Innovations, Technologies and Management of Africa’s Natural Resources

Report on progress in the implementation of the 2014–2015 work programme & Plan Activities for 2016-2017

Fatima Denton,
Director, Special Initiatives Division (SID)

Ninetieth Committee on Sustainable Development
16 June 2015
Table of Content

- Introduction
  - Division objective
  - Structure

- Results Achieved & Outputs delivered by expected Accomplishments & Indicators (2014)

- Activities for 2016-2017

- Challenges - Lessons Learned

- Way Forward
I – Introduction

- The Special Initiatives Division (SID) supports member states to adopt development strategies to improve the management of mineral resources, minimise the environmental risks and ecological scarcities, creates enabling environments for moving towards green and knowledge economies and builds resilience to the impacts of climate change.

- 2014 Divisional Objective:
  - To promote the adoption and implementation of new initiatives in the areas of natural resources management, climate change and new technologies in view of supporting the advancement of economic and social development in Africa; delivered through two Centres (ACPC & AMDC) and two sections (GENRS & NTIS).
I – Introduction-Structure

**Green Economy and Natural Resources Section (GENRS):** Undertake policy-relevant research and analysis to inform the formulation and implementation of policies to achieve a green transformation and realize optimal benefits from Africa’s key natural resources and related sectors.

**New Technologies and Innovations Section (NTIS):** Undertake research, policy development and analytical work to support member States to harness the opportunities of new and emerging technology and innovations to meet their development aspiration.

**African Mineral Development Centre (AMDC):** Undertake research and analytical work on mineral resources and development in the context of the African Mining Vision.

**The African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC):** Support member States in addressing challenges of climate change in key development sectors, and putting in place appropriate plans and mechanisms to reflect national development priorities, policies, strategies and programmes.
### II – Results achieved/outputs delivered by Expected Accomplishments (2014-15)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expected Accomplishment (EA)</th>
<th>Indicators and Targets</th>
<th>Outputs (highlights)</th>
<th>Outcomes/Results – Member States, RECs and AUC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| EA.1 Enhanced capacity of member States and regional economic communities to nurture and harness new technologies and innovations for development | i. Increased number of national, sub regional and regional initiatives harnessing new technologies and innovations for development as a result of ECA research and advocacy work  
**Performance measures:**  
- Estimate 2012-2013: **15 initiatives**  
- Target 2014-2015: **20 initiatives**  
- Achieved 2014: **15 initiatives**  

   - **3 policy briefs and position papers on**  
     (i) cyber security,  
     (ii) e-commerce facilitation and  
     (iii) biomedical engineering.  
   - **4 research study on**  
     (i) a methodological framework for country science, technology and innovation readiness and country profiles,  
     (ii) developing a guideline on “Policy, legal and technical requirements for Open Government in Africa”,  
     (iii) The contribution of ICT to Africa’s GDP Growth,  
     (iv) Youth and Innovation.  
   - **1 Review paper on WSIS +10**  
     (ten years of implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) outcomes in Africa - 14 to 16 April 2015 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;  
   - **Visiting scholars, fellows and interns**  
     to enhance capacity in development issues and policy analysis:  
   - **1 Experts Group Meeting**  
     Assessing Regional Integration in Africa 2015 Innovation, Competitiveness and Regional Integration | - Increased knowledge of government officials on innovation and knowledge trends in national development plans and practices and the utility for financing R&D  
- Improved the knowledge on open Governance and the impact of ICT use and diffusion on economic development  
- Improved e-Government  
  E-commerce deployment practices and effectiveness assessment within African countries;  
- Build youth innovation capacity |
### II – Results achieved/outputs delivered by Expected Accomplishments (2014-15)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expected Accomplishment</th>
<th>Indicators and Targets</th>
<th>Outputs (highlights)</th>
<th>Outcomes/Results –Member States, RECs and AUC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **EA2. Enhanced capacity of member States to formulate and implement policy reforms to achieve a green transformation and realize fuller benefits from critical sectors, including the mineral sector** | - Increased number of countries that have formulated or implemented policy reforms to achieve a green transformation and realize fuller benefits from critical sectors as a result of ECA research and advocacy work  
  **Performance measures**  
  - Estimate 2012-2013: NA  
  - Target 2014-2015: 2 countries  
  - Achieved 2014: 1 country | - **10 reports on**  
  (i) sustainable development goals for 5 sub-regions,  
  (ii) means of implementation for sustainable development in Africa: Enabling measures for an inclusive green economy (IGE) in Africa,  
  (iii) the sustainable development in Africa: Integrated assessment tools and methodologies for IGE in Africa,  
  (iv) Green economy policies in Africa: Inclusive green economy policies and structural transformation in selected African countries,  
  (v) Sustainable development goals in Africa,  
  (vi) Fifth issue of the sustainable development report on Africa (SDRA V) under the theme “Achieving sustainable development in Africa through inclusive green growth”.  
  - **1 project on the disaster risk reduction (DRR)**  
  to strengthen capacities of African policy-makers to mainstream natural (DRR) into national and regional development policies and strategies in Africa | - Capacity of member states to monitor progress on SD enhanced  
 - Increased knowledge and policy analysis and formulation skills of beneficiaries on Inclusive Green growth pathway |

EA2 continued...
### EA2. Enhanced capacity of member States to formulate and implement policy reforms to achieve a green transformation and realize fuller benefits from critical sectors, including the mineral sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expected Accomplishment</th>
<th>Indicators and Targets</th>
<th>Outputs (highlights)</th>
<th>Outcomes/Results – Member States, RECs and AUC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|                         | i. Increased number of countries adopting policies or regulatory frameworks for the management of mineral resources in line with the Africa Mining Vision | - 7 Reports/Research papers on  
(i) Model Mining Agreement for the Guinea Simandou Block II Projects,  
(ii) Contribution to the implementation of the African mining vision,  
(iii) Domesticating the Africa Mining Vision (Handbook),  
(iv) Development Mining in Eritrea,  
(v) Africa’s Minerals for Development : the role of Transformational Leadership,  
(vi) Deep Sea Mining and Energy Chapter of SRO EA Report on the Blue Economy,  
(vii) finalization of Policy white paper for the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho,  
(viii) Research tools and methodology proposal on "Engaging the Private Sector for Inclusive Extractive Industries and Sustainable Value Chains in Africa.  
- 2 Regional Initiatives on  
Extractives in Africa: Leveraging the Africa Mining Vision for quality of governance,  
- 2 Gap analysis and Desk work  
(i) African Geological Survey Organisations (GSOs) capacities,  
(ii) Gap between mineral potential of African Geological Survey Organizations (GSOs) and their capacities | – Increased knowledge and policy reform and formulation skills of beneficiaries on the implementation of the Africa Mining Vision at country level |
## II – Results achieved/outputs delivered by Expected Accomplishments (2014-15)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expected Accomplishment</th>
<th>Indicators and Targets</th>
<th>Outputs (highlights)</th>
<th>Outcomes/Results – Member States, RECs and AUC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **EA3. Improved capacity of member States and intergovernmental bodies to plan for climate change into development policies, strategies and programmes** | i. Increased number of member states assisted by the sub-programme that have factored climate change into development frameworks and policies using ECA research and advisory work | - **2 Outcomes statements on** CCDA-III and CCDA-IV;  
- **11 Papers/Reports on**  
  (i) Climate Change in the African Small Island Developing States: From Vulnerability to Resilience - The Paradox of the Small;  
  (ii) Unlocking the full potential of the blue economy: Are African Small Islands Developing States ready to embrace the opportunities;  
  (iii) BRICS Africa Partnerships Development – Driving inclusive growth and transformational change;  
  (iv) Moving against the tide! Africa rising to seize climate change opportunities: Water, food and energy security”;  
  (v) “Keeping Climate Impacts at Bay: A 6-Point Strategy for Climate-Resilient Economies for Africa;  
  (vi) Six summaries of the IPCC fifth assessment reports were produced for the African Group of Negotiators. | - Improved capacity on generation and analysis of Climate information and climate information service  
- Improved knowledge on the impact of climate change on Agriculture, Food security and Trade  
- Access knowledge on the vulnerability of SIDS and appropriate responses;  
- Increased awareness on the Blue Economy |
|  |  | - **2 Projects on**  
  (i) Upgrade of Climate observation network in Ethiopia, Gambia and Rwanda,  
  (ii) Agriculture, trade, climate change and food security studies launched in two Regional Economic Communities (EAC and ECOWAS);  
- **6 workshops/meetings organized** ECA organized various workshops Including INDC, SIDS, African lawyers, non-carbon benefits of REDD+, etc. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**Performance measures**  
- Estimate 2012-2013: 10  
- Target 2014-2015: 15  

III – Activities for 2016-2017

Based on the United Nations General Assembly A/69/6 (Prog. 15), the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 will enhance capacity of member states to...

(a) nurture and harness new technologies and innovations for development,

(b) formulate and implement policy reforms with a focus on the most innovative sectors to foster a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication,

(c) to formulate and implement policies, strategies and regulatory frameworks for the management of mineral resources in line with the Africa Mining Vision,

(d) to implement and integrate climate change adaptation approaches into key sectoral and national development policies, strategies and programmes to reduce vulnerability and strengthen resilience to impacts.
Empirical policy analysis is an essential basis for policy recommendations;

The role of governments as well as reputable local institutions are fundamental in policy analysis and implementation;

African countries have stepped up efforts in embracing new technologies and innovation to drive their transformation agenda;

Member States keen to get ECA’s support through policy research, capacity building/knowledge sharing, and effective and sustained engagement.
Pay more attention to African Small Island Developing States;

Support African economies the transition to low carbon climate resilient development pathway;

Accelerate the implementation of CMV and build critical mass of skilled officials in negotiation.
The African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC)

The Green Economy and Natural Resources Section (GENRS)

Thank you for your kind attention!
Merci beaucoup pour votre attention!

The New Technologies and Innovations Section (NTIS)

The African Mineral Development Centre (AMDC)

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa