Reimagine Africa-Europe
–
Now Generation Network Survey - November 2021
Main Results
Reimagine Africa-Europe

–

Now Generation Network
Survey - November 2021

Main Results
“Debate and divergence of views can only enrich our history and culture.”

Mo Ibrahim

We polled the Now Generation Network (NGN) members, seeking their opinions on identifying values, priorities and tools for a renewed and strengthened Africa-Europe partnership.

51 surveys were completed from citizens of 21 African countries. With an almost balanced gender split, respondents (52% male, 48% female) are predominately aged between 25-34 years, 16% of whom reside outside Africa.

The NGN reimagine the Africa-Europe relationship as... "one that is mutually beneficial to the citizens of Africa and Europe. One based on a two-way mutual benefit to the two continents and promotes shared values of prosperity, good governance and peace." Patrick Godi, South Sudan

Key concepts that recurringly appear in their survey responses include: mutual benefit, mutual respect, partner, more equal, more balanced, win-win, citizen-centred and Africa as an active partner.
Part I

“WHY?”: large majority believe that the Africa-Europe relationship is highly relevant and based on historical ties and economic interests
Is the current relationship between Europe and Africa relevant?

Of the 51 responses received, the large majority (82%) believe the current relationship between Europe and Africa is relevant.
What other actors do you feel are more relevant?

Of the few (18%) respondents that felt the Africa-Europe relationship is not relevant, 67% cited other options alongside identifying China (44%), both USA and Turkey (33%), and Russia (11%) as relevant actors.

Among the “other options” the respondents mentioned non-state actors like technology giants (Facebook), India, Africa itself and South America as relevant.

Answer choices
To have limited a continent of 1.3 billion to historical links is problematic. The continent does not have a strategy for Europe or any of his other partners. As a result, we have multiple bilateral conversations of interest to domestic matters with limited scope to a real Africa-Europe relationship.

Carl Manlan, Côte d’Ivoire
What is the relationship tie/based on (please rank)?

Of those (82%) that felt the Africa-Europe relationship is relevant, they ranked the relationship/tie based on history (63%) highly, then on shared values (27%), and then only 21% said geography. They also outlined other shared values predominately along economic and political themes but also "reparations" and development. Language was also cited as a shared value.
Economic interests seems to be the number one then history.
Anonymous

Commerce and resources.
Mohamed Sokona, Mali

It is more of an extractive or rather subordinative relationship though.
Thabani Mutambasere, Zimbabwe

Purposes of aid and skill sharing.
Morgan Chuunga, Zambia

Acquisition of resources.
Anonymous
Reparations. Individual, ancestral, collective trauma healing.
Anonymous

Trade and geo-political interest.
Anonymous

Economics; environment (climate change); migration.
Adeelah Kodabux, Mauritius

Development partnership.
Eugene Saa Appiah Oppong, Ghana

Language.
Carole Tawema, Benin
Shared values, ranked

Given a list of shared values to rank, survey respondents placed rule of law first, followed by democratic values, then good governance, ahead of human rights.

*Values displayed are the weighted average of respondents' rankings*
"If there are any shared values, I’d say prosperity and generating wealth.

Anonymous

We need to fix ourselves before looking outwards to fix other relationships especially those that are one way beneficial.

Anonymous

It is primarily an economic one.

Carl Manlan, Côte d’Ivoire
There is a benefit to a renewed Africa-Europe partnership

On a scale of strongly disagree to strongly agree (0-4.5), 3.9 was the average score meaning that the survey respondents strongly agreed that there is a benefit to a renewed Africa-Europe partnership.
Part II

“WHAT?”: education & professional development, energy, agriculture & food systems are the highest priorities
Which sectors should be prioritised in a renewed Africa-Europe partnership?

Education, skills & professional development (70%), energy (67%) and agriculture & food systems (61%) were identified as high priorities in a renewed Africa-Europe partnership.

While cities (11%) and mobility (33%) were regarded as lower priorities.

- Education, skills & professional development: 70%
- Energy: 67%
- Agriculture & food systems: 61%
- Health: 59%
- Digital: 52%
- Transport & connectivity: 41%
- Environmental protection: 39%
- Mobility (intra continental? Outside Africa?): 33%
- Other (please specify): 15%
- Cities: 11%
Europe gained a lot from extracting resources from Africa, and I believe this relationship should be based on everything. This partnership should not look as a low development or industrialisation in Africa as a problem, but the partnership should be in order to pull Africa out of this - by mainly letting Africa take a lead and not prescribing policies. So, all of the above and more.

Thabani Mutambasere, Zimbabwe
Part III

“HOW?”: amend the current narrative, monitor commitments, enlarge stakeholders are key tools needed to strengthen the partnership
What tools and processes are most needed to strengthen the Africa-Europe partnership?

What are the tools and processes most needed to strengthen the Africa-Europe partnership and make the relationship effective?

33% of respondents said amending the current narrative, followed by monitoring the implementation of commitments (26%) and enlarging to multiple stakeholders (21%) e.g. cities, civil society organisations, business communities, universities.

- Answer choices

- Amending the current narrative: 33%
- Providing risk-free financial tools for young people, entrepreneurs, women: 12%
- Monitoring the implementation of commitments: 26%
- Enlarging to multiple stakeholders e.g. cities, civil society organisations, business communities, universities: 21%
- Other (please specify): 7%
Investing hard cash.

Anonymous

Re-imagine transformation with ‘Africa we have’ - China started its transformation with what they had and not what they wished they had.

Carl Manlan, Côte d’Ivoire
Conclusion

Complete this sentence:

“By 2030, I reimagine the Africa-Europe partnership as: ...mainly one of equal partners that is mutually beneficial”
A one where Africa has choices to engage with different partners on its own terms and Europe isn’t as dominant.

Anonymous

Partners that each bring something to the table, not the exploitative relationship of the past.

Anonymous

A true partnership, not one defined by paternalism and exploitation but symbiotic and beneficial to both sides in nature.

Anonymous

Citizen-centered.

Anonymous
“

Equal partners.

Herbert Mba Aki, Gabon

One based on mutual respect.

Anonymous

One mutually beneficial to the citizens of Africa and Europe. One based on a two-way mutual benefits to the two continents and promotes shared values of prosperity, good governance and peace.

Patrick Godi, South Sudan

An equal relationship based on mutual respect.

Thabani Mutambasere, Zimbabwe
Significantly more equal, imaginative, and open to diverse policies.

Anonymous

...a renewed partnership where Europe can be held accountable for its commitments to Africa.

Anonymous

An effective redressal of the harm that Europe has caused Africa in the past.

Nasi Rwigema, South Africa

Renewed co-engagement.

Lalaina Randriarimanana, Madagascar, Ibrahim Scholar
A partnership based on transparency and improved business environment in Africa and between Africa and Europe in order to let African countries be able to finance their needs themselves through economic growth and private taxes without foreign help that lead to vulnerable economies and public services.

Carole Tawema, Benin

Genuine equal partnership based on mutual appreciation of each other’s societies.

Morgan Chuunga, Zambia

Win win.

Isalu Bakaba Gloria, DRC
A win-win and equitable one where there is a strong and mutual alignment of interest between the two parties.

Mohamed Youba Sokona, Mali

Non-colonial.

Anonymous

An equal and equitable one as well as being free of double standards.

Adeelah Kodabux, Mauritius

...one that is mutually beneficial. One which truly confronts it’s painful history and shapes a progressive pathway to inclusive development.

Sesame Mogotsi, Botswana
More balanced, one in which Europeans see Africans as partners.

Anonymous

By 2030, I reimagine the Africa-Europe partnership as intentionally beneficial to Africans.

Aya Aziz, Egypt

An innovative form of knowledge exchange and technology transfer.

Parabron Emile Banse, Rwanda
One where Africans are making AfCFTA work for the youth of the world, Africans.

Carl Manlan, Côte d’Ivoire

A cornerstone towards a transformed Africa.

Anonymous

The two continents needs each other. Mutual cooperation.

Anonymous
Now Generation Network
Survey - Respondents
country of origin
Annex

**Survey objectives**: seeking the NGN members opinions on identifying values, priorities and tools for a renewed and strengthened Africa-Europe partnership.

**Survey platform**: delivered through SurveyMonkey. Learning lessons from the first survey conducted with the group on COVID-19, this survey is designed to be shorter, have fewer compulsory questions with the ability to save and return for completion at a later point.

---

**Project team**

Zainab Umar, Now Generation Initiative Manager  
Maria Tsirodimitri, Head of Design