

# Empowering Africa's Development: Launching the Enhanced Virtual Capacity Development Academy (VCDA)

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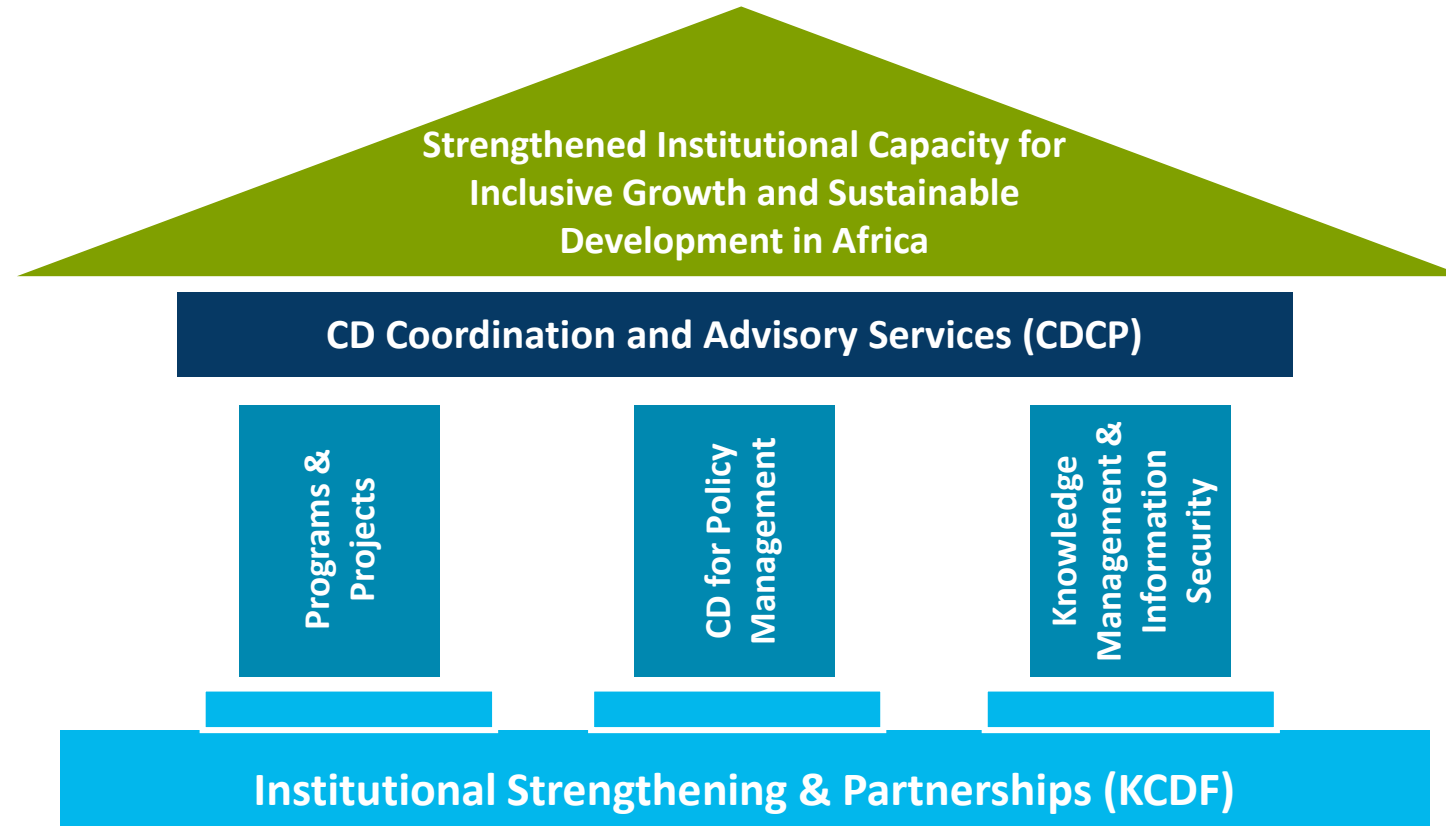
AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP



# BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

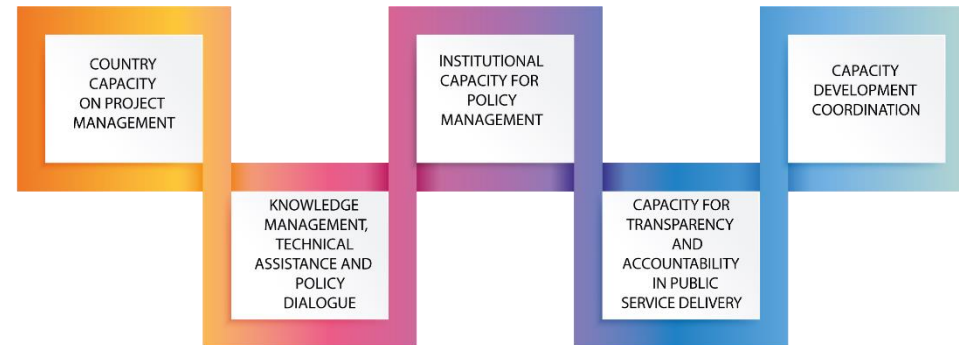
- 2015 SDGs - created great momentum to increase dev.. financing “from billions to trillions”.
- Yet any financing amount mobilized for Africa will yield modest results without human, organizational and institutional capacity to absorb and effectively utilize them.”
- Significant progress made in Africa, but capacity remains a binding constraint to development.
- AfDB articulated High 5s to accelerate achievement of the SDGs in Africa.
- New TYS recognizes the need for effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
- Especially, capacities for: program dev. & project management (mgt); economic policy mgt - (DRM, PFM, debt mgt, macro-economic and fiscal policy mgt, and effective knowledge mgt/ policy dialogue.
- Capacity remain binding constraints on inclusive development in many African countries.

# The African Development Institute (ADI) Pillars of Progress (CDS 2021-2025)



# WHO & WHAT WE ARE?

The ADI coordinates and oversees the mainstreaming of capacity development into Bank's operations and co-creates institutional capacity and knowledge for inclusive growth and sustainable development in regional member countries.



- ADVISORY SERVICES
- TRAINING
- TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
- POLICY DIALOGUE
- PEER-TO-PEER KNOWLEDGE
- EXCHANGE
- CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
- KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND DISSEMINATION
- INFORMATION SERVICES

# NOW TRANSITIONING INTO A VIRTUAL LEARNING PROCESS

- Virtual academies revolutionize learning – enable scalable, personalized/accessible learning for Africans.
- We want to leverage cutting-edge technology to break down geographical & financial barriers to learning,
- Our key stakeholders are busy public officials – hence, flexibility for self pace according to unique needs.
- We want to create a collaborative, inclusive environment that adapts to individual learning styles.



# VCDA is Essential for Africa

Addressing Africa's Unique **Challenges** with Innovative Digital Learning Solutions

- Africa contends with geographical barriers, resource constraints, lack of Internet access & digital literacy disparities in technology.
- Challenges at the Institutional, Organization & Individual level
- Rwanda, Nigeria, Kenya, & South Africa are using innovative digital strategies; fragile states grapple with digital gaps.
- Rwanda, has implemented extensive digital training for teachers and invested in nationwide broadband to facilitate e-learning
- Nigeria has focused on policy reforms to encourage digital innovations in education, while Kenya and South Africa have pioneered mobile learning platforms to remote areas.

## Innovative Digital Learning Solutions

Digital platforms like VCDA enhance scalability and cost-effectiveness, reaching broader audiences across diverse geographies with adaptive technologies that ensure timely, relevant, and tailored interventions.

# Strategic Alignment with Global Goals

## Strategic Alignment

- Aligns with African Union's Agenda 2063, SDGs, and 10-year strategy.

## SDG Focus

- Designed to address key SDGs (quality education, industry innovation, & sustainable cities) through tailored programs.

## Integration of AfDB's 10-Year Goals

- Emphasis on transformative sectors such as energy, agriculture, & infrastructure - pivotal for inclusive economic growth.



Alignment with these global and continental goals strategically positions VCDA to enhance the capacities of RMCs to tackle toughest development challenges

# Introduction to VCDA

- VCDA started in 2021 - a critical solution to continue capacity building (CB) during COVID19
- Enhancements ongoing - leverages advanced educational technologies & Knowledge Management practices to serve as a *dynamic hub* for capacity building, collaboration, & knowledge sharing
- It offer continuous learning tailored to the unique needs of its Regional Member Countries.
- Aims to drive transformation and positive change both within and beyond African countries
- Provide tools and knowledge to effectively tackle developmental challenges, fostering regional economic diversification and long-term resilience

The screenshot displays the VCDA user interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for HOME, CALENDAR, KNOWLEDGE MAP, ASK THE EXPERT, ACADEMY, COMMUNITY, and ABOUT VCDA. A user profile section for 'John' is visible, showing statistics such as 'Interests: Climate Change', 'Talks Watched: 37', 'Courses Taken: 21', and 'Upcoming Courses: 3'. A 'Your Badges' section shows various achievement icons. A progress bar indicates 'Congratulations! You now have 12,225 Points!' and '100% Completed' for the 'Explorer' level. Below the profile, there are buttons for 'Knowledge Map' and 'Ask the Expert'. The main content area is titled 'New and Recommended for You' and is divided into three columns: 'Academy', 'Bite-sized Learning', and 'Community'. Each column features a course card with a thumbnail image, a title, a brief description, and a 'Read more' link. The 'Academy' card is titled 'Agriculture for a Better Life', the 'Bite-sized Learning' card is 'AfDB modernises agriculture in São Tomé and Príncipe', and the 'Community' card is 'Unlocking Africa's potential to create wealth from agric...'. A 'View more courses' button is located at the bottom of the page.





## Interactive Academies produce skilled practitioners using innovative pedagogy and tools

- Action learning that is problem based & participatory
- Dynamic educational models blend digital & blended **tools** for impactful learning
- MOOCs
- Self-paced modules
- Facilitated
- Bite-sized
- Peer-to-Peer
- Knowledge Exchanges





Enroll now for free Massive Open Online Course on PFM from AfDB

To boost PFM skills, a MOOC will enhance capacity across Africa.

This course offers networking opportunities, connecting learners with global experts to exchange ideas and practices.

- Domestic Revenue Mobilisation.
- Public Budgeting and Expenditure Management.
- Debt Management and Transparency.
- Fiscal Policy, Modelling and Forecasting
- Accountability, Transparency and Curbing Corruption and Illicit Financial Flows
- Public-Private Partnerships in Public Financial Management.

## Example: PFM MOOC

MOOCs enhance capacity development by providing accessible, cost-effective, high-quality training. Their flexible, asynchronous delivery allows learners to tailor education to their schedules, fostering continuous skill development.

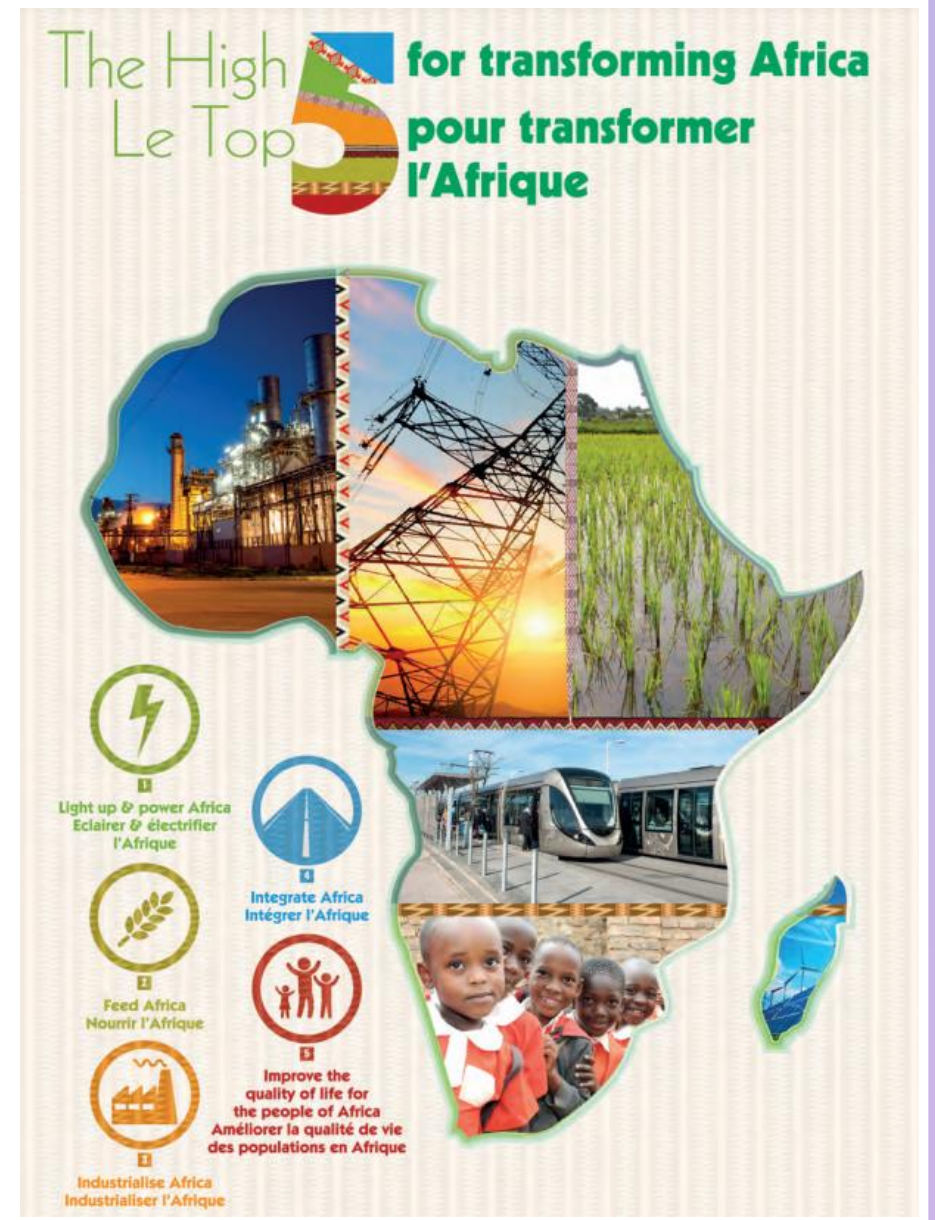
### Key features of MOOCs:

- Structured into 12-week sessions.
- Each week will contain core and additional readings/materials.
- Didactic tools like Ted style videos, podcasts, games, assignments, quizzes and exercises to ensure understanding, application and retention of key concepts and tools.
- Join the conversation through discussion boards, two Google Hangouts, Twitter chats and other interactive features that encourage active learning.

**12 weeks | 4 -8 hours per week | English/French  
Certificates upon completion**

# Empowering RMCs with Targeted, Just-in-Time Learning on High 5s

- VCDA delivers timely, region-specific education to meet Africa's diverse needs, focusing on:
- Customized capacity building for RMCs in energy mgt & agriculture to support initiatives to Light Up, Power, Feed Africa.
- Networking and collaboration among RMCs to enhance economic integration and cross-border cooperation.
- Expert insights on governance and social accountability from AfDB and international sources.
- Peer learning opportunities within and outside Africa.
- Supports enhanced decision-making, skill development, & community engagement to address regional challenges.





## Strengthening Partnerships and Collaborative Efforts for Greater Impacts

- International and regional partnerships enhance VCDA's resources
- Partnerships extend educational reach
- Partnerships amplify impact across Africa
- **Call for Action**: Invitation to Collaborate across sectors & join in this transformative journey!
- Stay tuned for official launch scheduled for May 2024.
- Post-launch feedback to be used to enhance and scale.

# Questions & Answers

