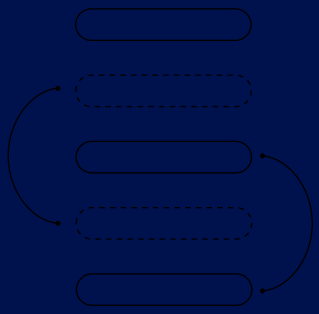
SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS OF SECTORAL AND COOPERATIVE CLIMATE ACTIONS IN AFRICA



AFRICA RESEARCH & IMPACT NETWORK

FUTURE OF CLIMATE COOPERATION

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OCTOBER 2022



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

1. There is a growing momentum and portfolio of ICIs in Africa incentivised by the landmark global summitry events such as the Paris Agreement in 2015, the SDGs 2030 and the African Union (AU) agenda 2063 also established in 2030.
2. The ICIs notably play catalytic roles in the implementation of the adaptation and mitigation measures targeted by the Paris Agreement and are continuously complementing national governments in achieving set NDC targets. However, the ICIs in Africa are relatively uncoordinated and disfranchised due to several reasons:
3. Most ICIs are led from developed countries while the Africa-led and there is limited alignment of the agendas
4. Limited funding for ICIs lack of dedicated international findings for ICIs while national government have no budgetary allocations for these initiatives. Most ICIs continue to depend on uncertain international resources and philanthropy , which impedes meaningful planning and action.
5. Weak technical and institutional capacity and data especially for the Africa-led ICIs creates gaps in programme developing, fundraising and report
6. The visibility of most initiatives especially Africa-led ICIs is very weak due to lack of awareness and understanding of available international platforms such as the UNFCCC and lack of coordinated platforms to support exchange. Currently, less than half of the ICIs mapped are registered on the UNFCCC official database/platforms while the rest are not registered.



BACKGROUND AND AIM

Transnational cooperative initiatives are crucial in the implementation of actions towards the Paris targets. However, in Africa, the information on their governance challenges and opportunities to support the initiatives is inadequate.

The coordination of these initiatives in Africa remains weak and hamper effective exchange, lesson sharing as well as visibility at the global platforms. This study aims to map the landscape of sectoral and cooperative climate actions across Africa – for a better understanding of existing efforts, as well as identifying areas of further strengthening.

APPROACH

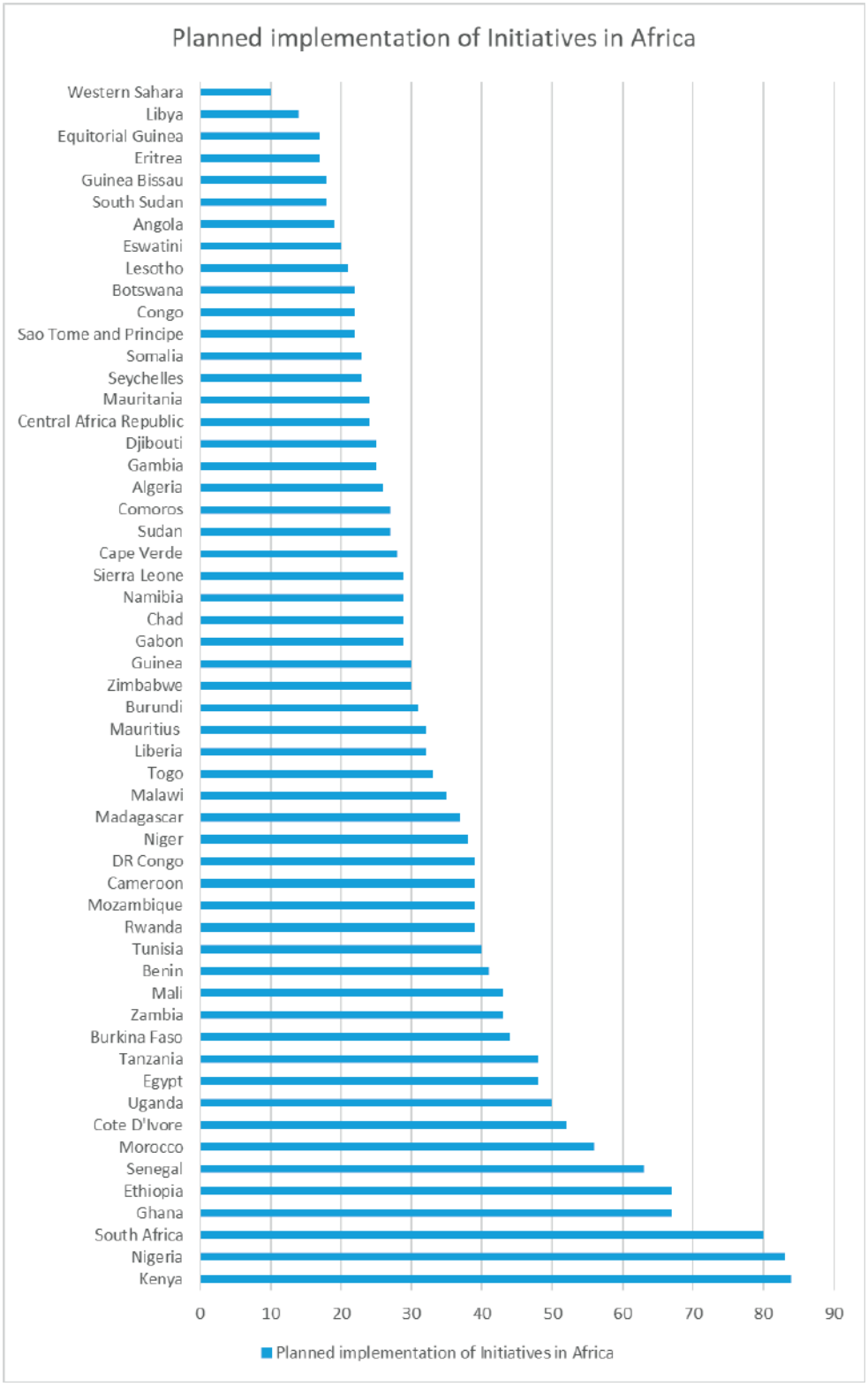
The study reviews existing assessments, inventories and databases including the recently published **report** and **interactive tool**, 2021 Africa Climate week **events** focusing on the evolving cooperative actions; expert and key-informant interviews as well as online survey of the identified initiatives.



KEY FINDINGS

Geographical distribution of initiatives

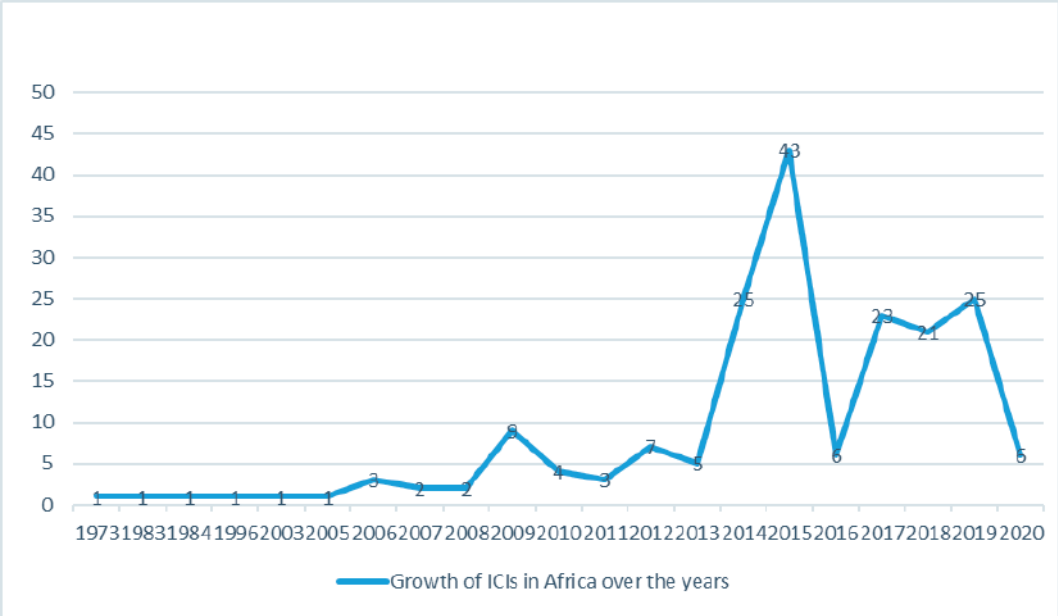
Figure 1.1 below indicates the geographical distribution of initiatives across countries in Africa. Understanding this regional distribution is useful in revealing areas or regions that need further attention within Africa including capacity needs.



KEY FINDINGS

Growth of ICIs numbers in Africa

Figure 1.8 below shows the growth of ICI in Africa over the years, from 1973 to 2020. Key to note is that 2013 – 2015 increase occasioned by the adoption of the continental blueprints, the AU Agenda 2063, SDGs and the Paris Pact.



Key functions of the initiatives

Figure 1.5 below shows the key functions performed by the different initiatives. Seven functional areas were identified across the initiatives. The mapping shows that knowledge dissemination and exchange is a key function or in the ICIs in Africa.

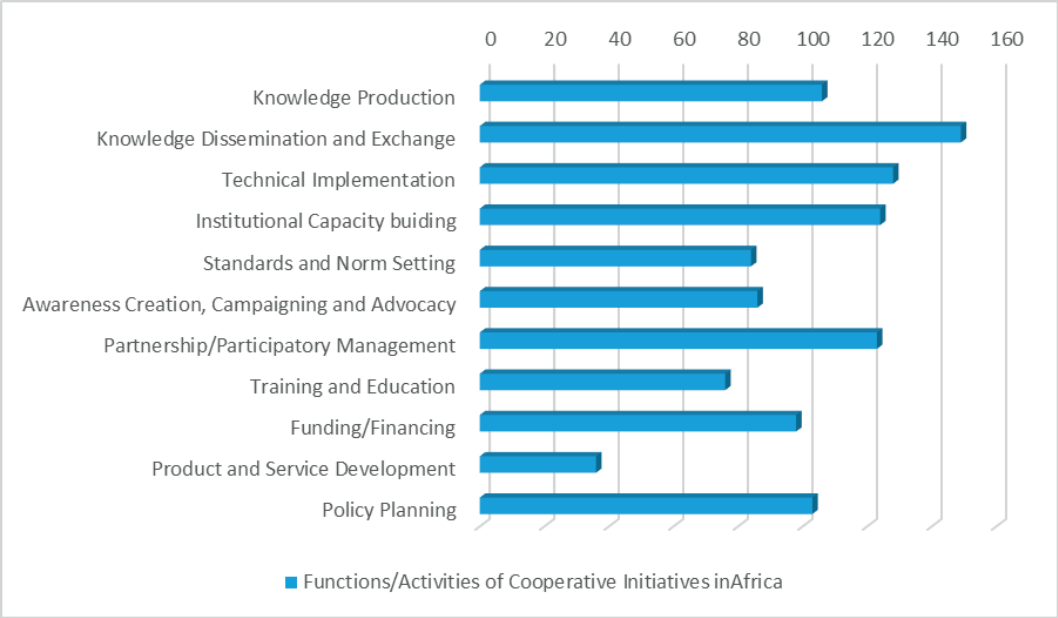


Figure 1.5. Functions/Activities of Cooperative Initiatives in Africa

KEY FINDINGS

Alignment of ambitions and priorities with that of national governments
International governments that have supported and pioneered initiatives have actively ensured that their priorities for financing and supporting such initiatives are aligned to those of their national governments foreign policies. This implies that they have mainstreamed and effectively aligned climate response into their governmental priorities and policies, but not that of the developing world hence lack of complementarity.

The role of regional organisations
Regional organizations such as the AU play a significant role in influencing the uptake of ICIsaction points across governments due to policy connection with these governments in the specific areas. The recognition of the AU as an entity that works directly with national governments has made any initiatives that partner with them to receive more uptake in African countries. For example, the African Development Bank has pioneered a number of initiatives such as the Adaptation Benefit Mechanism (ABM), Africa Circular Economy Facility (ACEF), Africa Disaster Risks Financing (ADRiFi) and the Africa NDC Hub, which are to be implemented across the entire continent.

Recognition/registration in the international platform
Figure 1.4 below shows the extent of recognition of the ICIs in Africa by international processes, notably the UNFCCC GCAP and the UNEP CIP databases including the C-CID database by Chan et al. (2021). The focus was mainly given to the UN-led international platforms to understand how best Africa initiatives are integrated and visible in the global processes. Out of the 195 initiatives, 93 (about 48%) are registered in the UNFCCC GCAP platform, whereas 97 are not registered. In the UNEP CIP database, 107 initiatives are registered, whereas 83 are not registered. In the C-CID database, data exists on 169 initiatives, leaving out 21 initiatives. [1]

This study offers an opportunity for strengthening the capacity of REC leadership in ICIs through identifying challenges, opportunities, and niches for intervention. Maybe noting why this might be happening

KEY FINDINGS

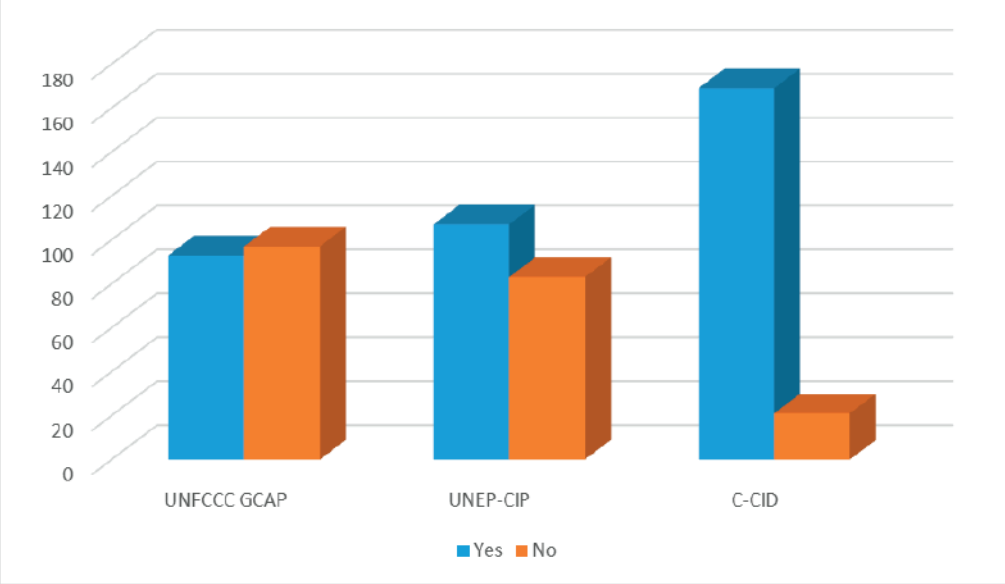


Figure 1.4. Recognition of ICIs in Africa by international database processes (n=195)

Other global agencies such as the UNEP are making efforts to enhance interactions with ICIs activities. The UNEP has provided the C-CIP database hosting 250 ICIs globally for Buildings and Construction (GlobalABC). The roles played by UNEP tend to be more significant as it provides avenues for more interactions with initiatives in the realization of their targets and ambitions.

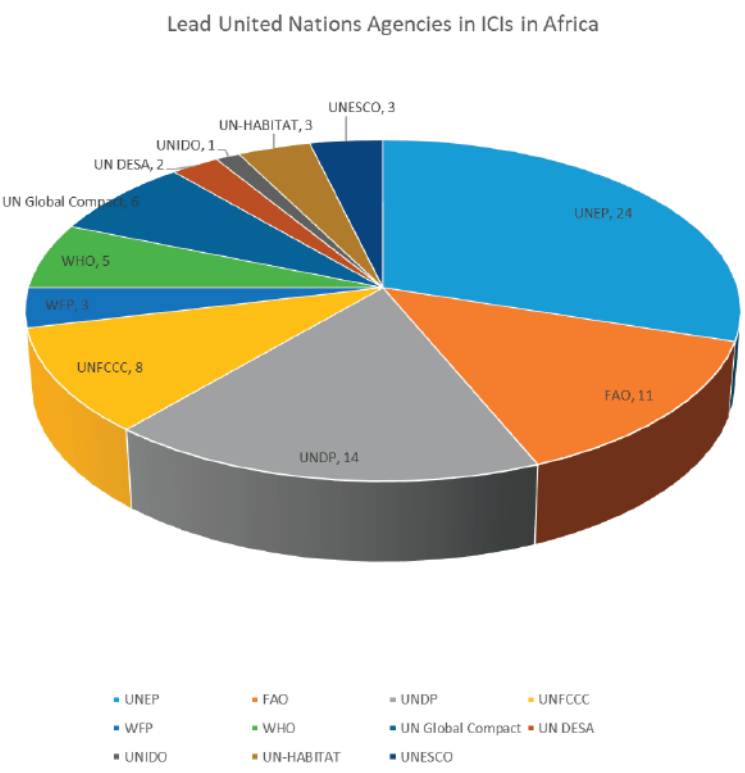


Figure 1.5: Lead United Nations Agencies providing platforms for ICIs in Africa

KEY FINDINGS

Governance modallities, partnerships, and orchestration

This study further provides analysis of governance modalities of initiatives in Africa. It provides insights on governance modalities, challenges, and opportunities of ICIs in Africa including the life cycle design of initiatives in Africa. In terms of governance modalities, three aspects were given attention i.e. Institutional openness/reporting, monitoring, and dedicated staff. Measuring institutional openness requires a look into the reporting frameworks of the initiatives, how well they document and provide information on their activities, objectives, achievements, and their progress towards their targets. Out of the 195 initiatives analysed so far, 131 have institutional openness, characterized by updated websites and annual reports. However, 59 do not have such reporting systems. When it comes to monitoring, 113 initiatives have information on monitoring and evaluation arrangements, whereas 77 do not. As part of monitoring and goal setting, we found that some initiatives have clear targets, well elaborated in reports and websites while others do not. More specifically, International-led have clearer targets, quantitatively and qualitatively stated, with the expected year of completion. For most Africa-led initiatives, it is a challenge to clearly define such variables in their reporting due to challenges such as capacity, data gaps among others.

To realize the initiative's functions, the significance of a dedicated staff cannot be over-emphasized. However, 26 initiatives do not have staff, and one has no data on staffing.

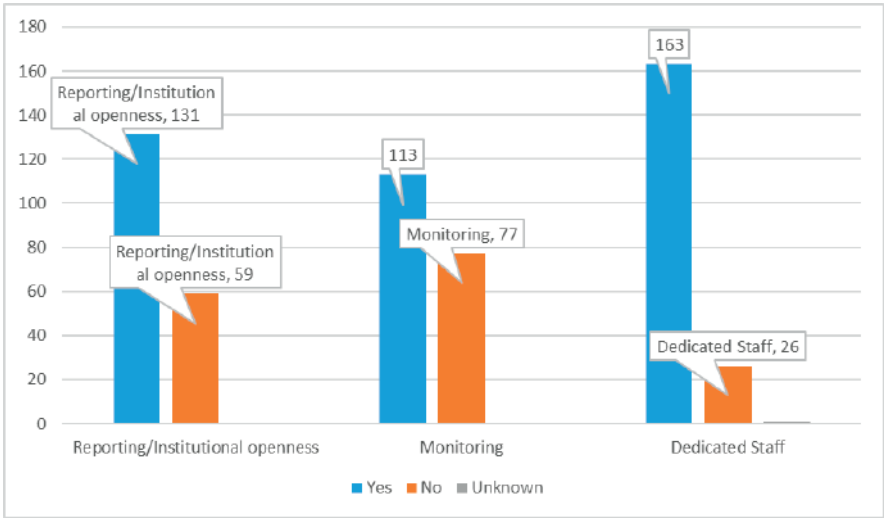


Figure 1.6. Governance modalities for ICIs in Africa (n=195)

As part of partnerships and orchestration, some of the ICIs also provide platforms and mechanisms for actors with similar strengths in particular thematic areas to push a common agenda. Example Climate Ambition Alliance: Net Zero 2050 are reclaiming different sectors and spaces to drive initiatives that resonate with their specific thematic sector. The International Solar Alliance, Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition among others.

KEY FINDINGS

Budgets and Financing

The study shows that 140 initiatives, out of 190, do not have a budget on their intended activities. The financing process for the ICIs remains relatively ad-hoc as most initiatives do not have dedicated financing sources, which negatively affects their ambitions.

Funding plays a critical role in supporting Africa's ICIs in complementing national and global efforts to climate action . However, within the different structure of the initiatives are diverse actors ranging from national governments, private sector, civil societies, subnational governments, educational institutions, foundations and philanthropies, among other actors. Understanding the extent of financial support of these actors is therefore critical in mapping their position in climate finance.

This report, however, notes a correlation between being a lead actor in the initiative and being a high funding contributor. In examining this, the study categorizes the involvement of the diverse actors into seven groups: African governments, African non-governmental actors, African private sector, foreign governments, foreign non-governmental actors, foreign private sector, and international organizations.

From the findings, it is notable that the foreign actors have played more significant roles in the funding, structuring, governance, and management of initiatives in Africa.

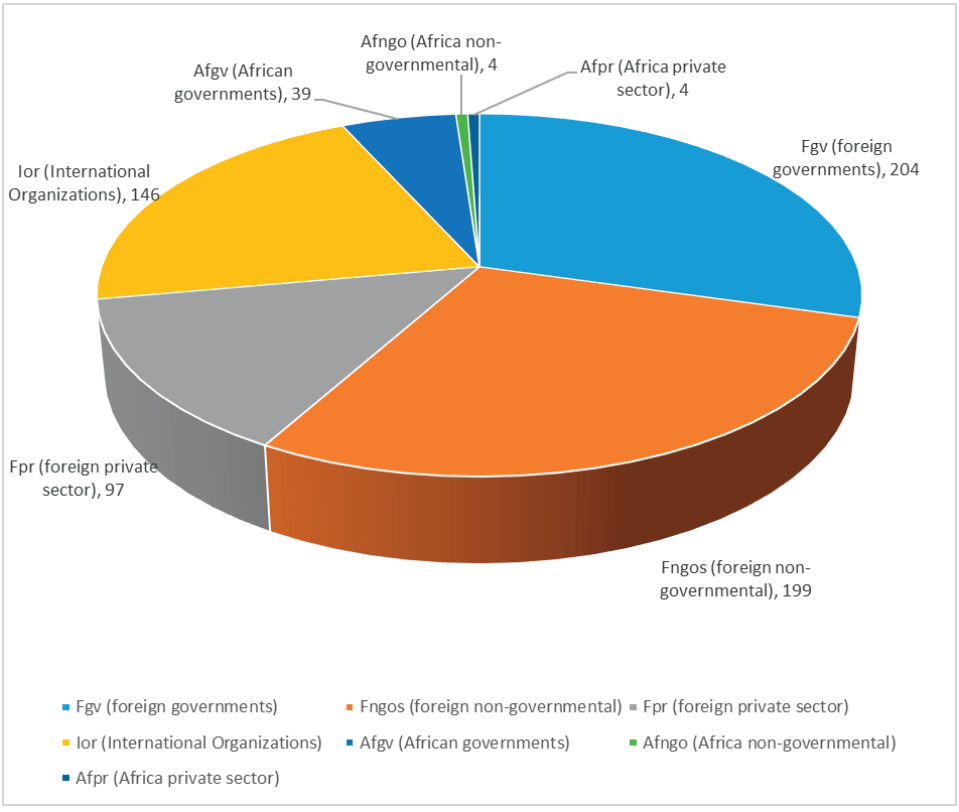


Figure 1.8: Lead actors in ICS management and funding in Africa

KEY FINDINGS

ICIs Leadership based on location of Secretariat/Headquarters

(Figure 1.9). More than half the ICIs are headquartered from developed countries and UN Agencies. The United States hosts most of the Secretariats, followed by France, the UK, Swit, and Italy.

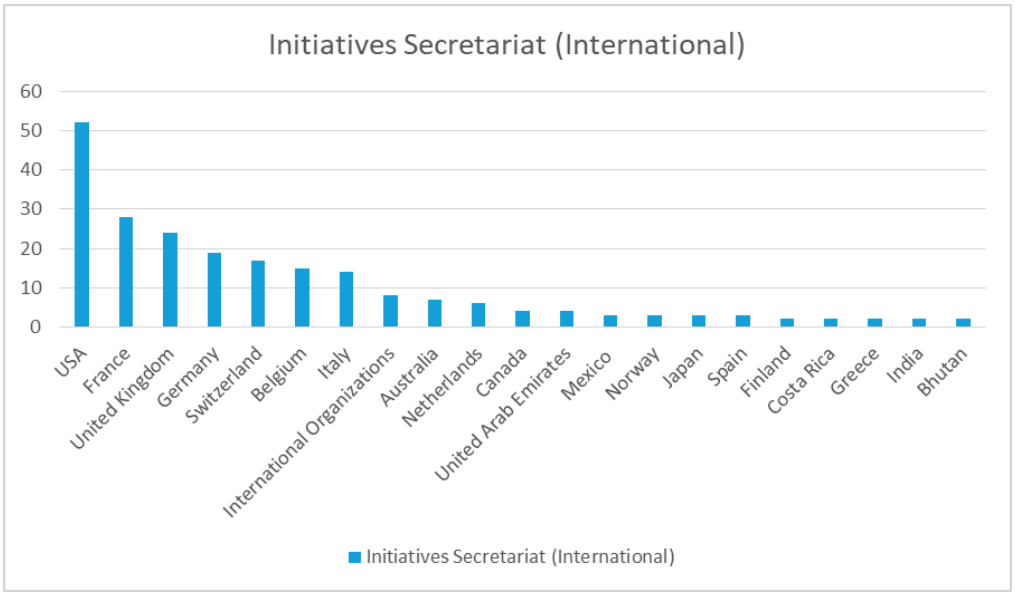


Figure 2.0: Location of Secretariat offices for ICIs operating in Africa

As for the continent, the role the AU has been playing, through the AfDB has been monumental. The AU hosts most of the initiatives operating within the continent, most of which focus on the finance theme. Followed closely by this is Kenya and Nigeria who host 11 of the initiatives in the continent collectively. South Africa and Ethiopia tie at three initiatives each, followed by Morocco at two initiatives. Hosting the headquarters of an initiative is itself a measure of leadership when it comes to the steering and maintenance of such an initiative.

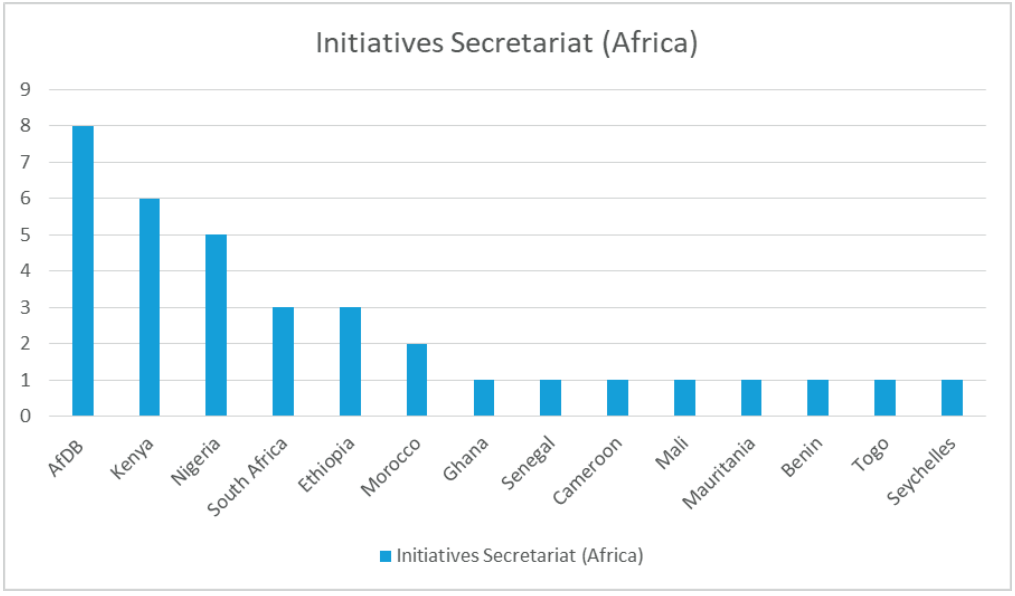


Figure 2.1: Location of Secretariat offices for ICIs within

RECOMMENDATIONS

Funding and capacity strengthening for ICIs

There is an opportunity for the UNFCCC and other global platforms to do much more towards supporting the ICIs beyond recognition. Supporting ICIs with funding opportunities, capacity strengthening, technical assistance or even linkage and learning across initiative are critical.

Operationalisation of the ANSCA platform as an option for consolidating learning and visibility for Africa's ICIs

There is need to strengthen the operationalisation of the ANSCA platform as an option for consolidating learning, awareness, exchanges among ICIs and enhancing capacity building and funding opportunities. This will enable ICIs in Africa to have collective voices and greater bargain around various national and global action agendas.

Dedicated international funding for ICIs

A dedicated fund geared towards supporting ICIs would catalyse the achievement of climate ambitions.

Empirical evidence and knowledge hub on ICIs operations, governance models and case studies on effective ICIs operations.

The study has shown that there is relatively increased numbers of global studies assessing the ICIs models but limited empirical case evidence on the actual operations of ICIs, governance models, best practices that can be better profiled and replicated for enhanced ICIs action and visibility. There is need to invest in.

