing policy scenarios for promoting trade and the sustainable development of the mining sector;

2. On investment:

- Help develop analytical tools for mapping mining development corridors for investment promotion, consistently with any general investment promotion strategy in place;
- Cooperate to assess opportunities for increasing local content and value-added through local processing of African mineral resources, particularly by SMEs;
- Assist in improving mineral policy and related regulatory frameworks including on land use planning for minerals and authorization process in order to promote the investment climate;
- Promote Corporate Social Responsibility;

3. On geological knowledge and skills:

- Facilitate exploring mineral resources potential in Africa;
- Foster further co-operation between African and European geological surveys;
- Support capacity building to help improve material stewardship, meaning the responsibility for environmental quality shared by all those actions affect the environment, including on rehabilitation of mining sites and management of secondary raw materials (recycling).

Expected Results: Improved governance, infrastructure and investment and geological knowledge and skills.

Main actors: DG ENTR; TRADE; DEV, EIB, the AUC, UNECA, Africa and EU Member States, geo-surveys, civil society, private sector and concerned donors or international organizations.

Priority 6: Improve the investment climate

Activities:

1. Facilitate the exchange of best practices in the area of regional investment codes with a view to supporting harmonization, as foreseen in the Africa Action plan
2. Strengthen the African regional and continental private sector and Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) networks, such as AfrIPAnet, and create links with European partners building on solid business data and tools.
3. Strengthen the Africa-EU business forum as a platform to promote business between Africa and Europe

Expected Results: Improved investment climate.

Main actors: AUC, RECs, Africa and EU MS, EC, UNIDO, Regional investment agencies

Priority 7: Support quality statistics in Africa

Activities:

1. Support the provision of quality statistical services in Africa through the Implementation of the Charter on Statistics and of the strategy on the harmonization of statistics in Africa (SHaSA);
2. Strengthening the AUC capacity in statistics, notably transforming the Statistics Unit into a Division as decided by the AU Executive Council.

Expected Results: Improved quality statistics in Africa

Main actors: AU statistical unit (also called AUSTAT), Eurostat, in particular the ACP section of unit D2 (International Statistical Cooperation), statistical services of RECs and Africa and EU MS

C. Infrastructure

The EU and the AU established a partnership on Infrastructure (Energy, Transport and Telecoms/ICT) to raise awareness and encourage participation with regard to the aims and roles of the Partnership.

The EU – Africa Partnership for Infrastructure aims at becoming the EU’s response to the infrastructure gap that hinders Africa’s economic development. It should be implemented by the RECs and come under the EU - Africa Strategy. The EU-Africa Partnership on Infrastructures will continue to be managed and implemented according the institutional architecture approved by both parties through the Steering Committee assuming the role of the Joint Working Group.

Priority No 1: Support to AFUR and African Power Pools

Activities:

- Institutional reinforcement and capacity building (training, exchange programs) in energy market trading and management,
- Transmission grid development, including grid connections in Africa and between Africa and EU,
- Environment and social assessments,
- Project packaging and financing and governance (policies, codes and standards).

Expected Results:

- Increased capacity of AFUR and African Power Pools to sustain and further develop their activities and support their increased role as trade facilitators and coordinators and as main planners of regional energy infrastructure programmes

Actors: AUC, AFUR, Power Pools, RECs, AFREC, AFSEC, EU related institutions

Priority No 2: Support to Air Transport Sector and Satellite Navigation

Activities:

- Harmonisation of aviation policies and regulations,
- Support for aviation safety and security, surveillance and certification of air traffic management (ATM) activities and single sky for Africa and
- Technical assistance for implementation of new satellite based technologies for communication, navigation and surveillance and associated ATM procedures.
- For SBAS, setup and activity of Working Groups, staffing of African GNSS programme management entity, training of African experts, preliminary backbone infrastructure development and initial operations.

Expected Results:

- Strengthening of African continental and regional entities in charge of aviation legislation, regulation and enforcement, promoting liberalisation and improving air traffic management and air navigation services.
- Building of core technical capacity for SBAS (Satellite Based Augmentation Service) within relevant African organisations in each region and implementation of preliminary backbone infrastructure.

Actors: AUC, RECs, UNECA, ASECNA, AFCAC, ACAC, EU related institutions (ESA, EASA, SESAR)

Priority No 3: Maritime Transport Sector: enhancement of Maritime administration and Safety

Activities:

In West African region:

- Strengthening port state control regimes and coast guard service capability and sub-regional maritime educational institutions and
- Enhancing vessel traffic monitoring and information.

In Horn of Africa region:

- Support to implementation of maritime projects comprising capacity building, technical assistance and resource strategic planning and coordination,
- Implementation of plan of action, establishment of coast guard network and institutional strengthening.

Expected Results:

- Enhancing maritime security, safety, environment protection and strengthening law-enforcement capability in West Africa and Horn of Africa regions

Actors: AUC, RECs, IMO, EU related institutions

Priority No 4: Transport Sector Development

Activities:

- Selection and appointment of TAH Corridor Coordinators and support team at AUC, strengthening of institutional coordination structures and capacity building with African actors, including RECs ;
- Support to transport policy development and related studies, including trade facilitation
- Technical support for project preparation and monitoring, training activities to project stakeholders (AUC, RECs, specialised organisations and national bodies, where appropriate).
- Coordination with PIDA programme and support for Steering Committee of the EU-Africa Infrastructure Partnership

Expected Results:

- Appointment of TAH Corridor Coordinators,
- Updated policy for transport and improved sector governance, including study of new areas
- Strengthened institutional coordination structures ,
- Capacity building with African actors, including RECs, revised transport policy framework.
- Support to the coordination activities related to the PIDA programme in line with its road map and the EU-Africa Infrastructure Partnership agenda.

Actors: AUC, RECs, UNECA, SSATP, ICA, EU related institutions

Priority No 5: Establishment of a geo-database

Activity:

- Initiate and coordinate the establishment of a database with other stakeholders, notably ECA, RECs, and Specialised Institutions, and with respect to actions planned under PIDA.

Expected Results:

- Established geo-database.

Priority No 6: Support to Improving water governance for trans-boundary water resources in Africa through promoting Integrated Water Resource Management

Activities:

- Institutional reinforcement and capacity development of ANBO and RBOs, information and knowledge management,
- Development and implementation of IWRM plans linked to national and regional development plans, resources mobilisation.

Expected Results:

- River Basin Organisations in Africa have developed and are implementing basin wide Integrated Water Resource Management and Development (IWRM&D) Plans.
- African Network of Basin Organisations (ANBO) has facilitated the integration of water aspects into national and regional planning, and ANBO/AMCOW effectively participate in the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA).

Actors: ANBO, AMCOW, RBOs, AUC, RECs, GWP

Priority No 7: Support of PIDA programme

Activity:

- Assignment ongoing; Sector studies, validation workshops and sector regional meetings.

Expected Results:

- Summary prospects and Program Outlines,
- regional and continental policy proposals and program orientations,
- Formulation of Strategic Framework and Programs

Financing: Various sources including contribution of 9th EDF

Priority No 8: Strengthening of institutional coordination structures and capacity building with African actors including RECs

Activity:

- Review of institutional arrangements and recommendations for coordination and dialogue mechanisms,
- Communication, consultations and workshops with the different stakeholders to assign roles and functions on a consensual and participative basis and
- Preparation of the terms of reference for the rest of the process
- Creation of an enabling platform for planning, implementation and delivery of PIDA;
- Building capacity for programme planning, implementation, monitoring and delivery;
- Setting clear mechanisms and platforms for technical cooperation and resource mobilization with a focus on indigenous resources and the enhancement of the role of African Regional Banks ;

Expected Results:

- Improvement of institutional architecture structures which will increase regional integration.

Priority No 9: Improving regional connectivity and basic access to infrastructure services through the implementation in Energy, Water, Transport and ICT sectors of the EDF and other instruments and institutions: National Indicative Programmes, Regional Indicative Programmes, EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund, Port Moresby and Energy and Water Facilities; as part of the integrated strategic framework under this Partnership.

Partnership on the Millennium Development Goals

Overview

It has been agreed that the MDG Partnership should focus on a limited number of areas where we think that it can really add value and make a difference. Specific Task Groups will take forward work in the agreed areas – initial suggestions are outlined below. We would expect these groups to be time-bound. Therefore, new areas could be selected on a rolling basis. The same overarching themes of Policy, Education, Health and Food Security will remain.

There is a cross-over in some of the areas below, which are naturally cross-cutting. There is also the potential to set up joint Task Groups with other Partnerships.

We do not downplay the importance of other areas not outlined here. Where they are not included this is likely to be because there is intense work already happening in other fora or we think that more can be achieved by concentrating initially on these areas. There is also a working document for the MDG Partnership which contains other options and for which Task Groups could be established providing the criteria are met.

A Task Group will only be established where the following criteria are met:

- A number of participants on both the African and European sides expressing an interest in being part of a Task Group in a particular area.
- Willingness of Member States or Commissions to lead the Group.
- Commitment to resource (not necessarily financial) and to regular and active participation of specific experts.
- No duplication of the activities of other fora.
- The Task Group can achieve specific objectives that add value.

I. Overall Objectives

- i. Increased commitment among EU and African Member States to meeting the MDGs.
- ii. Take forward concrete activities, initially in the areas of health, gender, education, agriculture, water and sanitation and disability.

II. Specific Initiatives

The suggested areas are not set in stone for the three-year period, but must be responsive to the latest developments. If an issue arises where a Task Group can perform a genuinely useful role, then this can be taken forward. This could be raised initially through any participant/stakeholder in the Partnership, though the Co-chairs and the Steering Group (see structure below).

The Task Groups will establish the activities, objectives/outcomes expected, participants and timescales in more detail. However, based on the initial suggestions, specific activities are likely to include, but are not limited to, the following:

Priority Action 1: Health

Activities

1. Launch the Campaign for Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Africa (CARMMA) in the AU Members States where it has not yet been launched and provide guidance and technical support for implementation of the strategy in accordance with the ICPD Programme of Action.
2. Facilitate integration of the CARMMA strategy into national health strategies in accordance with the ICPD Programme of Action.
3. Collect and disseminate through a forum convened at regional or continental level best practices on Maternal, Infant and child Health
4. Assess the impact of CARMMA, including collection of statistical data.
5. Advocacy for and support Member States' improvement of human resources for health capacity through development of policies /strategies and plans of action where these don't exist and support their implementation where they exist.
6. Monitor the progress of the implementation of the Maputo Plan of Action.
7. Collect and Disseminate best practices and Support Member States in their implementation of the 'Abuja Call' with its new set of indicators as aligned to MDG6.

Expected results

- By 2013 the Campaign for Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Africa (CARMMA) which covers the Maputo Plan of Action to have been launched in all 53 AU Members States and its strategy which includes child health, implemented in at least 25 Members States
- By 2013 to have More Member States with improved access to HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria services by implementing the 'Abuja Call' with its new set indicators aligned with those of MDG 6.
- By 2013 to have more Member States to have strengthened their health systems through improved Human Resources for Health
- **Main actors:** AUC, EC, African/EU MS, RECs, CSO, Private sector, PAP/EP, UN

Priority Action 2: Gender

Activities

1. Develop a medium-term strategy of cooperation on gender equality and women's empowerment.
2. Identify and take forward specific measures, including empowering women with disabilities.
3. Work with other Partnerships to include gender equality in their activities.
4. Establishment of gender observatory for collection and reporting of data on gender.

Expected results

- By 2011 EU and AU have developed a medium-term strategy of cooperation on gender equality and women's empowerment.
- The medium-term strategy foresees measures for empowering the poorest and most disadvantaged women and girls including those with disability.
- Specific outcomes in 2012 linked to the strategy.
- Increased number of girls that pass secondary education.
- Increased number of women holding seats in parliaments.
- Provision of data on gender.

Main actors: AUC, EC, African/EU MS, RECs, CSO, Private sector, PAP/EP, UN

Priority Action 3: Education

Activities

1. Work with the International Task Force on teachers in the framework of its plan of action and develop networking and sharing information.
2. Work towards establishing centers and enhancing regional networks to strengthen teachers training on disability issues.
3. Encourage use of FTi Equity and inclusion guidelines in education sector planning and reviews.
4. Pilot approaches to making teaching and learning materials available in accessible formats.
5. Take forward activities to strengthen science teaching, including establishing regional centre and enhancing regional networks.
6. Take action to accelerate the implementation of the AU's 2nd Decade for Education, in particular work with the Association for Development of Education in Africa (ADEA) in the preparation of the next ADEA's *trienale* in Ougadougou - Dec-2011- to "promote critical skills for sustainable development in Africa;
7. Work on methods for monitoring the Plan of Action.
8. Institutionalize actions (notably school feeding programs in the framework of national education plans) aimed at encouraging school attendance and learning performance in coherence with health and nutrition programs.

Expected results

- Accelerated implementation of specific actions under the AU's 2nd Decade for Education: establishment of the Education Observatory for monitoring the progress made in the implementation of the Plan of Action.
- Regional centres established and regional networks enhanced for the teaching and learning of Science and Mathematics (possible linkages with the International Teachers Task Force created in 2008 and working to address the teacher gap, particularly in Africa).
- Increased awareness of disability issues.
- Enhanced levels of government incentives to reduce economic barriers to education at all levels, such as school fees.
- Increased numbers of children that pass secondary education.
- Literacy for adults, particularly women, which leads to reduced poverty.

Main actors: AUC, EC, African/EU MS, RECs, ADEA, IPED, CSO, Private sector, PAP, UN

Priority Action 4: Agriculture

Activities

1. Increase political support for African agriculture, improve CAADP implementation, produce quality CAADP Round Table Processes at national and regional levels, and mobilize resources to fund CAADP Compacts/investment plans.
2. Promote the Protocol for African common market and its implementation in order to increase the development of regional value chains for strategic commodities (rice, maize, cotton, cassava, and livestock) and regional integration in food and agriculture;
3. Improve the policy and regulatory environment for enhanced sustainable and responsible investments in agriculture through : _
 - a. Accelerated integration of the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes to preserve the capacity of ecosystems to provide ecosystem services and accelerate reduction of biodiversity loss;
 - b. Accelerated implementation of the *Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa*, through notably enhanced capacity building of stakeholders in land policy development, and improved land information systems, increased networking, lesson learning and knowledge sharing among practitioners in land policy;
4. Jointly explore ways to facilitate the sustainable intensification of smallholder agriculture, including through efficient input provision. In this connection also jointly assess the opportunities offered by the African Fertilizer Financing Mechanism
5. Support the Panafrican Farmers Forum and more generally facilitate an increased participation of civil society and farmers' organisations, representing both male and female farmers, in policy making, implementation and evaluation.

6. Promote demand-led agricultural research for development, extension and innovation and strengthen the capacity (financial, human, and institutional) of research institutions. Work jointly on the development of agriculture and food security information systems at national, regional and continental level.

Expected results

- Increased financial support for African agriculture by national Governments, development partners and private sector as well as increased number of African countries allocating at least 10 percent of the national budget to agriculture and developing and implementing CAADP Compacts and investment plans.
- Improved access to markets for small-scale farmers.
- Development has taken into account principles of sustainable development.
- Accelerated implementation of the African Land Policy Guidelines, involving national stakeholder platforms to disseminate their content at country level.
- Sustainable intensification of smallholder agriculture facilitated through targeted initiatives.
- Greater participation of civil society and farmers' organisations, representing both male and female farmers, in policy making, implementation and evaluation.
- Enhanced levels of financing of demand-led agricultural research for development, extension and innovation, involving coordination by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), sub-regional research organisations and the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) and sub-regional research organisations.

Main actors: AUC, EC, African/EU MS, RECs, CSO, Private sector, PAP/EP, UN

Priority Action 5: Water & sanitation

Activities

1. Accelerate the work of the Africa-EU Partnership on Water Affairs and Sanitation as a Task Group of the MDG Partnership.
2. Take action on the AU 'Commitments for accelerating achievement of water and sanitation goals' (Sharm el Sheik 2008).
3. Support the EU Water Initiative's Africa Working Group and African partners by profiling its work and encouraging broader participation and catalysing financial contributions, with the aim to progress towards strategic objectives and annual work plans of the Africa-EU Partnership on water affairs and sanitation (in coordination with UN).
4. Strengthen capacities of AMCOW to provide leadership and of civil society to contribute to progress and to hold governments and development partners to account.
5. Enhance efforts by EU and AU Member States to implement the AU 'Commitments for accelerating achievement of water and sanitation goals' (Sharm el Sheik 2008), including the agreement of a joint action plan under the EU-Africa Partnership for water affairs and sanitation, by 2011.

6. To ensure that by 2013 the majority of countries have developed and adopted national water, sanitation and hygiene policies, strategies and implementation plans based on broad stakeholder participation (SWAP), sustainable use of resources (IWRM) and realistic financial planning (SFP) and are transforming those plans into actions
7. To reduce the number of 'off track' countries for MDG-7, with a specific focus on sanitation being the most off-track MDG in Africa, by increasing domestic financial resources and better targeting of aid where it is most needed.
8. Development and promotion of common views and understanding on the role of water supply, sanitation and hygiene and integrated water resources management for public health and economic development based on multi-sectoral dialogue.
9. In relation to the above outcomes, particular attention to be given to the challenges of urbanisation, fragile states and better development partner coordination around country led plans.

Expected results

- By 2013 the majority of countries have developed and adopted national water, sanitation and hygiene policies, strategies and implementation plans based on broad stakeholder participation (SWAP), sustainable use of resources (IWRM) and realistic financial planning (SFP) and are transforming those plans into actions.
- The number of 'off track' countries for MDG-7 have reduced.
- Increased knowledge generation and exchange among regional actors leading to better governance and informed decision making, including support to the development of early warning systems and collaboration with the African Water Centres of Excellence.

Main actors: AUC, EC, African/EU MS, RECs, CSO, Private sector, PAP/EP, UN

Priority Action 6: Disability

Activities

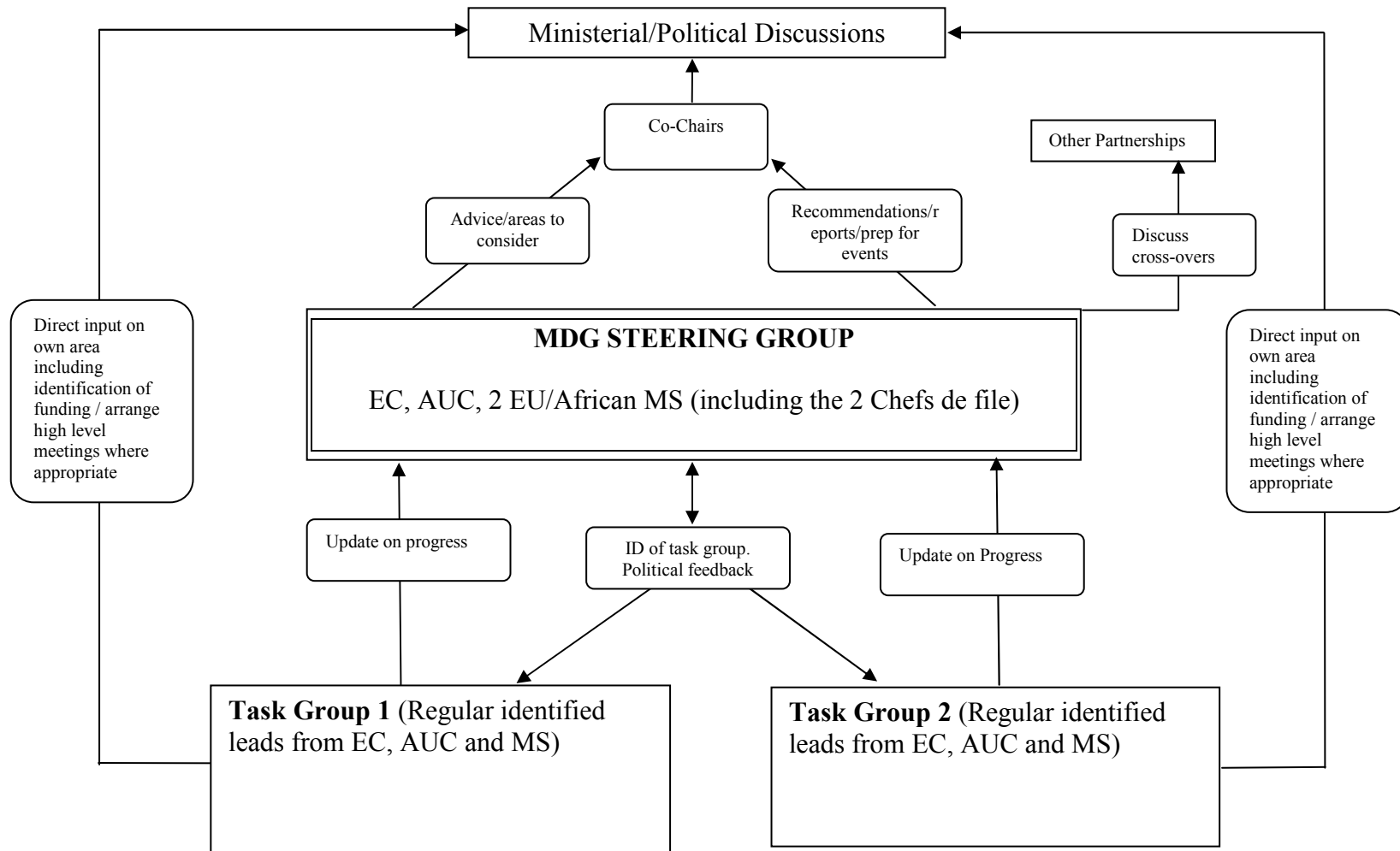
1. Establish collection of statistics in a coherent manner to enable baselines and measures of disabled people's access to services.
2. Joint advocacy to promote inclusion of sex disaggregated information on disability in new statistics initiatives.
3. Support the African Rehabilitation Institute (ARI) to monitor the implementation of the AU programme on disabilities.
4. Support implementation of AU strategy on people with disabilities.
5. Inclusion of people with disabilities across sectors.
6. Engagement of African CSOs in the JAES. Active participation of disability CSOs including attendance of both EU and African civil society at JEGs/Task groups (as appropriate).
7. Disseminate WHO guidelines and report on progress.
8. Information and good practice sharing.
9. Joint advocacy for disability to be included as part of the overall effort to achieve the MDGs from 2010-2015 (particularly in light of two African-sponsored resolutions on people with disabilities).
10. Encourage EU and AU member states sign and ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
11. Establish a system to address the rights of persons with disabilities and vulnerable groups in interventions to achieve the MDGs.

Expected results

- By 2013 more EU and AU Member States have signed and ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- More national and international statistical data sets contain disaggregated information about people with disabilities.
- More girls and boys with disabilities have access to education.
- African Rehabilitation Institute (ARI) is able to monitor and implement the AU programme on disabilities.

Main actors: AUC, EC, African/EU MS, RECs, CSO, Private sector, PAP/EP, UN

- PROPOSED MDG PARTNERSHIP STRUCTURE**



JAES Action Plan 2011-2013
Partnership on Climate Change and Environment

Overview

The first Action Plan (2008-2010) for the implementation of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES) adopted in Lisbon Summit on December 2007 identified two priority actions in Africa-EU Partnership on Climate Change:

- Build a common agenda on climate change policies and cooperation; and
- Cooperate to address land degradation and increasing aridity, including the Great Green Wall for the Sahel and Sahara Initiative.

The first joint work undertaken by the Joint Expert Group (JEG) of this partnership in November 2008 was the development of an *Africa-EU Joint Declaration on Climate Change* specifying the context, the framework of work and the 13 priority areas of the Partnership. The roadmap for the implementation of the 1st Action Plan adopted in April 2009, identified among the 13 priority areas five components on Climate Change partnership: *Capacity Building of African countries, RECs and AUC for climate change; Strengthening African capacities to better exploit opportunities under the carbon market; Water resources management and adaptation in the field of agriculture; Sustainable land management, fight against desertification and avoid deforestation; and Implementation of the Global Climate Change Alliance in Africa (GCCA).*

Deliverable initiatives from the five components have been identified and prioritized. The first priorities concern the Great Green Wall of the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI); the CLIMDEV and AMESD programs; the activity of building and enhancing African negotiators' capacity in negotiations under the UNFCCC; the GCCA and the fight against deforestation.

The other components of the Joint Declaration including the 13 priority areas remain valid and are still part of the overall objectives of the second Action Plan. The latter will focus on the initiatives identified below.

I. Overall Objectives

- To strengthen African capacities for climate change adaptation and mitigation including for reducing disaster risk and for combating desertification and deforestation.
- To work towards reaffirming and reinforcing our common positions on climate change issues namely our attachment to the principles and priorities of the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol, in particular the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.
- To reinforce coherence between the international climate change negotiations carried out under the aegis of UNFCCC and the Africa/EU partnership.

Expected outcomes

- Improved integration of climate change/desertification/deforestation issues into African national and regional development strategies as well as in Africa-EU development cooperation.
- Concrete initiatives in enhancing Africa's capacity to adapt and mitigate to adverse effects of climate change through:
 - Capacity building of the national delegations for climate negotiations.
 - Improved access to the carbon market including capacity building.
 - Operationalisation of the CLIMDEV Africa Programme.
 - Fight against deforestation and soil degradation through the implementation of GGWSSI and similar initiatives.
 - Enhanced implementation of Climate adaptation measures including through the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA).
 - Capacity building for planners and policymakers on the use of earth observation data for planning and policy makers.
- A strengthened Africa-EU dialogue on climate in particular linked to the other two Rio conventions (the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification).
- Harmonised approaches to adaptation and mitigation in order to efficiently coordinate actions aimed at reducing the negative impacts of Climate change.
- Integration of earth observation data in national development processes is facilitated.

II. Specific initiatives and activities of Action Plan 2011-2013 by priority area

Priority Action 1: Great Green Wall of the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative

The GGWSSI was conceived and launched by African political leadership. The first Action Plan identified the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative as the pillar of one of the two priority actions of this partnership: “Cooperate to address land degradation and increasing aridity, including the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative”. In the future, the initiative could be extended to other areas in Africa affected by desertification. It is progressively strengthening its impact by building on and cooperating with all key related initiatives and actors, such as the Panafrican Agency of the Great Green Wall and the Terr’Africa initiative.

During the first Heads of States and Governments Summit on the Great Green Wall which took place in N’Djamena on 17 June, 2010 in the presence of four Heads of State (Senegal, Chad, Mauritania and Djibouti), of the Vice-president of Nigeria, the Prime Minister of Niger, the Secretary of State to the Agriculture and the Sustainable Development of Ethiopia and of the Ambassadors of Sudan and Chad, a convention creating a Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall was signed.

For the implementation of the initiative, two phases are foreseen: an initial phase (2 years) which will put in place an institutional and financial environment facilitating the implementation of the Great Green Wall program and to initiate a certain number of activities in some pilot countries and a second phase of implementation which could be spread out over a longer period split into project phases of ten years.

The GGWSSI targets the arid ecosystems of the Sahara and the Sahel and covers issues related to sustainable management of soils (including the three interdependent factors: desertification, climate change and deforestation). The GGWSSI should not be regarded as a separate and new program it should rather be seen as a federated platform, making it possible to link sustainable development, reduction of poverty and integrated land management. The objective of the priority action is to assist the countries concerned with the GGWSSI in the development of their national action plans, to support the development of trans-border programs and to bring support to the development of the capacities of the sub-regional organizations such as IGAD, UMA, ECOWAS, CILSS and CEN-SAD.

Activities

- Support the development of a regional harmonized strategy for the implementation of the GGWSSI and the mobilisation of the resources for this purpose;
- Support the concerted formulation of national plans of implementation of the GGWSSI;
- Support the identification and the development of trans-border projects;
- Develop a program for reinforcement of the capacities of the various actors involved in the implementation of the Great Green Wall (in particular for the planning and the coordination of the initiative at the regional level);
- Develop and run a network and a platform to exchange information to reinforce shared knowledge between the various stakeholders of the GGWSSI.

- Support the implementation of the GGWSSI and clearly identify issues and areas where there is a need for action at trans-border level and for coordination. Formulation of thirteen National Action Plans.²

Expected Results

This first phase will lead to the formulation of a financing program of greater width to implement the actions identified.

- National action plans by the countries concerned are developed.
- Trans-border programs are identified and implemented;
- Enhanced capacity of sub-regional organizations, such as IGAD, UMA, CILSS and CENSAD to clearly identify issues and areas where there is a need to mobilise action at trans-boundary levels and for the coordination of those actions.

Actors: EU and African Member States and other development partners, AU Commission and European Commission, FAO, CENSAD, ECOWAS IGAD, UMA, CILSS, OSS and Regional centres of excellence, national GGWSSI focal points, civil society experts working in this field, including farmers and women organizations.

Priority Action 2: CLIMDEV and Climate Information Services using Earth Observation data

Climate Information for Development in Africa Program (CLIMDEV Africa) is a joint initiative of the African Union Commission (AUC), the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and African Development Bank (AfDB), that seeks ways of overcoming the lack of necessary climate information, analysis and options required by policy and decision-makers at all levels. The project is supported by various EU Member States and by the European Commission through the GCCA, AUC, ECA and AfDB, and is currently ongoing.

Both African and EU partners endeavor to construct a solid foundation in Africa for the response to climate change, building on solid science and observational infrastructure, enabling strong partnerships between government institutions, private sector, civil society and vulnerable communities, and creating and strengthening of knowledge frameworks to support decision-making and integrate the actions required. Likewise, the AMESD program has been involved in the establishment of the necessary infrastructure for climate information services.

Activities (CLIMDEV)

- Further operationalise the CLIMDEV Fund at the African Development Bank
- Support to the operationalization of the African Climate Policy Centre, the CLIMDEV capacity hub.

² An existing FAO project foresees the preparation of five National Action Plans: Chad, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Niger and Mali. A complementary EU project aims at preparing a further eight National Action Plans: Senegal, Gambia, Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Sudan, Algeria and Egypt.

- Support the coordination capacity of the AU Commission in the area of climate change and desertification.
- Contribute to a coherent framework for coordination of climate activities at African continental level, with a strong capacity building function.

Expected results

- African Climate Policy Centre fully operational.
- CLIMDEV Special Fund at the African Development Bank fully operational.
- Enhanced AU Commission coordination capacity for Climate Change and Desertification
- A coherent African climate change strategic continental approach.
- The structure of CLIMDEV would facilitate the launching of other initiatives such as access to Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM) and capacity building regarding access to Carbon Markets.

Actors: AUC, EC, RECs, UNECA, Regional centres of Excellence, EU and African Member States, civil society experts working in this field,

Activities (AMESD)

The AMESD project (African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development) currently implemented by the African Union Commission (Phase I, 2007-2012) is strengthening the capacities of African institutions to use satellite-based Earth Observation information for decision-making in various environmental themes that are impacted by climate change (agriculture, land degradation, water management, etc.). AMESD is since its inception a major contributor to the objectives of the partnership in general.

- Enhancing the African capacities for the operational monitoring of climate change and variability, vegetation, water resources, land degradation, carbon dioxide emissions, etc., in support of decision-making processes in this area.
- A coherent African continental approach, including in international negotiations.
- Facilitate the integration and institutionalization of earth observation data and AMESD products and services into national and regional development processes.
- Support programs of the post AMESD (Phase II) within the framework of Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) Africa as adopted in the Ouagadougou Declaration in September 2010.

Expected results

- Improved quantity and quality of earth observation data.
- Improved decision making by key policy makers.
- Empowerment of the five regional implementation centers and associated regional networks and the development of infrastructure for environmental monitoring and strengthening of African capacities to exploit Earth Observation data for continental and regional decision-makers.

Actors: AUC, EC, RECs, UNECA, WMO, EUMETSAT, UNEP, EU and African Member States, civil society experts working in this field,, Regional Implementation Centres (RICs).

Priority Action 3: Strengthening climate adaptation

Enhanced action on climate adaptation is a key priority area of the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA), which was launched at the end of 2007 in the margin of the UN negotiations on climate change in Bali. This initiative aims to enhance the policy dialogue between the EU and developing countries most affected by climate change and to step up financial and technical cooperation. Adaptation support builds on the National Adaptation Programmes of Action or similar programmes when these are available and covers in particular agricultural improvements and water management. Special attention is given to integrate adaptation into wider development strategies. In addition to adaptation, the GCCA also supports capacity building for climate negotiations, reducing deforestation and enhancing participation in the carbon market.

In 2008-2009 the GCCA entered its implementation phase. Ongoing work in Africa includes €21 M support earmarked for six African countries: Tanzania, Mali, Mauritius, Rwanda, Senegal, and Seychelles). Programming work is advanced for two additional African countries: Mozambique and Ethiopia, and four more should be included soon. In 2009 a regional GCCA support programme was decided under the 10th European Development Fund intra-ACP budget covering a) €8 M support for CLIMDEV and capacity enhancement of the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (climate change and desertification coordination), and b) €8 M support programme for COMESA and ECOWAS/CILSS.

Activities

- Implementation of the EU Global Climate Change Alliance at country and regional level.
- Continued activities with the following priority axes:
 - Adaptation to the impact of climate change in most relevant sectors (agriculture, water, etc.).
 - Reduction of emissions from deforestation.
 - Improved access to investments through the Clean Development Mechanism.
 - Increased capacity for integrating climate change challenges in national development strategies.
- Strengthen the involvement of the African Union Commission in the implementation of GCCA in Africa.

Expected results

- Adaptation to climate change increasingly mainstreamed in national development strategies.
- Six to eight additional GCCA country interventions designed and implementation started in three to four countries.
- Enhanced capacity of COMESA and ECOWAS to deal with climate change adaptation.

Actors: African and EU Member States, European Commission, AU Commission, development partners, Regional Economic Communities, civil society organizations experts working in this field,

Priority Action 4: Fight against deforestation

Progress has been achieved under the UNFCCC negotiations on the issue of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD-plus) the follow-up of Copenhagen included the Paris and Oslo Conferences (February and May 2010 respectively) that led to the creation of the REDD+ Partnership involving more than 60 countries including the major African forest countries. Its core objective is to contribute to the global battle against climate change by serving as an interim platform to scale up REDD+ actions and finance. This partnership will support and contribute to the UNFCCC process. It will also promote transparency around international financing initiatives to reduce deforestation and degradation of tropical forests. Globally, around 4 billion USD will be made available for measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, and partners have expressed their willingness to substantially scale up financial support after 2012.

Improved forest governance is a key element of reducing emissions from deforestation. Therefore, it is important to exploit the synergies between the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) initiative and REDD+ as well as the link with sustainable forest management.

The fight against deforestation is also an aspect of the GGWSSI (to counter the progress of desertification) that could be implemented in African countries not already covered.

Activities

- Facilitate actions that would qualify African projects as REDD+ projects; help definition and implementation of pilot projects in Africa.
- Continue FLEGT negotiations with the major African forest countries.
- Underline and strengthen the links between REDD+ and FLEGT in Africa.

Expected results

- Africa to be an active partner in the interim REDD+ Partnership, and to benefit from the REDD+ financing coherent with the magnitude of the deforestation and forest degradation issues that the continent is facing.
- Conclude negotiations on FLEGT in several countries.
- Coherence between REDD+ and FLEGT initiatives in concerned countries.

Actors: AU Commission and European Commission, European and African countries members of the Partnership, RECs, UNDP, UNEP, World Bank, African Development Bank, and regional development banks.

Priority Action 5: Enhancing African negotiators' capacity in negotiations including the UN Framework of the Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) and Kyoto Protocol

The complexity of the climate negotiations calls for a wide range of expertise to be available in the participating countries. Lack of negotiating capacity is one of the constraints faced by African countries in the UNFCCC. There are a number of initiatives including the Global Climate Change Alliance that involve training to upgrade climate negotiation capacities.

Activities

- To provide the opportunity for African negotiators to be trained in climate change negotiations possibly in liaison with Universities.
- To provide short or long term training for practical experience in EU environmental services and African-based climate institutions e.g. African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD), IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), AGHRYMET, SADC Drought Monitoring Centre, RECTAS etc.
- To identify selected African countries, representing the five regions and representatives from RECs, especially those involved in the international negotiations in need of building and strengthening their capacities in the concerned areas.

Expected results

- Strengthened capacity of African negotiators in negotiations under the UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol.

Actors: European Commission, African Union Commission, selected African countries, RECs and Africa-based climate institutions.

Priority Action 6: Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

- (1)** *There is a close link between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction (DRR), both aiming at reducing people's vulnerability. There is an increase in climate-related disasters that affect the African continent. Ongoing discussions between the two Commissions are looking at priority areas to support Africa in line with the Programme of Action for the implementation of the Regional Strategy on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) (2006 – 2015). This discussion falls within the EU Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy for Developing Countries.*

Activities

- Support African Member States and RECs to establish multi-sectoral national platforms on DRR.
- Support preparatory work enhancing national and regional capacities to mitigate exposure to disasters.
- Support the creation and the networks of five regional centers of excellence for DRR.

Expected results

- DRR becomes a regional, sub-regional and national priority, with strong institutional frameworks, adequate resources and multi-stakeholder participation.
- DRR institutions have the requisite authority and capacity to coordinate across relevant sectors and from national to local levels.

Actors: EU and African Member States, the European Commission, the AU Commission, NPCA, RECs, civil society experts working in this field,

Priority Action 7: Biodiversity Conservation Initiatives

Healthy ecosystems and biodiversity are crucial for the livelihood and food security of African populations. The successful conclusion under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing will contribute to fair and equitable sharing of benefits of ecosystems. Ecosystem conservation also contributes to climate adaptation and reduced deforestation. The Nagoya Conference also agreed on new targets for protected areas.

Activities

- Enhance the understanding of the economics of ecosystem services and biodiversity.
- Promote the integration of biodiversity frameworks in national development and planning processes.
- Support African countries with implementation of the Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) and with the targets on protected areas.
- Promote participation and potential accession of the AU Commission in the processes of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- Assist the AU Commission in coordinating African negotiators on bio-diversity and the regional, continental, and global fora.

Expected results

- Better understanding of the economic importance of ecosystems and biodiversity.
- Biodiversity frameworks and programs into national development and planning processes.
- Increased capacity to deal with ABS and with protected areas targets.
- Enhanced participation of the AU Commission in CBD processes
- Enhanced support for African negotiators on biodiversity supported

Actors: European Union and African states, RECs, UNEP, AMCEN, African negotiators.

III. Specific suggestions to improve the functioning of the Climate Change Partnership

- Encourage a stronger engagement of African and EU States in the climate change partnership.
- Strengthen the links between the partnership and various international, continental and regional climate conferences inter alia UNFCCC, CAHOSCC and AMCEN e.g. for the UNFCCC Conferences in Cancun and South Africa in December 2010 and 2011 respectively; publish on the Africa-EU partnership website, the UNFCCC side events related to the priorities of the climate change partnership and vice-versa.
- Ensure that the partnership meetings benefit from support and dedicated resources for their smoother functioning. This includes interpretation, translation services and secretariat support to ensure and enhance effective participation of all concerned stakeholders and encourage sub-regional representation.
- Organise monthly "update" meetings through video conferences bringing together the JEG co-Chairs, the EC, the AUC, the AU Permanent Mission to the EU and the EU Delegation to the AU to facilitate a regular information flow.
- Enhance and diversify resource mobilization mechanisms including the translation of multilateral and bilateral financial pledges into concrete actions.

- Promote coordination and exchange of information among relevant stakeholders to enhance aid efficiency
- Strengthen synergies with the Africa-EU partnerships relevant to climate change such as those on Energy, Migration, Peace and Security; Science Information, Society and Space and MDGs
- Ensure regular participation of representatives of RECs, NPCA Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), UNECA and regional financial institutions such as the AfDB and other regional and pan-African organisations, including African-based climate institutions such as the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD), IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), AGHRYMET, SADC Drought Monitoring Centre, RECTAS etc. Research and private sectors also need to be increasingly involved.
- Integrate the work and objectives of the Africa-EU Partnership on Water and Sanitation launched in Johannesburg in 2002 in coordination with other partnerships and the Africa Working Group of the EU Water Initiative and building on the commitments of the 2008 Sharm el Sheikh Declaration.
- Link and further strengthen synergies with various activities of relevant stakeholders that could enhance the work of the partnership.

JAES Action Plan 2011-2013

Partnership on Energy

Overview

The AEEP is a long-term framework for structured political dialogue and cooperation between Africa and the EU on energy issues of strategic importance, reflecting African and European needs. Through the Partnership, Africa and Europe will work together to develop a shared vision and common policy answers, and to stimulate specific actions that address the energy challenges of the 21st century.

The first Ministerial High Level Meeting of the AEEP held on 14 September 2010 in Vienna, Austria³, agreed on political targets to be achieved by 2020. The implementation of these targets is the joint responsibility of Africa and the EU. The monitoring of implementation of the targets will be undertaken by the Joint Experts Group (JEG) which brings together the African and EU Implementing Teams and their co-chairs. The Implementing Teams comprise of the AUC, EC, interested African countries and EU member states, African Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Power Pools and specialized institutions. The details of implementation will be agreed by the JEG during the AEEP 2nd Action Plan (2011-2013).

The Expected Results of the 2nd Action Plan will contribute to the achievement of the AEEP targets for 2020. At the end of the 2011-2013 period these outcomes will allow the monitoring of progress towards the realisation of the political targets.

I. Overall objective

The overall objective of the AEEP is improved access to reliable, secure, affordable, cost-effective, climate friendly and sustainable energy services for both continents, with a special focus on achieving the MDGs in Africa.

In order to achieve its Overall Objective, the AEEP will focus its efforts on concrete, realistic, visible targets, to be attained by 2020, as agreed by the Ministerial High Level Meeting held in Vienna on 14-15 September 2010. Action will contribute to the realisation of existing national, regional and continental energy objectives and strategies in Africa, and will take into account the necessary social and environmental standards.

³ The HLM of the AEEP brought together over 300 participants, including ministers, ambassadors and other high-level decision-makers from 21 European and 23 African countries, and commissioners from the AU and the EU, as well as academics, business leaders and members of civil society from across Africa and Europe.

II. Specific Initiatives

Priority 1: Energy Access

Activities

1. Continue to implement 64 projects in 34 African countries under the first ACP-EU Energy Facility, benefiting more than 6 million people, with a total budget of €400 million, including a contribution of €180 million from the EC.
2. Start to implement 60 energy access projects in 35 African countries under the second ACP-EU Energy Facility with a total EC contribution of around € 180 million
3. Further implement and expand bi-lateral energy access initiatives and projects such as the Dutch-German Energising Development (EnDev) programme.
4. Create adequate political and regulatory frameworks to achieve regional and national energy access goals.
5. Develop innovative, sustainable financial schemes to implement access to energy programmes in Africa; and assist African countries to reform their electricity tariff systems ultimately aiming for cost-recovery.
6. Support the creation and/or operationalization of rural electrification funds and other African energy funds contributing to access.
7. Develop biomass energy strategies, covering all forms of biomass, including for improved traditional cooking, as well as the sustainable production of modern solid, liquid and gaseous fuels.
8. Support efforts to make energy programmes gender sensitive, taking into account the preponderant role of African women in producing and consuming energy.
9. Support sharing of best practices and peer-learning from countries with high levels of energy access through African institutions and networks in the energy sector.

Expected Results

Increased access to modern and sustainable energy services in Africa, focusing on sustainable models: to provide energy for basic services (health, education, water, communication); to power productive activities; and to provide safe and sustainable energy services to households.

This result is a contribution to the AEEP Political Target for 2020 to bring access to modern and sustainable energy services to at least an additional 100 million Africans, focusing on sustainable models: to provide energy for basic services (health, education, water, communication); to power productive activities; and to provide safe and sustainable energy services to households.

Actors: African countries and EU member states, RECs, RPPs, AUC, EC, as well as civil society, private sector and research institutions of both continents.

Priority 2: Energy Security

Activities

1. Support regional energy master plans, policies and strategies on access, electricity and regional infrastructure through the “Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa” (PIDA).
2. Further implement regional interconnection projects agreed and ongoing under the EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund and other instruments that strengthen African regional power pools.
3. Support priority projects on electricity and gas interconnection infrastructure of regional power pools and RECs that will be jointly agreed and selected according to criteria of bankability and contribution to energy access to meet the 2020 political targets.
4. Support and promote the implementation of the “Hydro 2020 Initiative” aiming at increasing the production capacity, interconnections and energy trade.

Expected Results

Increased capacity of cross border electricity interconnections, both within Africa and between Africa and Europe, thus increasing trade in electricity while ensuring adequate levels of generation capacity.

Increased use of natural gas in Africa, as well as African gas exports to Europe, by building natural gas infrastructure, notably to bring currently flared gas to market.

These results are a contribution to the AEEP Political Targets for 2020 to double the capacity of cross border electricity interconnections, both within Africa and between Africa and Europe, thus increasing trade in electricity while ensuring adequate levels of generation capacity; double the use of natural gas in Africa, as well as doubling African gas exports to Europe, by building natural gas infrastructure, notably to bring currently flared gas to market.

Actors: African countries and EU member states, RECs, RPPs, AUC, EC, as well as civil society, private sector and research institutions of both continents.

Priority 3: Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Activities

1. Develop subsequent phases of the Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme (RECP) and support management, coordination and monitoring of the start-up phase.
2. Implement support to renewable energy policies and development of markets.
3. Support capacity development for project preparation and mobilization of financing.
4. Promote renewable energy applied research, development and technology transfer.
5. Support existing and new regional centers for renewable energy and energy efficiency to aid in formulating and disseminating policies promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency and to provide a platform for the regional exchange on policy issues and technological questions.
6. Further the creation and support existing funds or facilities to strengthen the role of small and medium-sized enterprises, and to stimulate the market for decentralized, renewable energy
7. Develop joint approaches to support and facilitate implementation of regional and continental priority projects jointly agreed on renewable energy (in hydropower, solar and geothermal).
8. Develop a programme on increasing energy efficiency in the electricity systems (supply and demand sides) and support existing regional energy efficiency initiatives such as SAPPs “demand-side management virtual power station”.

Expected Results

Increased use of renewable energy in Africa: by building new and/or rehabilitating existing hydro-power, wind power and solar energy facilities and other renewable facilities, such as geothermal and modern biomass.

Improved energy efficiency in Africa in all sectors, starting with the electricity sector, in support of Africa's continental, regional and sectoral targets.

These results are a contribution to the AEEP Political Targets for 2020 to increase the use of renewable energy in Africa: by building 10 000 MW of new hydro-power facilities; by building at least 5 000 MW of wind power; 500 MW for all forms of solar energy; and by tripling the capacity of other renewables, such as geothermal, and modern biomass improve energy efficiency in Africa in all sectors, starting with the electricity sector, in support of Africa's continental, regional and sectoral targets.

Actors: African countries and EU member states, RECs, RPPs, AUC, EC, as well as civil society, private sector and research institutions of both continents.

Priority 4: Institutional Capacity Building

1. Strengthen existing and launch new capacity building initiatives and activities for national, regional and continental institutions in Africa with a focus on coordination, information systems, databases, planning, standardisation, innovative financing mechanisms to leverage local and international finance.
2. Intensify efforts to facilitate cooperation among African and European private sector investors, with particular focus on attracting European and international investment to Africa.
3. Intensify cooperation with research institutions and civil society in order to improve their ability to engage in energy issues.
4. Develop a distributed AEEP Monitoring and Evaluation tool. The tool will have a double purpose: retrospective, to measure the impact of AEEP efforts in view of realizing our common targets; prospective, to benefit from experience gained in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of public intervention in the energy sector. The efforts to monitor AEEP activities will focus on access to energy for basic needs, for social services and for productive activities.

Expected Results

Improved institutional capacity for national, regional and continental institutions in Africa (RECs, regional power pools, specialized institutions, etc.) on coordination, information systems, databases, planning and standardization

Actors: African countries and EU member states, RECs, RPPs, AUC, EC, as well as civil society, private sector and research institutions of both continents.

Priority 5: Scaling up Investment

1. Support regulatory reforms and good governance in the energy sector to provide for an enabling environment.
2. Mobilize internal resources for increased access to services, e.g. by making utilities more effective and efficient.
3. Focus on using available public resources to attract private capital for energy access activities.
4. Support public and private investment in grid and off grid power.
5. Support efforts to better identify barriers for project financing, and to make recommendations on how best to mobilize private and public resources for investment in the energy sector.

Expected Results

Increased investment in the energy sector (public and private).

Actors: African countries and EU member states, RECs, RPPs, AUC, EC, as well as civil society, private sector and research institutions of both continents.

Priority 6: Dialogue

1. Africa and the EU will strengthen dialogue at multiple levels on energy issues of mutual interest, including research institutions, the private sector and civil society.
2. Specific events - including broad representation of the private sector, civil society and research institutions – will be organised on key issues of the AEEP:
 - Continental and intercontinental infrastructure: a tool for energy security;
 - Governance of the energy sector: a tool to achieve universal access;
 - Renewable energy and energy efficiency: keys to access and energy security.

Expected Results

On the basis of the monitored results of the Action Plan the above-mentioned targets will be reviewed and updated, also in the light of new political developments and joint agreements.

Actors: African countries and EU member states, RECs, RPPs, AUC, EC, as well as civil society, private sector and research institutions of both continents.

I. Overview

The Africa-EU Partnership on Migration, Mobility and Employment aims to provide comprehensive responses to migration and employment challenges, in the interest of all partners, and with a particular focus on creating more and better jobs for Africa, on facilitating mobility and free movement of people in Africa and the EU, on better managing legal migration between the two continents, on addressing the root causes of migration and refugee flows, on the conditions of and access to employment, on the fair treatment of all migrants under applicable international law, on finding concrete solutions to problems posed by irregular migration flows and trafficking of human beings and to ensure that migration and mobility work for development. All these orientations should be addressed in a balanced and comprehensive way. These objectives were already set out in the Action plan 2008-2010 and will continue to steer this Partnership, also in the Action plan 2011-2013.

Following the Lisbon Summit of December 2007 dialogue and cooperation between Africa and the EU on migration, mobility and employment issues have intensified. Yet actual results are uneven and scattered, depending very much on the political interests and institutional capacities of the concerned African and EU States. Both in Africa and in the EU, competences and responsibilities for migration and employment policies are still very much at the national level, with the regional and continental dimensions being recognised, but not yet encompassed.

II. Overall objectives

The new Action Plan will further strengthen inter-regional, continental and inter-continental dialogue and cooperation in the area of migration, mobility and employment among countries of origin, transit and destination. In addition, higher education appears as a more visible and integrated part of this partnership. Through this Action Plan Africa and the EU renew their commitment to the implementation of (a) the Declaration of the 2006 Tripoli Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development, (b) the EU-Africa Plan of Action on Trafficking in Human Beings, especially Women and Children, and (c) the 2004 Ouagadougou Declaration and Action Plan on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa.

The new action plan will have two main strands: (1) enhancing dialogue, and (2) identifying and implementing concrete actions, both of them encompassing the inter-regional continental and inter-continental dimension of the partnership.

The major challenge for the period 2011-2013 will be to **further strengthen and enrich the political and policy dialogue** on migration, mobility and employment as well as tertiary education issues between the two continents, whilst encompassing dialogues and cooperation taking place on national and regional levels.

In the area of **migration and mobility** this dialogue will be informed by the Joint Africa-EU Strategy agreed in Lisbon in December 2007⁴, as well as the Declaration of the 2006 Tripoli Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development, the EU-Africa Plan of Action on

⁴ In particular paragraphs 68, 69 and 70.

Trafficking in Human Beings, especially Women and Children, and the 2004 Ouagadougou Declaration and Action Plan on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa.

For the period 2011 – 2013 the agenda for the dialogue between Africa and the EU on these topics will be comprehensive and balanced, taking into account concerns of countries of origin, transit and destination. It will include topics such as

- a. diasporas, remittances, brain drain, migrant rights, social consequences of migration;
- b. regular migration, including circular migration, mobility, visa issues,
- c. illegal migration, trafficking in human beings, smuggling of migrants, readmission and return, and
- d. refugees, asylum and protection

Both parties will deepen their political dialogue on the human rights, including social, economic and cultural rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in this partnership and in other relevant fora. In the framework of this dialogue, both parties will notably exchange views on lessons learnt and best practices on the implementation of existing instruments, such as the 1969 OAU Convention on refugees, the 1951 Geneva Convention relating to the status of refugees and its 1967 Protocol, the 2009 AU Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, and other relevant human rights instruments as well as international humanitarian law instruments. This dialogue will also address issues related to sex trade, sex tourism and cheap labour. The dialogue on visa issues will look at conditions and procedures for delivery of visa, and facilitating mobility for commercial, professional and study reasons.

In the area of **employment**, the dialogue will focus on strategies and initiatives targeting job creation and sustainable and inclusive growth, acknowledging the role of relevant stakeholders, including social partners and the private sector. Furthermore, the dialogue will focus on the questions related to the implementation of the Ouagadougou Action Plan and the global 'Decent Work Agenda' with special emphasis on the *creation of more, more productive and better jobs* in Africa and the link to *social protection* as well as to the *informal and social economy*.

In direct relation to strategies on employment, mobility and the harnessing of brain drain the parties will extend their dialogue to the area of **higher education**. This dialogue will look, inter alia, at ways of supporting the *mobility of students and scholars* and the realisation of the *African higher education harmonization process*.

Dialogue on all these topics will in particular focus on the question of how to enhance coherence and synergies between migration, mobility, employment, education policies and *development/poverty reduction strategies*.

It is envisaged that the dialogue process will yield ideas for further concrete actions that may be added to the Action Plan in the coming years.

III. Specific initiatives and activities

The second strand of the Action Plan 2011 – 2013 consists of a number of **concrete actions**. Some of these were already initiated or launched under the Action Plan 2008-2010 and are reaching their implementation stage under the next Action Plan. Several of the employment related initiatives that have been identified and discussed at the June 2010 AUC-EC Workshop on Employment, Social Protection and Decent Work in Dakar will inform the relevant employment initiatives of this Action Plan.

At the moment the following initiatives are envisaged for the Action Plan 2011-2013⁵:

1: **Facilitation of the dialogue**. To organise and facilitate the Africa – EU dialogue a € 3 million support project has been launched in 2010. The project will engage in the organisation of *workshops and meetings, information exchange and capacity building*. The project is implemented by a consortium of three organisations (ICMPD, IDEP, FIIAPP), under the responsibility of a Steering Committee led by AUC and EC, and a consultative role of the Joint Expert Group (JEG).

2: **African Remittances Institute**. The preparatory phase project (technical and consultative) designed to facilitate a structured and deepened reflection on all aspects of the prospective establishment of the African Remittances Institute (ARI) was launched in 2010, involving the World Bank in association with AUC and EC, as well as IOM and AfDB. The Steering Committee that has been established is led by the AUC Preparatory activities will encompass, consultations research, capacity building and networking. It is envisaged that the Institute, once established, will facilitate better, more effective and safer remittances' transfer system, which will fully take into account the specificities of African countries.

3: **Human Trafficking Initiative**. The AUC, in partnership with the EC, will assist RECs in developing and implementing *regional action plans* to strengthen protection, prevention and prosecution of trafficking in human beings, in line with the Ouagadougou Action Plan and AU.COMMIT, that cover countries of origin, transit and destination. Furthermore a *monitoring and evaluation tool* will be designed and implemented at regional level to enable measurement of implementation and impact as well as to assist in the *identification of best practices* for the African Continent.

4: **Diaspora Outreach Initiative**. The Partners will establish an Africa–EU Diaspora cooperation framework, with the objective of engaging the Diaspora in the development of Africa and to build capacity and transfer skills, knowledge and technologies from the Diaspora to the African continent. This cooperation framework will be built on the AU Diaspora Initiative, and create synergies between the following three existing programmes: (a) Global Mapping of Africa Diasporas (AUC – WB), (b) Capacity building for Diaspora ministries in Africa (NL/DE), (c) EU-wide networks of African Diaspora organisations working in the field of development.

⁵ For each initiative a fiche has been prepared, indicating the objectives, activities, funding and actors involved.

Priority actions that will be developed are: (1) Mapping of African Diaspora organisations in the EU, (2) Programmes addressing specific sectoral needs, such as a Diaspora Health Network, (3) AU regional network on African diasporas in Europe.

5: ***Observatory on Migration***. The ACP Observatory on Migration will create a network of researchers and research centres to provide policy makers, civil society and the public at large with reliable and harmonised data on migration. In order to achieve this objective it may establish links with other relevant observatories. It will run a website, and publish research studies and papers. It will furthermore function as an exchange platform for migration research papers and expertise. The Observatory initiative will be launched in October 2010. This initiative could serve as a starting point to develop future activities covering all the African continent.

6: ***Decent Work Initiative***. AUC and EC will jointly launch a project with the objective of extending social protection coverage in particular in the informal economy. The two Commissions will organize an event to allow the exchange of experiences between relevant experts and other key stakeholders including governments, private sector, social partners, civil society and international organisations. Furthermore, the AU Programme on Upgrading the Informal Economy and the Productivity Agenda for Africa will continue to provide support to a multi-level dialogue and policy development on the informal economy (mainstreaming of the informal economy, empowerment and social dialogue, productivity improvement, knowledge and data base management, etc). This dialogue may also involve Asian and Latin American countries.

7: ***Labour market governance and capacity building***. This initiative aims at strengthening the institutional capacity of the labour market institutions in Africa, so that they can play effectively their role in the social and economic development in the continent. The initiative will target public employment services and labour administrations. It will aim to harmonise and coordinate labour market information systems (also in connection to the network of Employment and TVET⁶ Observatories currently implemented in African countries). Support will be provided at national, regional and continental level. The initiative furthermore aims at the mapping of skills required and available at national, regional and continental level, identifying the gaps and working for the improvement of employment opportunities and employability.

8: ***Regional and sub-regional fora on employment, labour, social protection and labour migration***. In cooperation with RECs, fora will be strengthened to allow organizing consultations on thematic policies of common concern, and to contribute to enhancing the functioning of the labour market, supporting the harmonization processes of the labour and social protection frameworks at regional levels. Furthermore, partners will establish a platform for social dialogue between the African Union and the European Union including an effective representation of all stakeholders, including non-state actors such as representatives of civil society, the private sector, trade unions and parliamentarians, with a particular focus on the informal economy.

⁶ TVET: Technical and Vocational Education and Training

9: **Access to finance and guarantees.** The European Union and Africa will intensify their cooperation in the area of job creation, building on the 2004 Ouagadougou Declaration and Action Plan on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa. Special attention is devoted to improve the access to financial services for the poorest and underserved, through support of the microfinance sector and through enhancing the small- and medium-sized enterprises' (SMEs) access to long term finance.

One such initiative is the progressive development of the African Guarantee Fund (AGF) supported by the African Development Bank (AfDB), Denmark, and Spain. Access to finance and guarantee will be developed taking into account existing guarantee schemes, including at regional level and in close cooperation with other donors as well as with the European Investment Bank (EIB). The potential for co-guaranteeing SME-portfolios in Africa will be systemically explored.

10: **Nyerere Programme.** This programme was initiated by the AUC in 2005. Its aim is to contribute to high level African human resource development and retention; while supporting intra-African academic mobility, and thereby mitigate the effects of brain drain. This enhanced scholarship programme will be launched in November 2010. Under the scheme, African students, scholars and academic staff will receive scholarships for master and PhD level studies and to allow exchange of academics and university administrative staff. Overall, it is expected that over the five consecutive rounds of selection more than 2000 participants will benefit from the scheme.

11: **Pan-African University.** The Pan-African University is a project by the African Union, aiming to exemplify excellence, relevance and global competitiveness of African higher education and research. It is a network of African higher education and research institutions, with thematic hubs in each of the five geographic regions of Africa (Eastern, Western, Central, Southern and Northern Africa). It is expected that the first four thematic institutes will be launched in 2011.

12: **African Higher Education Harmonisation and Tuning.** This initiative aims to review the state of implementation of mutual recognition of higher education certificates and qualifications in Africa. It will involve assessment of the potential of using the European approach of 'Tuning'⁷. The initiative includes the implementation of the African Quality Rating Mechanism, the popularisation of the revised Arusha convention, and the development of a roadmap for the harmonisation of higher education in Africa. A pilot phase on the potential of using this tuning approach is expected to begin in 2011.

The above initiatives may be further developed and strengthened during the course of implementation of this Action Plan. Other initiatives might be jointly identified and agreed throughout the period of validity of the Action Plan if specific needs are identified by the partners.

7

"Tuning' is a methodology which allows universities to understand and fine-tune curricula and make them comparable on a transnational basis. It focuses on a specific subject area's generic competences or transferable skills, subject specific competences, learning outcomes, credits, approaches to learning, teaching and assessment, quality assurance and employability.

As for the *financing* of these initiatives the Partnership will continue to rely on resources available in the EU, the AU as well as in African and EU States. Partners agree to make efforts to increase the *visibility, transparency and accessibility of these resources*, including through enhanced coordination in the framework of this MME Partnership. The two Commissions will conclude the examination of the feasibility of setting up a fund as provided for in the outcome document of the Tripoli Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development of November 2006.

The joint experts group will monitor the implementation of this action plan and will evaluate the progress made.

JAES Action Plan 2011-2013

Partnership on Science, Information Society and Space

I. Overall Objectives

This Partnership interlinks three Priorities for development policy, which singly and in conjunction with one another can leverage faster socio-economic development in Africa: science, information society and space applications. By strengthening their cooperation to produce knowledge-based societies and economies, Africa and the EU recognise that:

- the development of science, technology and innovation, as well as the spreading of the digital era to all sections of society are key motors of socio-economic growth and sustainable development;
- competitiveness in the world economy rests increasingly on knowledge and application of modern technologies and;
- attainment of the MDGs requires a general effort to raise S&T capacities in Africa and enable widespread use of ICTs and related services.

In that respect, this Partnership is cross-cutting in nature, contributing to the attainment of all other development objectives. For optimal effectiveness, there should therefore be close coordination with other JAES Partnerships (particularly infrastructure, climate change Migration Mobility and Employment(MME) and MDGs); In addition, clear articulation with the formal institutional apparatus governing EU-Africa relations should be developed.

II. Specific initiatives and activities of Action Plan 2011-2013 by priority area

PRIORITY ACTION 1: S&T capacity building for the implementation of Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA)

Objectives: To strengthen African Capacities in the area of science and technology, in order to enhance the use of science and technology and to improve S&T cooperation.

Expected outcomes

- Strengthened African S&T capacities and EU capacities for working with Africa to enhance coherence of cooperation
- Improved training, and hence increase the quality and number of African and EU scientists, technicians and engineers
- Improved training and exchange programmes for African and EU scientists, technicians and engineers
- The mainstreaming of S&T into REC's sectoral programmes and projects, including those in EDF RIPs
- Improved pan-African infrastructure and facilities for R&D
- The active pursuing of AU-EU high-level policy dialogue
- Enhanced S&T cooperation at all levels (bilateral, bi-regional, bi-continental, REC-level) in key areas of the CPA
- Enhanced innovation capability of African and European SMEs
- Development of STI evidence-based AU EU policy making, including support to the Africa STI observatory

Activities

- Awareness-raising at all levels (policy makers/government; parliament; local stakeholders/communities; private sector; civil society) on the opportunities for S&T to contribute to national/regional/pan-African development and to respond to major challenges that both Africa and Europe are faced with
- Consolidate and implement national/regional/pan-African S&T policies consistent with regional or continental social and economic development agendas. This will include supporting the AU objective of designing a multi-annual African Research Framework, inter alia by implementing the African Research Grants Initiative, as well as providing the AUC with the requisite experience and management capacity
- Enhance EU (Commission and Member States) cooperation, in partnership with RECs (through a well-defined framework with the AU) on mainstreaming science and technology for socio-economic sustainable development and support the strengthening of their capacities in this area
- Complete formulation of the *Science and Technology for the development of African Small and Medium Enterprises and Business Incubators network* Lighthouse project and seek its financing by mobilizing further European (EC; Member States; Private sector and Local authorities) and African national, regional and continental financial instruments, the Private Sector, NGOs and any other interested stakeholder organisations
- Explore all possibilities for Africa to support the deployment of regional, global and high quality research infrastructures
- Set up an adequate mechanism to promote an African brain-gain programme
- Cooperate in capacity building in R&D and R&D policy in Africa and the EU
- Stimulate and support collaborative research in the areas of the CPA. This will be done by exploiting opportunities of new programmes focused on developing bi-regional funding frameworks
- The S&T related activities will be implemented in line with the CPA with a focus on the grand challenges Africa and Europe are faced with. Priority will be given to joint strategic initiatives where a particular impact of S&T is expected, for example, Climate Change/Energy, Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security and Global Health (emphasis on Maternal and Child Health and Infectious Diseases). Strategies will be developed to further adapt and open the existing 7th FP instruments to African scientists
- Pursue the EUC–AUC Exchange programme, extend it to Member States and include RECs, following the development of an exchange strategy by the AUC-EC
- Seek active coordination and cooperation with university related activities in order to improve the value of S&T within national policies including budget allocation to science and research
- Ensure coordination with the proposed new high-level AU-EU science and technology policy dialogue.

Actors

- § AU Commission/NPCA; RECs; African States; AfDB and associated Economic Blocs
- § European Commission; EIB; EU Member States and associated economic regions
- § Private Sector; universities; science and technology institutions and associated research centers
- § International Finance Institutions
- § UNESCO, UNECA and other UN agencies

Finance

- § Dedicated financing tools
- § 10th EDF; DCI; FP 7; ENPI; EIB; AfDB
- § Bilateral contributions from EU and AU Member States, from the RECs and the European regions and from local authorities
- § Multilateral cooperation between MS, eg. a grouping of African and European MS, who initiate and finance joint projects of mutual interest
- § Private Sector and Foundations that support R&D

PRIORITY ACTION 2: Support the development of an inclusive information society in Africa

Objectives: Complement and develop new strategies to support investments made on ICT infrastructures deployment, as planned in the EU-Africa Partnership on Infrastructures. This will be done by exploiting synergies between the EU 2020 Digital Agenda and the AU ICT development frameworks as well as with support to capacity-building initiatives for mass diffusion of ICTs and related services considered as key enablers for poverty reduction, economic growth, social development and regional integration

Expected Outcomes

- A successful implementation of the AU ICT development frameworks including ARAPKE (the African Regional Action Plan for the Knowledge Economy), the Reference Framework for ICT Policy Harmonization and the 2010 Addis Ababa AU Summit Declaration on ICT for Africa's development

- A more inclusive and affordable access to ICT applications and services and widespread use of ICTs (e.g. the internet and mobile applications), across all socio-economic sectors in order to fast-track the MDGs objectives, notably in health (e.g. use of telemedicine and the creation of bio-data banks) and the education sector
- Stronger cooperation regarding the digital economy and the reduction of the digital divide, including private sector, international financial institutions and UN agencies
- A more competitive African economy through ICT uptake and innovation
- Consultation on African-EU positions and approaches in international and regional ICT fora to enhance mutual understanding
- Mutual beneficial economic collaboration for AU-EU industries and SMEs involved in ICTs

Activities

- Set up an AUC-EC Information Society Dialogue, in partnership with Member States, addressing all ICT-related cooperation issues in a comprehensive and integrated way, with the view to better bridge policies, programmes and practices related to the implementation of the EU 2020 Digital Agenda and AU ICT development frameworks, and to coordinate EU and African positions in global ICT fora. These can include e.g. enhancement of digital literacy, skills and inclusion, skills for research and technological development, regulatory issues, infrastructure deployment with promotion of the use of e-applications in various sectors of governance.
- Establish a multi-stakeholders implementation group, co-chaired by the AUC and EC and gathering ICT representatives from European and African Member States, RECs, research community, private sector, civil society and NGOs, international financial institutions and international organizations in order to facilitate cooperation and better coordination of national and regional programmes, as well as to identify concrete initiatives of mutual interests in support of EU and AU priorities and mobilize funds accordingly. The implementation group will notably focus on the following activities :

- Build on the current *Harmonisation of ICT Policies in Sub-Saharan Africa* (HIPSSA) initiative to ensure the full participation of African non ACP member states and to further support implementation of ICT regulatory and policy reforms and regional harmonization in view of creating the right enabling environment to foster private investment and market development while ensuring affordable service costs and the widest diffusion of ICTs and e-services
- Promote the diffusion and sharing of ICT best practices and successful public-private partnerships, notably by establishing close interaction with the EU-Africa Business Forum and support for Africa EU networking platforms as well as linking national initiatives to existing regional and global platforms and networks, notably to those provided by international financing institutions and private sector fora
- Design appropriate e-skills and digital literacy initiatives, supporting the development of local digital content and applications of high socio-economic impact, notably in the fields of health and education in order to fast-track attainment of the MDGs
- Upgrade ICT research cooperation, local ICT innovation and entrepreneurship, exploiting in particular the potential of mobile and fixed wireless technologies as well as promoting ICT business incubators and living labs, including notably the *Africa Incubators Network* and the *European Network of Living Labs*

Promote cooperation in Research and Education Networking by exploiting interconnection between the European GEANT network and established African regional networks and supporting the development of an integrated pan-African Research and Education Network.

Actors

- AU Commission/NPCA; RECs; African States
- European Commission; EIB; EU Member States; Regions
- Research Community
- Private Sector
- Civil Society and NGOs
- Local Authorities
- International Financing Institutions
- UN specialized agencies and international organizations

Finance

- Dedicated financing tools and 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; EU-Africa Infrastructures Trust Fund and FP7
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African States
- Private sector; NGOs; local authorities; financial institutions

PRIORITY ACTION 3: Enhance Cooperation on Space Applications and technology.

(2) OBJECTIVE: ENHANCED COOPERATION IN THE USE OF SPACE APPLICATION AND TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT

Expected outcomes

- Strengthening and developing of Pan African Institutions
- Integration of Space-related issues fully in specific dialogues and cooperation initiatives in areas such as navigation, telecommunications and Earth observation for the environment and resource management, climate change, peace and security
- Development of specific projects (such as telemedicine), based on existing space infrastructure to achieve regional and global development goals.

Activities

- **GMES and Africa** : Pursue the process initiated in 2007 at the Lisbon Summit, taking into consideration the on-going deliberations and guidance on the process

Finalise, expedite and implement the Action Plan on GMES and Africa, in particular:

- establish a secretariat to drive the GMES and Africa Initiative
- Complete the identification of user communities and validation of requirements
- Complete the mapping of contributing organisations, projects and activities
- Promote harmonisation and prioritise future actions
- Fully integrate Earth-observation data, products and methodologies in support to policies in areas such as climate change, food security, water management, monitoring of natural resources, peace and security, etc.
- Allocate adequate (approx € 20 million) for the preparatory phase of the GMES and Africa
- Fully exploit synergies with relevant GMES-Europe Services and other established European missions such as Meteosat and Envisat among others
- Take full benefit of the current programme and cooperation in earth observation, including research projects
- Identify adequate funding mechanism (FP; EDF; ENPI; African institutions etc) and kick-off priority projects

Identify, develop, finance and pursue the necessary capacity building efforts at continental, regional and national level so that the African technical and policy institutions have the necessary resources to fully exploit available Earth observation-based information and products in support of the establishment and monitoring of their policies by identifying, developing and financing the capacity building programmes

Design and implement the appropriate coordination and governance mechanisms aiming at a long-term cooperation in the area by developing frameworks to:

- § Ensure adequate mechanism for coordination between continental, regional and national level
 - § Ensure adequate representation of user communities in the governance mechanism to ensure that GMES and Africa is being developed in response to user and development needs
 - § Implement adequate and inclusive monitoring mechanisms to assess impact on development policies and compliance with user requirements
 - § Estimate resources needed up to 2020 based on current level of investments and priority actions reflecting the conclusions of the "GMES and Africa" Action Plan
 - § Promote dissemination of information and transparency through Workshops and other suitable information mechanisms.
- **Reformulate and support the implementation of the African Geodetic Reference Frame (AFREF)** to establish a foundation for space applications in Africa by providing an essential element for regional and multinational projects requiring precise positioning and geo-referencing.
 - **On the basis of appropriate African initiatives, jointly develop the concept and establish a strong African institutional and policy framework for:**
 - **Promoting the exploitation of space-based applications** and technologies in support of development goals
 - **Assess the feasibility of an autonomous African Space Agency** to assist the continent to coordinate continental space activities in an integrated and sustainable way, drawing on the expertise of the European and African Commissions, ESA, EUMETSAT and committed African States (such as Algeria, Egypt, South Africa, Nigeria, Kenya and others).

Actors

- AU Commission/NPCA; UNECA and UN agencies; African States; RECs and other existing African regional space technology organisations, agencies and facilities
- European Commission, EU Member States
- European agencies such as the European Space Agency (ESA) and EUMETSAT
- Research institutes and organisations
- Private Sector, NGOs and other related organisations and Development partners.

Finance

- Identification of dedicated financing instruments
 - The 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI.
 - § EU Framework Programme for RTD
 - § Complementary programmes managed by other European actors (e.g. ESA; EUMETSAT)
 - § Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African States
 - § Private sector
-