

A stylized map of the African continent is composed of several large, overlapping geometric shapes in various colors: light blue, lime green, orange, red, purple, and green. The map is set against a white background with light gray geometric shapes in the corners.

THINK AFRICA PARTNERSHIP

ANNUAL REPORT

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Donor Partners



Contact Information:

The World Bank Group, Africa Region
1818 H Street, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20433
USA

Albert Zeufack

Africa Chief Economist
azeufack@worldbank.org

James Cust

Think Africa Partnership Program Manager
jcust@worldbank.org

worldbank.org/tap
thinkafrica.dev
africaceog.org

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1- Executive Summary

The Think Africa Partnership (TAP) is a multi-donor trust fund that supports economic transformation and growth across sub-Saharan Africa via better uptake of policy-relevant knowledge and data.

TAP bridges the supply side and the demand side of knowledge through peer-learning platforms and works across three constituents: African young professionals, scholars and universities; domestic and regional think tanks; and a network of over 35 chief economic advisors to African heads of executive. The Think Africa Partnership is an African-centered initiative to better equip African scholars, institutions, and chief economic advisors with the tools, knowledge, and network to better address local development challenges with home grown solutions. By nurturing exceptional African talent, strengthening debate and deliberation inside and outside of government, the TAP builds a pipeline of reformers among African development professionals and economists, and supports today's and tomorrow's economic policy makers in Africa.

The annual report summarizes key outputs, activities and achievements under the Think Africa Partnership from the past twelve months (February 20, 2019 – February 21, 2020).

2- TAP at a Glance

The Think Africa Partnership Multi Partner Fund is active as of April 2018. The Program received its first contributions in 2018 from the government of Germany (via GIZ), complemented by contributions from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) in 2019 and additional contributions from Germany in 2018 and 2019. Since its inception the Think Africa Partnership has received a total of USD 13.93 million development partner support from Germany and Norway. This complements existing WBG resources to support activities under the three windows. Additional commitments from both development partners during 2018/9 allowed the Partnership to scale up the WBG Africa Fellowship Program, expand support to the growing Chief Economists of Government Initiative, and launch the expanded and restricted *Support to Regional Knowledge Capacity* grant, implemented by the African Centre for Economic Transformation (ACET).

Pillar 1: Amplify the Knowledge Base

Key outputs: continued support to World Bank (WB)/African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) Visiting Scholars Program, scaling up the Africa Fellows Program and launching Private Sector Development Fellows and Economists for Transformation (E4T)

- 2 AERC visiting scholars completed the program at the World Bank during 2019. Two additional scholars began their visits in January 2020. The two 2019 scholars have completed 4 working papers, contributed to 1 regional study, held 1 seminar and participated in 1 training.
- The 2019-2020 application cycle of the World Bank Group Africa Fellows Program attracted a total of 2,023 applications from promising candidates from 46 countries, of which 1,374 are male and 649 are female. 24 Africa fellows have started their program in January 2020 and are working for units across the WB and IFC, 15 of which are funded under the Think Africa Partnership and 10 of which are working on Private Sector Development.
- During the Annual Meetings 2019, TAP convened a network for early career economists (Economists for Transformation) from and working on Africa. The network currently has 68 members, as measured through E4T LinkedIn group members.

Pillar 2: Supporting Regional and Domestic Knowledge Platforms

Key outputs: Support to the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET), Compact with Africa (CwA), and the Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP)

- ACET completed 2 CwA peer review meetings in April 2019 and October 2019.
- In March 2019 two CwA advisory panel members visited Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana and Rwanda to gain a better understanding of how Compact Teams work on the ground and how they might be improved, which served as an input to ACET's April 2019 Peer Review note.
- In July 2019 ACET contributed to and participated in the Workshop on Private Sector Led Diversification and Growth organized by the IMF and hosted by the Government of Ethiopia.
- ACET, with the OECD, ECDPM and Indiana University completed a study on local conditions for blended finance in August 2019.

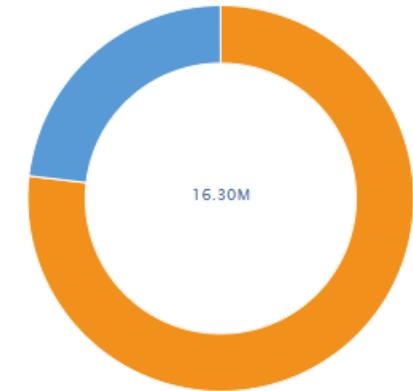
- On September 12, 2019 ACET organized a CwA peer learning seminar, attended by 130 participants representing ten of the twelve CwA countries, Germany and Japan from the G20 countries, private sector representatives, the international organizations, and DFIs.
- At the Africa Investment Forum (AIF) in Johannesburg in November 2019 ACET hosted a CwA side event focused on the hearing from the private sector, particularly with regard to potential policy initiatives.
- ACET is planning its third African Transformation Forum (ATF) in June 2020 in Nairobi, Kenya.
- In preparation for the first thematic CEOG workshop taking place in Accra in February 2020, TAP has engaged the Nairobi-based Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP) to support the workshop with background papers on digitization and revenue mobilization.

Pillar 3: Building the Bridge to Policy Impact – the Chief Economists of Government Initiative (CEoG)

Key outputs: Convene a regional network of chief economic advisors and carry out skills and knowledge building activities

- Between 20 February 2019 and 19 February 2020, the number of active CEoG network members has increased from 19 chief economic advisors to 39 active network members.
- The CEoG Secretariat has established a CEoG data help desk and CEoG toolbox to help advisors source relevant data for evidence-based and data-driven decision making within governments.
- During the 2019 Annual Meetings of the World Bank Group and the IMF, seven chief economic advisors and members of the Chief Economists of Government Initiative (CEoG) from Angola, eSwatini, Ghana, Guinea, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Zambia met over breakfast with the German chief economic advisor to Chancellor Merkel, Lars-Hendrik Röller.
- On February 20th and 21st the World Bank Office of the Chief Economist Africa Region held its first thematic CEoG workshop in Accra, Ghana. 12 advisors, their staff and 8 resource persons from 14 different African countries attended the workshop around Digitization for Domestic Revenue Mobilization.

Partnerships and contributions



DE - Deutsche Gesellschaft Fur Inte... : 12.53M
 NO - Norwegian Agency For Develo... : 3.77M

To date, the Partnership has received USD 12.53 million development partner support from Germany, of which an additional USD 6.8 million was received in Q4 2019, and has secured USD 1.4 million from Norway in Q2 2019 with an additional commitment of USD 2.37 million by May 2021. This complements existing WBG resources to support activities under the three windows.

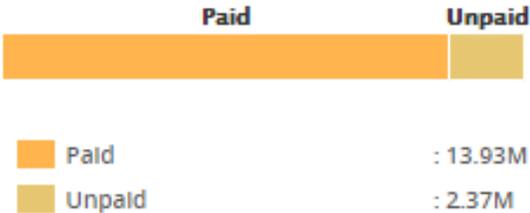


Figure 1: Development Partner Center, February 2020

3- Think Africa Partnership Activities and Outputs

The Think Africa Partnership is structured around three pillars of activity. This annual report summarizes activities, outputs and achievements under each pillar:

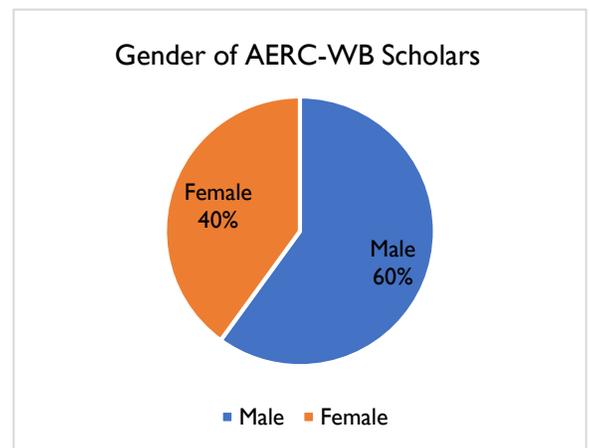
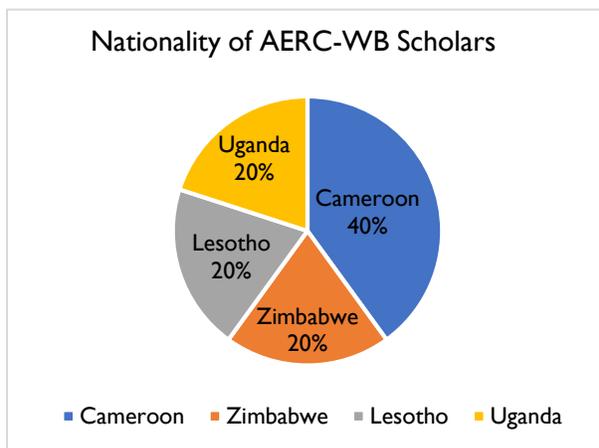
a. Pillar One: Amplify the Knowledge Base

The Partnership supports policy-relevant and collaborative economics research, with greater engagement and participation of African scholars and experts. Key outputs under Pillar 1 include the WBG/AERC Visiting Scholars Program, scaling up the Africa Fellows Program, launching Private Sector Development Fellows and establishing a network of Economists for Transformation to amplify data and evidence on African economic growth and transformation and increase visibility and outreach by African female economists.

The WB/AERC Visiting Scholars Program:

The African Economic Research Consortium (AERC)-World Bank Visiting Scholars Program offers an opportunity for research placements of up to four months at the World Bank for early career academics from Africa. The program aims to enhance the capacity of African scholars to boost economic policy research in sub-Saharan Africa; help strengthen members of AERC’s global linkages in economic policy, academic research, and graduate training; deepen and broaden the policy impact of both AERC and AFRCE; and enhance the skills and output of individual African researchers by providing them direct access to wider and better information and data accessible via the World Bank. Each year, three scholars are selected to join the World Bank in the Africa Chief Economist’s office (AFRCE) to support ongoing research relevant to the Africa region. These visiting scholars, drawn from the AERC network use the visit to improve their own research and teaching. Visiting Scholars also have the chance to present their research and interact and network with other researchers.

Demography of AERC Scholars: A total of five scholars have been hosted by the AERC since inception in 2018, from Cameroon, South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Lesotho. Sixty percent of the scholars are male and forty percent female.



Between March 2019 and February 2020, two WB/AERC visiting scholars have completed their program:



Picture 1: Romuald Foueka

Romuald Foueka worked on AERC research entitled “Analyzing the Determinants of Pupils Performance in Primary Schools: Evidence from Cameroon and Chad”. This research paper has been submitted for review in the French Journal *Monde en Development*. Mr. Foueka produced two papers which are currently under review. These are “Decomposition of Test Score Difference in PASEC countries: An Analysis Based on Conditional Quantile Regression” currently being reviewed in the *International Journal of Education Research*; and “Threshold Effect of Educational Inequality on Economic Growth in Africa”- written in French and submitted to the *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*. In the course of his program at the Bank, Romuald wrote a new research proposal: “The Impact of Teacher Quality on Students Achievement in PASEC Countries: An Analysis Based on RASCH Method.” This new proposal is seeking funding from AUF (Eugen Lonescu Fellowship) for four months Visiting Scholarship at the University of Bucharest, Romania. He also participated in a training organized by the Global Partnership for Education.



Picture 2: Trust Reason Mpofo

The second Fellow Mr Mpofo also joined the Program in November 2018 from the University of Cape Town. His AERC research was geared towards industrialization in Africa. During his time at the World Bank, Trust supported the Africa Office of the Chief Economist on the *Industrialization for Jobs in Africa* Regional Study; and during the World Bank- AERC Visiting Scholars seminar series, he presented a paper titled: “Is the Exchange Rate a Shock Absorber or a Source of Shocks? Evidence from South Africa”.

Two new visiting scholars started the program at the World Bank in January 2020. Mrs Nikemia and Mr Moshoeshoe. Mrs Nikemia will work “Women Empowerment in Agriculture and Children Nutritional Status in Rural Burkina Faso” and the “Improving Africa’s Land Governance for Economic Transformation” regional study at the Africa Chief Economist’s Office (AFRCE). Mr. Moshoeshoe will be supporting the AFRCE on a new research project - *Positioning Africa to Effectively Claim the 21st Century*.

WBG Africa Fellows Program and Private Sector Development Fellows:

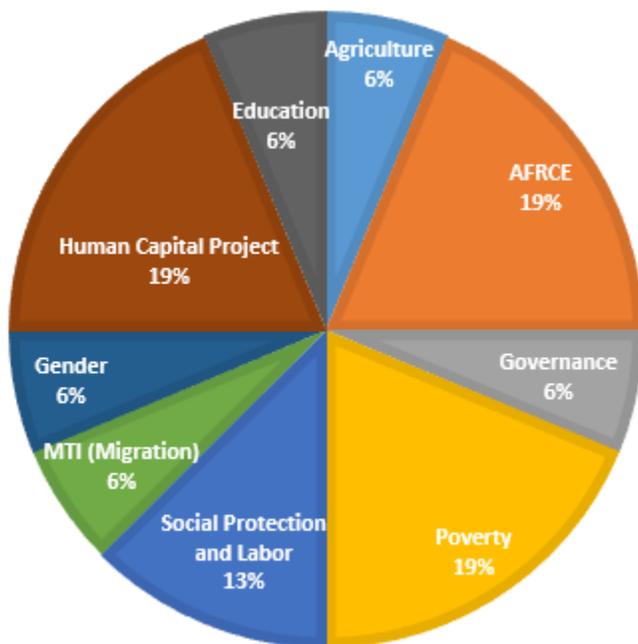
The WBG Africa Fellowship Program targets young talented African nationals who are completing or recently completed a Ph.D. in an area relevant to the World Bank’s work. The fellowship program has been very successful since its inception in 2015, building a strong pipeline of young African talent interested in a career working on development economics in international institutions, African governments, think tanks, and academia. The Program offers chosen fellows a six-month assignment at WBG offices in Washington D.C. or in country offices. Fellows gain hands-on experience in the operations of the WBG and are prepared for a recruitment path in the competitive WB Young Professionals (YP) Program.

Africa Fellows 2019:

Between January 2019 and December 2019, 16 Africa Fellows from 10 African countries have completed their program at the World Bank. Out of the 16 Fellows, nine are female and five were funded through the Think Africa Partnership.

The Fellows have supported different projects and Global Practices across the World Bank (Picture 4). Two Fellows have worked directly with the Think Africa Partnership Trust Fund.

Composition of 2019 Africa Fellows Cohort:



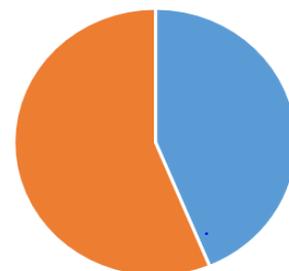
Picture 4 Africa Fellows 2019 program statistics

Africa Fellows nationalities, cohort 2019



Picture 3 Africa Fellows 2019 nationalities (Comoros not shown on this map)

Africa Fellows 2019 Gender Ratio

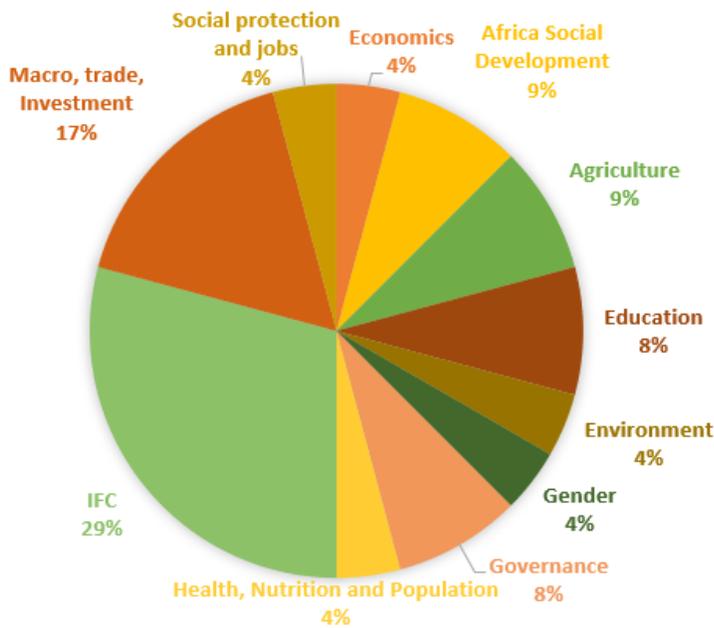


■ male ■ female

2020 Africa Fellows and Private Sector Development Fellows:

The 2019-2020 application cycle attracted a total of 2,023 applications from promising candidates from 46 countries, of which 1,374 are male and 649 are female. 24 Africa fellows, 18 male and 6 female, have started their program in January 2020 and are working for units across the WB and IFC. TAP scaled up its support from 5 fellows to 15 Fellows that are funded under the Think Africa Partnership. This includes 10 Africa Fellows with specific exposure and expertise on private sector development.

Composition of 2020 Africa Fellows:



10 out of 24 Fellows are working on Private Sector Development at the IFC and the World Bank Macro, Trade and Investment Global Practice. The other Fellows work across WBG Global Practices including: Africa Chief Economist Office; Agriculture; Education; Environment; Governance; Gender; Health, Nutrition and Population; Africa Social Development; Social Protection and Jobs.

The Think Africa Partnership supports 15 Africa fellows under this new cycle, 10 of which are working in Private Sector Development across the World Bank and the IFC, supported by private sector development funding.

Picture 6 Africa Fellows cohort 2020 Program Statistics



Picture 5: 2020 cohort of WBG Africa Fellows, Albert Zeufack and Moussa Blimpo, January 2020, Washington DC

Africa Fellows Cohort 2020 Nationalities



b. Pillar Two: Supporting Regional and Domestic Knowledge Platforms

Support to the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET)

Pillar two of the Think Africa Partnership strengthens knowledge to policy platforms across sub-Saharan Africa. The Support to Regional Knowledge Capacity Project, approved on September 17, 2018 and implemented by the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET), is financed through a Recipient Executed Trust Fund (RETF). The project development objective is to strengthen ACET's capacity to deliver policy to action through core activities, with a specific focus on policy areas supported by the Compact with Africa (CwA). From its implementation to date, 74% of the total TAP grant has been dedicated to ACET and its work on core activities in policy design and the implementation of the G20 Compact with Africa.

Thanks to additional commitments from GIZ and Norad during 2018/9 and given ACET's solid track record and progress towards achievements of results in the first year of implementation, additional financing and restructuring for expanded activities under the grant agreement have been approved by the World Bank's Africa Region Vice President in December 2019 and are now being implemented.

As part of this grant restructuring, the project closing date was extended by two years from November 28, 2019 to November 30, 2021. Additional financing was also made available, taking the grant total from USD1.6 million to USD 4.9 million for the extended project. This additional support draws on contributions from both partners. Project activities have been expanded to consist of three (instead of the original two) components:

1. Strengthening ACET's core activities on policy design
 - 1.1. Policy dialogues (national and regional) organized by ACET
 - 1.2. Development of case studies and ACET's flagship products ATI and ATR
2. Supporting ACET's role in implementing the CwA
 - 2.1. Measuring policy progress as indicated through the Country Private Sector Diagnostics
 - 2.2. Improve the function of Compact Teams
 - 2.3. Organizing CwA related events
 - 2.4. Bi-Annual Peer review of CwA self-assessment
 - 2.5. Advocacy for African and the CwA
3. Supporting the Strategic Partnership for Private Sector Development and growth
 - 3.1. Exchanges with Ghanaian government and private sector representatives on SEPZs
 - 3.2. Produce research products produced by ACET on SPEZ or LC-SMEs
 - 3.3. Produce business plans for LC-SMEs

New activities reflecting the expanded work program are being implemented and will be reported on in the next Annual Report in February 2021. This reporting period covers all ACET activities from February 20, 2019 – February 21, 2020.

Given pending contributions from Norad and newly received contributions from Germany in December 2019, further additional financing for ACET is planned.

Prior to the restructuring of the current grant, from its initial creation until November 2019, the Support to Regional Knowledge Capacity Project was structured around two components and five sub-components:

1. Strengthening ACET's core activities on policy design
 - 1.1. Technical Assistance for an institutional policy engagement case study
 - 1.2. Assistance to ACET ongoing activities
2. Supporting ACET's role in implementing the CwA
 - 2.1. Strengthening Compact countries capacity
 - 2.2. Bi-Annual Peer review of CwA self-assessment
 - 2.3. Advocacy for African and the CwA

This is the structure of the activities being reported on under the second annual report:

Component 1: Strengthening ACET'S Core Activities in Policy Design

1.1. Technical Assistance for an institutional policy engagement case study

The institutional policy engagement case study was completed in November 2019 and will be published and presented during the second half of 2020.

1.2. Assistance to ACET's ongoing activities

This sub-component provides support to ACET's core business to inform and support policy design and implementation. The PACT is ACET's primary policy dialogue platform. PACT platforms, both national and regional, around Youth, Employment and Skills, as well as around transforming Agriculture, and strategic Industrialization policies will be of particular importance over the next years. The PACT deliberations inform the African Transformation Forum (ATF) and promote economic dialogues between governments, development partners, the private sector and civil society.

The third ATF (ATF 2020) will be hosted by ACET in Nairobi in June 2020 in collaboration with the Government of Kenya and will bring together leading experts and practitioners. The ATF is of the highest importance for ACET's capacity to deliver policy to action. Through the organization of the ATF, ACET is refining its convening skills while also increasing the awareness of ACET as a convening power. The ATF will include high-level policy representation and results-oriented plenary sessions around the five PACT Chapters.

Likewise, the Africa Transformation Report (ATR) and ACET's Africa Transformation Index (ATI) are closely interrelated to the PACT platforms and will be highlighted at the ATF in June 2020 in Nairobi. Both ATR and ATI will be published and launched during Spring 2020. The third ATR focuses on the following topics: Demographics, Climate Change, Innovation and Regional Integration.

Component 2: ACET's role in G20 Compact with Africa

Background:

ACET was appointed as the CwA secretariat for coordination and peer learning. As the secretariat, ACET engages in a variety of activities including: (i) coordination role in CwA implementation; (ii) supporting peer learning among CwA countries; and (iii) peer-reviewing country self-assessments on progress. ACET is catalyzing CwA implementation via a peer learning platform and independent peer review of progress towards country identified policy goals.

1. Strengthening Compact Countries' Capacity

Between March 2019 and February 2020, ACET has held the following peer-to-peer learning events among CwA countries:

- In July 2019 ACET contributed to and participated in the Workshop on Private Sector Led Diversification and Growth organized by the IMF and hosted by the Government of Ethiopia. The workshop was designed to share experiences among CwA countries and distill lessons to country specific current circumstances and strategies. It also was intended to foster public-private sector dialogue by including the point of view of international investors potentially interested in investing in the continent.
- ACET, with the OECD, ECDPM and Indiana University completed a study on local conditions for blended finance in August 2019. The report outlined key recommendations for expanding blended finance by taking into account local development strategies, partnering with local financial institutions and building the capacity of the financial sector in CwA countries.
- On September 12, 2019 ACET organized a CwA peer learning event in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire using the recommendations from the recent report to frame the agenda. The Peer Learning Seminar on Blended Finance was designed to bring stakeholders - government, private sector and development partners - together around the topic of strengthening the local dimension of blended finance. The event was designed to provide an opportunity for CwA countries to learn from the good practice of other countries and discuss how blended finance could be further improved. The seminar was attended by 130 participants representing ten of the twelve CwA countries, Germany and Japan from the G20 countries, private sector representatives, the international organizations, and DFIs.
- The blended finance report and the recommendations emanating from the above-mentioned seminar served as the basis for a session on development finance at the Annual Conference of the Global Research Consortium on Economic Structural Transformation (GRoCEST), which in particular takes into account China's role in supporting blended finance.
- At the Africa Investment Forum in Johannesburg in November 2019, ACET hosted a CwA side event focused on the hearing from the private sector, particularly with regard to potential policy initiatives.

2. Bi-annual Peer Review of CwA Self Assessments

At the request of the G20 Africa Advisory Group, ACET undertakes bi-annual independent peer reviews of the CwA, one in April and one in October each year. The peer reviews have been included in the broader monitoring reports produced by the AAG. The third peer review was completed in April 2019 for discussion at the AAG in Washington. This report drew upon the workshops in February and country visits by CwA Advisory Panel members looking particularly at the functionality of CwA Compact Teams. The fourth peer review was presented at the October 2019 AAG. ACET has been an active participant in all four AAG meetings.

3. Advocacy for Africa and the CwA

ACET serves on the T20 Africa Standing Group and co-chairs the T20 CwA Working Group. The T20, a global coalition of think tanks, provides advice to the G20 through advocacy and policy notes. ACET was actively involved in the T20 Forums held in Buenos Aires in September 2018 and Tokyo in May 2019. These events received widespread recognition and interest and provided opportunities for ACET to advocate for the CwA. ACET engagement included the submission of a CwA policy note for the G20 Finance Ministers. The 2019 policy note was titled “Cooperation with Africa: G20 Compact with Africa.”

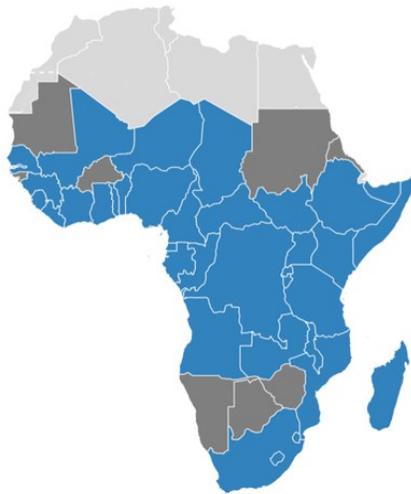
Intensifying collaboration with additional economic policy think tanks

In preparation for the first thematic CEoG workshop taking place in Accra in February 2020, TAP has engaged the Nairobi-based Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP) to support the workshop with background papers on digitization and revenue mobilization. In the coming year, the TAP Secretariat is seeking to intensify collaboration with other regional and domestic economic policy think tanks across sub-Saharan Africa.

The TAP Secretariat has also begun working with ACET in designing a fellowship pipeline under the African Transformation Fellows, linking ACET recruitment to think tanks and policy institutes across Africa, but also potentially to chief economists of government units. Scaling up the Transformation Fellows Program could boost collaboration with additional economic policy think tanks and connecting Fellows with government chief economist offices could act as an additional bridge in linking knowledge to policy.

c. Pillar Three: Building the Bridge to Policy Impact

The Chief Economists of Government Initiative (CEoG) represents TAP's bridge to policy impact. CEoG provides a platform for peer support and learning, policy benchmarking, and support to economic policy units at the center of government.



Zimbabwe.

Picture 7 : 39 countries across sub-Saharan Africa where an advisor has been identified and engaged

CEoG support functions offered to advisors include peer learning visits, targeted support from former advisors and experts, offering knowledge tools and skills building, which includes securing Stata licenses for network members, a data-helpdesk and creating CEoG models to define advisors' terms of reference. The recently established CEoG data-helpdesk will allow an increasing number of advisors and their teams to work more effectively and give better evidence-based policy advice.

CEoG Impact and Results between March 2019 and February 2020:

Between its launch and February 2020, the Secretariat has received seven requests for country-level support to existing or new CEoG units from the following countries: Angola, Cote d'Ivoire, DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Madagascar, Niger and Togo. One exchange visit between two advisors took place in 2019 to learn about solar policy and port management, which resulted in a reportedly better negotiated deal with a private port company. Furthermore, there were two instances of connecting current advisors to former ones in 2019, resulting in one case to a more strategic approach to handling a domestic economic crisis. There has been one WhatsApp exchange of data sharing and best practices about industrialization policy, providing direct input to one country's strategic plan.

Activities between March 2019 and February 2020:

During the 2019 Annual Meetings of the World Bank Group and the IMF, seven chief economic advisors and members of the Chief Economists of Government Initiative (CEoG) from Angola, eSwatini, Ghana, Guinea, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Zambia met over breakfast with the German chief economic advisor to Chancellor Merkel, Lars-Hendrik Röller.



Picture 8 : CEoG breakfast meeting around IMF/WBG Annual Meetings

The discussion on shared challenges advisors face across different countries proves that exchanges among peers can act as an important forum to explore viable economic options to be presented to leaders. The breakfast meeting ended with the promise of further avenues for such exchange, which are likely to take place around the AU/EU summit in October 2020.

On February 20th and 21st, CEoG held its first thematic workshop in Accra, Ghana. The workshop was organized by the TAP Secretariat together with the Ghanaian chief economic advisor Prof. Joe Amoako Tuffour on the topic of "Advances in Digitization for Domestic Revenue Mobilization".



Picture 9 : Group picture CEoG advisors, staff and resource persons

The objective of the workshop was to convene members of the CEoG network along with members of their staff for a thematic workshop focusing on peer learning around issues of digitization, domestic revenue mobilization, and data skills such as macro-modelling. The workshop created space and time for advisors to have in-depth exchanges with one another and relevant resource persons about a priority policy topic, with the goal of generating evidence-based ideas or recommendations that advisors will take back to their countries.

The workshop was attended by 12 advisors, their staff and 8 resource persons. Participants came from 14 different African countries. The workshop was opened with welcoming remarks from the Ghanaian Minister of Planning, Professor George Gyan-Baffour; the Commissioner General of the Ghana Revenue Authority, Mr. Ammishaddai Owusu-Amoah and the World Bank Country Director, Pierre Laporte.

The macroeconomics team at the World Bank has partnered with the CEoG Initiative to make modelling and analysis tools available the network. In conjunction with the World Bank macro-modelling team, the CEoG workshop also offered a session on macro-economic modelling to advisors and their staff. This training session included an introduction to modelling options at the Bank, a demonstration of the Bank's modelling platform, and concrete examples of where the models have been used to inform decision making (fiscal rules, exchange rate regimes, fiscal multipliers, fiscal stability under uncertainty). The aim of the macro-modelling session was for advisors to get an overview of possibilities to design a program of macro modelling support customized to the needs and capacity of each country.



Picture 10: Macro-modelling workshop

A major goal of the CEoG initiative is to promote peer-learning and the exchange of national and regional best practices amongst advisors. Therefore, most sessions were organized around structured group discussions with inputs from expert resource persons coming from tax administrations in Mauritius and Rwanda, a Ghanaian technology start-up, a legal scholar on land and taxation, and the Africa Tax Administration Forum. Simultaneous interpretation was provided for English and French. At the end of the day, advisors summarized key takeaways for their country, and the CEoG team began the process of designing the next steps of support that the CEoG initiative will offer to network members in terms of macro-modelling support, strategic connections and insights for domestic revenue mobilization and digitization agendas, and continuing to facilitate more general peer-learning and network opportunities for advisors.

The next CEoG meeting is planned to take place around the WBG/IMF Spring Meetings in April 2020. The Annual Forum is set for June 10-11, 2020 and will be held at Oxford University.

d. Think Africa Program Management

The Think Africa Partnership Trust Fund is active as of April 2018. To date, the Partnership has received USD 12.5 million in development partner support from Germany, of which an additional USD 6.9m was received in Q4 2019, and has secured US\$1.4 million from Norway in Q2 2019 with an additional pending commitments of around US\$2.6 million by May 2021. This complements existing WBG resources to support activities under the three windows.

Since the last Annual Report from February 2019, the TAP Secretariat has sent out two newsletters in October and February. These will be sent out on a quarter-yearly basis and aim to inform donor partners and the broader development community in general of the Think Africa Partnership's activities and progresses made. The team has also worked on a TAP website thinkafrica.dev which shares publications Africa Fellows and AERC Visiting Scholars have contributed to. The CEOG Secretariat which works under TAP has also established a monthly newsletter and a website for network members.

The first TAP Steering Committee Meeting was held around the WBG/IMF 2019 Annual Meetings where the strategic direction of TAP was discussed and endorsed. All but one members of the steering committee were present in person or virtually. Members of the current TAP Steering Committee include:

- Albert Zeufack, WB Africa region chief economist, chair
- Holger Illi, BMZ
- Paul Wade, Norad
- Benno Ndulu, University of Dar es Salaam
- Lemma Senbet, University of Maryland
- Ahmadou Aly Mbaye, University Cheikh Anta Diop of Dakar
- Brahim Coulibaly, Brookings Institution – sent his apologies

The second Steering Committee meeting will most likely be held towards the end of the calendar year, based on alignment of SC members schedules.

The Program Manager has been on 1 fundraising mission in September 2019 visiting representatives from DFID, Norad and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark. Further fundraising missions are planned in 2020.