

EU launches the first projects of the PanAfrican programme

The European Commission has approved the first 12 projects, for a total amount of €107 million, under its new PanAfrican programme, which will foster Africa's integration process at continental level - the first ever EU programme in development and cooperation that covers Africa as a whole. The projects launched today will notably support migration, higher education and research and infrastructure, as well as public finance management and the development of statistics. Overall, the PanAfrican Programme will fund activities in a broad range of areas and offer new possibilities for the EU and Africa to work together.

EU Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven Mimica, commented: *"These first projects of the PanAfrican programme are evidence of the EU's strong determination to strengthen and deepen our strategic partnership with Africa and follow on directly from the commitments made at the 4th Africa-EU Summit earlier this year. I believe they will make an important contribution to improving people's lives and putting the road map which the African and EU Heads of States and Governments adopted to work."*

Activities financed under today's decision, include, for example:

- tackling the issue of migration by improving dialogue between Africa and the EU; reinforcing the role diaspora organisations play in supporting development in Africa
- support to research collaboration and innovation through research grants
- access for researchers to high-capacity Internet connectivity
- support to African stakeholders to provide efficient, safe and sustainable transport networks and services and improve mobility of people in Africa
- Helping the African Union to increase its capacity for carrying out election observation missions

Background

The Pan-African Programme was announced at the 4th Africa-EU summit in Brussels in April 2014 and will amount to €845 million from 2014 to 2020. It is a key instrument for the European Commission to implement, in close cooperation with African partners, the joint political priorities of the roadmap which was adopted during the summit.

The programme will contribute, amongst other things, to increased mobility on the African continent, better trade relations across regions and also better equip both continents for addressing trans-national and global challenges, such as migration and mobility, climate change or security.

The roadmap for 2014-2017, which seeks to strengthen cooperation and policy dialogue between the two continents on issues of mutual and global interest, derives from the Africa-EU Partnership, established in 2007.

Overview table of projects

Project name	EU contribution (Million EUR)
Increasing the AU's Capacity in Election Observation	6.5
African Union Research Grants II	10

Harmonisation of higher education	5
Support to the PanAfrican Master Consortium for Interpretation and Translation	4.7
Africa Connect 2	20
Support to Africa-EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue	17.5
Panafrican statistics	10
Contribution to the African Legal Support Facility	5
EU-Africa Infrastructure Support Programme	6
Pan-African Financial Governance Programme	5
EU-Africa Partnership on Infrastructure Support to Africa Transport Policy Programme (SSATP) - Development Plan 2014-2018 (SSATP DP3)	8
Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES) Support Mechanism II and Communication Strategy	9.5
Total	107.2

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