Strategic Infrastructure Partnerships: A Common African Position

Robert Tama Lisinge
(lisinge@un.org)

Economic Commission for Africa

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Mandate and process

1. AUC/ECA to develop partnership strategy
   • Take into consideration PIDA PAP2

2. STC-TTIET, Cairo
   • Recommendation on strategic partnership framework

3. 1st PIDA Policy Dialogue
   • Definition of partnership
   • Outline and principles

4. Stakeholders' Workshop, Pretoria
   • Mainstreaming of partnership to PIDA PAP 2

5. PIDA Meeting, Kigali
   • Validation of Partnership Strategy
   • Presentation of the draft partnership strategy

6. 2nd PIDA Policy Dialogue
   • Presentation of final draft

Mandate and Consultation
Development and Validation
Why a need for common strategy?

• Lack of a framework (with guiding principles/detailed guidelines) to engage with partners on infrastructure development

• Need for proactivity especially for trans-continental infrastructure development

• A common African strategy would provide a sense of direction and help avoid distractions from Africa’s priorities

• Increasing competition among Africa’s partners for a share of the continent’s infrastructure space and investment opportunities

• A strategy that stresses investment perspective of own development than from external viewpoint

• Alignment with the overall partnership strategy of AU
An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa’s renaissance.

World-class, integrative infrastructure that criss-crosses the continent to support Africa’s accelerated integration and growth, technology transformation, trade and development – this includes high-speed railway networks, roads, sea and air transport, as well as well-developed ICT and the digital economy.

Vision guided by the following principles:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>African Union</th>
<th>NEPAD</th>
<th>South-South Cooperation</th>
<th>Paris Declaration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Sovereign equality and independence</td>
<td>• Good governance</td>
<td>• Respect for national sovereignty</td>
<td>• Ownership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Respect for borders</td>
<td>• African ownership and leadership</td>
<td>• National ownership and independence</td>
<td>• Alignment with national development strategies, institutions and procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Participation of the African peoples</td>
<td>• Broad and deep participation by all sectors of society</td>
<td>• Equality</td>
<td>• Harmonisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Non-interference</td>
<td>• Anchoring development on Africa’s resources and resourcefulness of its people</td>
<td>• Non-interference in domestic affairs</td>
<td>• Management for result</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Self-reliance</td>
<td>• Partnership between and amongst African peoples</td>
<td>• Mutual benefit.</td>
<td>• Mutual accountability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Gender equality</td>
<td>• Acceleration of regional and continental integration;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Social justice/balanced economic development.</td>
<td>• Building competitiveness of African countries</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Changing unequal relationship between Africa and the developed world</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Issues and options for strategic partnerships

• Scope
  • Regional infrastructure development
  • Improving regulatory environment for infrastructure development esp. for private sector
  • Infrastructure programme development and project preparation
  • Investment/project finance

• Dealing/interface with existing partnerships

• Alignment of continental, regional and national priorities

• Diversity of actors, projects and partnerships objectives – may be a challenge for a common African partnership strategy

• Multiple platforms of engagement with the strategic partners

• Sustainability
  • Shifting priorities of both the development partners and African governments owing to the long gestation of infrastructure projects
  • Involving African private sector, academia in the strategic partnerships
Consolidated accountability framework

Framework for cooperation in regional infrastructure development consists of the **goals or dimensions** of the partnerships, the **building blocks or criteria** for each goal, **indicators** for each building block and measurable **KPIs**

- Regional Integration
- Inclusiveness and sustainability
- Economic and financial impact
- Quality infrastructure

**Extension of the Integrated Corridor Approach of PIDA PAP 2 project selection**
Implementing the accountability framework

- Developing strategic partnership Task Forces (TFs)
- Coordinating engagement with strategic partners and pursuing a differentiated partnership approach
  - AUC and AUDA-NEPAD to lead & coordinate engagement with partners, supported by TF of experts
  - Mapping regional projects with strategic infrastructure development partners
  - National engagements to be anchored on PIDA, Agenda 2063 &PIDA focal points to play active roles
  - Governments encouraged to take accountability framework into account in bilateral engagements
  - Governments encouraged to prioritise projects that feed into regional and continental networks in bilateral engagements
- Evidence-based engagement with partners
- Monitoring and evaluation
  - Use of Accountability Framework and PIDA focal points
  - Monitoring should be continuous and reports presented to PIDA Steering Committee, PIDA Dialogues, PIDA Week
  - Mid-term evaluation in 2025 and 2030