



CONCEPT NOTE

7TH PIDA WEEK

THEME

*Putting Africa on a firm footing for recovery, growth, and
resilience through Infrastructure*

Date 6-10 December, 2021 (TBC)

A Hybrid Event

1. Background

The Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) is the strategic framework for infrastructure development, guiding the African Union's infrastructure development agenda, policies, and investment priorities. It provides a framework for engagement with Africa's development partners on the provision of regional and continental infrastructure, and facilitates the physical, economic and social integration of the continent in support of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

PIDA brings together continental infrastructure initiatives and regional master plans into one coherent infrastructure investment programme with an implementation strategy and portfolio of projects for prioritised implementation, through PIDA Priority Action Plan (PIDA- PAP). PIDA- PAP covers the four key infrastructure sectors of transport, energy, ICT and Transboundary Water Resources (TWR).

As a continental initiative, PIDA provides a common framework for African stakeholders to build the infrastructure necessary to integrate the continent physically, economically, and socially, offering opportunities to boost intra-African trade, create new jobs for Africa's growing population and improving overall socio-economic development on the continent and provide requisite infrastructure and environment to facilitate the implementation of the AfCFTA. The first PIDA Priority Action Plan (PIDA-PAP 1, 2012-2020), embodied 51 cross-border programs decomposed into over 400 individual projects in the Energy, Transport, ICT, and TWR sectors. The second PIDA Priority Action Plan, known as PIDA-PAP 2 (2021-2030), was submitted and approved by the Heads of State and Government at the AU Summit in February 2021. It set the priorities for continental infrastructure development of the next decade. This portfolio consists of a list of high priority projects curated from an inventory proposed by Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Member States (MS).

PIDA Week was inaugurated in 2015 as a forum to bring together key stakeholders in the implementation of the PIDA programme. From inception, it has provided an opportunity for stakeholders to review and reflect on progress in the implementation of the programme; discuss ways to overcome the key challenges and advance possible solutions; share lessons learnt and identify ways to improve implementation.

Since the first PIDA week held in Abidjan, Cote d' Ivore in 2015, PIDA Week has progressed into a key forum for accelerating infrastructure implementation in Africa, but also as a link of infrastructure to the key themes of development of regional integration, transformative economic growth and job creation.

In the second phase of PIDA (PIDA PAP 2) PIDA Week is poised to become the leading African platform for mobilising project preparation funds, and market sounding of bankable PIDA projects and other transboundary infrastructure projects on the continent.

2. Value Proposition

PIDA Week has evolved and grown to become the flagship advocacy and marketing event for the PIDA programme and specifically projects in need of financing. The format of the event provides an opportunity to engage and exchange information on PIDA and infrastructure development in general. PIDA Week also considers the mandate of AUDA-NEPAD for programme delivery across various sectors underpinned by infrastructure. It is positioned to deliver value internally and externally by

promoting a multi-sectoral 'integrated corridor approach' that links all sectors to infrastructure development and stimulates spatial economic development along the PIDA corridors.

The 7th PIDA Week will:

- a) Provide a platform to advocate, mobilise project preparation resources and market projects as part of the PIDA communications strategy to communicate progress on priority PIDA projects and facilitate sharing of lessons and experiences on the implementation of PIDA projects;
- b) Considering the lack of resilience as demonstrated by COVID-19, bring together partners to engage in thought partnership on building and sustaining resilience in Africa through infrastructure
- c) Engage stakeholders and partners on critical discourse around practical approaches to the realisation of PIDA projects considering the partnership, implementation and financing strategies developed for PIDA PAP 2.

Considering the lack of resilience as demonstrated by COVID-19, the 7th PIDA week brings together partners to engage in thought partnership on building and sustaining resilience in Africa through infrastructure.

The 7th PIDA Week 2021 will be a hybrid virtual and physical event with the theme “Putting Africa on a firm footing for recovery, growth, and resilience through Infrastructure”

3. 7th PIDA Week

3.1. Overview

The 7th PIDA Week takes place amidst the backdrop of continued global economic and social uncertainty occasioned by COVID 19 pandemic. The prolonged COVID 19 pandemic has had devastating multifaceted economic and social consequences that have disproportionately affected Africa on human development indicators, economic interdependence, growth and resilience patterns. In response, African Governments have prioritized their spending commitment mainly focusing on vaccinating their population and building resilience considering the pandemic, therefore increasing their recurrent expenditure. This could impact the annual gap in infrastructure investment in the short to medium term.

The pandemic has also had a negative impact on cross-border trade. African Union has also been affected with member states were forced to shutting down borders and, in some cases, applying trade restrictions that have affected supply chains inbound and outbound within the regions and as a result recording trade deficit in volumes, exposing Africa's overdependence on external supply chains.

It is expected that once the pandemic is successfully contained, the focus will need to shift from crisis management to assisting to adequately invest in infrastructure for development, as well as preventing and mitigating the impact of future outbreaks.

The 7th PIDA Week will also be held as we near the end of the first year of the implementation of the AfCFTA. COVID-19 has had an impact on cross-border trade with member states shutting down borders and, in some cases, applying trade restrictions that have affected supply chains inbound and outbound. This has resulted in countries and regions recording trade deficit in volumes, exposing Africa's overdependence on external supply chains.

PIDA Week aims to bring together international and regional expertise from multiple stakeholders to deliberate on the issues around infrastructure delivery in Africa, and those related to PIDA. It will focus

on how Africa can lead the way in the delivery of infrastructure in a post-COVID era, supporting the economic and social imperatives of the continent in the digital age.

In addition to the typical issues impacting on infrastructure delivery on the continent, PIDA Week will consider thematic issues such as:

- Infrastructure priorities in the PIDA PAP II
- Financial requirements of PIDA PAP II projects need project preparation funding
- Market sounding of advanced PIDA PAP II projects
- Post-COVID 19 infrastructure financing, delivery and resilience
- The critical role of infrastructure in the implementation of AfCFTA and for post COVID-19 Recovery
- COVID-19 impact of reduced economic growth and changes in investment and exports patterns on the continent
- The likely transformation in demand for and consumption of transport, energy, ICT and social infrastructure.

3.2. Objectives

The main objectives of the 7th PIDA Week are to:

- Provide a platform to showcase and deliberate on inclusiveness in infrastructure development in Africa through the PIDA Integrated Corridor Development Approach
- Showcase progress made in the implementation of PIDA projects and related initiatives and share lessons and experiences on the implementation of PIDA projects
- Provide an opportunity for project owners and stakeholders to network, mobilise resources for proposed and ongoing projects, address crucial issues around policy and project enabling environment, hence accelerating project implementation
- Showcase possible economic development opportunities along the PIDA Corridors as presented by the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in various sectors as a necessary tool for continental integration towards boosting intra-African trade, job creation and economic development on the continent

As has been the case in previous events, stakeholders will be invited to hold parallel events linking to PIDA Week.

3.3. Theme and sub-themes

Themes:	Sessions/Content under Sub Themes
1. Innovative infrastructure financing for the implementation of key continental infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Private Public Partnerships: Case Studies and Lessons. ● COVID-19: Rethinking how to structure infrastructure assets and investments ● Delivering PIDA results through strong partnerships for sustainable infrastructure financing and development i.e. opportunities for PPFs, DFIs, PDs and Investors

2. Quality Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Green infrastructure ● PIDA PAP 2- Towards a focused Corridor centred approach to infrastructure ● PIDA Quality Label ● The role of Infrastructure in the realisation of the AfCFTA ● Leveraging digital infrastructure to optimise Africa Tradable services potential in the context of 4IR ●
3. Urban Transport Solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Developing Light Urban Infrastructure for Efficient Mass Movement in Africa ● Integrated Multi-sectoral Approach to Urban Transport Solutions ● Challenges and Opportunities
4. Gender in Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Integration of gender-responsive approaches in infrastructure planning and implementation
5. Job Creation in PIDA projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harnessing the demographic dividend through investments in youth ● Regional infrastructure as a key leverage for job creation ● PIDA job creation tool kit

3.4. Outcomes

The anticipated outcomes from the PIDA Week are:

- i. Provide a platform for advocacy of implementation of priority PIDA Projects as part of an enhanced communications strategy to act as a catalyst for Africa to attain and deepen Economic Integration and the relevant targets set under Agenda 2063.
- ii. Mobilise resources for project preparation and conduct market sounding for more advance projects
- iii. Facilitate cross sectoral linkages to continental Infrastructure Projects and facilitate sharing lessons and experiences on the implementation of PIDA projects.
- iv. Promote private sector participation in PIDA and provide a marketplace to showcase PIDA Projects

4. PIDA Week Programme and Structure

4.1. Conference duration and structure

PIDA Week will be delivered physically in Nairobi and virtually using a digital platform for meetings for parallel sessions and webinars for plenary sessions over three days.

The first day is reserved for parallel events while the official opening and high-level roundtable will take place on the second day. Parallel breakout sessions will be organised in the morning of day 3 with plenary sessions thereafter. Considering that the event will be virtual with participants spread across multiple time-zones, the daily duration of sessions will be between 10:00 and 18:00 SAST. ((GMT+2)

4.2. Programme Outline

A detailed programme outline will be developed in due course in consultation with PIDA Week stakeholders.

Programmes for Showcasing

The construction, and operation of Africa infrastructure projects support the existing government policies to expand infrastructure development in Kenya. During the PIDA Week, Kenya has identified the following projects for showcasing.

Option 1	LAPSSET Corridor Program Lamu Port (by invitation)
Option 2	ICT parks in Konza Techno city
Option 3	Nairobi Expressway

4.3. Target Audience

PIDA Week targets the participation of key stakeholders in infrastructure and related thematic areas including:

- AU Member states
- Regional Economic Communities (RECs)
- Regional Power Pools (RPPs)
- Regional Centres for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEs)
- European Union
- Africa Development Bank (AfDB)
- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
- Africa Renewable Energy Initiatives (AREI)
- The African Energy Commission (AFREC)
- PIDA Project owners
- AFUR members
- Project developers
- Government officials
- National and Regional Development Banks, Private Equity & Debt investors
- Project Preparation Funds
- Law firms, Advisory and Auditing Firms
- Institutional Investors: Pension Funds, Insurance Companies, Commercial Banks, Mutual Funds, Hedge Funds & Sovereign Wealth Funds, Guarantee and Risk Mitigation Instrument Providers
- Public Private Partnership Units
- Investors, Business Executives & Entrepreneurs
- Multilaterals & Development Finance Institutions
- Regional Economic Communities & Institutions
- Utilities and Regulatory Bodies
- Industry Sector Specialists
- Media
- Logistics / Supply Chain Companies

- Academic & Research Bodies
- Civil Society
- Allied Industries (Cement, Iron, Steel Producers, Construction Companies)
- International Development Partners

4.4. Outputs and Outcomes

The key outcomes from the proceedings of the conference will be captured in a PIDA Week Report that will contain observations and recommendations. It will also produce a ‘think-piece’ to be shared with participants on general issues arising from the PIDA Week.

A PIDA Week Communique will be drafted under the leadership of the AUDA-NEPAD, submitted for consultations during the conference, and presented at the closing plenary for adoption.

5. Dates and Venue

The 7th PIDA Week 2021 will be hosted in Nairobi, Kenya through a hybrid format and will take place 6-10 December.

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