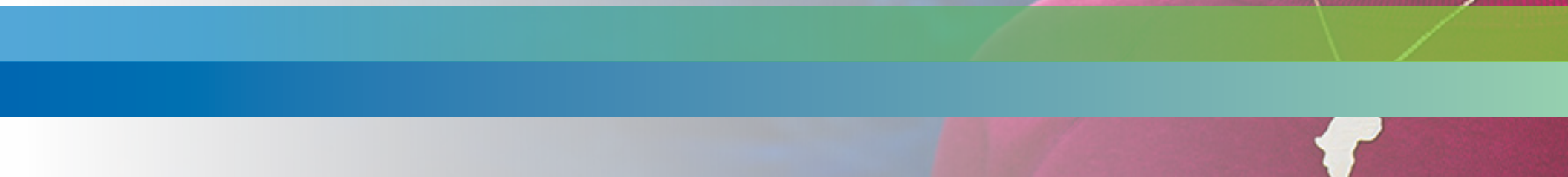


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UNDP | Regional Programme for Africa

MONTHLY UPDATES FROM REGIONAL PROJECTS



The Promise of 2021: Old Challenges, Renewed Commitments for Positive Change

2021 is here, and so are we. Despite the unprecedented challenges faced in 2020, the Regional Programme for Africa adapted. We reimagined our approach to working collaboratively and innovatively to support vulnerable communities across the region.

In 2020, cross-sectoral programmes were established or scaled up, advancing the implementation of the Regional Bureau for Africa (RBA) Strategic Offer and the Regional Programme Document. Women and youth empowerment, especially in fragile contexts, were prioritized. Our partnership with the African Union (AU) and the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention facilitated a coherent and effective regional COVID-19 response. We also achieved new flagships through the establishment of a stabilization facility in the Liptako Gourma Authority region, and dedicated support towards the acceleration of the African Continental Free Trade Area.

Partnerships underpin our delivery model. We work with over 100 partners including NGOs, academia, governments, private sector, and regional and international institutions.

2021 represents an opportunity for thought leadership on regional priorities. As we think about recovery from the pandemic, an upcoming RBA report, 'Unraveling the immediate and long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on socio economic development in sub-Saharan Africa', finds that COVID-19 is increasing extreme poverty today and could result in a higher level of poverty in 2030 and 2050, relative to a no-COVID scenario. Lessons from this report and previous studies suggest increased institutional and government capacity is key for building resilient economies and growth.

Reimagining the future of the Sahel through support to initiatives on youth, energy and governance will remain a central pillar of the work of the Regional Programme in 2021. With a strengthened policy and programmatic advisory capacity at the Regional Service Centre in Africa in Addis Ababa (recently bolstered by the arrival of a new Governance and Peacebuilding Team Leader) as well as the leadership of the West and Central Africa Hub in Dakar, we are convinced that we will achieve greater heights for the people of the Sahel.

New and exciting initiatives have also been launched. In this regard, I am pleased to announce the [“AU at 20: A Renewed Call to Action for the 21st Century”](#), a new initiative in partnership with the AU. Ahead of the 20th anniversary of the AU, we are undertaking a data-driven study to assess progress and chart a renewed call to action towards achieving Agenda 2063 (The Africa We Want) and the UN's Agenda 2030.

Finally, we are also eagerly looking forward to the launch of the Africa Borderlands Centre, taking place on 11 February in Lodwar, Kenya. The Centre will provide research, policy analysis and programming on borderland areas to unlock the socio-economic potential of the communities living in these regions.

My best wishes for a healthy, peaceful and successful year ahead.

Jide Martyns Okeke

Coordinator, Regional Programme for Africa

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

KEY EVENTS AND ARTICLES



PRESS RELEASE: African Union and UNDP launch “AU at 20” Study to review progress ahead of the AU’s 20th anniversary



INTERVIEW: New African Woman Magazine – UNDP Regional Director for Africa, Ms Ahunna Eziakonwa



PRESS RELEASE: Launching of the Inclusive Budgeting and Financing for Climate Change in Africa (IBFCCA) Programme: A SIDA-funded initiative



PRESS RELEASE: European Union ramps up support to Africa Adaptation Initiative with EUR 1 million grant



Choose to believe in Africa – it is the future of development.



Ahunna Eziakonwa UNDP Regional Director for Africa

OP-ED: Amidst a global crisis, an opportunity for the Sahel to emerge stronger



Although Africa is among the areas most spared by the coronavirus, the crisis has had severe repercussions in the Sahel, one of the most fragile regions of the African continent. According to the United Nations, about 30 million people, or about nine per cent of the population, have been pushed into poverty this year due to border closures and reduced activity.

[Read more >>](#)

EVENT: Launch of Lake Chad Basin Regional CSO Platform



Amb. Mamman Nuhu

Executive Secretary LCBC/Head of Mission MNJTF

Launching of four national CSO Platforms in Chad, Cameroon, Niger and Nigeria, culminated with the launch of the Regional CSO Platform.

[Watch the video >>](#)

Rollo Business Simulation concluded, new insights to better guide interventions to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on African enterprises



The Rollo Africa Business Simulation Programme successfully concluded several rounds of simulations in 5 African countries, supported by the African Union and UNDP.

[>>](#)

15-17 JANUARY

Awareness-creation trainings on Covid-19 - SECCI



I found the training very interesting... Through the training, we learnt the need to observe hygiene and waste management standards including hygiene of the patient and the hospital environment to prevent infection.



Nimco Isack, Nurse at the Dolo Ado office. Quote provided during the SECCI Training.

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

The Impact of the COVID-19 Outbreak on Governance, Peace and Security in the Sahel

REGIONAL BRIEF
NOVEMBER 2020

Download the report: [English](#)

Informality and Social Protection in African Countries: A Forward-looking Assessment of Contributory Schemes

Download the report: [English](#)

Africa Borderlands Centre

PROJECT DOCUMENT
JANUARY 2021

Download the report: [English](#)

BORDERLAND POLICY BRIEFING SERIES
Boko Haram and the Conflict Dynamics in the Chad Basin

UNDP Africa Borderlands Centre, Nairobi, December 2020

Download the report: [English](#)

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Regional Service Centre for Africa
Preventing and Responding to Violent Extremism in Africa: a Development Approach

Download the report: [English](#)

Social media trends

43 TWEETS
 280K IMPRESSIONS

+287 FOLLOWERS

Top tweet
Earned 28.6K impressions

UNDP Africa @UNDPAfrica

The cost of #ClimateAdaptation in Africa will rise to \$50 billion per year by 2050. @UNDP & @EUClimateAction recognize partnerships, investments & risk management as essential for harnessing the continent's own capacity to further adapt to change climate. ow.ly/J7aV50DgZnM

7:25 pm · 25 Jan 2021 · Twitter Web App

View Tweet activity

20 Retweets 2 Quote Tweets 62 Likes

FOLLOW @UNDPAfrica here >>>

FEBRUARY 2021

EVENTS

02 - 04 FEBRUARY

LAKE CHAD BASIN REGIONAL STABILIZATION STRATEGY/ FACILITY | TAPs METHODOLOGY WORKSHOP

10 FEBRUARY



SOCIAL PROTECTION REPORT LAUNCH >>
Informality and Social Protection in African Countries: A Forward-looking Assessment of Contributory Schemes

11 FEBRUARY



AFRICAN BORDERLANDS CENTRE LAUNCH >>
This event will combine a physical launch from Kenya's Turkana borderlands with a virtual launch for a global audience.

17 FEBRUARY

PVE PRACTITIONER WORKSHOP
'Dialogue Promotion – New Frontiers, Opportunities, and Challenges'

18 - 20 FEBRUARY

LAKE CHAD BASIN REGIONAL STABILIZATION STRATEGY/ FACILITY | RSS SECRETARIAT ANNUAL RETREAT



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