Public Libraries And The Development Agenda In Nigeria

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Abstract

The paper examined the services of public libraries in Nigeria, including the National Library of Nigeria with a view to ascertaining which services aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the African Union Agenda 2063. A lot of training has been carried out for librarians by many international non-governmental organizations. However, the visibility of the development work of public libraries in Nigeria is still low. For instance, while many countries have uploaded stories on IFLA Library Map of the World (LMoW), there is no story from Nigeria, in spite of the fact that a lot is being done by the public libraries. The main aims of the study were to highlight how public library services are adapting to the global development agenda and to make the services more visible in the LMoW, African Library and Information Associations and Institutions database, the Nigerian Library Association website and other networks. The IFLA questionnaire on "Collecting Stories that Matter" was adapted. All the 37 public library headquarters and the National Library of Nigeria headquarters were investigated. Data collected revealed that the most addressed SDGs were Goal 4 and Goal 8. It was also observed that many of the libraries were still operating in their comfort zones (traditional library services) and that of the three development agenda investigated, the level of awareness of the SDGs was the highest (84.2%). At the end, recommendations were made on how public libraries could better align their services to meet community needs and facilitate the development agenda.

Introduction

The public library is usually established to meet the informational, educational and recreational needs of members of the public in all spheres of life. It is an organization established, supported and funded by the government or through some other forms of community organization. It provides access to knowledge, information or works of the imagination through a range of resources and services and is equally available to all members of the community regardless of race, nationality, age, gender, religion, language, disability, economic status, employment status and educational attainment. (The Public Library Service, 2001). It is in the course of providing information to all in the community that the public library has been able to impact directly and positively on the lives of people thereby driving community and societal transformation. Hawkins in Akomolafe (2012) opined that knowledge and information (such as gained in library utilization) have become the most important currency for productivity, competitiveness, increased wealth and prosperity which are indicators of national integration and development. Around the world, public access to information enables people to make informed decisions that can improve their lives. Communities that have access to timely and relevant information are better positioned to eradicate poverty and inequality, improve agriculture, provide quality education and support people's health, culture, research and innovation (IFLA, 2013). It is no wonder therefore that many national and international organizations have focused on working with and supporting public libraries in their bid to engender transformation in various countries. Such cooperation with public libraries are directed at providing myriads of services to users with a view to attaining national development and hence the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as the African Union Agenda 2063 (The Africa We Want).

The SDGs have a set of 17 goals which encapsulate all the aspects of societal endeavour geared towards attaining a better world for all people with no-one left behind starting from January, 2016 to December, 2030. The 17 goals are listed in Appendix 1. This study also examined the African Union Agenda 2063 (AU Agenda 2063) and the role that public libraries can play in its attainment. The AU Agenda 2063 is a strategic framework for the socio-economic transformation of the continent over the next fifty years. It builds on and seeks to accelerate the implementation of past and existing continental initiatives for growth and sustainable development (AU Agenda 2063, https://www.un.org/en/Africa/osaa/pdf/au/agenda2063-presentation.pdf.). It comprises of 7 Aspirations, 20 goals and over 36 priority areas (see Appendix 1). The level of awareness of librarians in public libraries in Nigeria as regards African Library and Information Associations and Institutions (AfLIA)'s Cape Town Declaration 2015 was examined. This is because the Declaration focuses on libraries in Africa and how they can be galvanized to make the progress required to achieve the SDGs and the AU Agenda 2063 (https://www.ifla.org/node/9767).

Interventions of International Bodies Driving Attainment of the SDGS and AU Agenda 2063

There have been series of interventions and activities from a number of international bodies as a way of empowering public libraries in Nigeria towards achieving the goals of the SDGs as well as the aspirations of the AU Agenda 2063. The intervention of the African Library and Information Associations and Institutions (AfLIA) in recent times has been noteworthy. AfLIA has been one of the main drivers of the modalities for achieving AU Agenda 2063 and the SDGs in Africa, including Nigeria. Such interventions include the Africa Leadership Academy (AfLAC) Capacity building program and the International Network of Emerging Library Innovators, Sub-Sahara Africa – (INELI_SSAf). The AfLAC initiative is aimed at teaching public librarians the different perspectives of leadership that will transform their mindset and equip them to respond succinctly to challenges in the community through innovative services using library facilities and the entire community as a resource base (AfLIA, 2017). The leadership academy was made possible through the cooperative efforts of AfLIA, in partnership with the Public Library Association of the American Library Association (PLA-ALA) and funded by Global Libraries Initiative of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Global Libraries program. The first cohort of the leadership training program had 12 participants who were admitted in January 2018. The second cohort was admitted in 2019.

Also of note is the extensive advocacy work being done by IFLA through the International Advocacy Programme (IAP) which was launched in 2016 as a new capacity building programme designed to promote and support the role that libraries can play in the planning and implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. The programme has gone a long way in raising awareness on the SDGs at community, national and regional levels as well as promoting the important role that libraries can play in development process.

The Nigerian Information Professionals Innovation Ambassadors Network (NIPIAN) project supported by the Public Affairs Section, United States Consulate-General, Lagos, Nigeria, the Goethe-Institut, Nigeria and the University of Abuja, Nigeria is another intervention with the aim of mentoring young library professionals on providing community-aligned innovative services in Nigerian Libraries. It was in response to the need to transform libraries into engines of development which meet individual and community needs and contribute to the attainment of global development agenda in a constantly evolving environment. There are currently 25 Nigerian librarians involved in the programme.

The aforementioned interventions as well as those of other government and non-governmental agencies have produced several developmental projects/services. Collaborating with these NGOs is in line with the position of Ekere et. al. (2017) that libraries should partner with NGOs in creating awareness of the SDGs so that both parties can reach a wider coverage. However, many of these services have not documented. It is important for public libraries to report their activities which are geared towards the attainment of the SDGs and the AU Agenda 2063 so that the contribution of libraries towards the attainment of the SDGs will become more visible and can be used for advocacy. It is in the bid to highlight some of the various services/projects carried out by public libraries in Nigeria that this study was conducted. It is expected that the study will throw up many services that are scalable and can be emulated. Furthermore, some of the stories could be made available to be uploaded on the website of the IFLA LMoW, AfLIA database, and NLA website so that they can become visible both within and outside Nigeria

Objectives of the Paper

The objectives of the paper are to:
1. Identify public libraries which are executing services that are transforming communities towards the attainment of the SDGs.
2. Identify public libraries which are carrying out services geared towards attaining the Africa Union Agenda 2063.
3. Ascertain the level of awareness of librarians in Nigerian public libraries about the SDGs, the AU Agenda 2063 and the AfLIA Cape Town Declaration 2015.
4. Identify the partners which the public libraries are working with.
5. Collect stories that could be uploaded on the IFLA Library Map of the World, AfLIA database and other networks to make them more visible and accessible.

Methodology

The study adopted survey research method using questionnaire as the main tool for data collection. Interviews were also conducted. Although there are about 316 public libraries in Nigeria (made up of the headquarters in each of the 36 States, the Federal Capital Territory, the National Library of Nigeria and their branches), only the 37 public library headquarters and the National Library of Nigeria headquarters were surveyed. This was considered adequate because the branches usually provide services that are in line with those provided in the headquarters. The IFLA template on collecting stories that matter was adapted and used to collect stories from the 38 public library headquarters from September, 2018 to February 2019. The questionnaire was distributed by email to the heads of the public libraries. Follow-up was done with several phone calls in order to speed up or clarify their responses. In the end, a response rate of 100% was achieved. Data was analyzed using simple statistical methods of frequency counts and percentages.

Results and Discussion
Public library headquarters in the 36 states of Nigeria and the Federal Capital Territory Abuja; and the National Library of Nigeria headquarters were surveyed. The thirty-eight (38) public libraries surveyed all responded to the questionnaire distributed thereby giving a return rate of 100%.

Table 1: Sustainable Development Goals Addressed by the Public Libraries

SN	Public Library Headquarters in Nigeria	Sustainable Development Goals																
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	Abia State Library Board				x													
2	Adamawa State Library Board				x				x									
3	Akwa Ibom State Library Board			x	x				x									
4	Anambra State Library Board				x				x									
5	Bauchi State Library Board	x			x				x									
6	Bayelsa State Library Board			x	x				x									
7	Benue State Library Board				x				x		x							
8	Borno State Library Board	x			x				x							x	x	
9	Cross River State Library Board				x													
10	Delta State Library Board	x	x		x													
11	Ebonyi State Library Board				x				x									
12	Edo State Library Board				x	x					x							
13	Ekiti State Library Board			x	x	x												
14	Enugu State Library Board				x													
15	Federal Capital Territory	x			x				x									
16	Gombe State Library Board				x				x									
17	Imo State Library Board				x				x									
18	Jigawa State Library Board				x													
19	Kaduna State Library Board				x													
20	Kano State Library Board				x	x	x											
21	Katsina State Library Board	x	x		x				x									
22	Kebbi State Library Board		x		x		x											
23	Kogi State Library Board				x													
24	Kwara State Library Board				x				x							x		
25	Lagos State Library Board				x	x												
26	Nassarawa State Library Board				x													
27	National Library of Nigeria				x													
28	Niger State Library Board				x				x									
29	Ogun State Library Board	x			x						x							
30	Ondo State Library Board				x				x									
31	Osun State Library Board	x			x	x												
32	Oyo State Library Board			x	x				x									
33	Plateau State Library Board				x													
34	Rivers State Library Board		x		x						x							
35	Sokoto State Library Board			x	x													
36	Taraba State Library Board				x													
37	Yobe State Library Board				x													
38	Zamfara State Library Board				x													
	Total	**6**	**4**	**6**	**38**	**5**	**6**	**0**	**16**	**0**	**4**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**2**	**0**

Table 1 shows the public library headquarters and the SDGs being addressed. The results revealed that all the 38 libraries carried out services that are geared towards actualizing SDG 4 and this scored the highest percentage of 100%. This indicates that all the libraries provided safe and inclusive spaces for life-long learning as well as spaces where cost is not a barrier to new knowledge and skills. They therefore facilitated inclusive and equitable quality education and promoted life-long learning opportunities for all. However, it is important to note that the 100% was achieved majorly because of the provision of safe reading spaces. The second most popular SDG addressed was Goal 8 which was carried out by 16 or 42% of the libraries.

This shows that as many as 16 libraries were involved in library services that promoted inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for their community. They made provision for library clientele to obtain information on job opportunities and provided skills training on diverse skills such as ICTs, artisanship, clothing, tie and dye and better farming skills. This is in consonance with the findings of Emezie and Igwe, (2016) that community information services that could be delivered by libraries for the actualization of the SDGs include those for business, agricultural information literacy and health.

Other SDGs addressed were Goals 1, 3 and 6 (6 or 15.5% of respondents); Goals 2 and 10 (4 or 10.5%); Goal 16 (2 or 5%) and Goal 15 (1 or 2.6%) respectively. It is disheartening to note that as many as 41% of the SDGs (Goals 7, 9, 11,12,13,14 and 17) were not addressed by any of the libraries.

Table 2: AU Agenda 2063 Aspirations Addressed

S/N	Public Library Headquarters in Nigeria	Agenda 2063 Aspirations Addressed		
1	Abia State Library Board	1.2		
2	Adamawa State Library Board	1.2	1.4	
3.	Akwa Ibom State Library Board	1.3	1.2	1.4
4.	Anambra State Library Board	1.2	1.4	-
5	Bauchi State Library Board	1.2	1.4	
6.	Bayelsa State Library Board	1.2	6.7	-
7.	Benue State Library Board	1.2	1.4	3.1
8.	Borno State Library Board	1.2	1.4	-
9	Crossriver State Library Board	1.2		
10.	Delta State Library Board	-	-	-
11	Ebonyi State Library Board	1.1	1.2	
12	Edo State Library Board	-	-	-
13	Ekiti State Library Board	1.2	1.3	6.1
14	Enugu State Library Board	1.2	1.4	
15.	Federal Capital Territory	-	-	-
16	Gombe State Library Board			
17.	Imo State Library Board	1.2	1.4	-
18	Jigawa State Library Board	1.2		
19.	Kaduna State Library Board	-	-	-
20.	Kano State Library Board	1.2	6.7	3.1
21.	Katsina State Library Board	-	-	-
22	Kebbi State Library Board	1.2	1.3	1.5
23.	Kogi State Library Board	1.2	-	-
24.	Kwara State Library Board	1.2	1.4	3.1
25	Lagos State Library Board	1.2	6.17	-
26	Nassarawa State Library Board	1.2	-	-
27	National Library of Nigeria	1.1	6.1	-
28.	Niger State Library Board	1.2	1.4	-
29.	Ogun State Library Board	1.1	1.2 -	6.1 -
30.	Ondo State Library Board	1.1	1.2	-
31.	Osun State Library Board	1.1	1.2	1.4
32.	Oyo State Library Board	1.3	1.2	1.4
33	Plateau State Library Board	1.3	1.2	1.4
34.	Rivers State Library Board	1.1	1.2	3.1
35.	Sokoto State Library Board	1.1	1.1	1.3

36	Taraba State Library Board	1.2	-	-
37	Yobe State Library Board	1.1	-	-
38.	Zamfara State Library Board	1.1	1.1	1.4

Table 2 shows the Agenda 2063 Aspirations addressed by the public libraries. A close look at the aspirations executed by each library shows replications of the SDGs already noted in Table 2. For instance, Abia State Library Board carried out library services that aligned with SDG 4 which deals with education, Aspiration 1.2 of the AU Agenda 2063 is the corollary and it deals with "well educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science and technology and innovation". This goes to buttress the assertion by Cassaza (2015) that African Union Agenda 2063 and the UN 2030 Agenda (SDGs), broadly converge on social development (people), inclusive economic development (prosperity), peaceful and inclusive societies, responsive institutions (peace) and several environmental sustainability issues (planet)).

Table 3. Heads of Public Libraries and their Awareness of the Development Goals

S/N	Name of Library	SDGs		AU Agenda 2063		AfLIA Cape Town Declaration	
1	Abia State Library Board	Yes			No		No
2	Adamawa State Library Board		No		No		No
3	Akwa Ibom State Library Board	Yes		Yes		Yes	
4	Anambra State Library Board	Yes		Yes		Yes	
5	Bauchi State Library Board	Yes		Yes		Yes	
6	Bayelsa State Library Board	Yes			No		No
7	Benue State Library Board	Yes		Yes			No
8	Borno State Library Board	Yes		Yes		Yes	
9	Cross River State Library Board	Yes			No		No
10	Delta State Library Board	Yes		Yes		Yes	
11	Ebonyi State Library Board	Yes			No		No
12	Edo State Library Board	Yes		Yes		Yes	
13	Ekiti State Library Board	Yes			No		No
14	Enugu State Library Board	Yes		Yes		Yes	
15	Federal Capital Territory	Yes		Yes		Yes	
16	Gombe State Library Board		No		No		No
17	Imo State Library Board	Yes		Yes			No
18	Jigawa State Library Board	Yes			No		No
19	Kaduna State Library Board	Yes			No		No
20	Kano State Library Board	Yes		Yes		Yes	
21	Katsina State Library Board	Yes			No		No
22	Kebbi State Library Board		No		No		No
23	Kogi State Library Board	Yes			No		No
24	Kwara State Library Board	Yes			No		No
25	Lagos State Library Board	Yes		Yes		Yes	
26	Nassarawa State Library Board	Yes			No		No
27	National Library of Nigeria	Yes		Yes		Yes	
28	Niger State Library Board		No		No		No
29	Ogun State Library Board	Yes		Yes			No
30	Ondo State Library Board	Yes			No		No
31	Osun State Library Board	Yes			No		No
32	Oyo State Library Board	Yes		Yes		Yes	
33	Plateau State Library Board	Yes		Yes			No
34	Rivers State Library Board		No		No		No

35	Sokoto State Library Board	Yes		Yes			No
36	Taraba State Library Board		No		No		No
37	Yobe State Library Board	Yes			No		No
38	Zamfara State Library Board	Yes		Yes			No
	Total	**32**	**4**	**18**	**20**	**12**	**26**

Table 3 revealed that 32 (84.2%) heads of public libraries who responded to the questionnaire indicated that they were aware of the SDGs. On the other hand, 18 (47.4%) of the libraries indicated that they were aware of the African Union Agenda 2063 while only 12 (31.6%) were familiar with the AfLIA Cape Town Declaration 2015. Analysis of the result of Table 3 shows clearly that many libraries are not aware of the AU Agenda 2063 and the AfLIA Cape Town Declaration 2015. In order for the SDGs and the AU Agenda 2063 to be actualized there is the need for key players such as the librarians to understand in-depth the nature and content of these development agenda. As noted by Ekere, Oyenike and Ameachi (2016), the level of actualization of the SDGs will be determined by the level of awareness created. A number of methods can be used to create awareness among libraries. These include making presentations during annual national conferences and workshops for librarians; use of social media and mass media; printing of posters and so on. Public libraries have a crucial role to play in this and must therefore make a move, change roles and redefine its space to retain its relevance (Alegbelehin et. al, 2017). The librarians in the public libraries must therefore key into this new mandate by getting sound understanding of the development agenda. According to IFLA (2013), the library is the only place in many communities where people can access information that will help improve their education, develop new skills, find jobs, build businesses, make informed agricultural and health decisions or gain insights into environmental issues. There is therefore the need for massive sensitization of the librarians in order to empower them to do so.

Selected Partners of Public Libraries in Nigeria

In the opinion of Ibeun and Eiriemiokhale (2014), public-private partnership is becoming an obvious facilitator and approach to sustainable national development of any nation. This is because research has revealed that the attainment of meaningful and sustainable development requires the genuine participation of the public, the organized private sector, donor agencies, individuals and civil society. Partnership must be seen as a key factor of the re-actualization of the SDGS. In this regard therefore, NGOs and the private sector are seen as important agents of change and development, especially at the grassroot level.

Many of the services provided by African public libraries in partnership with different stakeholders have been documented by Osuigwe and Mulindwa (2018). However, in line with the recognition of the essential nature of partnership, some of the public libraries studied have collaborated with different organizations to develop services that are aligned with the SDGs. For instance, in Delta State, the public library carried out a project to bring solution to the problems confronting members of Sapele community in fish farming. They required funds and expert knowledge to have profitable yields. The project aimed at improving fish farming production. A connect seminar was held for 32 people. 2 experts in fish farming methods, 2 bank officials, AfLIA and 1 community youth leader were the partners involved in executing the project. At the end, some of the farmers secured bank loans and there was remarkable increase in the yields of fish within a period of six months. The City Library, Abuja addressed the issue of reducing street children, known in local parlance as "Almanjiris". Through interventions such as pictorial drawings, basic literacy, drama and quiz competition, 20 Almanjiris have become interested in life beyond the streets. One of them was given a

scholarship by a community leader to go back to school and many others are engaged in skills acquisitions training as mechanics, tailors, etc.

In order promote the reading culture some of the libraries such as the Oyo State Library Board collaborated with the Ministry of Education, Teaching Service Commission, SUBEB, and OyoMesi to distribute books to schools and do celebrity reading programmes. Many of the other public libraries surveyed carried out reading promotion activities. The Kano State Library Board partnered with Centre for Gender-Based Violence Advocacy NGO, National Council for Women Affairs, and Kano State Ministry of Women Affairs to advocate on the need for girl child education. The Borno State Library Board provided services geared towards training in ICT for youths, skills acquisition, advocacy on harmful effects of desertification, and advocacy against open defecation by people displaced and dislocated as a result of the insurgency caused by Boko Haram militia. They also engaged in advocacy on the need for peaceful coexistence through constant radio talks and television. Their partners included UNICEF, Borno Radio/TV and the Nigerian Television Authority. In Sokoto, the library carried out advocacy on several health issues. They partnered with the National Association of Nigerian Nurses and Midwives and the Medical and Health Workers Union of Nigeria.

Enugu State Library Board facilitated information access to young entrepreneurs in the community by providing skills acquisition training. They partnered with Enugu Small and Medium Scale Enterprises, Agricultural bank and Enugu Development Finance Office. The Nassarawa State Library Board, in partnership with the Ministry of Education and the National Youth Service Corps, provided computer-based training specifically Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB) Computer-Based Test (CBT) to assist students to do well in this national university/polytechnic/colleges of education entrance examination. Graduates on National Youth Service Corp (NYSC) and library staff facilitated the training in which students from various government schools participated. The library provided the space, 165 computers, solar energy and generators used for the programme. One of the key outcomes of this intervention was an increase in government secondary schools pass rate in the examinations from about 45% to 67.3%.

Anambra State Library Board did a lot of advocacy on Igbo language. Several talk shows and community sensitization programmes were carried out to the youths in the community. This effort was given recognition by UNESCO. Furthermore, the library has been involved in a lot of skills acquisition training for the youth and other members of the local community on computer training, tie and dye, among others. The Ondo State Library Board has been involved in providing training for staff of school libraries as teacher librarians. These trainings are usually conducted during the long school vacation periods. Over 600 teacher librarians and library assistants have been trained so far by the library. Ogun State Library Board carried out library use advocacy to many communities and traditional rulers in the state for the children to make regular use of the library. Capacity building in ICTs was also carried out for the users. Book donations were solicited for and received by the library. Partners with them in this regard are the Egba Unity of Chicago and OMATEK computers who provided training for the library users.

Challenges

In conducting this study, the challenges faced include:

1. It was obvious from the study that some heads of libraries did not have the requisite ICT skills in using the Internet, and therefore in accessing the questionnaire. This impeded their responses to the questionnaire and necessitated our resorting to interview methods in collecting their stories.
2. It was also observed that the new technologies were not readily available in the library for use.
3. Furthermore, the fact that some of the heads of libraries were not aware of the existence of the development agenda made it difficult for them to complete the questionnaire.

Recommendations

Arising from the study, the following recommendations were made:

i. There is an urgent need for the heads of libraries to improve their skills in using the new technologies in order to facilitate their ability to render the necessary services that are aligned with the SDGs and the AU Agenda 2063.

ii. It is necessary that computers, Internet access and all other relevant new technologies be provided in the libraries in order for the libraries to be better equipped to deliver up-to-date library services which are aligned to the development goals.

iii. Staff of the library should be given regular capacity building trainings, especially in using ICTs because this is required to enhance their service delivery.

iv. A help desk should be established at the Nigerian Library Association (NLA) national secretariat or by the public libraries section of the NLA so that enquiries on the development goals can be made at a central location as a one-stop-shop. The secretariat should also house promotional materials (posters, flyers, etc) that can be accessed by the librarians in Nigeria.

v. Online platforms can be created by the NLA for sharing stories on the development goals to make them more visible. This could be a WhatsApp group or on already existing platforms of the Association such as Facebook. The libraries should also make more efforts to share their stories in regional and international platforms.

vi. It was observed that many of the libraries were not engaged in monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment of their services and activities. In this regard, the NLA can provide training on how to use the development agenda indicators to evaluate relevant library services.

vii. The libraries should be more proactive in using the outcomes and impact of these services to advocate to policy makers and other stakeholders. This could lead to attracting more support, such as funding and capacity building to the library.

Conclusion

Many public libraries in Nigeria are carrying out services that are aligned with the SDGs and the AU Agenda 2063. However, their services are limited to addressing some of the development agenda. Indeed, as many as 7 of the SDGs are not addressed at all by any of the libraries. There is therefore the need to create more awareness for librarians to diversify their services in order to address all the goals. Such awareness creation can be carried out by the Nigerian Library Association and other stakeholders.

Appendix 1

Sustainable Development Goals: The 17 Goals are:

Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere
Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food sustainable agriculture
Goal 3: Ensure hearty lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages
Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities
         for all
Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of wastes and sanitation for all
Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
Goal 8: Promote sustainable inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive
         employment and decent work for all
Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster
         innovation
Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among societies
Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable
          development
Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage
          forest,   combat desertification and halt and reserve degradation and halt biodiversity loss
Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable deployment, provide access to
          justice for all and build effective accountability and inclusive institutions at all levels
Goal 17: Strengthening the means of implementation and utilize the global partnership for sustainable
          development. (https://sustainabledevelopment.un.ng/sdgs).

African Union Agenda 2063: The 7 Aspirations are:

1. Prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development
2. An integrated continent, politically united based on the ideals of pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa Renaissance
3. An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law
4. A peaceful and secure Africa
5. An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics

6. An Africa whose development is people-driven relying on the potential of African people especially its women and youth and caring for children
7. Africa as a strong, united, resilient and influential global player and partner.

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