

# 2017 PIDA WEEK

10 - 14 December 2017

Swakopmund, Namibia

## CONCEPT NOTE



“Regional Infrastructure Development for  
Job Creation and Economic Transformation”



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP  
GROUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE  
DE DEVELOPPEMENT

## BACKGROUND

The AU Heads of State and Government adopted the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) in January 2012, as the reference programme for regional and continental infrastructure development in Africa (Assembly/AU/Decl.2 (XVIII)). PIDA builds on the master plans and priorities of Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and African Member States that concentrate on both hard and soft cross-border infrastructure to boost cooperation and trade within the Continent. PIDA thus aims to facilitate economic and social integration on the African continent through the creation of continental and regional markets, enable countries to meet forecast demand for infrastructure services and boost competitiveness by: (1) Increasing efficiencies; (2) Accelerating economic growth; (3) Facilitating integration in the world economy; (4) Improving living standards; and (5) Unleashing intra-African trade.

Covering four (4) main sectors of transport, energy, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and trans-boundary water, PIDA programmes are divided into three main implementation phases : (1) short term (2012-2020), medium-term (2020-2030) and long-term (2030-2040). Since 2012, the African Union Commission (AUC) in collaboration with its implementing partners, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the RECs have been concentrating on ensuring the delivery of the short-term priorities and objectives of PIDA referred to as the PIDA Priority Action Plan (PIDA PAP) comprising 51 programmes and projects.

The implementing partners of PIDA have recorded significant achievements and progress in various aspects from establishment of institutional and operational structures to facilitation of project preparation and implementation. Some of these achievements include:

- Decomposition of the 51 PIDA PAP Programmes into 443 individual projects fiches in order to provide track implementation progress and facilitate discussions with investors.
- Operationalization of the Institutional Architecture for Infrastructure Development in Africa (IAIDA) Structures including the establishment of the Council for Infrastructure Development (CID) and the Infrastructure Advisory Group (IAG).
- Implementation of the PIDA Capacity Building programme funded by the AfDB providing experts/consultants to the AUC, NPCA and RECs to support and strengthen the institutions' capacities in (1) monitoring, evaluation and reporting; (2) Information, communication and marketing; (3) Project preparation support; and (4) Institutional and organizational development, amongst others.
- Creation of the Continental Business Network (CBN) acting as the highest level platform for private sector involvement in PIDA projects.
- Establishment of the NEPAD Infrastructure Projects Preparation Funds (IPPF) to advance projects to bankability through funding for project preparation
- Organization of the Dakar Financing Summit where 16 projects were prioritised for engagement between private investors and public project developers;
- Creation of the PIDA System Delivery Mechanism (PIDA SDM) to provide project owners with technical advisory services for early stage project preparation.
- Development and deployment of the PIDA Communication Strategy including the establishment of a PIDA journalists' network
- The establishment of the Presidential Infrastructure Champions Initiative (PICl) for high-level support and advocacy for selected PIDA projects from participating Heads of State
- Implementation of the Virtual PIDA Information Centre (vPIC) as a one-stop portal for PIDA information and to support monitoring of progress in PIDA implementation.

In addition to the progress recorded by the implementing partners, several projects in the PIDA programme have already been completed while many others are currently being implemented on the ground at the national and regional levels.

Despite the significant progress made in the implementation of the PIDA PAP, there is still an urgent need to continue engaging with all relevant stakeholders to ensure the accelerated delivery of regional and continental infrastructure development in Africa. To this end, the PIDA implementing partners organised the First and Second PIDA Week in November 2015 and November 2016, respectively, with the objective of providing a platform to create synergies and mobilise support in the implementation of infrastructure projects.

## OBJECTIVES

PIDA Week 2017 intends to build on the relative achievements and the momentum created in the previous two events to continue to engage stakeholders on the effective delivery of infrastructure on the continent. It provides a platform for stakeholders to engage in accelerating and synergising their efforts to: (1) accelerate projects preparation and implementation;(2) mobilise adequate financial and technical resources for projects; (3) increase private sector participation in PIDA implementation; and (4) mobilise Member States to integrate PIDA projects into their national development plans.

PIDA Week 2017 will be hosted by the Government of Namibia and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

## PIDA WEEK IN BRIEF

Held under the theme “Regional Infrastructure Development for Job Creation and Economic Transformation”, PIDA Week 2017 will over a three-day period have parallel and plenary sessions discussing and reaffirming the significant role of regional and continental infrastructure in facilitating trade and economic transformation in Africa.

PIDA Week will kick off with a media breakfast and parallel sessions ahead of the official opening and plenary sessions. In addition to the 2017 PIDA Progress Report, the highlight will be a special focus on six major PIDA Corridor projects:

- Central Corridor (Dar es Salaam to Chalinze Toll Road) –EAC;
- Kinshasa-Brazzaville Road and Railway Bridge - ECCAS;
- Ethiopia-Sudan Power Interconnector – EAC;
- Zambia-Tanzania-Kenya Power Interconnection – SADC;
- Batoka Hydropower Plant– SADC
- Abidjan-Lagos Corridor – ECOWAS

During plenary sessions the main stakeholders of each of the projects including the Member States, financiers and implementing agencies will discuss the projects in detail highlighting:

- Project feasibility studies;
- Project preparation for funding;
- Financing and capacity requirements;
- Resource mobilisation strategies;
- Project implementation status;
- Challenges and opportunities;

## OUTCOME

From the project presentations, stakeholders and participants will emerge from PIDA Week with better understanding of the status of selected projects, challenges faced in their implementation, as well as the way forward to address these challenges. Participants will also

gain insights in the packaging of projects, the creation of an enabling environment for transboundary infrastructure projects, project preparation and how to move projects to bankability. The thematic session on job creation and trade facilitation will highlight practical examples and recommendations on how to leverage PIDA projects for economic transformation, including the MoveAfrica initiative and the PIDA Job Creation Toolkit.

Key recommendations and outcomes from PIDA Week will be presented to PIDA governance structures and disseminated through various channels associated with the implementing partners, including the African Union Summit.

## **PARTICIPANTS**

PIDA Week will be attended by more than 200 participants including AUC, NPCA, AfDB, and UNECA, member states, development partners, financial institutions, academia, private sector, civil society and other stakeholders.

## **PROJECT SITE VISIT**

To give participants a practical feel for the impact of PIDA, an informational site visit will be organised along the Walvis Bay Corridor, including the port of Walvis Bay.