Summary of 2020 ASDR:
Towards Recovery and Sustainable Development
in the Decade of Action

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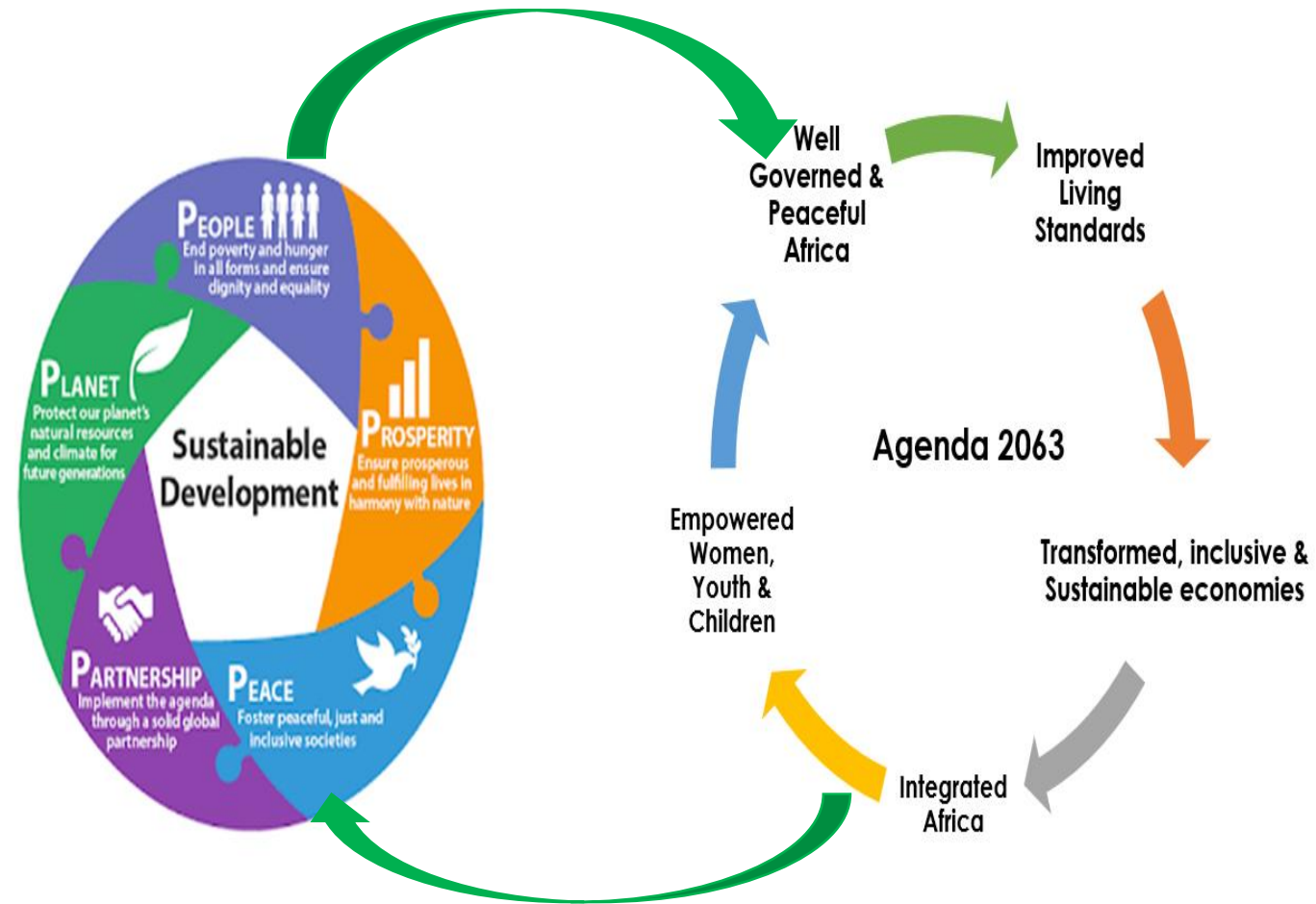**Economic Commission for Africa**

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ARFSD

Is Africa on track along the five pillars?

Introduction

- The 2020 report provides a comprehensive analysis of Africa's progress on the 2030 agenda and Agenda 2063.

- It does so along with the five 'Pillars':
  - People,
  - Prosperity,
  - Planet,
  - Peace, and
  - Partnerships

- This highlights the linkages among the pillars.
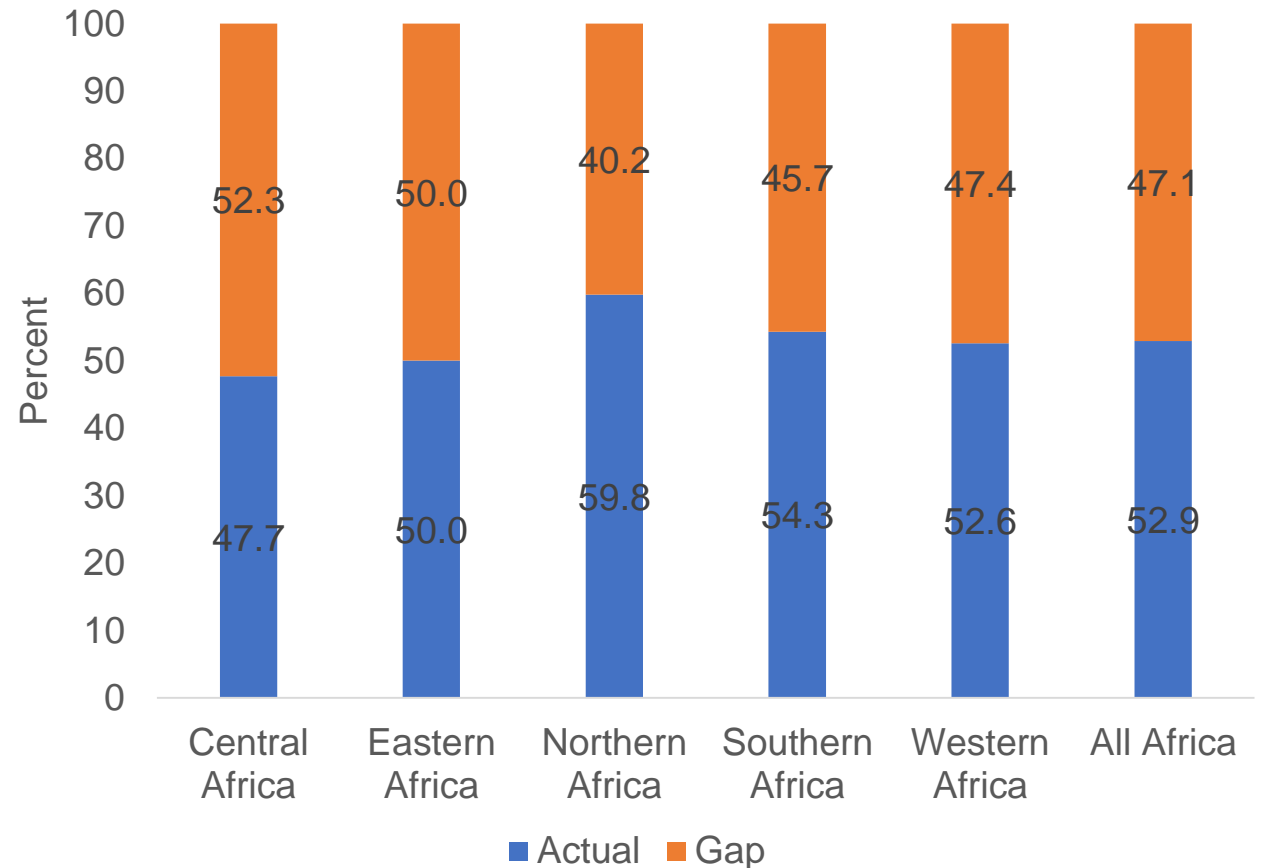
Five Pillars of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063

Source: SDGC/A and SDSN (2019)

- Africa has made limited progress in SDG implementation.

- Africa's progress score was 52.9% with a gap of 47.1 %.

- Mixed progress across subregions.

- North and Southern Africa had slightly higher progress scores, compared with the rest.

Sub-regional progress and gaps for all Sustainable Development Goals (2011–2018)

Source: SDGC/A and SDSN (2019)

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Pillar level progress

People-Poverty

- Progress on poverty reduction of some 7 percentage points from 40.6% in 2010 to 34.4% percent in 2019 at risk of reversal.

- The bulk of poverty is found mostly in Africa excluding Northern Africa.

- With the exception of Northern Africa, the number of undernourished people increased by 50million.

- Food insecurity is highest in Eastern Africa, followed by Southern and Western Africa.

- Remark 1: Most States are not on track to meet the relevant goals of the People Pillar of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

Prosperity

- Steady pre-pandemic growth but barely at pace with population growth and not job rich

- Decline in factor productivity between 2006 and 2019.

- Access to energy limited in the continent; only 50% connected.

- The continent also lags behind in internet access.

- Remark 2: Strengthen efforts to accelerate inclusive prosperity for all Africans.

The Planet Pillar

- 43 countries achieved SDG 13
- Increase in biodiversity areas from 32% to 44%.

- Africa had the lowest domestic material consumption per capita of any region.
- 30 of 54 countries have regulatory frameworks for disaster risk reduction.

- Africa as a region had the largest annual rate of net forest loss in 2010–2020, at 3.9 million hectares per year.

- Remark 3: Although many States have put in place the legal and policy frameworks needed to address environmental concerns, progress has been slow.

Pillar level progress

The Peace Pillar

- Africa continues to experience conflicts, terrorism, insurgency, and democratic reversals.

- Only 43% of Africans satisfied with democratic systems in their States.

- Only 22% of Africans thought members of their local assembly listened to them

- **Remark 4**: Africa is unlikely to achieve any of its goals for peace, security and governance. The slow progress in improved governance is exerting the greatest drag on the Peace Pillar.

The Partnership Pillar

- Africa's domestic revenue generation as a proportion of GDP lags behind other regions.
  - In 2020, Africa's average was 11.9% of GDP.

- Domestic budgets funded by domestic taxes reached 67.8% in 2018.

- High cost of debt and insufficient concessionary financing – 26% of financing needs

- Africa's debt position has been compounded by COVID-19

- **Remark 5**: The majority of African States are not on track in financing their development.
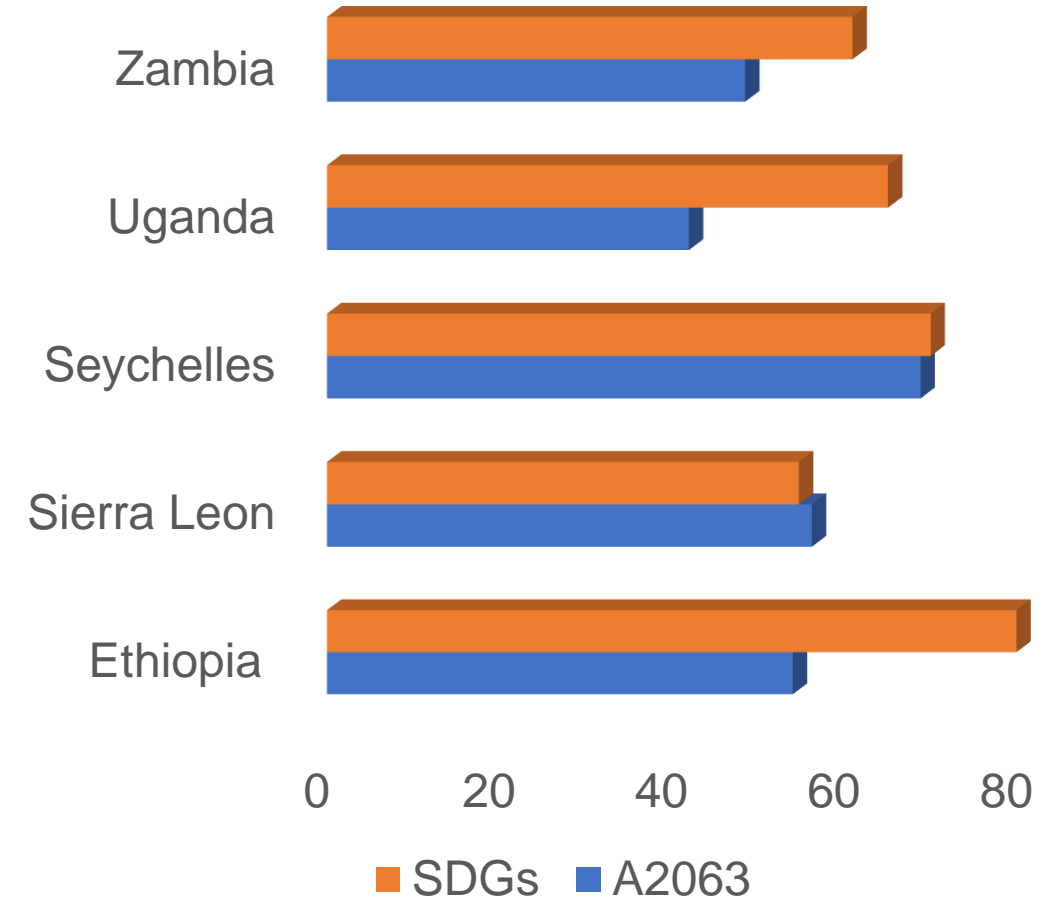
Integration of the 2030 agenda and Agenda 2063 into national development plans

Integration of the 2030 and 2063 Agenda into national development plans

- African governments have made efforts to incorporate the SDGs and Agenda 2063 into national development plans (NDPs).

- NDPs are more aligned with SDGs than A2063.

- This could be due to inadequate advocacy on A2063.

Alignment scores of national development plans with SDGs and A2063

Source: IPRT

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A review of selected NDPs of Member States shows the need for improvement in the following areas:

- A robust results-based M&E system with concrete targets and indicators and, highlighting key performance indicators (KPIs);

- Identification of risks including disaster-related risks in the NDPs;

- Strategic prioritizations informed by scenario modelling ;

- Stronger alignment of NDPs with SDGs and A2063;

- Strengthen the spatial dimension of NDPs to address spatial inequalities and leverage spatial endowments

- Integrated financing frameworks that are aligned with NDPs

Key policy takeaways

- **Improve domestic resource mobilization** including through broadening tax bases and stemming corruption.

- **Redouble current efforts to 'digitize' economies** and social services.

- Create an **enabling policy environment for private investments and innovation.**

- **Getting development plans right** and this calls for a coherent support for countries in the design of a robust development plans.

THANK YOU!