



NEPAD Dialogue

Focus on Africa



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The NEPAD Secretariat weekly newsletter

Issue 62

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NEPAD's new Kenya Group to drive projects in Eastern Africa

The NEPAD Kenya Private Sector Infrastructure Group (PSIG), a private-sector-led initiative, has been established as a catalyst for investment in national and regional projects in Eastern Africa.

The aim of the Group is to:

- contribute to economic integration in the region;
- accelerate economic growth and sustainable development,
- enhance private sector participation (PSP) in traditionally public sector projects;
- expand access of Eastern Africans to international markets for deeper integration into the global economy.

The Group, led by a distinguished panel of business leaders from the Eastern Africa region, is an initiative of the NEPAD Kenya Secretariat.

It works in tandem with the official continental NEPAD structure as well as with the regional economic communities, governments, private sector, civil society and other stakeholders.

A key partner in this initiative will be the Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG) which was established in 2001 by the Governments of the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland to develop and fund programmes that mobilise private investment in infrastructure for growth and the elimination of poverty.

A close link will also be established with the Nairobi-based Public Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF), a World Bank affiliate programme that advises governments on improving the enabling environment (laws, regulations and institutions) for private sector participation (PSP) in infrastructure.

NEPAD Infrastructure Strategy

The NEPAD infrastructure strategy, known as the Short-term Action Plan (STAP), was launched by the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee (HSGIC) in June 2002.

In considering how NEPAD would seek to add value to the existing project development processes in the various countries and regions, the need for coordination mechanisms in the regions became a major issue to be resolved.

Partly in response to this challenge, the Government of Kenya organised and hosted a summit of Eastern African Heads of State and Government in October 2003.

In the communiqué issued at the end of the summit, Kenya was given an interim mandate to serve as the Regional Coordinator of NEPAD activities in Eastern Africa.

The communiqué also cemented the commitment of the Eastern African countries to the priority projects and programmes identified by the NEPAD Short-Term Action Plan. These projects include:

- **The five Eastern Africa road corridors with emphasis on the following sections:**

Corridor 1: Mombasa – Malaba – Katuna – Kigali – Bujumbura

Corridor 2: Dar es Salaam – Masaka

Corridor 3: Biharamulo – Mwanza – Lodwar – Lokichogio

Corridor 4: Nyakanazi – Tunduma

Corridor 5: Tunduma – Arusha – Nairobi – Moyale

- **The Zambia / Tanzania / Kenya / Uganda power interconnector**
- **The East African Submarine Cable System (EASSY);**
- **Comtel (Regional telecommunications network); and**
- **The Kenya / Uganda / Rwanda oil pipeline.**

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Two key issues

In spite of the publicised endorsement of these and other NEPAD projects, however, two key issues stood out as inevitable bottlenecks to their effective implementation in the region:

1. the lack of clear mechanisms for “championing” the identified priority projects; and
2. the absence of a credible “information gateway” for monitoring and informing interested parties on

the progress and status of the projects.

The NEPAD Kenya Secretariat has facilitated the establishment of the PSIG initiative in response to these challenges. PSIG will collaborate with the wide array of stakeholders to tackle the political, financial, technical and other obstacles that stand in the way of the projects being implemented.

The Group will play a brokering role between prospective investor interests and the interests of other stakeholders including government and local communities.

Of particular interest will be projects in the sectors of road and rail transport, energy, telecommunications, agriculture, housing and water.

Targeted projects will be those that are expected to have predictable cash flows and provide investors with an acceptable return on their investments.

Selected projects will undergo a rigorous due diligence process, with only the best projects with well conceived business plans and realistic financing plans and investment returns being eventually chosen for funding.

A secondary objective of the PSIG initiative will be to establish an interactive “information gateway” with up-to-date information on the progress and status of these and other Eastern African “NEPAD projects” in the implementation pipeline.

The aim of this secondary activity will ultimately be to unlock the political, financial and capacity issues that constrain the development of infrastructure in Eastern Africa.

Grants and Governance

The NEPAD Kenya Private Sector Infrastructure Group has been registered as an independent, non-profit Trust under the laws of Kenya and serves as the legal recipient of grant resources from donors as well as from corporate social investors.

The Trust is governed by a strong, independent panel of businessmen and women whose role is:

- to protect the strategic vision of PSIG;
- to use their influence, both individually and collectively, to galvanize regional and international support for the objectives of the PSIG initiative.
- to oversee the establishment of a management & operational mechanism that will ensure effective and efficient execution of the PSIG mandate.

NEPAD Chapter launched in Lesotho



THE Lesotho Chapter of NEPAD was officially launched in Maseru on 30 August 2004 by the Prime Minister, Pakalitha Mosisili (right), who said it was a milestone in

the Government's effort to better the lives of the people of Lesotho.

The Prime Minister stressed the commitment of Lesotho to the NEPAD process, and noted that Lesotho had recently acceded to the African Peer Review Mechanism.

The ceremony was attended by a delegation from the NEPAD Steering Committee led by the Chairman, Prof. Wiseman Nkuhlu, as well as a broad spectrum of key stakeholders from Government Ministries, the private sector and civil society organisations.

In a presentation Professor Nkuhlu outlined the progress achieved by NEPAD in the past three years and gave an overview of the various NEPAD sectoral projects, emphasising the participation of African Ministers in their implementation.

Calendar of Events

- **10 - 12 September**, NEPAD Sensitisation Workshop, Livingstone, Zambia.
 - **14 - 15 September**, Global Environment Change and Food Systems, Meeting, Cape Town, South Africa.
 - **16 - 18 September**, Expert Consultation Meeting with IBAR on livestock development in Africa, Mombasa, Kenya.
 - **3 - 4 October**, Global Tillage Network Meeting, Nairobi, Kenya.
 - **4 - 5 October**, African Partnership Forum (Meeting between the NEPAD Steering Committee and G8 Leaders' Personal Representatives, other development partners, and OECD Member States), Washington DC, USA.
 - **7 - 12 October**, UN-Inter Agency Task Force: prepCom for the Second World Conference on Disaster Management in Geneva, Switzerland.
 - **11 - 14 October**, World Food Programme Executive Board Regular Session, Rome, Italy.
 - **14 - 15 October**, World Food Prize International Symposium Award Ceremony, Des Moines, Iowa, USA.
 - **14 - 15 October**, NEPAD / Economic Community for Central African States (ECCAS) Seminar, Libreville, Gabon.
 - **22 - 23 October**, NEPAD Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue, Johannesburg, South Africa.
 - **25 October**, NEPAD advisory panel meeting, Johannesburg, South Africa.
 - **1 - 2 November**, Water Centres of Excellence Workshop, Botswana.
 - **22 - 23 November**, NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee (HSIGC) Meeting, Algiers, Algeria.
 - **22 - 25 November**, Conference on Successes in African Agriculture, Nairobi, Kenya.
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