

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

Sustainable Development Goals for the Eastern Africa Subregion

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1. Objectives

- **Overall objective:** provide a well-informed analysis of SDGs for the EA subregion which covers the fourteen Member States.
- **The specific objectives:**
- Identify and provide an analysis of the priority sustainable development issues and challenges of SD → 
- Propose a set of SDGs and associated targets and indicators
- Provide action-oriented recommendations and way forward
-  Operationalization/implementation of the proposed SDGs

2. Methodology

- Analysis information from the consultations with various stakeholders at country and subregional levels through:

- ◆ Questionnaires (Member States, RECs, IGOs, COMESA, EAC, IGAD)
- ◆ Exchange of e-mails,
- ◆ Telephone, and/or
- ◆ face-to-face interviews

- In-depth desk review of various documents that mainly considered countries and subregional strategic documents

3. Major Sustainable Development Issues in the Eastern Africa Subregion : Overview

- Eastern Africa (EA) comprised of fourteen countries that share similar physical and resources characteristics.
- EA faces similar economic, social and environmental challenges.
- Countries are located either in the Great Lakes region, in the Horn of Africa or the Indian Ocean.
- Countries tried to achieve a common regional integration agenda through establishment of regional bodies such as RECs and IGOs.
- COMESA (12 countries)
EAC (5 countries)
IGAD (6 countries)
- By working together to develop and implement collective programs member States can more efficiently address the challenges and pressures undermining sustainable development in the subregion.

N°	Sustainable development issue	Main causes	Implications and linkages with other sustainable development issues
Economic sustainable development issues			
1	High Poverty levels	-High population growth rates estimated at 2.5% annually, - land degradation, limited range and non-diversified economic activities.	-Individual country poverty levels show worrying trends 100 million live below the poverty line. -High diseases burden, low productivity and poor health, poor nutrition, inability to afford and access adequate social services.
2	High unemployment rates	Inadequate access to social services such as education and health estimated to be more than 40 percent and production asset including finance and productive assets such as land and other natural	Poor productivity of the population, Inadequate access to basic needs, vulnerability to crimes, rural urban influx
		resources	
3	Inequitable economic growth and Inequality	Predominance of agriculture, Inadequate off farm activities, High population pressures, Unequal land distribution,..etc	Depletion and degradation of natural resources, environmental challenges, and increased poverty levels

Social sustainable development issues			
4	High Population growth	High fertility rates, poor family planning services, and high poverty levels	Pressure on and degradation of natural and other resources, low productivity levels, production focus on subsistence
5	Poor health and prevalence of diseases such as HIV prevalence	Inadequate access poor health facilities and services, poor nutrition, low budget allocations...etc.	High child and maternal mortality; low productivity and poor economic performance
6	High illiteracy rates	High rates of secondary-school drop-outs, low ratio of girls to boys enrolment in higher institutions of learning	Persistent unemployment; lower wages and income; poverty, slow growth levels, women's inadequate access to resources such as land and inequitable growth
7	Food insecurity and persistent hunger	-Considerable decline of food production -Increase of food price Population growth rates (2.5 percent), land exhaustion and loss of soil fertility, inadequate access to appropriate farm technologies, floods and droughts	Poverty circles, poor health and childcare, land degradation; food price volatility; conflicts.
Environmental sustainable development issues			
8	Unsafe water and poor sanitation	Inadequate water supply, sanitation facilities, and limited infrastructure	Water-borne diseases and poor health

9	Air pollution	Unregulated emissions from industries, emissions from other sources, use of poor technologies	Climate change, diseases
10	Negative impacts of climate change including droughts, floods and landslides	High carbon emissions from deforestation and land degradation, use of fossil fuels particularly in the transport and energy sectors	Disruptions in agricultural, increased incidence of diseases and poor health, increased hazards such as landslides and high incidence of natural disasters, food insecurity, loss of biodiversity, disease and poor health and natural disasters
11	Land degradation and desertification	Population Pressure, encroachment on Forests, desertification, effects of climate change	Disruption production, persistent drought, loss of soil fertility, ad food insecurity
12	Deforestation	Population pressure, agricultural encroachment poor agricultural	Reduction in rain fall; loss of biodiversity, land degradation and loss of soil
13	Unreliable energy sources	High reliance on biomass fuels, Limited investments in clean and modern energy sources,	Land degradation and deforestation limited production levels, climate change effects, limited industrial development
Governance challenges on Sustainable development			
14	Increased security concerns and peace building	Instabilities in the region, Cultural attachments,	Instability of the population, reduction in the performance of economic activities like agriculture, limited food production, Many refugee camps in the region

4. Major Sustainable Development Issues in the Eastern Africa Subregion: Opportunities

- ❑ Rich natural resources endowment (land, forest, national parks, oil reserves, minerals and water resources that can generate power).
- ❑ Regional integration: tremendous progress towards economic integration through EAC, IGAD and COMESA and CEPGL. Integration can boost trade across the subregion.
- ❑ On going development strategies and programs: member States and the RECs have put in place various development strategies and programs that can:
 - Facilitate quick response to certain subregional challenges.
 - Be capitalized to advance sustainable and inclusive growth and development.

5. Priority sustainable development areas/themes

❖ National level Priority sustainable development areas

Policies, strategies and programmes to tackle the various issues are elaborated in national poverty reduction strategies, national development plans, and long term vision documents.

- ❑ **Poverty reduction/eradication:** Countries have all indicated poverty reduction as a priority goal.
- ❑ **Infrastructure development:** Identified by countries as a priority that would form the basis for increased investments.
- ❑ **Energy development:** Essential for increased industrial growth and accelerated economic transformation.

5. Priority sustainable development areas/themes (cont')



- **Peace, Security and good governance:** Enhance judicial systems, reducing corruption rates, reconciliation, and through the constitutions.
- **Increasing private investments:** stimulating industrial growth.
- **Health:** Particular attention to maternal and mortality rates, HIV/AIDS infectious rates and family planning efforts emphasized.
- **Sound environmental management:** For some countries handled as a cross cutting issue. Countries formulated National Adaptation Programs to guide them in identifying resource requirements for mitigation and adaptation measures towards addressing climate change.

5. Priority sustainable development areas/themes (cont')

❖ Subregional level priority sustainable development areas

○ Economic priorities

- **High and sustained economic growth:** enhance economic performance through agriculture transformation, trade and increased exports, promote private investments and transform the operation of small and medium enterprises.
- **Infrastructure development:** would accelerate growth of other sectors such as health, agriculture, trade and industry in the subregion
- **Achieving food and nutrition security:** would ensure food production and sustainability of food among the population in the subregion
- **Tackling unemployment:** reduce impact of unemployment rates through increased employment creation, increased private investments, diversification from agriculture to other sectors and increased off farm activities

5. Priority sustainable development areas/themes (cont')



- **Social priorities**
- ◆ **Poverty eradication**
- ◆ **Tackling diseases and improving health:** health issues and more specifically concerns on HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, incidence of malaria and non communicable diseases
- ◆ **Education and skills development:** reduce the high rates of illiteracy rates in the subregion. Transformation from job seeking education to job creation has been emphasized through vocational training.

5. Priority sustainable development areas/themes (cont')



- **Environmental priorities**
- ◆ **Sustainable land management:** programs (increased forestation, terracing and soil erosion control) and policies to ensure effective land management and productivity of land.
- ◆ **Access to water and sustainable water resources management:** the subregion has also prioritized the extension of clean and safe water to the population especially in the rural settings.
- ◆ **Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction:** mechanisms to manage water sheds, control for flooding, earthquakes and other disasters especially in the disaster prone areas.

4. Sustainable development goals, targets and indicators



- ◆ The formulation of goals has been derived from the previous priority areas and emerging priority issues. In the efforts to attain sustainable development for the Eastern Africa subregion, clear achievable targets and indicators to track the operationalization of SDGs were proposed.**

Goals and Targets	Indicators for monitoring progress
Economic Transformation	
Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty	
Target 1: Eradicate poverty in the number of people, leaving under 1.25 dollars /national poverty line by 2040	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of people living below 1.25 dollar a day/national poverty line 2. Poverty rates indicators (Population living under 1,25 dollars a day/national poverty line 3. Population consumption trends and indicators (growth rates, death rates)
Goal 2: Ensure food security and adequate nutrition	
Target 1: Reduce food imports by 50 % in the year 2040 Target 2: Eradicate hunger by 2040, in the	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevalence of underweight children under-five years of age 2. Proportion of population below minimum level of
proportion of people who suffer from hunger Target 3: Reduce by 2040 the number of people with unbalanced diet by 80%	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Nutritional status (per capita caloric intake)
Goal 3: Reduce the rate of unemployment	
<p>Target 1: Increase private investments by 5% by the year 2030 to ascertain employment opportunities</p> <p>Target 2: Increase quality employment by 10% by the 2040</p> <p>Target 3: Increase diversification to more technical skills based employment by 10% by the year 2040</p> <p>Target 4: Reduce unemployment rate among the youth and graduates by the year 2030 by more than a half</p> <p>Target 5: Improve social protection accessibility benefits by more 30 percent by 2030</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unemployment rate for the graduates and the youth 2. Growth rate of GDP per capita 3. Employment to population ratio 4. Number of population living under 1 dollar a day 5. Sector contributions to growth 6. GDP growth rate 7. Social protection coverage 8. Number of crimes

Goal 4: Increase and Improve existing Infrastructure

Target 1: Improve infrastructures internally and those that link the regions (roads, energy stations airports) by 20% by 2030

Target 2: Reduce the number of people without access to electricity by 20% in 2030

Target 3: Develop roads in both urban and rural areas to a rate of 10% by the year 2030

Target 4: Improve water management systems and distribution by 20% in 2030

Target 5: Increase investments in water to increase access to clean water by 10% in 2030

1. Number of Interconnections between cities
2. Rate of traffic in the country
3. Time value spent in the city traffic
4. The proportion of the population with water sources
5. Proportion of the population with access to electricity.
6. Proportion of the urban population with access to sanitation facilities
7. Proportion of the population living in secure places

Social Needs**Goal 5: Improved access to health facilities**

Target 1: Reduce by half the rate for malaria infections and diseases by the year 2030

Target 2: Reduce the rate of HIV/AIDS infection by half by the year 2030

Target 3: Increase access to ARVs by 20% in 2030

Target 4: Reduce by half the child mortality rates by 2030.

Target 5: Reduce maternal mortality rate by three quarters by the year 2030

1. Proportion of the population accessing health facilities
2. Ration of medical doctors to patients
3. Rate of malaria infections
4. HIV /AIDS prevalence rate
5. Maternal mortality rate
6. Availability of contraceptives
7. Child mortality rate
8. Proportion of population within family planning
9. Usage rate of preservatives and contraceptives

Goal 6: Improve education facilities

Target 1: Provide Universal secondary education by 2030 to both girls and boys and increase enrolment by 20%

Target 2: Increase the number of educational facilities by 20% in 2030

Target 3: Increase technical and vocational training schools by 10% in 2030

1. Net rate of secondary enrolment
2. Net rate of primary enrolment
3. Dropout rate at primary level.
4. Number of technical schools built in a year

Environmental Protection

Goal 7: Promote efficient use on natural resources and reverse environmental degradation

Target 1: Ensure that sustainable development principles are integrated into national development policies, strategies and plans

Target 2: Reduce deforestation and forest degradation by a half between 2015 and 2030

Target 3: Reduce by half water pollution and ensure sustainable land management by 2040

Target 4: Reduce the air pollution by half by the year 2020

Target 5: Increase access to energy sources by 4% in the year 2030

Target 6: Increase Protection of natural resources by 2% in 2030

Target 7: Control emissions of gases by 10% in the year 2030

Target 8: Increase resilience capacity to climate changes

1. Proportion of forests protected
2. Proportion of the air pollution controlled
3. Desertification rate
4. Water resource management rates
5. Soil degradation rates
6. Documents elaborating mechanisms for environmental protection and management
7. Number of people trained in environment related courses
8. Number of campaigns undertaken to sensitize environmental protection mechanisms
9. Natural resources coverage
10. Rates of pollution
11. Artificial resources created

6. Conclusions



Political leaders and policymakers have more ambitious goals, with a number of countries explicitly stating the goal of becoming middle income countries within 20 years.

The subregion is characterized by the following:

- ❑ Heavily affected by insufficient land resources
- ❑ Challenged by unsustainable food security for all, with inadequate levels of food, both quantity and quality wise
- ❑ Environmental sustainability continues to be weak in the subregion

The report has analyzed and provided insights on different social, economic and environmental priorities.

Specific sustainable development goals and targets as well as indicators intended to inspire focused and accelerated actions were proposed.

7. Recommendations



- Eastern Africa countries need to commit themselves to mobilize and allocate increased share of public financial resources to sustainable development.
- Sustainable development should be effectively mainstreamed into subregional and national development policies, strategies and programs.
- Countries should also establish platforms to enable sharing experiences and scaling-up of sustainable development best practices.
- Formal and non-formal education and sensitization on sustainable development should be strengthened.
- Policy and incentive schemes should be established and promoted to enable the private sector to actively participate in sustainable development.
- Collaboration and coordination among various organizations within and outside the subregion should be strengthened to harmonize interventions.



Thank you for your attention