



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

25th session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Senior Officials and Experts

**Strengthening resilience for strong recovery and attracting investments to
foster economic diversification and long-term growth in Eastern Africa**

27 – 29 October 2021



Burundi

Comoros

D.R Congo

Djibouti

Eritrea

Ethiopia

Kenya

Madagascar

Rwanda

Seychelles

Somalia

South Sudan

Tanzania

Uganda



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

SRO-EA 2021 Annual Report and Programme of Work

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29 October 2021



OUTLINE

- 01 Mandate of SRO-EA
- 02 Action Points from 24th IC SOE
- 03 Key results achieved in 2020
- 04 Knowledge Products and Outreach
- 05 Partnership results
- 06 Accountability, Monitoring and Learning
- 07 2021 planned program

UNECA SRO-EA Mandate



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

Core functions



THINK TANK

Generating relevant
policy research



CONVENING

Providing platforms
to discuss regional
issues and solutions



OPERATIONAL

Providing policy
advice and technical
assistance

SRO-EA Service lines

Policy Analysis · Data Analysis and Modelling · Trade and Regional
Integration · Private Sector Development · Innovative Finance ·
Infrastructure Development · Social Policy · etc.

Mandate

- Promote **structural transformation** and sustainable development of Member States
- Promote **international cooperation** for Africa's development

SDG Contribution

AfCFTA



Blue Economy & Tourism



Action points from 24th ICSOE Meeting

The Economic and Social Impacts of the COVID-19 Crisis in Eastern Africa: Strategies for Building Back Better



24-25 November 2020



Online



- AfCFTA:**
- Implementation for industrialization, job creation & inclusive development
 - Support AfCFTA negotiations, ratifications & implementation strategies



Blue Economy: Policy harmonization & strategy development



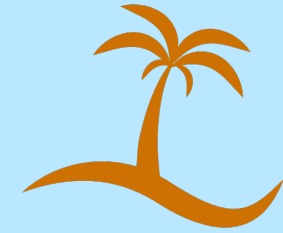
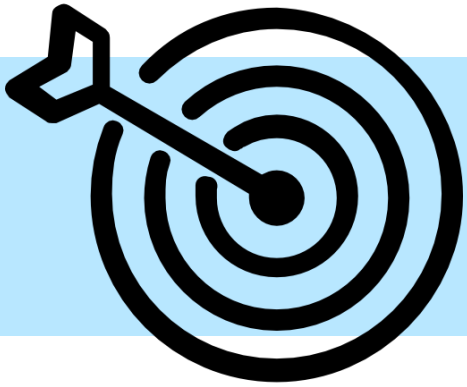
Regional Tourism: Sector diversification & data support and urban tourism to promote intra-Africa tourism



Partnerships: Accelerate partnerships for sustainable development

Key results achieved in 2021

2021 Objective: To deepen regional integration in Eastern Africa by fostering the implementation of the AfCFTA and harnessing the potential of the blue economy and tourism:



AfCFTA AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION

AfCFTA ratifications;
No. of countries that have designed national AfCFTA strategies
Support to increase intra-regional trade

BLUE ECONOMY AND TOURISM POLICY

Support to MS, RECS, IGOs on policy frameworks & strategies



Key results achieved in 2021 – AfCFTA strategy development

Countries being supported to design AfCFTA implementation Strategies

- *Demand-driven support for strategies*

- Ongoing or completed strategies include;
 - National: **Burundi, Comoros, DRC, Kenya and Rwanda**
 - Regional: **EAC and IGAD;**
- Being initiated for early next year include; Somalia and South Sudan.

Key results achieved in 2021 – Blue Economy

• On Blue Economy tools and frameworks

- Supported development of socio-economic and ecological assessments of Blue Economy's potential in Djibouti and Seychelles.
- A joint project with the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) was elaborated to explore the economic and social costs of *maritime insecurity* in Eastern Africa and the Western Indian Ocean. **Analysis is underway.**
- Strong partnership with the IOC, Maritime Security in Eastern and Southern Africa.



• Policy development process:

- Designing upcoming project to support improving the bankability of youth-led projects in the Seychelles Blue Economy through a start-up bootcamp and investment pitch competition. Project will be financed through funds mobilized from the UN RC from the Joint SDG Fund
- Providing • Support for IGAD project to “Enhance Blue Economy in IGAD coastal member states for biodiversity conservations and livelihood diversification”, through use of the UNECA Blue Economy Valuation Toolkit.

The **Djibouti** Blue Economy in Figures



19%
of GDP in 2018



27%
of total employment



US\$11 billion
marine ecosystem services

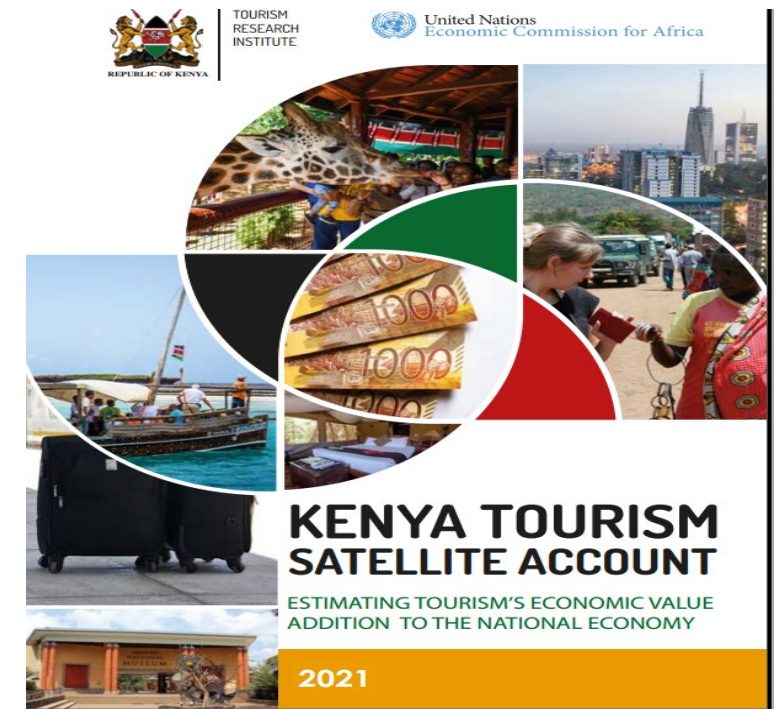


Composite social
indices

39.14 and
27.18

3.4 Key results achieved in 2020 – Regional Tourism

- **Strengthened capacity of MS, RECs & IGOS to develop sustainable devt. frameworks and tools**
- Supported EAC in formulating the regional tourism marketing strategy which has since been finalized. This strategy was approved for implementation by the Sectoral Council on Tourism and Wildlife Management on the 15th of July 2021.
- **Achieved:** Kenya TSA – launch 28 October 2021
- **Ongoing:** Kenya tourism value chains in Kenya has started. The main objective of this project is to assess the potential of green tourism value chains in Kenya in the context of the AfCFTA and in line with the national implementation strategy. TSA for Zanzibar to be finalized by December 2021



Knowledge Products AND Outreach

- **General:** - Services Trade Report (serve as background document for the Services Training
- Report on Trade Facilitation and Manufacturing
- **Rwanda:** Economic Diplomacy Strategy
- **Uganda:** Preliminary Assessment of the Impact of the AfCFTA on the Ugandan Economy

Selected ThinkTank, Outreach and Engagements– Regional and Beyond

- African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) Mid-Term Review (MTR) in preparation for the AGOA Ministerial engagement with the U.S;
- **AU/UNCTAD/GIZ Ethiopia National Workshop on Contribution of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) to Economic Diversification in Africa in the context of the AfCFTA;**
- Small Scale Cross Border Trade Webinar” organised jointly by Africa Young Trade Professionals, TMEA, and Nelson Mandela Institute of Public Governance;

Knowledge Products AND Outreach

- Special Economic Zones and Intra-African Trade: A Path to Economic Diversification and Inclusion” at t the World Free Zones Organisation AICE 2021
- **Technical Team on the Textiles and Clothing Rules of Origin, organised by the Mandela School of Public Governance;**
- Regional Integration of the Cotton, Textile and Apparel Value Chain –Leveraging Opportunities for Capacity building and the development of Regional Value Chains presented by the implementation of the AfCFTA
- **Brookings Institute Africa In Focus – Blog on “[Charting a new course in US-Africa relations: The importance of learning from others mistakes](#)”**
- **The African Free Trade Area: a game changer for the continent and Mozambique**

SRO-EA also strengthened partnerships

- **AfCFTA**
- **UNCTs:** Burundi, Comoros, DRC, Eritrea, Kenya, Rwanda, Seychelles
- RECs: EAC and IGAD
- **EABC-- AfCFTA**
- *Private Sector Federation* Rwanda – private sector AfCFTA consultations;
- **Africa Economic Zones Organization**
- UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for Uganda
- IPRT Comoros to integrate SDGs and 2063 into the national development plan
- **UNCTAD:** – Handbook on Special Economic Zones in Africa
- **Africa Economic Zones Organization**
- **Nelson Mandela Institute of Public Governance:**– Small Scale Cross Border Trade & Textiles and Clothing RoO
- **African Union:** – AGOA Mid-Term Review MTR
- **EABC and PSF Rwanda** – private sector AfCFTA consultations

2022 planned program

What?

- 1. AfCFTA;** Focus on investment, trade in services, competition & the emergence of regional value chains. Continue assisting with development of national strategies;
 - **COVID-19 impact assessment**
- 2. Blue Economy;** Focus on data collection and analytical tools on oceans and freshwater bodies & transboundary issues.
 - Formulation of policies and incorporation in national frameworks on the blue economy
- 3. Tourism:** Regional Tourism; Urban tourism & CB for tourism statistics & sector diversification

- 01 AfCFTA:** Advocacy towards AfCFTA ratifications; socio-economic assessment and tailored projects on AfCFTA implementation
- 02 BLUE ECONOMY:** Policy frameworks & analytical tools to measure contribution of BE
- 03 TOURISM:** Capacity building for tourism statistics
- 04 PARTNERSHIP:** Major external partnerships

**What should be the theme of the next ICISOE?
Any recommendations?**



THANK YOU!

www.uneca.org/ea-icsoe24

Ideas
to
Action