



Strengthening the National-Regional Linkages (SNRL) in SADC

Strengthening capacities to implement the Regional Agenda in
SADC Member States

Background

Economic growth and poverty eradication in Southern Africa are best achieved through cooperation. This is why the 16 Member States of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) have developed a common Regional Integration Agenda, guided by the revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020–2030 and the SADC Vision 2050. Through the SADC Treaty and more than 30 regional protocols and policies, SADC Member States have committed to specific national actions to achieve their shared goals.

Despite remarkable achievements, a notable gap remains between regional commitments and progress made so far. The main bottlenecks include challenges in implementing the legal and institutional framework, particularly at the Member State level, the absence of effective monitoring and evaluation systems, limited participation of regional civil society in monitoring and implementing the regional integration agenda, and insufficient public awareness of the benefits of regional integration.

The “Strengthening the National-Regional Linkages in SADC” (SNRL) programme, funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation

Project name	Strengthening the National-Regional Linkages (SNRL) in SADC
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), European Union (EU), Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC)
Lead Executing Agencies	SADC Secretariat
Volume	EUR 11.876 million
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Implementing Organisation	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

and Development (BMZ), Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) and the European Union (EU) supports the SADC Secretariat and Member States in improving institutional frameworks monitoring and evaluation systems for the implementation of regional integration and supports the improvement of knowledge and awareness raising on SADC-related topics to the public in SADC region. Additionally, the programme supports regional parliamentary structures and civil society networks in raising awareness of SADC-related topics and enhancing citizen participation in advancing SADC’s integration agenda across the region.

Objective

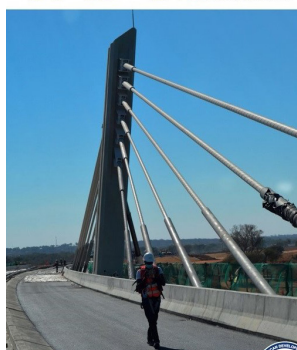
Implementing the legal and strategic SADC framework in the Member States strengthens SADC's regional integration.

Approach

The Strengthening the National-Regional Linkages in SADC (SNRL) programme supports SADC and its Member States in advancing regional integration for the benefit of the people in the SADC region. Through a demand driven approach SNRL programme provides targeted technical support in:

- Strengthening the operational and cooperation capacities of SADC national coordination structures to improve regional integration efforts.
- Supporting measures towards establishing monitoring and evaluation systems for implementing SADC regional integration agenda. Functional monitoring systems in the Member States are conducive to implementing SADC strategies an increasing compliance of the Member States legal binding instruments especially protocols.
- Strengthening the strategic communication skills of SADC Secretariat and Member States for high-profile communication on all aspects of SADC activities and results.
- Supporting dialogue, research, and institutional development to enhance the role of parliamentary bodies in regional integration.
- Strengthening the ability of regional CSO networks to coordinate, aggregate common positions, and effectively engage in SADC policy-making processes.
- Supporting CSO networks in conducting research and formulating policies that contribute meaningfully to SADC's integration agenda.

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Expected Impact

- Regional integration topics are increasingly prioritized in high-level political agendas across SADC Member States, leading to a higher adoption rate of RISDP policies and the ratification of SADC priority protocols into national law.
- Enhanced compliance by Member States through effective monitoring and evaluation systems enabling coherent strategic planning and improved implementation of the regional agenda.
- Increased media coverage of regional integration topics across SADC Member States, increasing public awareness and visibility of SADC regional integration.
- Accelerated mobilisation of resources to support SADC regional integration agenda ensuring sustainable progress and implementation.
- Regional parliamentary structures are strengthened to enhance inclusive governance and citizen participation in regional policymaking, promoting peaceful and inclusive societies while fostering effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions within the SADC region.
- The role of regional civil society is reinforced in the monitoring and implementation of the RISDP (2020-2030) and SADC Vision 2050, ensuring broader engagement and accountability in achieving regional integration goals.

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