caritas europa

Caritas AFRICA

Caritas Africa & Caritas Europa

Years of partnership...

August 2025

Caritas Albania
Caritas Andorra
Caritas Armenia
Caritas Austria
Caritas Azerbaijan
Caritas Belarus
Caritas Belgium
Caritas Bosnia and Herzegovina
Caritas Bulgaria
Caritas Croatia
Caritas Czech Republic
Caritas Denmark
Caritas England and Wales (CAFOD)
Caritas England and Wales (CSAN)
Caritas Estonia
Caritas Finland
Caritas France (Secours Catholique)
Caritas Georgia
Caritas Germany
Caritas Greece
Caritas Hungary
Caritas Iceland
Caritas Ireland (Trócaire)
Caritas Italy
Caritas Kosovo
Caritas Latvia
Caritas Lithuania
Caritas Luxembourg
Caritas Macedonia
Caritas Malta
Caritas Moldova
Caritas Monaco
Caritas Montenegro
Caritas Netherlands (Cordaid)
Caritas Norway
Caritas Poland
Caritas Portugal
Caritas Romania
Caritas Russia
Caritas Scotland (SCIAF) Caritas Serbia
Caritas Slovakia
Caritas Slovenia
Caritas Spain
Caritas Sweden
Caritas Switzerland
Caritas Turkey
Caritas Ukraine
Caritas SPES Ukraine

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

CARITAS AFRICA AND CARITAS EUROPA

Strengthening operational partnership

1. Preamble

Caritas Europa and Caritas Africa are among the 7 regions of Caritas Internationalis. The organisations are formally linked to the Catholic Church and share a common vision to: promote social justice, eradicate poverty by addressing its root causes, address power imbalances and, help communities in need in Africa and Europe.

This Memorandum of Understanding is a shared vision to contribute to the promotion of fraternal cooperation and partnership between the two regions and, to feed into the ongoing reflection on the role of the regions in the CI Confederation.

Albert Mashika
Caritas Africa Secretary General

Date: 02 June 2023

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Maria Nyman
Caritas Europa Secretary General

Date: 12 June 2023

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Belgique

CA’s contribution to CE’s work

Caritas Africa’s experience and perspectives shape Caritas Europa’s work in various ways and reaches broader European audiences (civil society, policy makers)…

- Speaking roles in online and physical events and trainings
- Written inputs into documents
- Regular exchanges and mutual learning
- CA’s rising profile in Europe

Examples:

- Event at European Parliament in 2023 on trade issues
- Several webinars on EU-Africa relations issues
- CA’s direct collaboration with CONCORD (European network of development NGOs)
- CA’s membership in the EU’s Global Gateway Civil Society Platform
- Induction for CE MOs on local leadership
- CE’s paper on food security (2023)
- CE’s paper on triple nexus (2024)
- CE’s publication on a just economy (2024)
- CE’s key advocacy messages on DRC (2025)

Position paper on EU-Africa relations

May 2020

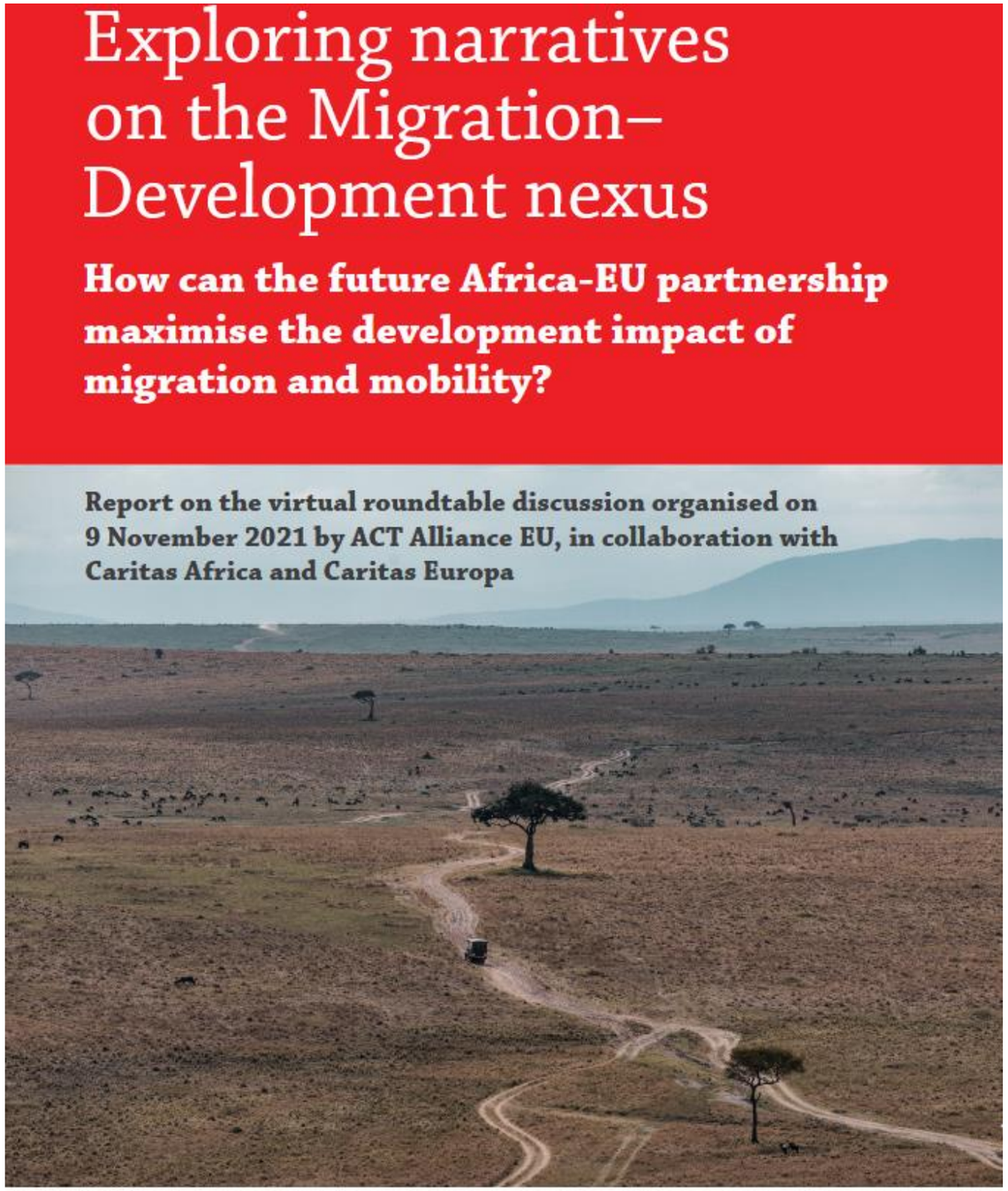
Position paper

A new EU-Africa strategy that works for people and the planet

Introduction

In March 2020, the European Commission (EC) and the European External Action Service (EEAS) issued a joint communication outlining its proposal for a new comprehensive strategy with Africa.[1] The joint communication is meant to serve as a basis for future discussions amongst and between European and African stakeholders and to pave the way to the 6th AU-EU Summit and to a revamped EU-Africa partnership. Together with the Sub-Saharan regional pillar of the new EU–African-Caribbean-Pacific (ACP) partnership agreement (still under negotiation), the new strategy will define the priorities of the political, social and economic relations between the African continent and the EU for the next few years.

Papers, opinion articles, letters



CE International Cooperation Directors Meeting 2024

CA-CE learning & exchange visit
Kenya and Ethiopia 2022

Nairobi, Kenya

Caritas **Country Forum in Kenya**

(with CAFOD, CRS, C-Germany, Trócaire, C-Kenya, CA)

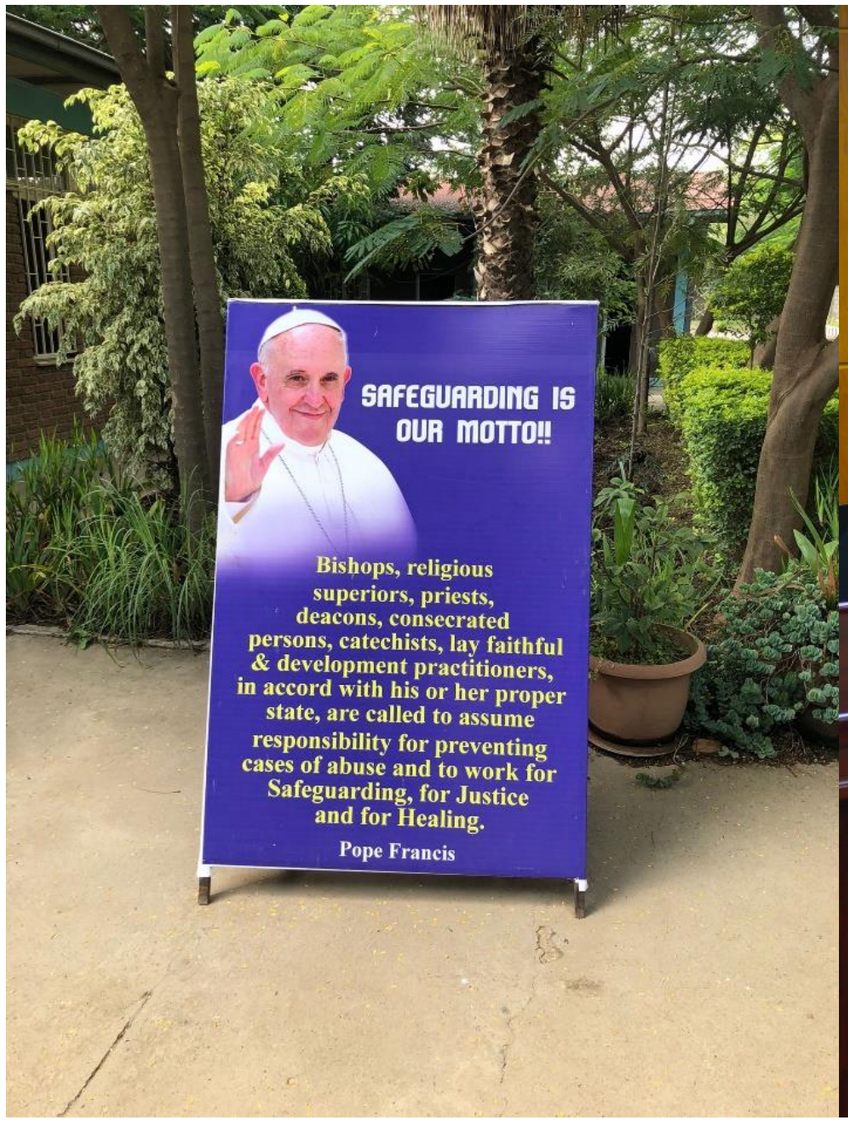
Marsabit – Northern Kenya

Water tank built by CAFOD in **Tigo community** area

Meru, Eastern Kenya

Meeting with Rachel, young **farmer** supported by **Caritas Meru**

Meki, Ethiopia



Visiting **diocese of Meki**
Meeting with Solomon (Executive Development Coordinator), with Abba Gobezayehu (Diocesan Director) and their team

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Meeting with **Caritas Ethiopia** Executive Director Bekele Moges and with the Secretary General of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Ethiopia Abba Teshome

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Meeting with CST (**CAFOD, SCIAF, Trócaire**) office – Dejene Fikre and Teamrat Belai, Deputy Country Director - Head of Programmes

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Meeting with the **African Union**'s Citizen and Diaspora Directorate at the African Union

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Meeting with **EU Delegation to the African Union**

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Meeting with **Kenyan ambassador** to the AU and to Ethiopia

Ongoing / next steps

- Research on the EU's support to **agroecology** in five African countries
- Advocacy around next **AU-EU summit** (Angola, November 2025)
- **Debt** campaign
- Monitoring EU projects on **critical raw materials** in a few Africa countries
- Implementation of **local leadership** modus operandi – including discussion in next CE International Directors Meeting in Brussels in November 2025, attended by CA RC
- Proactive sharing by CA of issues related to **fraternal cooperation** principles implementation
- Potential joint partners meeting with CIMOs working in East and Southern Africa – raise visibility of **underfunded** CA MOs/crises
- Possible pilot project to **strengthen Caritas Country Forum**

Merci!
Thank you!