Unlocking Investment Potential in Southern Africa

A programme to improve the business climate through better investment policy design
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The NEPAD-OECD Africa Investment Initiative works with African policymakers:

- To support the development of a **sound investment climate**, both at the national and regional level
- To **support and strengthen the capacity** of African countries to identify and implement concrete policy reforms that improve the investment climate
- To facilitate **regional co-operation** among African countries on investment policy
- To **strengthen Africa’s voice** in international dialogue on investment policies

The Initiative is designed according to the following principles:

- **Demand-driven, African-led** partnership with NEPAD and OECD support
- Focused on areas where OECD experience and expertise **add maximum value**
- Process-based and result-oriented, with outcomes aimed at **making reform happen**
- **Complementary to and in co-operation** with several regional and international institutions active in the field.
Launched officially in November 2009 in Johannesburg, South Africa

Supports countries from Southern Africa to identify and implement concrete policy reforms that strengthen the investment climate.

Based on investment policy reviews (IPRs) led by Southern African countries and supported by regional peers.

Designed to be carried out through reviews based on the Policy Framework for Investment (PFI) – a multilaterally-backed tool designed with African input.

Elaboration of time-bound investment policy reforms, and strengthened African capacity to diagnose obstacles to investment in a wide range of policy areas.

Improved co-ordination between national institutions, leading to better defined solutions for regional co-operation and support for the practical implementation of reforms.

Improved OECD and NEPAD peer learning approaches and knowledge management.
The programme uses OECD and NEPAD peer learning methods and instruments, where in-depth analysis, dialogue and co-operation between decision-makers are designed to generate consensus on policy reform orientations. Key characteristics include:

1. Sharing of **regional and international experience** to help build capacity at country level

2. Training and support in using **multilaterally-backed investment policy tools** (such as the PFI), developed for African countries’ needs

3. Involving **key stakeholders** (governments, private sector, civil society and development partners)

4. Access to a **forum for regional policy co-operation and dialogue** based on comprehensive, coherent and process-oriented policy assessments

5. Access to OECD and NEPAD **technical expertise**
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METHODOLOGY:

Analysis by chapter in each country

- Infrastructure & Financial Sector
- Investment Policy
- Investment Promotion
- Competition Policy
- Public Administration
- Corporate Governance
- Tax Policy
- Trade Policy
- Human Resources
- Responsible Business Conduct
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**Preparatory Phase**
- Evaluation of national government requests
- Fact-finding missions and workshops
- Identification of key stakeholders (government, private sector, civil society, development partners)

**Self-assessment**
- The programme provides coaching and guidance around policy reform tools
- Governments prepare a “white paper” for investment reform with time-bound priorities
- Implementation begins at country level

**Stocktaking and review**
- Stocktaking of reforms conducted with input from regional partners, civil society, the private sector and international organisations
- Sharing the results of the first cycle and deepening regional dialogue and national reform processes

METHODOLOGY: PROCESS
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