

# 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 interlinkages across peace and security, socioeconomic development, and good governance in the implementation and monitoring of Agenda 2063 and the achievement of the sustainable development goals (SDGs). As an operational 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 with the aim to deliver on inclusive and sustainable development and transform Africa and its drive for unity, self-determination, freedom, progress and collective prosperity. It does so by supporting communities and regions under stress, advancing proactive responses by governments to emerging challenges, and proposing targeted solutions to help prevent the outbreak or relapse into crises.

### Goals and objectives

The key objectives of the programme are to: (i) enhance the understanding and 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 several 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

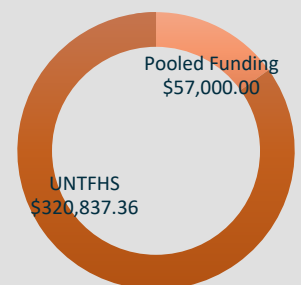


**BENEFICIARIES**  
The African Union countries



**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.

Through this programme, the capacities of policymakers and practitioners in the AU, the AUC, the UN system, and non-governmental entities to apply the human security approach are enhanced, particularly as it relates to bringing together the peace and security, development, and human rights pillars. As a universal yet contextually relevant tool to guide policy development and monitor progress across the nexus of development, good governance, human rights, and peace and stability, the methodology and application of AHSI provides an index encompassing contextually relevant data that is both quantitative and qualitative and traverses a multitude of overlapping indices. As a tool for ongoing assessment and response by governments and other stakeholders, it helps highlight what stressors (risks and vulnerabilities) are arising within a given country which may derail progress on Agenda 2063 and the SDGs and supports integrated actions for greater impact. 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, thereby resulting in whole-of-society frameworks to mitigate, prevent and strengthen resilience to current and emerging challenges.

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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