

The Africa – Turkey Partnership Framework



The inaugural Africa – Turkey Cooperation Summit was held in Istanbul, Turkey in August 2008. A Joint Implementation Plan of the Africa-Turkey Partnership 2010-2014 was developed and when the 2nd Africa-Turkey Cooperation Summit was held in December of 2012, a second, 2014-2018, Joint Implementation Plan of Africa-Turkey Partnership was agreed upon. It was also agreed that the Turkey-Africa Cooperation Summits would be held every 5 years in Africa and in Turkey on a rotational basis, with a Ministerial Review Conference to meet every third year in the period between Summits on an alternate basis in Turkey and in Africa.

The areas of cooperation of the Partnership include:

- Institutional Cooperation
- Trade and Investment
- Agriculture, Agribusiness, Rural Development, Water Resources
- Management and Small Medium Enterprises
- Health
- Peace and Security
- Infrastructure, Energy and Transport
- Media and Communication
- Environment

With a population of more than 76 million people and a GDP of \$820 billion, Turkey is the world's 17th largest economy. Over the past twenty years, Turkey has also developed a diverse economy with significant development in the following sectors: textiles, food processing, autos, electronics, tourism, mining (coal, chromate, copper, boron), steel, petroleum, construction, lumber, and paper. In 2013, Turkey became the 78th member state of the African Development Bank.

Turkey's largely free-market economy is increasingly driven by its industry and service sectors, although its traditional agriculture sector still accounts for about 25% of employment. An aggressive privatization program has reduced state involvement in basic industry, banking, transport, and communication, and an emerging cadre of middle-class entrepreneurs is adding dynamism to the economy and expanding production beyond the traditional textiles and clothing sectors.

The automotive, construction, and electronics industries are rising in importance and have surpassed textiles within Turkey's export mix. Other leading export goods include apparel, foodstuffs, and metal manufactures and Turkey's main imports are machinery, chemicals, semi-finished goods, fuels and transport equipment.

Oil began to flow through the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline in May 2006, marking a major milestone that will bring up to 1 million barrels per day from the Caspian to market. Several gas pipeline projects also are moving forward to help transport Central Asian gas to Europe through Turkey, which over the long term will help address Turkey's dependence on imported oil and gas to meet 97% of its energy needs.

For a number of reasons, the projects agreed to during the inaugural Summit were not implemented – which led to the postponement of the 2013 Heads of State/Government Summit. The next and 2nd Heads of



State/Government Summits took place in November 2014 in Malabo-Equatorial Guinea.

To reinvigorate the 2010-2014 Implementation Plan, a "Joint Implementation Plan" for 2014-2018 was prepared. In January 2014, Turkey committed a further USD 1 million to facilitate implementation of the identified projects including a "Regional Counter Terrorism Excellence Center in Accra- Ghana".

In the area of trade and investment, Turkey intends to leverage its bilateral successes in favor of its strategic partnership with Africa. As a matter of example, the case of Turkey-Ethiopia cooperation was cited. Ten years ago, the two countries literally had no relationship. Today, 85% of Ethiopia's USD 95 million export value is realized by AyKA, a Turkish company which also has 7000 Ethiopian employees. The biggest African cable company is also a Turkish investment in Ethiopia. Turkey has also undertaken number of manufacturing-related investment in Ethiopia.

The 2nd Joint Implementation Plan of Africa-Turkey Partnership (2014-2018) has thus been established for a period of four years and will be subject to mutual review, adjustment and improvement during that period. Acknowledging the strong bilateral relations between Turkey and many African countries, the Parties adopted this Joint Implementation Plan to further strengthen the comprehensive cooperation between Turkey and African countries, as specified in the guidelines in Section III of the Joint Implementation Plan of Africa-Turkey Partnership 2010-2014. The Plan primarily focusses on:

1. Institutional Cooperation
 - a. Consultations on Political Matters
 - b. Inter-Parliamentary Relations
 - c. Cooperation within International Organizations
 - d. Cooperation with Regional Economic Communities
2. Trade and Investment
3. Agriculture, Agribusiness, Rural Development, Water Resources Management, and Small and Medium Scale Enterprises
4. Health
5. Peace and Security
6. Migration
7. Conflict Resolution and Mediation
8. Infrastructure, Energy, Mining and Transport
9. Culture, Tourism and Education
10. Media, Information and Communication Technologies
11. Environment
12. Youth and Sport