

The African Union Commission (AUC) in partnership with the African Development Bank (AfDB), the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the AU's development agency, AUDA-NEPAD, has launched the process aimed at identifying the priority projects of continental interest for the period 2021-2030 that will be included in the new Priority Action Plan (PAP2) of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA), the AU's strategic framework for the development of regional infrastructure in Africa in the 1) Transport, 2) Energy, 3) Transboundary Water, and 4) Telecommunication/ICT sectors until 2040.

PIDA was endorsed by the AU Heads of State and Government at the XVIII<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the African Union (AU) held on January 29-30, 2012 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, with the adoption of the Declaration on the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa ([Doc. EX.CL/702\(XX\)](#)).

The PAP 2 is the second PIDA priority action plan and is a successor of the PAP 1, which was launched in 2012 and will end in December this year.

The first PIDA Priority Action Plan identified 51 cross-border programs articulated into over 400 individual projects in the Energy, Transport, ICT, and Transboundary Water sectors. The new Action Plan will identify the new projects to be implemented in the cycle 2021-2030 through a "bottom-up" approach where projects will be proposed by Regional Economic Communities (RECs) based on Regional Master Plans, upon consultation with their member states or, alternatively, by groups of member states or individual countries.

Criteria for selection of projects are described in a [document](#) available on the [PIDA-PAP2 platform](#), which in the Appendix B also contains the Draft Project Submission Form to be used for their submission.

Finally, 50 projects will be selected, 10 per each region (North Africa, West Africa, Central Africa, East Africa, and Southern Africa), to be approved by Heads of State and Government at the AU Assembly of the African Union Heads of State and Government scheduled for January/February 2021.

