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ACCESS TO SUCCESS: Fostering Trust and Exchange between Europe and Africa

Priorities and Initiatives of the African Development Bank

By

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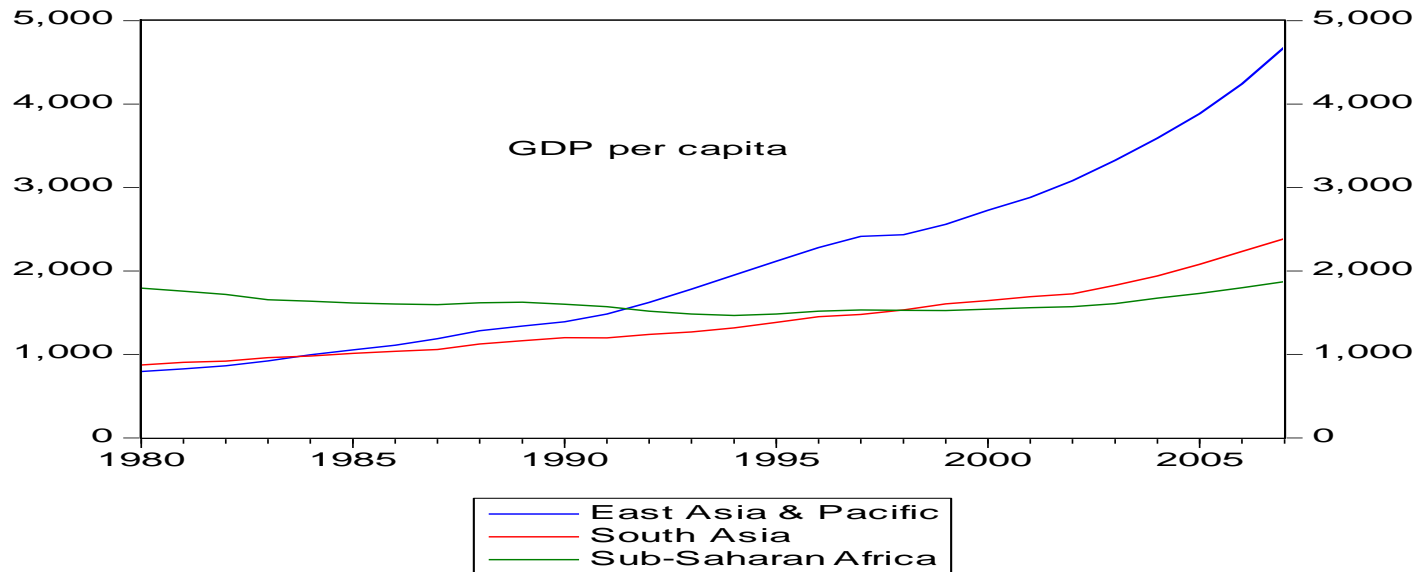
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European University Association



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Background (1): Sluggish economic growth since the '80s

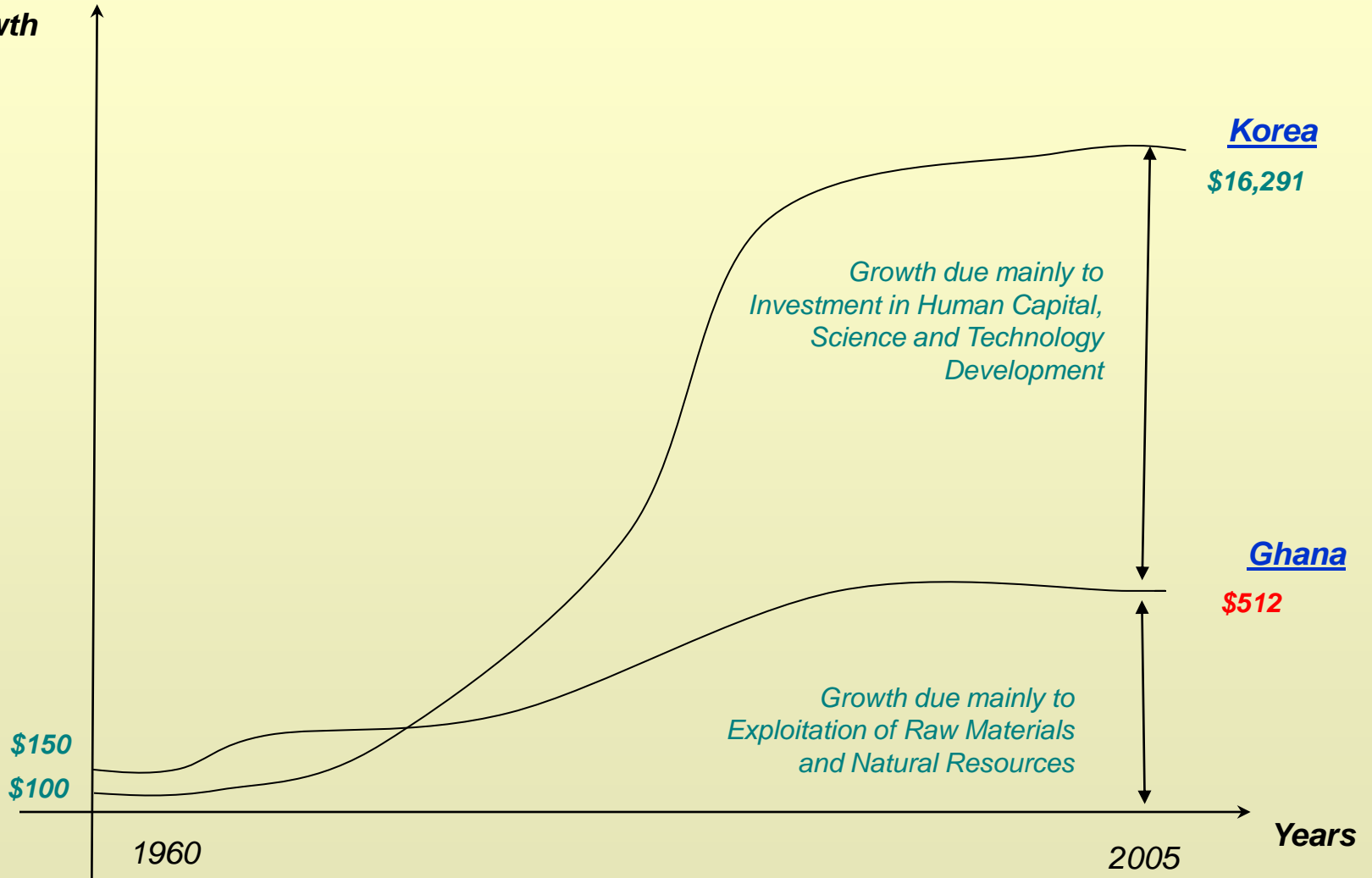


- Over the past three decades or so, there has been little improvement in incomes of Africans, in contrast to Asians;
- In the early 1980s, Africa's GDP per capita was on average higher than of East Asia's; today it is the opposite.



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Growth





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WHY (1) – Institutional, human, and policy-related factors

Some of the factors explaining slow growth in Africa:

- Insufficient human capital;
- Inappropriate policies;
- Destructive and disorganizing conflicts;
- Insufficient infrastructures;
- Weak institutions; and
- Deficient governance.



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R&D

Researchers per Million population

SSA	48
North Africa	160
Latin America	261
Brazil	168
India	158
China	459
USA	4,103

Source: World Bank, 2008



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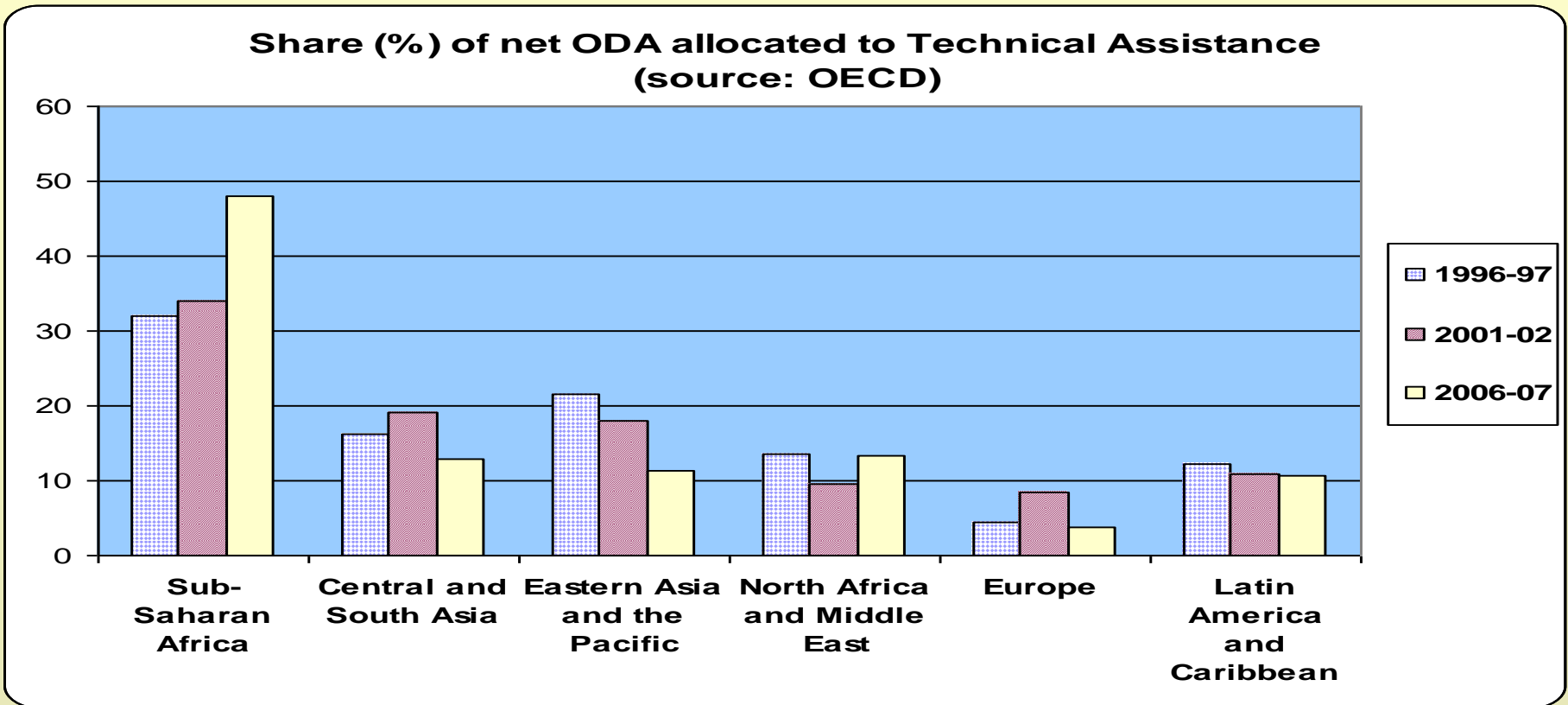
WHY (2) – Limited role of Universities

- Access to higher education has more than quadrupled in Africa, but still the lowest in the world – Worse for female
 - Evidence of Declining Quality of Education
 - Mismatch between skills generated by higher education institutions and needs of the economy: Total Disconnect
 - Facilities, equipment, material, especially in the sciences remain poor in most countries
 - Government funded research institutions and Universities functioning in parallel
 - Limited Financing of universities
-



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SSA: world region that receives the highest share of Technical Assistance

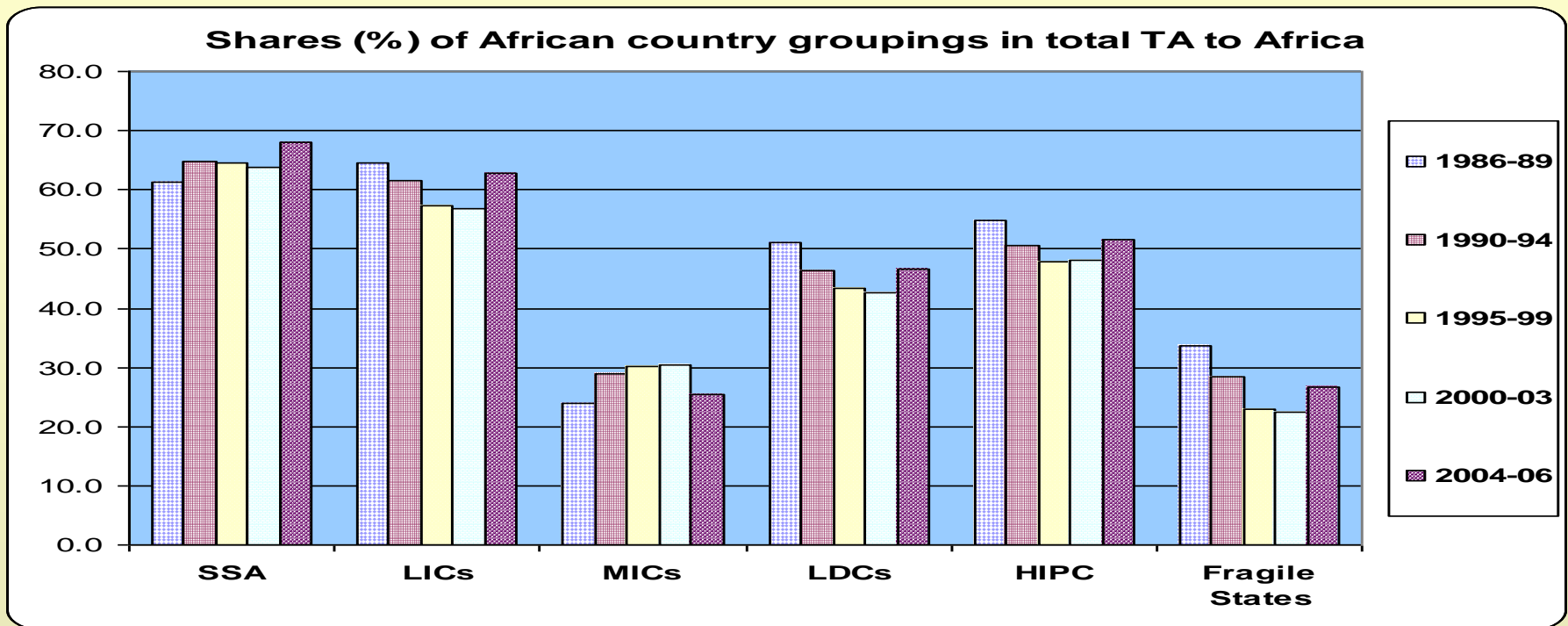


- SSA is the only region with increasing share of world TA since the 1990;
- About half of the world's TA is going to Africa



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Technical Assistance to Africa is unevenly distributed



- SSA's share of TA to Africa has been increasing since the 1980s;
- 5 North African countries receive about 35% of TA going to Africa;
- In recent years TA to SSA, LICs, LDCs, HIPC, and Fragile States has increased; TA to MICs has decreased



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Agriculture Technologies



*How can we compete in the Global Market with these tools?
Skills & Innovation are Key in all Development Sectors*



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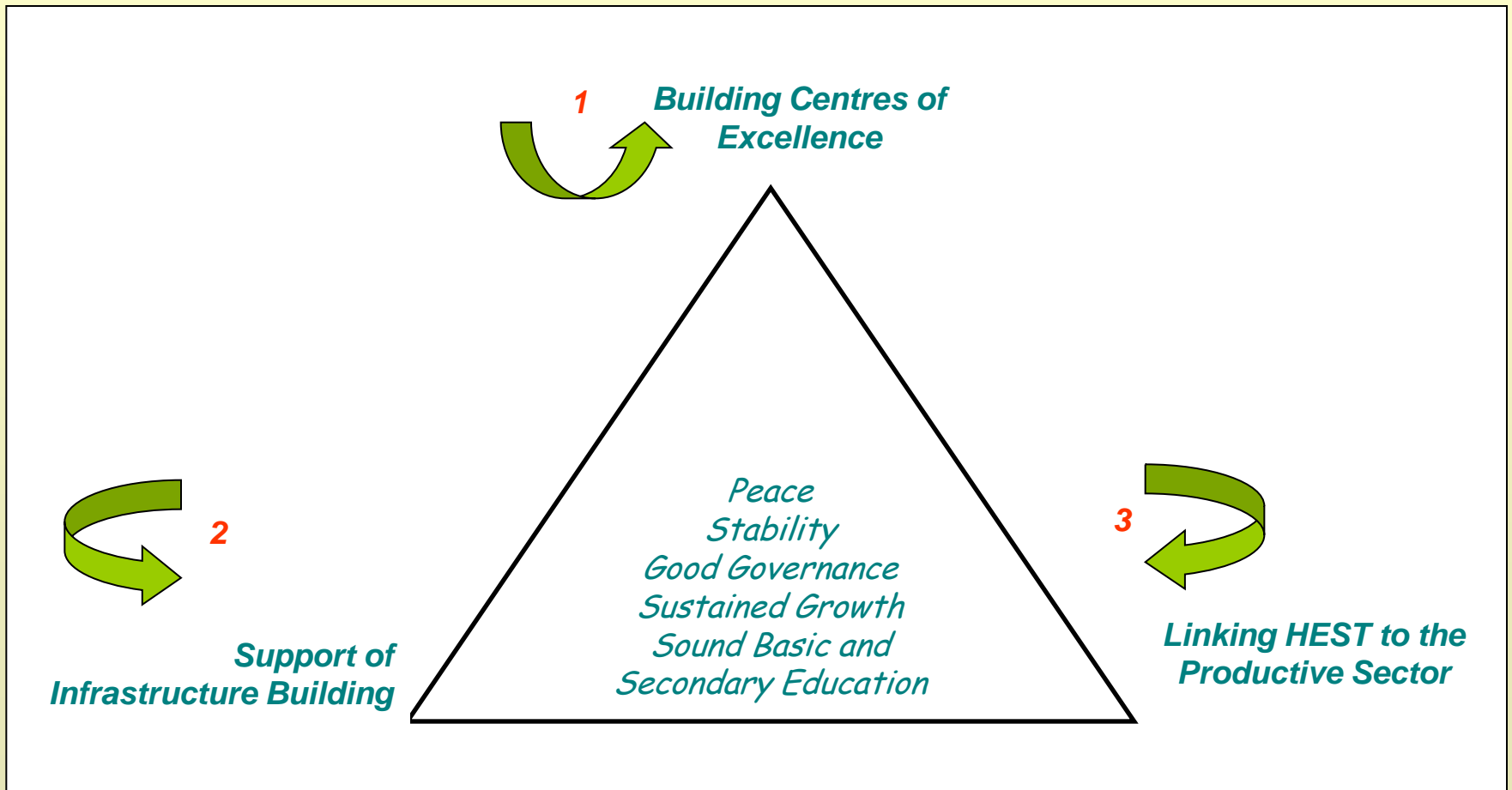
The African Development Bank and Higher Education

- Strategy for Higher Education, Science and Technology (HEST) – The only MDB with such a strategy
- Knowledge Management and Development Strategy
- Capacity Development Strategy
- Grants and loans for investment in higher education & Advisory services
- **ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES BY THE COUNTRIES**



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The AfDB Involvement in Higher Education





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The ADI and Skills Development in Africa

- **Between 2002 and 2008:** EADI implemented 299 training and learning events for over 13,600 beneficiaries from 52 countries
- **ADI's activities related to development effectiveness:**
 - Project implementation workshops;
 - Project Improvement Programs;
 - Development Management Training;
- **Policy dialogue activities (part of these in partnership with WB and IMF)**
- **Other activities** (Annual meeting seminars; Eminent Speakers Program; African Economic Conference; Support to institutions).



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Emerging Lessons & good practices (1)

- Africa is Diverse:
- Low Income Countries (Burkina, Mali, Kenya, Ethiopia, etc)
- Middle Income Countries (South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Tunisia, etc)
- Fragile States (Liberia, Burundi, Sudan, etc)
- Resource-Rich, but Capacity Weak Countries (Libya, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, etc)
- The countries that have invested in their higher education systems the most are those that developed the most over the past decades (**Vision + Leadership Institutions and Resources**);
- One size fits all approach does not work: Calls for Differentiated partnership



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Critical Role of Universities in Africa (2)

- Generation and Accumulation of Knowledge in all areas
 - Avoiding eternal starting over and reinventing the wheel
- Role of Universities in Establishment of Institutions and Good Governance (Universities being one of the core indicators of stability)
- **Paradox:**
 - Demand will continue to be very high but low enrollment (average 2% currently)
 - Private universities including secular is growing, but number of students outside of Africa has never been higher
 - Faculty is aging but profession is not attracting youngsters



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The Way Forward

- Better times to revisit the partnership : move toward a mutually beneficial partnerships
- Role of new technologies in the partnerships: Distance and e-Universities
- The building of solid universities in Africa is fundamentally good for Europe and its universities (need for increased ownership of African universities by African leaders, including professors)
- Review of expenditures of universities and move from non-core activities
- Partnerships with regional institutions (AAU, SARUA, ADEA, etc)



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Thank you !!!

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