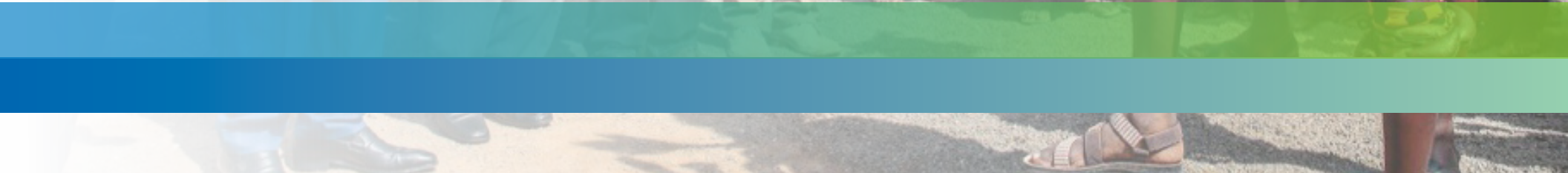


UNDP | Regional Programme for Africa

MONTHLY UPDATES FROM REGIONAL PROJECTS



Unlocking borders, and understanding post-COVID-19 macro-economic trends in Africa

The Regional Programme for Africa serves as an incubator for transforming ideas into portfolios and/or projects that respond to development challenges and emerging issues at the regional and sub-regional levels. One such idea is the [Africa Borderlands Centre](#), launched last month by UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner and UNDP Regional Director for Africa Ahunna Eziakonwa, together with national, regional and international partners. The Centre aims to amplify and empower the voices of 270 million often-marginalized people living in borderland communities, which hold abundant resources in creativity, resilience and innovation. Through long-term strategic partnerships with regional institutions, the Centre will offer specialized, expert knowledge and technical advice that will enable the better design, implementation, and adaptation of innovative development programmes for border regions across Africa.

On 11 March, join us for the joint UNDP-Chatham House launch of a new report, “**Economic Consequences of COVID-19 in Diverse African Contexts**”, which examines the longitudinal effect of COVID-19 on macro-economic development in 10 African countries. It assesses the impacts on human development, trade, economic growth and health indicators. Lessons from this report and previous studies on post-recession recovery as well as the 2008/9 financial crisis, show that building higher institutional and government capacity over the long-term is key for building resilient economies while also driving short-term economic growth.

Also commencing this month is UNDP’s [Development Dialogues](#), a conversation series on rethinking development solutions in our responses and interventions beyond the COVID-19 pandemic. We are excited to be associated with the dialogue series, and hope to draw lessons that will contribute to, and enhance our programming.

Jide Martyns Okeke

Coordinator, Regional Programme for Africa

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

KEY EVENTS AND ARTICLES



Africa Borderlands Centre

PRESS RELEASE: The Africa Borderlands Centre: Reimagining Africa's borderlands and empowering its voices



Social Protection for Sustainable Development

PRESS RELEASE: Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, a new UNDP report in collaboration with ILO advocates for social protection for workers in the informal economy



BBC Newsnight

BBC NEWS

INTERVIEW: Ahunna Eziakonwa for BBC Newsnight, 'Unequal vaccine deployment risks international development'



NEWS: Next-generation Regional Collaborative Platform meeting kicks off for first time with regional UN entities in Africa



The Africa Borderlands Centre will establish a new paradigm for borderland development, representing our most promising chance to achieve the 2030 Agenda in Africa.



Ahunna Eziakonwa
UNDP Regional Director for Africa

VIDEO



In January 2021, the African Union and UNDP kicked off a year-long project, “AU at 20: A Renewed Call to Action for the 21st Century”, to mark the 20th anniversary since the establishment of the AU. The project will undertake a data-driven study to assess progress and chart a renewed call to action towards achieving Agenda 2063 (The Africa We Want) and the UN’s Agenda 2030.

[Watch video >>](#)

AFRICA BORDERLANDS CENTRE

VIDEO: Zeynu Ummer, Team Leader and Senior Technical Advisor, answers key questions about ABC

VIDEO: Elevating Voices from Africa’s Borderlands



[Watch video >>](#)

[Watch video >>](#)

Support for Effective Cooperation and Coordination of Cross-Border Initiatives (SECCCI)

EVENT: Handing Over Ceremony of COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment Consignment to Turkana County



Held under the esteemed patronage of H.E Peter Emuria Lotethiro, Deputy Governor of Turkana County, UNDP in partnership with the European Union contributed to the donation of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to support the Government of Turkana's COVID-19 emergency response.

[View Tweet >>](#)

SALW Project

SMALL ARMS: Towards the validation of the SP-CNLP communication strategy



From February 24 to 26, 2021, journalists, communicators and traditional communication experts will develop, validate and print the communication strategy of the Permanent Secretariat for the Fight against the Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SP-CNLP) at the Center sur Marie Delhez de Souban in Koulikoro.

[>>](#)

Social media trends



64
TWEETS



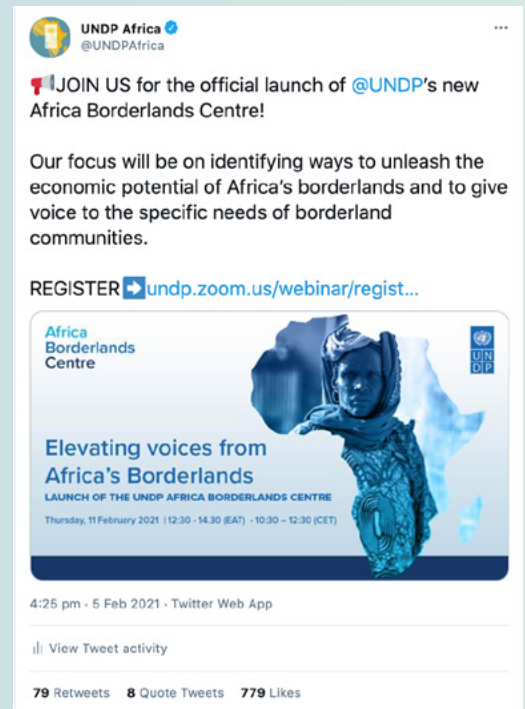
605K
IMPRESSIONS



+607
FOLLOWERS

Top media tweet

Earned 133.4K impressions



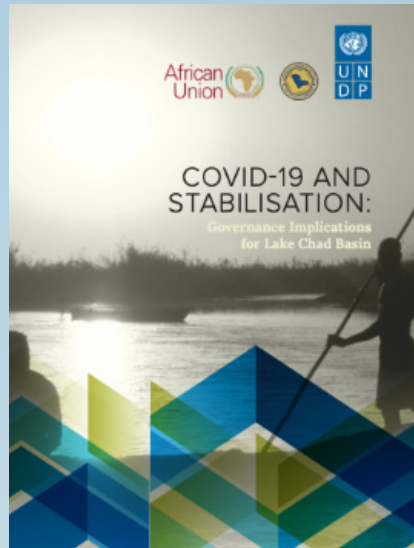
[FOLLOW @UNDPAfrica here >>](#)

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

Regional Stabilization Facility for Lake Chad | COVID-19 Situational Briefs Series



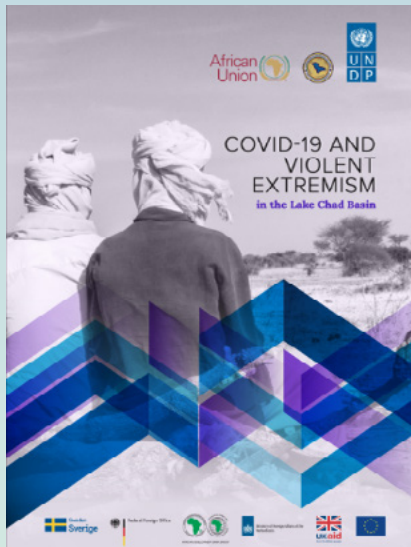
Download the Preface: [English](#)



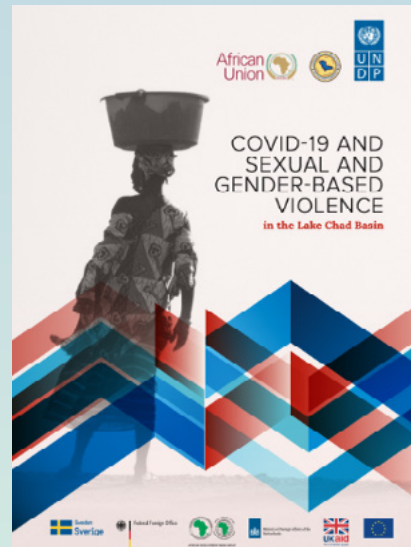
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Download the report: [English](#)

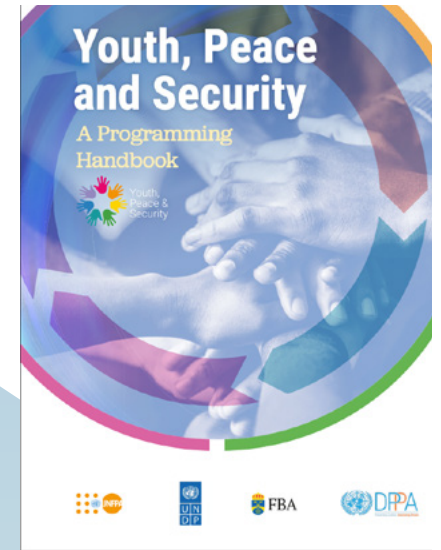


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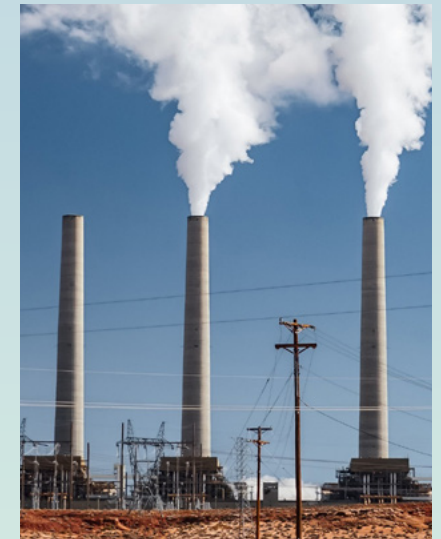
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Download the report: [English](#)

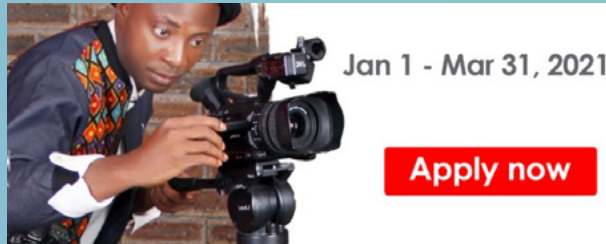
UNFCCC



View the report: [here](#)

EVENTS

1 JAN - 31 MARCH



BECOME THE NEXT TONY ELUMELU ENTREPRENEUR

UNDP and TEF have opened applications for the Entrepreneurship Program to train, mentor and fund young entrepreneurs. This youth empowerment initiative is part of the broader Tony Elumelu Foundation-UNDP Entrepreneurship Program, launched in 2019 to support 100,000 African entrepreneurs across Africa.

Find out more [here>>](#)

4 MARCH



development dialogues

PREVENTION IN ACTION DIALOGUES | Development pathways for conflict prevention and peacebuilding

UNDP will provide a platform for exchange of ideas and experiences between practitioners and policy makers aimed towards collective thinking and advancing development pathways for conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

Register [here>>](#)

8 MARCH



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

The theme this year is: "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world." Follow the conversation on Twitter @UNDP. Join the conversation using the hashtags #IWD2021 and #InternationalWomensDay.

Find out more [here>>](#)

8 MARCH

AFRICAN YOUNG WOMEN LEADERS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME | SECOND COHORT LAUNCH

Building a new generation of young African women leaders and experts to serve Africa and the world in designing and implementing development programmes in the context of the SDGs and Agenda 2063.

Find out more [here>>](#)

15-26 MARCH

CSW65

The Commission will address as its priority theme 'Women's full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls'

Find out more [here>>](#)



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