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# Strengthening Capacities to Implement the Regional Agenda in SADC Member States

The European Union and Germany support SADC Member States to facilitate and coordinate the implementation of their regional commitments.

Economic growth and poverty eradication in Southern Africa are best achieved by working together – that is why the 16 Member States of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) developed a common regional agenda guided by the Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP).

Although in the SADC Treaty and over 30 regional protocols and policies, SADC Member States have committed to specific national actions to achieve their common goals, there is a notable gap between regional commitments and achievements in the Member States. This is caused by dormant or non-existent national coordinating structures, weak alignment of national and regional plans, and insufficient collaboration between national coordinating structures and Member States' planning and budget authorities.

The “Strengthening the National-Regional Linkages in SADC” (SNRL) Programme, backed by the European Union and Germany, supports SADC Member States to better coordinate, monitor and mobilise resources for the implementation of the regional agenda.

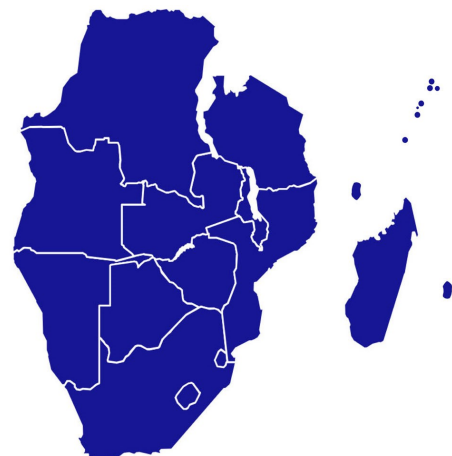
## Objective

The SNRL Programme enhances the capacity of SADC Member States' structures to facilitate and coordinate the implementation of the regional agenda at the national level.

<b>Lead Partner</b>	SADC Secretariat
<b>Funding by</b>	European Union and German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
<b>Project Region</b>	SADC Member States
<b>Duration</b>	September 2018 to November 2021

## Approach

To bridge the implementation gap, the SNRL Programme supports SADC Member States to establish and strengthen national structures that coordinate and facilitate the implementation of the regional agenda. These include SADC National Committees that bring together relevant government authorities and non-state actors to work together towards implementing SADC protocols and policies at the national level. Such structures play an important role, for example, in synchronising national plans and regional priorities – thereby





making it easier to integrate the implementation of the regional agenda into national plans and budgets.

The SNRL Programme also supports national governments and non-state actors to monitor the progress in implementing the SADC regional agenda in Member States, with a focus on the Revised RISDP 2015-2020. The monitoring information feeds into SADC's monitoring and evaluation system and is also used to communicate the economic and political benefits of regional integration, which are often overlooked.

The SNRL Programme also develops the capacity of SADC Member States to mobilise financial and other resources required to implement the SADC regional agenda at the national level. By aligning national with regional plans such as the Revised RISDP, implementation structures in the Member States are supported to tap into funding from national budget authorities and international cooperating partners.

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### What are national-regional linkages?

*The SADC Secretariat and national SADC implementation structures are able to fulfil their respective roles and functions and are engaging with each other through clearly defined processes in order to increasingly integrate the SADC regional agenda into national actions.*

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## Expected Results

By supporting stronger coordination and more effective facilitation in SADC Member States, the SNRL Programme will contribute to accelerated progress in implementing the SADC regional agenda.

The Programme will also provide government decision-makers, managers and technicians, non-state actors representatives, members of parliaments and their staff, media representatives and journalists, and academics and researchers with knowledge, skills and tools to facilitate, manage, monitor and report on the implementation of key SADC instruments. This includes the SADC Treaty, the Revised RISDP 2015-2020, and protocols, strategies and declarations in the areas of agriculture, industrialisation and infrastructure. It will also strengthen the capacity of government and non-state actors to mobilise resources for the implementation of the SADC agenda at the national level.

The inhabitants of the SADC region – especially disadvantaged populations such as the poor, women, youth and workers – will benefit from progress in implementing the regional agenda in SADC Member States through increased income and employment opportunities, better social services, more sustainable management of natural resources, and enhanced peace and security.

## Funding Partners

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