



**GENERAL INTRODUCTION  
TO  
THEMATIC AND GOOD PRACTICE FORUMS**

As with the first edition of the Luanda Biennale - Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace in 2019, the second edition of the Biennale in 2021 will be organised, among other things, around Thematic Forums.

However, beyond theoretical reflections, this year's Thematic Forums will focus on solutions and good practices that have proven successful on the African continent as well as elsewhere. These shall be leveraged for developing flagship initiatives on which engaging partners committed to the promotion of the culture of peace at local, national and regional levels.

The Thematic and Good Practice Forums will focus on the following themes

- (i) **Contribution of arts, culture and heritage to sustainable peace**
- (ii) **Engaging young people as actors of social transformations for conflict prevention and sustainable development**
- (iii) **Africa and its diasporas in the face of conflicts, crises and inequality**
- (iv) **Harnessing the potential of the oceans for sustainable development and peace**

## **I – THE CONTRIBUTION OF ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE TO SUSTAINABLE PEACE**

The Thematic and Good Practice Forum 'Contribution of Arts, Culture and Heritage to Peace' echoes, celebrates, and accompanies the African Union Year 2021: 'Arts, Culture and Heritage: Levers for Building the Africa We Want'. It resonates with Aspiration 5 of Agenda 2063 and with 2021 International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development. It explores recent understandings on how the arts, culture and heritage interplays with conflict, reconciliation, and efforts to build more peaceful societies in Africa. It also highlights ways in which artists, creatives and heritage practitioners are contributing to prevent, mitigate and support the recovery from the effects of conflict, inequality and the COVID-19 pandemic and thus contributing to peace.

The arts and culture sector and the creative industries in Africa are among those hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic, a crisis that is cutting off revenues of individuals, businesses, and organizations particularly in the live/performing arts, audio-visual, cinema and visual arts. It is creating new challenges for monetizing the digital transition and impacting women in the arts and culture. Despite recent progress in gender equality, the pandemic is restricting the ability of women to access decent employment, fair remuneration, and leadership positions. Opportunities for women to participate fully in the cultural sectors and benefit from the creative economy require increased attention.

African heritage in its diverse forms is playing an important role in fostering resilience as it constitutes a source of identity and cohesion for communities disrupted by bewildering change and economic instability. While at the heart of some of the contemporary conflicts in the continent, shared heritage is also proving a useful tool for peacebuilding during armed conflict and peace-making process. The passing on of this heritage through formal and informal education systems constitutes an opportunity for the construction of a new narrative for Africa from Africa. A pressing challenge today is the steady flow of African heritage objects that are illicitly leaving

the African soil, or the return of objects long lost. The turmoil of conflicts and COVID-19 shutdown is making illicit trafficking of archaeological and ethnographic objects from the Sahel, Central Africa and many other parts of the continent thrive. A top-level commitment to stop the loss of African heritage is urgent along with the discussions on the return and restitution of cultural property.

Natural heritage conservation, protection and promotion is a critical contributor to peace. African Natural heritage includes some of the most iconic wildlife habitats and landscapes on the planet. Yet due to the pandemic many of these national parks, biosphere reserves and World Heritage sites are closed, income for park management reduced, local communities and businesses negatively affected. Moreover, armed conflicts are impacting protected areas and many rangers have lost their lives on duty while protecting Africa's natural treasures. Reduced funding, restrictions on the operations of conservation agencies, and elevated human threats to nature are new challenges in Africa's conservation efforts. Furthermore, and to reduce the risk of future and various pandemics it is urgent to give a new thrust in the regulation of unsafe wildlife trade practices, the development more resilient conservation models and wide-spread approaches that balance the needs of human and natural habitats.

Ultimately, this first thematic and best practice panel 1 on the Contribution of Arts, Culture and Heritage to Peace aims at voicing the concerns of the diverse actors and institutions that make up the African arts, culture and heritage sector and their urgent plea to integrate into COVID-19 relief and stimulus packages while recognising the specific nature of cultural and artistic work and the uniqueness of cultural and natural heritage. It will showcase innovative practices and move ahead in emblematic continental wide initiatives that effectively integrate culture into peace-building strategies, programmes, and policies.

In order to address the challenges and opportunities identified above, the forum is developed around the following sub-themes

- Supporting African artists, cultural and creative Industries for an inclusive and sustainable economic recovery
- Preventing conflict, reducing risks and building peace through African Intangible Cultural Heritage
- Reengaging with history, arts and cultural values in education to promote a new narrative for Africa
- Protecting and promoting African cultural and natural heritage

***Implementation and adherence to the recommendations of the first edition of the Luanda Biennale (2019)***

The activities and programmes presented under the theme “**THE CONTRIBUTION OF ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE TO SUSTAINABLE PEACE**” contribute to the implementation of the following recommendations of the first edition of the Luanda Biennale, in particular

**Recommendations of civil society organisations networks and cultural festivals**

African governments are urged to activate favourable policy and legal ecosystems for the promotion and development of cultural and social entrepreneurship of youth, young women and indigenous peoples. Governments on the continent must also recognise that the contribution of artists is extremely important. Artists can play a role in at least two important pillars of peacebuilding efforts:

- The works of artists contribute to the valorisation of African art and culture and
- The role of artists in society as role models for youth can be maximised to support and encourage a culture of peace

**Recommendations from the Thematic Forum - Violence Prevention and Conflict Resolution through Culture and Education**

- Considering that cultural diversity and the valorisation of African culture are essential to promote self-esteem and the notion of pan-Africanism, we urge countries to develop and implement inclusive cultural policies that ensure the preservation of tangible and intangible cultural heritage, foster a diverse range of cultural expressions and access to cultural and artistic practices;
- Continue to support and promote African artists and cultural events that, as part of their social responsibility, foster dialogue and a culture of peace, in particular among young people; Encourage the promotion of endogenous cultural knowledge, traditions and forms of cultural and artistic expression that constitute existing mechanisms for conflict prevention and management;
- Create a technological and financial environment conducive to the emergence of African creative industries and inclusive digital entrepreneurship reflecting the cultural and linguistic diversity of the continent.

**Recommendations from the Thematic Forum - Natural Resource Conflict Prevention**

- Improve knowledge on sustainable and compatible use and preservation of shared natural resources at national and transboundary levels and, in particular UNESCO World Heritage sites, biosphere reserves and geoparks, through the valorisation of traditional and indigenous knowledge;
- Recognizing the good practices of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Biosphere Reserves and Geoparks management, in particular through the enhancement of traditional and indigenous knowledge, we call on governments to promote good practices for the preservation, compatible and sustainable use of shared natural resources at national and transboundary levels

## II – ENGAGING YOUNG PEOPLE AS ACTORS OF SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Africa is the continent that has experienced the strongest demographic growth in recent decades, with a trend that should lead it to reach 2.5 billion people in 2050 and 4.3 billion in 2100. This strong demographic growth makes it the youngest continent. Already, in 2020, out of a population of 1.3 billion, the proportion of young people on the continent was 60%. While the rest of the world will gradually age, Africa will continue to get younger.

Africa is a young continent, but it still has the highest rate of extreme poverty in the world. Despite a significant decrease in the proportion of people living on less than \$1.90 a day between 1985 (47%) and 2017 (39%), "extreme poverty is gradually becoming an African peculiarity. The continent, which was home to a quarter of the world's extremely poor in 1990, now accounts for more than 60% (469 out of 751 million people), and this rate is expected to reach 90% in 2030"<sup>1</sup>.

This extreme poverty is often linked to situations of fragility: the African countries with the highest poverty rates are also the most fragile. Conflict and insecurity are among the many factors of fragility.

However, since the end of the Cold War, the number of armed conflicts on the continent involving a state as a belligerent has declined considerably. This decline in the intensity of armed state conflicts does not, however, mean that violence has disappeared or diminished. It persists, transforming and becoming more complex, in two forms. Firstly, in the form of terrorist activities and armed groups that have developed since the end of the 2000s. Secondly, in the form of socio-political violence (riots, violent corporatist demands, violent electoral disputes, violence against the civilian population, etc.), which is on the rise, mainly in urban areas, and which is the result of an increase in social and political demands.

Among the actors of this complex and persistent two-faceted violence are young people. Indeed, in proportion to their demographic weight, young people make up the bulk of those enlisted in armed terrorist and extremist groups known as jihadists. When they are not involved in terrorist and extremist movements, young people participate in socio-political violence. This socio-political violence includes corporatist violence, political violence and spontaneous violence. The first is carried out by groups organised for interests linked to their status (students, unemployed, etc.); the second is that which is triggered spontaneously in the face of situations such as theft, traffic accidents, etc.; the third refers to events of a political nature such as elections, the life of political parties, etc. As a matter of fact, in many countries of the continent, pupils and students often demonstrate violently to demand the payment of their scholarships or better living and studying conditions.

However, it is worth noting that despite the socio-economic problems they face and the lack of attention to their needs, many young Africans do not choose violence to make their voices heard and demand inclusion. There is indeed "an alternative narrative to the one that portrays young people primarily as perpetrators or victims of violence"; one that highlights "the lived

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<sup>1</sup> *Atlas de l'Afrique AFD. Pour un autre regard sur le continent*, Paris, Agence Française de Développement – Armand Colin, 2020, p. 56.

experiences and daily efforts of young African women and men who devote their time, energy and resources to promoting various peace and security initiatives at community, national, regional and continental levels."<sup>2</sup> It is this alternative narrative, of young people as actors in social transformation for conflict prevention and sustainable development, that the Thematic and Good Practice Forum 2 intends to highlight. For the development of the continent, the consolidation of peace, which implies multiple responses at the security, political and socio-economic levels, remains a crucial issue for guaranteeing social transformations for the well-being of populations.

Faced with this challenge, African youth represents an added value to contribute to peacebuilding and development, notably thanks to a certain number of factors: on the one hand, its demographic dividend, on the other hand the increasing levels of education, information and political awareness. Young Africans are already and can become actors and contributors to the culture of peace in their communities, countries and regions, considered in its broad sense of transformation of conflicts and violence, improvement of political, socio-economic and ecological governance.

Thematic and Good Practice Forum 2 means to be embedded in the implementation of *UNESCO's Operational Strategy on Youth (2014-2021)* as well as the African Youth Charter, the *AU Roadmap on Reaping the Full Benefit of the Demographic Dividend by Investing in Youth*<sup>3</sup>, and Agenda 2063, particularly Aspiration 4 of the said Agenda relating to "a peaceful and secure Africa." It also echoes the recommendations made by the Security Council through Resolutions 2250, 2419 and 2535 on *Youth, Peace and Security*, the *UN Youth Strategy 2030*, and the *2030 Agenda*.

In order to address the challenges and opportunities identified above, the forum is developed around the following sub-themes

- Promoting and encouraging youth civic engagement: education for peace, global citizenship and sustainable development
- Youth employability, entrepreneurship and economic empowerment, including cultural/creative industries and green/blue economies
- Introduction to youth foresight and social innovation for sustainable development and social cohesion
- Youth and the role of sport for social cohesion and peace

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<sup>2</sup> *Une étude sur le rôle et les contributions des jeunes à la paix et la sécurité en Afrique. Rapport d'experts indépendants commandé par le Conseil de paix et de sécurité de l'Union africaine*, Juin 2020. Voir également l'article de Peter Biar Ajak, « La jeunesse africaine engagée pour la paix et la sécurité » (en ligne : <https://africacenter.org/fr/spotlight/la-jeunesse-africaine-engagee-pour-la-paix-et-la-securite/>).

<sup>3</sup> Adoptée en 2016, en prévision de la proclamation de 2017, Année de la jeunesse, cette feuille de route a identifié quatre piliers thématiques, à savoir : (i) Emploi et entrepreneuriat ; (ii) Education et développement des compétences ; (iii) Santé et bien-être ; (iv) Droits, gouvernance et autonomisation de la jeunesse.

***Implementation and adherence to the recommendations of the first edition of the Luanda Biennale (2019)***

The activities and programmes presented under the theme **“ENGAGING YOUNG PEOPLE AS ACTORS OF SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”** contribute to the implementation of the following recommendations of the first edition of the Luanda Biennale, in particular

**Recommendations from the Thematic Forum - Violence prevention and conflict resolution through culture and education**

- Considering that millions of children of primary school age are not in school; that nine out of ten children do not have access to minimum levels of literacy; and that many girls continue to drop out of school at a very young age, we call on governments and international organisations to provide and support access to 21st century technologies, in order to improve teaching and learning as well as the literacy and learning needs of populations that have been left behind;

**Recommendations from the Thematic Forum - State of Peace and Security in Africa**

- Considering that youth unemployment and underemployment can be sources of conflict, we call on governments, with the support of UNESCO, to enhance the employability of young people through education and training and to prioritise peace education, in particular by focusing on women's skills development, higher education and teacher training;

**Recommendations from the Youth Forum - Youth, Peace and Security**

- Provide the necessary policy space and resources to support youth. Deliberately create spaces for youth, including key positions in the presidency, government and private sector.
- Allocate dedicated financial resources to support the immense ongoing work of youth in peacebuilding, entrepreneurship and innovation.
- Provide the infrastructure required to enhance capacity - also supporting their creativity, entrepreneurship and innovation - for their effective contribution to and leadership of the fourth industrial revolution on the continent and beyond.

**Recommendations from the Youth Forum - Creativity, Entrepreneurship and Innovation**

- Strengthen support for youth initiatives and entrepreneurship to foster job creation
- Promote training adapted to market needs
- Encourage research, including by young people themselves, to initiate evidence-based entrepreneurial activities
- Create networks of youth incubation centres to facilitate interaction between economic activities
- Implement programmes to facilitate the formalisation of small youth enterprises
- Promote the appreciation and dissemination of Angolan youth inventions as contributors to sustainable development in the country;

**Recommendations from "African Youth Engagement for the Culture of Peace**

### **III – AFRICA AND ITS DIASPORAS IN THE FACE OF CONFLICTS, CRISES AND INEQUALITY**

Africa is experiencing higher economic growth levels and well-being over the years, but insecurity, growing inequalities in different aspects of life, natural and human-made disasters persist in many parts of the continent. As many countries on the continent take an active part in and benefit from the globalization of the economies, the modernization of the societies and norms, as well as the development and dissemination of the news ICTs, poverty and social injustice continue to affect societies. This in turn fuels discontent among the populations, especially the marginalized groups, distrust between the people and their governance systems, thus causing significant obstacles for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the multifaceted impacts of climate change have also deepened the social divides between the haves and the have-nots, partly because the preexisting fragilities in terms of institutional and governance settings have hindered on the national responses to the crises. According to the Institute for Economics and Peace, by 2050, climate change is estimated to create up to 86 million additional migrants in sub-Saharan Africa.

These represent key challenges to peace and development on the continent, while tensions that cut across national and ethnic lines, as well as identity politics and exclusionary ideas of citizenship continue to influence political, economic and social experiences in many parts of the continents. A growing number of groups are increasingly discriminating others because of differences of origin, race, ethnicity, gender and physical ability. In West Africa, specifically in the Liptako-Gourma area, insecurity social and economic inequalities have reached a crisis level. This region's instability also depends on the multidimensional crisis that Mali has been experiencing since 2012, triggered by various armed groups in the north part of the country.

#### *Opportunities*

And yet, Africa has tremendous resources that, if well managed and harnessed on, can create positive conditions for a sustainable culture of peace and prosperity. First the demographic dividend of the continent. About 60 per cent of Africa's population is currently below 25 years, and given relatively high fertility rates compared to other regions, the population under 25 is expected to keep rising for the coming decades from 721 million in 2015 to 1.4 billion by 2063, according to the United Nations 2017 World Population Prospects.

Second, the natural resources on the continent can either be an economic wealth or a source of social and political instability, depending on how they are managed. Africa is home to some 30 per cent of the world's mineral reserves; the continent has 40 per cent of the world's gold and up to 90 per cent of its chromium and platinum. The largest reserves of cobalt, diamonds, platinum and uranium in the world are in Africa. Africa holds 65 per cent of the world's arable land, and 10 per cent of internal renewable fresh water source.

Third, the uptake of the technological revolutions such as the renewable energies and ICTs can be a unique opportunity for the continent to create conditions for social equity, poverty alleviation, and access to knowledge and skills.



Fourth, the African Diaspora's contribution to development through investments, innovation, knowledge, and technology transfers can be instrumental if managed in a systemic manner. It is part of the 3rd Article of the Protocol on Amendments to the Constitutive Act of the African Union that recognizes the important role to be played by the African Diaspora in the development of the continent and states that the Union "invites and encourages the Diaspora, as an essential part of our continent, to participate fully in the construction of the African Union.

Fifth, for many years regional integration has been a priority for many Sub-regional bodies such as SADC, ECOWAS, etc., which should constitute a very important factor of peace, stability and prosperity, especially when dealing with cross-borders and global challenges.

In order to address the challenges and opportunities identified above, the Forum is developed around the following sub-themes

- Contribution of African Women to Peace and Security
- Fight against social inequalities, xenophobia, stigmatization and discrimination
- Science, technology and Innovation to fight against crisis and pandemics
- African Descents, Diasporas and the future of peace in Africa

***Implementation and adherence to the recommendations of the first edition of the Luanda Biennale (2019)***

The activities and programmes presented under the theme "**AFRICA AND ITS DIASPORAS IN THE FACE OF CONFLICTS, CRISES AND INEQUALITY**" contribute to the implementation of the following recommendations of the first edition of the Luanda Biennale, in particular

**Recommendations from the Thematic Forum - Leaving No One Behind: Promoting the Integration of Refugees, Returnees, Displaced Persons and Migrants in Africa**

- We call on the African Union, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), African countries, transit countries and countries of destination to adopt comprehensive and gender-sensitive refugee management policies, frameworks and measures at local, national and regional levels that take into account violence against women and human trafficking;

**Recommendations from the Thematic Forum - State of Peace and Security in Africa**

- Considering that youth unemployment and underemployment can be sources of conflict, we call on governments, with UNESCO's support, to enhance the employability of young people through education and training and to prioritise peace education, in particular by focusing on women's skills development, higher education and teacher training;

**Recommendations from the Thematic Forum - Women's Role in the Culture of Peace: Vulnerability of Girls and Women to Violence**

- Recognising the need to build truly inclusive societies and acknowledging that there can be no peaceful societies without the effective realisation of the human rights of women and girls, we call on all African states and governments to develop and implement progressive inclusive and gender-sensitive policies that promote: attitudinal changes, to encourage positive masculinity and to support advocacy against malpractices and changes in social norms that exacerbate the vulnerability of women and girls to violence;
- Recognising that education is essential for inclusion and equity, and noting that many girls continue to drop out of school at a very young age, we call on states, governments and international organisations to provide and support women's and girls' access to inclusive and quality education. In this regard we also recommend the adoption of technology as a means of improving teaching and learning and as a means of addressing the literacy and training needs of populations that have been left behind by formal education programmes;
- Recognising the key role of African women as agents and promoters of peace on the continent, and acknowledging their limited capacity to contribute to the reduction of violence and to participate in the search for peace, we, the participants of the Luanda Biennale, encourage enhanced coordination between the United Nations agencies, in particular UNESCO and UN Women, the African Union, regional and national women's organisations and the civil society network;
- We propose the organisation of a follow-up conference to exchange experiences and best practices on peace and non-violence for and by women. We also propose to conduct research on women's leadership, their role in conflict prevention measures and in the promotion of a culture of peace

**Recommendations from the Thematic Forum - Africa in the World: Exploring the African Presence in the World**

- To UNESCO, in the exercise of its mandate, to continue its action in favour of the recognition, appreciation and promotion of the contribution, at the technical, scientific, cultural and human levels, of people of African descent to the construction of a new global society; in this regard, to continue the development of its educational programme through the General History of Africa, textbooks and other educational materials, including formal, non-formal and informal education, but also through public information in general
- To the African Union and its sub-regional organisations to adopt relevant resolutions committing member states to promote links between Africans and people of African descent worldwide, and to support intercontinental collaboration for the promotion of the human rights of people of African descent;
- To all States, civil society organizations, intergovernmental organizations, human rights organizations and networks to encourage the adoption of policies and interventions aimed at the elimination of racism and racial discrimination, the protection of the human rights of people of African descent and the establishment of annual review mechanisms to monitor the implementation of these policies

#### **IV – HARNESSING THE POTENTIAL OF THE OCEANS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE**

Oceans present a huge opportunity for (Blue) economic growth and employment for the region, if properly tapped into (maximizing benefits), and if properly managed (minimize the challenges). The relevance of Oceans for the promotion of the Culture of Peace can be resumed in the points below:

- Africa's coastline is no less than 30,500 km, which is 75% of the world circumference.
- Africa's coastal and ocean waters occupy three times the landmass
- Out of 54 African states, 38 are coastal, and 90% of regional imports and exports are conducted by sea.
- Today, approximately 3 billion people — about half of the world's population — live within 200 kilometers of a coastline.
- Thirty-one percent of West Africa's total population and 51% of its urban population lives in coastal areas.

Coastal Regions can generate huge Benefits and Challenges:

- Benefits include a range of ocean based economic sector like fisheries, aquaculture, tourism, transport, ports, unique ecosystems, coastal mining, and energy. Africa has 38 coastal countries and six islands whose maritime industry is estimated to be worth US\$1 trillion per year, a figure that could rapidly grow in the coming decades.
- But there are also challenges: CC and sea level rise, rapid growth of coastal population, coastal pollution, SIDS, coastal erosion, disappearance of (coastal) wetlands, over-fishing, acidification, coral reef destruction, issues of piracy, connected with the non-observance of established international laws and standards regarding the delineation of ocean borders, etc. etc

To make sure that the potential of Oceans is harnessed, it is essential to address the exiting knowledge gaps in this area. Do we understand all the resources available in the oceans? Do we understand the impact of our different interactions with and increasing pressures on the ocean ecosystems?

The Thematic and Best Practice Forum 4 on Oceans for Sustainable Development and Peace connects timely with the ongoing global United Nation Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, which was kicked-off on 1st January 2021. The Decade provides an opportunity to mobilize ocean stakeholders in the region to ensure that Africa harnesses ocean science and research to optimally utilize their substantial blue economy potential, which is the new frontier for development.

The opportunities and challenges highlighted above often become a source of tensions and conflict, locally, regionally and geo-politically on ocean governance and security, including piracy, the delineation of ocean borders and the sharing of transboundary resources.

This underpins the need to accelerate intra- and inter-regional dialogue on the culture of peace and non-violence on the African continent.

The African Union Commission has already developed regional frameworks under which umbrella partnerships for the development of the ocean economy can be developed and strengthened. These include:

- The African Union Agenda 2063: 'The Africa we Want', which recognises, in Aspiration 6, that Africa's Blue economy shall be a major contributor to continental transformation and growth, advancing knowledge on marine and aquatic biotechnology, the growth of an Africa-wide shipping industry, the development of sea, river and lake transport and fishing; and exploitation of and beneficiation from deep sea mineral and other resources."
- The "2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy (2050 AIMStrategy) and its Plan of Action, which outlines the actions to foster increased wealth creation from Africa's oceans and seas by developing a sustainable thriving blue economy in an environmentally secure and sustainable manner.
- The Africa Blue Economy Strategy (2019) which provides guidance to AU member states and regional institutions for the development of an inclusive and sustainable blue economy, by laying out the priority actions for harnessing the potential and maximizing the opportunities for a more evolved and effective blue economy in Africa. The strategy focuses on five critical blue economy vectors: (i) fisheries, aquaculture and ecosystems conservation, (ii) shipping transportation and trade, (iii) sustainable energy, extractive minerals, gas, innovative industries, (iv) environmental sustainability, climate change and coastal infrastructure, and (v) governance, institutions and social actions.

The African Union has also declared the period 2015-2025 as the Africa's Decade of Seas and Oceans, and 25 July the African Day of Oceans and Seas.

Action is needed to reverse the decline in ocean health, action to create improved conditions for relying on oceans for sustainable development, action to structure and boost corresponding scientific efforts at national and international level, and empower governments and societies with science based solutions.

In order to address the challenges and opportunities identified above, the Forum is developed around the following sub-themes

- Oceans of Peace and Opportunity: resources, demographic dividend, gender parity, blue economy, scientific cooperation and diplomacy, South-South cooperation
- New experiences towards sustainable development: coastal tourism and underwater heritage, Waste management
- The Ocean, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and challenges for adaptation to climate change

***Implementation and adherence to the recommendations of the first edition of the Luanda Biennale (2019)***

The activities and programmes presented under the theme **“HARNESSING THE POTENTIAL OF THE OCEANS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE”** contribute to the implementation of the following recommendations of the first edition of the Luanda Biennale, in particular

**Recommendations from the Thematic Forum - Coastal Vulnerability in Central Africa**

- We request the support of the African Union for the development of a continental and pan-African programme on coastal vulnerability in Africa, in the context of Agenda 2063 and, in particular, the "African Union Integrated Maritime Strategy for 2050", the "African Decade for the African Seas and Oceans (2015-2025)" and the "African Charter on Maritime Safety and Security and Development in Africa";
- Given the complexity of the confluence zone represented by the coastline and UNESCO's intersectoral and multidisciplinary mandate, we invite UNESCO, including the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, to support the definition, formulation, development and implementation of the sub-regional initiative in an intersectoral manner. We call for the establishment of a think tank to oversee these processes to address these recommendations.

**Recommendations from the Thematic Forum - Water Management and Coastal Vulnerability**

- Recognising that the health of the oceans, rivers and lakes is essential to the peace and prosperity of Africa, we, the participants, request the support of UNESCO, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and countries to
- The promotion and adoption of holistic science-based policies and interventions, encouraging the creation of multi-sectoral structures and the improvement of scientific research to inform knowledge and policy-making;
- Development of programmes to broaden knowledge and awareness of coastal vulnerability as a human security issue, in its economic, social and environmental dimensions;
- Expanding knowledge and awareness of climate change as a human security issue, in its different dimensions