ECA-AMU Multi-Year Program
2014-2015

April 2014
# Table of Contents

Forward ..................................................................................................................................................... i

1- Context and Strategic Framework ........................................................................................................ 1
   1.1 Challenges and stakes of development in the Maghreb ................................................................. 1
   1.2 ECA new strategic framework ....................................................................................................... 2
   1.3 Capitalization of accomplishments ............................................................................................ 2

2- MYP 2014-2015 Objectives ................................................................................................................. 3

3- Specific fields of intervention and activities in 2014-2015 ................................................................. 3
   3.1 Institutional support and strengthening of the capacities of the AMU General Secretariat ............ 4
   3.2 Acceleration of regional integration in its economic development dimensions, trade facilitation and promotion of the private sector ................................................................. 4
   3.3 Integration of ‘Gender’, ‘Youth’ and ‘Migration’ issues in the regional agenda .............................. 4

4- Mechanisms for implementation, partnerships and mobilization of external resources ................. 5
   4.1 Implementation and monitoring of MYP ...................................................................................... 5
   4.2 Enlargement of the cope of partnership for the Maghreb and mobilization of resources ............ 5
Tables

Table 1: Distribution of activities for institutional support and strengthening of the capacities of the AMU General Secretariat per work group .............................................. 7

Table 2: Distribution of activities for the acceleration of regional integration in its economic development dimensions, trade facilitation and promotion of the private sectors per work group ................................................................................................................. 8

Table 3: Distribution of the integration activities on policies concerning ‘Gender’, ‘Youth and ‘Migration’ on the regional agency per work group .................................................... 9

Activities record 2014 - 2015

Strengthening of the statistical skills of the AMU General Secretariat.
Support for feeding into and utilization of the AMU database and strengthening of the skills of the statistical unit staff members ........................................................................ 12

Continuation of the training activities addressing the staff members of the AMU General Secretariat for optimization of the available computer-based tool ............................................. 13

Technical support and counseling services provided to UME ..................................................... 14

Regional integration and sectors of promise in the AMU space: AMU:
Development of regional value chains (RVC) ................................................................................ 15

Food security and natural resource management: Project for support to the implementation of the Sub-regional Action Program project for the fight against desertification of the PASR-LCD (2011-2020) ..................................................... 16

Technical support and service-counseling on the operability of an AMU free trade zone ...... 17

Technical support and advisory services for the establishment of an autonomous funding mechanisms of Maghrebian integration ................................................................. 18

Study and meeting of experts on international transport and trade facilitation ......... 19

Support for the devising of a sub-regional policy for better access by young people to the job market ..................................................................................................................... 20

Study and meeting of experts for the integration of migration in the development processes ................................................................. 21

Support for the development of a Gender strategy for the AMU General Secretariat .......... 22
Forward

The promotion of regional integration is a central focus of the mandate and work program of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). The Commission’s vocation is to work hand in hand with African countries and the regional cooperation institutions thereof in their strides made for strengthening capacities for the devising of plans and policies based on factual data … », in view of the structural transformation and economic integration of the Continent. This mission formed a part of the continuity of support provided by the Commission to the African integration project taking inspiration of the Lagos Action Plan and structured around the objectives of the Abuja Treaty of the on-going NEPAD program and Vision 2063. The action of the Commission sub-regional offices is a full-fledged component of this assistance program in particular for the implementation of biennial programs for support to the “facilitation of cooperation, integration and economic development at the sub-regional level».

The multi-year programs (MYP) set up by the ECA with regional economic communities (REC) over the past few years have constituted one of the Commission’s principal tools of intervention. They have been designed as medium term planning and program frameworks in priority areas of cooperation for reasons of predictability and efficiency of the ECA in each of the Continent’s sub-regions.

In this context the ECA Office for North Africa and the General Secretariat of the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) signed a memorandum of understanding on 14 January 2008 for the initiation of a multi-year program (MYP). On the basis of joint identification of the challenges to be met in the sub-region, and obstacles to its genuine integration through the confirmation of a renewed determination ; the MYP proposes a formal multi-year cooperation framework and identifies the work focuses and activities to be implemented.

This MYP covering 2014-2015 is the third of its generation after those of 2008-2009 and 2010-2012. The year 2013 which was one of transition in the context of the program and managerial re-structuring of the ECA, was used to consolidate the 2010-2012 objectives via the implementation of complimentary activities, in particular with regard the strengthening of capacities.

Devising of the 2014-2015 Program formed a part of an organized framework (i) for taking into account of new challenges in the sub-region in a context of the political changes occurring since 2011, (ii) the reshaping of the ECA’s action moving toward research and analysis based on more refined statistical data in order to better answer the expectations of the Member States and the RECs, and (iii) capitalization of the achievements via the implementation of the recommendations issued in conjunction with previous assessments.
1 Context and Strategic Framework

1.1 Challenges and stakes of development in the Maghreb

The events occurring in 2011 in North Africa constituted an important watershed in political and institutional life in the majority of North African countries. The political changes that occurred were backed by a high degree of demand by the local populations, especially the young. This is intended for fostering better political, economic and social governance, more democracy, freedoms, decent jobs, reduction in inequalities and the distribution of the fruits generated by growth. To different degrees, the majority of States found themselves up against protest movements, the formulation of demands, the expression of a deep-seated uneasiness in front of development and governance models which have shown their limits of performance and not having sustainably confronted the challenges of employment, more inclusive human development, as well as the reduction of inequalities and vulnerability. These factors basically explain the front running role played by youth in the political upheaval of 2011. The implication of the young shows the extent of the malaise felt by this segment of the population and its desire to see more equal distribution of wealth, as well as more transparent and inclusive governance.

In the Maghreb space, the less than 25 year olds represent more than one half of the population. The demographic factor in terms of human capital represents a window opportunity for driving growth but also entails consideration social challenges, especially in terms of employment. Even though access to education has strongly progressed in all study cycles, nevertheless the educational system continues to be impaired by training programs not well adapted to the labor market. The high rates of youth unemployment encountered in the sub-region are essentially reflexive of the steady number of first-time job seekers and the insufficiencies of intermediation services or support to young entrepreneurs. The high proportion of inactive youth resulting therefrom (about 27%) has led to much higher vulnerability among youth evidenced by the spread of risk-prone behavior in the form of juvenile delinquency, illegal emigration, and extremism under the cover of religion.

Elsewhere the development of political crises between 2011 and 2013 led to the amplification of security risks in a major part of the Sahelo-Saharan space neighboring the Maghreb. This change carries within itself the first signs of challenge to the few achievements in the arena of free movement of persons and the facilitation of inter-state trade by the specific or partial closing of terrestrial frontiers, a greater number of roadside checks throughout the regional space or direct threats to the security of persons and goods. This could undermine the resiliency of the regional tourism industry and, to different degrees, reduce the attractiveness to investment. Likewise, the opening up of the political field in same countries revealed the difficulties encountered in building national consensuses on the very nature of the State and the foundations of its legal political and institutional corpus all of which are elements that can affect political stability, social cohesion and the performance of the North African economies.

---

1 Being young in the Maghreb ; ECA-AN ; December 2011  
2 ECA-AN ; Report on regional and international agendas ; December 2012  
  ECA-AN ; Report on the situation of economic and social conditions in North Africa ; Feb/. 2013  
3 ILO LABORSTA data (2011)
This questioning of the development and governance model existing hitherto constitutes a new regional situation well beyond the immediate possibility of a slower pace of political transitions still underway in certain countries will imply the constitution and upgrading of the productive apparatuses and wide ranging institutional and social and economic reforms, which in the short and medium tram will require sustained participation of all partners in development including the ECA and other agencies and bodies operating within the United Nations System.

In 2013 the activities initiated and those proposed in MYP 2014-2015 make up a part of the search for regional responses to these challenges.

### 1.2 ECA new strategic framework

In the framework of its strategic re-orientations and program and managerial re-structuring resulting therefrom, the ECA has re-focused its action on the promotion of more greatly in-depth research and analysis based on reliable and regular statistical data in response to national, regional and continental needs. This refocus must contribute to promoting efforts in the areas of structural transformation in which the whole of Africa needs to sustainably integrate the knowledge economy and prosperity. This should also lead to high concentration of the efforts deployed by ECA in activities in a position to create conditions favorable to the expected structural changes.

### 1.3 Capitalization of accomplishments

The development of MYP 2014-2015 integrated the principal recommendations of the assessment meeting for the implementation of the previous program in May 2013. The said meeting underscored the renewed determination of the two institutions to serve the Member Countries of the AMU via closer action in the execution of the respective programs and the joint activities envisaged in the framework of the ECA-AMU partnership. The activities to be implemented should make it possible to consolidate what has been done and the achievements of the previous programs and to be more greatly aligned to the expectations of the AMU countries via taking into account new development challenges.

The choice of themes of intervention and activities proposed in this MYP is the result of this approach. It is principally founded on the diagnostic and prospective analysis shared between the two institutions in conjunction with the organizational meeting held in January 2013 on the challenges of development and priorities for the resumption and deepening of the regional integration process. Whether new or revised in the socio-political post 2011 North African context calling for greater joint actions among all the relevant players (public, private, civil society and partners in development) to provide better support to the concerns of local populations. With this in mind the MYP 2014-2015 will target greater mutualization of regional efforts via higher implication of non state players and wider opening of the partnerships with other agencies of the United Nations system and the international or regional institutions dealing in various areas of North African integration.
2 MYP 2014-2015 Objectives

The general objectives of the program are the strengthening of AMU capacities geared to speeding up the agenda for economic integration in North Africa. In particular, this will concern accompanying the efforts put forth by the AMU General Secretariat to formulate and implement priority strategies and programs leading to a more highly integrated Maghreb.

The 2010-2012 MYP covered four strategic areas:

- Strengthening of capacities;
- Macroeconomic policies and promotion of the private sector;
- Follow-up of millennium development goals and social development; and
- Food security and sustainable natural resource management.

In conjunction with the evaluation performed in May 2013, the AMU General Secretariat pointed out that given the new realities of the region and the challenges it will have to confront, in particular with regard to security; it will be necessary to « proceed to a more selective choice in priority fields of collaboration ». The identification of these priorities must take account of the socio-political changes now taking place and the new imperatives with regard to development. « Speeding up the regional integration process, getting the most out of the potential of youth, meeting more efficiently the needs thereof, reinforcing cooperation between States to sustainably do away with the problems regarding employment and cross-border security, constitute just so many critical fields that must be integrated into the priority focuses of the regional agenda and collaboration with the ECA ».

The MYP 2014-2015 fits into this vision. It is built on the basis of (i) the principle of continuity with the objectives of the previous programs to carry on with what already exists and further the blossoming of the outcomes obtained, (ii) reshaping of the action of the ECA moving toward the strategic objects of structural transformation of African economies and (iii) taking into consideration of the emerging challenges of the Maghreb.

3 Specific fields of intervention and activities in 2014-2015

The activities proposed for the 2014-2015 Program revolve around three focuses indicative of the strategic orientations listed above answering the challenges jointly identified by the two institutions. The first focus concerns the need to strengthen the institutional system and the capacities of the AMU General Secretariat and has the objective of a structural transformation of Maghrebian economies via the promotion of regional value chains, food security, funding of integrating programs, trade integration and implication of the private sector. The third focus deals with social development in particular in its “gender”, “youth”, and “migration” dimensions.
3.1 Institutional support and strengthening of the capacities of the AMU General Secretariat

Continuation of the strengthening of the capacities of the AMU General Secretariat is a sine qua non condition for the requirement of having a dynamic institution answering the challenges involved with regional construction. The specific objectives of this cooperation focus are the strengthening of statistical capacities, non-stop appropriation of new information technologies and support to the Maghreb Employers Union (Union Maghrébine des Employeurs - UME) for the establishment and operational nature of an efficient institutional framework. In particular the activities will include:

- Support for feeding into and activating the AMU database and the strengthening of the capacities of the statistics unit staff members;
- Training of staff members of the AMU General Secretariat for greater optimization of the computer-based tool made available;
- Technical support and advisory services provided to the AMU.

3.2 Acceleration of regional integration in its economic development dimensions, trade facilitation and promotion of the private sector

The second focus of cooperation will be centered on the analysis and development of action plans concerning the principal levers of acceleration of Maghrebian economic integration, in particular through the promotion of regional value chains, development of intra-regional trade, more efficient funding of integrating programs and the search for collective food security. The activities proposed are the following:

- Regional integration and sectors of promise in the AMU space: development of regional value chairs (RVC);
- Food security and natural resource management: Support to the implementation of sub-regional action in the fight against desertification of the Maghreb PASR-LCD (2011-2020);
- Technical support and advisory services for the operation of an AMU free trade zone;
- Technical support and advisory services for the establishment of an autonomous funding mechanisms of Maghrebian integration;
- Study and meeting of experts on international transport and trade facilitation.

3.3 Integration of ‘Gender’, ‘Youth’ and ‘Migration’ issues in the regional agenda

A third focus aims at greater integration of social dynamics in the regional agenda, in particular the gender, youth and migration policy dimensions in light of the political changes that have occurred since 2011 in the Maghrebian space. The proposed activities are as follows:
• Support for the devising of a sub-regional policy on employability and mobility of young people for better access to the job market;
• Study and meeting of experts for the integration of migration into the development process;
• Support to the development of a Gender strategy for the AMU.

The attachments given in the appendix contain suggestions of possible partnerships with national, regional and international institutions including the missions or mandates comprising cooperation at the service of development in North Africa. They also identify the substantive divisions of the ECA that could be implicated in each activity so as to develop maximum synergy and value added with other components of the ECA activity program.

4 Mechanisms for implementation, partnerships and mobilization of external resources

4.1 Implementation and monitoring of MYP

Like in previous programs, the type of intervention will be plural involving several specific analyses, theme-based publications on issues of regional interest, meetings of experts, round tables, training seminars, and consultative technical services. The Program activity will be carried out in partnership with the ECA and the General Secretariat of the Arab Maghreb Union with the participation of administrations and institutions of the Member States, academic circles, employer organizations and other bodies or agencies of the UNS.

Monitoring of the implementation of MYP 2014-2015 will be provided by the following channels:

• Continuation of contacts, concerted efforts and ad hoc meetings with focal points ECA-AMU working groups dealing with the different themes of the Program on various subjects;
• Holding of an annual assessment meeting;
• Holding of a round table/special session devoted to regional integration in conjunction with regional integration Organization in conjunction with the Intergovernmental meeting of experts of the ECA-NA Office;
• Strengthening of cooperation between AMU/ECA-NA/Substantive ECA Divisions and fostering of greater presence of the AMU General Secretariat in all events organized by ECA.

The distribution in working groups of the activities proposed is presented in the attached tables. In due time, the local and groups established will work together via the usual channels to establish the details of the chronogram and methods of execution.

4.2 Enlargement of the scope of partnership for the Maghreb and mobilization of resources

For the efficient implementation of MYP 2014-2015, the AMU and ECA underline the importance of associating their respective efforts with regard to the mobilization of resources with strategic partners sharing the same visions pursuant to the regional
integration of the Maghreb. With this in mind the activities program for 2014-2015 of the North Africa Office of the ECA is planning on the holding in June 2014 of a consultative meeting with the agencies of the United Nations System and other partners including the ADB to identify the opportunities for the mobilization of resources and creation of synergy between the programs and projects in support of regional integration of the Maghreb.

The meeting forms a part of the mandate of the Regional Coordination Mechanisms for Africa (RCM). The RCM-Africa created in conjunction with application of resolutions 57/2, 57/7 and 61/296 of the United Nations General Assembly systems to strengthen the coherency and synergy between the activities of the UNS agencies and bodies, to optimize the intervention and multiple partnerships designed to reduce the fragmentation and costs incurred by the agreements entered into in support of African States and the regional cooperation institutions. The RCM which was enlarged to the ADB and other partners operates for the promotion of common or joint initiatives at the sub-regional level given the role played by the Regional Economic Communities in the development strategies of all African States and the Continent in general. The ECA and its sub-regional offices were given the missions of coordination and secretariat of the said mechanism.

The meeting scheduled for June 2014 by the ECA North Africa Office fits into this outlook and more generally into the spirit of the ‘UN Delivering as One’ initiative. The specific objective is to instigate consultation between the different bodies, agencies, and partner institution of the sub-region in order to better coordinate their support to the countries of North Africa and the AMU in the process of edification of an integrated economic space. Over time for the UNS, ADB agencies and other partners this will provide greater synergy for better efficiency of their respective actives via the implementation in so far as possible, of common or joint programs or projects for support to the AMU and other initiative of a sub-regional scope. The MYP 2014-2015 ECA-AMU is to serve as an entrance point and work basis for the adoption of a framework for joint activity promotion and mobilization of resources in support of the AMU. In this outlook, other short term fields of interest were also identified by the AMU. In particular, this refers to:

- Strengthening of the role of the private sector in regional integration through support to the Maghrebian Initiative for Trade and Investment launched in March 2014 at Marrakech (Morocco) by the Maghrebian Employers Union;
- The harmonization of Maghrebian legislation for insurance and the feasibility of a joint insurance and reassurance company;
- Support to the organization of a first meeting of Maghrebian meeting on micro financing;
- Strengthening of the AMU Statistical Unit’s capacities;
- Study and reflection on the adaptability of educational systems to the requirements of the labor market.

The AMU General Secretariat reiterated its willingness and availability for working with the United Nation System and other partners including the ADB on a diversified series of activities pursuant to sustainable development pillars.
### Tables

**Table 1: Distribution of activities for institutional support and strengthening of the capacities of the AMU General Secretariat per work group**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Work Groups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statistical Capacities of the AMU General Secretariat: Support for expansion and exploitation of the AMU database and strengthening of the capacities of the statistical unit staff members</td>
<td>Economy and Investment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training of AMU staff members on computer applications</td>
<td>Economy and Investment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical service/counseling to the UME</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring of ECA-AMU relations: round tables and status of regional integration in the Maghreb in conjunction with the Intergovernmental Committee of experts (2014-2015)</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer review: joint and/or interchange for remarks report and study terms of reference and consultant selection (2014-2015)</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring and assessment meetings on cooperation between the AMU and ECA (2014-2015)</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2: Distribution of activities for the acceleration of regional integration in its economic development dimensions, trade facilitation and promotion of the private sectors per work group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Work groups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional integration and sectors of promise in the AMU space: Development of regional value chains (RVC)</td>
<td>Economy and Investment: <strong>X</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study and meeting of experts on international transport and trade facilitation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical support and service/counseling to obtain the operationalization of an AMU Free Trade Zone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical support and service/counseling for the establishment of a funding mechanism for financing the integration of the Maghreb.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food security and management of natural resources: Support to the implementation of the sub-regional action program for the fight against desertification of the Maghreb PASR-LCD (2011-2020)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for the development of a sub-regional policy on the employability and mobility of the young for better access to the labor market.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study and meeting of experts for integration of migration in development processes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for the devising of a Gender Strategy for the AMU General Secretariat.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activities record 2014-2015

The following pages present a summary of project fact sheets. In due time detailed project fact sheets will be devised per focal points and theme-based working groups.

The activities relative to follow-up and assessment of the AMU-ECA partnership are not issued in the form of project records. This refers to round table on the status of regional integration of the Maghreb, peer reviews and focal point/working groups.
Strengthening of the statistical skills of the AMU General Secretariat. Support for feeding into and utilization of the AMU database and strengthening of the skills of the statistical unit staff members

Objective:
Contributes to the strengthening of the statistics capacities of the General Secretariat and regularly making available of the statistical data gathered in the 5 Member States of the Maghreb, in synergy with the objectives of the ADB project for support to the AMU in the area of statistics.

Technical and financial partners:
General Secretariat of AMU, ECA/AN and ACS
African Development Bank
Islamic Development Bank

Expected outcomes:
Establishment of an effective database at the level of the AMU General Secretariat.
Mechanism for the gathering, transfer and regular updating of the statistics in the database.

Activities planned:
Technical support to the operationalization of an AMU database.
Date collection missions for feeding into the AMU database
Technical support to database management

Cost estimate: 17,000 $US

Date and place:
Recurrent activity for the duration of the MYP
Continuation of the training activities addressing the staff members of the AMU General Secretariat for optimization of the available computer-based tool

Objective:
Strengthening of the skill of the staff members of the AMU General Secretariat in computer applications

Partners:
AMU General Secretariat
ECA-AN ; IDEP

Expected outcomes:
Utilization of computer-based tools;
Increased productivity by support staff;
Awareness-raising of managerial staff on the contribution of information and communications technology to their everyday duties.

Activities foreseen:
The holding of workshops on strengthening of the skills of the AMU General Secretariat in computer applications.

Cost estimate: 10,000 SUS

Date and place:
Date to be determined, place: AMU secretariat, Rabat
Technical support and counseling services provided to UME

Objective:
Contribute to wider implication of the private sector in the promotion of regional integration through reinforcement of the capacities of the UME

Partners:
AMU General Secretariat
Member country employers’ organizations

Expected outcomes:
Increased capacities in the process regarding the establishment of an institutional set up for the UME
New impetus given to the Maghrebian Initiative for Trade and Investment (IMCI)

Activities foreseen:
Sharing of experience and good practices
Counseling services for the construction of the institutional system
Mobilization of resources persons for the impetus given to the IMCI

Cost estimate: 25,000 $US

Date and place:
Date: 2014-2015, Rabat
Regional integration and sectors of promise in the AMU space: AMU: Development of regional value chains (RVC)

**Objective:**
Contribute to the strengthening of regional integration through the identification and development of regional value chains

**Partners:**
AMU General Secretariat, ECA/AN and ACS
UNIDO
FAO
WTO

**Expected outcomes:**
Promotion of technical knowledge on the development of regional value chains. Awareness-raising of public decision-makers on the promotion reports of the regional value chains.

**Activities foreseen:**
Study on the development of regional value chains in North Africa and in general the Maghrebian space in particular. Particular stress will be placed on sectors of promise, to name just a few, automobiles, renewable energy and agro-food business.
Holding of a meeting of experts on the value chains in North Africa.
Data collection mechanism, transfer and regular updates pursuant to this subject.

**Cost estimate:** 72,000 $US

**Date and place:**
Rabat; November 2014
Objectives
Contribution to the formulation of regional responses to the challenges of desertification and degradation of land in a context of high vulnerability to climate change and limited financial resources.
Appropriation if the PASR by the countries, national decision-makers and partners

Partners:
AMU General Secretariat ; ECA (North Africa Office and ACPC)
National focal points of PAN-LCD and experts of the AMU OSS, FAO, UNCCD, ADB, IDB

Expected outcomes:
Increase mobilization around PASR-LCD through awareness-raising and the improvement of knowledge concerning the stakes and impacts of the LCD (food security, decreasing water resources, vulnerability to climate changes, migration, etc.)
Identify national sustainable financing mechanisms to be used as a catalyst in the mobilization of external resources.
Mobilization of internal catalytic sources of funding.

Activities planned:

Components 1: Advocacy and mobilization of political decision-makers and partners in development around PASR-LCD (Fight against desertification) ;

- Study of economic, social and environmental profitability of long term strategic investments for the fight against desertification and degradation of land
- Review of implementation of des PAN-LCD, of accomplishments and lessons learned (5 country reports + summary) ; PAN/PASR complimentary association
- Analysis of climate change impact on desertification, degradation of land and measures of adaptation in the Maghreb
- Meeting on advocacy and mobilization of political decision-makers and partners in development

Budget component1: 240.000 $US

Component 2: Support to the mobilization of internal funding for PASR-LCD

- Study on the sustainable internal financing mechanisms for PASR-LCD
- Maghrebian validation workshop

Total budget component 2: 75.000 $US

Project Grand Total: 315.000
Dates and place: 2014-2015 ; Member Countries
Objective:
Contribute to the regional integration process by operatioality of the Maghrebian free trade zone.

Participants:
AMU General Secretariat
ECA (North Africa Office, RITD/ATPC, IDEP)
Member States
UNCTAD, WTO, OMD
African Development Bank
World Bank
Private sector and civil society

Expected outcome:
Increased capacities at the national and regional level for the finalization of a road map and sharing of experiences on the subject of rules of origin and the operationalization of the Maghrebian free trade zone
Analysis and sharing of experience on the subject of rules of origin

Activities planned:
Workshop on awareness-raising of BIAT project
Devising of a BIAT/CFTA action plan for AMU
Study and workshop on training of AMU/Member State training on rules of origin

Cost estimate: 135,000 $US

Date and place:
Rabat, 2014-2015
Technical support and advisory services for the establishment of an autonomous funding mechanisms of Maghrebian integration

**Objective:**
Support to the regional integration process via the promotion of an autonomous financing mechanisms for Maghrebian integration.

**Partners:**
AMU General Secretariat, ECA/NA
Experts Member States

**Expected outcomes:**

- Awareness-raising of Member State experts on the need to establish a new tool for the mobilization of resources for North African integration.

- Appropriation by the experts of the AMU General Secretariat and Member States of fiscal parameters and operating instructions for the autonomous funding mechanisms proposed by the ECA

**Activities planned:**
Meeting of AMU experts on the outcomes of the study on the autonomous financing for integration.
Missions and service counseling on request by the AMU General Secretariat for the appropriation and establishment of the mechanism.

**Cost estimate:** $40,000

**Dates and lieu:**
2014-2015 ; Member States
Study and meeting of experts on international transport and trade facilitation

Objective:
Strengthen regional integration via the promotion and facilitation of inter State trade.

Partners:
AMU General Secretariat ;
ECA (North Africa Office Nord and RITD)
National and international experts on customs, transport, international transit, external trade, regional integration, ICT
UME
ICC, WTO, IRU, ADB, CIDC, WB
Professional groups for logistics, inter-state transport-forwarding

Expected outcomes:
Proposal of a regional plan for trade facilitation, in particular with regard to interstate transport-forwarding between States in the Maghrebian and North African space.

Activities planned:
Study on international transport and trade facilitation
Holding of a meeting of experts

Cost estimate: 109,382 SUS

Date and place:
Rabat; July–October 2014
Support for the devising of a sub-regional policy for better access by young people to the job market.

Objective:
Contributing to the development of a Maghrebian response to the needs of youth, especially with regard to employment.

Partners:
AMU General Secretariat, ECA/NA
Member States
ILO, UNICEF, ADB, UNESCO
Civil society

Expected outcome:
Development of a Maghrebian policy proposal regarding youth employment.

Activities planned:
A comparative study on the situation and policy pursuant to youth employment in the Maghreb. Particular emphasis will be place on issues of employability and regional mobility of young people, to foster better adequacy between training and demand on the job market, better management of competencies and availability of data and statistics on the trends existing on the regional labor market.

On the basis of this study, the development of a Maghrebian policy for youth employment.

Meeting of experts

Cost estimate: 120,400 SUS

Date and place:
Rabat, 2014-2015
Objective:
Contribute to answering the challenges of migration in the Maghreb and the integration thereof in development policies.

Partners:
AMU General Secretariat, ECA/NA
National and international experts
Civil Society
IMO, ILO, ADB, European Union

Expected outcomes:
Proposals for public policy recommendations on the integration of migration in development policies

Activities planned:
Study on the integration of migration in the national development processes taking into account the specific situation of the Maghrebian countries as countries of origin, transit and destination of migration flows
Organization of a meeting of experts for presentation of the study outcome.

Cost estimate: 100,000 SUS

Date and place:
Rabat, 2014-2015
Support for the development of a Gender strategy for the AMU General Secretariat

Objective:
Contribute to the strengthening of the capacities of the General Secretariat on the use of gender analysis tools for optimal integration of the gender approach in activities and knowledge products.

Partners:
AMU General Secretariat
ECA (North Africa Office, ACG, SDPD)
UN –Women ; UNDP, UNCTs
SADC, ECOWASC
ADB
NGO Gender Links

Expected outcomes:
Devising of a gender strategy for the AMU General Secretariat
Training in gender tools and strengthening of the capacities of the General Secretariat in this area.

Activities planned:
Missions and devising of a gender strategy for the AMU General Secretariat
Training of General tools for the AMU General Secretariat staff members
Presentation of the strategy on 8 March (World Women’s Day)

Estimated costs: 40,000 $US

Date and place:
2014 – First quarter of 2015
Member countries