

AFRICA DIALOGUE SERIES

CONCEPT NOTE

“Justice for Africans and People of African Descent Through Reparations”



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT.....1

2. OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES.....2

3. ADS 2025 STRUCTURE6

4. CONCLUSION.....7

5. STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS.....7

6. FORMAT OF ACTIVITIES PER SUB-THEME.....8

7. ENDNOTES.....9



1. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The African Union's Theme of the Year 2025 – “Justice for Africans and People of African Descent Through Reparations” – is a powerful call to integrate historical redress into contemporary development discourse. The Africa Dialogue Series (ADS) 2025 aligns with this vision to reposition reparatory justice as a lever for inclusive growth, social cohesion, and sustainable transformation. As acknowledged in key frameworks, including the Accra Declaration (2022) and the AU Assembly Decision.¹ Reparatory justice is a development priority and a moral imperative. In the continuing pursuit of justice and equity, the conversation about reparations has emerged as a critical and transformative dialogue that requires the collective attention and action of Africans, people of African descent, and the wider international community, including state and non-state actors. The scope of this conversation goes beyond historical injustices and into the current fabric of societies worldwide.² The complexities of addressing past wrongs, whether they stem from colonialism, transatlantic enslavement, apartheid, or systemic discrimination, necessitate a thorough examination and strategic approach.³ With this in mind, the African Union (AU) has reaffirmed its commitment to reparatory justice as an imperative for the realization of an integrated, prosperous, and peaceful Africa, in line with Agenda 2063.

Recent years have seen an acceleration of initiatives seeking justice for Africans and people of African descent. The AU Decision on Reparations for Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade reiterates the continental position on this crucial issue and calls for concerted action at regional and international levels.⁴ In August 2022, the Government of Ghana and civil society partner institutions co-organized a historic Africa-Diaspora Summit on Reparations under the theme “Advancing Justice: Reparations and Racial Healing”, resulting in an outcome document

known as the Accra Declaration on Reparations and Racial Healing.⁵ The African Commission on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR), an organ of the AU, passed a Resolution in November 2022 on Africa's Reparations Agenda and the Human Rights of Africans in the Diaspora and People of African Descent Worldwide.⁶ Notably, this Resolution reaffirmed the 2001 Durban Declaration and Programme of Action⁷ as a comprehensive framework addressing racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance, and acknowledged the significance of the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024)⁸ in advancing the recognition, justice, and development of people of African descent worldwide. Acknowledging that the persistent legacies of these injustices present challenges to socio-economic progress and are linked to persistent structural inequalities across the continent and within the African diaspora.

Ghana has continued to lead in this area, co-convening with the AU Commission in November 2023, the Accra Reparations Conference, which brought together several Heads of State and Government from Africa and the Caribbean, the United Nations (UN), intergovernmental bodies such as the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), diaspora, academics, policymakers, activists, and civil society actors, among others. In addition, the conference was a demonstration of the AU's commitment and renewed effort to advance the cause of reparations, including reparatory justice, and healing for Africans and for all people of African descent.

The Secretary-General of the UN has placed paramount importance on reparatory justice for people of African descent, including the reform of international institutions to address the insufficient representation of African countries, and the inadequacy of the financial architecture to address their needs. The principle of reparatory justice is also at the heart of the Secretary-General's report to the seventy-eighth UN General Assembly

on the Implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent.⁹ In this connection, the Secretary-General has recommended that States take a comprehensive approach that seeks to address legacies of the past in order to build societies free from systemic racism and racial discrimination. The Secretary-General further recommended that the approach be participatory, gender-sensitive and inclusive, and should combine a plurality of measures. The announcement of this theme is particularly significant; It coincides with the conclusion of the International Decade for People of African Descent “A/RES/68/237”, which spanned from 2015 to 2024 and the start of the Second International Decade for People of African Descent (2025-2034).¹⁰ Among its initiatives, the AU and the Africa Transitional Justice Legacy Fund (ATJLF) signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding in July 2024 to enhance cooperation in areas such as Democratic Governance, Human Rights, Rule of Law, Transitional Justice, Reparatory Justice, and Racial Healing.¹¹ Moreover, the High Commissioner for Human Rights Agenda towards Transformative Change for Racial Justice and Equality provides recommendations for dismantling systemic racism and confronting the legacies of the past, including through delivering reparatory justice. The High Commissioner has noted that reparatory justice requires a multi-pronged and comprehensive approach, grounded in international human rights law. UN anti-racism human rights mechanisms have also advocated for reparatory justice.¹² The AU’s theme for 2025 builds on these objectives, reinforcing the commitment to achieving justice and equity for African communities on the continent and in the diaspora.

The AU has declared “Justice for Africans and People of African Descent Through Reparations” its theme for 2025, which presents an opportunity for the UN Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA) and its partners to advocate through the annual Africa Dialogue Series for justice, as broadly described in

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16, on delivering peaceful and inclusive societies, and Aspiration 3 of the AU Agenda 2063.¹³

2. OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

ADS 2025 will provide a platform for partners and stakeholders to articulate a contemporary understanding of reparatory justice, investigate the effectiveness of current international strategies and frameworks concerning justice for Africans and people of African descent, and advocate for policies to enhance initiatives for justice, financial, environmental, economic, social, etc.

As a culmination of the month-long ADS 2025, based on the statements made during the High-Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) and other elements emanating from the various events and activities of the ADS, a Call to Action will be issued to promote justice for Africans and people of African Descent Through Reparations.

The Strategic Objectives of ADS 2025 provide a continental space for dialogue on reparations and justice as enablers of development. They bridge AU institutional processes with continental and global reparatory justice movements. They will foster actionable recommendations for integrating justice and redress into national development frameworks. They will amplify the voices of African descendants and diaspora in shaping the future of African development trajectories.

To achieve these objectives, several key areas of action have been identified. This includes the study of financing mechanisms for reparatory justice, discussions on the return of cultural property and ancestral knowledge, and support for healing and reconciliation initiatives. Particular attention could be paid to strengthening the legal and institutional capacities of African countries for the implementation of reparatory justice policies.

Encouraging the integration of the teaching of the history of slavery, colonization, and their lasting impacts into African curricula would be important to foster awareness and a shared collective memory. Exchange and collaboration platforms will be encouraged to facilitate the sharing of experiences and best practices between African and diaspora communities engaged in the struggle for reparatory justice.

The overall expected outcome of the ADS 2025 will be to help position justice (SDG 16)¹⁴ and international human rights standards as the critical overarching global commitment through which the international community should consider its reparatory commitments to Africans and people of African descent.

Subtheme 1: Learning from the Past: Transatlantic Slave Trade, Colonialism, Extractive Economies and Institutions in Africa

- Partners of Choice for Sub-theme 1: the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and African Union Economic Social and Cultural Council (AU-ECOSOC)
- “We do not just risk repeating history if we sweep it under the carpet, we also risk being myopic about our present.” Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Author. The overall objective of this week is to set the stage for an in-depth discussion of the AU’s theme of the year through a better understanding of history.
- The colonial period is widely understood to refer to the period from the late 19th century to the mid-20th century. This is often termed as the “Scramble for Africa” – a period in which major European colonial powers competed to control most African territory and natural resources. In the 1870s, only 10 per cent of African territory was controlled by European countries. By stark contrast, in 1914, about 90 per cent of African territory was incorpo-
- rated into one European empire or another.¹⁵
- The colonial rule has had a long-lasting impact on African societies, cultures, languages and institutions and presented unique socio-economic and political challenges for the newly independent countries. Furthermore, the legacy of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade has cast its long shadow over the post-colonial era. In Africa, the forced removal and displacement of millions of people resulted in tremendous societal unrest and conflict. Moreover, the former colonial powers enriched themselves at the expense of African populations through their exploitation of enslaved labour. Not only did this have negative consequences for enslaved Africans in countries to which they were brought, but also in terms of the overall socio-economic development path of Africa, which relied on the extraction and export of Africa’s raw materials and natural resources with little or no value addition at the source.
- Consequently, structural challenges have become embedded in Africa’s extractive economic model, which highlights the need for stronger institutions as well as the role of SDG 16 in promoting peace, justice, and sustainable livelihoods across the continent and beyond.
- Efforts are being made to restructure Africa’s economic positioning relating to raw materials, including through the recommendations of the Secretary General’s report on Critical Energy Transition Minerals.¹⁶
- Despite their disadvantaged start, African nations have proven extremely resilient and made remarkable strides towards regional integration through the AU, its transformative development blueprint, Agenda 2063, and its Ten-year Implementation Plans, and flagship projects,

including regional integration initiatives, such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).¹⁷

- To better appreciate the true value of these milestone achievements, one must first look back to the past and consider the extent of the historic injustice that Africans and people of African descent have endured through colonial and post-colonial periods.
- This will serve as a segway to discussing the present-day reality and help the stakeholders chart the course for a better future armed with lessons from history.

Subtheme 2: Understanding the Present: Economic, Social and Cultural Justice for Sustainable Development

- Partners of Choice for Sub-theme 2: the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), and Pan-African Parliament (PAP)
- Having explored the origins of the socio-economic and institutional fabric of newly independent African nation-states as part of subtheme 1, the second week further explores their present-day projections from a human rights-based perspective, namely the rights to development, a clean healthy, and sustainable environment, self-determination and sovereignty over natural resources which are imperative for delivering broader socio-economic justice and truly inclusive sustainable development. To that effect, the sub-theme will explore perspectives to address the structural challenges commonly associated with extractive industries in Africa and measures to overcome these challenges by strengthening governance and institutions to help unleash the continent's potential for domestic resource mobilization and support African countries to have control over their own economic and financial resources for inclusive sustainable development and durable peace.
- This sub-theme also highlights the importance of cultural reparations that recognize and celebrate the vital contributions of women and youth to African societies. This includes revitalizing and investing in the creative and cultural industries—particularly considering current trends showing increased youth engagement in these sectors as a form of self-employment. It also involves supporting the arts and promoting inclusive narratives that reflect both the historical and contemporary roles of women and youth in shaping Africa's identity, resilience, and development.
- To initiate the discussions, the sub-theme will adopt the broader lens of SDG 16, namely peace, justice and strong institutions, as well as a human rights lens, and further explore their role in bringing about socio-economic justice, decent jobs and sustainable lives and livelihoods for Africans and people of African descent.
- Sub-theme 2 will also discuss the role of partnerships at the national, regional and global levels to ensure equal access to justice for all and the prevalence of the rule of law as the basis for robust, transparent and accountable institutions facilitating inclusive and participatory decision-making for Africans at all levels on matters that determine the continent's future trajectory of sustainable development and durable peace.
- This sub-theme would also examine partnerships that support peace, justice, and strong institutions, with implementation means dedicated to such initiatives.
- It will also discuss climate resilience and climate justice from a broader lens of sustainable development and the perspec-

tive of ensuring countries in Africa have full control of their economic and financial flows, enabling them to leverage the commensurate technology, technical expertise and predictable financial resources to achieve the SDGs and Agenda 2063, laying the foundations for value-added sustainable industrialization and creation of decent and sustainable jobs for their young and growing population.¹⁸ Africa has to be in a position to deliver all these while addressing the cascading impact of climate change to which it has historically contributed negligibly (around 2-3 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions) yet suffers disproportionately, through droughts, floods and rising average surface temperatures, as one of the most vulnerable regions in the world.¹⁹

Subtheme 3: Building the Future: Healing and Reparations towards Socio-Economic Justice for Africans and People of African Descent

- Partners of Choice for Sub-theme 3: the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).
- “It is high time for reparatory justice frameworks to be put in place.”²⁰
- This sub-theme explores healing and reparations for socio-economic justice, focusing on restoring human dignity, addressing psychological trauma, and creating frameworks for reparatory justice in response to historical injustices.
- Advocating comprehensive policies to achieve socio-economic justice, including education, skills development, health, economic empowerment, resilience building, cultural preservation, legal reforms, and equitable policy implementation for Africans and people of African descent.

- Recognizing the International Decade for People of African Descent proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in December 2013²¹ and its themes of recognition, justice, and development and the second International Decade for People of African Descent renewed the call for recognition, justice and development.²² This is an opportunity to take collective action and address the legacies of slavery, colonialism, and neo-colonialism to deliver reparatory justice, and full human rights and freedom.
- Considering reparations and healing for Africans and people of African descent.²³ This is an opportunity for the AU to take leadership on this agenda and galvanize Africans and people of African descent to strengthen their common position on historical injustices.
- Against this backdrop, the concept of reparations will be interpreted broadly as a necessary but not sufficient measure on the way towards healing from the adverse legacies of colonialism and neo-colonialism. It will be considered as a critical step to address systemic racism faced by Africans and people of African descent, and a means to enable societies to effectively move towards reconciliation, healing and equality. In the context of African economies, this translates into ways and means of mobilizing financial resources and accessing financial markets on an equal footing with others without the burden of the so-called “Africa risk premia” imposed by the credit rating agencies.
- Moreover, sub-theme 3 will explore partnerships to pursue reparatory justice, repair and recovery from the psychological trauma endured from colonial and neo-colonial exploitation to restore the human dignity of Africans and people of African descent.

- While the subject of reparations implicitly addresses the subject of accountability and redress for past injustices, it is also an opportunity for developing win-win partnerships for inclusive sustainable development, recognizing that the “Africa we want is the Africa the World needs”. In this context, unleashing the opportunity of Africa’s potential demographic dividend, coupled with the global economic value represented by Africa’s position in the critical mineral value chain²⁴ and its vast repository of more than 60 per cent of the remaining undeveloped arable land in the world²⁵ represent an opportunity for a new economic dynamism with a global impact.
- Consequently, the sub-theme intends to mobilise Africans, people of African descent, and the wider international community, including state and non-state actors, to take concrete action and address historical injustices.

High-Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) -Bringing it all together: The HLPD will create a platform for senior UN officials and high-level policy makers from African member states, and development partners to bring all the threads together and discuss policies to shape our common future and to deliver reparatory justice for all Africans and people of African descent. These will include the establishment of a fair and development-focused international financial architecture and an accompanying international trading system, which will allow Africa to deliver on the two Agendas and repositioning Africa as a strong, united, resilient and influential global player and partner in line with the Aspirations of Agenda 2063 for the Africa We Want. For the first time this year, the ADS HLPD is co-hosted by the President of the UN General Assembly. The HLPD will be an opportunity to situate the implementation of the Pact for the Future in the context of addressing the enduring impacts of colonialism and addressing Africa’s economic transformation.

This requires the reform of the International Financing Architecture and the International Trading system to empower African countries to be able to control their own economic and financial flows and align the means of implementation with the ambition of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. Therefore, the ADS will also contribute to the reflections on transforming international financing tools as part of the proposed outcome of the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development.

The following cross-cutting themes will also be addressed during the ADS 2025:

- Gender equality and youth issues considering the continent’s demographic dividend;
- Capacity building and technology transfer;
- Education;
- Culture; and
- Heritage and dignity.

3. ADS 2025 Structure

The ADS is a flagship advocacy activity of UN-OSAA that is held annually throughout May and is organized jointly with the African Union Permanent Observer Mission to the United Nations (AUPOM). It seeks to amplify a new narrative for Africa from Africa and foster global consensus on innovative solutions to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063. Each year’s edition focuses on the annual theme of the AU. The ADS 2025 aims to be a catalyst for translating these political commitments into concrete actions, by mobilizing African and diasporic expertise to develop effective reparative strategies adapted to specific contexts.

The 2025 edition of the ADS will feature various activities and events, allocating one week each to aspects related to the past, present, and future of the theme “Justice for Africans and People of African Descent.”

Partners of choice entities will co-organize the activities of each week in coordination with OSAA and the AUPOM. ADS 2025 will include a High-level Policy Dialogue, taking place on 30 May 2025, co-hosted with the President of the UN General Assembly. Through the selection of three unique sub-themes seen from these prisms, ADS 2025 will work with partners of choice to advocate the following:

Subtheme 1: Learning from the Past: Transatlantic Slave Trade, Colonialism, Extractive Economies and Institutions in Africa [5 to 9 May 2025]

- Partners of Choice: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and African Union Economic Social and Cultural Council (AU-ECOSOCC)

Subtheme 2: Understanding the Present: Economic, Social and Cultural Justice for Sustainable Development [12 to 16 May 2025]

- Partners of Choice: United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), and Pan-African Parliament (PAP)

Subtheme 3: Building the Future: Healing and Reparations towards Socio-Economic Justice for Africans and People of African Descent [19 to 23 May 2025]

- Partners of Choice: United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

The HLPD, to be held in a hybrid format on 30 May 2025, represents the high-level segment of ADS 2025 and features high-level participants from Member States, the United Nations system, the African Union, and representatives of other regional and subregional organizations, including the Regional Economic Communities and CARICOM.

4. CONCLUSION

The ADS 2025, themed “Justice for Africans and People of African Descent Through Reparations,” is a crucial initiative to address historical injustices and promote socio-economic and cultural justice. By engaging with key stakeholders, Africans, people of African descent, and the wider international community, including state and non-state actors, ADS 2025 aims to integrate reparatory justice into development frameworks. ADS aims to highlight the vital contributions of youth, women, and marginalized groups, fostering a shared collective memory and a united vision for justice and equity.

Throughout the series, the exploration of the past, present, and future of reparations will be emphasized. It will focus on learning from history, addressing current challenges, and building a future of healing and justice. ADS 2025 is a call to action, amplifying the voices of Africans and people of African descent and promoting inclusive participation. It seeks to translate political commitments into concrete actions, mobilize resources, and forge partnerships for reparatory justice.

5. STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

ADS 2025 stakeholders will include OSAA’s overall partner AUPOM; the Office of the President of the UN General Assembly as co-host of HLPD; partners of choice entities UNESCO, AU-ECOSOCC, OHCHR, UNECA, Pan-African Parliament, UNFPA and CARICOM; as well as contributors and audience populations including African Member States, OSAA-ACBF

Think Tank Network, OSAA Knowledge Network, African-based Academia, Representatives from the Diaspora, African Youth CSOs (in partnership with the Pan-African Youth Union), Global reparations agencies, Africa’s general population at large and development partners.

6. FORMAT OF ACTIVITIES PER SUB-THEME

Each sub-theme will be allocated one week during ADS 2025. Partner of choice entities, in collaboration with OSAA, will prepare the substantive policy brief on the subtheme and related activities as follows:

Day of the Week	Activity
Monday	Screening of partner videos/documentaries on the sub-theme through the OSAA ADS 2025 dedicated website.
Tuesday	Screening of an interview (recorded before the date) on the OSAA ADS 2025 dedicated website with the head of one of the African Regional Economic Communities and one other speaker who will be participating in the live international online webinar on Wednesday.
Wednesday	Holding a live 90-minute online webinar on the sub-theme subject matter, with at least three speakers at the technical level (including one from an African Regional Economic Community) and the primacy given to African voices (i.e., voices from the continent - Universities). Invitations will be co-signed by Partners of choice entities, OSAA, and the AUPOM Publishing a policy brief on the sub-theme jointly prepared by the respective co-leads of the week
Thursday	Organizing a “Youth Stage” on the sub-theme subject matter to include the voices of African youth.
Friday	Screening of performance of African music on the ADS 2025 dedicated website (please note: OSAA will organize this activity)

ENDNOTES

- 1 AU/Dec.884(XXXVII)
 - 2 <https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/thematic-reports/ahrc5777-addressing-challenges-and-barriers-full-realization-and>
 - 3 Concept Note on the African Union Theme of the Year for 2025; Theme: “Justice for Africans and People of African Descent Through Reparations”; EX.CL/1528(XLV) Rev. 1; African Union
 - 4 Assembly/AU/Dec.795(XXXIV)
 - 5 [https://au.int/sites/default/files/decisions/43383-Declaration - CIDO .pdf](https://au.int/sites/default/files/decisions/43383-Declaration_-_CIDO_.pdf)
 - 6 <https://achpr.au.int/index.php/en/adopted-resolutions/543-resolution-africas-reparations-agenda-and-human-rights-africans>
 - 7 Adopted at the United Nations World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance held from 31 August to 7 September 2001 in Durban, South Africa
 - 8 <https://www.un.org/en/observances/decade-people-african-descent>
 - 9 [A/78/317](https://www.un.org/en/observances/decade-people-african-descent)
- See also the Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence, Fabián Salvioli, which discusses “Transitional justice measures and addressing the legacy of gross violations of human rights and international humanitarian law committed in colonial contexts”
<https://docs.un.org/A/76/180>
- 10 Additional information can be found here: A/HRC/47/53: [Promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Africans and of people of African descent against excessive use of force and other human rights violations by law enforcement officers](https://www.un.org/en/documents/ahrc5730-analytical-study-impact-loss-and-damage-adverse-effects-climate) | OHCHR; as well as the 2019 report of the Special rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism on reparations (<https://docs.un.org/en/A/74/321>).
 - 11 For further information on the historic MoU, and the press release, please see [here](https://www.ohchr.org/en/racism/agenda-towards-transformative-change-racial-justice-and-equality).
 - 12 <https://www.ohchr.org/en/racism/agenda-towards-transformative-change-racial-justice-and-equality>
 - 13 <https://nepad-aws.assyst-uc.com/agenda2063-report/agenda-2063-africa-we-want>
- See also CBD COP16 decision on the Role of people of African descent, comprising collectives embodying traditional lifestyles, in the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-16/cop-16-dec-06-en.pdf>
- 14 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/peace-justice/>
 - 15 <https://www.britannica.com/event/Scramble-for-Africa>
 - 16 [The UN Secretary-General’s Panel on Critical Energy Transition Minerals](https://au.int/en/african-continental-free-trade-area) | United Nations
 - 17 <https://au.int/en/african-continental-free-trade-area>
 - 18 Africa is home to around 1.4 billion people (out of a global population of 8 billion) and has a median age of 19.2, indicating a young and growing population. <https://www.statista.com/topics/7928/demographics-of-africa/#topicOverview>
 - 19 <https://www.unep.org/regions/africa/regional-initiatives/responding-climate-change>
- See also human rights obligations related to international cooperation, finance, just transition, transitional justice, access to justice and access to effective remedy as described in the SG’s report on human rights and loss and damage from climate change: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/thematic-reports/ahrc5730-analytical-study-impact-loss-and-damage-adverse-effects-climate>
- 20 United Nations Secretary-General statement at the Thirty-Eighth African Union Summit, 17 February 2025, <https://press.un.org/en/2025/sgsm22557.doc.htm>
 - 21 <https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/gen/n13/453/67/pdf/n1345367.pdf>
 - 22 [Proclamation of the Second International Decade for People of African Descent](https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/gen/n13/453/67/pdf/n1345367.pdf)

23 <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/Racism/PAD.pdf>

24 See the importance of a human rights-based approach to critical energy transition minerals as reflected in the report and principles of the SG's Panel on critical energy transition minerals: <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/critical-minerals>

25 Based on World Bank estimates- [Arable land \(% of land area\)](#) | [Data](#)

The United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA) is an entity of the UN Secretariat established to enhance international support for Africa's development and security, assist the Secretary-General in coordinating the UN's support to Africa, facilitate inter-governmental deliberations on Africa at the global level and establish a monitoring mechanism for commitments on Africa's development.

OSAA also convenes and chairs the Interdepartmental Task Force on African Affairs (IDTFAA) while providing global advocacy support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

The work of the Office is clustered around the six thematic areas of:

 Financing for Development	 Sustainable Development to Promote Sustainable Peace	 Governance, Resilience and Human Capital
 Science, Technology, and Innovation	 Industrialization, Demographic Dividend, and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)	 Energy and Climate Action



United Nations
Office of the Special Adviser
on Africa