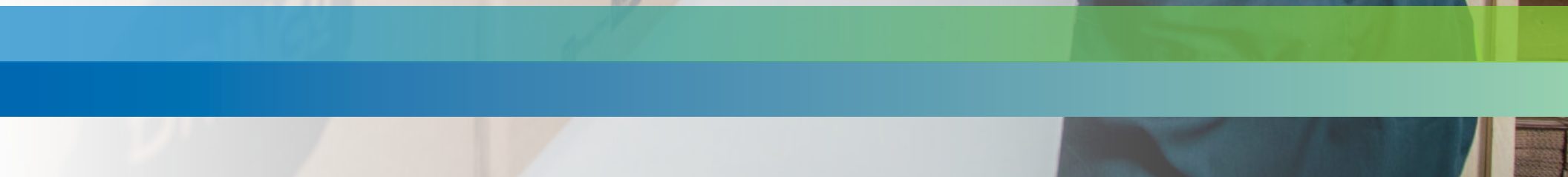


NOV
2020 | Vol. 04



UNDP | Regional Programme for Africa

MONTHLY UPDATES FROM REGIONAL PROJECTS



NOVEMBER FOREWORD

Regionalizing Development Solutions: Opportunities for Growth

2020 has been a year of both challenges and opportunities. The Regional Programme for Africa has remained agile and adaptive in our delivery approach. As such, tangible results have been achieved and new opportunities for growth revealed. The November 2020 update is a reflection of the responsiveness of the Regional Programme for Africa amid an unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic.

The Regional Programme aims to shape and support UNDP's work with the African Union (AU), Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and other regional mechanisms, as we design and implement innovative, people-centred development solutions throughout the continent. Our Renewed Strategic Offer helps to realize Africa's development aspirations not only by supporting project implementation at the country and regional levels, but also by enabling new ideas and by strengthening the linkages between research and policy.

We achieved key milestones in November. We launched a flagship publication, '[The Futures Report: Making the AfCFTA Work for Women and Youth](#)'; established a [partnership with the PanaBIOS Consortium](#) to create technology that will restore cross-border trade and travel on the continent; and continued to deepen our engagements with WANEP and ECOWAS to [support and empower women at local and national levels](#) as critical stakeholders in political transitions, governance, peace, security and development. A detailed [infographic](#) was developed to provide an overview of the initiative's objectives and expected outcomes.

No single actor can confront a global pandemic alone, and the Regional Programme will continue to promote multi-country and regional initiatives to combat the disease. This month, we have continued to scale up our regional COVID-19 response. Together with the AU and AfriLabs, we created the [Rollo Africa Business Simulation Programme](#) to support SMEs and the informal sector

in the post COVID-19 recovery process. A similar engagement to boost SMEs has been established with the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD.

With a satisfactory audit performance of the Regional Programme, an imminent 100% delivery in 2020, and a very dynamic team, we are well positioned for an even more productive 2021. The Regional Programme will continue to co-create flagship ideas, promote a unique and integrated approach to donor and partner engagement, and facilitate regional solutions to acute crises in a manner that sustains peace and encourages inclusive regional growth and development.

I am particularly excited by 'AU20', an upcoming joint initiative with the African Union led by the Office of the Chairperson of the AU Commission, to conduct an empirically rich study on the AU's development agenda ahead of its 20th Anniversary celebration. Other flagships on building smart cities, the future of governance in Africa, empowering women and youth, and supporting the comprehensive implementation of the Regional Bureau for Africa (RBA) Renewed Strategic Offer for Africa will continue to be prioritized.

Thank you for reading this update. I wish you all a restful and reflective holiday season.

Jide Martyns Okeke

Coordinator, Regional Programme for Africa

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

KEY EVENTS AND ARTICLES



Planning COVID-19 recovery in Sahel countries: Officials and academics learn to assess needs, effects and impacts



INTERVIEW: Making Impactful Strides in Africa – UNDP Regional Director for Africa, Ms Ahunna Eziakonwa



Regional workshop to prevent violent extremism in the Lake Chad Basin holds in N'Djamena



WANEP, ECOWAS and UNDP launch governance initiative to accelerate the women, peace and security agenda in the Sahel

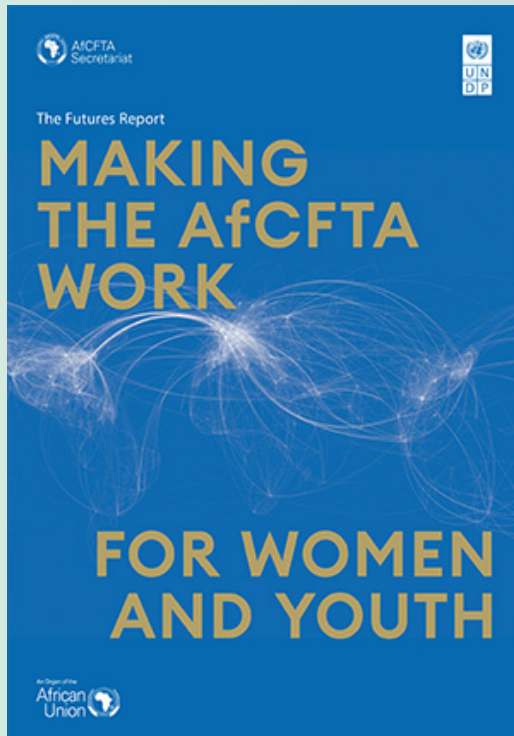


The partnership with TEF is a strategic first step towards more effective collaboration with the private sector and non-state entities to empower vulnerable and under-served communities in rural and border areas.



Ahunna Eziakonwa
UNDP Regional Director for Africa

New flagship report on the AfCFTA spotlights trade opportunities for women and youth in Africa



H.E. Wamkele Mene,
Secretary General of
the AfCFTA Secretariat



Young Africans are at the cutting edge of technological innovation for digital trade and e-commerce.



UNDP, in partnership with the AfCFTA Secretariat and the African Union (AU) Commission, launched 'The Futures Report: Making the AfCFTA Work for Women and Youth'. The Futures Report is a narrative about the promise of the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) as told through the voices of 18 producers, traders, and policy officials in Africa.

[Read more here >>](#)

[Watch the webinar here >>](#)

[Watch the promotional video here >>](#)

[Download the report here >>](#)

UNDP launches partnership to restore international travel and economic life with technology



Achim Steiner,
UNDP Administrator



The PanaBIOS-UNDP initiative is an excellent example of the forces for good we can wield if we put our minds to it.



UNDP announced the launch of a new partnership with the PanaBIOS Consortium, represented by AfroChampions, on the expansion of the scope of what began as a pan-African digital solution to support the safe re-opening of Africa to travel and trade in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

PanaBIOS and its promotion of trusted testing will play an important role in promoting the safe reopening of Africa to advance some of the objectives of enhanced intra African trade through the AfCFTA – which is a key recovery stimulus from the ravaging impacts of COVID-19.

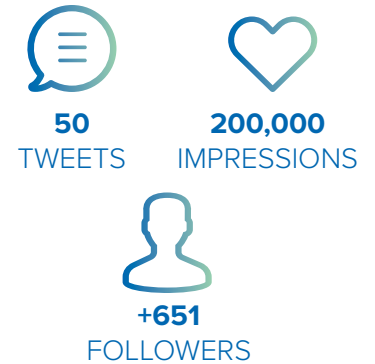
[Read more here >>](#)

WANEP, ECOWAS and UNDP Initiative

Infographic: Women in Governance and Political Transitions in West Africa



Social media trends



Top tweet

Earned 24,800 impressions

Are you a young African innovator in the policy development space?

Apply for this exciting @UNDP + @_AfricanUnion challenge on Innovating Africa's Transformation through the #AFCFTA (deadline 23 November)

1millionby2021.au.int/afcfta-innovat..

#AYM2020 #BuildingABetterAfrica #MyPower pic.twitter.com/ZB5RTmkhw



Download the full infographic here >>>

FOLLOW @UNDPAfrica here >>>

DECEMBER 2020

EVENTS

1 DECEMBER

GLOBAL PULSE INITIATIVE

Virtual presentation by Global Pulse and RBAS DLI on “Global Pulse Initiative and Digital Lighthouse Initiative

For more information, contact: Tomas Kral | tomas.kral@undp.org

2-22 DECEMBER

ROLLO AFRICA SIMULATION PROGRAMME >>

30 businesses from five countries will begin the Rollo Africa Business Simulation Programme

For more information, contact: Fatma Ahmed | fatma.ahmed@undp.org

4-13 DECEMBER

E-TRANSFORM REGISTRATION

Training opportunity on social protection for UNDP Africa Staff and Government Counterparts

For more information, contact: Liya Abraham | liya.abraham@undp.org

5 DECEMBER

PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

PVE CoP webinar on donor mapping for PVE resource mobilization

For more information, contact: Tomas Kral | tomas.kral@undp.org

10 DECEMBER

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY >>

This year’s Human Rights Day theme relates to the COVID-19 pandemic and focuses on the need to build back better by ensuring Human Rights are central to recovery efforts

1-4 DECEMBER

COVID-19 RECOVERY TRAINING

Online training on COVID-19 Recovery Needs Assessment and Recovery Planning, jointly organized by UNDP and

For more information, contact: Reshmi Theckethil | reshmi.theckethil@undp.org

3 DECEMBER

AfCFTA LAUNCH >>

Launch of the AfCFTA Futures Report in partnership with the AU, AfCFTA Secretariat, development partners and

For more information, contact: Ify Ogo | ify.ogo@undp.org

5 DECEMBER

AU SUMMIT ON AfCFTA >>

Virtual meeting of the 13th Extra Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union on the AfCFTA

6 DECEMBER

AU SUMMIT ON SILENCING THE GUNS >>

Ending all wars, civil conflicts, gender-based violence, violent conflicts and preventing genocide in the continent

15 DECEMBER

AU Early Warning Toolkit Training

The online validation of the AU Early Warning Toolkit guidance note

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