



**CAFOR**  
Coalition on Media  
and Education for  
Development Africa  
Forum



### **CAFOR Project on Strengthening Institutional Capacity for Operationalization of CAFOR Programs**

CAFOR and its partners are now beginning to work to strengthen the organization's institutional capacity at headquarters and regional office levels to contribute to the formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of effective and evidence-based CAFOR programs while ensuring social and economic integration and inclusion of young people's participation in these projects.

CAFOR staff and members will be actively engaged, as both agents and beneficiaries, in the two focus areas:

- (a) The translation and implementation of all African Union policies and programs that CAFOR agreed to work on per the MOU signed with the AU in January 2019.
- (b) The design of national plans and strategies from the AU instruments and protocols to create employment opportunities and include youth in the national labor markets.



Project activities will involve analytical and operational capacity-building work engaging national and international experts in conjunction with the African Union and other partners. The project's main participants and beneficiaries will be CAFOR staff at the headquarters, the regional offices, CAFOR partners, and representatives of youth organizations. Some of these will participate as both project beneficiaries and resource persons. In project countries, activities will include delivering comprehensive training on formulating and monitoring participatory evidence-based youth policies and programs to achieve social inclusion and employment opportunities for youth. This project will support policymakers to work with and create space for the participation of young people and relevant civil society organizations. It will also engage stakeholders and members in all the implementation processes for national action plans, policies, and measures and a greater awareness of the needs of different categories of young people in national planning initiatives.

To realize the vision of the African Union Continental Agendas and the Global Agenda 2030 of ensuring inclusive development, member states of the African Union countries will also need to provide more inclusive, accountable, and participatory policy-making and public service delivery. This issue requires, among other things, organizing government and related institutions engaged in implementing the various policy agendas and making them practical, inclusive, and accountable. It also calls for strengthening public servants' capacity to implement these agendas by developing new skills, attitudes, and behaviors through new ways of working together across organizational boundaries. The project will incorporate national programs for CAFOR staff, partners, and young people into the regional and country-level CAFOR plans and programs in the project countries.

Capacity issues are all-encompassing in the education sector and positively contribute to better health, better climate protection, improved economic growth, better governance and management systems, and other improvements in people's lives. However, due to limited capacity, the link between education and other developmental goals is often not well communicated and not clearly understood by many. Also, although making up the lion's share of national budgets, education is not sufficiently prioritized. Therefore, many education systems continue to suffer several challenges: a shortage of human resources (qualified and motivated teachers), teaching and learning materials, inadequate infrastructures such as classrooms, harmful cultural practices, emergencies, and conflict situations. Most of these challenges require adequate political will, financing, and capacity to implement the programs.

CAFOR will implement this project for four years at USD 1.4 million.



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**As CAFOR endeavors to do considerable advocacy work with all its media partners to ensure that governments and African institutions pay more attention to excellent quality education, we urge all partners and stakeholders to invest more and better in education.**

For more information, please click on (<https://cafor.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/8-Strengthening-Institutional-Capacity-of-CAFOR.pdf>)