The EU and Africa are key partners. Africa and Europe enjoy a long-standing and comprehensive partnership, based in common interests and shared values which has deepened and diversified over decades, as evidenced in the Lomé and Cotonou agreements, and in particular since the adoption of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy in 2007. Through its long-standing development cooperation, the EU has assisted African countries in a number of different sectors (governance, peace, security, energy, education, trade, economic growth and job creation, sustainable agriculture, infrastructure, health, and migration) and positive results have been achieved, especially regarding the Millennium Development Goals. We are working together to achieve a similar output in the framework of Agenda 2030.
The EU has **45 Delegations** in African countries as well as a Delegation to the African Union (AU) in Addis Ababa.

The EU regularly deploys **Election Observation Missions** in African countries, at the invitation of the host governments, often coordinated with observers from the African Union and regional economic communities. The EU-AU **Human Rights Dialogue** is held annually.

The EU is currently supporting **7 African operations** on the continent with up to **€300 million/year**.

The EU is one of the main financial contributors to African Union Mission to Somalia (AMSIOM) having committed more than **€1.3 billion** in period March 2007- March 2017. The EU has committed more than **€150 million** since 2004 in support to the Africa Peace and Security Architecture (APSA).
In its cooperation with African partners, the European Union puts great emphasis on empowering and supporting youth.

This includes:

- Youth programmes in bilateral and regional cooperation
- The Intra-ACP academic Mobility Scheme supports higher education cooperation between countries in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. The aim is to increase training and qualification of high-level professionals, with the ultimate goal of promoting sustainable development and alleviating poverty.

Example: the project «Young People Across Borders, Cultures and Diversities» aims to promote solidarity and tolerance among young people at both European and international level.

The External Investment Plan provides, for the first time, a coherent overall framework to improve investment in Africa and the European Neighbourhood, in order to promote sustainable investment and tackle some of the root causes of migration.

With an input of €4.1 billion from the EU budget and the European Development Fund, the EIP will support innovative guarantees and similar instruments in support of private investment, enabling the EIP to mobilise up to €44 billion of investments. If Member States and other partners match the EU’s contribution, the total amount could reach €88 billion.

Investments will mainly be targeted to improve social and economic infrastructure, for example municipal infrastructure and proximity services, on providing support to Small and Medium-sized enterprises, and on microfinance and job creation projects, in particular for young people.
The EU has a long-standing cooperation with its African partners on migration, with the objective to jointly address the root causes, help people to stay closer to home and provide them with better opportunities in their home countries. The EU is enhancing its cooperation on migration at a regional level with the African member states of the Khartoum and Rabat processes, and has further stepped up joint work through the Valletta Summit on Migration, which brought together EU and African leaders, who laid out an Action Plan to strengthen ties and work between countries of origin, transit and destination. To this effect, the EU set up a €2.5 billion Emergency trust Fund for Africa, which addresses stability and the root causes of irregular migration and forcible displacement. Furthermore, in June 2016, the EU set up the Migration Partnership Framework, building on the European Agenda on Migration and the Valletta Summit, aiming at saving lives, breaking the business model of smugglers, stepping up investments in partner countries, preventing illegal migration and enhancing cooperation on returns and readmission of irregular migrants. Implementation of this framework has started with five partners – Mali, Nigeria, Niger, Senegal and Ethiopia. This framework is already showing first results, for example with the deployment of dedicated European migration liaison officers to priority countries of origin and transit and strengthened EU agency involvement in Africa (European Border and Coast Guard Agency, EUROPOL).

The EU helps the most vulnerable affected by conflicts and natural disasters across Africa by providing humanitarian and emergency assistance. This includes lifesaving aid for those affected by droughts, food insecurity or displaced people and refugees.

Example: During the Ebola outbreak the EU provided vital medical supplies with 150 flights and 2 ships to the affected region.