

# Ghana and the African Union's Agenda 2063

*National Development Planning Commission*





## Background

On the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the Organisation of African Unity/African Union (OAU/AU) in May 2013, Africa's political leadership acknowledged past successes and challenges and rededicated itself to the continent's socioeconomic and political transformation. The 21st Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the AU therefore requested the elaboration of a 50-year framework, namely Agenda 2063, founded on the AU vision of "***an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international arena***". The objective of Agenda 2063 is to boost Africa's growth trajectory over the next 50 years, benefitting from lessons learnt over the last 50 years. It is people-centred and promotes the ideals of Pan-Africanism. The Agenda 2063 framework was adopted at the 24<sup>th</sup> Summit of the AU in January 2015 and seeks to promote progress in eight key areas:

- African identity and renaissance;
- The struggle against colonialism and the right to self-determination of people still under colonial rule;
- The integration agenda;
- The agenda for social and economic development;
- The agenda for peace and security;
- Democratic governance;
- Determining Africa's destiny; and
- Africa's place in the world.

In order to ensure effective implementation, the 24th AU Summit further requested the African Union Commission (AUC) to finalize a draft First Ten-Year Plan of Agenda 2063. This plan was considered and adopted in June 2015 at the meeting of the AU Policy Organs held in Johannesburg, South Africa.

## First Ten-Year Implementation Plan for Agenda 2063

The First Ten-Year Implementation Plan seeks to accelerate Africa's political, social, economic and technological transformation while continuing the Pan-African drive for self-determination, freedom, progress and collective prosperity. Covering the period 2014-2023, it is the first of a series of five ten-year implementation plans to realize the vision of the "Africa We Want By 2063". The First Ten-Year Plan was prepared through:

- (i) A consultative process covering all social formations/sectors in Africa;
- (ii) A review of national/regional plans and continental frameworks;

- (iii) A review of Africa’s development experience; and
- (iv) A review of global trends and possible development paths.

The Plan sets specific targets and provides indicative strategies at the continental, regional and national level. It outlines the institutional arrangements for implementing, monitoring and evaluating the Plan at continental and national level. It also indicates the potential sources of funding, capacity requirements, and strategies for communication.

## **Aspirations**

The First Ten-Year Implementation Plan has been structured according to the seven aspirations of Agenda 2063. The plan has in all 18 goals and 31 priority areas reflecting the desire of Africans for prosperity and well-being, for unity and integration, for a continent of free citizens and expanded horizons, with freedom from conflict and improved human security. They also project an Africa of strong identity, culture and values, as well as a strong and influential partner on the global stage making a recognised contribution to human progress and welfare. The seven aspirations are:

- Aspiration # 1: A Prosperous Africa based on Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development**
- Aspiration # 2: An Integrated Continent, Politically United based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism**
- Aspiration # 3: An Africa of Good Governance, Democracy, Respect for Human Rights, Justice and the Rule of Law**
- Aspiration # 4: A Peaceful and Secure Africa**
- Aspiration # 5: An Africa with Strong Cultural Identity, Values and Ethics**
- Aspiration # 6: An Africa where Development is People-driven, relying particularly on the potential of Women and Youth**
- Aspiration # 7: Africa as a Strong and Influential Global Player and Partner**

The list of priority areas and goals for each of the aspirations is attached as Annex 1.

## **Agenda 2063 and Ghana’s Development Plans**

Following adoption of Agenda 2063 in June 2015 by African political leaders, member states are now expected to integrate the First Ten-Year Plan of Agenda 2063 into their subsequent medium- and long-term development plans. The seven aspirations and 19 goals of the First Ten-Year Plan of Agenda 2063 is in line with the seven thematic areas and associated policy objectives of Ghana’s current medium-term development framework – the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (GSGDA II; 2014-2017). The only Agenda 2063 goals that are not reflected in GSGDA II are regional-level goals:

- A united Africa;
- A fully functional and operational African peace and security architecture;
- Africa as a major partner in global affairs and peaceful coexistence;
- Africa taking full responsibility for financing its development.

The good match between Agenda 2063 and GSGDA II provides a strong basis for “localising” Agenda 2063 in Ghana. The National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) will aim to uphold the spirit and objectives of Agenda 2063 within the national context, while aptly reflecting our national priorities and aspirations.

## **M&E Requirement and Experience Sharing**

An efficient monitoring system is required if Ghana is to meet the reporting obligations for Agenda 2063, the Post-2015 Global Development Agenda and GSGDA II and its successor development frameworks. A comprehensive set of indicators and data collection and management protocols will be required to reflect the synergies among the various reporting requirements and cycles, without duplicating efforts.

The indicators selected to track progress towards the attainment of Agenda 2063 targets, and the method for their computation and verification should be similar to those of the other member states. If that harmonisation is not achieved, it will be difficult to aggregate and compare the performance of member states at the regional and continental levels. In addition, a record of key success and/or failure factors will be required to provide examples of “how to” and/or “how not to” experiences for sharing within the African region and beyond.

## **Awareness Creation**

As contained in the Communication Strategy for Agenda 2063, efforts will have to be made locally to generate and sustain public awareness, involvement, support and ownership. These may include consultation meetings, promotion of debates, discussions, workshops, community forums and advertisements. The

strategy also incorporates radio and television programmes, social media, memorabilia and paraphernalia, and publications.

## **Financing Agenda 2063 in Ghana**

Responsibilities for resource mobilization have been assigned to the continental, sub-regional, and national governments. The role of member states in resource mobilization for implementing Agenda 2063 is as follows:

- Develop/implement medium-term resource mobilization plans within the context of the Agenda 2063 Resource Mobilization Strategy;
- Lead/coordinate the implementation of the national medium-term resource mobilization plan;
- Conduct mid-term reviews of national medium-term resource mobilization plan implementation; and
- Prepare annual reports on resource mobilization for Agenda 2063.

The financing strategy for Agenda 2063 has four dimensions:

- Enabling environment;
- Domestic resource mobilization;
- Intermediation of financial resources into investment;
- Facilitation of access to finance.

## **Conclusion**

Africa's Agenda 2063 framework provides a great opportunity for the accelerated socio-economic development of African countries. The implementation strategy assigns specific roles at the national, regional and continental levels which are based largely on existing systems. The Agenda will thus build on national planning, monitoring and evaluation structures which, if necessary, will be adapted to cater for the exigencies of Agenda 2063. Ghana has a well-established planning system, together with a monitoring and evaluation system which may have to be improved slightly to support the implementation of Agenda 2063. Other key success factors required for the implementation of Agenda 2063 include: leadership/stakeholder relationships and responsibilities, capacity building for implementation, communication for citizen/stakeholder involvement and ownership, and coordination of implementation activities.

## Annex 1: Agenda 2063 Aspirations, Priority Areas and Goals

Aspiration	Goals	Priority Areas
(1) A prosperous Africa, based on inclusive growth and sustainable development	(1) A high standard of living, quality of life and wellbeing for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incomes and jobs</li> <li>• Poverty and hunger</li> <li>• Social security and protection, including for persons with disabilities</li> <li>• Modern and liveable habitats and basic quality services</li> </ul>
	(2) Well-educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literacy and skills revolution</li> </ul>
	(3) Healthy and well-nourished citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health and nutrition</li> </ul>
	(4) Transformed economies and jobs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusive, sustainable economic growth</li> <li>• Manufacturing / industrialisation and value addition</li> <li>• Economic diversification and resilience</li> </ul>
	(5) Modern agriculture and blue economy for increased production and productivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural production and productivity</li> <li>• Blue economy</li> </ul>
	(6) Environmental sustainability and resilient economies and communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bio-diversity, conservation and sustainable natural resource management</li> <li>• Water security</li> <li>• Climate resilience and natural disasters</li> </ul>
2) An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of African renaissance	(7) United Africa (federal or confederate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Framework and institutions for a united Africa</li> </ul>
	(8) World-class infrastructure that criss-crosses Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communications and infrastructure connectivity</li> </ul>

<b>Aspiration</b>	<b>Goals</b>	<b>Priority Areas</b>
(3) An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law	(9) Democratic values, practices, universal principles of human rights, justice and the rule of law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Democracy and good governance</li> <li>• Human rights, justice and the rule of law</li> </ul>
	(10) Capable institutions and transformed leadership at all levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institutions and leadership,</li> <li>• Participatory development and local governance</li> </ul>
(4) A peaceful and secure Africa	(11) Peace, security and stability is preserved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance and preservation of peace and security</li> </ul>
	(12) A stable and peaceful Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institutional structure for AU instruments on peace and security</li> </ul>
	(13) A fully functional and operational APSA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• African security forces capability</li> </ul>
(5) Africa with strong cultural identity, values and ethics	14) African cultural renaissance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Values and ideals of Pan-Africanism</li> <li>• Cultural values and African renaissance</li> <li>• Cultural heritage, creative arts and businesses</li> </ul>
(6) An Africa whose development is people driven, especially relying on the potential offered by its youth and women	(15) Full gender equality in all spheres of life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women and girls empowerment</li> <li>• violence &amp; discrimination</li> </ul>
	(16) Engaged and empowered youth and children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• youth empowerment and children</li> </ul>
(7) An Africa as a strong and influential global player and partner	(17) Africa as a major partner in global affairs and peaceful coexistence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Africa's place in global affairs</li> <li>• Partnership</li> </ul>
	(18) Africa taking full responsibility for financing its development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital markets</li> <li>• Fiscal system and public sector revenues</li> <li>• Development assistance</li> </ul>