



# ANNUAL RESULTS BASED REPORT 2017

Fast-Tracking the Implementation of Africa's Development Agenda

## FOREWORD

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The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Agency, now with a footprint in 52 out of the 55 African Union Member States, adopted a results-based approach and aligned its interventions to the First Ten Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063. Accordingly, the 2017 Annual Report is an account of the NEPAD Agency's contribution to Agenda 2063.

In addition to presenting WHAT was achieved and WHERE, deliberate efforts to foster learning are made by providing detail on the context and HOW the results were realised. The report also highlights some results that contribute to development effectiveness and organisational efficiency.

The results of the NEPAD Agency's contribution to Agenda 2063 for the year 2017 are presented at continental, regional and national levels. They are organised around five major outcome areas: a) Skills Revolution and Entrepreneurship; b) Sustainability and Resilience; c) Improved Health and Nutrition Services; d) Transformed Agriculture and Food Systems; and e) Integrated Corridor Infrastructure, Trade and Markets.

The year 2017 marks the end of the strategic plan cycle that spans 2014 to 2017. It also heralds the medium term development plan, 2018 – 2023, aligned to Agenda 2063's First Ten Year Implementation Plan.

The annual report also comes at a time when preparations are concluding for transforming the NEPAD Agency into the African Union Development Agency, with greater scope for action and capacity. To this end, this report provides some insights into the possible strategic impact areas of the transformed Agency, namely: Wealth Creation, Shared Prosperity, Transformative Capacities and Sustainable Environment.

We take this opportunity to thank our steering committee members for their strategic and wise guidance, as well as the African Union Commission for the continuous support provided to the Agency throughout 2017.

**Dr Ibrahim A. Mayaki**

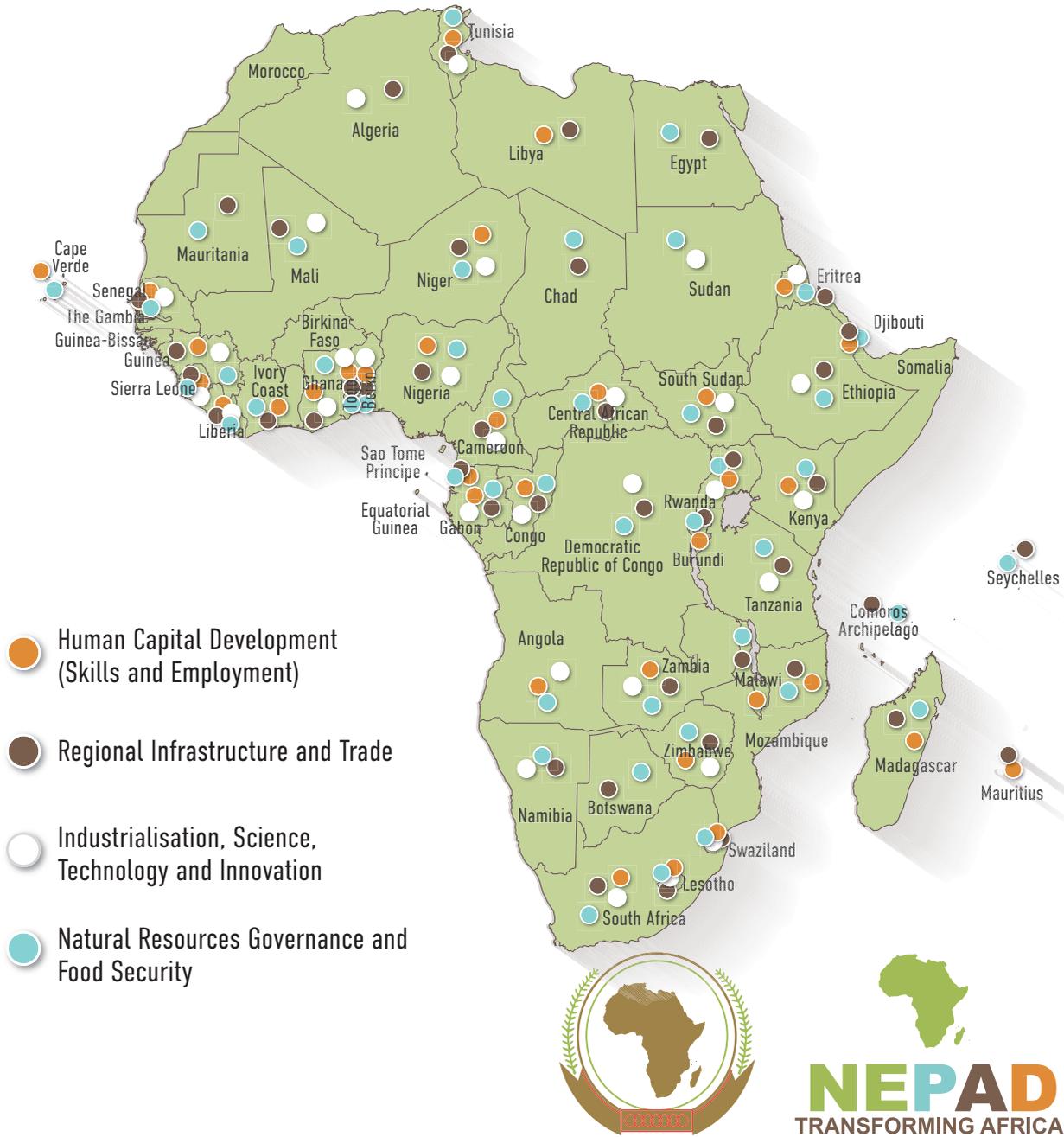
Chief Executive Officer  
The NEPAD Agency

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# NEPAD's FOOTPRINT



# 1 PROGRAMMATIC RESULTS

Programmatic results were delivered within continental, regional and national spheres using an integrated approach that was coherent and impact-oriented. This report is organised by the geographical areas and by the NEPAD Agency's programmatic priority outcomes, namely: skills revolution and enhanced entrepreneurship; sustainability and resilience capacity; improved health and nutrition; transformed agriculture and food systems; and integrated corridor infrastructure, trade and markets.





## 1.1 Continental Results

### 1.1.1 Skills Revolution and Entrepreneurship

The first ten technologies for further research and upscaling were selected by the African Union (AU) High Level Panel on Emerging Technologies. This followed a series of scientific trial-runs that were undertaken for various technologies. The selected technologies were gene drives, micro-grids, drones, precision agriculture, next-generation medicines, next-generation batteries, water purification, synthetic biology, artificial intelligence and nano-technology. The panel identified a set of three technologies that were recommended for harnessing, namely: the application of gene drives for eliminating malaria; the application of drone technology for agriculture and food security; and the promotion of micro-grids for expanding Africa's access to energy.

There is increased knowledge concerning factors that influence the emergence of innovation strategies in Africa. Through a study jointly conducted by the United Nations

University (UNU-MERIT) and the NEPAD Agency, a rich body of knowledge on innovations in Africa was produced, encapsulated in the report entitled, "Innovations in Africa: Measurement, Policy and Global Issues". The study drew insights from: a) the influence of the African Science and Technology Innovation Indicators (ASTII) initiative; b) the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA) 2024 and its influence on innovation policy and statistical measurement; and c) the implications of the revision of the Oslo Manual that gives guidance on the measurement and interpretation of results on innovation in the business sector in Africa.

A framework for driving the digital transformation agenda in Africa was defined, with an initial focus on trade. Priority will be given to building capacity on the continent to access open data and data centres as a foundation for entrepreneurship and job creation.

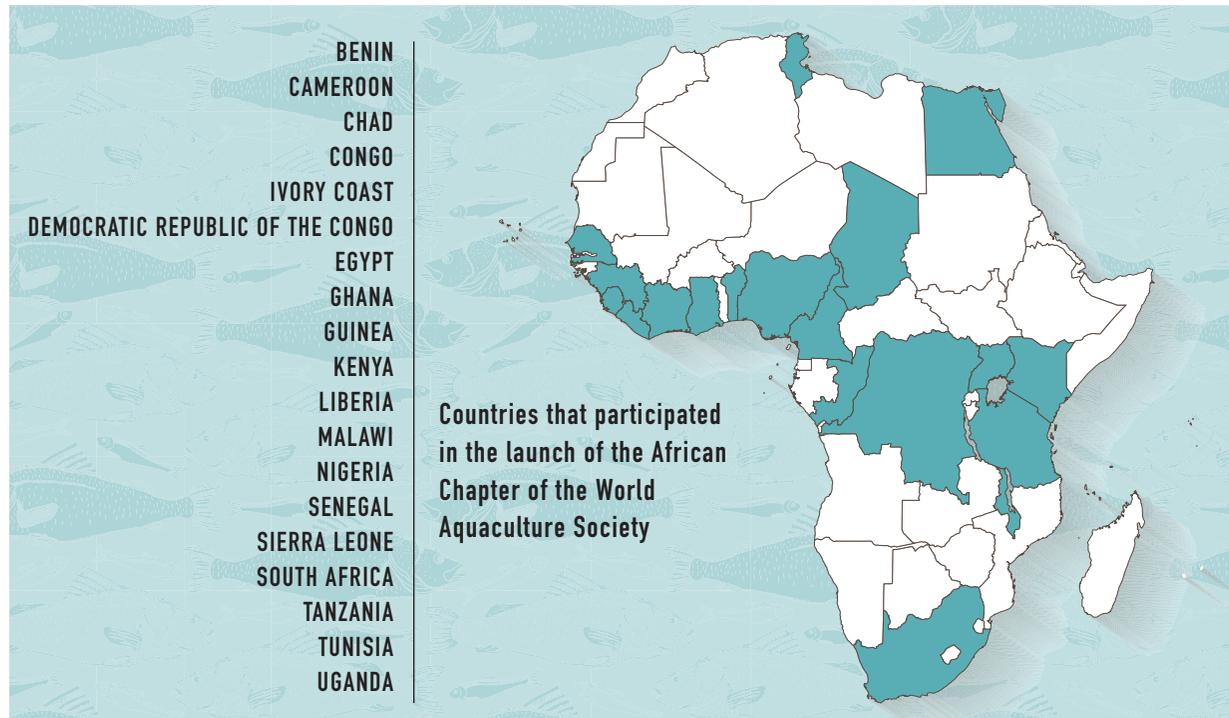
### 1.1.2 Sustainability and Resilience Capacity

Africa's unified position in global conventions on climate change and environmental resilience was strengthened; the NEPAD Agency deployed support through a multi-pronged approach, including lobbying, advocacy, and the provision of technical and financial support to strategic platforms and to targeted groups. These included the African Group of Negotiators' participation in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), policy makers at the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), and key experts at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Conference of Parties (COP) during the United Nations Conference on Climate Change in Bonn, Germany.

To support countries to access Green Climate Fund, the Agency underwent a gap assessment based on the fund's

fiduciary standards, environmental and social safeguards, and gender policy. The results of the assessment show that while some moderate adjustments are required, NEPAD's fiduciary function is strong.

The African Chapter of the World Aquaculture Society was launched at a high-level continental fish trade policy platform. Nineteen countries – Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Ivory Coast, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, and Uganda – took part in the launch. The policy platform focused on improving continental and regional trade in fish and fishery products.



### 1.1.3 Improved Health and Nutrition

As part of the efforts to ensure the supply of safe and effective medicines in Africa, a draft treaty for establishing the African Medicines Agency (AMA) was prepared for endorsement by AU Policy organs. This followed a series of consultative meetings with legal and medicines regulatory experts from 33 countries.

There is increased awareness and renewed commitment by African national governments, regional economic commissions (RECs), the private sector and civil society to tackle tuberculosis (TB) as a national and regional challenge, with a target of eradicating the scourge by 2030. The fight against TB will have a particular focus on vulnerable groups such as mining communities, front-line actors in the transport industry, and migrant communities. The Agency supported these efforts through awareness drives and the provision of policy and technical

information during the African Union's commemoration of World TB Day in March 2017 that was run under the theme "United and Renewed Action to end TB".

Trials have been successfully conducted in laboratories using gene drive technologies to effectively alter anopheles mosquito populations. The trials have successfully demonstrated the capacity of the technologies to halt transmission of malaria parasites, and to suppress and rapidly crash entire mosquito populations in laboratories. The next step is to develop systems for testing the effectiveness of such technologies outside the laboratory environment. Gene drive technology for malaria control and elimination is one of three technologies that the AU High Level Panel on Emerging Technologies has recommended for harnessing.





### 1.1.4 Transformed Agriculture and Food Systems

The Inaugural Biennial Report was prepared, highlighting progress made on commitments enshrined in the Malabo declaration. The report will be presented at the African Union Summit in January 2018. The preparation of the report is the result of concerted efforts of the Agency, in collaboration with the African Union Commission's Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture, to prepare the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Results Framework, to develop technical materials to guide countries in data collection and analysis, and to equip countries with the requisite skills and competencies for tracking and reporting. As part of the sustainability plan, 34 experts have been certified to provide technical support to the Biennial Review Processes.

Contributing to the body of knowledge on agriculture risk management within the realm of agriculture transformation on the continent, four policy briefs were developed. The briefs draw heavily from various studies – including lessons learnt from the Uganda risk assessment study – and highlight, amongst others, the role of productive safety nets. Furthermore, the conceptual framework and technical guidelines for mainstreaming agriculture risk management into National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans (NAFSIPs) were finalised.

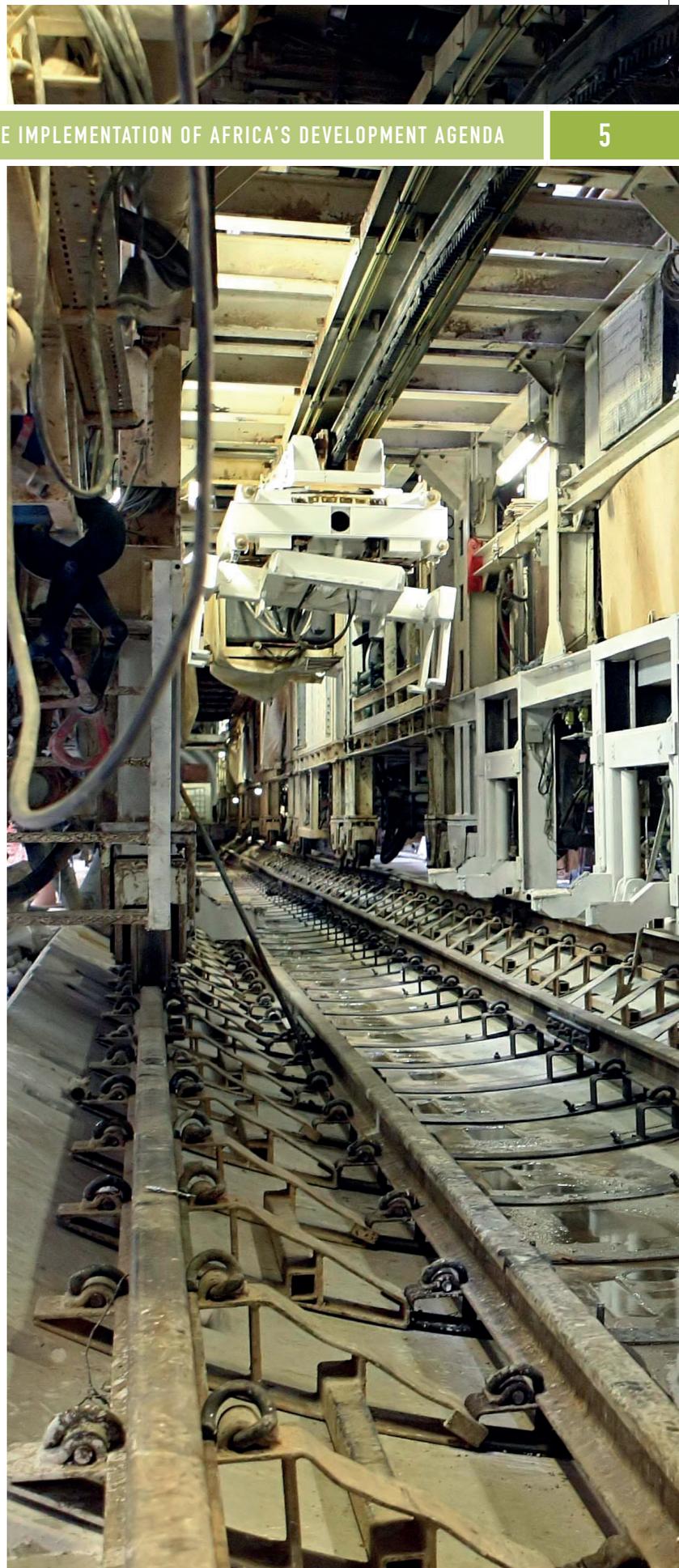
A blueprint has been produced to implement rural development policies in Africa. The blueprint has a vision of “people-centred rural transformation based on equity and inclusiveness, where rural men and women can develop their potential and reach their aspirations”. The implementation of the blueprint will commence in 2018.

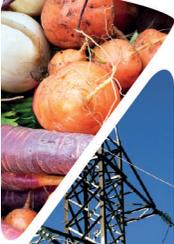
National and regional-level capacities in biosafety matters were enhanced. NEPAD's African Biosafety Network of Expertise (ABNE) hub continued to provide technical support to ABNE networks – specifically on food safety, environmental safety, and salient socio-economic, legal, and communication matters pertaining to biosafety. The networks, in turn, supported country and regional-level efforts, particularly promoting standards in food production and consumption.

### 1.1.5 Integrated Corridor Infrastructure, Trade and Markets

In preparation for executing Africa's Integrated High Speed Railway Network Project, the NEPAD Agency conducted a technical feasibility assessment of the project, using a high level Detailed Scoping Study (DSS) process. Furthermore, the Project Implementation Unit that will be responsible for the overall design, development and implementation of the project was established, with a secretariat housed at the NEPAD Agency.

In line with African Union agenda of regional integration, a campaign commenced to increase the allocation of African assets to African infrastructure. The campaign's purpose is to increase the allocations from the current base of approximately 1.5% of assets under management (AUM) to 5%. A roadmap has been developed and deployed, showing feasible steps to increase the African Pension and Sovereign Wealth Fund (SWF) investment in African infrastructure to the target of 5%. The roadmap also includes a defined pathway for setting up and coordinating a Co-Investment Platform for African Pension and SWF investment in African infrastructure. The campaign has been carried out at various platforms, including the Continental Business Network Meeting at the 72<sup>nd</sup> UN General Assembly meeting.





## 1.2 Regional Results

### 1.2.1 Skills Revolution and Entrepreneurship

Business incubators for women empowerment were prepared; technical and financial support was provided to Burkina Faso and Liberia within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and Sudan, Kenya,

Swaziland and Burundi within the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA). The project will impact more than 50 000 women and youth, and will be scaled-up to more countries on the continent.

### 1.2.2 Sustainability and Resilience Capacity

Regional certification, standards and regulations were developed for selected areas that are critical for promoting intra-regional fish trade. These include pre-assessment of shrimp for certification standards using the Africa Eco Label Mechanism (AEM) in Nigeria, Gabon and Cameroon.

The production of octopus in the Indian Ocean was boosted through applied innovations. Furthermore, capacity was strengthened in post-harvest handling of fish products, and work environments were modernised. In Guinea, 20 officers were trained in fish handling and sanitary control; in Ivory Coast, the impact of fish smoking on health was assessed; and in Senegal, equipment for fish handling and processing was purchased.

The governance and management of ecosystems within the Economic Community of Central African States

(ECCAS) were improved; ECCAS countries were equipped with sustainable land and water management (SLWM) tools and information for policy design and planning, focusing on ecosystem approaches.

There is enhanced capacity at the regional level towards sustainable governance and management of natural resources. Regional economic commissions, ECCAS and ECOWAS, continued to receive technical and financial support for tracking, monitoring, evaluating and reporting on the design, planning and implementation systems and practices related to SLWM.

Institutional and human capacity development was enhanced within the ECOWAS Secretariat, strengthening its capabilities on climate change and agriculture.

### 1.2.3 Improved Health and Nutrition

A regional-level regulatory framework in ECOWAS was agreed and attendant capacities were strengthened for the enforcement of supply and distribution of safe medicines in the region. In collaboration with the West African Health Organisation and the West African Economic and Monetary Union, the ECOWAS Secretariat received requisite support and subsequently commenced the implementation of medicines regulatory harmonisation

in the region. The project is being implemented across all 15 member states of ECOWAS.

Accordingly, a framework for tracking, monitoring and reporting the manufacture, import, export and distribution of medicines was developed and formally endorsed in September 2017. The framework, in support of promoting safe medicines on the African market, was piloted in the five member states of the East African Community

(EAC), and will be rolled-out to other regional economic communities.

Africa's capacities in research and development for collaborative work at regional level were enhanced

through support to Regulatory Centers of Research Excellence (RCOREs). Eleven RCOREs were supported to provide research and development, as well as practical hands-on professional learning in different disciplines.

### The RCOREs are:



#### **RCOREs in pharmacovigilance**

University of Ghana Medical School – WHO Collaborating Centre for Advocacy and Training in Pharmacovigilance;  
Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB), Kenya.



#### **RCOREs in training in core regulatory functions**

St. Luke's Foundation, Tanzania – Kilimanjaro School of Pharmacy;  
University of Ibadan, Nigeria – Centre for Drug Discovery, Development and Production.



#### **RCORE in medicine registration and evaluation, quality control and clinical trials oversight**

Medicines Control Authority of Zimbabwe.



#### **RCOREs in quality assurance and quality control of medicines**

North West University – Potchefstroom Campus, South Africa – WHO Collaborating Centre for the Quality Assurance of Medicines;  
National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control, Nigeria.



#### **RCORE in licensing the manufacture, import, export, distribution; and inspection and surveillance of manufacturers, importers, wholesalers and dispensers of medicines**

National Drug Authority, Uganda.



#### **RCORE in clinical trials oversight**

University of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso – Direction Générale de la Pharmacie du Médicament et des Laboratoires.



#### **RCORE in medicines registration and evaluation and clinical trials oversight**

Food and Drugs Authority, Ghana.



#### **RCORE in medicine evaluation and registration**

School of Pharmacy, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences, Tanzania  
Drugs and Food Authority.





Regional-level capacities in the fight against malaria were reinvigorated: awareness campaigns were run on the gene drive technology for controlling and eliminating malaria. For example, for purposes of buy-in and support, sensitisation was carried out for members of the National Ethics Committee who serve on the African Vaccine Regulators Forum Technical Coordination Committee. Furthermore, competencies were built among regulators on the technology; regional trainings were held in West Africa, Eastern Africa and Southern Africa, drawing regulators from various sectors such as environment, agriculture and health, and officials from ministries of science and technology.

#### 1.2.4 Transformed Agriculture and Food Systems

The formulation of National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans (NAFSIPs) – following the Malabo Declaration Implementation Strategy and Roadmap – espouses the principles of agriculture transformation, taking into consideration country contexts. To date, ECOWAS countries have developed their new generation of NAFSIPs. Similarly, new generation NAFSIPs have been developed and launched in Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, and Tanzania in East Africa, while in Southern Africa, the process has been completed in Mozambique and Malawi. The new generation of NAFSIPs places countries in a stronger position for more effective implementation, peer-learning, resource mobilisation, and overall management of agriculture transformation.

## 1.2.5 Integrated Corridor Infrastructure, Trade and Markets

In light of the campaign for 5% of AUM to be allocated to infrastructure development, technical preparations have been made to fast-track various regions through the implementation of selected Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) projects. These projects include Batoka Gorge, Zambia-Tanzania-Kenya (ZTK), Beira Bridge to Harare Road Toll under the North-South Corridor and Ruzizi 3.

Resource mobilisation commenced for the implementation of 5 PIDA Priority Action Plan (PAP) projects, namely: Batoka Gorge, ZTK, Beira Bridge to Harare toll road under the North-South Corridor, Ruzizi 3 and Congo Bridge. This followed technical project preparation for bankability and packaging of the projects, using the Service Delivery Mechanism (SDM). Subsequently, the projects were marketed among public and private investors at different fora, including the PIDA Week.

The PIDA Week, held in December 2017 in Namibia under the theme “Enhancing Trade and Economic Transformation through Regional Infrastructure Development”, saw 6 projects discussed in depth. The projects included: Central Corridor (Dar es Salaam to Chalinze Toll Road), Kinshasa-Brazzaville Rail and Road Bridge, Abidjan-Lagos Multimodal Corridor, Zambia-Tanzania-Kenya Power Interconnector, Batoka Gorge Hydropower Project, and Inga III Dam.

The Namibian Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI) project was unanimously endorsed by the Technical Task Team in January 2017, and subsequently endorsed by the Ministerial Working Group and approved by the Chair of the PICI. The progress registered was partially attributed to the deployment of technical support for the preparation of the project as a new entrant to PICI projects.

In May 2017, consensus was reached between Benin, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo on defining a common institutional and legal instrument. The instrument, the Abidjan-Lagos Corridor Management Authority (Alcoma),

will oversee the implementation and management of the Abidjan-Lagos Corridor. Advocacy and communication materials on the corridor, including a video and brochures were prepared as part of the efforts geared at mobilising technical and political support for the project.

Cross-border harmonisation was strengthened, aimed at enabling viable project operations across two or more countries. This was pursued by aligning regulatory, legal, procurement, and institutional frameworks using the SDM. Furthermore, a One Stop Border Post (OSBP) network and traffic light system (TLS) were established to enhance mobility of goods and people through simplified and integrated logistical operations.

In line with this, regional instruments were defined to guide the operationalisation of the OSBP principle. To this end, regional domestication sessions, anchored in the OSBP sourcebook for Southern Africa, were held for Southern African Development Community (SADC) and COMESA countries. Subsequently, action plans for prioritised OSBPs were formulated for each country in the two regions. Similarly, working sessions with EAC, COMESA and Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) countries on the OSBP sourcebook for Eastern Africa saw action plans developed for prioritised OSBPs in each country.

A TLS was adopted by the SADC Ministers, with the aim of identifying, ranking and subsequently devising alleviation strategies to address challenges faced on the North-South Corridor and the Beira Development Corridor. Subsequent to its adoption, the Agency developed a TLS tool featuring 3 main facets, namely: transit guarantees, cost-benefit analysis – using turnaround time as a key performance indicator of corridor attractiveness, and risk rating. The TLS will be deployed in 2018, initially in the following six OSBPs: Beit Bridge, Martins Drift, Kasumbulesa, Nakonde, Chirundu and Kazungula.

Project implementation in the Central Corridor, Beira Development Corridor, the North-South Corridor and





the Dakar-Abidjan-Lagos Multimodal Corridor was accelerated. This resulted partly from the deployment of technical experts by the NEPAD Agency to RECs, aimed at providing critical support in addressing capacity gaps. Further support was provided in the form of technical training. For example, 40 infrastructure experts from RECS, countries and project implementation teams were trained on public-private partnership approaches.

Progress on regional infrastructure projects has been registered. For example, memoranda of understanding were signed at SADC, enabling the establishment of corridor management institutions for the North-South Corridor and the Beira Development Corridor respectively. Additionally, preparations are in advanced stages to undertake GIS mapping of IGAD's key regional infrastructure and corridors. Under the Priority Project Pipeline for the Djibouti Corridor, a set of projects has been compiled. In COMESA, a strategic plan for the corridor has been developed and is awaiting approval by member states; while in the Arab Maghreb Union (UMA), technical support was provided to update the status of the aquifer system of Lullemeden and Taoudent/Tazrouft.

Other areas where progress has been registered include: technical studies which are underway to complement the Lilongwe-Lusaka fibre cable and other fibre links throughout the SADC-EAC-COMESA region; a feasibility study and detailed engineering designs for the Central Corridor Transit Transport Facilitation Agency (CCTFA) Uvira-Kamanyola-Bukavu Road; the ZTK Power Transmission Project which has reached its final draft feasibility study stage; gender integration into the ZTK feasibility study and the Abidjan-Lagos Corridor following the preparation of a gender guide for infrastructure projects.

In the energy sub-sector, implementation arrangements are underway for the design of a rooftop solar system to power government buildings in Madagascar. To this end, a renewable energy access program has been launched and 33 high priority renewable energy projects have been identified and are being implemented.

## 1.3 National Results

### 1.3.1 Skills Revolution and Entrepreneurship

Africa Solidarity Trust Fund Phase 1 implementation has started in four countries: Benin, Niger, Cameroon and Malawi. Skills-gap analyses were conducted to identify existing policies and stakeholders for the development of national action plans for youth. Furthermore, partnerships with local training institutions have been fostered and the first cohort of students has begun to receive training. To facilitate the exchange of good practices, communities of practice and data collection on youth employment on the continent via a Skills Portal for Youth Employment (SPYE) have been developed.

The Skills Initiative for Africa Program (SIFA) was launched in four pilot countries, namely Cameroon, Kenya, Nigeria and Tunisia, to support Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) to increase employment opportunities in Phase 1 countries.

Technical and financial support was deployed to Gambia, Kenya and Tanzania for undertaking a feasibility study on renewable energy financing. Similar deployment was made for a rooftop solar system in Madagascar.

National Agriculture Investment Plans (NAIPs) for Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Benin, Burkina Faso, Togo, Ethiopia and Rwanda were enriched with agriculture education and skills. The additional focus aims to ensure improved support to youth and women – specifically to meet the target of 30% preferential entry for youth and women in viable agribusiness along prioritised value chains.

A curriculum on Agriculture Technical and Vocational Education Training (ATVET) was developed, tailored to countries' skills needs and based on the following high-priority value chains. In Kenya, the focus is on dairy, horticulture and aquaculture, while in Malawi, the value chains of mangoes, pineapples and aquaculture were selected. In Ghana, the focus is on pineapples and citrus,

while in Benin, rice and meat (chicken, pork, sheep) are the selected value chains. In Burkina Faso, the focus is on rice, sesame and cashew, while in Togo, it is on rice and aquaculture.

In accordance with this, a total of 250 training modules have been developed for 10 agricultural value chains. These training modules are not only skills-based – for example, focusing on rice processing or chicken fattening – but also address specific occupations within a value chain. The modules are tailored for various groups, including farm managers, producers and processors. To date, over 6 200 students from Kenya, Ghana, Benin, Malawi, Burkina Faso and Togo have received training.

The competencies for women in rural regions in vocational activities related to agriculture were enhanced through knowledge sharing – such as practical guidelines for women in ATVET.

A Cybersecurity Assessment Framework was developed and presented to ministers responsible for communication and information technology. Currently 9 countries, namely: Benin, Chad, Congo, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Sao Tome and Principe, and Zambia, have signed the convention and 2 ratifications – Senegal and Guinea – have been realised. The convention will come into force once the minimum of 15 country-ratifications has been reached.

Efforts to champion education, science and technology on the continent were boosted; policy information and technical briefs were shared with the Committee of 10 Heads of State (Egypt, Tunisia, Gabon, Chad, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Mauritius, Namibia and Malawi) that are designated to champion education, science and technology. In turn, the committee provided policy guidance to specialised institutions such as the Coalition





of African Research and Innovation (CARI) and the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS).

Science, technology and innovation (STI) data systems among 4 countries, namely Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Ivory Coast and the Seychelles were improved through skills training. In-country capacities were strengthened on the use of new and innovative data collection tools, data analysis, storage and dissemination.

The Seychelles undertook its first national research and development (R&D) and innovation survey using in-country expertise. Similarly, Equatorial Guinea embarked on preparations to conduct its first national R&D and innovation survey, slated for 2018.

The quality of country data on R&D and innovations was improved through peer validation. Mechanisms for intra- and inter-country validation of STI-datasets were promoted, anchored in a defined set of criteria. To this end, a continental-level validation exercise was complemented with two in-country validation sessions held in Swaziland and the Seychelles.

There are concerted efforts aimed at improving the measurement systems and ensuring good quality data in R&D. The work of the Science Granting Councils (SGCs) was aligned to STISA 2024, thereby strengthening the relevance and timeliness of data in policy design and formulation. The SGCs play an intermediary role in fostering collaboration between National Innovation Systems (NIS) and promoting inter-country knowledge sharing, learning and peer support around STI initiatives – as a way of advancing the science, technology and innovations agenda on the continent.

Conceptual and practical frameworks of innovation were developed as part of the Science Granting Councils Initiative (SGCI) cross-cutting activities on NIS. Furthermore, following a review and subsequent modification of R&D and innovation data collection tools and reporting templates for countries, 24 countries have improved datasets on R&D, while 10 countries boast of keeping robust datasets on innovations. The review was in response to the need for fully characterised datasets

for R&D and innovation respectively. Accordingly, a process of dataset description and potential pathways for effective utilisation is underway.

To facilitate virtual knowledge co-creation, exchange and dissemination on R&D and innovations in Africa, work has commenced towards establishing a web-based interactive platform. The platform, linked to the SGCI, will be ready for deployment to RECs and countries in the first half of 2018, intended, in part, to serve as a key source of policy-oriented knowledge.

Preliminary findings of analyses conducted on datasets on innovation policy comprehensiveness indicate that there are low levels of awareness on the essential components of an NIS, and there were equally minimal levels of the interactions required to drive the performance of these institutions. The findings were drawn from a data collection exercise that covered 15 countries participating in the SGCI.

Following a study conducted in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Cameroon on the dynamics of economic activities in the informal sector, a wealth of knowledge on the informal sector was generated. The findings of the study will help decision makers to better understand and subsequently provide more effective support for improving the informal sector.

Progress was made on bridging the gap between high-level STI indicators and the granular indicators that give context to the work of SGCs. This is with acknowledgement that SGCs are critical vehicles for measuring metrics on the underlying country-specific salient issues; the measurement of these metrics is an important step for increasing the value and benefit of innovations accruing to SGC-participating countries. Part of the efforts towards bridging this gap included: training sessions on STI policy formulation processes; STI policy indicators and data collection processes; and regional-level sessions conducted for SGCI in Senegal, Namibia, Uganda, Burkina Faso, Malawi, Kenya, Ivory Coast, Mozambique, Tanzania, Botswana, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Zambia and Rwanda.

There are ongoing efforts to strengthen the linkages between R&D investments and national strategic goals in Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. Technical support has been provided to senior SGC officials to assess the relevance of STI policies and devise appropriate advocacy strategies for increased research, development and innovation. SGCs can now map their NIS and produce relevant metrics and indicators that can be used to enhance interactions among various actors within the NIS.

Africa Kaizen Initiative (AKI) was launched in Kenya by the NEPAD Agency and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). A total of 125 participants from 13 African countries, namely Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda and Zambia benefited from the AKI trainings.

### 1.3.2 Sustainability and Resilience Capacity

Country platforms for SLWM investment planning in DRC, Comoros, Malawi and Congo Brazzaville were strengthened. Awareness of SLWM in Burundi, Ivory Coast, DRC, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Malawi, Senegal, Swaziland, Togo and Uganda was increased through targeted media campaigns. Furthermore, the technical capacities of Malawi, Kenya and Uganda in the restoration of degraded landscapes were enhanced, while planning capacities for SLWM investments were strengthened in Niger, DRC, Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda, Kenya and Burundi.

Technical deployment was provided for the integration of climate change and specifically climate smart agriculture into National Agriculture Investment Plans for Zambia and Tanzania. Accordingly, the governments of Zambia and Tanzania developed and submitted concept notes to the Green Climate Fund. Additional support will be provided to countries in developing concept notes and





proposals for accessing funds from various international climate financing outlets.

Capacities in ministries of gender for managing Gender Climate Change Agriculture Support Initiatives were strengthened in five participating countries, namely Cameroon, Ethiopia, Malawi, Niger and Rwanda. The focus of capacity building included: developing gender mainstreaming tools, developing information management systems, and reviewing sectoral policies for gender mainstreaming. In addition, national partnership platforms were established in all five countries.

There is increased awareness and strengthened competence among key actors in contract negotiations and tax policies related to the extractive and mining industry. Various platforms, such as the 3rd regional dialogue on contract negotiations, were used to strengthen capacities in 11 countries, namely Angola, Botswana, Cameroon, DRC, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Guinea, Kenya, Malawi, Sudan and Tanzania.

Africa has a better understanding of the factors that influence land-restoration; investors and other key stakeholders quantified national land-restoration targets based on analyses of locally available maps and capacity was built in 24 countries and communities on land restoration. These countries are also participating in the 100 million hectare African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR) project.

Subsequently, millions of hectares of land on the continent have been committed for restoration through the application of the restoration opportunities assessment methodology. To date, the following commitments have been realised: Benin – 0.5 million ha, Burundi – 2 million ha, Cameroon – 12 million ha, CAR – 3.5 million ha, Chad – 1.4 million ha, Ivory Coast – 5 million ha, DRC – 8 million ha, Ethiopia – 15 million ha, Ghana – 2 million ha, Guinea – 2 million ha, Kenya – 5.1 million ha, Liberia – 1 million ha, Madagascar – 4 million ha, Malawi – 4.5 million ha, Mozambique – 1 million ha, Niger – 3.2 million ha, Republic of Congo – 2 million ha, Rwanda – 2 million ha, South Africa – 3.6 million ha, and Uganda – 2.5 million ha.

### 1.3.3 Transformed Agriculture and Food Systems

The NEPAD-ARCH (Africa Resilience Coordination Hub), the implementation vehicle for Agriculture Food Insecurity Risk Management, was established through a partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP) and Periperi University, a partnership of 12 African universities. The ARCH aims to support national and local governments in converging complementary measures related to agriculture risk management for effective implementation at community level. It is anchored on three principles, namely: evidence-building; design and planning; and implementation. The first implementation phase will cover Uganda, Tanzania and Sahel countries.

The Country Agribusiness Partnerships Framework (CAP-F) was developed and placed at the disposal of countries. The CAP-F aims to supplement the country CAADP NAFSIPs by stimulating private investments. As one of the CAADP instruments, the CAP-F will (i) identify and foster enabling policy reforms through multi-stakeholder engagements and institutional support systems, and (ii) establish collaborations that will allow sharing of resources for improving the efficiency of priority agribusiness value chains. Grow Africa, as the technical lead on mobilising private sector investment, is spearheading the rolling out of the CAP-F.

In an effort to mobilise investments aligned to the National Agriculture Investment Plans, Grow Africa has partnered with several private sector groups such as the Nigeria Agribusiness Group, the Ethiopia Private Sector Development Task Force, and the Ghana Private Enterprise Federation.

Furthermore, Grow Africa has launched platforms to promote specific agriculture value chains in various countries: Burkina Faso – scoping for the establishment of a rice platform; Ivory Coast – the establishment of a national rice platform; Ghana – supporting the operationalisation of the Industrial Cassava Stakeholders

Platform; Kenya – supporting the scaling of potato platform interventions; Malawi – supporting the Commercial Agriculture Support Services Platform; Mozambique – exploratory support for the establishment of a national cassava platform; Nigeria – support to the Industrial Cassava Stakeholders Association of Nigeria; and Rwanda – collaboration with the Rwanda Horticulture Working Group.

Ten countries – Senegal, Burkina Faso, Mozambique, Madagascar, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Malawi, Ghana, Sudan and Kenya – have been selected as the first-wave cohort that will implement the Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA). The initiative is geared towards better coordination of food and nutrition interventions and support to priority areas defined at national level. The IFNA secretariat is housed at the NEPAD Agency.

The research agenda in Africa was strengthened in several countries. For example, in Ethiopia, field testing of Bt cotton is ongoing following regulatory approval, while in Mozambique, an Ad-hoc Biosafety Committee approved the planting of Water Efficient Maize for Africa (WEMA) with maize trials underway. In Tanzania, regulatory support was provided for ongoing WEMA maize field trials, and in Zambia, technical support was provided for the review of a Biotechnology and Biosafety Policy towards development of a new policy. Field trials are ongoing for Bt cotton in cotton-growing agro-ecological zones in Swaziland, while in Ghana, similar field trials are being conducted for maruca-resistant cowpea and nitrogen-use, water-efficient and salt-tolerant rice.

Further efforts to enhance the research agenda include, inter alia: capacity strengthening for new members of the Kenya National Biosafety Association Board on risk assessment for food, feed and environmental safety; skills-training for new members of the biosafety agency in Nigeria to improve biosafety administration and





regulatory compliance; strengthening strategy planning and coordination among stakeholders in Uganda in support of the Biotechnology and Biosafety Bill 2012; regulatory support for ongoing National Performance Trials for Bt cotton (Mon 15985) in 9 agro-ecological locations in Malawi; establishing Institutional Biosafety Committees and developing a national biosafety and biotechnology policy in Burkina Faso; skills-training in risk assessment in food and feed safety in Sudan; technical support in the review process of the biosafety law in Senegal; a road map for biosafety capacity building in Cameroon, in anticipation of a commercial release

### 1.3.4 Improved Health and Nutrition

12 out of 55 countries have either reviewed or are in the process of reviewing their national laws on medicines regulation – in line with the AU Model Law. The countries are: Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso, the Seychelles, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Namibia, Swaziland, the Gambia, Tanzania (Zanzibar), Rwanda, Burundi and Mozambique.

As part of implementing the Southern Africa TB and Health Systems Support project, Zambia has initiated a process of reviewing its Law on Occupational Health and Safety and the Workers Compensation Act No. 10 of 1999.

Five communities of practice have been established to facilitate knowledge sharing in the following areas: mining, regulation and occupational health; continuum of care for TB and occupational lung diseases; laboratory strengthening and surveillance; TB research monitoring and evaluation; and the economics of TB and sustainable financing for health.

Centres of excellence have been established for TB control: Lesotho is hosting a Centre of Excellence on Community-Based Management of TB; Malawi hosts a Centre of Excellence on Community TB Care and Integrated Disease Surveillance; Mozambique houses a Centre of Excellence on Multi-Drug-Resistant (MDR) TB and Childhood TB Management; and Zambia is host to a Centre of Excellence on Occupational Health and Safety.

application for cotton; and capacity building in Namibia on the biosafety dossier.

Capacity was enhanced within committees for environmental and food safety networks; competencies were built among regulators from Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Swaziland and Uganda for articulating science-based recommendations on biosafety matters. This was achieved through knowledge sharing and policy discussions on genetically modified organisms (GMO).

Cross-border disease surveillance zones have been identified to support disease surveillance along shared borders and facilitate information sharing, generating lessons as well as capacity building amongst the countries. The zones are in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Scientists in Burkina Faso obtained authorisation from their National Biosafety Agency to import “sterile male” transgenic mosquitoes without any gene drive, for purposes of capacity building, public engagement and strengthening of internal regulatory processes. The eggs were received and mosquitoes are being maintained in a contained facility at Institut de Recherche en Sciences de la Santé (IRSS) in Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso. The agency is building the capacity of an institutional biosafety committee which will oversee confined trials with these mosquitoes.

Capacity was strengthened among senior government officials, enabling the use of biological control methods to fight and eliminate Dengue fever and Zika fever. This was made possible through a study tour of officials to Colombia and Brazil to understand how these two countries deal with these phenomena. The officials were drawn from Burkina Faso, Mali, Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda and Tanzania.

## 2 ORGANISATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

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## 2.1 Value-Added Services

The NEPAD Agency undertook an institutional-level Gap Assessment on Fiduciary Standards, Environmental and Social Safeguards, and Gender Policies. This was one of the prerequisite measures for accreditation by the Green Climate Fund. The findings indicate that while some moderate adjustments are required, overall, the Agency has a strong fiduciary function.

The knowledge portal was revamped and the digitalisation of knowledge products such as practical handbooks, standard operating procedures (SOP), and visualised results were operationalised. The portal serves as the gateway for knowledge co-creation and exchange among countries and between regions in Africa.

The Agenda 2063 results framework was mapped in the project management cycle. In addition, a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework for Agenda 2063 was developed, containing profiled indicators. Compilation of the M&E Training Guidebook is in progress and will be completed in 2018.

The framing of strategic impacts and priority outcomes has been drafted in alignment with the African Union Commission (AUC) Medium Term Plan. This will promote coherence in planning and implementation between the AUC and the NEPAD Agency.

In the process of improving the IT infrastructure and system, redundancy implementation was conducted to avoid single point-of-failure. Backup and recovery solutions for both hardware and software were deployed and rolled out, and are fully functional, saving organisational data based on a policy developed to comply with both business and audit requirements.

The implementation of IT policies are now enforced with further guidelines and procedures developed to enhance the enforcement of the policies.

The access of the Agency network was greatly enhanced

(from 24Mbps to 200Mbps). This enables the Agency to achieve better data transfer and more efficiency.

In line with this, the telephony system of the Agency is now integrated with the AUC system. This is aimed at

ensuring that cost effective communication practices are pursued.

Communication outreach has been steadily increased, thereby boosting NEPAD's visibility:



Digital presence on Twitter has grown from 25 000 followers in January 2017 to **34 000 followers** at end of September 2017;



At least **3 media interviews** with radio, TV and print per month;



Online reach in global news mentioning NEPAD is on average **30 per week** (tracked through media monitoring);



On average, the Agency's web-platform receives about **60,000 views** per month;



**Agenda 2063** messaging has been streamlined in all the Agency's communication.

## 2.2 EXECUTION RATE

The Business Services Centre capacity has been augmented both in terms of service delivery and the application of standard operating procedures. The bulk of the process has been digitalised for the improvement of organisational effectiveness and the achievement of the overarching business strategy.

The total programmatic budget materialised as of September 2017, was 13 978 152 USD. The overall expenditure as of the third quarter of 2017, including the operational budget, was 13 228 506 USD which represents a 94.64% execution rate of the revenue recognised..



## 2.3 Partnerships and Alliances

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The NEPAD Agency continues to value smart partnerships as this is cardinal for efficient and effective delivery and it also underpins implementation. The Agency has broadened its partnerships with a focus on multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder dimensions, building efforts to deliver results at all levels of development spheres.

The new strategic plan will deepen innovative partnerships, with a view to diversifying potential sources of funding, including member states, for operational activities for development, in alignment with the transformation agenda of the continent.



# 3 CONCLUSION AND FORWARD PLANNING





## 3.1 Conclusion

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It is important to recognise that, in so far as the work of the NEPAD Agency focused on results and impact, the Agency equally paid attention to the means by which these were achieved. This is the aspect of Agenda 2063 and the NEPAD Strategic Plan which emphasises and presents concrete goals and targets that relate directly to transformation. This is about enhancing and aligning local and/or systemic capacity to deliver. It is about human capacity and skills as much as it is about organisational and institutional capacities. In this context, the NEPAD Agency's work has also directly impacted on transformational aspects including education and skills, institutional effectiveness and inclusiveness in decision-making processes.

The programme and related results in the 2017 Work Programme were built on work and achievements in 2016, and before that, within the context of the NEPAD Agency's 2014 – 2017 Strategic Plan. The work and results therefore also remain important as foundational pillars on which Africa and the NEPAD Agency will build further work for 2018 in pursuit of the goals, priorities and targets of the Agenda 2063 First Ten Year Implementation Plan.

## 3.2 Forward Planning

The NEPAD Agency is developing its new strategic plan. Critical factors and transitions (local, continental and global) will continue to guide and influence the WHAT and the HOW. Thematically, issues that will come to the fore include job creation, especially for the youth, rural-urban dynamics, climate change as well as industrialisation in pursuit of enhanced manufacturing capacity. Issues of trade and markets, especially at regional and continental level, will be important levers for driving the overall national, regional and continental development ambitions.

Implementation of the African Union Assembly decision in January 2018 on enhancing capacity in AU organs and institutions will also constitute important guidance to the form and character of the NEPAD Agency going forward. This is also expected to impact on enhancing and streamlining the NEPAD Agency's collaboration with RECs and the AUC.



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