

## CONCEPT NOTE



Strengthening the nexus approach in Africa for an accelerated implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Agenda 2063

10-11 June 2021

## 1. CONTEXT AND RATIONALE

With the adoption in 2015 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union Agenda 2063, global leaders have committed to follow people-centered approach to development with the vision of leaving no one behind while ensuring prosperity for all. The two Agendas recognize that development, peace, security, humanitarian and human rights efforts are complementary and need to reinforce each other, to respond to volatile situations in Africa and around the world. This calls for adopting comprehensive and holistic approaches spanning the nexus on peace, security, development and humanitarian affairs. With less than a decade to the 2030 target date, significant progress is still necessary in all sectors to achieve the shared vision of a peaceful, integrated, prosperous Africa and leaving no one behind. As much as it is well established that peace and stability promote development, is also critical for preventing and sustaining peace.

The World Humanitarian Summit held in Istanbul, Turkey on 23-24 May 2016 also underscored the need for greater coherence among actors working on humanitarian, development, and peace and security domains. In this regard, Actors working across humanitarian, development and peace silos should be working together to

In implementing the project, OSAA administered a survey to African Governments and civil society organizations aimed at identifying African perspectives on the nexus. Based on the findings of the survey, OSAA has prepared a baseline assessment study, which assesses the degree of awareness and capacity of African countries to formulate and implement policies that reinforce the interlinkages on development, peace, security, humanitarian and human rights. The study also seeks to assess the understanding of the nexus at national level and therefore the capacity needed to implement policies and strategies that take into consideration the nexus approach. Based on the baseline study, a draft training manual has also been prepared.

Against this backdrop, OSAA is organising a virtual workshop for Central, Northern and Western Africa subregions with the objective of strengthening the capacity of Member States to design and implement policies that promote the nexus between humanitarian, peace and development for an accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

## 2. OBJECTIVES

The virtual workshop will engage participants on their understanding, experiences and perspectives on formulating and implementing integrated and coherent policies on development, peace, security, humanitarian and human rights for an accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

More specifically, the objectives of the workshop are to:

- a. Assess the understanding and awareness on the nexus approach at national level;
- b. Identify gaps and capacity needs to a nexus approach;
- c. Highlight good practices and best experience of African Member States in integrating the nexus in their policies and plans;
- d. Identify the political, institutional, operational and policy challenges facing African governments in implementing the nexus;
- e. Formulate policy recommendations on strengthening integration of aspects of the nexus in national development plans of African countries; and
- f. Validate the baseline assessment study.

### 3. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The Expected outcomes are:

- a. Increased understanding of the importance of the nexus in sustaining peace and development in African countries;
- b. Identification of gaps and challenges related to the implementation of the nexus in Africa;
- c. Formulation of policy recommendations that could be used by member states to integrate the aspects of the nexus in their national development plans; and
- d. Strengthened capacity of African countries in the understanding of formulating and implementing policies that reinforce the interlinkages on peace, security, humanitarian and development.

### 4. EXPECTED OUTPUTS

The expected outputs are:

A revised study and training guide taking into consideration Member States' inputs and observations; and

A Summary of the meeting with key findings and policy recommendations.

### 5. FORMAT

The two half day virtual workshop will be organized around two segments:

On the first half day, the workshop will feature an opening session to set the scene followed by a presentation of interactive panel discussions on substantive aspects based on the findings of the study on the nexus with the objective of reaching better understanding of the nexus concept and sharing best practices and experiences.

## 6. PARTICIPANTS

The expected participants include officials from Ministries of Finance, Economy, Planning and development or any relevant officials from Ministries/Departments/Agencies of the following 31 countries:

