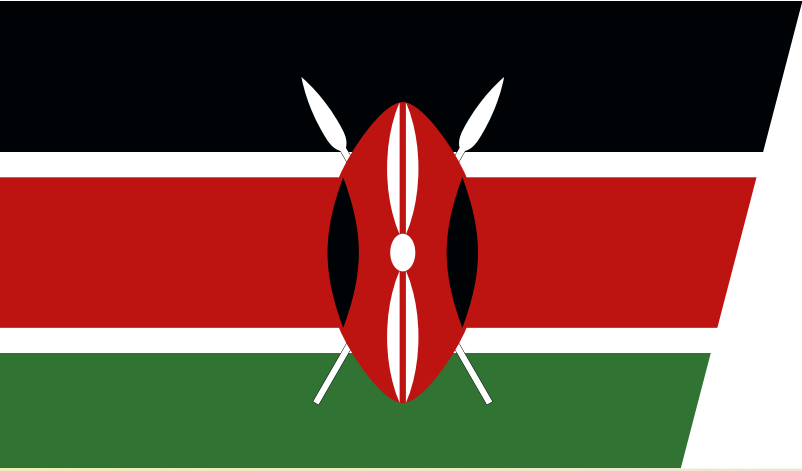




United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa



KENYA

Country Handbook

HIGHLIGHTS OF ECA'S SUPPORT TO KENYA
2020-2022.



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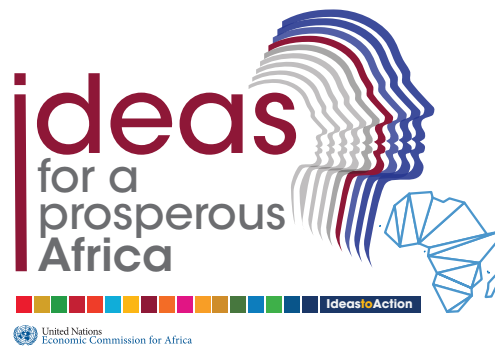
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ABOUT ECA



*Vera Songwe, Under-Secretary-General of the UN
and Executive Secretary of the ECA*

Our mission is to deliver ideas and actions for an empowered and transformed Africa, informed by the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.



ECA's Core Functions:

Conducting multisectoral research and analysis that nurture the regional integration.

Providing platforms for policy frameworks and action plans at the regional and subregional levels.

Providing policy advice and analytical work to support countries' sustainable development.



Mama Keita,
Director of ECA's Office for Eastern Africa

About ECA in Eastern Africa

Located in Kigali-Rwanda, the Subregional Office for Eastern Africa of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) covers the following countries: Burundi, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania. The Office also serves two regional economic communities (the East African Community and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development) and three intergovernmental organizations (the Indian Ocean Commission, the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region).

The work of the Subregional Office informs policy and decision-making, contributes to the harmonization of national policies in support of regional integration efforts, and generates high-quality knowledge products that cater to the needs of member States and other entities.

The Office specializes in deepening subregional integration in East Africa towards the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

The Office has expertise in many pertinent themes related to the effective implementation of the AfCFTA. SRO-EA previous work hinges on issues of trade in goods and services, the movement of labour and social cohesion, women in cross-border trade, mainstreaming regional integration, energy, tourism, the blue economy, private sector development and industrial policy.



President Kenyatta invited Ms Vera Songwe, the Executive Secretary of ECA, to join the President's group of international thinkers, with whom he discusses on critical issues of development in Kenya, the African continent and the globe.

Empowering youths with problem solving skills to achieve SDGs

A series of exhibitions, trainings, and hackathons titled “Mt Kenya Innovation and Investment Week”, organized by Mt. Kenya Hub in partnership with the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), took place in the Kenyan counties of Nyeri, Meru, and Kirinyaga from 26 November to 3 December 2021. This initiative aimed at enhancing skills development, job creation, and inclusive growth. It offered youth, start-ups and women the opportunity to access foundational knowledge, digital tools and platforms to enable them to become better innovators, entrepreneurs and tech leaders.

The event featured a contest in innovation (167 submissions) and hackathon (103 submissions), out of which a total of 16 submissions were shortlisted and the best five were selected and awarded.

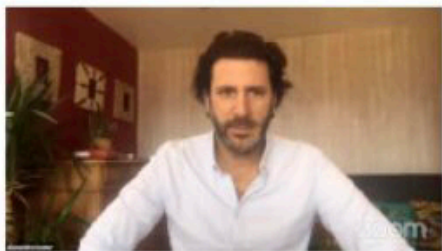
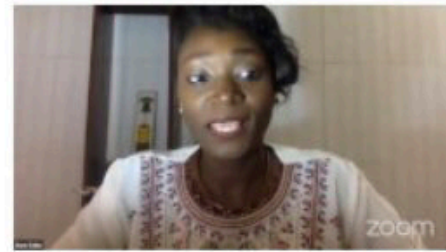
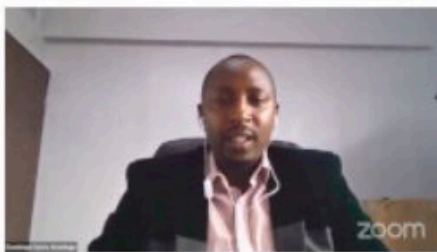
Africa has the lowest rate of Internet penetration and the widest digital gender gap in the world with only 22.5 per cent of women using the Internet, compared with 33.8 per cent of men. Among the obstacles affecting Africa are its weak digital connectivity, limited infrastructure, high cost of bandwidth, and issues of cyber security and digital literacy.

An initiative such as the Mt Kenya Innovation Week provides the necessary technology education and skills to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in a bid to spur inclusive economic growth, bridge the digital gender divide, and eradicate poverty.



Youth and ICT

President Uhuru Kenyatta has hailed the contribution of digital technologies to Kenya's transformation saying ICTs are helping the country to create employment opportunities for its youth and enhance delivery of public services. The Head of State spoke during the 2021 Africa Business Forum held virtually on the sidelines of the 34th Ordinary Session of the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government hosted by ECA.



Kenya National Strategy on Implementation of the AfCFTA

Kenya's Ministry for Industrialization, Trade and Enterprise Development, in collaboration with ECA have finalized the country's African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) National Implementation Strategy, a blueprint to enable the country to tap into the opportunities provided by the agreement.

The finalization of the strategy followed a series of technical review meetings that brought together trade strategists and economists from the government, development partners, academia and non-state actors.

Kenya is keen to expand its productive capacities and increase its export of goods and services across Africa, and globally. This is in line with its economic transformation policy which aims to expand export capacity, increase jobs and wealth creation opportunities for citizens and promote shared prosperity. The Kenya AfCFTA strategy identified key products and services as well as markets that Kenya will prioritize as it seeks to boost its exports to the rest of the continent.





THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA (AfCFTA)

*A Catalyst for Accelerating Trade, Structural transformation
and Sustainable Development in Eastern Africa*





ECA assisted Kenya to develop the AfCFTA implementation strategy which charts a path for boosting Kenya's trade with other African trading partners and which will improve the prospects for diversification and structural transformation by increasing the demand for manufactured goods exports



Campaign to raise awareness of AfCFTA within the Kenyan business community

ECA has been heavily involved in technical support to Member States towards the ratification of the AfCFTA agreement and the development of national strategies to maximize its benefits. Particularly in Nigeria, the office contributed to the organization and facilitation of national validation workshops and technical meetings on national strategies of the AfCFTA in 2021.

An aerial photograph of a red truck with two blue containers on a road in a green landscape. The truck is moving away from the viewer. The road is paved and has white lane markings. The surrounding area is lush green with some trees and a small stream in the distance. The sky is blue with white clouds. A dark blue semi-transparent box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing white text.

The business community is a key part of AfCFTA

The agreement creates new markets, facilitates access to regional value chains and technology and lowers the transaction cost.



Najib Balala, *Cabinet Secretary,
Kenya Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife*

TOURISM CONTRIBUTES TO MOST SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1 NO POVERTY



5 GENDER EQUALITY



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



15 LIFE ON LAND



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Development of Tourism Satellite Accounts in Kenya

ECA has supported Kenya to develop a tourism satellite account (TSA). This is to ensure that investors and stakeholders have the adequate and latest data to help them prepare and market their businesses. TSA will also help decision-making by the government on tourism development, including on policy formulation, optimal resource allocation to the sector, infrastructure prioritization and incentives for tourism development, among others.

The TSA is one of the main tools for the measurement of tourism's contribution to the economy. The Kenya TSA is based on the framework developed by the UN World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) after it recognized that certain economies were failing to accurately measure tourism's economic impact. The Tourism Research Institute (TRI) and Tourism Finance Corporation (TFC) are among the stakeholders participating in the implementation of the TSA Programme.

Kenya is the fourth country in Africa, after South Africa, Botswana, and Rwanda, to have a TSA.

Intellectual property protection of green inventions

ECA, in collaboration with the Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa, is supporting efforts to mitigate the impact of locusts and other agents on agricultural productivity, food security and deforestation in the subregion. The Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa has invented a series of natural alternatives to chemical pesticides and needs ECA support to secure intellectual property protection for those inventions and to manufacture and use them on a pilot scale in selected African countries.

ECA has supported the Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa in the development of an international patent protection strategy and in drafting patent applications. Bioassays and other field tests have been carried out successfully on a population of East African locusts, and an assessment of the environmental impact of those green products on non-target bodies (e.g. water resources) has also been conducted. Bioassays and environmental assays will be extrapolated to Djibouti, Eritrea, Kenya and Somalia.



Study of green tourism value chains

The main objective of this project is to assess the potential of green tourism value chains in Kenya in line with the national AfCFTA implementation strategy. ECA will support Kenya to conduct consultations with public and private sector representatives intervening in the Tourism Value chain. The information collected will serve in analyzing the value chain, preparing policy recommendations and, developing an action plan to reduce harmful emissions and establish a corresponding monitoring.

8 DECENT WORK AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



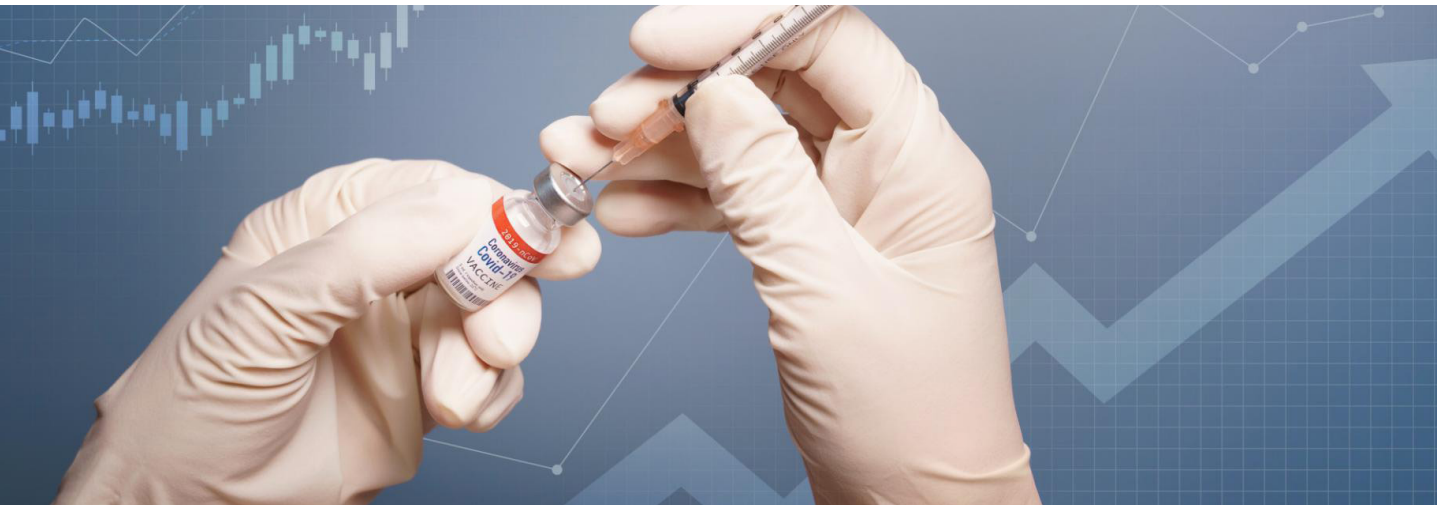
17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



Supporting national efforts towards recovery with a set of dedicated initiatives

From the onset of the COVID pandemic, protective measures such as the wearing of masks, and vaccination were identified as crucial to ensuring the socio-economic recovery of countries. Specialized suppliers and laboratories around the world were quickly able to offer protective items and equipment and later on vaccines on the market, but access to them was difficult and costly due to limited quantities.

At the same time, African countries and many others were faced with the problems of dwindling government revenues and foreign reserves as immediate effects of the pandemic caused by containment measures, mainly lockdowns. Through its support to the Africa Medical Supply platform and to the African Vaccine Acquisition Task Team, which are built on principles of pooled procurement, ECA has facilitated access to COVID protective equipment and vaccines in 41 countries, including Kenya. The aim was to help these countries end lockdowns, reopen their economies, and build forward better while battling the COVID-19 pandemic.

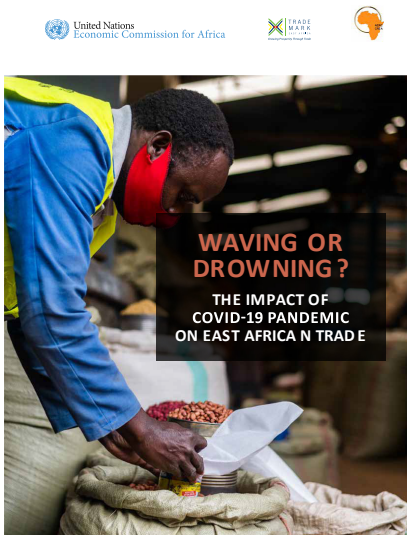


Some of our Publications



Creating a Unified Regional Market – Towards the Implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area in Eastern Africa

This report focuses on one particular Achilles' Heel: limited intra-regional trade and investment constrain the structural transformation of the sub-region's economies and make it difficult for countries to achieve global, regional and national developmental objectives.



Report: Waving or Drowning? The Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic on East African Trade

Despite the severe economic and social repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic, the East Africa Community economies (Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda) have, by global standards, proven to be relatively resilient. This report focuses on providing an analysis of the region's merchandise trade performance during the period of disruption to global commerce.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Some of our recent publications



Sustainable tourism investment financing in Eastern Africa

This study reviews tourism investment and financing models that could be relevant in facilitating sustainable growth and development of the sector in Eastern Africa.



Macroeconomic and Social Developments in Eastern Africa- Benchmarking Performance towards National, Regional and International Goals

With a 6.1 percent growth rate in 2019, following 6.6 percent in 2018, the growth rates of the region were expected to remain high but were halted by the Covid-19 pandemic which nearly brought the economies of East Africa into a recession.

5 GENDER EQUALITY



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Blue Economy Valuation Toolkit (BEVTK) User Manual

The BEVTK was developed as a tool to guide sub-regional and national in-depth socio-economic assessments that will support informed decision-making. It can be used for socio-economic assessments aimed to provide an accurate snapshot of the potential of the Blue Economy

A catalyst for accelerating trade, structural transformation and sustainable development in Eastern Africa

 United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa



BLUE ECONOMY VALUATION TOOLKIT USER MANUAL

Updated: June 2021

 SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Africa's Blue Economy facilitates 90% of trade, generates \$100 billion in tourism revenue, and employs 50 million Africans in fisheries, tourism, transport, energy and other aquatic-based industries. It has the potential to accelerate Africa's structural transformation in a way that is inclusive and sustainable.

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United Group of Experts



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