



Economic Commission for Africa

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

NEPAD TODAY

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NEPAD signs agreement with the Liechtenstein Foundation

At a ceremony at Vaduz Castle, the Liechtenstein Foundation for State Governance (LFSG) and the NEPAD Agency, the technical body of the AU, signed a comprehensive cooperation agreement for a significant Africa-wide capacity development and reform initiative over the next six years.

The cooperation between LFSG and the NEPAD Agency will establish long-term, institutionalized and sustainable transfer of critical knowledge and implementation tools for healthy and efficient financial and capital markets in Africa. This joint initiative has been defined and structured in accordance with the AU/NEPAD Capacity Development Strategic Framework (CDSF), and will be implemented through series of capacity development, public education and financial sector development projects in qualifying African countries.

The joint LFSG/NEPAD Agency initiative is predicated upon extensive public education and financial literacy campaigns to be implemented by local task forces based on know-how and tools specifically acquired through the LFSG training methodology. This extensive knowledge transfer will generate stakeholder engagement and mobilization at all levels of society, and aims at addressing current deficiencies of implementing capacities

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Senegalese Minister urges African researchers to boost agriculture

Senegalese agriculture minister, Khadim Guèye, has called for the involvement of African researchers in boosting agriculture in Africa. 'I think that the research dimension should be developed which must be upheld by African researchers in the field of agriculture,' he declared in a news conference on the occasion of the 19th International Fair of Dakar.

Mr. Guèye also said that research must be at the heart of strategies aimed at boosting the agricultural sector, noting that his country's priority remained production.

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Africa needs gender responsive development, says NEPAD's Dugbazah

(Excerpt from a statement by Justina Dugbazah, Project Manager, NEPAD Spanish Fund, Gender Programme, NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency in South Africa)

As the world marks International Women's Day on March 8, it is important to review the situation of women in Africa. Despite the fact that most African governments have adopted international and regional instruments and resolutions that promote women's rights, African women still face institutional, legal, political, environmental as well as socio-economic constraints, which impact their capacity and ability to undertake sustainable livelihoods.

As a result, these constraints have served to exclude women from recognized development benefits and opportunities, a phenomenon more pronounced among rural women who are the backbone of the economy, constituting 80 percent of farm labour and producing 50 percent of food in Africa. Consequently, women in Africa are among the most disadvantaged population groups. Studies show that they tend to have relatively lower positions with regard to occupation, income, education, age, social class, culture or ethnicity. Additionally, their position within their households and community is considered lower than that of their male counterparts.

The constraints African women face hinder them from accessing financial and natural resources such as capital and land. The lack of access to resources translates into lack of better economic opportunities for women. These drawbacks, in turn, perpetuate income and real poverty—poor women are not only those with the lowest incomes but

also those who are most deprived of health, education and other aspects of human well-being.

Source: <http://www.nepad.org>

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Source: <http://www.nepad.org>

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He indicated that the difficulty in Senegal lies in land development, and not in their availability and use.

Source: <http://www.afriquejet.com/news/africa-news/senegalese-minister-urges-african-researchers-to-boost-agriculture-201103053718.html>

Upcoming Event

- African Utility Week

14-17 March 2011, Cape Town, South Africa

- AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development: Theme: Governing development in Africa

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