

Under the aegis of



AU Africa Integration Day

# 4D Investment Pact

AN INITIATIVE OF AFRICAN UNION AGENCIES, AFROCHAMPIONS AND STRATEGIC PARTNERS



**Launched at Boma 2023**

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## The 4D Investment Pact 2023

In October 2019, the African Union Commission launched the Trillion Dollar Framework (TDF), with technical support from the AfroChampions Organisation. The objective of the TDF was, from the beginning, the devising of innovative resourcing frameworks to advance the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063 flagships like the Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) that are forging Africa's strategic integration for global relevance.

In February 2020, the AU's supreme policy organ, the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, tasked the Ministers responsible for Trade, Finance and Development and the AU Commission (AUC) to continue accelerating the implementation of the TDF.

As a policy vehicle for advancing the TDF and AfCFTA, the AUC and its strategic partners have created the 4D mechanism to institutionalise the public-private partnerships critical to mobilizing the continent behind a common strategic purpose of integrating African economies and boosting their competitiveness in global value chains.

In May 2021, in the heat of the pandemic, African Ministers, under the auspices of the AUC and Africa CDC, reinforced the urgency of the 4D Agenda in the task of rebuilding the continent's productive capacity for long-term resilience in a world of structural poly-crises.

4D represents the systematic mobilization of African institutions, peoples, nations, businesses and cultures, across all strategic dimensions, into a kinetic force for vision execution, fueled by the energy generated in dynamic ecosystems adapted for complementary transformative missions.

This year, during Africa Integration Week, we the undersigned, leaders of frontline pan-African institutions and stakeholders of Agenda 2063 and AfCFTA, are entering a pact to take the 4D Agenda forward in a number of concrete directions.

- The TDF makes provision for “soft” infrastructure design and development with the aim of resourcing pathways for African inter-market and global value chains integration.
- As a matter of strategy, the 4D vehicle is prioritizing data-driven and digital-enabled soft infrastructure due to its large capacitation factor, superhigh return on investment, and speed to results.



- Specific areas of transformation in this strategy include bio-innovation (such as vaccine manufacturing, genomics, gene-editing, drug discovery and other biotech and biomedical innovations), digital health, artificial intelligence and other continental digital public goods.
- Reference implementations of such systems are already in use in multiple AU Member States. They include PanaBIOS, AMSP, ProPer, Tranzyt, Transforma and the AfCFTA Hub. Going forward, the 4D Pact signatories will double their efforts to see such systems put to greater use in achieving transformative outcomes such as a continental Public Health Wallet, a common digital trading rails, and a green economy platform.
- The resulting continental innovation ecosystem will be positioned for funding from regional and international development finance institutions and strategic philanthropic organisations, in the process creating innovative funding sources for Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs), gender-responsive grants, startups, university spin-offs and other vital actors of a vibrant and inclusive co-innovation community.
- In particular, a Value Chains Accelerator will be prioritized to speed up commercialization of bio-innovation and digital business models, products and services of high relevance to the Agenda 2063 flagships like AfCFTA, as well as the New Public Health Order.

If the pandemic has taught the continent anything, it is the need for a new framework for African continental resilience. Africa's ongoing recovery from the pandemic must be tied to a strategic repositioning of the continent in the global economic system.

Unfortunately, the latest research shows that the continent is significantly off-track both in respect of Agenda 2063 and the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For example, the latest AUDA-NEPAD report, ahead of the first 10-year review this year, shows that on Aspiration 1 (prosperity and sustainable development) the continent is falling short by an



alarming 91%. Such trends cannot be allowed to persist without strong counter responses.

Our signing of the 4D Pact at this year's Boma is a strong signal that continental institutional leadership is alive to this imperative and determined to see real success in the near-term.

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