



Integrating and tracking performance on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: from theory to practice

Abstract

The year 2015 marked a dual transition for African countries. The adoption of Agenda 2063 replaced the New Partnership for Africa's Development, while the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development replaced the Millennium Development Goals. That transition has underscored, among other things, the importance of an integrated approach to the implementation of internationally agreed development goals. The present report is premised on the notion that an integrated approach is vital for a successful transition and implementation of the two new agendas, which therefore warrants a good understanding of its theoretical meaning and practical application. The report's authors urge countries to adopt an integrated approach to the implementation of international commitments. Such an approach must take into account the interrelationships among internationally agreed development initiatives and the interlinkages among the goals, targets and indicators of each of the interlinkages. Understanding the interlinkages is a vital prerequisite for the coherent integration of such initiatives into national development plans. To support the integration process, the report provides a description of the key features of the Economic Commission for Africa integrated planning and reporting toolkit and an illustration of its integration and performance-tracking capabilities.

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I. On the concept of integration in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063

A. Introduction

On average, Africa has reached the Millennium Development Goals horizon with remarkable performances in five of the eight Goals, even though not all five were fully achieved. The five Goals are: Goal 2 (Enrolment in primary education); Goal 3 (Gender equality and empowerment of women); Goal 4 (Child mortality reduction); Goal 6 (Combating the spread of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis); and Goal 7 (Environmental sustainability). Notwithstanding the substantial human and financial efforts deployed for the realization of these achievements, the Goals remain an unfinished agenda, necessitating the adoption of bolder global and regional initiatives, such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063.

The adoption of Agenda 2063 in January 2015, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development in July 2015, the 2030 Agenda in September 2015 and the Paris Agreement in December 2015 add even more complexity to the task of crafting and implementing coherent national development frameworks, in particular in developing countries in which capacity deficits abound. For example, the Millennium Development Goals focused largely on the social aspects of the development process, while the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 cover the three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental). In addition, the new global and regional agendas include new priorities and emerging challenges, such as industrial development, tackling climate change and nurturing peace and security. In effect, the current internationally agreed initiatives comprise a much larger number of goals, targets and indicators than the Goals.

Given the limited human and financial capacities in developing countries, policymakers need to be strategic in their approach to the implementation of the multiple international development agendas.

The Millennium Development Goals underlined the importance of integrating internationally agreed development goals into national plans. Integration, however, becomes even more complicated when it involves more than one internationally agreed initiative because it can result in duplication and policy incoherence if a careful analysis of the interlinkages among the various development initiatives is not undertaken.

The present paper makes the case for an integrated approach to the implementation of multiple development agendas to ensure coherence in their design, implementation and follow-up. The first section underscores the importance of ensuring horizontal and vertical coherence in the integration process. This is followed by a discussion on the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) integrated planning and reporting toolkit, which is designed to facilitate the integration of multiple development frameworks into national development plans and to track progress in their implementation.

1. Integrated approach

An integrated approach to planning ensures horizontal and vertical coherence. Horizontal coherence in this context relates to coherence between a national development plan on one hand, and the multiple development commitments and initiatives that countries sign on the other (e.g., the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063). Vertical coherence refers to synergies that exist among the goals, targets and indicators of either the internationally agreed development goals or the (integrated) national development plan.

2. Horizontal integration

Leveraging synergies across internationally agreed development goals

Identifying the interlinkages between Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda is a prerequisite for integrating both into national development plans. Agenda 2063 is the long-term development framework that Africa has adopted to realize its vision of a prosperous, integrated and peaceful continent, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the world. It spans a 50-year horizon disaggregated into five 10-year implementation plans. Agenda 2063 addresses all the major development challenges of Africa and contains clear goals to overcome them. It covers the three major dimensions of sustainable development and goals relating to culture and politics.

On the other hand, the global scope of the 2030 Agenda is the new global development framework adopted by the international community to foster sustainable development in all countries, in particular in developing regions such as Africa.

Agenda 2063 has 7 aspirations, 20 goals, 34 priority areas, 170 targets and some 200 indicators (United Nations and African Union, 2016a), compared with 17 Sustainable Development Goals, 169 targets and 230 indicators in the 2030 Agenda. The two frameworks share a great level of commonality, with levels of convergence of 90 per cent at the goal level, 69 per cent at target level (Economic Commission for Africa et al., 2016; Economic Commission for Africa and African Centre for Statistics, 2016).

An integrated approach to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 requires a mapping of the two initiatives to identify areas of convergence and the design of a common results framework that synthesizes both initiatives. Fortunately, both Agendas (the blueprint for development in Africa) encapsulate the continent's development priorities because they derived in various degrees from the common African position on the post-2015 development agenda.

To the extent that both agendas share substantial similarities, their integration into national development plans and their implementation and follow-up should be based on an integrated approach to avoid duplication of effort, leverage synergies, minimize trade-offs and, consequently, ensure policy coherence.

The importance of an integrated approach is acknowledged at both the continental and global levels. For example, at the global level, the 2016 high-level political forum on sustainable development meeting focused on the theme of "Strengthening integration, implementation and review: the HLPF after 2015". At the continental level, the ninth Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance,

Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and the ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (Conference of Ministers), held in Addis Ababa in April 2016, focused on the theme of “Towards an integrated and coherent approach to the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals”. In the ministerial statement that resulted from the meeting, it was recognized that multiple development frameworks had not met Africa’s imperative for accelerated, inclusive and sustainable growth, thus weakening the continent’s prospects for structural transformation. It was acknowledged that Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda offered a unique opportunity for Africa to achieve inclusive and transformative development with equity, and the importance for Africa of adopting a coherent strategy for the effective and coordinated implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda was underscored (United Nations and Africa Union, 2016b).

In line with the global and continental advocacy for an integrated approach to the implementation of internationally agreed development goals, ECA conducted a mapping exercise, which established that a significant degree of convergence exists between the two Agendas. The convergence stems essentially from the efforts made by Africa before 2015 to develop a common African position on the post-2015 development agenda. The common African position significantly influenced the post-2015 negotiations process at the global level. In effect, most of Africa’s priorities captured in the common African position were retained for the 2030 Agenda. Similarly, its priorities also underpinned the reflections that led to the adoption of Agenda 2063.

3. Integrated monitoring and evaluation, reporting and follow-up frameworks and instruments

The commonalities prevailing between the two Agendas constitutes an opportunity to harmonize the two frameworks into a single framework to streamline the monitoring and evaluation and reporting of both. A parallel approach to monitoring and reporting on both initiatives creates an unnecessary burden on countries. Developing a common or integrated result measurement framework promotes coherence in the follow-up process and ensures a more optimal use of resources.

In line with this thinking, the ministerial statement of the ninth Conference of Ministers contained an agreement “on a single monitoring and evaluation framework, accommodating both agendas, and a common reporting architecture that will produce a single periodic performance report”. In addition, it was “acknowledged that the implementation of, reporting on, and follow-up to both agendas require a coherent strategy and an integrated set of goals, targets and indicators, along with a harmonized review and reporting platform”.

In response to this recommendation made by the ministers, two major steps have already been taken. First, the four partner institutions (ECA, the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme Regional Bureau for Africa) that had previously produced the Millennium Development Goals report were mandated to draft annual 2030 Agenda–Agenda 2063 reports. This new publication is aimed at reporting jointly on the progress made by the region on the two Agendas. The first edition of the new regional report was published in 2016. Second, an integrated regional indicator result framework for the monitoring of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 has been developed. The framework is a synthesis of selected indicators (with a regional dimension) from both Agendas and will be used to generate regional-level reports on both frameworks.

4. Vertical integration

Leveraging synergies in internationally agreed development goals

The goals, targets and indicators of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 constitute an integrated ecosystem designed to achieve an overarching objective. Beyond understanding the links among the various internationally agreed development goals, it is therefore equally important to appreciate how these goals, targets and indicators mutually reinforce each other to achieve a nation's development priorities. For example, improving access to energy has implications for women's empowerment, industrial development, access to water and, consequently, poverty reduction. Understanding such interlinkages informs policy sequencing and prioritization. It also assists policymakers in minimizing potential trade-offs between social, economic and environmental objectives that underline the goals, targets and indicators of a development agenda.

Indeed, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the three components of sustainable development were recognized as interdependent and mutually reinforcing dimensions, and the importance of promoting their balanced integration in national development plans was emphasized. According to Munasinghe (1996), the interaction of economic and social policy objectives brings to the fore issues such as intragenerational equity and the need for targeted relief for the poor. The economic-environmental interface has yielded ideas on the valuation and internalization of environmental impacts. Lastly, the social-environmental linkage has led to renewed interest in areas such as intergenerational equity and popular participation. Identifying the interlinkages that exist between indicators of economic, social and environmental sustainability can therefore assist policymakers in prioritizing interventions that mutually reinforce the attainment of all three objectives or minimize trade-offs.

Explicitly mapping the complex interlinkages among the goals, targets and indicators of internationally agreed development goals can be undertaken through common sense approaches that attempt to reason out cause and effect. Nevertheless, as the number of variables increases, the complexity of this approach increases exponentially. It is therefore advisable to resort to the use of modelling tools to undertake this exercise.

5. Integration of the 2030 Agenda into national development plans

Understanding the horizontal and vertical interlinkages across and in internationally agreed development goals is a prerequisite for their effective integration into national development plans. Embedding global development frameworks in national planning frameworks began with the Millennium Development Goals and proved to be an effective institutional arrangement for the advancement of that global framework. The rationale was to provide a coherent framework for policymakers to formulate policies and initiatives to deal with national development priorities.

The first major call along these lines was made by the then Secretary-General, who, in 2005, urged developing countries with extreme poverty to adopt and begin to implement by 2006 national development plans bold enough to meet the targets of the Millennium Development Goals. This was echoed at the regional level during the thirty-ninth session of the Conference of Ministers in Ouagadougou in May 2006, in which policymakers reaffirmed

national development plans as an indispensable tool to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (Economic Commission for Africa, 2006).

These resolutions were operationalized by the Millennium Project commissioned by the United Nations and led by Jeffrey Sacks, which took the initiative of detailing, with clear guidelines, steps and principles on how to specifically embed Millennium Development Goals in national development goals (Keita and Gauci, 2016).

The remainder of this paper focuses on the integration of internationally agreed development goals into national development planning frameworks using the ECA integrated planning and reporting toolkit.

II. Features of the 2030 Agenda–Agenda 2063 integration and monitoring and evaluation and tracking toolkit

A. Introduction

Overview

The dynamic nature of the development landscape implies that policymakers need to continually adjust their national plans to take into account newly evolving global and continental development agendas. This process can be demanding and overburden the already limited capacities of developing countries. There is therefore a need for tools that illustrate the relationships among the plethora of development agendas (e.g., the 2030 Agenda, Agenda 2063, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024) and systematically guide the integration process.

This section discusses the key features of the ECA integrated planning and reporting toolkit, which is designed to ensure systematic and coherent integration of multiple development frameworks into national development planning frameworks and to track the progress on these agendas.

The primary intended users of the toolkit are line ministries and entities responsible for development planning at the national, subnational and regional levels. For example, in a country, it could be applied to regional plans and local plans, while, beyond the national level, it could be useful for regional economic communities or intergovernmental organizations. In addition, the toolkit can be used by civil society and the private sector to track performance on the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 and to conduct independent evaluations of the integration exercise undertaken by the Government.

Comprising two distinct modules, the integrated planning and reporting toolkit provides support at two specific levels of the development planning process: the design phase of the national development plan and the monitoring and evaluation phase. At the design phase, the toolkit is ideal for countries that are in the initial phase of designing their national development plan. On the other hand, for countries that have ostensibly developed the 2030 Agenda–Agenda 2063-compliant planning frameworks, the toolkit can be used by national authorities, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to validate the integration process.

Module I of the toolkit assesses the level and quality of integration of both Agendas in development planning frameworks, such as a national development plan and a sectoral plan. It also identifies the underlying reasons for partial or non-integration of internationally agreed development goals in national frameworks in order to identify areas for improvement and capacity strengthening. For example, a data deficit may prevent a country from including the 2030 Agenda on inequality in its national development plan. This information would be useful in deploying targeted interventions to deal with data gaps.

The second module of the toolkit tracks progress on the results indicators of a country's national development plan. To the extent that the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 are contained in the results framework, the software is also capable of tracking performance on both Agendas. This requires uploading the results framework of the development plan in the database of the software. The objective is to strengthen monitoring and evaluation efforts as far as the implementation of both Agendas are concerned. Progress may be monitored annually, quarterly or at any desired periodicity.

Compared with other tools (such as the United Nations Development Programme rapid integration and assessment tool that focuses exclusively on the 2030 Agenda), the integrated planning and reporting toolkit facilitates the integration of multiple development frameworks, including Agenda 2063, into national development plans and also tracks performance. It also generates reports on the characteristics of the alignment, including the extent to which the integration process takes into account the economic, social and environmental indicators of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. In effect, it provides a more nuanced narrative of the alignment process.

The integrated planning and reporting toolkit also includes a feature that enables the user to observe the relationship between the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 at all levels (i.e., goal, target and indicator). This feature is complemented by a web-based application dedicated primarily for the purpose of illustrating the interlinkages between the two Agendas.

B. Module I

Key features

Module I allows countries to evaluate the extent to which their development planning frameworks (national development plans and sectoral plans) are aligned with external frameworks, including the 2030 Agenda, Agenda 2063, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024. It also evaluates the quality of that integration and the reasons underpinning it.

Module I evaluates integration at the goal, target and indicator levels for three possible scenarios: full alignment, partial alignment and no alignment. For each level, the tool requests the respondent to identify the goal, target or indicator that best matches the corresponding variable of the global or continental agenda. If there is an exact match, the alignment for that specific variable is judged to be full. If the national variable is, at best, a proxy for the external¹ development agenda, the alignment is defined as partial. Respondents are requested to provide

¹ The word “external” here refers to the 2030 Agenda framework or the Agenda 2063 framework, or a harmonized framework based on both.

reasons for partial or non-alignment. This information can be used to develop a package of support for countries.

Module I can undertake three types of assessment, depending on the needs and interests of the user. First, it can restrict the analysis or investigation to the 2030 Agenda and evaluate the extent to which that framework is integrated into national development plans or sectoral plans. This integration check may be done at the goal, target or indicator levels. Second, the same can be done for Agenda 2063. Third, the module can assess the degree of alignment with a harmonized regional indicator framework representing a synthesis of core indicators drawn from both the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 goals. Users may wish to check integration between that harmonized framework and their national development plans.

Figure I provides a screenshot of the module of the software that supports the integration of both Agendas. This specific screen refers to the interface of the software designed for Ethiopia, hence the name and flag of that country. The software leads the user through a series of questions about the goals, targets and indicators of each Agenda and generates a series of reports. The “look-up” feature allows the user to populate the dialogue box with information already uploaded from the national development plan of the country. This minimizes the tedious process of typing in information from the plan.

Figure I

Screenshot of the integration module of the Economic Commission for Africa integrated planning and reporting toolkit

Sustainable Development Toolkit * SDG * Version 1.9 alpha * 06/2017

File Reports Help MandEKit Admin

United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

Ethiopia

1. Please select a Goal to work with, and complete it.
2. Proceed to Targets and fill in related targets.
3. Proceed to Indicators to fill in related Indicators.

Goals Targets Indicators Agenda 2063

T1.1: By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day

T1.1: By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day

Is the target in your NDP?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Full-screen Snip

List Matching Targets from your National Development Plan

National Target 1 +Add lookup

The Target is Fully Matching the following Target from the NDP

Improved capacity utilization

corresponding goal

G1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Previous Target Next Target Proceed to Related Indicators (1)

Main outputs of module I

Module I produces a number of useful outputs on the status and quality of integration, and the underlying reasons for partial or non-integration. All outputs are generated at the goal, target and indicator levels if the user provides the required information.

Full report of the status and quality of integration of goals, targets and indicators

This is the most comprehensive output generated by the software following the completion of all data entry. It provides an overview of the status and quality of the integration process and the reasons for partial or non-integration. Specifically, the report documents the global and regional goals, targets and indicators that have been integrated into national development plans; the degree of integration (e.g., whether it is fully or partially integrated); which dimension of sustainable development is covered; the reasons underpinning the status of integration; the list of matching goals, targets and indicators in national development plans; and the corresponding goals, targets and indicators in Agenda 2063 (see table 1).

Table 1
Comprehensive report on the status of integration

<i>Sustainable Development Goals</i>	<i>Status of integration¹</i>	<i>Status of integration²</i>	<i>Quality of integration³</i>	<i>Reasons underpinning status of integration⁴</i>	<i>Corresponding national development plan item</i>	<i>Corresponding Agenda 2063 goal, target or indicator</i>
Goal						
Target						
Indicator						

Notes:

1. This column is intended to determine whether the relevant goal, target or indicator is reflected in the national development plan. Possible responses are yes or no.
2. Is the goal, target or indicator fully, partially or not at all reflected in the national development plan?
3. What is the distribution in per cent of the integration by dimension of sustainability (economic, social, environmental, etc.)?
4. Reason for partial or non-alignment. Possible reasons include: not all aspects of the goal/target/indicator are relevant; priority for current national development plan; not a priority at all for current national development plan; lack of capacity (technical, financial, institutional, etc.); statistical constraint to track progress (lack of metadata, data, baselines, etc.); lack of awareness; other.

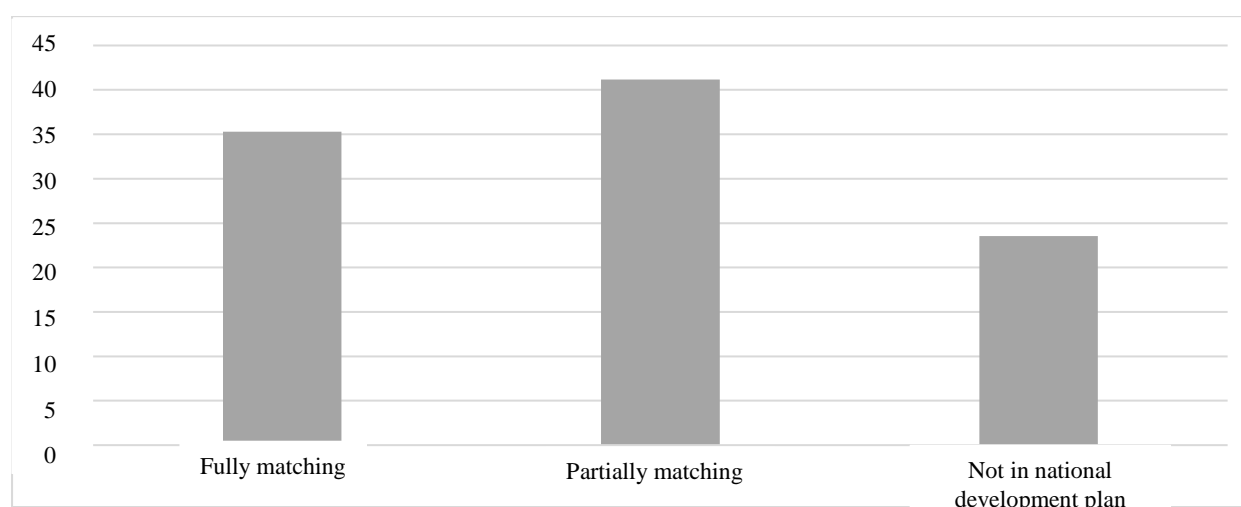
Summary statistics on the status and quality of integration

Building on the information provided in table 1, the toolkit generates a number of summary statistics to provide further details on the integration process. Table 2 illustrates summary statistics on the integration of the goals, targets or indicators of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 in the development plan of a hypothetical country. Column 1 of the table indicates the degree of alignment (see also figure II) of the development plan to the international development agenda. The second column identifies the number of matching goals, targets or indicators. The third column expresses this information in percentages, while the fourth column identifies the specific goals, targets and indicators that are fully, partially or non-matching with both Agendas. It shows, for example, that 35 per cent of the goals fully match the 2030 Agenda Sustainable Development Goal, 41 per cent are partially matched and 24 per cent have no counterpart in the 2030 Agenda at the Goal level. This information enables the user to appreciate in a snapshot the degree of integration and to identify which goals, targets and indicators are most closely aligned with the international development agenda in question.

Table 2
Summary report on the status of integration

	<i>Number of goals</i>	<i>Percentage of goals</i>	<i>Reference goals</i>
Fully matching	6	35	SDGs X,Y,Z
Partially matching	7	41	SDGs X,Y,Z
Not in national development plan at all	4	24	SDGs X,Y,Z
Total	17	100	

Figure II
Status of integration by degree of alignment (Per cent)



Summary statistics on the distribution of integration by dimension

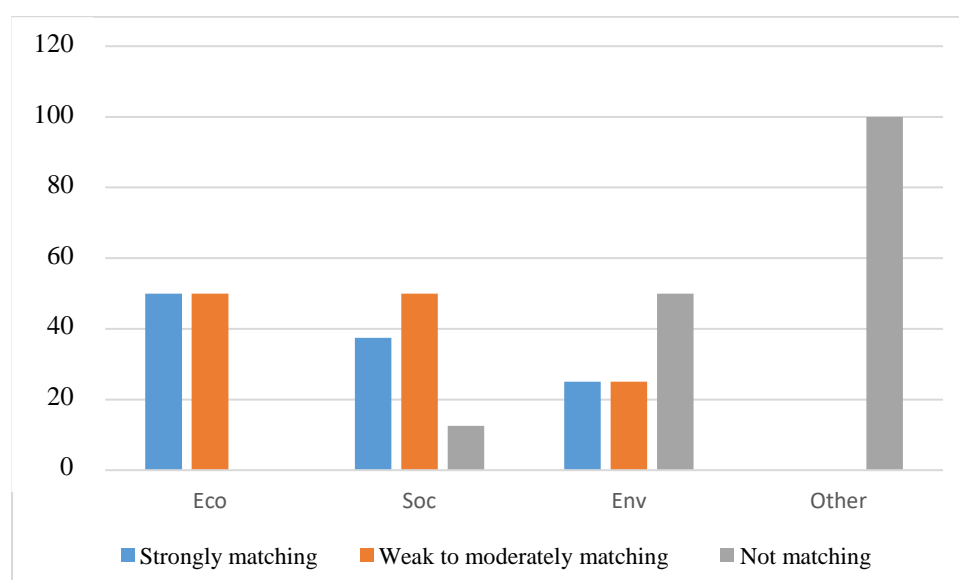
The software has the capability to report on the distribution of the integration process by dimension. This is attained by categorizing the indicators of the relevant international development initiative into five categories: economic, social, environmental, peace and security, and multidimensional (see table 3 and figure III). The multidimensional category captures indicators that comprise more than one dimension. This information is useful for evaluating the extent to which the integration process takes into account the various dimensions of sustainability in a balanced manner.

Table 3

Reporting on integration by dimension of sustainable development

	<i>Economic</i>	<i>Social</i>	<i>Environment</i>	<i>Multidimensional</i>	<i>Peace and security</i>	<i>Total</i>
Fully matching	2	1	1	1	1	6
Partially matching	1	1	3	0	2	7
Not in national development plan	0	0	3	0	1	4
Total	3	2	7	1	4	17

Figure III

Status of integration by dimension of sustainable development (Per cent)**Descriptive statistics on the reasons for partial or non-integration**

Policymakers and development partners alike could benefit from summary statistics on the reasons why a country excluded specific elements from their national development plan or used proxies for the same purpose. To facilitate this process, the software generates summary statistics on the reasons adduced for partial and non-integration of goals, targets and indicators of the 2030 Agenda or Agenda 2063 in the national development plan. Table 4 illustrates how this table might look at the goal level for a hypothetical country. For example, 29 per cent of the development plan goals are judged to be partially matching because the corresponding 2030 Agenda–Agenda 2063 goal is not a priority for the country. This output enables development partners, including ECA, to develop measures to assist countries that wish to improve the alignment of both Agendas with their development plans. The reasons can also be categorized by the dimension of sustainable development, as illustrated in table 5.

Table 4
Report on reasons for non-integration (Per cent)

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Partially matching</i>	<i>Not in national development plan</i>	<i>Total</i>
Limited institutional capacity	14	0	6
Limited statistical capacity	14	25	12
Lack of awareness	14	0	6
Lack of political support	29	25	18
Weak capacity for policy and plan design	0	0	0
Mismatch in planning cycle	0	0	0
Other		0	0
Total		100	100

Table 5
Reasons for partial or no integration by dimension of sustainable development

	<i>Economic</i>	<i>Social</i>	<i>Environment</i>	<i>Multidimensional</i>	<i>Peace and security</i>
Limited institutional capacity					
Limited statistical capacity					
Lack of awareness					
Lack of political support					
Weak capacity for policy and plan design					
Mismatch in planning cycle					
Other					
Total					

C. Features of module II

Module II of the integrated planning and reporting toolkit software facilitates performance tracking on all indicators of the integrated national development plan. In addition, through a filtering process, reports can be generated for only those indicators that are either partially or fully aligned with the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. In this context, module II facilitates the tracking of progress made in the implementation of both Agendas exclusively. The module, based on the data entered, is capable of generating descriptive statistics that can inform the compilation of a national progress report.

Figure IV
Screenshot of module II: performance tracking

The screenshot displays the 'Monitoring and Evaluation Form' software interface. The 'Macroeconomic' tab is selected, showing a list of tracking indicators. The table has four columns: 'Tracking Indicator, by Year', 'Tgt2016', '2017', and '2016'. The indicators listed include poverty head count, GDP growth rates, sectoral growth rates, import/export shares of GDP, consumption expenditure shares, per capita income, and various export revenue shares.

Tracking Indicator, by Year	Tgt2016	2017	2016
Total Poverty Head count (%)			
Real GDP Growth Rate (%)			
Agriculture and Allied Sectors Growth Rate (%)			
Industry Sector Growth Rate (%)			
Service Sector Growth Rate (%)			
Import of Goods and non-factor Services as (%) share of GDP			
Export of Goods and non-factor Services as (%) share of GDP			
Total Consumption Expenditure as (%) share of GDP			
Private Consumption Expenditure as (%) share of GDP			
Public Consumption Expenditure as (%) share of GDP			
Per capita income @ CMP in USD			
Agriculture and Allied Sector as (%) share of GDP			
Service sector as (%) share of GDP			
Industry sector as (%) share of GDP			
Share of Manufacturing industry as (%) share of GDP			
Merchandise Export as (%) share of GDP			
Agricultural Production Export Revenue as (%) share of GDP			
Industrial output Export as (%) share of GDP			
Manufacturing Export Revenue as (%) share of GDP			
Industrial output Export Revenue as (%) share of Total Merchandise Export Revenue			
Manufacturing Export as (%) share of Total Merchandise Export			

Figure IV is a screenshot of module II based on the results framework of Ethiopia. Each tab represents a thematic area of the country's national development plan. The indicators for the macroeconomic thematic area are illustrated in the screenshot. The last three columns are used for data entry for the tracking of performance on each of the indicators for the macroeconomic policy area.

D. Institutional architecture for use of the integrated planning and reporting toolkit

Protocol of utilization

As indicated in the introduction section, the integrated planning and reporting toolkit software is designed to facilitate coherent integration of internationally agreed development goals into national development plans and effective tracking and reporting on the implementation of such plans. The software is populated with data provided by designated national authorities, and subsequently generates relevant progress reports.

It is envisaged that the national reports and data generated for each country will be availed to ECA for the purpose of compiling regional reports. In this regard, the sensitivity of the data entered into and generated by the software cannot be overstated. Consequently, the use of the software by government officials needs to be governed by protocols that safeguard confidentiality and respect the legal frameworks of each country. Accordingly, ECA is proposing protocols, discussed below, for the utilization of the software.

National level

Access to the software will be governed by a memorandum of understanding between ECA and the national entity in charge of planning (e.g., the directorate of planning or the national planning commission).

At the national level, the planning entity of the relevant countries will be tasked with coordinating the use of the software for the integration, performance tracking and reporting process. The planning entity will designate a country focal point who will be responsible for the overall management and coordination of the data entry and reporting processes relating to the software and who will be the interlocutor between the country and ECA. To this end, the country focal point will be granted access to the software (e.g., the integrated planning and reporting toolkit) through the ECA website and will be responsible for uploading the reports generated by the software to a regional database hosted by ECA.

A customized version of the software will be developed for each country, with an interface of it stored on the ECA server. Once installed, the country focal point can either work offline or online to input all relevant information required for integration and performance tracking. Similarly, generating reports does not require an internet connection.

The process of inputting data and information regarding the various goals, targets and indicators can be done either from the same computer or from various ones. In the event that they are done from more than one computer, the Internet is required to aggregate all information.

Sector level

Line ministries are critical for the integration of internationally agreed development plans into national development plans. Given the volume of targets and indicators contained in the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 and given their sector-specific capacities, it is prudent to assign line ministries the role of integrating components of internationally agreed development plans that relate to their sectors into their sector strategies. Sector focal points can use the software to ensure that sector strategies are aligned with internationally agreed development plans. To facilitate sector-level integration, it is suggested that, in addition to the country focal point, each sector should identify a sector focal person to coordinate sector-level integration.

To ensure overall coherence, sector-level outputs emanating from the work of the sector focal person will be coordinated and synthesized at the national level by the country focal point. The integrated planning and reporting toolkit software has the capability of facilitating an electronic synchronization of sectoral inputs. Alternatively, such inputs can be aggregated manually using USB flash drives.

Regional-level analysis and reporting

To ensure regional-level analysis, performance tracking and reporting, countries will be encouraged to upload their data to the ECA central server through a dedicated interface. This will facilitate cross-country comparisons, analysis and reporting on the status of integration of international agendas with national planning frameworks and the status of implementation of the two Agendas at the national and regional levels.

E. Conclusion

The proliferation of global and regional development agendas calls for a coherent and integrated approach to their implementation at the national level. Prior to integrating such agendas into their national development plan, policymakers must understand the interlinkages among such frameworks (e.g., horizontal coherence) and the internal consistency of such agendas. The former minimizes duplication of effort and exploits synergies throughout multiple agendas to optimize resource use. The latter assists policymakers in prioritizing by identifying interventions that have the greatest multiplier effects in realizing their policy objectives. For example, investment in access to water can decrease health expenditure by reducing the incidence of water-borne diseases.

The ECA integrated planning and reporting toolkit supports an integrated approach to the implementation and tracking of performance on the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. It is an electronic platform that uses information provided by a country's national development plan to assess the quality of integration of multiple development agendas into national plans, identify reasons for partial or non-integration and track progress on the implementation of the national development plan.

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Annex I

List of outputs from module II

Table

2030 Agenda progress report (indicators level) for a periodicity defined by the user (the country)

<i>2030 Agenda progress report during the period A to B</i>				
Ref/ID of indicator in 2030 Agenda framework	Name/formulation of the indicator in 2030 Agenda framework	Best correspondent of indicator in national development plan	Value targeted by the country for the period under review	Value realized by the country for the period under review
Indicator I.1.2				

Table

Agenda 2063 progress report (indicators level) for a periodicity defined by the user (the country)^a

<i>Agenda 2063 progress report during the period A to B</i>				
Ref/ID of indicator in A63 framework	Name/formulation of the indicator in A63 framework	Best correspondent of indicator in national development plan	Value targeted by the country for the period under review	Value realized by the country for the period under review
Indicator I.1.2				

^a This report will emanate from the pre-established tags between the 2030 Agenda indicators and Agenda 2063 (A63) indicators.

Table

Progress report for the regional set of indicators at a periodicity defined by the user (the country)^a

<i>Progress report on the regional set of indicators during the period A to B</i>				
Ref/ID of indicator in set of regional indicators	Name/formulation of the indicator in regional framework	Best correspondent of indicator in national development plan	Value targeted by the country for the period under review	Value realized by the country for the period under review
Indicator I.1.2				

^a This report to be generated from a pre-set tag between the 2030 Agenda and the regional set of indicators.