



Economic Commission for Africa

A service of the UN system-wide support to the African Union and its NEPAD Programme

# NEPAD TODAY

Every Wednesday

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## NEPAD ASTII workshop in SA

**N**EPAD Agency will from April 23 to 27 hold a training workshop as part of implementation of the second phase of the African Science Technology and Innovation Indicators (ASTII) Initiative.

The workshop is being organised in collaboration with the South African Department of Science and Technology through the HSRC's Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (CeSTII) and the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) and will be held at the Southern Sun Newlands Hotel in Cape Town.

The ASTII Initiative is a flagship programme of the African Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA) and it aims at supporting evidence-based policy that addresses Africa's development challenges in the context of Science Technology and Innovation (STI).

The overall goal of ASTII is to contribute to improving the quality of STI policies at national, regional and continental levels by strengthening Africa's capacity to develop and use STI indicators. The ASTII Initiative is supported by in-country resources from participating countries and a grant from the

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## PRC Sub-Committee ends working visit to NEPAD Agency

**A** delegation of the Permanent Representatives Sub-Committee (PRC) of the African Union on NEPAD concluded a two day working visit to the NEPAD Agency in Midrand, South Africa on April 21 which was aimed at enhancing and strengthening the effectiveness of the Agency.

The delegation, which was made up of ambassadors and representatives from 13 member states of the PRC Sub-Committee on NEPAD, was welcomed by the NEPAD

Agency CEO, Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, who underscored that the visit was a historic one as it was the first ever by the Sub-Committee to the Agency.

Mr Jean Yves Adou, an official at the African Union Commission who stood for the AUC Commissioner for Economic Affairs, Dr Maxwell Mkwezalamba, reiterated the importance of the working session as it was "in support of the successful integration of the NEPAD Agency as the technical body of the African Union." The leader of the

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## NEPAD ASTII...

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). Participants to the workshop have been drawn from close to 40 African countries and will include experts from Ministries responsible for Science and Technology and National Statistical Offices. The workshop will focus on training in the production of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) indicators and will include discussions on policy relevance and implications of STI indicators. This event is a key step towards the release of the second edition of the African Innovation Outlook (AIO). The inaugural AIO was released in Addis Ababa in May 2011.

Source: <http://www.biztechfrica.com/article/nepad-astiii-workshop-sa/2621/>

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## PRC Sub-Committee...

delegation and Ambassador of Senegal to the AU, Mr. Bassirou Sène, said the visit gave the delegation an opportunity to experience at first hand the operating environment of the NEPAD Agency and to learn more about the NEPAD flagship programmes.

The PRC Sub-Committee was briefed on the NEPAD Agency's mandate, its core functions and strategic direction. Emphasis was placed on the Agency's mandate to advocate for NEPAD policies and coordinate NEPAD programmes through the political leadership of the African Union Commission. Progress in the harmonisation and programme coordination with the AUC was also highlighted during the discussions.

The delegation took stock of the achieve-

ments made by NEPAD's flagship programmes over the past 10 years in agriculture, infrastructure, nutrition, education and training, science and technology, capacity development, human development as well as ICTs and women empowerment.

The working session was climaxed with an official reception hosted by the NEPAD CEO in honour of the delegates. Dignitaries at the event included the Special Advisor to the President of South Africa on International Relations and Personal Representative on the NEPAD Steering Committee, Ambassador Ms Lindiwe Zulu. In a speech, Ms Zulu reaffirmed the support of the South African government in advancing the NEPAD agenda and its continued commitment to support the objectives of the African Union.

At the end of the sessions, Ambassador Sène said the PRC would fully support the successful integration of the NEPAD Agency into the AU.

Source: [www.nepad.org](http://www.nepad.org)

## Upcoming Events

- Forum 2012: "Beyond Aid... Research and Innovation as key drivers for Health, Equity and Development", 24 - 26 April 2012  
Cape Town, South Africa
- Forum on Place and Role of ICTs in Modernisation and Prosperity of African Posts  
30 Apr - 1 May 2012, Arusha, Tanzania
- World Economic Forum, 9-10 May 2012, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- MDG Review Exhibition & Summit 2012  
3 - 4 May 4 2012, Cape Town, South Africa
- 8th CAADP Partnership Platform (PP)  
3 - 4 May 2012, Nairobi, Kenya

**Please let us hear from you**

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