



African Youth Unite for Action; Bridging the gap & Reaching African Youth

AUC Chairperson Special Project on Youth

- The case for the initiative
- Why the AU?
- The initiative – the what and value proposition
- Making it happen – The How?
- Key principles
- Key Asks and Next steps

- Africa has a growing population
- Africa is experiencing a youth bulge
 - About 40% of Africa's population is young (15 – 35)
 - And 65% of Africa's 1 billion population is under 35
- Africa's opportunity is to turn its youthful population into a dividend





**Today's youth can have
the chance to choose
their own destiny**

Africa is ready

Unemployment

In most African countries, unemployment is especially high among young people. A lot of interventions around jobs are often not co-designed with employers of labour in the private sector.

Skills mismatch

Access, quality, relevant education as well as options to build skills are lacking for young people. There is often reported mismatch between education and labour market needs.

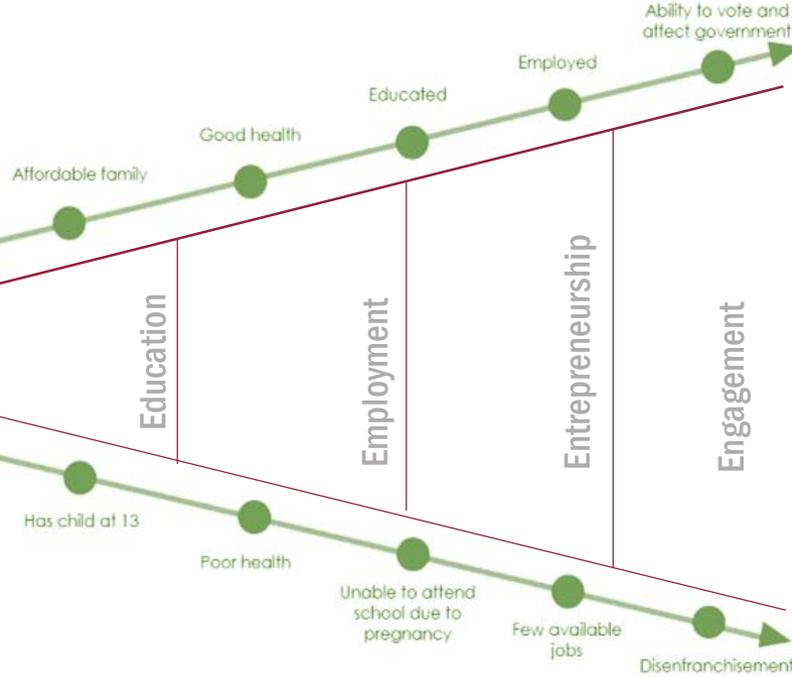
Ill Health & Wellbeing

Young people continue to face unique challenges health and well being, particularly mental health, SRHR, substance abuse, etc

Inequality & Disempowerment

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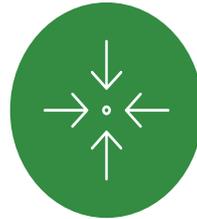
Two different pathways for Bakri





Mandate

AUC is mandated through Agenda 2063, and other frameworks to act on youth issues



A lot is happening

A lot is happening within the AUC and on the continent that are not always connected.



Comparative Advantage

AUC has significant powers to mobilise for action and unite for youth



African Youth Unite for Action; Bridging the gap & Reaching African Youth

The Project aims to meaningfully provide opportunities for millions of **African Youth**

Key priorities

Provide **education, entrepreneurship, employment** and **engagement** opportunities for millions of African youth

Can we reach 1 million by 2021?

The value proposition

01

Create coherence and synergies in the AU's work on youth empowerment

02

Leverage continental capabilities and opportunities inherent in Governments, private sector, young people, Development Partners

03

Facilitate learning, sharing and adoption of best practices among member states

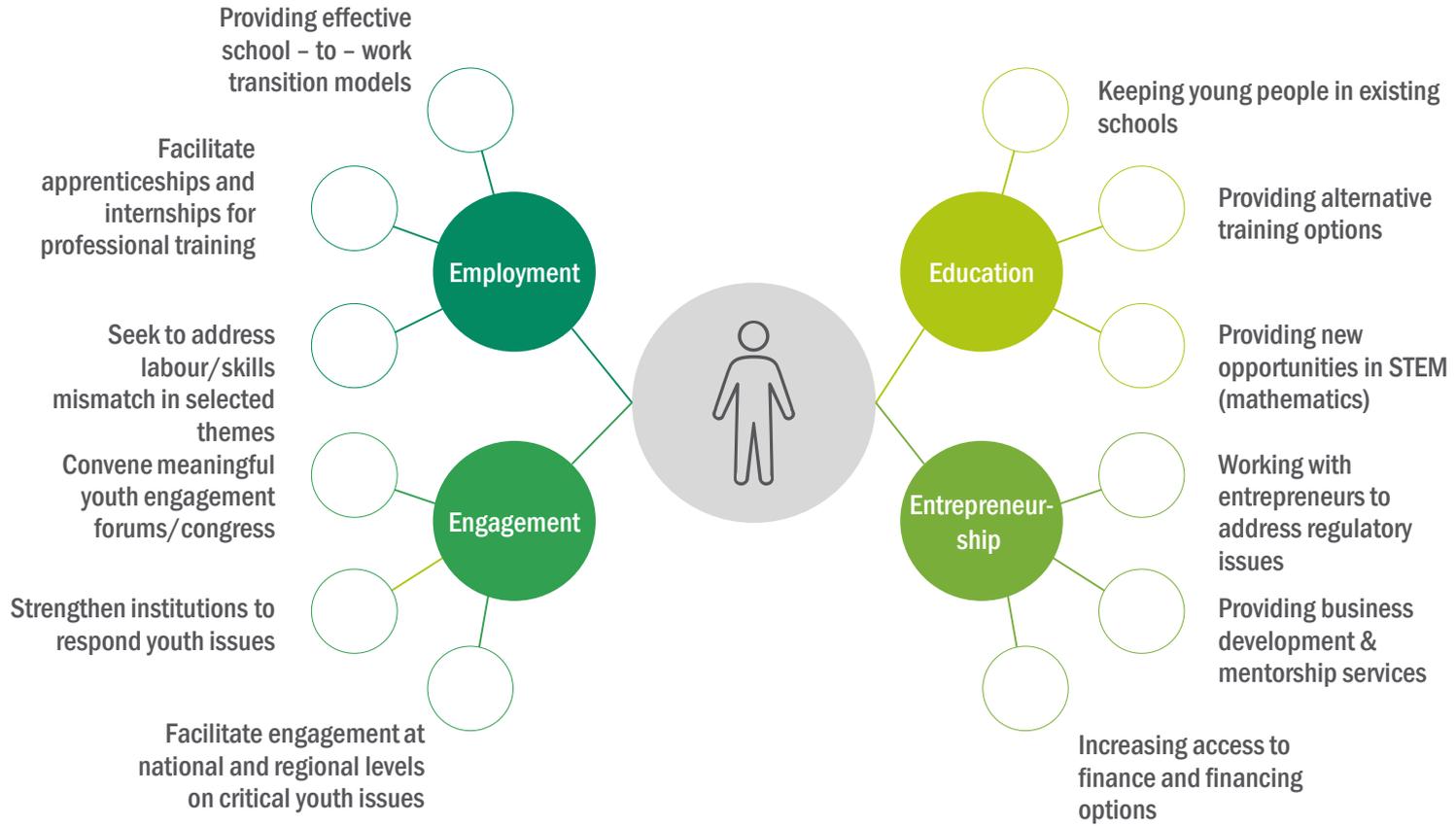
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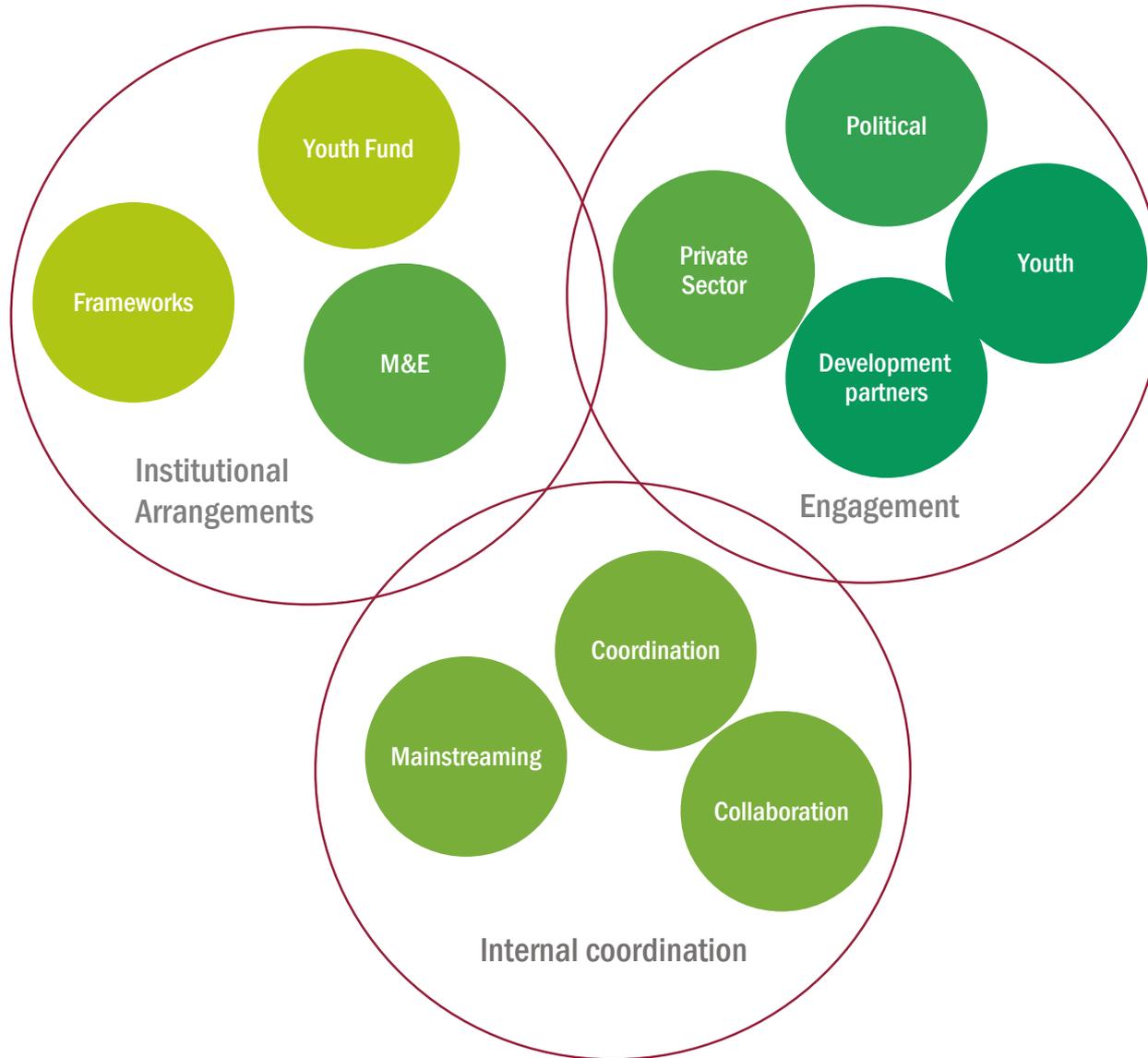
Accelerate results and scale for impact

Making it happen

Identifying scalable solutions/ideas

Enabling at scale implementation





Guiding principles

Target high impact, high multiplier areas.

Ecosystem Approach: Promote stronger linkages and cooperation between public, private sector and development and civil society institutions

Convene and complement commission-wide effort: Prioritise use of existing resources and existing infrastructure within the commission.

Building linkages and partnerships across actors and mandates on the continent

01 Getting the foundational issues right

- Feasibility analysis and Strategy Development
- Commission wide mobilization
- Partner mobilization

02 The Forum

Capacity Building

Selected participants are provided with background in a virtual environment (webinars, discussion forum, chat etc) one week before forum.

Pre-Forum

Congress

Selected participants are introduced to the AU vision and charged to lead the process of defining solutions for youth engagement via the CP's envoy

Day 1

Co-Creation

Through guided engagement, participants explore opportunities and define process for leading change noting responsibilities for different actors

Days 2 - 3

City of Practice

Participants showcase innovative ideas and solutions that have been tested in their spaces.

Days 1 - 4

Commitment

AUC Chairperson leads a dialogue with stakeholders (private sector, development, CSOs) to define and document commitment

Day 4

One key facet of engaging young people to co-create solutions for their future is creating spaces for youth to lead the conversation on their social and political well-being.

#AfricaYouthUnite

The African Youth Congress is an opportunity for African youth to gather in a town hall setting, moderated by the AU Youth Envoy, and decide on their continental organization and representation

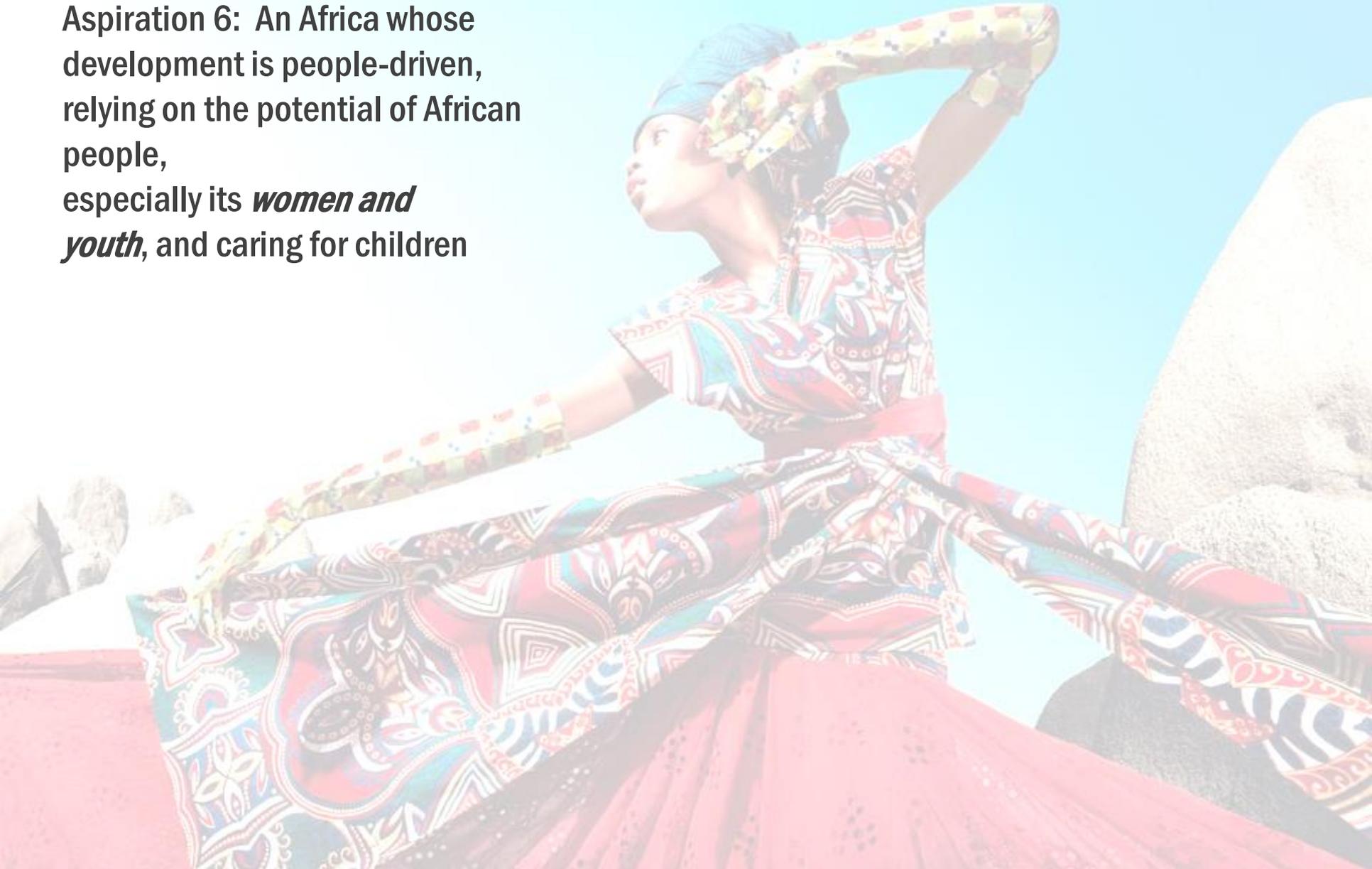
Key asks from Departments

- Identify and align youth initiatives to Initiative
- Contributing to the results (programmatic contribution)
- Technical support in design and co-creation of key interventions
- Technical support to forum INCLUDING supporting Youth participation

Next steps

- Operational planning
- Implementation
- Monitoring, reporting and accountability
- Coordination

Aspiration 6: An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its *women and youth*, and caring for children



Thank you