

SOUTHERN AFRICAN
DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

VISION 2050



**One region.
16 nations.
Towards a common future.**



Southern African Development Community (SADC) Vision 2050

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About SADC

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) is an organisation founded and maintained by countries in Southern Africa that aims to further socio-economic, political, and security cooperation among its Member States and foster regional integration in order to achieve peace, stability, and wealth. The Member States are: Angola, Botswana, the Union of Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

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INTRODUCTION



I am pleased to present SADC's Vision 2050, which is an outcome of a comprehensive consultative process, and marks another milestone in our efforts to foster regional cooperation and integration.

As SADC celebrates its 40th anniversary, we take stock of past achievements and challenges, and rededicate our efforts to the sustenance of peace and security, and towards the region's socio-economic transformation. As we move forward, the region will be premised on SADC Vision 2050, which is to have by 2050, a peaceful, inclusive, competitive, middle- to high-income industrialised region, where all citizens enjoy sustainable economic well-being, justice, and freedom.

The realisation of Vision 2050 will depend on the actions and measures that we undertake as governments, private sector, civil society, and individuals through short- and medium-term strategic plans. The collective support and commitment of the entire region is required to effectively plan and operationalise the future we want for ourselves and generations to come. Though daunting, the task is not insurmountable, for we are a people with the enduring capacity to create from our social diversity a resilient Community that boasts of significant achievements and the enviable ability to maintain a peaceful coexistence. Achieving Vision 2050 will, therefore, not be an elusive dream but a tangible reality of which we will be proud.

May I thank all stakeholders in SADC Member States, cooperating partners, and the SADC Secretariat for their contributions in the preparation of this Vision, which I believe will steer the region to greater heights. All of us are now presented with a great opportunity to work together to deliver visible outcomes and impacts to the quality and standard of living of our people. I urge that we embrace Vision 2050 and take the responsibility to fulfil our respective roles as citizens of our beloved Community.



H.E. Filipe Jacinto Nyusi
**President of the Republic of Mozambique
and Chairperson of the Southern African Development Community**



SADC Vision Overview



SADC Vision 2050

1. We recall the long-term SADC Vision of a regional community that has a common future and that will ensure socio-economic well-being, improvement of standards of living and quality of life, freedom and social justice, and peace and security for the people of Southern Africa, as enshrined in the Treaty.
2. By 2050, we envision a peaceful, inclusive, competitive, middle- to high-income industrialised region, where all citizens enjoy sustainable economic well-being, justice and freedom.
3. We commit to upholding the core principles of the Community, namely, the sovereign equality of all Member States; solidarity, peace and security; human rights, democracy and the rule of law; equity, balance and mutual benefit; and the peaceful settlement of disputes.
4. We resolve to consolidate SADC moving towards 2050 by leveraging areas of excellence and implementing priorities to achieve sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development, through good governance and durable peace and security in the region as well as the removal of all barriers to deeper integration; and guided by the purposes and principles of the SADC Treaty and Agenda.
5. We underline that SADC Vision 2050 is complementary to the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the African Union's (AU) Agenda 2063 and its flagship projects and continental frameworks.

FOUNDATION AND PILLARS OF VISION 2050

SADC Vision 2050 is expressed in three pillars: I. *Industrial Development and Market Integration*, II. *Infrastructure Development in Support of Regional Integration*, and III. *Social and Human Capital Development*; and built on a firm foundation of Peace, Security, and Good Governance.

Our Mission

In order to realise SADC Vision 2050 for the Community, we aspire to:

- 1. Create** a conducive environment to foster regional cooperation and integration and uphold free movement of goods, labour, capital, and services. To that effect, political stability, good governance, peace, and security shall be the cornerstone of national and regional undertakings.
- 2. Accelerate** the mobilisation of resources from within the Community and external sources. The implementation of SADC policies and programmes does, and will, rely heavily on the successful mobilisation of resources. To improve sustainability, mechanisms will be put in place to shift away from a previous reliance on international cooperating partners towards a more diversified approach that is better integrated and complementary. To this end, a robust strategy will be developed to fill the funding gulf, which is needed to realise the aspirations under the pillars developed in this Vision.
- 3. Improve** implementation of SADC policies and programmes through the effective realisation of roles and responsibilities undertaken by various actors and entities through institutional reforms. These reforms will take place at the operational level. The SADC Secretariat at the regional level, and SADC National Committees and National Contact Points at the national level will be targeted for support and reform to ensure that they are adequately capacitated to perform their roles in the regional integration agenda implementation architecture. The development of strong relationships across the different levels will also be prioritised to maximise the efficiency and effectiveness of implementation.
- 4. Strengthen** compliance by Member States through the implementation of effective compliance monitoring and assurance mechanisms to track progress in implementation of SADC programmes and compliance with its protocols and legal instruments. A bespoke compliance mechanism will be developed for the region that leverages off the African Peer Review Mechanism and other regional economic community compliance mechanisms in Africa and across the globe. The success of the mechanism relies on the establishment of a strong coordinating body (such as the SADC Secretariat) and the cooperation of Member States. Such a mechanism will also augment existing mechanisms that seek to monitor and evaluate ongoing initiatives in the region, for instance, the SADC Macroeconomic Convergence and Surveillance Mechanism. Regular review and evaluation of the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020–2030 will take place, which will enable the effective and authentic application of variable geometry and facilitate opportunities for active learning and leapfrogging by leveraging relevant and emerging technologies.
- 5. Magnify** visibility and awareness as a means to trigger and maintain the interest, awareness, and participation of SADC citizens in driving the regional integration agenda.



FOUNDATION

Peace, Security, and Good Governance

By 2050, SADC is to attain higher levels of peace and stability, enabling the further prioritisation, pursuit, and achievement of its objectives of socio-economic development, poverty eradication and regional integration.

We, therefore, undertake to realise:

1. **Enhanced** conflict prevention, management, and resolution mechanisms, with early warning systems that are capable of tracking and monitoring political, security, and socio-economic threats.
2. **Strengthened** political cooperation, enhanced democracy, good governance, rule of law, human rights, and human security.
3. **An enhanced** collective defence and security system that is capable of safeguarding the territorial integrity of the region.



PILLAR ONE

Industrial Development and Market Integration



By 2050, SADC is to be an industrialised and integrated region, where citizens equitably benefit from the opportunities of a stable regional market that is commensurate with the AU's Accelerated Industrial Development for Africa (AIDA), Science, Technology, and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA), African Mining Vision (AMV), Boosting Intra-African Trade (BIAT), and Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP); and is well integrated into the broader African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

We, therefore, undertake to achieve:

- An industrialised regional economy that is based on a competitive and facilitative environment, which includes infrastructure and skills, and sustainably exploits its natural resources by leveraging science, technology, and innovation.
- A transformed agricultural sector that practices sustainable management of the environment and its natural resources.
- Interconnected, integrated, competitive Blue, Green, and Circular Economies that are sustainably developed for the benefit of all SADC citizens.
- Deepened regional market integration, which is connected to the continental and global markets.
- Deepened financial market integration, monetary cooperation, and investment.
- Enhanced macroeconomic stability and convergence.



PILLAR TWO

Infrastructure Development in Support of Regional Integration



By 2050, SADC is to have efficient and effective, technologically-driven cross-border infrastructure services and networks to support and facilitate deeper regional integration.

We, therefore, undertake to realise:

- Quality, interconnected, integrated, and seamless infrastructure and networks.
- Improved capacity for conceptualisation, design, construction, maintenance, and operation of regional infrastructure and services.
- Increased access to affordable infrastructure and services.

PILLAR THREE

Social and Human Capital Development



By 2050, SADC is to have a high quality of life, in which its citizens are well educated and enjoy long, healthy, and productive lives that reinforce the link between economic growth and sustainable human development, in order to end poverty in all its forms. This strong and inclusive human capital base will enable SADC citizens to play a pivotal role in the region's socio-economic development, through enhanced productivity.

We, therefore, undertake to realise:

- Strengthened and harmonised regional health systems for the provision of standardised and accessible health services to all citizens and addressing threats caused by health pandemics.
- Improved food and nutrition security for the socio-economic well-being of people in the region.
- Increased access to quality and relevant education and skills development, including in science and technology, for SADC citizens.
- Increased job creation with decent work opportunities for full and productive employment in the region.
- Enhanced living conditions of the people through the promotion of sustainable cities in the region.



CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

Gender, Youth, Environment and Climate Change, and Disaster Risk Management

By 2050, SADC is to be a community where citizens are treated equally, regardless of their gender, and our youth are empowered. Policy decisions will be based on reliable data and positive engagement between Member States and non-state actors based on mutual respect.

We, therefore, undertake to realise:

1. **Enhanced** gender equality as well as women's empowerment and development, and elimination of gender-based violence.
2. **A robust** and responsive regional statistical system to underpin regional integration processes, including measurement of progress and impact.
3. **Improved** youth empowerment and participation of young people and people with disabilities in all aspects of social and economic development, and enhanced welfare of senior citizens.
4. **Strengthened** climate change, adaptation, and mitigation.
5. **Improved** disaster risk management in support of regional resilience.
6. **Sustainable** utilisation and conservation of natural resources and effective management of the environment.
7. **Increased** access to quality HIV and AIDS services for the realisation of an AIDS-free generation in the region.



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