



Africa-Europe Alliance: Transport and Connectivity Task Force

Recommendations to enhance transport connectivity
and boost investment for sustainable growth and jobs

#AUEU #AfricaEuropeAlliance

July 2019

In his State of the Union Address on 12 September 2018, President Jean-Claude Juncker proposed to deepen the EU's economic and trade relationship with Africa through investment and job creation.

Providing transport infrastructure and services is key to the functioning of EU-Africa connections, carrying both people and goods between the continents. Sustainable, comprehensive and rule-based connectivity will contribute to the prosperity, safety and resilience of people and business in Europe and Africa.

TRANSPORT AND CONNECTIVITY TASK FORCE

Africa faces three urgent transport challenges: the continent has the highest rate of road fatalities in the world; it has an unprecedented rate of urbanisation and it has the highest transport costs in the world.

Under the 'Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs' the Commission has brought together a Transport and Connectivity Task Force to support pan-African connectivity, boost public and private investment in the African transport network and identify and assist with structural reforms in the transport sector.

The Transport and Connectivity Task Force focuses on three key policy areas - connectivity and infrastructure, air transport, and road safety - and has issued concrete recommendations to deliver real improvements in these sectors.



Connectivity and infrastructure

OVERVIEW

Improving transport connectivity both within Africa and between Africa and Europe is vital to create new economic opportunities, attract investment, and support jobs.

FACT

A lack of transport infrastructure and inefficient transport services means that, for some landlocked African countries, transport prices represent **15-20% of import costs** - three to four times more than in developed countries.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

Key recommendations in this sector seek to:

- improve transport connectivity both within Africa and between Africa and Europe, and facilitate investments in that sector.
- support the pan-African multi-modal transport corridor development.
- address sector inefficiencies and structural reforms.
- boost public and private investment.



Air transport

OVERVIEW

Aviation is essential for African connectivity and the EU is the natural partner to cooperate with Africa on the creation of its single aviation market. The Commission already assists States in improving civil aviation safety, security traffic management as well as on environmental issues in Africa, and seeks to further strengthen this cooperation.

FACT

Over the next 20 years passenger demand in the African aviation market is expected to rise by an average of **5.7% per year**.

By 2035 there will be an expected **350 million airline passengers**.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) should be properly implemented.
- Capacity building in the sector is needed as a prerequisite for a successful SAATM.
- Aviation should be understood as a key societal and economic enabler.
- Proper aviation infrastructure and access to financing needs to be prioritised.
- Safety, security, sustainable and efficient Air Transport Management (ATM) must play a key role.



Road safety

OVERVIEW

Road Safety represents a big challenge at global and regional level and the EU is already supporting coordinated global action for road safety. Safer roads mean better connectivity and creating easier conditions for smart, safe and sustainable transport, facilitating economic activity as a whole. Concrete action in this area which will not only save lives, but at the same time boost investment and create jobs in Africa.

FACT

650 DEATHS PER DAY

day occur on Africa's roads. Unless drastic measures are taken, road crashes in Africa are expected to increase by 68 percent over the next decade.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations concentrate on four priorities to achieve the best improvement in Africa's road safety situation. The following recommendations all take as a common basis the need to continue to develop a strong legal framework and a sound analytical basis, and the Safe System approach – a holistic approach to any successful road safety policy. The overall objective of the Road Safety Cluster is to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals on Road Safety and lead to the adoption of the Vision Zero perspective.

• Road safety management and data collection

Example:

- The creation of an African Road Safety Observatory
- The ratification of the African Road Safety Charter and the United Nations Road Safety Conventions

• Infrastructure safety

Example:

- Safety rating on new and rehabilitated roads

• Vehicle safety

Example:

- Vehicle standards and safety ratings for new and used vehicles

• Safety of road users

Example:

- Empowering road users, establishing road safety as a right, especially for vulnerable road users

Outlook

Following the Task Force meeting on 25 July, the endorsed Recommendations in the three areas will be presented in a single report. The results of the Transport Task Force will steer the ongoing concrete cooperation between Europe and Africa in the transport areas, which constitute a key driver for our sustainable partnership.