THE EU AND AFRICA – KEY PARTNERS

The EU is Africa’s main partner. We are working together to tackle the common challenges of today, from investing in youth, fostering sustainable development and strengthening peace and security to boosting investment in the African continent, good governance and better managing migration.

On 23 May 2018, the Commissions of the European and the African Union further strengthen their long standing partnership and future cooperation at the 9th AU-EU Commission to Commission Meeting in Brussels, Belgium.

President Juncker said: “What happens in Africa matters for Europe, and what happens in Europe matters for Africa. Our partnership is an investment in our shared future. It is a partnership of equals in which we support each other, help each other to prosper and make the world a safer, more stable and more sustainable place to live.”

PARTNERS IN TRADE AND INVESTMENT TO CREATE JOBS

• Through its new External Investment Plan, the EU will help to attract private investments for sustainable development of up to €44 billion in Africa.
• In 2015, European companies invested €32 billion in African economies, and the total stock of Foreign Direct Investments from the EU in Africa amounted to €310 billion.
• 34.7% of total African imports and 37.1% of African exports in 2017; 35.7% of Africa’s trade (import and exports) takes place with the EU.
• The European Investment Bank has invested over €20 billion in more than 330 public and private sector projects in Africa.
• The EU is Africa’s biggest partner for sustainable energy, with €2.7 billion for Sub-Saharan Africa (2014-2020). And it pays off: 18.2 million people have been given access to energy thanks to EU support.
• The EU and its Member States are the biggest contributors of climate finance to developing countries, having provided €20.2 billion in 2016 alone. A major part of this was benefitting African partners.
The **External Investment Plan** provides a state of the art framework to improve sustainable investments in Africa and the European Neighbourhood. It will support innovative financial instruments such as guarantees to boost private investment. With an input of €4.1 billion from the EU, it will enable to mobilise up to €44 billion of private investments. The External Investment Plan focuses on a number of priority investment areas, such as: sustainable energy and sustainable connectivity; micro, small and medium enterprises financing; sustainable agriculture, rural entrepreneurs and agroindustry; sustainable cities and digitalisation for sustainable development.

**Did you know? Thanks to EU support, between 2015 and 2016 alone...**

- 3,900 km of road were constructed, rehabilitated or maintained in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 540 firms have access to credit in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 1.5 million people have access to all season roads in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 410 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises apply sustainable consumption and production practices in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 2,600 kilometres of transmission/distribution lines were built or upgraded in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 871,000 people were provided with access to sustainable energy services.

**PARTNERS TO BOOST KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS**

- Africa has the youngest population in the world: 41% under 15 years, 60% under 25 years. The EU supports their education and vocational training with €1.34 billion (2014-2020).
- The largest increase in primary school net enrolment ratio globally has been observed in Sub-Saharan Africa, from 52% in 1990 to 80% in 2015.
- As a result of EU programmes (between 2015 and 2016) 171,000 and 19,000 children have been enrolled in primary and secondary education in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 53,560 people in Africa have benefitted from education and vocational training, skills development and other active labour market programmes with EU funded initiatives completed between 2015 and 2016.
- 15,400 teachers have been trained thanks to EU funded initiatives (2015-2016).

**Did you know? Thanks to EU support on Education and Mobility...**

- Around 122 universities in 39 African countries have been involved in the Intra-ACP and Intra-Africa “Academic mobility scheme partnerships”, which facilitate mobility across Africa for 2,500 Master students and doctorates and academic staff members.
- Up to 2017, over 2,000 students across Africa received scholarships for Erasmus Mundus courses; more than 120 African fellows took part in Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorates; and 230 African scholars participated in the teaching of Erasmus Mundus Master courses.
- Erasmus + mobility programmes supported 770 mobility partnerships benefitting 9,700 African and 4,300 European students, researchers and staff between 2014 and 2017.
- Over 195,000 Africans enrolled in tertiary education in the EU in 2015.
- 53,560 people have benefitted from VET, skills development and other active labour market programmes in Africa (between 2015 and 2016).
- 184,033 people from Africa have received an EU visa for educational purposes (Eurostat, December 2015 data).
PARTNERS FOR PEACE AND SECURITY

- There are currently 16 CSDP missions and operations, with 8 of these linked or on the African continent.
- The EU has helped to significantly reduce piracy in the Horn of Africa through its military mission NAVFOR ATALANTA.
- The EU’s missions in Africa have trained 30,000 military, police and judiciary personnel.
- 192,120 persons directly benefited from EU-supported programmes for civilian post-conflict peace building and conflict prevention (between 2013 and 2014).
- The EU is the first supporter of the efforts of the G5 Sahel countries to improve security and cross border cooperation in the region, with €100 million.
- The EU has committed more than €2.7 billion to African Peace Facility since its establishment in 2004.
- So far, the EU has provided more than €1.5 billion to AMISOM, the African Union mission in Somalia, making it the main contributor.

PARTNERS TO STRENGTHEN GOVERNANCE AND RULE OF LAW

- 129 EU Election Observation Missions and Election Expert Missions have been deployed in Africa since 2000. In the last two years, there have been seven EU Election Observation Missions in Gambia, Kenya, Liberia, Gabon, Zambia, Ghana and Uganda as well as one Election Experts Mission in Somalia.
- 2,500 Human Rights Defenders have received EU support in Africa, South of Sahara (between 2015 and 2016).
- EU holds annual human rights dialogues with many African partners, discussing jointly efforts to boost good governance and the rule of law.
- 807,000 individuals, in Africa, South of Sahara directly benefited from legal aid programmes supported by the EU from mid-2015 to mid-2016.

PARTNERS TO BETTER MANAGE MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

- Most migration takes place within Africa: Around 16 million African migrants are living in Africa, while 9 million are living in the EU.
- In 2015, €21 billion of remittances from African expats in Europe have been sent from the EU to Africa representing over a third of all global remittances.
- The common priority of the EU and Africa is to save lives, fight traffickers, create legal pathways to Europe and create economic opportunities for people on the ground. The EU has established a dedicated Trust Fund worth over €3.4 billion, which addresses the root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa.
- To address root causes through long-term development, the EU and its Member States together provide €20 billion a year in Official Development Assistance to Africa.