



AFRICA THINK TANK PLATFORM CALL FOR PROPOSALS (ATTP) GRANTS AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Consortium Leads and Members,

On July 24, 2025, the African Union Commission (AUC) issued a public Call for Proposals inviting consortia of African think tanks to apply for funding under the Africa Think Tank Platform (ATTP). The Call, circulated through official AU and media channels globally set out: (i) the project's purpose and six priority themes; (ii) the eligibility criteria; (iii) submission requirements (including use of standard templates for the application form, work plan, budget and curriculum vitae (CVs); and (iv) the timetable up to the submission deadline. The Call emphasised the program's pan-African scope and the expectation that applicants form multi-country consortia, reflecting ATTP's objective of cross-border collaboration.

On behalf of the AUC and the Think Tank Platform Steering Committee (TTPSC), we confirm the outcome of the ATTP Call for Proposals, following eligibility screening, desk reviews, and site-visit validations by the Independent Committee of Experts (ICE). Guided by the TTPSC meeting directions held on Friday, October 31, 2025, and the final site visit evaluation report conducted from November 1-9, 2025, the TTPSC met on Monday, December 15, 2025, and deliberated on the ICE site visit evaluation report and approved awards to the top three consortia for implementation over a 2.5-year period. The awards will be subject to the conditions set out in the Performance Partnership Agreement (PPA) that each consortium member will sign with the AUC.

The TTPSC decision considered proposal quality and relevance to Agenda 2063, the strength of institutional systems and personnel, regional/cross-border policy impact, and value for money. Site visit validations confirmed the readiness of the top eleven shortlisted consortia to deliver on their stated objectives, with robust governance, financial management, ethics and safeguarding, data governance, and clear policy uptake pathways. The TTPSC further noted cross-cutting areas for improvement, including finalising consortium agreements with standardised flow-down clauses, enhancing public disclosure of audits and performance dashboards, strengthening business continuity and Environment and Social Safeguards (ESS) protocols, and automating selected finance and travel workflows.

The proposed funding is subject to: (i) successful completion of institutional capacity assessments (including fiduciary and environmental and social risk assessments) by the AUC; (ii) agreement to implement assessment recommendations; (iii) AUC vendor registration and contracting; and (iv) annual work plan and budget approvals aligned with the ATTP Project Results Framework. As stipulated in the call, disbursements will be made in tranches linked to approved deliverables and validated performance and financial reporting.

Awarded Consortia

In line with these determinations, the TTPSC hereby confirms the award of ATTP grants to the following top three consortia, their sub-regional coverage, selected priority themes, and the member budgets as presented in the final site visit report. Final budgets remain subject to negotiation and may be adjusted to comply with ceilings and disbursement modalities.

Rank	Consortium (Lead)	Member Institutions	AU Sub-Regions Covered	Priority Themes
1	RAISED Africa (Economic Research Forum – ERF)	ERF (Lead); PEP; REPRC (UNN)	North, West, East, Southern Africa	Economic Transformation & Governance; Climate Change; Food Security; Human Capital
2	BRIDGE-Africa (African Centre for Economic Transformation – ACET)	ACET (Lead); AFIDEP; NKAUF; SAIIA; PCNS	West, East, Central, North, Southern Africa	Economic Transformation & Governance; Climate Change; Regional Trade; Human Capital
3	CACEPS (African Population and Health Research Centre – APHRC)	APHRC (Lead); ECES; CPED; CIP; IPAR	West, East, North, Southern Africa	Economic Transformation & Governance; Climate Change; Regional Trade; Food Security; Human Capital; Digitalisation

Commitment to full continental coverage

To ensure inclusive, pan-African reach across all 55 countries, the AUC will work with the top three awarded consortia to expand activities, partnerships, and procurement plans into all African countries. During contracting and inception, each consortium will be required to agree to a clearly defined set of countries it will cover, explicitly incorporating each country in its work plans and budgets, to guarantee comprehensive geographic distribution and to avoid duplication across priority thematic areas. The ATTP Secretariat will coordinate a country-allocation matrix across all consortia, aligned with subregional representation and thematic strengths, and embed this matrix in the approved Performance Partnership Agreements, annual work plans, and budgets. Progress toward full coverage will be tracked through the ATTP Results Framework, with annual reviews. Where overlap is detected or policy uptake opportunities warrant, the Secretariat will reassign or adjust country coverage to maintain efficiency, equity, and complete continental reach.

Next steps for awarded consortia

The ATTP Secretariat will contact each awarded consortium with formal award letters, conditions precedent, and instructions for: (i) vendor registration in the AUC SAP system and assignment of vendor IDs; (ii) submission of contracting documentation, including finalised consortium agreements with standardised flow-down clauses; (iii) creation of ATTP bank accounts; and (iv) submission of detailed first-year work plans and budgets aligned with the ATTP Project Results Framework and the 2.5-year implementation horizon. Following internal AUC approval of agreed deliverables, invoicing to the ATTP Secretariat may proceed, with AUC Finance processing payments within 30 working days of approval, consistent with the Financial Management arrangements.

Notification to unsuccessful applicants

All applicants will receive notifications via the ATPP platform using their registered email addresses. Unsuccessful applicants will receive high-level feedback against the evaluation criteria to support learning and future participation. We encourage continued engagement through ATPP events and knowledge exchanges.

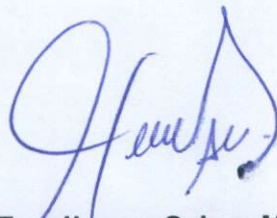
Governance and dispute resolution

The TTPSC remains the principal governance body for the project. Any disputes arising from this decision that cannot be amicably settled shall be referred to the TTPSC, whose decision shall be final.

Communications

A public announcement will be published on the ATPP website, with accompanying language versions in AU working languages. Media or stakeholder inquiries may be directed to attpinfo@africanunion.org.

We congratulate the top three awarded consortia and thank all applicants for their commitment to advancing the AU Agenda 2063. We look forward to working together to translate high-quality policy research into tangible outcomes across Africa's regions.



Her Excellency, Selma Malika Haddadi

Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission, and Chairperson of the TTPSC