



# African Human Security Index

## Development and Promotion of the African Security Index

### Background information

The development of the African Human Security Index (AHSI) represents the first continent-wide human security index to support progress on the implementation of Agenda 2063 and the Silencing the Guns in Africa initiative. The AHSI identifies and strengthens practical linkages across the domains of peace and security, socioeconomic development, and good governance in the implementation and monitoring of Agenda 2063 and the achievement of the SDGs. As a practical policy tool, the index supports policymakers and practitioners to develop comprehensive strategies to address the complex set of interconnected drivers and root causes of crises, including violent conflicts. It also helps identify communities or regions under stress, supports proactive responses by governments to emerging challenges in their countries, and proposes targeted solutions to prevent the outbreak or relapse of crises.

### Goals and objectives

The key objectives of the programme are to: (i) enhance the understanding of the application of the human security approach and its usage as a tool for developing effective policies and programmes; (ii) develop the AHSI as a universal yet contextually relevant tool to guide policy development and monitor progress across the multiple dimensions of human security; (iii) pilot the AHSI in a minimum of two African countries to refine and codify the AHSI methodology; and (iv) make recommendations on how the African Union Commission (AUC) and member states of the African Union (AU) can most effectively apply the AHSI to advance Agenda 2063 and the SDGs.



#### DURATION

July 2019 – April 2023



#### UN IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), HSU



#### OTHER KEY PARTNERS

United Nations Office to the African Union (UNOAU), African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) Secretariat



#### BENEFICIARIES

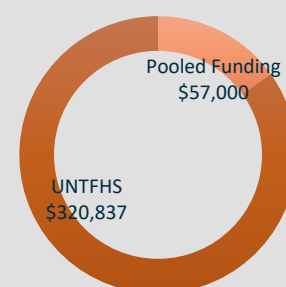
The African Union countries



#### TOTAL BUDGET

US\$ 377,837

#### POOLING OF RESOURCES



# Beneficiaries

The programme benefits all African Union countries.

## Applying the Human Security approach

Based on principles rooted in the human security approach and its emphasis on a stronger focus on people's aspirations to be free from fear, want and indignity, the Africa envisaged in Vision 2063 is a prosperous continent where citizens feel safe in all aspects of their lives, have the income and opportunities to attain well-being, and know that their rights and dignity are fully respected.

As such, the application of human security in the development of an index for advancing and monitoring progress towards Agenda 2063 and the SDGs is a natural extension of longstanding practice within the African Union. Through this programme, the capacities of practitioners in the AU, the UN system, and non-governmental entities on the continent to apply the human security approach are enhanced, particularly as it relates to bringing together the peace and security, development, and human rights architecture towards more integrated action. Technical workshops and roundtables provide an overview of the principles that embody the human security approach and elaborate on the usage of human security as a tool for developing effective policies and programmes by governments and non-governmental entities, as well as regional and sub-regional intergovernmental institutions towards the achievement of Agenda 2063 and the SDGs.

Beyond the development of the AHSI, the programme highlights the added value of the human security approach to the aspirations of the continent, particularly as it relates to a more integrated and anticipatory response by African governments and stakeholders, in collaboration with other partners, to end conflicts on the continent, reduce vulnerability, and build resilience of local communities to advance sustainable development in Africa, with no one left behind.



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