



NEPAD NEWS

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UK universities collaborate with NEPAD Agency on Africa's transformation

Durham, May 21, 2018 – In the context of Agenda 2063, Africa's vision for transformation, access to top of the art research and academic resources, coupled with multi-disciplinary working approaches are at the core of the development agenda.

To this end, in strengthening collaboration on new technologies developed by universities to increase adoption when pertinent to African countries, NEPAD Agency's Director of Programmes Mrs Estherine Lisinge-Fotabong visited Durham University, Newcastle University, University of Lancaster and the University of Hull. She was accompanied by the Agency's Head of Natural Resources Governance, Food Security and Nutrition programme, Dr Hamady Diop.

NEPAD Agency and Durham University will jointly set up a NEPAD Africa Hub to help African countries and universities increase their research. Further collaboration will be in various areas of development such as agriculture, extractive industries, green economy, alignment between the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063, amongst others. The NEPAD Africa Hub will be part of the partnership with the 'N8 hub,' which includes the following Universities: Durham, Leeds, Newcastle, Lancaster, Manchester, Liverpool, York and Sheffield.

The collaboration will see the sharing of knowledge through education and capacity building, while supporting and consolidating technology footprints where possible, but at the same time minimising duplication and redundancy.– *Continues on the next page*

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Visit to Hull University by the NEPAD Agency

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“With improving technologies and international partnerships that foster scientific knowledge sharing, such as Hull University, we can make aquaculture one of the vibrant sectors that address unemployment,” said Mrs Fotabong during the visit to Hull University, which focussed on fisheries and aquaculture.

Mr Clifford Spencer, from Britain’s National Aquaculture Centre, who is a NEPAD Agency Goodwill Ambassador, pointed out that the region has a wealth of indigenous knowledge which can be used not only for national policy, but also for international policy.

The need to transform fisheries and aquaculture into a more vibrant sector was reaffirmed by African leaders in the 2014 Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods. It is therefore in support of the goals of the Malabo Declaration, that the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa was also developed and endorsed by the African Union Heads of State and Government.

With effective and sustainable management, aquatic resources have the potential to make even greater contributions to Africa’s economies and livelihoods. Coupled with the immense contribution that fish farming brings to food security, it has the potential to also contribute to the lowering of high levels on unemployment along its value chains.

Below is a link to a video by the BBC featuring the NEPAD Agency’s visit to the UK, on the importance of fish farming:



<http://www.nepad.org/resource/uk-universities-collaborate-nepad-agency-africa%E2%80%99s-transformation>



Africa Day - 25 May

Message from Dr Ibrahim Mayaki, NEPAD Agency’s CEO

“Let us all unite and celebrate together

The victories won for our liberation

Let us dedicate ourselves to rise together

To defend our liberty and unity...”

That is how the African Union anthem starts.

Today, the 25th of May, all of us Africans on the continent and in the diaspora join together to celebrate Africa Day. We therefore take this opportunity to convey the best wishes from the NEPAD Agency to all Africans across all corners of the world.

Wherever we may be, we should be proud of our identity as Africans, treasure our traits and traditions and exhibit the spirit of Ubuntu, with what Hausas call Mutunci.

On this day, let us pause to embrace our economic opportunities and reflect on what it means to achieve the aspirations of Agenda 2063, The Africa We Want! Thus we shall be able to answer the question as to whether we are on the right path towards the dawn of a new day for Africa and her people.

May we continue to wisely learn from lessons of the past, build on current progress and strategically exploit all possible opportunities available, and facilitate free movement of Africans on our Continent.

I wish everyone a happy and peaceful Africa Day.



The Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative is playing an important role of accelerating regional infrastructure development

A accelerating infrastructure development in Africa

The Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative

Nairobi, May 24, 2018 - Dignitaries from Africa, under the auspices of the African Union's NEPAD Agency, in collaboration with the NEPAD/APRM Kenya Secretariat, converged on Nairobi from 23 - 24 May 2018 for the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI) Technical Task Team workshop to deliberate on the way forward for the initiative and to present the progress status of each of the PICI projects. PICI is a continental initiative created to accelerate regional infrastructure development across Africa through political championing of projects.

The workshop, which was opened by Hon. Peter Munya, Cabinet Secretary, East African Community and Northern Corridor Development, brought together relevant stakeholders and the PICI Country Focal Points to provide inputs for the preparation of the Comprehensive PICI Project Status Report. The report will be submitted to the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee for onward transmission to the July African Union Assembly.

NEPAD Agency's PICI Coordinator, Dr John Tambi set the scene by contextualising the PICI projects within the framework of PIDA, as a precursor to this continental strategic framework for infrastructure, before presenting to the audience the different achievements and milestones for each of the PICI projects. Dr Tambi gave the opening speech on behalf of Dr Ibrahim Mayaki, CEO of the NEPAD Agency, who stated amongst others, that the role of the Country Focal Points and members of the PICI Technical Task Team is of tremendous importance to provide leadership and direction for infrastructure development in Africa.

In attendance were development partners, from the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and representatives from the Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS), Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), and Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), CCTFA, and UMA. Participants were drawn from Kenya, Algeria, Egypt, Nigeria, Niger, Rwanda, South Africa and Namibia.

Progress achieved in the development of various projects under PICI across the continent was highlighted. These projects include:

- The Missing Links of the Trans-Sahara Highway and Optic Fibre Link between Algeria and Nigeria via Niger championed by President Abdelaziz Bouteflika of Algeria;
- The Nigeria-Algeria Gas Pipeline Project (Trans-Sahara Gas Pipeline) championed by President Muhammadu Buhari of Nigeria;
- The Dakar-Ndjamena-Djibouti Road/Rail Project championed by President Macky Sall;
- The North-South Corridor Road/Rail Project championed by President Cyril Rhamaphosa of South Africa;
- The Kinshasa-Brazzaville Bridge Road/Rail Project championed by President Denis Sassou Nguesso of the Congo Republic;
- The Unblocking Political Bottlenecks for ICT Broadband and Optic Fibre Projects Linking Neighbouring States and the SMART Africa Project championed by President Paul Kagame of Rwanda;
- Construction of the Navigational Line between Lake Victoria and the Mediterranean Sea championed by President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi of Egypt;
- The Lamu Port Southern Sudan and Ethiopian Transport Project (LAPSSSET) championed by President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya; and
- The International Logistics Hub Project Championed by President Hage Geingob of Namibia.

Hon Munya informed the participants that the Lamu Port South Sudan and Ethiopian Transport (LAPSSSET) project was on course and that major milestones have been achieved. The three berths being constructed by the Government of Kenya at the Lamu Port were now 48% complete. The CS further said that LAPSSSET is just not for the three countries (Kenya, Ethiopia and South Sudan) but it is a continental project by all standards, as it feeds into existing transport and trade corridors such as the great North Corridor from Cape Town to Cairo (Trans-Africa Highway No:4).

In his remarks made on his behalf by NEPAD Kenya Acting CEO Mr Daniel Osiemo, Dr Julius Muia, PS State Department of Planning, reiterated the importance of cross-border infrastructure for unlocking development potential. The PS further said that PICI is playing an important role of accelerating regional infrastructure development and commended NEPAD Agency for its great work and commitment towards Africa's integration.

Source: NEPAD Kenya

Videos on the LAPSSSET progress can be viewed at:

PICI video 1 : <http://www.nepad.org/resource/pici-video-1-progress-lapsset-project>

PICI video 2 : <http://www.nepad.org/resource/pici-video-2-progress-lapsset-project-%E2%80%93-pici-workshop>



The role of information and knowledge on technologies, approaches and best practices on Sustainable Land and Water Management to address the scourge of land degradation cannot be underestimated

An improved network of knowledge on Sustainable Land and Water Management in Africa

Dar es Salaam, May 30, 2018 – Soil degradation results in a loss of crop production and/or an increase in production costs. As a result, there is a direct link between climate change, soil degradation and food security, especially in many African and developing countries.

Scientists believe that the way forward is to invest heavily in more directed research to better understand how other elements, such as water quality, forest land quality, rangeland quality, land contamination and pollution tie in with other factors such as land management, economic viability, system resilience, and social equity and acceptability to better determine what practices and technologies need to be adopted in the future.

This week the NEPAD Agency's TerrAfrica partnership brought together 28 African countries, strategic partners and civil society to Dar es Salaam led by Tanzanian government's Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Cooperatives for the operationalisation of the *Africa Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (AfriOCAT)*.

AfriOCAT is a network of organisations and individuals committed to sharing information on best practices and approaches for sustainable land and water management across the African continent. It is an affiliate of the World Overview of the Conservation Approaches & Technologies (WOCAT) and was founded primarily to raise the profile of practitioners and scientists in the drive to avert the impacts of land degradation on the lives of the rural communities within African landscapes

“The idea of establishing AfriOCAT is to internalise World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies tools and processes within the African context with regard to Sustainable Land and Water Management. It is not meant to replace existing Sustainable Land and Water Management platforms or networks, but to add value in terms of harmonising knowledge generation and sharing at country, sub-regional, regional and continental level,” said Mr Zwide Jere, Co-Founder/Managing Director and Interim Chair of AfriOCAT.

The three day meeting aimed at improving collaboration, networking, learning and sharing of WOCAT techniques and approaches in the areas of Sustainable Land and Water Management across the African continent, while increasing the productivity of natural resources of African landscapes for sustained and improved livelihoods of its inhabitants.

“The role of information and knowledge on technologies, approaches and best practices on Sustainable Land and Water Management to address the scourge of land degradation cannot be underestimated. It is critical for shifting mind-sets towards behavioural change that will result in commensurate action, not only by practitioners but by policy makers alike,” said Rudo Makunike, TerrAfrica Partnership Project Manager at NEPAD Agency.

The pillars of sustainable land management are to maintain and enhance production, reduce the level of production risk, and enhance soil capacity to buffer against degradation processes, protect the potential of natural resources and prevent degradation of soil and water quality, ensuring economic viability and social acceptability, and overall ensure access to the benefits from improved land management.

TerrAfrica is a NEPAD-led partnership present in 31 countries on the African continent that supports innovative solutions to sustain landscapes, address land and water degradation and adapt to a changing climate.



NEPAD Agency appoints Mrs Zienzi Dillon as Goodwill Ambassador

The NEPAD Agency has appointed Mrs Zienzi Dillon as Goodwill Ambassador.

Designated NEPAD Goodwill Ambassadors are people whose fame or influence transcend national boundaries and are regionally or globally renowned, with broad appeal to engage in dialogue with NEPAD constituencies, and well-placed to promote the mandate of the NEPAD Agency.

Mrs Dillon is the Chief Executive Office for Carmel Global Capital, a company based in New York, USA, whose vision is to pioneer innovative financing solutions that will generate economic and social impact investment in Africa.

As a NEPAD Agency Goodwill Ambassador, she will support the institution in its advocacy, fundraising and programmatic work and in communicating to a broad public, including the diaspora.

Her role will also include advocacy and promotion of the goals of the NEPAD Agency in the context of Agenda 2063. She may, in her capacity as Goodwill Ambassador, undertake additional responsibilities at her own discretion to promote the mandate and goals of the NEPAD Agency.

The role will run for two years, during which the Goodwill Ambassador is expected to facilitate the establishment of relations with US based development agencies, investors, financiers and financial houses to promote the work of the Agency and to attract investment into Africa.

Mrs Dillon has over 30 years banking experience in Africa. She recently retired from Barclays Africa where she was Head of Public Sector.

In addition, she is currently an Audit Committee member for South Africa's Department of Mineral Resources and has also been an Audit Committee member for various South African government entities. Her experience and public profile will be an added benefit for the NEPAD Agency and will bring about the much needed publicity on the Agenda 2063 vision.

AU-EU Partnership Reference Group on Infrastructure

Addis Ababa, May 18, 2018 - African Union-European Union (AU-EU) and their partners gathered for the 6th Reference Group on Infrastructure meeting to discuss the infrastructure agenda of the AU-EU Partnership in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on May 17-18, 2018.

The partners of the meeting recognised that the AU-EU Partnership plays a very essential role in steering the AU-EU cross-sectoral infrastructure agenda and also stressed the importance of the Abidjan Action Plan 2018-2020 as a strategic roadmap and framework of cooperation for that period.

The partners emphasised the importance of intra-African trade and support the advancing of greater economic integration by further developing sustainable connectivity especially building on the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) and NEPAD programmes.

The AU and EU expressed joined commitments to guide and support the preparation of a new medium term PIDA strategic foundation for the period 2020-2030, inter alia the PIDA Priority Action Plan II and other supporting PIDA instruments, that build on the lessons learnt of ongoing programmes established through the PIDA PAP I Mid Term Review.

[Click here to read more](#)

Upcoming Events

- 6 - 8 Jun 2018: *Africa Innovation Summit*. Kigali, Rwanda.
- 25 Jun - 2 Jul 2018: *31st Ordinary Session of the African Union Summit*. Nouakchott, Mauritania
- 30-31 Jul 2018: *MoveAfrica Project Validation Meeting: Core Team on SAATM Infrastructure*. Johannesburg, South Africa.

For more events visit: www.nepad.org/events

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Announcements



NEPAD Agency's Head of CAADP, Dr Augustin Wambo-Yamdjeu was interviewed by Ubuntu Radio on **Africa Day and integration on the continent**

To listen to the interview, download the podcast on:

<http://www.nepad.org/resource/augustin-wambo-yamdjeu-was-interviewed-ubuntu-radio-africa-day-and-integration-continent>

Proverb

Do not set sail on someone else's star ~

African proverb



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