

01

Agenda 2063

THE AFRICA WE WANT



September 2015

Background Note

"A Shared Strategic Framework for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development & a Global Strategy to Optimize the Use of Africa's Resources for the Benefit of all Africans"

Final edition published in 2015
© African Union Commission
ISBN: 978-92-95104-23-5

1. INTRODUCTION

Following intensive consultations and preparation, the African Union (AU) policy organs finally adopted the third document of Agenda 2063, the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan, in June 2015, in South Africa. It follows the earlier adoption of the other two documents by the AU Summit in January 2015, in Addis Ababa, making Agenda 2063 to have three main documents. They are the Agenda 2063 Framework Document, its Popular Version, and the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan.

The main task now is to ensure the execution of the First Ten-Year Plan that incorporates goals, priority areas, targets, indicative implementation strategies as well as flagship projects. This is by embarking on the domestication of the Plan in Member States and continuing with the accomplishment of the flagship projects whose launch has already begun.

Objectives of the Background Note

For the domestication to be successful there is a need to mobilize all stakeholders to take part in the exercise. Hence this Kit whose main objectives are to:

- provide a general overview of the Agenda 2063;
- raise awareness and to facilitate domestication; and
- sensitize stakeholders such as governments, their agencies, private sectors the media and Civil Society Organizations on Agenda 2063

Contents of the Background Note

This Kit contains:

1. Introduction
2. Background
3. General overview of Agenda 2063”
4. First Ten-Year Plan
5. Linkages
6. Next Steps

2. BACKGROUND, KEY FEATURES AND THE PROCESS

What is Agenda 2063 and Its Genesis?

Agenda 2063 is a shared framework for inclusive growth and sustainable development for Africa to be realized in the next fifty years. It is a continuation of the pan-African drive over centuries, for unity, self-determination, freedom, progress and collective

prosperity pursued under *Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance*. It builds on, and seeks to accelerate the implementation of past and existing continental initiatives for growth and sustainable development. It was agreed upon by the African leaders in 2013 through the 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration during the commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

In their 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration, the Heads of State and Government, while acknowledging past successes and challenges, rededicated themselves to the continent's accelerated development and technological progress. They emphasized a guiding vision "*to build an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven and managed by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international arena*" and identified eight ideals to serve as pillars for the continent in the foreseeable future. Agenda 2063, as a people-driven initiative, was to translate the ideals into concrete objectives, milestones, goals, targets and actions/measures.

Why Agenda 2063 and What does it seek to Achieve?

Agenda 2063 seeks to:

- Galvanize and unite in action all Africans and the Diaspora around the common vision of a peaceful, integrated and prosperous Africa.
- Harness the continental endowments embodied in its people, history, cultures and natural resources, geo-political position to effect equitable and people-centered growth and development.
- Build on and accelerate implementation of continental frameworks, and other similar initiatives.
- Provide internal coherence and coordination to continental, regional and national frameworks and plans adopted by the AU, RECs and Members states plans and strategies.
- Offer policy space for individual, sectoral and collective actions to realize the continental vision.

Why a 50 Year Agenda?

The choice of a 50 year time must be understood within the context of the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of the OAU; and the need for the continent to take stock of the past performance, both successes and failures, and map out a long-term strategy as well as set goals and targets. After all, it has been successfully practiced in some countries, like China.

In operational terms, the Agenda 2063 is a rolling plan of long, medium and short-term plans i.e. its overall span is fifty years with five ten-year plans that could be also broken down into shorter periods of five-year terms on the discretion of each member state. It will be fundamentally executed at three layers from national to continental level. In that connection:

- The national level will be responsible for the implementation of key activities under Agenda 2063;
- The regional level- the RECs will serve as the fulcrum for the implementation at the member states level. They will adapt the Agenda 2063 results framework to regional peculiarities and facilitate / coordinate the implementation by member states and develop/implement monitoring and evaluation framework at the regional level.
- The continental level (AU Organs, especially the AUC) will be responsible for setting the broad results framework and broad monitoring and evaluation based on inputs from the RECS.

Agenda 2063 - Why now?

This new effort to envision Africa's long-term development trajectory is timely for several reasons:

1. **Changing global context:** Globalization and the information technology revolution have provided unprecedented opportunities for countries and regions with the right policies to make significant advances and lift huge sections of populations out of poverty, improve incomes and catalyze economic and social transformations. In addition, most African economies now have in place sound macro-economic and market-oriented economies which have spurred growth, trade and investment expansion.
2. **Building on the previous experience:** Good experience has been gained in running continental blueprints, such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) that have enabled the AU to demonstrate unprecedented commitment to implement agreed agendas, generate valuable lessons that present strong foundation for Agenda 2063.
3. **A more united and strong Africa:** Africa today is more united, a global power to reckon with, capable of rallying support around a common agenda and speaking with one voice with demonstrated strong capacity to negotiate and withstand the influence of forces that would like to see it divided.
4. **Strong and well-functioning regional institutions:** Africa's sub regional institutions have been rationalized and the eight officially AU recognized Regional Economic Communities (RECs—CEN-SAD, COMESA, EAC, ECCAS, ECOWAS, IGAD, SADC and UMA) are today strong development and political institutions that citizens' can count on and Agenda 2063 can stand on.
5. **New development and investment opportunities:** Africa today is faced with a confluence of factors that present a great opportunity for consolidation and rapid progress. These include:
 - Unprecedented positive and sustained growth trajectory of many African countries resulting from sound macro-economic policies and strategies

bolstered by high commodity prices

- Great achievement in the fight against colonialism and apartheid, significant reduction of armed conflicts, improved peace and stability, coupled with advances in democratic governance.
- A fast rising broad based African entrepreneurial and middle class, coupled with the youth bulge, which can act as catalyst for further growth and technological progress.
- Changes in the international finance architecture, the rise of BRICS (composed of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) and improved flows of FDI to Africa beyond commodity producing sectors.

The above factors constitute a unique opportunity for Africa to capitalize upon. Agenda 2063 while seizing these opportunities, underlines the fact that success depends on unity of purpose; transparency; placing citizens' first; sound governance; willingness and capability to assess performance and correct mistakes timely.

What makes Agenda 2063 different from past continental initiatives?

- **Bottom-up approach:** There were extensive consultations of the African Citizenry. This enhances ownership of both the processes and outcomes of the initiative for having a continental agenda for socio-economic transformation. It is not the work of bureaucrats, but rather an Agenda driven by the voices of the African people indicating the Africa They Want.
- **Result Orientation:** Goals, targets and strategies have been set in each aspirational area for the national, regional and continental stakeholders/ levels. The targets will form the basis for holding stakeholders accountable for performance.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation / Accountability:** There is a monitoring and evaluation component to ensure that planned activities, outputs, outcomes are on track for attainment- with the mid-term reviews providing the basis for programme re-alignment. Accountability roles will be assigned and the outcomes of the monitoring and evaluation process will be used to manage the accountability relationship.
- **Policy Coherence / Space:** For the first time all continental and regional initiatives have been brought under one umbrella. The integration is expected to enhance consistency, remove policy overlaps and redundancies and create space for the management of diversity and uniqueness in the AU.
- **Financing/Partnership:** A Resource Mobilization Strategy developed has identified key areas of intervention and their associated funding options. Next steps will be taken to operationalize the financing strategies / instruments identified. Strategies for expanding / maximizing partnerships for Agenda 2063 implementation have been developed and would be implemented.
- **Communications Strategy:** While past frameworks were known only to bureaucrats, Agenda 2063 is to be driven / owned by the people. A Communications strategy has been developed for implementation.

- **Capacity:** A key success factor for the successful implementation of Agenda 2063 is the capacity of individuals and institutions to play their roles- in the domestication of the Agenda. A Capacity Assessment Study is being undertaken to address the capacity needs of continental and regional institutions; this will later be extended to member states.

Process for Developing the Continental Agenda

The task to develop the Agenda 2063 was entrusted to the African Union Commission (AUC), working with NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) and in close collaboration with the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). As the work progressed, and following a specific ministerial retreat of the Executive Council on Agenda 2063, organized from 24 to 26 January 2013 in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia, a Committee of Ministers to Follow Up on the Implementation of the Bahir Dar Ministerial Retreat and Issues Arising from the E-mail from the Future, (also known as the Ministerial Committee on Agenda 2063) was created to lead the project. Agenda 2063 has been undertaken and coordinated in the Office of the Chairperson of the AU Commission, under the Directorate of Strategic Policy Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Resource Mobilization (SPPMERM).

In the process, the technical work comprised consultations and analytical work. Consultations covered the collection of opinions from African people of almost all categories, including in the diaspora, member states' government officials, youth and women, media groups, RECs and AU organs. The analytical work reviewed member states' national plans as well as past and existing frameworks of RECs and the AU in all sectors. They covered but not limited to the Abuja Treaty; the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance; the African Charter on Values and Principles of Public Service and Administration; Programme for Infrastructure and Development in Africa (PIDA); Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Plan (CAADP); Accelerated Industrial Development in Africa (AIDA); and so on.

3. GENERAL OVERVIEW

The Vision of Agenda 2063

From the above exercise, seven aspirations were distilled demonstrating what the African citizenry wanted to be pursued and achieved by Agenda 2063. They were:

Aspiration 1: A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development—Africa will by 2063 be a continent of shared prosperity, which

finances and manages its own growth and transformation

Aspiration 2: An integrated continent, politically united based on the ideals of Pan Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance—By 2063 Africa will have emerged as a united, strong, sovereign, independent and self-reliant continent that realizes full economic and political integration.

Aspiration 3: An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law—By 2063, Africa will have undergone a deepening of the culture of good governance, democratic values, gender equality, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law.

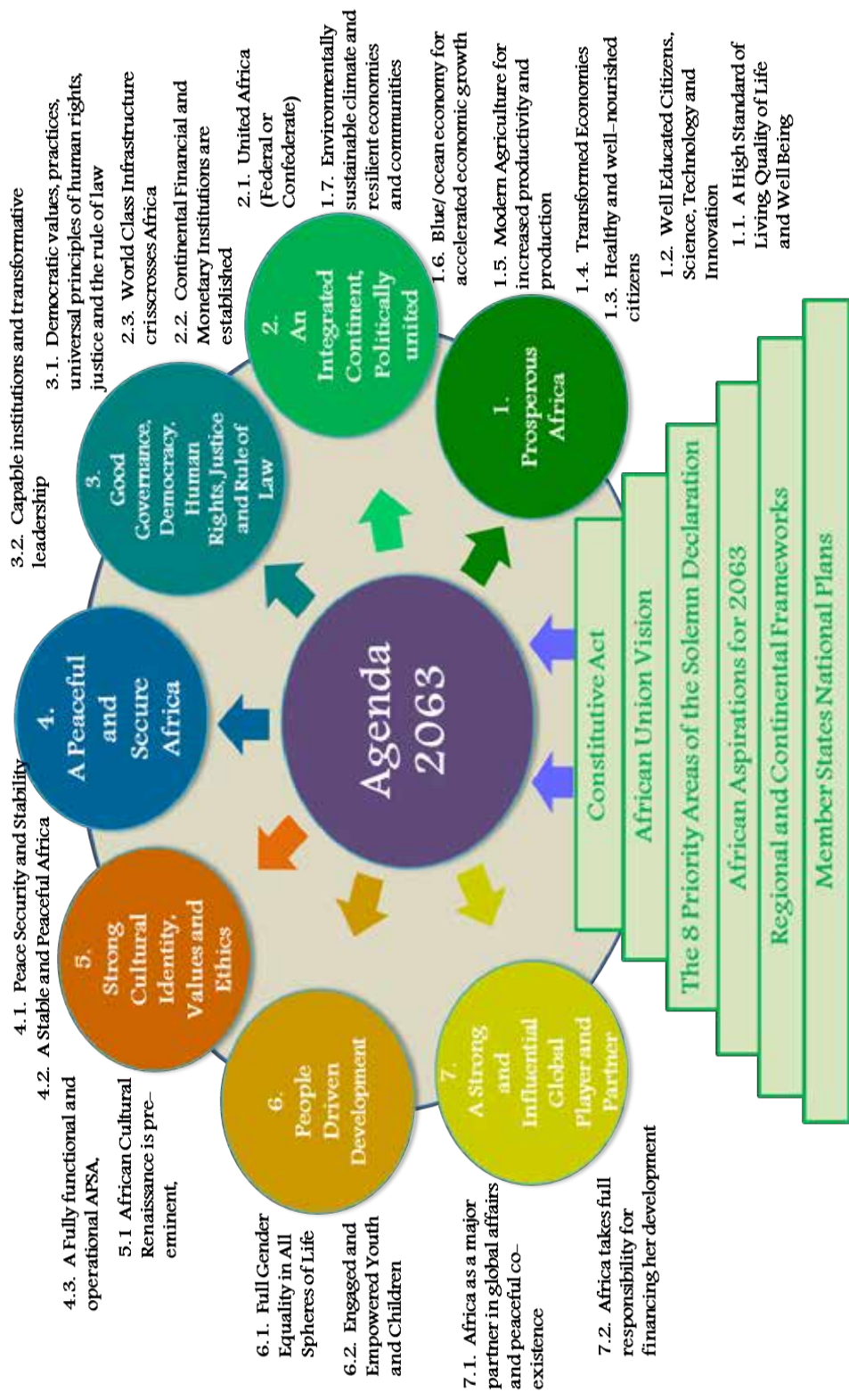
Aspiration 4: A peaceful and secure Africa—By 2063, Africa will emerge as a **peaceful and secure continent**, a conflict-free continent with harmony and understanding among communities at the grassroots level.

Aspiration 5: An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics—Africa, as the cradle of human civilization, is custodian of a cultural patrimony that has contributed enormously to human progress. **African cultural identity, values and ethics** as a critical factor in Africa's re-emergence on the global stage in the decade of the 2010s, will be promoted and strengthened by 2063.

Aspiration 6: An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children—By 2063, Africa will be a continent where all citizens will be actively involved in decision-making in all aspects of development, including social, economic, political and environmental. Africa will be a continent where no child, woman or man will be left behind.

Aspiration 7: Africa as a strong, united, resilient and influential global player and partner—Africa will emerge as a strong, united, resilient and influential global player and partner with a bigger role in world affairs.

In view of the foregoing, besides the Constitutive Act of the African Union, Agenda 2063 is built on the AU Vision; the 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration, the seven aspirations, national plans as well as regional and continental frameworks from which specific goals, priority areas and strategies have been developed to facilitate their achievement. The figure below summarizes the structure of the Agenda 2063 with some explanation on the aspirations.



On the basis of that process, the draft Agenda 2063 Framework Document and its Popular Version (a simpler version of the Framework Document); as well as the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan were prepared and adopted by the AU policy organs in January and June 2015 respectively. Meanwhile, the policy organs have also identified some flagship projects to be given priority in the execution Agenda 2063; and they have been dully incorporated.

They are:

1. The African Integrated High Speed Network
2. African Commodities Strategy
3. Creation of the Continental Free Trade Area
4. The Pan-African E University
5. The African Passport and Free Movement of People
6. Silencing the Guns by 2020
7. Implementation of the Grand Inga Dam Project
8. Creation of an Annual Consultative Platform for policy dialogue
9. Single African Air Transport Market
10. Outer Space
11. Pan-African Virtual University
12. The Continental Financial Institutions

The Transformation Framework

The Agenda 2063 Framework Document covers three broad areas, namely, the Vision for 2063 explaining “Africa We Want” by 2063, transformation framework indicating what needs to be done, and making it happen which is an implementation strategy. They are presented in six chapters covering introduction; the vision and African Aspirations for 2063; Africa in the last fifty years; goals, targets, priority areas and indicative strategies for each of the aspiration; critical factors for success, potential risks and mitigation strategies as well as global megatrends likely to impact Africa’s future; and the last chapter six is on implementation strategy (the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan) that also includes resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation as well as communication strategies and partnerships.

The Plan: “Making It Happen”

Agenda 2063 will be fundamentally executed at three layers from national to continental level. The national level will be responsible for the implementation of key activities.

The regional level (the RECs) will serve as the fulcrum for the implementation at the member states level. They will adapt the Agenda 2063 results framework to regional peculiarities and facilitate/coordinate the implementation by member

states and develop/implement monitoring and evaluation framework at the regional level.

The continental level (AU Organs, especially the AUC) will be responsible for setting the broad results framework and broad monitoring and evaluation based on inputs from the RECS.

The implementation framework will cover implementation arrangements and monitoring and evaluation (M&E); financing strategies; partnerships; and communication and outreach, as elaborated in the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan.

4. THE FIRST TEN-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The Plan that has been developed from Chapter 6 of the Framework Document has the following purposes to :

- Identify priority areas, set specific targets, define strategies and policy measures required to implement the first ten-year plan of Agenda 2063.
- Bring to fruition of the Fast Track programmes and initiatives outlined in the Malabo Decisions of the AU to provide the big push and breakthroughs for Africa's economic and social transformation.
- Provide information to all key stakeholders at the national, regional and continental levels the expected results / outcomes for the first ten years of plan and the roles /
- Assign responsibilities to all stakeholders in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- Outline the strategies required to ensure availability of resources and capacities together with citizen's engagement in the implementation of the First Ten Year Plan.

It has seven chapters and six annexes covering introduction; goals and priority areas of the first decade, which are basically sub-sets of those in the Framework Documents as well as the flagship projects; results matrix for the seven Aspirations; key implementation issues such as the guiding principles, roles of each stakeholder; financing the Agenda 2063 focusing on domestic resources and identification of capacity gaps to be put in place; monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework; and policy framework on partnerships. The six annexes contain detailed guidelines, description of roles and responsibilities for the implementation and other critical information.

What Criteria were used in selecting the priority areas for the First Ten Year Plan?

These include:

- The AU Flagship Projects/ Programmes
- Focus Areas in national / regional plans
- Continental Frameworks (e.g. CAADP, PIDA, AMV)
- Assembly Decisions (e.g. Silence the Guns by 2020)

Fast Track Programmes and Initiatives (Flagships)

As stated earlier, Agenda 2063 has incorporated some flagship projects to accelerate their implementation. The following are the flagship, as adopted by the 24th AU Summit:

1. **The African Integrated High Speed Network:** aims at connecting all African capitals and commercial centres through the Africa High Speed Train to facilitate movement of goods, factor services and people and also relieve transport congestion of existing and future systems.
2. **African Commodities Strategy:** involves the development of an African Commodities Strategy, based on best practices, leading to Africa regaining control of the pricing of commodities of which it is the dominant producer of; hedge against price and currency fluctuations in the trading of these commodities; develop value chains through adding value at various stages of the extraction process; and ultimately shift African economies from exporters of primary produce to exporters of semi-processed and processed goods.
3. **Creation of the Continental Free Trade Area:** aims at significantly accelerating growth of Intra-Africa trade and use trade more effectively as an engine of growth and sustainable development. It includes doubling of intra-Africa trade by 2022, strengthen Africa's common voice and policy space in global trade negotiations and establish the financial institutions within agreed upon timeframes.
4. **The Pan-African E University:** aims at accelerating development of human capital, science and technology and innovation through increasing access to tertiary and continuing education in Africa by capitalizing on the digital revolution and global knowledge; reaching large numbers of students and professionals in multiple sites simultaneously by developing relevant and high quality curriculum and ensure the prospect African student a guaranteed access to the University from anywhere in the world and anytime (24 hours a day, 7 days a week).
5. **The African Passport and Free Movement of People:** A common African Passport, free movement of people is a pillar of African integration and accelerated growth of intra-African trade. This programme aims at transforming Africa's laws, which remain generally restrictive on movement of people despite political commitments, to bring down borders through removal of visa requirements, promoting the issuance of a

single visa by Member States and ultimately a single African passport to ensure free movement of all African citizens in all African countries.

6. **Silencing the Guns by 2020:** The AU Heads of State and Government meeting on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee Anniversary of the founding of the OAU, pledged “not to bequeath the burden of conflicts to the next generation of Africans, “to end all wars in Africa by 2020” and “make peace a reality for all African people and rid the continent free of wars, end inter- and intra-community conflicts, violations of human rights, humanitarian disasters and violent conflicts, and prevent genocide.”
7. **Implementation of the Grand Inga Dam Project:** aims at transforming Africa from traditional to modern sources of energy and ensure access of all Africans to clean and affordable electricity and help make the continental regional power pools fully operational.
8. **Creation of an Annual Consultative Platform for policy dialogue:** aims at bringing together, once a year, the African political leadership, the private sector, academia, civil society, women, youth, media as well as community and faith leaders to discuss developments and constraints as well as measures to be taken to realize Agenda 2063.
9. **Single African Air Transport Market:** aims at delivering the single African air transport market to facilitate air transportation in Africa.
10. **Outer Space:** aims at strengthen Member States’ capability in space science and technologies for the continent’s transformation. Africa needs to develop its technological capabilities to exploit outer space and to defend its economic, security and other interests.
11. **Pan-African Virtual University:** aims at using technology to train Africans and provide mass post-secondary school education and indeed the university sector and intelligentsia playing an instrumental role.
12. **Establishment of the Continental Financial Institutions:** aims at accelerating integration and socio-economic development of the continent, as they are important institutions when it comes to the mobilization of resources and management of financial sector.

Highlights of a few other programmes/outcomes/results of the First Ten Year Implementation Plan

- Inclusive economic growth with expanded job opportunities, especially for the youth and women
- Emergence of agro /commodity value addition manufacturing enterprises
- Doubling productivity in agriculture and banishing the hand held hoe
- Expanded early childhood education and compulsory secondary education
- Steep reductions in incidence of malnutrition, maternal, child and neo-natal deaths plus universal access to Anti Retroviral drugs for those afflicted by HIV/AIDs
- Expanded and improved access to the basic necessities of life: water, sanitation,

electricity, transport and internet connectivity

- Entrenched democratic practices, human rights and the rule of law
- Completion of the Encyclopedia Africana
- Complete women's empowerment in all spheres of social, economic and political lives
- Expanded opportunities for the youth in the creation of new businesses
- Eradication of child labor exploitation, marriage, trafficking and soldiering
- Deepened financial / capital markets- The African Investment Bank; African Credit Guarantee Facility, Regional Stock Exchanges

Monitoring and Evaluation

This is one area that Agenda 2063, unlike the previous blueprints, has given particular importance to ensure its successful implementation. Its objectives are basically to:

- (i) Identify all key stakeholders and assign tasks to be performed by each;
- (ii) Ensure that each stakeholder performs the task assigned on a timely basis; and
- (iii) Provide the platform for collective execution and attainment of the goals of Agenda 2063.

It will involve all stakeholders at national, regional and continental levels using results framework provided in the Ten-Year Plan as its basis. Therefore, each stakeholder will have specific responsibility, and the Plan will be reviewed at each five-year interval.

For example Member States are to:

- Adopt/ integrate Agenda 2063 and the associated Ten Year Implementation Plans into their national visions and plans.
- Use the national planning systems- structures for implementation monitoring and evaluation, methodologies, systems and processes, rules and regulations, forms and formats in the execution of Agenda 2063.
- Develop policy guidelines on the design and implementation, monitoring and evaluation by various stakeholders.
- Ensure that the Legislature adopts Agenda 2063 as the blue print for Africa's social, economic and political development in the next 50 years.
- Encourage all political parties / private candidates use Agenda 2063 as a basis for preparing their political manifestos

The RECs are to:

- Adopt Agenda 2063 and its associated Ten Year Implementation Plans as the basis for developing their regional visions and plans.
- Serve as focal points for the facilitation of the adoption, implementation , monitoring and evaluation of all continental frameworks related to Agenda 2063

by Member States of the Union.

- Organize annual fora for Member States to review regional implementation performance (monitoring and evaluation) on Agenda 2063.
- Report annually to the AU Assembly on regional implementation, monitoring and evaluation of The First Ten Year Plan.
- Facilitate / coordinate / support the resource mobilization and capacity development initiatives of Members States for the Ten Year Plan implementation.

The African Union Organs are to:

- The African Union Commission will be the body to follow up the formulation and adoption of decisions on Agenda 2063. These decisions / policies will cover – the 50 year Agenda; the 10 year plans; guidelines on implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- The AUC will organize annual consultation(s) between the AU Organs and the RECs on implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063.
- The AUC / NEPAD will ensure the formulation of policies and frameworks for the assessment of RECs and national capacities for the execution of Agenda 2063 at the inception and mid-term review of every 10 Year Plan.
- The AUC will provide a continental framework / strategy / platform for the mobilisation of resources for the implementation of the Ten Year Plan by Member States of the Union
- The Pan African Parliament (PAP) will hold annual consultations with the African Legislatures on the progress towards the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063.
- The Economic Social and Cultural Commission (ECOSOCC) will hold bi-annual consultations with the Member States Focal Groups for Agenda 2063
- The AUC/NEPAD Coordinating Agency will follow up on the implementation of continental programmes/projects

Citizen's Engagement and Capacity Development for The First Ten Year Plan

- Experience from the implementation of past continental frameworks (ie Lagos Plan of Action, Abuja Treaty) shows that the citizens of Africa must own the process and outcome of Agenda 2063; also capacities of all stakeholders have to be built for implementation.
- It is against this background that a Communications Strategy has been developed and a capacity assessment / development plan is being prepared for continental and regional stakeholders first and later to member states.

Communication Strategy

Again, among the major shortcomings experienced in the execution of previous continental strategies and frameworks was the lack of effective use of communication tools. This has been addressed in the Agenda 2063 by developing a specific Communication Strategy for Agenda 2063, as part of the overall Communication Strategy of the AU.

The main objective of the Strategy is to engage the African citizenry and institutions for ideas generation/sharing, participation in periodic development/revision of the results framework, participation in the monitoring and evaluation and more importantly their owning of the Agenda 2063

The main communication tools at the national, regional and continental levels envisaged include meetings; debates; community town hall, church or mosque meetings; workshops, songs, poems, teaching in schools, TV and radio presentations/discussions amongst others.

The Communication Strategy is to be executed by the AU Organs and Agencies (including NEPAD and APRM), RECs, Member States, close collaborators (AfDB and UNECA) and partners.

Financing Agenda 2063 and Its First Ten-Year Implementation Plan

A Resource Mobilization Strategy to support the implementation of the First Ten Year Has been prepared. It identifies the sources, the medium for channelling the funds and creation of enabling environment.

Sources:

- Domestic Resource Mobilization (75%)– Fiscal Resource, Resource Rents, Savings & Capital Markets, Illicit Financial Flows /Corruption/Wastage
- Official Development Assistance Foreign Direct Investment, Private Public Partnerships Remittances (15%) – Maximizing their quality and leveraging to further access Commercial Finance
- International Financial Market (10%)– Maximizing access at better terms

Enablers & Facilitative Measures:

- Growth & trade performance – making it possible to finance development from within,
- Policies for improving investment climate- attracting investors,
- Developing expertise in financial advisory services- making the domestic financial market vibrant and efficient,
- Establishing financial information infrastructure - providing credible financial information on a timely basis to investors

Building Partnerships for Implementation of the First Ten Year Plan

The following actions are to be undertaken to maximize benefits from AU Partnership relations:

- Preparation of AU Policy Framework on Partnership
- Developing / implementing strategies for partnership benefits maximization
- Deepening transformational benefits from partnerships

Critical Success Factors for Agenda 2063

All in all, for the implementation of Agenda 2063 to succeed, the following are important:

- (i) Leadership and political commitment with transformational and visionary qualities at all levels and in all fields are necessary to implement the Agenda 2063.
- (ii) Capable developmental states with the appropriate institutions, policies, human resources, systems and processes;
- (iii) Participation, inclusion and empowerment of citizens and all stakeholders in the conception, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063 is a critical success factor so as the Agenda 2063 is owned by all stakeholders.
- (iv) A results-based approach with concrete targets that are measurable and can be tracked and monitored.
- (v) Revitalizing strategic planning and ensuring effective interface among national plans, regional initiatives and Agenda 2063 as a way of integrating it.
- (vi) Making Agenda 2063 an integral part of the African Renaissance. The African Renaissance calls for changes in attitudes and mindsets to strengthen Pan African values of self-reliance, solidarity, hard work and collective prosperity and building on African successes, experiences and best practices.
- (vii) Africa taking charge of its global narrative to ensure that it reflects continental realities, aspirations and priorities and Africa's position in the world.

Risks, Threats and Mitigation Strategies

The above critical success factors are all the more important since there still exist threats facing the continent. They include scrambles for its resources in the face of changing global demands and demographics; undue external influence in the affairs of the continent; Africa's disproportionate burden of the impact of climate change; and the huge scale of illicit outflows of African resources and capital. More specifically, the key threats (risk factors) are:

- a. Conflict, instability and insecurity.
- b. Social and economic inequalities.
- c. Organized crime, drugs trade and illicit financial flows.
- d. Poor management of diversities; religious extremism, ethnicism and corruption.

- e. Failure to harness the demographic dividend.
- f. Escalation of Africa's disease burden.
- g. Climate risks and natural disasters.
- h. External shocks e.g. caused by global market forces.

5. AGENDA 2063 AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS LINKAGES

It should be observed that Agenda 2063 has also taken into consideration the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Post 2015 Development Agenda. In that regard, Agenda 2063 has even defined some of the concepts and targets in relation to the corresponding nomenclature in the MDGs; and even compared the African Common Position on Post 2015 Development Agenda and Agenda 2063. For instance, the definition of goal is different from that of the MDGs. In the Agenda 2063 goals are broader because of the 50 year life span of the Agenda. The priority areas and their associated targets define the goals. While the goals are fixed, the priority areas and their associated targets can change over the various ten year plan cycles. In the case of the MDGs (with their fifteen-year horizon) the goals are very specific and are like a target under this ten year plan results framework.

6. NEXT STEPS

Following the adoption of Agenda 2063 documents the next steps the domestication and popularization of Agenda 2063 and its 10-year implementation plan.

Domestication seeks to facilitate the incorporation of commitments made at continental level into national policy frameworks and programmes anchored on existing national development planning machinery.

Meanwhile, popularization is to build citizens' awareness, and popularize Agenda 2063 in order to mobilize national stakeholders, including government/public administration, private sector, NGOs, CSOs including women and youth groups. This is in addition to discuss with stakeholders measures to raise domestic and external resources to finance Agenda 2063.

Yet, all the challenges can be overcome if all the stakeholders work diligently together.

*Agenda 2063 is gaining momentum,
...It is time for action:*

Be part of the transformation!

Contribute to, or follow the dialogue:

-  **Twitter:** @_AfricanUnion, #Agenda2063
-  **Facebook:** AfricanUnionCommission
-  **African Union Website:** www.au.int
-  **Website:** www.agenda2063.au.int
-  **Email:** agenda2063@africa-union.org
-  **Address:** African Union Commission
P O Box 3243
Roosevelt Street
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: +251 115 513 822
Fax: +251 115 519 321

