

African Green Stimulus Programme
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**TECHNICAL GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR PARTNERS
AND PROGRAMMES TO JOIN THE AFRICAN GREEN
STIMULUS PROGRAMME**

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1. Introduction of the African Green Stimulus Programme

The African Green Stimulus Programme (AGSP) is an innovative African-led initiative developed to support the Continent's recovery response in a sustainable manner to the devastating socio-economic and environmental impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic. The AGSP is designed to mobilise financial and technical resources for African Green Economy, Climate Change and Environment Programmes, and therefore focuses on Financing, Resource Mobilization, Capacity Building, Research and Technology, Communication and Partnerships as key enabling elements of the Programme.

The AGSP intends to promote buy-in, support and political will from all African institutions, agencies, private sector, civil society and Member States in the green recovery, green economy and environmental programmes of Africa. Involvement of the Youth and addressing Gender issues are also key elements of this Programme.

The Programme provides an overarching framework and on-line system which consolidates and coordinates existing and new Green Economy and Climate Change initiatives in Africa, which have been grouped into twelve key areas under one umbrella.

The Programme proposes 1) immediate and urgent interventions, 2) short to medium term interventions and 3) longer term transformative interventions over the next ten years to support the sustainable growth, entrepreneurial development and employment opportunities in key green economy sectors whilst building resilience to future shocks in Africa.

The African Green Stimulus Programme is intended to bring about a unifying Continental response by enhancing and forging partnerships between Intergovernmental Organisations, African countries, the Private Sector and Non-governmental Organisations in the support of a comprehensive Green Recovery programme for Africa. The Programme is also intended to be dynamic and responsive to support African countries attainment of Africa's Agenda 2063 aspirations, relevant Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement targets, to deliver impactful at scale interventions in order to recover from the Pandemic, whilst transforming and catalysing Africa's sustainable development towards a low-carbon developmental trajectory by 2030.

The Programme aims to mobilise enhanced financial and technical resources to upscale and enhance the implementation of existing Blue and Green Economy and Climate Change initiatives, whilst identifying areas requiring new interventions to support Africa's Green Recovery and long-term transformation towards a sustainable development pathway.

The African Green Stimulus Programme has high-level endorsement from the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), and the African Union (AU). Policy documents on the AGSP are presented to both AMCEN and the AU for consideration and adoption.

On a technical level, the AGSP is overseen by a Coordinating Committee for the implementation of the key areas in the programme. This is to provide technical support and coordination of the entire Programme, and be responsible for monitoring and evaluation as

well as reporting for the entire Programme.

The AGSP has an on-line platform comprising a detailed portfolio of projects and programmes to ensure that the programme is dynamic and interactive, and that it can be accessed publicly and updated regularly.

The development and implementation of this Green Stimulus Programme for Africa is being fast-tracked in order to contribute meaningfully towards broader African post-COVID-19 response and recovery programmes and contribute towards the sustainable development of Africa over the next decade.

Within the African Region, as in most other developing regions, green recovery investment needs are significant as direct government funding is limited, and variable amongst Member States. Financing mechanisms for the AGSP should build upon existing systems that support action on climate change, environment and advancing the green economy in Africa. The mobilising of sufficient, additional resources and effective utilisation of these for the implementation of the portfolio of programmes is one of the overall goals of the AGSP. Therefore, the Programme will be able to deliver impactful results at scale, only when new, additional, adequate and predictable financial resources from both public and private entities are mobilised. Resources are also being mobilised to finance the operational aspects of the AGSP, including dedicated personnel and the management of the AGSP On-line Platform.

2. Purpose of the Technical Guidelines and Criteria

The purpose of the Technical Guidelines and Criteria is to provide guidance on the process and criteria for prospective programmes to join the AGSP and how potential partners and financiers can support the AGSP Programme.

3. Eligibility and Criteria for partners/organisations joining the African Green Stimulus Programme

There are no financial implications for Member States or organisations/programmes to join the AGSP. Some of the benefits for programmes joining the AGSP, include:

- Enhanced collaboration opportunities for projects and programmes;
- Exposure and marketing opportunities for projects and programmes;
- Enhanced financial and technical resource mobilisation for projects and programmes; and
- Technical advice and support for the upscaling of programmes.

The criteria for prospective programmes to consider when applying to join the AGSP are as follows:

- Programme/initiative alignment with Key Priority Areas of the AGSP
- Geographical coverage - multiple African countries, sub-regional (RECs) or continental
- Advancing 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Alignment with Agenda 2063 Aspirations and Goals
- Potential of the programme to be scaled up or replicated

- Time-frame of the programme
- Sustainability of funding
- Inclusion of youth and/or women, and vulnerable groups
- Potential to generate employment and develop entrepreneurs
- Environmental and socio-economic impacts of the programme
- Benefits for society
- Sense of responding with urgency

These are elaborated upon in **Annexure A**.

4. Application process for submission of programmes to be part of the AGSP (including the withdrawal process)

In order to join the AGSP, the programmes/projects have to be based in Africa and they may involve multiple countries, a single country or be regional or continental in nature. The relevant template/form (**Annexure B**) for application to join the AGSP should be completed and returned to the AMCEN Secretariat at david.ombisi@un.org and julie.kaibe@un.org. The AMCEN Secretariat would acknowledge receipt of the application within two weeks and following adjudication by the AGSP Working Group/AGSP Coordination Committee, the formal response would be communicated with the applicant. The criteria above would be used to assess the eligibility of programmes to join the AGSP.

In case of withdrawal from the AGSP, the relevant organisation implementing the programme/project is required to submit a request for withdrawal and the AGSP Working Group/Coordination Committee would formally respond to the request.

5. Application process for potential investors and funders to the AGSP

Partners interested in investing and funding the programmes of the AGSP should complete the application form (**Annexure C**) indicating the focal area(s) of interest including the type and scope of resources to be invested. On receipt of the application form, the AMCEN Secretariat and the AGSP Working Group/Coordination Committee will acknowledge receipt of the application and initiate the engagement with the potential funder/investor including the drafting of the Funding Agreement to address the needs and interests of the funder and the recipient.

6. Reporting on the AGSP Programmes and Initiatives

In order to assess the impact of the AGSP, it is critical that programmes/projects report progress and the relevant reporting template would be used. The progress reports would be forwarded to the Secretariat on an annual basis. The reports would form the basis for appraisal of the African Ministers of Environment through AMCEN on the overall progress of the AGSP. It is therefore, critical that programme proponents are able to report timeously. The progress

reports would also be useful in monitoring and evaluation of the programmes against the set objectives. The reporting template is attached as **Annexure D**.

7. Enquiries

For any queries or questions, please engage the AMCEN Secretariat or AGSP Programme manager. The contact details are as follows:

Mr David Ombisi, AMCEN Secretariat, email: david.ombisi@un.org

XXX, AGSP Programme manager, email: XXX