

THEMATIC PARTNERSHIP ON MIGRATION, MOBILITY AND EMPLOYMENT

ACTION PLAN 2011 – 2013

FICHES ON PRIORITY INITIATIVES

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The draft Action Plan 2011 – 2013 proposes 12 initiatives. One is of a generic nature (nr. 1). Four relate to migration and mobility (nr. 2-5). Four more address employment challenges (nr. 6-9). And three initiatives relate to higher education (nr. 10-12).

- Initiative 1: *Facilitation of the dialogue*
- Initiative 2: *African Institute for Remittances (AIR)*
- Initiative 3: *Human Trafficking Initiative*
- Initiative 4: *Diaspora Outreach Initiative*
- Initiative 5: *Observatory on Migration*
- Initiative 6: *Decent Work Initiative*
- Initiative 7: *Labour market governance and capacity building*
- Initiative 8: *Regional and sub-regional fora on employment, labour, social protection and labour migration*
- Initiative 9: *Access to finance and guarantees*
- Initiative 10: *Nyerere Program*
- Initiative 11: *Pan-African University (PAU)*
- Initiative 12: *African Higher Education Harmonisation and Tuning*

INITIATIVE 1: FACILITATION OF THE DIALOGUE.

Objective

The European Commission (EC) and the African Union Commission (AUC) launched an initiative that aims to support the Migration, Mobility and Employment Partnership ('MME partnership') by providing an open framework for consultations on a flexible thematic and geographic basis, strengthening the leadership of the key stakeholders and facilitating the exchange of information and good practices.

The project will be implemented by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), the International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies (FIIAPP), and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP).

The project will be steered by the AUC and the EC according to the priorities defined by African and EU states in the framework of the consultation structures established by the Africa-EU strategy.

Activities

Representatives from all African and EU states will be convened to participate in a constructive dialogue on all migration-related aspects of the MME partnership. Besides national experts, academics and members of civil society will be invited to contribute to the partnership.

Policy meetings will consist of either politically oriented or more technical meetings between African and European officials and experts to discuss the priorities of the MME partnership and of the regional processes and their implementation. In this regard, the first thematic technical meeting on "*Enhancing Trafficking in Persons (TiPs): criminal investigation, prosecution and victim and witness protection among African and European countries*" was held in Johannesburg on 1-2 December 2011. In 2012 two more thematic meetings have taken place: one on "*Migrants' Rights: Female migrants and Domestic workers*" in May in Nairobi, and another one on "*Access to International Protection for Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons*" in October in Barcelona.

In addition, a technical meeting on "*Enhancing Migration, Mobility, Employment and Higher Education in the Regional Economic Communities*" was organized at the AUC in July 2012. The meeting was attended by ECOWAS, ECCAS, EAC, COMESA and SADC. A detailed stocktaking report was developed.

For 2013 the following activities are foreseen:

- 17-18 June: a Focus Group Meeting on Deliberating the Review of the 2nd MME Action Plan and charting proposals for the future strategic policy document in Brussels (Belgium);
- 3-5 July: Technical meeting on Facilitating Mobility and Employment through Enhanced Border Management, with South-South Exchange Study Visit to an One Stop Border Post in Cotonou (Benin) (meeting) and Seme OSBP (study visit);
- 18-19 September: AUC-REC follow up meeting: Engaging the private sector in advancing mobility in Arusha (Tanzania);

- 27-28 November: Senior Officials Meeting on MME in Brussels (Belgium).

The key stakeholders and structures of the MME Partnership will be supported via ad-hoc transfer of know-how, resources and expertise.

The project will stimulate best practices and information sharing through the creation of a community of expertise involving national experts, researchers and civil society actors.

This ‘MME network’ will be involved in the active dissemination of information related to the partnership via the stocktaking of outcomes and best practices of projects and initiatives spread over the African continent, expert workshops, commissioned research and an email newsletter.

Information will be regularly updated on the relevant website:

<http://staging.africa-eu-partnership.org/migration-mobility-and-employment>

Funding

The EC will contribute €3.49 million to this project, financed out of the Thematic Program on cooperation with third countries in the areas of Migration and Asylum. The project was extended till end of 2013.

Actors

EC, AUC, ICMPD, FILAPP, IDEP.

INITIATIVE 2: AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR REMITTANCES (AIR).

General

Africa and the EU aim to develop and implement concrete strategies and operational instruments to enhance the potential development impact of remittances for Africa. The African Union has emphasized the need to build its own capacity in forging institutional relationships and partnerships with its Member States and other stakeholders to put in place mechanisms for better leveraging remittances and other Diaspora resources for the development of Africa. To best leverage these financial flows an "African Institute for Remittances" (AIR) is planned to be established, with the aim to monitor the flows of remittances and oversee policies to make them easier, cheaper, safer, and more productive.

Following intense consultations between the EC, AUC and the World Bank, further progress has been made towards the conception of this institute. The preparatory phase has started in June 2010, with both a 'technical' track (implemented by the World Bank) and a consultative track (led by the AUC). A temporary secretariat has been established in AUC, in Addis Ababa to support the project's Steering Committee, and to carry out the consultation process under the leadership of the African Union Commission.

The Steering Committee chaired by the African Union Commission and gathering its main partners – the European Commission, the World Bank, the African Development Bank and the International Organization for Migration – will oversee the preparatory process leading to the establishment of the African Institute for Remittances and the various activities contributing to it.

The technical preparatory project

Objectives

Within the framework of an EC funded project implemented by the World Bank, a series of interventions aim to facilitate the process leading to the creation of the African Institute for Remittances. The envisaged outcomes of these interventions are: devising policies to create an enabling institutional policy environment and regulatory frameworks; improving methodologies for recording and analysis of remittances data; proposing regulated frameworks and encouraging competition to achieve reduction in transfer costs; development of financial, business advisory services and credit facilities for remittances senders and recipients; promoting and working with Diasporas to participate in these mechanisms and instruments.

Activities

Project activities include (a) study remittances flows both into and within Africa; (b) technical assistance to government institutions on putting in place the necessary regulatory frameworks; (c) training and capacity building programs; (d) policy research and dialogue on how remittances can contribute to the development of Africa; (e) develop content and technology platforms for country-based payment and settlement systems for remittances; (f) develop partnerships between African Development Bank, African Central Banks and remittance companies to improve financial access; (g) dissemination of data and research; (h) annual reports and annual

conferences and meetings of policy makers.

State of play

The AU Executive Council, (Dec.EX.CL/683 (XX)) acknowledge the establishment of AIR will facilitate remittances leverage for social and economic development in Africa and the AUC was requested to submit a final report on the implementation of the preparatory project and recommendations pertaining to the establishment of the AIR as a specialized institution of the AUC to the 5th Joint AU-ECA Ministerial Conference in March 2012.

The 5th Joint Annual Meetings of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development adopted Resolution 3, (Resolution 892(XLV)), whereby the Ministers recognized that remittances if well harnessed and formalized could contribute to growth and development in Africa and took note of the decision of the Executive Council (EX.CL/Dec.683(XX)) on the establishment of AIR as a Specialized Institution of the AUC and requested the AUC to submit the proposed mandate of the Institute and its organizational structure to the AU Permanent Representative Committee (PRC) through its relevant subcommittees.

By Declaration of the Global African Diaspora Summit in Johannesburg (South Africa) on 25 May 2012 (Diaspora/Assembly/AU/ /Decl. (I)) **AIR was endorsed as one of the five legacy projects** to give practical meaning to the Diaspora program and in order to facilitate the post-Summit implementation program.

Through AU Assembly Decision of July 2012 (Assembly/AU/Dec. 440(XIX)) **the Assembly endorsed the establishment of AIR** and requested the AUC to work on the modalities for its structure and location, and submit a Report to relevant organs to facilitate its early operationalisation.

From 11-17 November 2012, a **fact-finding mission** was conducted by an independent fact-finding team consisting of the AUC, IOM, AfDB, EU Delegation to the AU and consultants from the World Bank which visited three of the four countries that offered to host the AIR (Egypt, Kenya and Mauritius; Djibouti was not included due to the late receipt of its official offer) to correlate the written offers to host the AIR with the facilities on ground.

The non-committal technical report of the fact-finding mission and the Organizational Structure and Staffing proposal report were submitted to the Structure Sub-Committee of the PRC and the Executive Council at the January 2013 AU Summit.

Regarding the proposed structure and staffing proposal of the AIR, no discussion has taken place at the Sub-Committee on Structures. Yet, the Executive Council adopted a **decision on the location of the AIR** requesting the four AU Member States (Djibouti, Egypt, Kenya and Mauritius) that made an offer to host the AIR to hold consultations among themselves with a view to reach a consensus on the hosting of the AIR. However, no consensus has been reached so far. No concrete information whether the consultations among the four countries are in order to get themselves agree on which country should host the AIR.

The AU Heads of State and Government Assembly in its Decision (Assembly/AU/Dec.478 (XXI)) in May 2013 welcomed the proposal by The Republic of South Africa for the establishment of a self-funding Technical Committee of Experts for the implementation of the Diaspora Legacy Projects (AIR is one of them). The Committee proposed to compose Heads/Representatives of the following institutions: AUC, NEPAD, AfDB, UNDP, UNECA, RECs, Africa Capacity Building Institute, Private sector, Diaspora and Heads/Representatives of Implementing Agencies (to be identified by the committee)

Funding

The total budget of this project is €2,104,810.00 of which up to €1,676,271.00 will be contributed by the EC out of the Thematic Programme for Migration and Asylum and the rest by the World Bank (equivalent to US\$632,159). In addition, the EU annually allocates funding to the Department of Social Affairs of the AUC in support of the AIR project through its AU Support Program managed by the EU Delegation to AU. The project has been extended till 30 April 2014.

Actors

EC, AUC, World Bank, IOM, AfDB.

INITIATIVE 3: HUMAN TRAFFICKING INITIATIVE.

Objective

The African Union Commission will assist Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in building capacity to effectively address and respond to the challenges posed in the protection, prevention and prosecution of trafficking in human beings as encapsulated and described in the Ouagadougou Action Plan and emphasised in the AU Commission initiative against Trafficking in Human Beings (AU.COMMIT).

AU.COMMIT strives for the eradication of human trafficking, and requires collaborative efforts by the AU Commission, EU and AU Member States, Regional Economic Communities, the private and non-governmental sector, development partners, the media, and academic institutions.

The core principles are:

- Measures to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings should be based on respect for human rights including protection of victims, and therefore should not adversely affect the rights of victims of trafficking.
- Special attention should be given to the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children. The best interest of the child, including as recognised in existing international conventions, shall remain paramount. A gender perspective to be applied when adopting and implementing measures to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings. The empowerment of women and girls through national policies is seen as a central part of combating trafficking.
- The root causes of trafficking in human beings are numerous and must all be addressed: poverty and vulnerability, an unbalanced distribution of wealth, unemployment, armed conflicts, poor law enforcement system, degraded environment, poor governance, societies under stress as well as non-inclusive societies, corruption, lack of education and human rights violations including discrimination, increased demand for sex trade and sex tourism.

Activities

Core activities, focussing on prevention, protection, prosecution and coordination, are:

- Advocacy and sensitization through media campaigns, launches and technical workshops. AU.COMMIT has been launched in the following RECs: ECOWAS, IGAD, EAC and SADC; and for North and Central Africa in 2012; these meetings were combined with workshops related to the implementation of the AU.COMMIT.
- Implementation of OAP at Continental level in close coordination with RECs and Member States through establishment of National and Regional institutions and mechanisms to follow-up and evaluate the implementation of OAP at Member State and REC level.

- Assistance in development of monitoring and evaluation tools, logical frameworks and guidelines for national and regional action plans for implementation of OAP, in consultation with REC's and Member States.
- Collect and document information from countries, UN Agencies, donor agencies, IGOs and NGOs, commissioning inter-disciplinary studies, research and evaluating trafficking in person situations.
- Bi-annual analytical report on the situation of human trafficking in Africa and the status of the implementation of OAP.
- Facilitate exchange information and best practices, including addressing push and pull factors, amongst countries of origin, transit and destination, both in Africa and in the EU.

Funding

Presently, AU.COMMIT is funded and supported by an informal partnership entered into between AUC and various international partners (IOM, UNODC, UNHCR) and also through the AU Support Program (managed by the EU Delegation to the AU). AU.COMMIT also forms part of the workplan of the Africa Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2007-2012).

Actors

EU, AUC, RECs, UNODC, IOM, UNICEF, ILO, UNHCR.

INITIATIVE 4: DIASPORA OUTREACH INITIATIVE

Objective

The Partners will establish an Africa–EU Diaspora cooperation framework, with the objective of engaging the diaspora and migrant communities in Europe in the development of Africa, and to build capacity and transfer skills, knowledge and technologies from the Diaspora to the African continent.

This cooperation framework will be built on the AU Diaspora Initiative, and create synergies between the following existing programmes:

- Global Mapping of African Diasporas (a program of AUC/CIDO and World Bank),
- Capacity building for Diaspora ministries in Africa (implemented by the African Diaspora Policy Centre, with support of the Netherlands),
- EU-wide African diaspora platform for development (implemented by the African Diaspora Policy Centre, in association with AFFORD (UK), CGMD (Belgium), FORIM (France) and ICMPD, and support of the EU).

Activities

Priority actions that will be developed are:

(1) Mapping of African Diaspora organisations in the EU. This will be a joint venture of the AUC/WB programme and the EU-network program.

(2) Diaspora Health Workers Network. The AUC will establish an African Diaspora network of experts and trainers in the area of public health, with the aim of supporting the implementation of national health policies within AU Member States, in particular for capacity building and transfer of knowledge initiatives.

(3) The establishment of an AU regional network on African diaspora in Europe: the Africa-Europe Platform (AEP) has developed a network of diaspora contacts in each EU MS.

In March 2012 the **first Expert Meeting** was convened in Frankfurt (Germany) to discuss **platform building**. On the final day of the meeting a **Training on Networking and Alliance Building** took place, which has also been available as an **e-learning course** for a broader range of diaspora actors since this autumn. In November 2012 in Paris, at the **second Expert Meeting on Good Practices** in Diaspora Engagement and **adopted a Constitution** for the future permanent AEP. The first **tailor made train the trainers' session on Institutional and Organizational Capacity Building** took place in Vienna from 12-14 March 2013.

During the May 2013 AU Summit, the Assembly of Heads of State and Government have approved a Decision to establish a Technical Committee of Experts for the implementation of the five Legacy Projects (AIR is one of them). The proposed Committee would consist of the following institutions: AUC, NEPAD, AfDB, UNDP, UNECA, RECs, private sector, diaspora and Heads of Implementing Agencies (among others).

Funding

- Global mapping of African Diasporas: €999,000 through a Grant Agreement from the World Bank to AUC/CIDO.
- Capacity building for Diaspora ministries in Africa: €850,000 (pilot phase 2009-2011), contributed by Netherlands, CORDAID and GTZ Germany
- EU-wide African diaspora platform for development: €1,749,995, of which €1,399,995 contributed by the EC.

Actors

EU, AUC/HRST, CIDO, World Bank.

INITIATIVE 5: OBSERVATORY ON MIGRATION

Objective

The Observatory is designed to collect, analyze and produce reliable and harmonized data on South-South ACP migration flows for migrants, civil society and policy-makers and enhance research capacities in ACP countries for the improvement of the migrants' situation and the strengthening of the migration-development nexus. The data collected will allow the other component of the intra-ACP Facility on Migration to design and/or tailor policies so that migration is used as an element of development in the twelve ACP pilot countries (Western Africa: Nigeria, Senegal; Eastern Africa: Kenya, Tanzania; Central Africa: Cameroun, DRC; Southern Africa: Angola, Lesotho; Caribbean: Haiti, Trinidad & Tobago; Pacific: Papua New Guinea, Timor Leste) and six ACP regional organizations (ECOWAS, EAC, ECCAS, SADC, CARICOM, PIFS).

The Observatory was officially launched in October 2010. While currently based in Brussels, the Observatory should move to other stakeholders, at the end of the implementing period of its contract, i.e. June 2014. Discussions on the future of the Observatory are currently ongoing.

The activities of the observatory will be carried out in a way that maximises synergies and coordination with work done in other relevant frameworks, such as Euromed.

On the basis of the observatory's outcomes future initiatives could be envisaged to expand its scope to other regions but for now the observatory is limited to 6 ACP regions and 12 Pilot countries.

Activities

- Audit existing data and research and identify existing data gaps and research needs for gathering of new or complementary information and statistics; develop a common methodology for data collection, processing and analysis to systematize and harmonize data and information on migration; monitor, implement and support pilot research projects to test out new methodologies to assess the impact of migration and migration policies on development;

In this regard, it can be indicated that a common methodology has been designed so that data collection and analyses are harmonized. A Research Guide including major concepts and definitions on South-South migration has been uploaded on the website. The ACP Observatory has also published a list of indicators on the impact of migration on human development and vice versa which has been promoted at the Global Forum on Migration and Development.

In addition, so far 17 calls for tenders in relation to studies on migration in Africa have been launched: The impact of South-South Migration on Development in Tanzania; The Remittances Framework in Lesotho: Assessment of Policies and Programmes Promoting the Multiplier Effects; Assessment of the Kenyan Policy Framework concerning South-South

Labour Migration; Les besoins en matière de Migration de Travail Sud-Sud en RDC; Engaging Nigerian diasporas in the South in participating in and promoting development in Nigeria; Engaging Kenyan diasporas in the South in participating in and promoting development in Kenya; Internal Migration, Urbanization and Health in Angola; the Impact of South-South migration on Development in Cameroon; the Integration of newly returned migrants in Angola; the Impact of Internal Migration on Human Development in Nigeria; protection et respect des droits des émigrés sénégalais à l'étranger; the Facilitation of intra-regional labour migration in the ECOWAS region; Engaging Basotho diasporas in the South in participating in and promoting human development in Lesotho; l'impact des migrations Sud-Sud sur le développement local au Sénégal; les changements environnementaux et la migration interne en République Démocratique du Congo (RDC); exploring the potential of South-South social remittances for promoting human development in Tanzania; and Internal Migration, Urbanization and Health in Cameroon.

- Liaise with existing migration research experts and networks to strengthen their capacity, and to establish new migration research networks of observatories at the national and regional levels in the six ACP regions and continuously extend the network of research experts and institutions to cover a larger spectrum of countries within the ACP regions;
- Creation of an ACP Observatory on Migration website, including an online database for migration experts from the ACP countries, and a second database on intra-regional movements and the nature of migration both within the region and in each of the concerned countries;
- Develop training tools to be applied in workshops and seminars for academics and experts to enhance their capacity to collect systematized data on migrations and organise national consultations for policy-makers, civil society and researchers to provide a tool for exchange of migration and development information and knowledge; Trainings are taking place to improve data collection and analyses. Three interregional trainings were organized in 2011 in Senegal, Timor-Leste and Trinidad and Tobago on different aspects of South-South migration data collection. A series of national workshops took also place in 2012. The ACP Observatory is also carrying out assessments of migration data management mechanisms in its pilot countries to identify existing gaps and propose recommendations.
- Establish a system for reporting on key migration policy developments in the ACP countries and Convene migration conferences at national, regional and ACP levels with all relevant stakeholders, including regional organizations.

Funding

The total budget for the project is € 9,404,776, of which € 7,994,060 (85%) will be contributed by the EU (Intra-ACP Migration Facility).

Actors

EU, ACP Secretariat, AUC, IOM, Switzerland.

INITIATIVE 6: **DECENT WORK INITIATIVE.**

Objective

AUC and EC will jointly launch a project with the objective of extending social protection coverage in particular in the informal economy. In a first stage the two Commissions will organize an event to allow the exchange of experiences between relevant African and European experts including government officials, social partners, private sector, representatives of CSO, social economy organizations, academia, RECs, international organizations and other key stakeholders. (AUC 2011 Work Plan has an International Symposium on the Informal Economy).

Furthermore, the AU Programme on Upgrading the Informal Economy and the Productivity Agenda for Africa will continue to provide support to a multi-level dialogue and policy development on the informal economy (mainstreaming of the informal economy, empowerment and social dialogue, productivity improvement, knowledge and data base management, etc). This dialogue may also involve Asian and Latin American countries.

Activities

- Organize an experience sharing event involving all the relevant experts and key stakeholders, including CSO and international partners. The objective of the event will be to look at best practices of social protection schemes in different African countries: what works, what does not work and why. This event took place in Nairobi on 10-11 March 2011;
- Undertake productivity capacity development focusing on the Micro, Small and Medium Size Enterprise, the Public Sector and the youth and women; this will entail support to the implementation of the Productivity Agenda for Africa (2010-2016), enhancing the capacity of the Pan African Productivity Association (PAPA) which is the main implementing agency of the Agenda; this should take effect through training sessions at regional level, and assessment of the institutional capacity for the implementation of the Agenda at regional and continental level. A training session on productive capacity building was organized in Addis Ababa in October 2011, with the participation of two experts per country coming from Tunisia, Cameroon, Senegal, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania. The training was carried out by trainers from the Pan African Productivity Association and the ILO.
- Facilitate joint operational projects for social protection of informal and rural workers at AU and EU Member States levels, including research institutes, international organizations, civil society organizations including social partners; this will be done through focused meetings and electronic networking; ToR for a feasibility study have been submitted to the JAES Support Mechanism for the elaboration of a project to ease resource mobilization for the implementation of the Social protection Plan for Informal Economy and Rural Workers (SPIREWORK); they need to be enhanced further.
- Undertake regional assessments of social protection policies and programmes as related to the informal and rural workers. A regional capacity building and planning workshop was organized in Maputo in December 2012 in collaboration with the SADC and the EAC

Secretariats, to the benefit of their member states. Regional and national roadmaps were elaborated for the implementation of SPIREWORLD.

Funding

The funding of this initiative will be supported partly by EC resources (Study and Conference Facility), partly by the EC Support Program as well as the possibility of having earmarked projects and will be reflected in the Budget of the AU Commission. There is € 140,000 earmarked for the Nairobi event in the European Commission's 2010 Study and Conference Facility. Additional funding available through other programs and other appropriate thematic programs for the cooperation with third countries in the area of labour, employment, social protection, entrepreneurship and productivity.

Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African states.

The AUC aims to diversify the sources of funding within the implementation of the Strategic Document on Resource Mobilization for the implementation of the Ouagadougou 2004 Plan of Action.

In this context it is also expected that EU and African States will live up to the various international commitments in support to jobs creation and social protection of the vulnerable groups, including the G20 specific commitments (G20 London Summit, April 2009).

Actors

EU, AU, ILO, UNDP, RECs, PAPA, AfDB, UNIDO, FAO, civil society and social partners, and possible other partners.

INITIATIVE 7: LABOUR MARKET GOVERNANCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING.

Objective

The initiative aims at strengthening the institutional capacity of the labour market institutions in Africa, so that they can play effectively their role in the social and economic development in the continent. The initiative will work towards modernizing the public employment services and labour administrations, harmonizing and coordinating the labour market information systems, as well as enhancing capacity of African actors in employment policy planning, monitoring and evaluation. Partnerships will be developed between European and African labour market institutions, including through twinning projects.

Activities

- Strengthen and modernize the Public Employment Services and Labour Administrations, with focus on developing services to Micro, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises. This will be achieved through organizing capacity building and enhancement activities between AU and EU Member states (training sessions, tour visits, labour market management systems development, expertise mission, twinning projects);
- Organize a Forum of African and European Associations of Local Authorities to initiate a decentralized cooperation for employment development in the informal sector; special action will be dedicated to facilitate cooperation among local governments and authorities on local development and local employment promotion policies;
- Facilitate the harmonization and Coordination of the Labour Market Information Systems (LMISs), with the collaboration of EUROSTAT, and EU Member States through expertise support and systems development for regular production of harmonized labor market information. In this regard, the first meeting of the Steering Committee on harmonization of LMISs in Africa took place in Addis Ababa on 8-9 September 2011. At that occasion an Action Plan, a Minimum List of Indicators and a Questionnaire for harmonized Labor Force Survey were developed which are to be discussed at a meeting foreseen in Addis Ababa on 20-21 March 2012 before sending it to the Joint 5th Joint Annual Meeting of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and the ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development in Addis Ababa on 26-27 March 2012. The 1st Regional Experts' Training Workshop on Harmonization of LMISs took place in August in Ivory Coast in collaboration with ECOWAS for the West African countries. A Donors meeting was organized back-to-back to this workshop to mobilize resources for training countries. The 2nd training session took place in Mozambique in December 2012 for the SADC and EAC member States. They elaborated their regional and country roadmaps for the AU LMIS-HCF implementation. The capacity building and planning workshop for the Economic Commission of Central Africa States (ECCAS) was organized in Yaoundé in May 2013.
- Facilitate development of Employment Policy Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation approaches, mechanisms and tools in support to the follow-up of the Ouagadougou 2004

PoA at all levels, in collaboration with the EC, NEPAD, ILO, World Bank, African Regional Labor Administration Center (ARLAC), Centre Regional Administration du Travail (CRADAT) and others;

- Undertake joint efforts on advocacy and resource mobilization for the Ouagadougou Declaration and Plan of Action, including at global level, towards the G20, by organizing a donors meeting and advocating specific donor groups (G20) and foundations;
- Support cooperation and capacity enhancement between African and European Private Sectors, in particular through their respective professional associations; see with the Pan-African Employers Confederation (PEC) and its partner/sister organizations in Europe;
- Regional (RECs) studies on the link between the labour market requirements and the TVET systems;
- Support and facilitate the implementation of the Regional Integrated Employment Policies through expertise support for the set up of the regional follow-up mechanism of the Ouagadougou Plan of Action, and the selection and implementation of two main projects by RECs.

Funding

The funding of this initiative will be basically supported by the EC Support Program as well as the possibility of having earmarked projects and will be reflected in the Budget of the AU Commission.

The AUC aims to diversify the sources of funding within the implementation of the Strategic Document on Resource Mobilization for the implementation of the Ouagadougou 2004 Plan of Action.

In this context it is also expected that EU and African States will live up to the various international commitments in support to jobs creation and social protection of the vulnerable groups, including the G20 specific commitments (G20 London Summit, April 2009).

Actors

EU, AU, RECs, ILO, UNDP, UNESCO, FAO, civil society and social partners, and possible other partners.

INITIATIVE 8: REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL FORA ON EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR, SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOUR MIGRATION.
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Objective

The initiative aims at promoting facilitating the implementation of the Abuja Treaty (Abuja, June 1991), the AU Migration Policy Framework's provisions on Labor Movement and Regional Economic Integration, Regional Co-operation and Harmonization of Labor Policies, the Ouagadougou 2004 Plan of Action and the AU Social Policy Framework as well as the provisions from ILO Conventions on Migrant Workers and Members of their Families.

Activities

- Undertake harmonization and coordination mechanisms on labour and social protection policy and legal frameworks, in view of strengthening the regional integration and intra regional labour mobility; this includes regional consultations; ECOWAS adopted in December 2012 its regional social protection convention with its administrative arrangements.
- Facilitate Regional updating and harmonizing of labor laws and collective agreements in the regional economic sectors with high job-creation potential; set up an AUC database;
- Promote management capacity on structural transformations in the economy and labor market to promote employment by strengthening the Capacities of the Key Actors involved in the policies and processes of structural transformations, exchanging experiences, and study tours for benchmarking;
- Develop AU Strategy/Guidelines on Labour Intensive Approaches and Programs through conduction of a study and experts meetings;
- Carry out studies on women's entrepreneurship and discrimination in women employment (1 study in three French-speaking countries, one in three English-speaking countries, one in three Arabic-speaking countries and one in a Portuguese-speaking country);
- Develop and implement a programme of distance learning for associations of Vulnerable Groups, e.g. youth, women, rural and informal workers with HRST and NEPAD and in partnership with ILO, ARLAC, AfDB Training Center, World Bank and others.

Funding

The funding of this initiative will be basically supported by the EC Support Program as well as the possibility of having earmarked projects and will be reflected in the Budget of the AU Commission

The AUC aims to diversify the sources of funding within the implementation of the Strategic Document on Resource Mobilization for the implementation of the Ouagadougou 2004 Plan of Action.

In this context it is also expected that EU and African States will live up to the various international commitments in support to jobs creation and social protection of the vulnerable groups, including the G20 specific commitments (G20 London Summit, April 2009).

Actors

EU, AU, ILO, AfDB, UNDP, WFP, IOM, and possible other partners.

INITIATIVE 9: ACCESS TO FINANCE AND GUARANTEES

Objective

The initiative aims to intensify the EU-Africa cooperation in the area of job creation, building on the 2004 Ouagadougou Declaration and Action Plan on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa. Special attention is devoted to improve the access to financial services for the poorest and underserved, through support of the microfinance sector and through enhancing the small- and medium-sized enterprises' (SMEs) access to long term finance.

One such initiative is the progressive development of the African Guarantee Fund (AGF) aims to increase access to finance for African Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs). AGF wants to contribute to the boosting African economic growth as well as employment, not least among the growing youth population whose integration in the labour market is one of the most urgent challenges in African countries. The vision behind the AGF initiative is to create a self-sustained financial institution in Africa whose existence will not be dependent on donor subsidies and which will be part of a durable response to the challenge of getting the African SME sector to play its important role in development.

AGF is supported by the African Development Bank, the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Danida) and the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation). It is expected to be established by the end of 2011 and start issuing guarantees in early 2012. It will start its operations in a limited number of African countries (Cameroun, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia) and gradually increase its coverage to the whole of Africa.

Activities

The African Guarantee Fund will provide:

- Loan portfolio guarantees and other guarantee products to African financial institutions that wish to increase their lending to SMEs
- Capacity development support to client financial institutions aiming at enhancing the capacity of these to deal adequately with the SME customer segment

The guarantees will be partial in order to distribute the risks among all parties, and the capacity development support to financial institutions will be offered on a cost-sharing basis. To address the capacity constraints in the SMEs, AGF will seek to forge links between its client financial institutions and donor-funded and other programmes offering SME capacity development.

Funding

AGF will be established as a company limited by shares, offering its guarantee products on market conditions and expected to earn its investors an appropriate return on their investment. The company will be managed by a Chief Executive Officer reporting to a Board of Directors; Mr Felix A. Bikpo has been appointed as CEO and has taken office on 1 August 2011.

The initial guarantee capital, contributed by the three founding investors, will be € 50 million, expected to be fully paid beginning of 2012. Over the medium term, it is envisaged to bring the AGF capital to a level of € 300 million, mobilizing resources from additional donors and Development Finance Institutions as well as private socially responsible investors. The capacity development support will be funded separately from the guarantee capital from donor grants.

Actors

EU, AU, AfDB, Denmark, Spain, Mauritius, ILO.

INITIATIVE 10: NYERERE PROGRAM

Objective

The initiative aims at contributing to the production and retention of high level African human resource with Masters and PhD degrees in key areas relevant to Africa's social and economic development; while enhancing academic and student mobility within Africa. The EU support to this African Union scholarship and mobility program will fund MSc and PhD scholarships and exchanges of students and staff between participating African universities on approved post-graduate courses. It will also promote links between African universities, to further the process of capacity building, mutual recognition of qualifications and academic integration; and it will help mitigate the effects of brain drain of Africa's high level intellectual capacity.

Activities

It is expected that at least 3 University consortia (projects) will be financed annually with a budget per project of approximately €2-2.5M. (around 95% of this will go directly to scholarships and Universities will get one off payment of €15,000 per member of a consortium for the organization of the mobility). Scholarship duration will be from 1 to 6 months for university staff and academics, and up to 24 or 48¹ months for students pursuing master or doctoral studies within Africa. The total number of mobilities will depend mainly on: the distribution of the various types of mobility and the level of participation fees (the AUC is working with the AU Member States on reducing the fees for the Nyerere Scholarship holders).

Through the program:

- African universities will produce a significant number of high quality Masters and PhD graduates;
- A number of African postgraduate students will complete multinational Masters and PhD programs in African universities
- African academic and administrative staff will participate in intra-African higher education exchanges;
- African Universities will develop strong intra-African academic linkages, including collaborative capacity building of staff and joint Masters and PhD degrees.

Through the funding of these exchanges the program will contribute to:

- Increased capacity of African institutions to cooperate on internationalisation of HE within the region;
- Dissemination of the various experiences and best practice of participating universities;
- Increased visibility for the participating institutions and enhanced ability to host and manage flows of foreign students;
- Mitigating the effects of brain drain since students trained in African Universities are more likely to remain on the continent;
- Attractiveness of African higher education and research, especially to young Africans.

¹ A regular full time PhD takes a minimum of 36 months and a Masters takes 18 months; but students will be allowed a maximum of 48 months and 24 months respectively

The program will be implemented in principle through three Calls for Proposals published in 2010, 2011 and 2012 respectively: the calls will be managed by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) of the European Union, whilst the 4+1 pillar assessment is finalized and the capacity of AUC staff is built up. Relevant staff responsible for the Nyerere program at the African Union Commission will be seconded to the EACEA during 2012 and 2013, in order to acquaint themselves with the working methods of the EACEA in regard to the management of mobility schemes, and to receive training as necessary. They will then be responsible for the management of the scheme for Africa. After the transfer of responsibilities to the AUC, short term secondments of the EACEA staff to the AUC may also take place to further strengthen the full takeover of the program.

A first call for proposals was published by the EACEA on 31st December 2010 and resulted in the selection of three partnerships involving 26 universities. The second call for proposals was published by the EACEA on 10 February 2012 and resulted even in five partnerships with the participation of 60 universities.

In order to ensure that the third call for proposals addresses the AUC's concerns, a meeting with all relevant partners was held in Brussels from 3-5 July 2012.

By the third Call of the Intra-ACP scheme, the AUC wishes to see convergence among the related projects: the basic Nyerere scheme, the Intra-ACP scheme (Africa Section) and the Pan-African University. The third call was published in the EU Official Journal on 19 February 2012, in which South Sudan can participate as well; the deadline for submission was 10 June 2013.

Funding

From 2011 to 2013 the Nyerere Program has received €30 million from the Tenth European Development Fund (EDF 10), within the overall funding foreseen for the Intra-ACP Academic Mobility Scheme (for which an additional amount of €10 million supporting mobility in the Caribbean and Pacific regions).

In addition, the Nyerere (African) component of the intra-ACP scheme has received a €5 million contribution from the Development Cooperation Instrument to allow the participation of South Africa. Possibilities for additional funds will be sought, in particular in the ENPI programs.

Furthermore, the AUC also received funding for the Nyerere I program from the EU through the AU Support Program (managed by the EU Delegation to the AU), among other sources.

Actors

EU (including EACEA), AUC.

INITIATIVE 11: PAN-AFRICAN UNIVERSITY (PAU)

Objective

The Pan-African University will be structured as a network of high quality African universities. Five regional thematic networks will be established, each concentrating and specialising on specific academic domains, and coordinated by a regional hub. Each region will host one thematic hub, whereas each hub will be linked to "satellite campuses" located in various African countries. Eventually, the Pan African University will include up to 55 African institutions.

The PAU aims at developing and retaining world-class human resources in areas essential to Africa's development, by stimulating fundamental and applied research in those key areas. It will also support institutional capacity-building to enhance global competitiveness of African higher education institutions.

The PAU will be supported by the revised Arusha Process, which aims to create a Higher Education Space within Africa that enables students to transfer credits between institutions and teachers to transfer services. It will also be supported by the African Quality Rating Mechanism, the Nyerere Program and the African Higher Education Harmonization and Tuning initiative.

Activities

Teaching and research will take place at post-graduate level. Exchange and dissemination of research results will be accelerated within the networks.

Thematic areas have been already defined in Africa's Consolidated Plan of Action for Science and Technology, and allocated to the regions through a Decision of the AU Summit:

- Basic science, technology and innovation, in East Africa.
- Water and energy sciences, in North Africa.
- Life and earth sciences, in West Africa.
- Space sciences, in Southern Africa.
- Governance and human and social sciences, in Central Africa.

On 14 December 2011, the PAU was launched in Addis Ababa for three institutions in East, Central and West Africa:

1. The Institute for Governance, the Humanities and Social Sciences of Central Africa, based at the University of Yaoundé II, in Soa, Cameroon;
2. The Institute for Basic Sciences, Technology and Innovation of East Africa, based at the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Juja, Kenya;
3. The Institute for Life and Earth Sciences (including Health and Agriculture) of West Africa, based at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

The thematic hub in North Africa, on Water and Energy Sciences including Climate Change is hosted by Algeria, at the University of Tlemcen. Its first Curriculum will be validated in

February 2013, and staff and students are expected to be on board later in 2013. The location of the Space Sciences hub in Southern Africa has not yet been decided. It is envisaged that the PAU Institute for Space Sciences will collaborate with other initiatives in Space Sciences being undertaken in Africa and in partnership with the EU.

PAU Statutes were endorsed by January 2012 Summit of the African Union. In January 2013, the AU Assembly adopted the "*Statute of the Pan-African University*". This Statute settles several organizational, structural and budgetary matters regarding the PAU. In the margins of the AU Summit, host agreements have been signed between the AUC and Nigeria and Cameroon respectively. Bilateral MoUs have also been signed between the AUC and Japan, and the AUC and Sweden as lead thematic partners for the hubs in Kenya and Cameroon respectively. On 23 May 2013, the AUC signed a Bilateral Agreement with India as lead-thematic partner for the PAU Institution for Life and Earth Sciences (including Health and Agriculture) in Ibadan (Nigeria). In addition, Kenya signed its Hosting MoU for the PAU Institute for Basic Sciences, Technology and Innovation. Following the signing of these documents, the AfDB can bring its project for funding of PAU forward to their Board for approval; hopefully this can be done in June 2013.

Curricula in a few selected programs were finalized in November 2011. An "Interim Rectorate" has been established in Addis Ababa to help implement the January 2012 Summit Decision on establishment of the PAU. Interim project management units have also been established at the four Institutes to manage start up and establishment of long term management systems. The first two Institutes in Cameroon and Kenya have started the academic year in November 2012 with students; Nigeria will start in February 2013. 174 students have been admitted to these three hubs. The hub in Algeria will start in September 2013.

Representatives of the PAU were invited to the second general Higher Education Harmonization and Tuning meeting in May 2012 (Cape Town) and to the policy workshop on the interlinking roles of academic cooperation and research collaboration as a contribution to knowledge generation, exchange and capacity building measures in October 2012 (Addis Ababa) to share experiences and good practice in the area of competences, learning outcomes and curriculum development.

Funding

Each thematic network will be supported by contributions from the host government; the African Union Commission and a Lead Thematic Partner. The "Lead Thematic Partner" may be an international agency or developed country that will commit to putting agreed technical and financial support at the disposal of the PAU. They will help coordinate the mobilisation of technical and other support. The PAU will also be open to contributions from the Private Sector. In particular, links with African diaspora will also be encouraged to attract its support.

Host countries have released significant seed funding. Germany has been supporting the PAU since 2011. Sweden has provided seed funding for PAUGHSS and for a Swedish coordinating Unit for PAU in Uppsala. The AUC also receives funding from the EU through the AU Support Program (managed by the EU Delegation to the AU) for setting up the PAU. Once it is constituted, the PAU may apply for funding, for capacity-building activities, mobility

scholarships or research activities, from existing EU sources (using the established mechanisms i.e. calls for proposals), such as Erasmus for All, Edulink and Nyerere, as well as the EU research programmes.

A Fundraising Luncheon was held in Addis Ababa just after the summit, where partners including corporate sector were invited to pledge support. This event will be repeated in future.

The EU has funded so far a total of 2.7 million USD under the AU Support Program, including recently 1 million USD as part of AUC's 2013 Annual Work Program top up for student fees and tuitions.

To support sustainability and reliability of funding, a special Pan African University Fund was opened by Decision of the Assembly of the African Union in July 2012, to which member states and partners are invited to contribute. UNESCO also opened a Higher Education Fund account for the AUC, and will collaborate in efforts to mobilize resources.

Actors

EC, AUC, Germany, India, Japan, Sweden, China, Kenya, Cameroon, Nigeria, Algeria, Association of African Universities (AAU).

INITIATIVE 12: AFRICAN HIGHER EDUCATION HARMONIZATION AND TUNING

Objective

In implementing the Plan of Action for the Second Decade of Education for Africa, the African Union Commission (AUC) has embarked on a process of promoting quality assurance and has developed a framework for harmonisation of higher education programmes in Africa. This is part of the effort to revitalise higher education in Africa, creating a distinctive, attractive and globally competitive African higher education space, through enhanced intra-African collaboration. In collaboration with UNESCO, the AUC has revised the Arusha Convention for mutual recognition of degrees and certificates in Africa, and as key instrument for harmonization of higher education and enhancing mobility. The potential contribution of the "Tuning Educational Structures and Programmes" methodology as an instrument for implementing parts of the African Harmonisation agenda has been recognised by the AUC, and representatives at national, regional and continental level.

The objective of this initiative is to foster mutual understanding and learning in higher education, to raise awareness and support the development of partnerships between countries. The Tuning Feasibility study put forward a series of options for an African Higher Education Harmonization and Tuning exercise in selected subject areas in selected universities at pan-African level. The findings of the study were to be validated and an African Higher Education and Tuning exercise will be undertaken to help universities to fine-tune and develop compatible study programmes in order to promote transparency, relevance and mobility within the continent².

Activities

- February 2011: Complete the feasibility study: identify the strengths, opportunities and challenges in the implementation of an African Higher Education Harmonization and Tuning project and propose a limited number of pilot subject areas and universities.
- 14-15 March 2011: The findings of the study were validated at the Nairobi workshop with the continental, regional and national associations responsible for higher education and disseminate the study.
- 2011/2012: A call for applications for an 18-month pilot initiative was launched in September 2011. 96 applications were received from around the continent (sixty universities will participate) and were evaluated at the 28-30 November 2011 "African Higher Education Harmonization and Tuning; learning outcomes, credits and quality: a contribution to Harmonization and the Space for Higher Education in Africa" held in Dakar. This initiative is being carried out in close association with the Association of African Universities, which is the AUC's implementing body for the harmonization of higher education and aims to harmonize study programs in the fields of Teacher Education, Agriculture, Medicine, Mechanical Engineering and Civil Engineering. The first meeting of the 60 universities took place in Yaoundé, Cameroun on 23-25 January 2012, at which occasion EU and African experts defined the generic and subject specific competences for the five selected areas:

² The study was carried out in 2010, and the validation workshop was held successfully in March 2011 in Nairobi

Agriculture, Medicine, Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Teacher Education. Following this, the 60 universities returned to start the consultations with the employers, students and academics. A second meeting took place in Cape Town (South Africa) from 15-17 May, combined with a policy workshop looking at postgraduate practice in the area of competences, learning outcomes and curriculum development and linking up with the Pan-African University. The 3rd General Meeting of the African Higher Education Harmonization and Tuning project was in November 2012 in Brussels (Belgium) where participants discussed in parallel sessions the outcomes of the discussions so far and the development of the generic and specific competences as well as the meta profile of the specific discipline. In addition, discussions took place with Tuning Latin America and Tuning Russia on shared experiences and differences. This meeting was combined with the Conference “*Tuning in the world*” and was organized by the International Tuning Academy and DG EAC. It focused on key elements of Degree Profiling and analyzed how new higher education profiles are developed in Europe and other regions of the world to respond to specific social and economic demands. The Conference brought together more than 500 academics, employers, HE governmental authorities and decision makers from e.g. Europe, the Russian Federation, Latin America, Africa, USA, Canada, Australia, Thailand, Japan and China. At the 4th General Meeting of the African Higher Education Harmonization and Tuning project in Nairobi in January 2013, the outcomes of the project in Africa were finalized and the way forward discussed. Before Part II of the initiative in Africa would start, the intension is to keep the momentum and to keep the current group of 60 universities involved in the Tuning project working together through 3-4 workshops and prepare for the next phase. The focus and homework will be on teaching and learning, development of degree programs and related credits and will include two test models in distance learning.

- 2011: In the framework of the dissemination and popularization of the African Higher Education Harmonization and Tuning initiative, links will also be made with another Erasmus Mundus funded initiative steered by the European and African University Associations which aims to enhance international dialogue and cooperation on institutional development and quality assurance, to foster exchanges and networking between European and African experts in quality assurance, through mutual training exercises and to develop recommendations for the reorientation of universities with regards to governance, partnership with governmental agencies and relationship to quality assurance systems. Both the Johannesburg (May 2011) and the Dakar meeting (November 2011) addressed issues linked to recognition of qualifications and quality assurance with input from relevant EU and African agencies, councils and associations.
- 2012: In addition, on 23-24 October 2012, an Africa-EU Policy dialogue workshop on Academic Cooperation and Research Collaboration took place in Addis Ababa; the workshop was organized by DG EAC in relation to the Migration, Mobility and Employment Partnership and the Science, Information Society and Space Partnership. About 60 participants from African Universities and research centers were present. A resolution was adopted, giving recommendations to Governments, EC, AUC and Higher Education and Research Institutions. An Africa-EU Policy workshop on Linking Institutional Evaluation Practices, which was co-organized by the EC (DG EAC), AUC and the Association of African Universities (AAU) occurred in Accra, Ghana, on 18-19 December 2012 in the framework of the Tuning Initiative of the Migration, Mobility and Employment Partnership. Good discussions were conducted on the different aspects and activities of Quality Assurance in higher education, e.g. African Quality Rating Mechanism, Harmonization & Tuning.

Several recommendations were made on these different aspects. Both the discussions and recommendations are input for the follow-up meeting to be organized in the margins of the General Assembly and COREVIP Conference of the AAU in Gabon in May 2013.

- 2013: At the 4th General Meeting of the African Higher Education Harmonization and Tuning Africa Initiative in Nairobi on 23-25 January 2013, the outcomes of Tuning Africa were finalized and the way forward after this 18 months' project funded by the EC, under leadership of DG EAC. Before an African Higher Education Harmonization and Tuning Africa II Project would start, the intension is to keep the momentum and through 3-4 workshops keep the current group of 60 universities involved working together to develop new degree programs, define learning outcomes, identify credits and develop joint degrees and prepare for the next phase. The aim is also to better involve Directors for Higher Education and national quality and accreditation agencies in the initiative. In this regard a first meeting was convened in Libreville on 31 May and 1 June under the theme "*Exploring Quality Assurance in the Joint Africa-EU Strategy*". The meeting was organized by EC, AUC and AAU, back-to-back with the general Conference of the AAU. The participants subscribed the need for continent-wide cooperation in Quality Assurance and Accreditation. A next meeting within the African Higher Education Harmonization and Tuning Africa Initiative is foreseen on validation and credits in Mozambique in October 2013.
- An initiative to establish an African Accreditation Mechanism is also underway, to be able to support the increasing intra-African collaboration in higher education.
- 2013: A study on the contribution of the diaspora and alumni to joint EU/Africa cooperation, in particular in the framework of the EU higher education programs is planned. The aim of this study is to assess to what extent alumni and the African academic diaspora in EU universities, are contributing to programs and the reform of higher education in Africa and to what extent this contribution could be enhanced. The terms of reference were written in May 2013 and sent to DG DEVCO, AUC and AAU for comments. DG EAC is currently integrating comments received from DG DEVCO and will launch the request for services by the end of June 2013. See also Initiative 4: Diaspora Outreach Initiative. It is noteworthy that the July 2012 Summit of the AU took a decision calling for studies towards enhanced participation of Diaspora in education in Africa, following recommendations by COMEDAF V.
- 2014: Expand the exercise according to the outcomes of the pilot phase, establish Tuning networks at all participating institutions, with periodic validation and dissemination. Discussions within the EC will be held to define eventual follow-up funding. UNESCO (in particular in relation to the quality and teacher education element of Tuning) and World Bank (in relation to their African Centers of Excellence initiative) have also expressed interest for collaborating with the initiative and preliminary discussions have been held. Information is also shared regularly with ADEA.
- Meanwhile, the Revised Arusha Convention was endorsed by the Conference of Ministers of Education (COMEDAF IV+), and needs to be presented to the Conference of Ministers of Justice (planned for October 2013). This is an important step to provide the legal and political framework for Harmonization and Tuning, while fostering buy-in by Member States who will be expected to ratify the Convention.

Funding

The funding of the Feasibility study has been supported by the European Commission's Erasmus Mundus program (€ 500,000). The validation workshop funded by the European Commission (€ 130,000) was held in Nairobi on 14-15 March 2011 and the Pilot phase of the African Higher Education Harmonization and Tuning initiative in 60 selected universities across the continent (through a restricted tender) is financed by the Erasmus Mundus program (€498,000). The pilot phase started in September 2011 and lasted 18 months. The European Commission has financed the African Higher Education Harmonization and Tuning, Credits, Learning outcomes and Quality Conference in Dakar in November 2011 (€ 160,000) and the African Higher Education Harmonization and Tuning and Shaping Responsive and Quality Postgraduate education Conference in Cape Town in May 2012 (€ 200,000). Further funding was provided by the EC for the Policy dialogue workshop on Academic Cooperation and Research Collaboration in Addis Ababa in October 2012 (€ 230,000) and the Africa-EU Policy workshop on Linking Institutional Evaluation Practices in December 2012 in Ghana (€ 200.000). The EC financed the Quality Conference being held back-to-back with the AAU General Assembly in Gabon in May 2013 (€ 200.000) and will finance the first Harmonization and Tuning follow-up workshop in September/October 2013 in Mozambique (€ 250.000).

The study on the contribution of the diaspora and alumni to joint EU/Africa cooperation is also financed by the European Commission (€100,000).

Actors

EU, AU, AAU.