



## INDIA-AFRICAN CO-OPERATION AND ITS POTENTIAL TO BOOST ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS

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### **Abstract**

*India has had political relations with the continent for a very long time, and there is a very large community of Indian Diaspora living there. According to the opinions of several analysts, during the Cold War, several African nations associated themselves with India as part of a non-aligned movement to oppose hegemonic powers. The two parties have been increasing their engagements with one another throughout the years, particularly between their respective navies. To facilitate this goal, there have been a series of drills conducted at sea between the regional navies and coast guards. India and the island nations of the African continent have collaborated to establish an inclusive regional maritime security infrastructure that is strategically positioned. Additionally, there are frequent meetings at the operational level between the two parties. Given the relevance of Africa outlined in the previous sentences in the current study, a pragmatic approach was used to address various social and economic concerns that might strengthen the relationships between India and Africa.*

**Keywords:** *Education, Power, Health, Maritime Security, Strategic Significance.*

### **Introduction**

A wide and captivating variety characterizes both India and Africa, and Africa, like India, is a continent that has many similarities with India. Both nations sprang from a colonial past and confronted comparable difficulties regarding their economies and demographics. Because of these similarities, there is a chance to gain knowledge from the experience and knowledge of one another, which may be used to boost the economy and take advantage of the demographic dividend. During summits of the India-Africa forum, this cooperation is given top priority. According to “Africa’s Agenda 2063, its First Ten Year Implementation Plan, and the Sustainable Development Goals under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ‘no one can live behind’,” to combat poverty and ensure that sustainable development receives sufficient funding; both regions are committed to collaborating towards the goal of inclusive economic growth. This is in accordance with the statement that “no one can live behind.” This was reflected in the third India-Africa forum summit, where Prime Minister Modi announced substantial credits and grants assistance. These included: \$10 billion in concessional LOCs (twice as much as the \$5 billion announced at the summit in 2011), \$600 million in grants, and 50,000 scholarships in India.<sup>[1]</sup> An India-Africa Health Fund was formed, making it the second fund of its kind after an India-Africa Development Fund. In the last decade, the value of India’s bilateral commerce with Africa has increased by a factor of five, from \$11.9 billion in U.S. dollars in 2005-2006 to \$56.7 billion in 2015-16. It is anticipated that it will reach \$100 billion by 2018. This can primarily be ascribed to the measures taken by India’s private sector. Once again, this is an area in which India and Africa are operating on the same wavelength. For Africa’s transformation to be successful, the private sector will be the most important factor.<sup>[2]</sup>

Through the India-Africa Forum Summit, India has committed to addressing some of Africa’s most pressing development issues, including but not limited to: “access to high-quality education; skill and capacity building; affordable health care; clean, modern energy sources; infrastructure; the creation of good job opportunities; the growth of all economic sectors, including agriculture, manufacturing, and services; the promotion of value addition and connectivity; and the adaptation to and mitigation of the effects of climate change.” India’s ability to contribute to the economic and social development of Africa has been recognized by Dr. Akinwunmi Adeboye, “President of the African Development Bank (AfDB)”. This is reflected in his statement during the interactive session that the AfDB and the EXIM Bank organized. In this statement, “he advocated for strengthening the cooperation between India and Africa at multiple levels, including government-to-government, business-to-business, and institutional levels, such as the existing cooperation framework between the AfDB and the EXIM Bank of India.” This is something that is reflected in the statement that he made. He also mentioned that the African Development Bank (AfDB)<sup>[3]</sup> had identified five priority areas (5S) “to advance Africa’s transformative agenda over the next ten years. These five priority areas are: light up and power Africa; feed Africa; integrate Africa; industrialize Africa; and improve the quality of life for people in Africa.” India has successfully met the expectations placed on India by Africa. The India Export and Import Bank is the institution that is responsible for extending credit lines. Approximately 8 billion dollars worth of credit has been made available to 152 different nations across 44 different regions. The Pan Africa e-network project is a telemedicine and tele-network that covers 48 nations.<sup>[4]</sup> Around seven thousand students from African countries have graduated from their studies at one of the five top institutions in India, which provide a certificate, undergraduate, and postgraduate levels of education. Consultations and Continuous Medical Education were available at a total of twelve hospitals



that specialize in very rare conditions. It is anticipated that India will shortly begin the subsequent phase. Many of the most prominent figures in African histories, such as presidents, prime ministers, vice presidents, and army leaders, had their education or training in India. These individuals include presidents, prime ministers, and vice presidents. Since 2007, more than thirty-three thousand scholarships have been awarded to government employees from African nations as part of the widespread India Technical and Economic Cooperation Program.<sup>[5]</sup> This article discusses the long-standing and multifaceted relationship between India and Africa “based on equality, friendship, mutual benefit, and solidarity. Cooperation represents the South-South of India in all its dimensions,” and the article analyses its role in bringing about Africa’s five priorities.

### Partnerships in the economy

According to the findings of a study that the PHD Chamber of commerce carried out, it is anticipated that the trade between India and Africa will touch the 117 billion dollar mark by the year 2020-21. This is due to the robust commercial opportunities and the close economic link between the two regions. The President of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Gopal Jiwarajka, made the following statement: “the trade climate is likely to increase on the strength of strategic business opportunities and a profusion of investment.” He added, “As a result of increasing complementarities between India’s export pattern and Africa’s import pattern, it is anticipated that India’s exports to the African continent will reach the 70 billion dollar mark by 2021-22, up from the current value of 24 billion dollars. This is in contrast to the current value of only 24 billion dollars. On the other hand, India’s imports from Africa are projected to increase to 47 billion dollars in 2021-22, up from 27 billion dollars in 2015-16.”

The percentage of Africa’s total imports that is accounted for by the three rising countries of India, China, and Brazil has increased to over 22% since 2005 when it was just 13%. China has overtaken the United States to become Africa’s second-biggest export market, behind only the European Union.<sup>[6]</sup> Meanwhile, India has moved to fourth place, while Brazil has moved down to sixth. A little over 10% of Africa’s total exports went to Brazil, China, and India in 2005; now, just three countries account for a quarter of Africa’s exports. Africa’s exports to India have seen an extraordinary increase of 41.8% between 2005 and 2011, while exports to Brazil have seen a growth of 14.9%, and exports to China have accounted for 28% over the same period. Imports into Africa have increased by 13.1% over the same period. During the same period, trade between India and Africa expanded by 32.4%, which is a larger growth rate than the rate of trade growth between China and Africa, which was 27%. In recent years, the trajectory of economic development in the global economy has been a gradual acceleration. Despite this, the economy of Africa is showing signs of healthy development and is becoming ready to compete with economies in other regions.<sup>[7]</sup> The presence of Foreign Direct Economics (FDI) on the African continent indicates the continent’s significance as a center for investment activity. FDI inflows to Africa reached \$57 billion in 2013, driven by international and regional market-seeking and infrastructure investments. It is anticipated that FDI inflows to Africa will rise to approximately \$65 billion in 2017 due to modest increases in the price of oil and a potential upturn in FDI in sectors other than oil. Growing regional integration is expected to strengthen Africa’s competitive global integration and attract greater foreign direct investment (FDI). The major investors in the African continent, the United States being the largest investor with a total of \$64 billion, followed by the United Kingdom in second place with a total of \$58 billion. China comes in fourth place with a total of \$35 billion, and India is the seventh largest investor in Africa with a total of \$17 billion. This data also illustrates the movement of foreign direct investment (FDI) investors in Africa from established economies to emerging economies, as evidenced by the rise of Chinese investment in Africa by 169% and India’s investment in Africa by 41%. However, due to external vulnerabilities, the total amount of “foreign direct investment (FDI)” in Africa has dropped by 3% (\$59).<sup>[8]</sup>

### Investments in Greenfields

On the occasion of the 52nd annual meeting of “the African Development Bank” in Ahmadabad, the Finance Minister of India, Arun Jaitley, stated that India will continue to support the Bank. “The cooperation between India and Africa is not a one-time occurrence but rather an ongoing strategic policy implemented over the past few years. These initiatives have been given a new lease of life thanks to the current administration.<sup>[9]</sup> The percentage of all announced Greenfield projects located in India increased from 3.3% in 2003-2008 to 6.1% in 2009-2015. In the same period, China saw a decline in its share, from 4.9 percent to 3.3 percent. India is quickly becoming one of the most significant new investors on the African continent. Regarding Greenfield projects, India was the fourth biggest investor in 2015, with 45 projects, behind the United States of America, the United Kingdom, and the United Arab Emirates. India spent a total of “USD 2.2 billion across 64 Green Field projects in Africa” during the 2015–2016 fiscal years. Between 2008 and 2014, India poured USD 33 billion into 261 initiatives of this kind throughout the continent.<sup>[10]</sup> Throughout this period, India’s overall green field investment in Africa accounts for 8% of the entire green field investment on the continent. Despite China’s dominance in “Greenfield Investment in Africa for 2015-16 (with 38.4 billion USD), other economies are showing signs of growth. After China, the countries of the



United Arab Emirates (UAE) (USD 14.9 billion), Italy (USD 11.6 billion), the United States of America (USD 10.4 billion), Morocco (USD 8.1 billion), France (USD 7.7 billion), and the United Kingdom (USD 7.7 billion) are the leading investors in terms of the value of announced Greenfield investment (USD 7.5 billion). European nations were responsible for 27% of all FDI into Africa and 34% of all employment directly produced due to Greenfield FDI (92 800 jobs during 2015-16). During the 2015–2016 fiscal year, India allocated USD 2.2 billion across 64 projects in Africa. It is important to note that between 2008 and 2014, India spent around USD 33 billion on 261 Greenfield projects, which accounts for 8% of the total announced investments.” An important line of ten billion dollar credit has been made available to India for five years to fund development projects in African countries, which has enabled India to expand its presence in African nations. It is important for investments to not only concentrate on bolstering significant infrastructure expansions in Africa but also on expanding the continent’s essential conveniences. There are around 600 Indian firms that have invested in Africa, yet, just 11 of these organizations account for approximately 53% of the total Indian investment flows to Africa. This results in a high concentration of Indian enterprises in Africa.<sup>[11]</sup>

### **FDI from India into Africa**

The continent presents international players with opportunities for investment in the form of natural resources and a total market of one billion people for finished products. The amount of money that Asian nations invested in African projects funded by foreign direct investment rose by 11% in 2015. India and China were the most important investors, with India accounting for 5% of the market share of all foreign direct investment projects. Companies from both the public and commercial sectors of India established a considerable presence across the continent. One of the most successful Indian businesses operating in Africa is the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation of India (ONGC Videsh), for instance. Companies from the private sector that have established a presence in the African economy include Reliance, Bharti Airtel, Essar Group, Tata Groups Kirloskar, Bajaj Auto, Hindujas, and Varun Beverages, as well as a great number of smaller businesses.<sup>[12]</sup> In terms of investment in the African continent, India has shown signs of upward development. These developments have been brought to the attention of worldwide media outlets. The number of projects managed by multinational companies in India increased by 118%, reaching 37. India was the country with the largest percentage increase. Despite this, most African countries are moving in the direction of China. In contrast, others, such as South Africa and the United States of America, and others still trade primarily with Europe and India (Mauritius). For instance, the United Kingdom accounts for 13.2% of Mauritius’ total exports, while the United Arab Emirates accounts for 12.4%, France accounts for 11.9%, the United States for 10.7%, and South Africa for 8.6%. On the other hand, India accounts for 18.7%, China for 17.8%, France for 7.1%, and South Africa for 6.5% of Mauritius’ total imports. “The rate of economic expansion in those African nations that are less reliant on China for their export market has slowed down, although more gradually.”<sup>[13]</sup>

### **Partnerships in Power Sector**

The power industry in Africa is quickly becoming an important area for investment opportunities for Indian enterprises. With 45 percent of the population having access to electricity, “Sub-Saharan Africa had the lowest access to electricity ratio (as a percentage of the population) in the world in 2014. This region was home to around 600 million people who did not have access to electricity.”<sup>[14]</sup> This figure is much lower than the average throughout the whole world. The average amount of energy used per person in Africa is one-fifth of what it is in the rest of the world, although this number varies greatly from country to country and even within nations. There is an immediate and pressing “need to close the gap by increasing capacity in Africa. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) completed the first major turnkey project export by an Indian company in the field of power generation in the country of Libya in the year 1977. Over the past few decades, several Indian companies have been expanding their operations within the realm of exports.”<sup>[15]</sup>

Additionally, the participation of Indian businesses in the bidding process “for projects sponsored by multilateral development banks is rising (MDBs).” The power sector accounts for the highest proportion of the value of the contracts India has acquired in projects that “the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and the African Development Bank” are supporting. Indian enterprises are often in a strong position to acquire contracts in projects supported by multilateral development banks (MDBs) due to their technical competence and necessary experience in the relevant industries.

### **Collaboration in Agriculture**

Africa plans to face the formidable issue of providing food for 1.5 billion people by 2030 and 2 billion by 2050. In the coming decades, the goal is to “ensure food security for a population that is increasing and becoming more urbanized, helping to create wealth and jobs, particularly in rural areas, while reducing inequalities and vulnerability and protecting environmental and human capital.”<sup>[16]</sup> To encourage investment in agriculture, one must give more weight to the state of the economy to reassure agricultural producers and other participants in the agri-food value chains. The subject of the Annual Meetings for 2017 will



be “Transforming Agriculture for Wealth Creation in Africa,” which reflects the importance of agriculture not just in Africa but also in the work that the Bank does related to development. Agriculture is prominent in both the “Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations and the Agenda 2063” of the African Union, which are to reduce poverty, eradicate hunger, and ensure that all people have access to sufficient food. “The Bank has appropriately prioritized agriculture’s transformation by naming it as one of its 5s,” reflecting the priorities of both the global and continental agendas. Help Africa Get Fed.

At the 52nd session of the AfDB Annual conference, which was held in India, thirteen African nations inked “a series of collaboration agreements with India to boost the supply of agricultural equipment, loan advancement to farmers, and scientific cooperation.” These agreements were signed in India. Farm equipment providers from the Indian state of Gujarat inked “agreements with their counterparts in Ghana, Zambia, Mozambique, and Togo for the delivery of farm machinery, training” on the use of the machinery in mechanized agriculture, and collaboration in the use of the machinery in the mining industry. This was one of several deals between the parties. Other transactions include The African Ministers of Agriculture, business sector groups, and industrial leaders from India and Africa announcing these agreements government of India is considering donating vaccinations to West African nations to assist those nations in combating foot and mouth disease, a condition that has a negative impact on cattle productivity.

Additionally, representatives from the Indian government expressed their readiness to deepen collaboration between the two areas via the rapid growth of agricultural commerce. The Indian government is planning to help African farmers cultivate pigeon peas, lentils, millet, and other cereals and food grains, and it is getting ready to import these goods.

On the other hand, Africa is a potentially lucrative market for Indian wheat, and the Indian government is actively exploring exporting wheat to Africa. Both of the parties were in agreement on the enormous potential of the agri-business sector. As a result, the accessibility of the enormous Indian market for foods produced via climate-adapted farming will be essential to saving lives. A convincing economic case may be made for private sector investment based on the potential of Africa’s agricultural industry and “the need to close the gap in the food supply. Africa has the potential to become a global agricultural powerhouse and the setting for the next Green Revolution since it has over 65% of the world’s remaining arable land, a young population (with 420 million people between the ages of 15 and 35 years), and a favorable environment. Countries such as Nigeria, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Senegal, and Burkina Faso provide instructive models of successfully transforming their agricultural systems.”<sup>[17]</sup>

### **Partnership in the Field of Renewable Energies**

Energy About 80% of Africa's total power production comes from coal, oil, and gas, making these resources crucial to the continent's power sector. India is putting more money into renewable energy and other forms of sustainable electricity. This is in part because of worries about energy security, government support, actions taken in response to climate change, the declining cost of renewable, the widespread use of electricity, the availability of alluring foreign investment policies, and the enormous unrealized potential. The result has been a meteoric rise in India's installed capacity for renewable energy, from 3.9 GW in 2002–03 to more than 35.8 GW in March of this year. By encouraging the growth of "rooftop solar photovoltaic power production plants for self-consumption and supply/sale to the grid," the Grid Connected Rooftop and Small Solar Power Plants Program have made major contributions to meeting energy demands. Implementing such programmes might assist African countries close their power gap and mitigate the consequences of power disruptions caused by conventional energy sources. India has pledged to reduce carbon emissions per unit of GDP growth by 33–35% by 2030 from 2005 levels. This is expected to increase interest in renewable energy and make businesses in India's renewable energy sector more competitive.<sup>[18]</sup> Sustainable development in Africa may be tremendously aided by India's knowledge and skill in renewable energy. Numerous Indian businesses are already working to improve the economies of both their own country and Africa by aiding in the creation of renewable energy infrastructure there. The African Development Bank (AfDB) spearheads an “off-grid renewable energy revolution” in Africa. This initiative is supported by a 500 million dollar Fund for Energy Inclusion, which aims to make renewable energy investments by businesses more accessible. Through investments in solar and other renewable energy projects, India will meet its objective of 175 gigawatts (G.W.) of total renewable energy production by 2022 and meet its ambition to build 100 GW of solar power. India has assumed the role of leader in forming an International Solar Alliance, which is a fantastic venue for developing mutually beneficial collaboration in the energy field.

As African production in the manufacturing sector is expected to increase from its present level of \$500 billion to a projected \$930 billion in the year 2025, India, with its proven technology breakthroughs, may help African enterprises move up the global supply chain. India's LOCs have facilitated the completion of significant public infrastructure and power projects



throughout Africa, allowing for the growth of state-owned businesses and a corresponding increase in India's economic clout in the continent. Exim India has always placed a significant emphasis on the African continent. In order to achieve the company's long-term goal of fostering and facilitating mutually beneficial commerce and investment, the continent is crucial. Financing new power generation, transmission, & distribution initiatives, as well as upgrading existing infrastructure, are all part of Exim India's power sector exposure in the African region. In several African nations, the accessibility to stable sources of power has improved as a direct result of projects that Exim India has funded. As of April 30, 2017, the overall number of active LOCs in Africa was 153, with extensions to 44 countries and a total value of 7.6 billion U.S. dollars. The Government of India has guaranteed 148 lines of credit, totaling US\$ 7.5 billion, to 41 other nations. 55 power projects with a total value of US\$ 1.54 billion are being carried out in Africa out of a total of 86 power projects with a total value of US\$ 2.05 billion that have been or are being carried out under LOCs (nearly 75 percent of the total power projects).<sup>[19]</sup>

### **Partnerships in Education**

Higher education and training are being provided through the “Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Program (ITEC)”, which is active across Africa. ITEC-derived projects such as the Pan-Africa e-network initiative and the Special Common Wealth Assistance for Africa Program have benefited many African students and professionals (SCAAP). The purpose of the Project is to establish significant linkages for tele-education and telemedicine, as well as internet, video-conferencing, and Voice over I.P. (VoIP) services, with the end goal of providing the people of Africa with access to “the facilities and expertise of some of the best universities and super-specialty hospitals in India.” The Government of India has provided the reception centers with all the necessary equipment, and Indian specialists have trained the local workers. “Out of the 48 nations that have signed an agreement with TCIL to participate in the Project,” 47 of those countries have given the Project their official approval to go forward. South Sudan is currently the location where the Project is being carried out. “Angola, South Africa, Equatorial Guinea, Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia are the only countries in this group that have not signed the agreement to participate in the Project. The Amity University in Noida, the IGNOU in New Delhi, BITS in Pilani, the University of Delhi, and the University of Madras are the five Indian universities that have already established teaching centers for tele-education.”<sup>[20]</sup>

### **Partnerships in Health**

Both India and Africa are struggling with many of the same health issues, including comparable disease burdens, populations, and environments, a scarcity of financial and human resources to support expansive public health initiatives, and an overarching goal of achieving medical independence. It is crucial that India and Africa reach out to one another, understand each other's capabilities, goals, and difficulties, and establish strategies to develop creative solutions for our shared health concerns collaboratively. At a time when developing nations are progressively turning away from Western financing models and striving to build autonomous capacities, India and Africa must reach out to one another. Throughout the last few years, India has seen a significant transition in the medical industry. India is now the nation with the most advanced medical facilities and the best pharmacies in the whole globe. In addition to a line of credit, the government of India has announced that it would provide a grant of USD 600 million at the third summit of the India-Africa forum. This grant will include USD 10 million, specifically designated for health cooperation. India is the third biggest provider of pharmaceutical formulations and a significant supplier of economic and low-cost generic medications to African countries, which has assisted in the fight against life-threatening illnesses such as HIV/AIDS, and malaria. T.B. India has contributed “\$500,000 to the WHO and medical supplies worth \$50,000 to Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia as part of the international effort to battle the Ebola virus disease (EVD) in the West African area. The government of India has decided to contribute \$10 million to the United Nations Trust Fund for Ebola, which was just recently established, in addition to providing additional assistance of \$2 million in the form of the supply of protective gear to personnel who are currently stationed in the region. India's assistance to the efforts, both regional and global, now stands at approximately \$13 million.”<sup>[21]</sup> Telemedicine: Under the Pan Africa e-network, the Indian government facilitates telemedicine in facilities in African nations. Telemedicine: Under the Pan Africa e-network, the Indian government facilitates telemedicine in facilities in African nations. “The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi; Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences, Kochi; Apollo Hospitals, Chennai; CARE Hospital, Hyderabad; Escorts Heart Institute and Research Centre, New Delhi; Fortis Hospital, Noida; Narayana Hrudayalya, Bangalore; Sri Ramchandra Medical Centre, Chennai; Moolchand Hospital, New Delhi; and HCG, Bangalore are the 12 Indian Super Specialty Hospitals that have already set up patient and location.” There are now 9916 students from African nations who have enrolled in various postgraduate, undergraduate, and diploma programs in Indian universities. Up till the end of September 2012, there were 3503 tele-education sessions. Telemedicine centers have been established at Regional Super Specialty Hospitals in Nigeria, the Republic of Congo, Mauritius, and Egypt; a fifth Telemedicine center is now established in Senegal.



### **Marine Safety and Defense**

The Indian Ocean is undoubtedly the most significant component of India's burgeoning maritime policy. To protect India's interests in the vital ocean, India intends to increase its security presence in East Africa. The littorals of East Africa act as a portal to the Indian Ocean Region as a whole. This region is not only home to significant energy deposits but also the location of some of the world's most vital strategic waterways and chokepoints in the marine environment prone to ambush. Over fifty percent of Africa's total marine energy traffic goes via these bottlenecks. As a result of India's long history of having fruitful cultural and commercial ties with the countries of East Africa, including "Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, and South Africa," India has projected itself as a maritime security provider in the extended area. As a result of the convergence of the strategic and economic interests of all regional players in the Indian Ocean Region, India is now in a position to take advantage of an opportunity that is one of a kind in this respect. This confluence of strategic interests will serve as the driving force behind India's efforts to build a framework for cooperation in maritime security as India works toward that goal. "The Indian Navy has actively pursued hydrographic cooperation with several countries, including Bangladesh, Indonesia, Kenya, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Myanmar, Oman, Seychelles, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and Tanzania. The Indian Navy will try to achieve the status of producer nation of nautical charts in the Indian Ocean Realm."

### **Visits from a high level**

The Indian government has organized several high-level trips to the countries of Africa to increase India's general outreach to the continent of Africa, which is rich in resources, and to build its imprint on the continent. In 2016, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, President Pranab Mukherjee, and Vice President Hamid Ansari traveled around Africa, visiting 12 countries. "This was in accordance with Modi's vow to keep up the pace of contact with Africa, which he made to the presidents and delegates of 54 African countries who attended the third India-Africa summit in New Delhi in October 2015."<sup>[22]</sup> The summit took place in October 2015. During Mr. Ansari's trip to Rwanda and Uganda earlier this year, India opted to increase its cooperation with East African nations and inked three key bilateral agreements in Kigali during his time there. India has not sent a high-level delegation to Uganda for bilateral talks at this level since 1997, and this was India's first high-level visit to Rwanda. India and Rwanda signed three memorandums of understanding (MoUs) at the forum to boost their bilateral cooperation in innovation, aviation, and visa regime. These agreements include the establishment of an entrepreneurial development center in that country as well as the beginning of a direct flight to Mumbai. India has decided to expand its cooperation with Uganda in the field of the energy sector, as well as the personnel training for the space program and the peaceful use of atomic energy. This comes at a time when the resource-rich East African nation is trying to convince Indian companies to manufacture automobiles locally so that they can reduce their reliance on imports. In March 2017, King Mswati III of Swaziland traveled to India with seventy people. The purpose of this visit was to develop the commercial potential. During his tour further, he was joined by ministries of trade, economic planning, health, agriculture, foreign affairs, and commerce. The King of Swaziland has requested assistance from India in establishing a science park in his country, as well as India's cooperation in bringing skill development to the youth of Swaziland.

Additionally, the King of Swaziland has requested assistance with renewable energy to address the issue of power shortage, regular droughts, and desertification.<sup>[23]</sup> The African Development Bank Group's 2017 Annual Conference in Ahmadabad, India, came to an upbeat and optimistic finish. The early successes of the Bank's High five goals, especially in agriculture and energy, contributed to this feeling of optimism. Representatives from AfDB's 80 member countries praised the Bank's Boards of Directors, Management, and employees for their work in 2016. Additionally, the Governors encouraged the Bank's Boards of Directors, Management, and staff to keep pushing for a more significant impact on development. The Bank's High 5 aims are to "Light up and power Africa," "Feed Africa," "Industrialize Africa," "Integrate Africa," and "Improve the quality of life for the people of Africa," and these goals were discussed in several high-level meetings, symposiums, and seminars prior to the Annual Meetings. More than 3,500 high-ranking government officials, business executives, non-governmental organization (NGO) and civil society organization (CSO) leaders, academics, and members of the media were present.<sup>[24]</sup>

### **Conclusion**

Indian companies seek for opportunities in Africa for its growing consumer markets, young population, and mineral wealth. India has invested \$54 billion, or 19.2% of its total Foreign Direct Investment, in Africa during the previous 20 years, making it the fifth biggest investor in the continent. Trade preferences, technological collaborations, humanitarian, financial, and in-kind "assistance in emergency situations, deployment of peacekeeping troops, collective negotiations in multilateral fora for common issues", and human resource development through scholarships, training, capacity building, and financial assistance through grants and concessional credit for the implementation of various public-interest projects are all part of this partnership. The promise of the India-Africa relationship has not been fully realized. More political will and institutional backing are required to take the partnership to the next level. If done right, the India-Africa partnership has the potential to make this 21st



century the "India-Africa century" by addressing the High 5 priorities of "Light up and power Africa," "Feed Africa," "Industrialize Africa," "Integrate Africa," and "Improve the quality of life for the people of Africa" form the 21st century into a century that India and Africa's collaboration mark.

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