

# Regional Integration for Sustainable Development

## GIZ and SADC - Common Goals, Shared Success

Cooperation between different states on the African continent will impact on regional integration. The common objective is sustainable development. Member states bundle their capacities in eight officially recognised regional organisations in order to promote integration in the respective region. Content and objectives of cooperation are closely coordinated with the developments at the pan-African level and within the African Union (AU).

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) is a regional organisation consisting of 15 Southern African states with the objective of realising ambitious regional integration plans. SADC's predecessor, the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC), was established in 1979 as an association of Frontline States against the apartheid regime in South Africa but was converted to the Southern African Development Community in 1992, just before South Africa accomplished its peaceful transition to democracy.

The SADC Member States today includes: Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar (suspended since 2009 because of an unconstitutional change of government), Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia, Seychelles, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Swaziland and Tanzania. Approximately 260 million people live in the SADC region, the gross national product amounts to EUR 333 billion. With South Africa as a new member of the community of economically fast growing developing and emerging countries Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS.), as well as with the emerging markets in Angola, Namibia and Mozambique, the regional organisation comprises a number of rapidly developing Member States. In order to professionally implement the integration agenda, the Heads of State and Government established the SADC Secretariat in Gaborone,

the capital of Botswana. The SADC Secretariat cooperates closely with the responsible authorities of the Member States.

### Objectives of the Southern African Development Community

SADC strives for a politically stable, socially just and sustainable economic development in order to alleviate poverty in the region, thereby contributing and ensuring that the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are achieved. The strategic plan and blue-print of the joint regional integration, the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP), states that the development of common political values, the development of Member States under the rule of law and democratic principles as well as peace and security in the region as additional core objectives. The RISDP is complemented by a joint development plan on peace and security, the Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation (SIPO). Together they form a framework for the envisaged regional integration guided by the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The Heads of State and Government of SADC Member States outlined seven areas in which regional cooperation is to be achieved as a matter of priority. These are:

1. Liberalisation of trade and economy;
2. Infrastructure development in support of regional integration;
3. Peace and security;
4. Food security and protection of natural resources;
5. Social development;
6. Gender and development; as well as
7. Development of science and technology.



## Objectives of German development cooperation with SADC

The Federal Republic of Germany has been supporting the SADC integration agenda since 1985 through technical cooperation and since 1995 also through financial cooperation. Germany is one of the biggest bilateral cooperation partners. The cumulative pledges of German bilateral development cooperation with SADC from 1985 to 2008 amount to a total of Euro 182,7 million. Of this amount, Euro 119,9 million can be allocated to advisory services and Euro 62,8 million to grants within the framework of financial cooperation.

The following three focal areas of German cooperation with SADC were agreed in the latest government negotiations:

- Strengthening regional economic integration;
- Consolidating cooperation of transboundary water management;
- Supporting the protection and sustainable utilisation of natural resources.

These priorities support the strategic priorities of the SADC integration agenda. The strengthening of SADC institutions and cooperation in the areas of peace, security and good governance were determined as further strategic areas of support within the so-called "leeway of implementation" of German Development Cooperation.

## Current projects of German Development Cooperation with SADC

- The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, commissioned by the German Federal Government and in particular by the Federal Ministry of Cooperation and Development (BMZ), is currently implementing the following seven projects together with SADC:
- Strengthening the Reform Agenda and Management Structures of SADC Institutions;
- Strengthening the Economic and Trade-Political Capacities and Competences within the SADC Region;
- Transboundary Protection and Use of Natural Resources;

- Transboundary Water Management in the SADC Region;
- Support of Peace, Security and Good Governance in the SADC Region;
- Support of the SADC Regional Peacekeeping Training Centre;
- Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System for the SADC Region.

Those programmes jointly support SADC and its Member States with tailor-made approaches in strategic planning and organisational development in order to promote sustainable development in the region. Focal points are economic cooperation, social development and cooperation for the protection of transboundary natural resources.

Through exchange with the pan-African agenda they contribute to the close interlocking of the regional SADC integration agenda with the developments in the African Union. The structural inclusion of the private sector in processes of regional integration, e.g. through Public-Private Partnerships, is also prioritised. Furthermore, GIZ supports the sustainable development of the Secretariat in the field of personnel development.

Within the framework of German Development Cooperation and the establishment of transboundary infrastructure programmes, KfW Development Bank (KfW) cooperates with the SADC Secretariat and other SADC institutions. Examples of this cooperation are, among others, the project for the transboundary water supply in the Kunene region and the Kaza National Park Project, and the engagement of various other international cooperation stakeholders (e.g. political foundations).

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