



THE AFRICAN CAPACITY
BUILDING FOUNDATION

FONDATION POUR LE RENFORCEMENT
DES CAPACITES EN AFRIQUE

ACBF's cooperation with **Eswatini**



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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACBF	African Capacity Building Foundation
ACR	Africa Capacity Report
CPIA	Country Policy and Institutional Assessment
PSMT	Public Sector Management Training
SMTP	Medium Term Strategic Plan
USD	United States Dollars

ACBF STRATEGIC PLANNING	
PHASE 1	1991-1997
PHASE 2	1998-2001
SMTP 1	2002-2006
SMTP2	2007-2011
SMTP3	2012-2016
ACBF STRATEGY	2017-2022
ACBF STRATEGIC PLAN	2023-2027

INTRODUCTION

The Kingdom of Eswatini became a member and partner of the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) in 2007. Since then, partnership between the Foundation and Eswatini has grown from strength to strength. To date, the Kingdom of Eswatini has been a shareholder and member of the African capacity Building Foundation for 16 years. The Kingdom is represented by its Minister of Finance in the ACBF Board of Governors.

ACBF'S INVESTMENTS IN ESWATINI

The Foundation's investment in the Kingdom of Eswatini, to date has reached about US\$4.11 million. ACBF is proud to have supported human and institutional development in the country. This support has gone to several institutions covering the public sector and civil society organizations. With this support from ACBF, these institutions have become more valuable and are playing significant roles in the country's development agenda.

Table 1: ACBF-supported projects and programs in Eswatini (USD)

NATIONAL PROJECTS/PROGRAMS	PHASES	INVESTMENTS
SENAREC Swaziland		50,000
The Alliance of Mayor's Initiative on Community Action on AIDS at The Local Level (AMICAALL), Eswatini - Phase I	SMTP I	1,021,636
The Alliance of Mayor's Initiative on Community Action on AIDS at The Local Level (AMICAALL), Eswatini - Phase II	SMTP I	983,720
Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building of the Coordinating Assembly of NGOs in Eswatini (CANGO) - Phase I	SMTP I	849,707
Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building of the Coordinating Assembly of NGOs in Eswatini (CANGO) - Phase II	SMTP III	521,414
The Eswatini Economic Policy Analysis and Research Centre (SEPARC)	SMTP II	733,607
TOTAL NATIONAL PROGRAMS		4,160,084

Table 2: Current ACBF-Supported projects benefiting Eswatini (2023)

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DETAILS
African-Finnish Partnerships on Taxation Capacity in Africa	The aim is to strengthen the capacity of selected African governments and pan-African organizations to increase Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) through informed policy-making and effective tax administration
African Union Transformative Climate Finance program	The project aims at addressing the capacity gaps in climate change adaptation in Africa. Key activities include scoping and mapping of green growth landscape in Africa, conducting of a Capacity Needs Assessment and Development of a Capacity Development Program.

ESWATINI'S CONTRIBUTION TO ACBF

The Foundation has benefitted immensely from the African and global political influence of the Kingdom of Eswatini. The country has over the years contributed significantly to ACBF, and to date has made a cumulative contribution of US\$0.75 Million.

With the support of the Kingdom of Eswatini, the African capacity Building Foundation has been able to leverage resources from the international community to support capacity development across Africa and to achieve significant results in support of the continent's development process. Notably, ACBF has been catalyzing change in Africa by investing in capacity development initiatives in the public and private sectors and in civil society organizations; providing technical assistance in implementation of capacity development interventions; generating, managing and sharing knowledge on best practices in capacity building and development management.

The Foundation has strengthened public policy across Africa, produced highly-skilled public sector economists and managers, strengthened institutions of financial accountability and enhanced the effectiveness of non-state actors. ACBF has also supported the creation of platforms for dialogue on, and coordination in capacity development, supported improvements in trade and regional integration, empowered women and strengthened parliaments.

Table 3: Eswatini's contribution to ACBF (USD)

FINANCING PHASE	PLEDGE	PAYMENTS
SMTP II (2007-2011)	250,000.00	250,000.00
SMTP III (2012-2016)	500,000.00	500,000.00
ACBF STRATEGY 2017-2022	-	-
TOTAL	750,000.00	750,000.00

ACBF SUPPORTED KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS FOR ESWATINI

The Foundation has also conducted several research studies to inform policy formulation and implementation in Eswatini. Some of the knowledge products prepared for Eswatini are detailed in Annex 1.

ANNEX 1: ACBF SUPPORT TO ESWATINI - PROJECT DETAILS

Name of Project	Key objectives/Focus
The Alliance of Mayor's Initiative on Community Action on AIDS at The Local Level (AMICAALL)	To improve involvement, participation, and ownership of the response by urban communities including community-based entities such as business; non-governmental organizations, community and Faith based organizations as well as elected local government officials, professional officers and other community leaders. To increase the availability and access to HIV/AIDS related services in all urban areas and to improve the capacity of the program to carry out research as well monitor and evaluate program activities at all levels.
Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building of the Coordinating Assembly of NGOs in Swaziland (CANGO)	To establish a semi-autonomous economic policy and research institute. To provide training to government officials and conduct research in areas of economic policy formulation and management. To provide policy advise to government and promote policy dialogue within Swaziland through dissemination workshops, conferences, and publications.
The Swaziland Economic Policy Analysis and Research Centre (SEPARC)	To establish a semi-autonomous economic policy and research center (SEPARC). To conduct research in areas of economic policy formulation and management. To provide training to government officials and provide policy advice to government and promote policy dialogue within Swaziland through dissemination workshops, conferences, and publications.

ANNEX 2: SELECTED ACBF KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES BENEFITTING ESWATINI

Table A: Selected knowledge products to support AU agenda, policy and development programs from which Eswatini benefited

	Type of Knowledge Products	Title/Theme	Coverage for Eswatini
2019	Africa Capacity Report 2019	Fostering Transformative Leadership for Africa's Development	Eswatini country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2017	Africa Capacity Report 2017	Building Capacity in Science, Technology and Innovation for Africa's Transformation	Eswatini country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2015	Africa Capacity Report 2015	Capacity Imperatives for Domestic Resource Mobilization in Africa	Eswatini country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2014	Africa Capacity Report 2014	Capacity Imperatives for Regional Integration in Africa	Eswatini country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2013	Africa Capacity Report 2013	Capacity Development for Natural Resource Management–	Eswatini country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2012	Africa Capacity Report 2012	Capacity Development for Agricultural Transformation and Food Security	Eswatini country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2011	Africa Capacity Report 2011	Capacity Development in Fragile States	Eswatini country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics

Table B: Selected knowledge sharing events and networking to support AU agenda, policy and development programs from which Eswatini benefitted.

Year	Knowledge Event	Title/Theme	Coverage for Eswatini	Date and Venue
2019	2019 Africa Think Tank Summit	Tackling Implementation Challenges for Africa's Sustainable Development	1 participant from Eswatini Economic Policy Analysis and Research Centre (ESEPARC) sponsored to participate	24 – 26 April, Nairobi, Kenya
2018	2018 Africa Think Tank Summit	Tackling Africa's Youth Unemployment Challenge: Innovative Solutions from the Think Tanks	1 participant from ESEPARC sponsored to attend	5 – 7 April, Accra, Ghana
2017	International IDEA-ACBF Continental Conference	The Issue of the Political and Socio-Economic Integration of the African Continent: The Role of the Pan-African Parliament	3 MPs (through PAP) from Eswatini sponsored to attend	22-26 August Yaoundé, Cameroon
2017	2019 Africa Capacity Report data collectors' training workshop	Developing Transformative Leadership to Propel Africa's Socio-economic Transformation	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	29 May to 1 June Harare, Zimbabwe
2017	2017 Africa Think Tank Summit	African Think Tanks and Industrialization in Africa	1 participant from ESEPARC sponsored to attend	6 – 8 April Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

Year	Knowledge Event	Title/Theme	Coverage for Eswatini	Date and Venue
2016	2016 Africa Think Tank Summit	Creating a Sustainable Future for African Think Tanks in Support of SDGs and Agenda 2063	1 participant from ESEPARC sponsored to attend	8 – 10 April 2016 Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
2015	2015 Africa Capacity Report Launch	Capacity Imperatives for Regional Integration in Africa	1 participant from ESEPARC sponsored to attend	7 December, Harare, Zimbabwe
2015	2017 Africa Capacity Report data collectors' training workshop	Building Capacity in Science, Technology and Innovation for Africa's Transformation	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	16–19 November, Harare, Zimbabwe
2015	5 th Policy Institutes Committee Meeting	Knowledge and Experience Sharing for Effective Capacity Building in Africa	1 participant from ESEPARC sponsored to attend	22-23 October Kigali, Rwanda
2015	ACBF Board of Governors' Meeting	Capacity Building For Domestic Resource Mobilization	1 participant from the Central Bank of Eswatini sponsored to attend	2 – 4 September, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2015	Financing for Development Conference	Building Capacity for Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	1 participant from Coordinating Assembly of NGOs sponsored by ACBF to attend	15 July, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2015	2015 Africa Think Tank Summit	The Rise of Africa's Think Tanks – Practical Solutions to Practical Problems	1 participant from ESEPARC sponsored to attend	7 – 8 April, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2015	4 th Policy Institutes Committee Forum	ACBF's Policy Institutes Committee and its Contribution to Policy Direction in Africa	1 participant from ESEPARC sponsored to attend	9 April Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2014	3rd PIC Policy Institutes Committee Meeting	"Toward Africa's Sustainable Development: Role of ACBF's Policy Institutes Committee".	1 participant from ESEPARC attended. SEPARC co-hosted the meeting with ACBF. Local participants from ministries and other stakeholders attended.	24 – 25 October, Mbabane, Swaziland
2014	2015 Africa Capacity Report data collectors' training workshop	Capacity Imperatives for Regional Integration in Africa'	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	17 – 21 October, Harare, Zimbabwe
2014	2014 Africa Capacity Report data collectors training workshop	'Capacity Imperatives for Domestic Resource Mobilization in Africa'	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	12–15 February, Harare, Zimbabwe
2013	2013 Africa Capacity Report data collectors' training	Capacity Development for Natural Resources Management	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	8 – 11 October,

Year	Knowledge Event	Title/Theme	Coverage for Eswatini	Date and Venue
				Harare, Zimbabwe
2013	2014 Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) workshop and National launch of 2013 Africa Capacity Report	CPIA training workshop and ACR national launch	1 participant from ESEPARC sponsored to attend	24–27 September, Bujumbura, Burundi
2012	Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) workshop	CPIA workshop	1 participant from ESEPARC sponsored to attend	28 – 30 June, Harare, Zimbabwe
2011	Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA)	CPIA workshop	1 participant from ESEPARC sponsored to attend	1-3 August Harare, Zimbabwe
2011	2012 Africa Capacity Report data collectors' training workshop	Capacity Development for Agricultural Transformation and Food Security	1 data expert hired and sponsored by ACBF to participate in data collection training workshop	13 – 18 June, Harare, Zimbabwe
2010	2011 Africa Capacity Report data collection training workshop	Capacity building in Fragile states	1 data expert hired and sponsored to attend training workshop	13 – 16 July Harare, Zimbabwe

ANNEX 2: SUCCESS STORIES

Recognizing the need for more effective, well-informed policies and management of the economy, in the Kingdom of Eswatini, the African Capacity Building Foundation, stepped in to support the Government in the establishment of a Policy Centre, named the Eswatini Economic Policy Analysis and Research Centre (ESEPARC), back then in 2008. The broad context for the establishment of ESEPARC was to respond to the poor performance of the economy of Eswatini during the 1990s and 2000s. ESEPARC would be used by the government institutions responsible for various aspects of economic policy formulation and implementation, as well as the private sector and civil society.

The goal of this project was to build sustainable national capacity in order to improve the quality and timeliness of public policies in the Kingdom of Eswatini through the establishment of a semi-autonomous economic Policy and Research Centre, conducting of research in areas of policy formulation and management, the provision of training and policy advice to government officials and the promotion of policy dialogue within Swaziland through dissemination workshops, conferences and publications.

Thanks to ACBF, Eswatini had its first ever think tank. ACBF support to the establishment of ESEPARC included technical support for the institution to run efficiently and with integrity to produce evidence-based research output to inform the country's development process. ACBF also ensured that ESEPARC recruited well qualified staff, and the organization was supported with the right financial and administrative systems, to ensure a strong and efficient financial, monitoring and evaluation system.

Since its establishment, ESEPARC has continued to play a central and most important role in Eswatini's policy framework. The think tank is geared towards providing quality research, tangible evidence, and reliable information to address Eswatini's most pressing issues such as strategies to create and maintain sustainable jobs and improve the levels of business and consumer confidence.

ESEPARC has taken the lead in building the capacity of government institutions, the private sector, and the civil society in the Kingdom of Eswatini. The Think Tank remains instrumental in promotion of continued collaboration between government, business, labor, and civil society as key to growing the economy and creating jobs. ESEPARC supports Government's efforts to create and implement its national programs and policies and remains a reputable research and policy centre in the country.



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