



Finland's
**AFRICA
STRATEGY**

Action Plan for the implementation of Finland's Africa Strategy

Ministry of Education and Culture's
branch of administration

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Background

- Rapid growth of the African **economies** and the huge potential of the continent's **growing young population**
- **Political relations** with African countries are increasingly important for Finland. Also **EU's** role and position as a partner of Africa is increasingly contested. In **multilateral** collaboration, African countries play an essential role.
- The strategy was prepared in a cross-ministerial collaboration, MFA coordination, broad stakeholder consultations.
- Focus is not on development cooperation but on strengthening the **political and economic partnership** with African countries and African actors - **reciprocity**
- Based on Government's Report on Finnish Foreign and Security Policy, the 2030 Agenda, AU's Agenda 2063 and the EU's policy on Africa. All Ministries prepare an action plan for their respective branches of administration.

Main areas

- 1) Political relations and cooperation
- 2) Cooperation to promote peace and Security
- 3) Trade and investments and job-creating green Growth
- 4) The European Union's relations with African countries, the African Union and regional organisations
- 5) Relations between peoples and communities

Cross-cutting

- Gender equality, youth
- Green and digital transition
- Education, STI
- Human rights, democracy, rule of law

MoEC Plan of Action

- Process
 - Preparatory group September 2021 – January 2022 with stakeholders of the branch of administration (education, science, culture, youth)
 - Consultations
- No (additional) resources reserved for implementation, seeking for partnerships and collaboration and linking actions with existing work.
- In line with the main areas and objectives (5) of the strategy
- MoEC branches can have a significant role in the diversification of relations with African countries and actors, as well as increasing knowledge and interest of African countries within the Finnish society

Thank you!

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