

Key strategies of the Policy Forum on Development

Global

In September 2015, Heads of State and Government adopted the **2030 Agenda**: a shared, comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative goals and targets. The new Agenda is composed of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets. Each country is responsible for integrating the SDGs into their own development plans and reporting on progress, and all are co-responsible for the global implementation of the Agenda.

Habitat III (October 2016) reinvigorates the global commitment to sustainable urbanisation, giving an opportunity to discuss important urban challenges and questions, such as how to “make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.” In Habitat III, UN member states agreed on the New Urban Agenda (NUA), which serves as a guideline for urban development for the next twenty years, and supports national urban sustainable policies with sound institutions and stronger governance frameworks, and encourages long term urban and territorial plans supported by more effective financing frameworks.

The Fourth High Level Forum on **Aid Effectiveness** highlighted a set of common principles for all development actors that are key to making development co-operation effective: ownership of development priorities by developing countries; a focus on results; partnerships for development involving a wider array of development actors; and transparency and shared responsibility.

Financing for Development (FfD) refers to the collective approach to deliver the policies and resources needed to support sustainable development around the world. It includes a wide range of areas, from the mobilisation of domestic resources (such as tax revenues) to harnessing the role of the private sector in financing development. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA), agreed in July 2015, helps to establish a new sustainable development paradigm, with good governance at the core and an emphasis on responsibilities for all, the primacy of domestic action, the importance of good policies, the role of the private sector and a commitment to policy coherence.

At the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC), 196 attending parties negotiated and agreed by consensus the **Paris Agreement** (December 2015), a global agreement on the fight against global warming. As of July 2018, 195 UNFCCC members have signed the agreement, and 180 have become party to it. The Paris Agreement’s long-term goal is to keep the increase in global average temperature below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels; and to limit the increase to 1.5 °C, in order to reduce the risks and effects of climate change.

European Union

The **European Union Global Strategy** was adopted on 28 June 2016. It sets out the EU’s core interests and principles for engaging in the wider world and gives the Union a collective sense of direction. It covers a broad array of areas including energy security, migration, climate change, violent extremism, etc. The SDGs are a cross-cutting dimension for the implementation of the EU Global Strategy.

The **new European Consensus on Development** renews the comprehensive common framework for European development cooperation. The document reaffirms the fight for poverty eradication and integrates the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. In doing so, it aligns European development action with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

European Union (EU)-Africa

The Africa-EU Partnership is the formal political channel through which the European Union (EU) and the African continent work together, strengthening economic cooperation and promoting sustainable development, with both continents co-existing in peace, security, democracy, prosperity, solidarity and human dignity. It was established in 2000 at the first Africa-EU Summit in Cairo.

The Africa Caribbean and Pacific-EU Partnership Agreement - also known as the **Cotonou Agreement** - has been, since 2000, the framework for EU's relations with 79 countries from Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP). In 2010, ACP-EU cooperation was adapted to new challenges such as climate change, food security, regional integration, state fragility and aid effectiveness. The expiration of the agreement in 2020 has opened the negotiations to examine what provisions will govern the EU-ACP relations in the post 2020 period.

The partnership is guided by the Joint **Africa-EU Strategy**, adopted at the second EU-Africa Summit 2007, looking at areas of common interest for both continents. The joint strategy defines priority areas of cooperation. Following the 5th AU-EU Summit of 2017, cooperation will focus in the years to come on four priority areas: i) investing in people - education, science, technology and skills development, ii) strengthening Resilience, Peace, Security and Governance, iii) mobilising Investments for African structural transformation, and iv) mobility and migration.

In the State of the Union address of September 2018, the European Commission announced a new **"Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs"** to promote a substantial increase of private investment in Africa, boost trade, enhance job creation and contribute to sustainable and inclusive development. The Alliance aims reinforces the AU-EU Partnership.

Africa

Agenda 2063 is the strategic framework for the socio-economic transformation of the continent over the next 50 years. It builds on and seeks to accelerate the implementation of past and existing continental initiatives for growth and sustainable development, including the Constitutive Act of the African Union, the African Union Vision, regional and continental frameworks and member states' national plans. Member States efforts are currently underway to adapt Agenda 2063 to National Plans and strategies, following the diverse needs and specific contexts.

The **New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)** is an economic development programme of the African Union, adopted in July 2001, which aims to provide an overarching vision and policy framework for accelerating economic co-operation and integration among African countries. NEPAD's four primary objectives are: i) to eradicate poverty, ii) promote sustainable growth and development, iii) integrate Africa in the world economy, and iv) accelerate the empowerment of women.

More information

2030 Agenda	https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld
Financing for Development	http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/CONF.227/L.1
Habitat III	http://habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/
Paris Agreement	https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2015/cop21/eng/l09r01.pdf
Aid Effectiveness	https://www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/HLF4%20proceedings%20entire%20doc%20for%20web.pdf
The EU-Africa Partnership	https://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/en
The Joint EU-Africa Strategy	https://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/sites/default/files/documents/eas2007_joint_strategy_en.pdf
EU-ACP Partnership Agreement	https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/african-caribbean-and-pacific-acp-region/cotonou-agreement_en
Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs	https://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/en/stay-informed/publications/communication-new-africa-europe-alliance-sustainable-investment-and-jobs
European Union Global Strategy	http://europa.eu/globalstrategy/en