

The
G7 Research Group
at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at Trinity College
in the University of Toronto presents the

2019 G7 Biarritz Summit Second Interim Compliance Report

27 August 2019 — 3 June 2020

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21 June 2020

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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme,
in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit



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5. Gender: Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa

“We support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).”

Biarritz Declaration for a G7 and Africa Partnership

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy	-1		
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union		0	
Average		+0.13 (56%)	

Background

There is a higher percentage of women entrepreneurs in Africa than in any other part of the world, one in four women in Africa starts or manages a business.⁶²⁴ Over 40 per cent of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are run by women.⁶²⁵ Women entrepreneurs’ investment and contribution to their family and community, up to 90 per cent of their income, far outweighs the 40 per cent male entrepreneurs invest.⁶²⁶ It is more difficult for women to obtain loans and funding; financial institutions do not have the capacity to assist women adequately and there are often legal and regulatory frameworks which prevent women from being involved in the private sector.⁶²⁷

In 2016, the African Development Bank (AfDB) launched the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) at their annual meeting.⁶²⁸ AFAWA provides “available, accessible and affordable financial services to women in business through selected financial institutions.”⁶²⁹ The purpose of these services is to change the nature of trade in Africa, increase credit of up to USD1

⁶²⁴ Why AFAWA? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/why-afawa>

⁶²⁵ G7 Summit: President Macron and G7 leaders provide Bank’s Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative with \$251 million, Africanews (Pointe-Noire) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.africanews.com/2019/08/26/g7-summit-president-macron-and-g7-leaders-provide-banks-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa-afawa-initiative-with-251-million/>

⁶²⁶ 7 Summit: President Macron and G7 leaders provide Bank’s Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative with \$251 million, Africanews (Pointe-Noire) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.africanews.com/2019/08/26/g7-summit-president-macron-and-g7-leaders-provide-banks-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa-afawa-initiative-with-251-million/>

⁶²⁷ Why AFAWA? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/why-afawa>

⁶²⁸ AfDB and IFC agree to promote investments that benefit women in Africa, ReliefWeb (New York City) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/afdb-and-ifc-agree-promote-investments-benefit-women-africa>

⁶²⁹ AfDB and IFC agree to promote investments that benefit women in Africa, ReliefWeb (New York City) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/afdb-and-ifc-agree-promote-investments-benefit-women-africa>

billion per year for five years after its commencement in support of women entrepreneurs, and, most significantly, close the USD42 billion financing gap between men and women entrepreneurs.⁶³⁰

In 2018, the AfDB committed over USD50 million in lines of credit to women through Fidelity Bank, Kenya Commercial Bank and other financial institutions.⁶³¹ Furthermore, AfDB made an anchor investment of USD12.5 million in Alitheia IDF Managers (AIM).⁶³² AIM is a private equity fund managed by women, first of its kind, that invests in “high-growth women-owned and -led SMEs in Africa.”⁶³³ The goal of AIM is to raise USD100 million, focusing on ten countries in Southern and Western Africa.⁶³⁴

In 2018, AFAWA contributed technical assistance to several banks and worked with Entrepreneurium Foundation to train 1000 women entrepreneurs across Africa in financial planning and business model development.⁶³⁵ AFAWA works with central banks and government entities across Africa to develop policy dialogue.⁶³⁶ As well, AFAWA is developing a digital platform, 50 Million African Women Speak, with the goal of connecting women entrepreneurs from around Africa.⁶³⁷

In April 2018, the Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi) contributed their first round of funding. We-Fi is a “collaborative partnership among 14 governments, eight multilateral development banks, and other public and private sector stakeholders, hosted by the World Bank Group.”⁶³⁸ A minimum of 58 per cent of the first round of funding is allocated for women-owned SMEs in low-income countries and fragile and conflict-affected situations. Of that funding, 43 per cent is meant for country and regional projects in Sub-Saharan Africa.⁶³⁹

In May 2019, We-Fi allocated their second round of funding, including to the AfDB, for programs to benefit 70,000 women-led businesses, mobilize nearly one billion dollars of additional public and

⁶³⁰ AFAWA could be a real game changer for trade in Africa, Africanews (Pointe-Noire) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.africanews.com/2019/08/28/afawa-could-be-a-real-game-changer-for-trade-in-africa-business/>

⁶³¹ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶³² What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶³³ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶³⁴ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶³⁵ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶³⁶ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶³⁷ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶³⁸ Who We Are, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://we-fi.org/who-we-are/>

⁶³⁹ Programs Funded by We-Fi, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://we-fi.org/programs/>

private sector resources, and boost women’s entrepreneurship.⁶⁴⁰ 70 per cent of this funding will go toward women entrepreneurs in low-income countries and fragile and conflict-affected countries.⁶⁴¹

On 13 May 2019, We-Fi announced USD62 million for AFAWA to support 40,000 SMEs in 21 African states.⁶⁴² AFAWA’s programs will contribute to “innovative and tailored financial instruments including a women-focused first loss risk-sharing facility, specialized capacity-building training, and targeted initiatives to dramatically transform the business-enabling environment for women entrepreneurs.”⁶⁴³

On 25 August 2019, the G7 announced a USD251 million funding package for AFAWA in support of women entrepreneurs.⁶⁴⁴

Commitment Features

At Biarritz, G7 leaders committed to “support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).” This commitment was made in order to reform “the social, legal and regulatory barriers to women’s full and free economic participation and empowerment.”⁶⁴⁵ The goal of the AFAWA initiative is “to facilitate up to USD3 billion of loans through existing African commercial banks and microfinance institutions over 5 years for over 50,000 women businesses.”⁶⁴⁶ These loans should create jobs, structural change and long-lasting economic growth.⁶⁴⁷ G7 leaders also welcomed We-Fi’s funding contribution of USD62 million to AFAWA, which promotes policy objectives for AFAWA which are in line with the G7’s objectives in this area.⁶⁴⁸

This commitment focuses on “support,” which is “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”⁶⁴⁹ In this case, the commitment focuses on G7 members contributing to AFAWA and doing so through We-Fi.⁶⁵⁰

⁶⁴⁰ Programs Funded by We-Fi, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://we-fi.org/programs/>

⁶⁴¹ Programs Funded by We-Fi, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://we-fi.org/programs/>

⁶⁴² Nearly \$62 million is headed to Africa to support women in business, Africa Times 14 May 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://africatimes.com/2019/05/14/nearly-62-million-is-headed-to-africa-to-support-women-in-business/>

⁶⁴³ Programs Funded by We-Fi, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://we-fi.org/programs/>

⁶⁴⁴ G7 Summit: President Macron and G7 leaders provide Bank’s Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative with \$251 million, Africanews (Pointe-Noire) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.africanews.com/2019/08/26/g7-summit-president-macron-and-g7-leaders-provide-banks-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa-afawa-initiative-with-251-million/>

⁶⁴⁵ Biarritz Declaration for a G7 & African Partnership, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-declaration-africa-partnership.html>

⁶⁴⁶ Promoting Women’s Entrepreneurship in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/promoting-womens-entrepreneurship.html>

⁶⁴⁷ Promoting Women’s Entrepreneurship in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/promoting-womens-entrepreneurship.html>

⁶⁴⁸ Promoting Women’s Entrepreneurship in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/promoting-womens-entrepreneurship.html>

⁶⁴⁹ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 19 September 2016. Access Date: 10 October 2019.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1K4GvxGEMGP_ZDyQgx5LF9meXpnKaRpW_e_QeF2J0WX0/edit#heading=h.30j0

⁶⁵⁰ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019.

<https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

The AFAWA initiative is based on three pillars: AFAWA finance, AFAWA technical assistance, and AFAWA enabling environment.⁶⁵¹

AFAWA finance uses the AfDB's financial instruments to transform the banking and financial landscape in Africa to create incentives for lending to women, through two mechanisms.⁶⁵²

1. A USD300 million risk-sharing instrument with the goal of creating USD3 billion in credit for businesses and enterprises run by women. The purpose of this is to initiate structural change by building on the existing network of commercial banks and microfinance institutions.⁶⁵³
2. A rating system which evaluates “financial institutions based on the share and quality of their lending to women, and their socio-economic impact,” rewarding the financial institutions with preferential financing terms from the AfDB based on their rank.⁶⁵⁴

AFAWA technical assistance offers advisory services to financial institutions with the goal of effectively implementing women's product portfolios.⁶⁵⁵ Furthermore, the technical assistance is meant to strengthen “the capacity of women entrepreneurs through training to enhance business productivity and growth.”⁶⁵⁶

AFAWA enabling environment “engages with African governments and other key stakeholders to support legal, policy and regulatory reforms and strike down the structural barriers impeding women in business.”⁶⁵⁷

For a G7 member to achieve full compliance, they must support all three pillars of the AFAWA initiative, including through the We-Fi. A G7 member must provide aid for AFAWA finance, AFAWA technical assistance and AFAWA enabling environment. Aid can be in the form of, but not limited to, financial or political support, providing technical and professional advisers, sharing best practices and knowledge with AFAWA, African governments or key stakeholders, or working with other governments or key stakeholders to implement these pillars.

Partial compliance would be if a G7 member supports two pillars, including or not including the We-Fi, or the G7 member supports one pillar, including through We-Fi. Anything less than this counts for non-compliance.

⁶⁵¹ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019.
<https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶⁵² What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019.
<https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶⁵³ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019.
<https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶⁵⁴ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019.
<https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶⁵⁵ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019.
<https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶⁵⁶ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019.
<https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶⁵⁷ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019.
<https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

Additionally, this report considers the strength of the action in each of the pillars. For example, if the G7 member supported all three pillars but in one pillar only made a verbal declaration or reiteration of support, or something equivalent, this will lower the members' score from a +1 to a 0 for a work in progress.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member does not support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative or the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).
0	G7 member supports two pillars of the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative, including or not including the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi) OR supports one pillar including through We-Fi.
+1	G7 member fully supports the three pillars of the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative, including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

*Compliance Director: Sonja Dobson
Lead Analyst: Anabid Najafizadeh*

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

As of 30 September 2019, the latest We-Fi Financial Report prepared by the World Bank Group Trustee highlights Canada's total financial contributions to the We-Fi Trust Fund at CAD15.55 million since its inception.⁶⁵⁸

On 12 November 2019, the Development Finance Institute Canada (FinDev) announced an investment of CAD7.5 million to Alitheia IDF (AIF), a fund supporting women-owned and led businesses, to boost women's economic empowerment and access to finance in Sub-Saharan Africa.⁶⁵⁹ The AIF is a joint venture of women-owned and led funds between Alitheia Capital in Nigeria and IDF Capital in South Africa. As the first fund of its kind in Africa, it uses a gender-lens investing approach to support high-growth African small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that help improve women's access to finance and foster their economic empowerment.⁶⁶⁰ The capital invested by FinDev Canada will be used to finance locally-owned, high-growth SMEs that address unmet demand for essential goods and services and operate in priority sectors where women entrepreneurs are dominant both as producers and consumers.⁶⁶¹

⁶⁵⁸ Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative Financial Report. The World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 30 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019.

<https://fiftrustee.worldbank.org/content/dam/fif/funds/wefi/TrusteeReports/We-Fi-Trustee-Report--09-30-2019.pdf>.

⁶⁵⁹ FinDev Canada invests in gender-lens fund to bolster women-owned SMEs in Africa, FinDev Canada (Montréal) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/findev-canada-invests-gender-lens-fund-bolster-women-owned-smes-africa>.

⁶⁶⁰ FinDev Canada invests in gender-lens fund to bolster women-owned SMEs in Africa, Cision PR Newswire Association LLC (Chicago) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/findev-canada-invests-in-gender-lens-fund-to-bolster-women-owned-smes-in-africa-300956608.html>.

⁶⁶¹ FinDev Canada invests in gender-lens fund to bolster women-owned SMEs in Africa, FinDev Canada (Montréal) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/findev-canada-invests-gender-lens-fund-bolster-women-owned-smes-africa>.

On 27 November 2019, FinDev Canada in partnership with the development finance institutions CDC Group United Kingdom, Proparco France, Overseas Private Investment Corporation United States, and the Mastercard Foundation unveiled their joint initiative Invest2Impact at the Global Gender Summit 2019.⁶⁶² The initiative empowers East African women business leaders through providing business development services, access to funding, and network opportunities.⁶⁶³ 100 African women entrepreneurs were selected as inaugural winners through the entrepreneurship competition securing a collective total of USD85,000 in investment.⁶⁶⁴

On 13 December 2019, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau released ministerial mandate letters outlining the policy objectives that each minister will work to accomplish.⁶⁶⁵ The Ministers of Foreign Affairs, International Development, and for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development will continue gender equality work abroad and furthering global feminist initiatives with the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council.⁶⁶⁶ The Minister of International Development is also tasked with implementing the Feminist International Assistance Policy, which is geared toward creating opportunities for women on the ground in developing countries.⁶⁶⁷

On 14 January 2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs published Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy. Global Affairs Canada (GAC) henceforth pledged to contribute 15 per cent of its bilateral international development assistance to improving gender equality and the quality of life for women and girls.⁶⁶⁸ GAC will also work with women in developing countries to access more opportunities and encourage greater financial inclusion.⁶⁶⁹ There is a focus on equal access for women to capital, markets, digital technology and business development, as well as technical support and vocational training.⁶⁷⁰ Canada has already begun work in Senegal with a women's advocacy

⁶⁶² Rwandan firms win big at inaugural women entrepreneurship challenge, *The New Times* (Kigali) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.newtimes.co.rw/news/rwandan-firms-win-big-inaugural-women-entrepreneurship-challenge>.

⁶⁶³ The Power of 100: 2019 Winners, Invest2Impact (Montréal) 29 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://invest2impact.africa/>.

⁶⁶⁴ 31 Kenyan women entrepreneurs win Invest2Impact awards in Rwanda, *Citizen Digital* 29 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://citizentv.co.ke/business/31-kenyan-women-entrepreneurs-win-2x-invest2impact-awards-in-rwanda-305805/>

⁶⁶⁵ Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development Mandate Letter, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/mandate-letters/minister-women-and-gender-equality-and-rural-economic-development-mandate-letter>.

⁶⁶⁶ Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development Mandate Letter, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/mandate-letters/minister-women-and-gender-equality-and-rural-economic-development-mandate-letter>.

⁶⁶⁷ Minister for International Development Mandate Letter, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/mandate-letters/minister-international-development-mandate-letter>.

⁶⁶⁸ Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 17 March 2020. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/policy-politique.aspx?lang=eng#5.3.

⁶⁶⁹ Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 17 March 2020. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/policy-politique.aspx?lang=eng#5.3.

⁶⁷⁰ Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 17 March 2020. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/policy-politique.aspx?lang=eng#5.3.

organization, to help women gain access to more opportunities through training in financial management and harvesting and processing techniques.⁶⁷¹

Canada has partially complied with its commitment by taking action to support AFAWA's technical and financial pillars through partnerships and investments with FinDev and Invest2Impact to help decrease the funding gap and opportunities for women entrepreneurs in Africa. As well, Canada has financially contributed to We-Fi. The Canadian government has also publicly reaffirmed its mandate to continue assistance and create opportunities for women in developing countries. However, Canada has yet to take concrete action on AFAWA's remaining pillars of working with African governments to enable a conducive business environment for women entrepreneurs.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Cecilia Pang

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

On 28 November 2019, the Agence Française du Développement (AfD) and the African Guarantee Fund for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (AGF) signed a sub-participation agreement of USD30 million.⁶⁷² The agreement will improve access to credit for (SMEs), cover losses through a risk-sharing mechanism for SMEs, and guarantee USD60 million to financial institutions which provide loans to approximately 1800 SMEs.⁶⁷³ The sub-participation seeks to support "women's access to finance" specifically through AFAWA, with a "special emphasis" placed on the AFAWA initiative.⁶⁷⁴

On 9 December 2019, AfD announced a EUR15 million seed fund to assist African start-ups in 45 African countries.⁶⁷⁵ This initiative is in response to the lack access to bank loans for SMEs and start-

⁶⁷¹ Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 17 March 2020. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_developpement-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/policy-politique.aspx?lang=eng#5.3.

⁶⁷² French Development Agency supports African SMEs via a counter-guarantee of USD 30 Million to the African Guarantee Fund, African Guarantee Fund (Nairobi) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://africanguaranteefund.com/french-development-agency-supports-african-smes-via-a-counter-guarantee-of-usd-30-million-to-the-african-guarantee-fund/>.

⁶⁷³ French Development Agency supports African SMEs via a counter-guarantee of USD 30 Million to the African Guarantee Fund, African Guarantee Fund (Nairobi) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://africanguaranteefund.com/french-development-agency-supports-african-smes-via-a-counter-guarantee-of-usd-30-million-to-the-african-guarantee-fund/>.

⁶⁷⁴ French Development Agency supports African SMEs via a counter-guarantee of USD 30 Million to the African Guarantee Fund, African Guarantee Fund (Nairobi) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://africanguaranteefund.com/french-development-agency-supports-african-smes-via-a-counter-guarantee-of-usd-30-million-to-the-african-guarantee-fund/>.

⁶⁷⁵ AFD Group: Driver for African Start Ups, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2020. https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/afd-group-driver-african-start-ups?origin=/en/actualites?field_date_value=&field_date_value_1=&field_type_target_id=1318&field_theme_target_id=All&items_per_page=5&page=3.

ups. Furthermore, the seed fund is part of Emerging Valley, “a platform for emerging innovations and partnerships between Europe and Africa.”⁶⁷⁶

On 3 April 2020, the AfDB received USD7 billion through the Gender Equality Trust Fund (GETF).⁶⁷⁷ Among the anchor investors in the GETF is the Government of France.⁶⁷⁸ The GETF works with its partner, the AGF, to support access to financing for women-run SMEs in Africa.⁶⁷⁹

France has partially complied with its commitment to AFAWA through the technical pillar, by signing an agreement with AGF to support financial institutions, and through the finance pillar, by announcing a seed fund for start-ups. However, France has not contributed to We-Fi or to the remaining pillar of working with African governments to enable a conducive business environment for women entrepreneurs.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Maryanna Sierra C. Diab

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative, including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

On 20 November 2019, iMOVE, an initiative of the Ministry of Education and Research, and the German African Business Association held the first German African Forum on Vocational Training and Education.⁶⁸⁰ The Forum focused on vocational education and training, with an emphasis on the role of women. Ministers from Egypt, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, South Sudan, Togo, Chad and Uganda attended the Forum and proclaimed their interest in escalating cooperation with Germany in the education and training sector.⁶⁸¹

⁶⁷⁶ AFD Group: Driver for African Start Ups, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2020. https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/afd-group-driver-african-start-ups?origin=/en/actualites?field_date_value=&field_date_value_1=&field_type_target_id=1318&field_theme_target_id=All&items_per_page=5&page=3.

⁶⁷⁷ AfDB to mobilise \$7bn for women-focused businesses through GETF, Vanguard (Lagos) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/04/afdb-to-mobilise-7bn-for-women-focused-businesses-through-getf/>.

⁶⁷⁸ AfDB to mobilise \$7bn for women-focused businesses through GETF, Vanguard (Lagos) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/04/afdb-to-mobilise-7bn-for-women-focused-businesses-through-getf/>.

⁶⁷⁹ AfDB to mobilise \$7bn for women-focused businesses through GETF, Vanguard (Lagos) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/04/afdb-to-mobilise-7bn-for-women-focused-businesses-through-getf/>.

⁶⁸⁰ German partners urgently needed: iMOVE and the African Association organized the 1st German-African Forum on Vocational Training and Education, iMOVE (Bonn) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.imove-germany.de/en/event-reports/German-partners-urgently-needed.htm>.

⁶⁸¹ German partners urgently needed: iMOVE and the African Association organized the 1st German-African Forum on Vocational Training and Education, iMOVE (Bonn) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.imove-germany.de/cps/rde/xchg/imove_projekt_international/hs.xsl/events.htm?rdeLocaleAttr=en&content-url=/cps/rde/xchg/imove_projekt_international/hs.xsl/German-partners-urgently-needed.htm.

On 9 January 2020, KfW Development Bank contributed EUR25 million to the African Guarantee Fund for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (AGF).⁶⁸² AGF stated the intention for the capital is to create more guarantees and technical assistance to financial institutions.⁶⁸³

On 28 January 2020, the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development signed an agreement with the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Malawi on co-financing the project 'Promoting Agricultural Technical Vocational Education and Training for Women (ATVET4W)'.⁶⁸⁴ The project is implemented by the African Union Development Agency with support from Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, the German development agency.⁶⁸⁵ ATVET4W's approach is to increase women's skills, knowledge, income, decision making power and agency and "questions established norms and gender stereotypes to dismantle existing structural inequalities for women in Malawi's agricultural sector."⁶⁸⁶

On 17 February 2020, We-Fi published their annual report. The report stated that as of 31 December 2019, Germany had contributed EUR45.53 million to the initiative with a pledge to contribute a further EUR11.23 million.⁶⁸⁷ We-Fi contributes 45 per cent of their funding to Africa through AFAWA to improve women SMEs access to funding, contribute technical assistance to financial institutions, and better the policy and enabling environment for women.⁶⁸⁸

Germany fully complied with its commitment to AFAWA including through We-Fi. Germany has supported the technical pillar and financial pillars through the German African Forum on Vocational Training and Education and contributing to the AGF. The enabling pillar was fulfilled by Germany's co-financing of and support for ATVET4W. Finally, Germany has contributed to We-Fi.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jieyi Tang

Italy: -1

Italy has failed to comply with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA), including investment in the Women

⁶⁸² AGF receives EUR 25 million capital increased from KfW Development Bank, African Guarantee Fund (Nairobi) 9 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://africanguaranteefund.com/african-guarantee-fund-receives-eur-25-million-capital-increase-from-kfw-development-bank/>.

⁶⁸³ AGF receives EUR 25 million capital increased from KfW Development Bank, African Guarantee Fund (Nairobi) 9 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://africanguaranteefund.com/african-guarantee-fund-receives-eur-25-million-capital-increase-from-kfw-development-bank/>.

⁶⁸⁴ African Union Project on Malawian Women's Empowerment in Agriculture: Cooperation with Norway and Germany, United Nations Africa Renewal (New York) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/african-union-project-malawian-women%E2%80%99s-empowerment-agriculture-cooperation-norway-and-germany>.

⁶⁸⁵ African Union Project on Malawian Women's Empowerment in Agriculture: Cooperation with Norway and Germany, United Nations Africa Renewal (New York) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/african-union-project-malawian-women%E2%80%99s-empowerment-agriculture-cooperation-norway-and-germany>.

⁶⁸⁶ African Union Project on Malawian Women's Empowerment in Agriculture: Cooperation with Norway and Germany, United Nations Africa Renewal (New York) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/african-union-project-malawian-women%E2%80%99s-empowerment-agriculture-cooperation-norway-and-germany>.

⁶⁸⁷ 2019 Annual Report, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington, D.C.) 17 February 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://we-fi.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/We-Fi-Annua-Report-2019.pdf>.

⁶⁸⁸ 2019 Annual Report, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington, D.C.) 17 February 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://we-fi.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/We-Fi-Annua-Report-2019.pdf>.

Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi), micro-financing and providing support in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable.

Italy has not taken any action or made any collaborative commitments to promote AFAWA in developing countries through means such as micro-financing, loans, and support toward women in those regions.

Thus, Italy receives a score of -1.⁶⁸⁹

Analyst: Maryanna Sierra C. Diab

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

From 28-30 August 2019, the Government of Japan, the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, and the African Union Commission co-hosted the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7).⁶⁹⁰ The Government of Japan declared that it will “welcome efforts to support women entrepreneurship through financial and technical assistance.”⁶⁹¹ In addition, Japan reaffirmed its commitment to make financial contributions to AFAWA through We-Fi, as well as through the Private Sector Investment Finance of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).⁶⁹² The Japanese government also indicated it would support capacity building through technical cooperation, including contribution to the African Development Bank trust fund.⁶⁹³ They expect this will help train 140,000 people, including women and youth, and expand their opportunities.⁶⁹⁴

On 28 August 2019, JICA, with the City of Yokohama and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, co-hosted an official side event for TICAD7 titled “Unleashing the Power of Women and Girls in Africa.”⁶⁹⁵ This

⁶⁸⁹ This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites:

<https://africanguaranteefund.com>; <https://www.globalcitizen.org>; <https://www.africanews.com>; <https://www.afd.fr>; <https://www.icrw.org>; <https://atlanticonline.com>; <http://northafricapost.com>; <https://taarifa.rw>; <https://africanguaranteefund.com>; <http://www.mef.gov.it/en/index.html>; <https://theexchange.africa>; <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/speech-delivered-by-president-akinwumi-a-adesina-joint-interactive-session-with-the-minister-of-finance-of-italy-giovanni-tria-at-the-ministry-of-finance-rome-italy-6th-december-2018-18808>; <https://www.cnbc.com/news>; <https://ghananewsagency.or>; <https://www.esteri.it/mae/en>.

⁶⁹⁰ The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) Access Date: 8 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/index.html>.

⁶⁹¹ Yokohama Declaration 2019 from the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf.

⁶⁹² Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 from TICAD7, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf.

⁶⁹³ Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 from TICAD7, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf.

⁶⁹⁴ Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 from TICAD7, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf.

⁶⁹⁵ Unleashing the Power of Women and Girls in Africa - Social Business and Social Entrepreneurship to Achieve Transformative Change, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) Access Date: 9 December 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/c8h0vm0000f5zxol-att/20190912_01_11.pdf

symposium focused on the social issues affecting women and discussed the potential of social business and entrepreneurship to tackle gender barriers.⁶⁹⁶

In August 2019, JICA and the European Investment Bank co-invested in a women-focused microfinance fund in Sub-Saharan Africa, aiming to improve economic conditions for women entrepreneurs and their families.⁶⁹⁷

On 14 February 2020, JICA signed a Limited Partnership Agreement to finance Women's World Banking Capital Partners II. This fund aims to support institutions who deliver financial services to women in developing countries through investment and providing technical assistance.⁶⁹⁸ Approximately 40 per cent of the funds are being allocated to financial institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa.⁶⁹⁹

On 5 March 2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan announced details of its annual World Assembly for Women.⁷⁰⁰ Leading figures from all over the world will attend to discuss and advocate for women-related issues worldwide, including women's empowerment.⁷⁰¹

Japan partially complied with its commitment to AFAWA by supporting the finance and technical pillars through investing in programs to support women entrepreneurs in Sub-Saharan Africa, and the enabling pillar through conferences aimed at discussing how to overcome barriers to women in business. However, Japan has not taken concrete actions to support AFAWA through We-Fi.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Rose Zhang

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women (AFAWA) initiative including the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

On 24 September 2019, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced GBP515 million in aid for education.⁷⁰² UK funding will ensure more girls can fulfill their potential by teaching basic literacy and numeracy, getting children living in conflict zones into schools, and mobilizing an additional

⁶⁹⁶ Unleashing the Power of Women and Girls in Africa - Social Business and Social Entrepreneurship to Achieve Transformative Change, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) Access Date: 9 December 2019.

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/c8h0vm0000f5zxol-att/20190912_01_11.pdf.

⁶⁹⁷ EIB expands its partnership with Japan's JICA, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/news/eib-expands-partnership-with-japan>.

⁶⁹⁸ JICA Signs Limited Partnership Agreement to Support Women's World Banking in Expanding Women's Access to Financial Services and Contributing to Empowerment of Women in Developing Countries, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 29 March 2020.

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200219_10_en.html.

⁶⁹⁹ JICA Signs Limited Partnership Agreement to Support Women's World Banking in Expanding Women's Access to Financial Services and Contributing to Empowerment of Women in Developing Countries, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 29 March 2020.

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200219_10_en.html.

⁷⁰⁰ World Assembly for Women: 6th WAW!, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 29 March 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/hr_ha/page22e_000940.html.

⁷⁰¹ World Assembly for Women: 6th WAW!, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 29 March 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/hr_ha/page22e_000940.html.

⁷⁰² Press Release: PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, Department for International Development (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-effort-to-get-every-girl-in-the-world-into-school>.

USD5 billion of investment for education in Africa and Asia, with a focus on marginalized children.⁷⁰³

On 27 September 2019, the Department for International Development (DFID) announced a new UK aid package that will help mobilize GBP500 million in private sector investment and create 50,000 jobs across sub-Saharan Africa.⁷⁰⁴ The package will support financial start-ups and entrepreneurs and boost economic growth across the region; as a result, 12.5 million people, half of them women and girls, will have better access to financial services.⁷⁰⁵

On 14 October 2019, London hosted the Financial Times Africa Summit in which the emphasis of discussion was on youth, women, entrepreneurs, scientists, artists, and innovation.⁷⁰⁶ Minister for Africa, Andrew Stephenson, addressed the United Kingdom's commitment to economic partnerships with African countries, businesses, society, and the United Kingdom's plan of "accelerating long term sustainable, direct investment across Africa."⁷⁰⁷

On 27 November 2019, the Renewable Energy Performance Platform (REPP) expressed interest in the financing of renewable energy projects run by women in Africa.⁷⁰⁸ REPP, funded by the UK government, is aiming to channel sources of funding to help create equal opportunities in Africa's rapidly expanding renewable energy sector.⁷⁰⁹

From 4-5 December 2019, the British Council and Ashoka Africa held the Impact!Africa Social Entrepreneurship Summit in Nairobi, Kenya.⁷¹⁰ The summit brought together social entrepreneurs from the public and private sectors to share experiences and exchange ideas on the best way to finance social enterprises.⁷¹¹ Participants engaged in keynote addresses and panel discussions, while sharing in innovation labs and capacity building sessions, all from social entrepreneurs and policymakers and educational institutions working across the African continent.⁷¹²

On 16 January 2020, the DFID announced an increase in support of GBP3.5 million for female entrepreneurs in Africa to access global markets through the International Trade Centre's SheTrades

⁷⁰³ Press Release: PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, Department for International Development (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-effort-to-get-every-girl-in-the-world-into-school>.

⁷⁰⁴ Press Release: UK aid to boost access to finance for sub-Saharan Africa, Department for International Development (London) 27 September 2019. Access Date 11 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-boost-access-to-finance-for-sub-saharan-africa>.

⁷⁰⁵ UK aid is vital, but our ultimate goal is to help countries support themselves, Prospect Magazine (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. <https://www.prospectmagazine.co.uk/world/prospect-aid-report-alok-sharma>.

⁷⁰⁶ Ramaphosa in London for Financial Times Africa Summit (London) 13 October 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. <https://www.iol.co.za/news/politics/ramaphosa-in-london-for-financial-times-africa-summit-34828714s>.

⁷⁰⁷ Press Release: FT Africa Summit 2019: Minister for Africa's speech, Department for International Development (London) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/speech-by-andrew-stephenson-minister-for-africa-to-ft-africa-summit-october-2019>.

⁷⁰⁸ AFRICA: REPP will finance renewable energy projects run by women, Afrik 21 (Paris) 27 November 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://www.afrik21.africa/en/africa-repp-will-finance-renewable-energy-projects-run-by-women/>.

⁷⁰⁹ Big break for women-led renewable energy projects in Africa, ESI Africa (Africa) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://www.esi-africa.com/women-in-energy/big-break-for-women-led-renewable-energy-projects-in-africa/>.

⁷¹⁰ Impact!Africa Social Entrepreneurship Summit, Ashoka (Arlington) Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://www.ashoka.org/en/event/impactafrica-social-entrepreneurship-summit>.

⁷¹¹ Kenya: 300 Social Entrepreneurs in Nairobi Summit for Impact!Africa Summit, AllAfrica (Nairobi) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201912050675.html>.

⁷¹² Event: Impact!Africa 2019 (Nairobi) Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://vc4a.com/ashoka/impact-africa-2019/>.

programme.^{713,714} SheTrades was launched in 2018 to improve involvement of women-owned businesses in international trade through training and mentoring.⁷¹⁵ The new contribution will further support female entrepreneurs through specialised “business training, creating up to 3000 more jobs and helping to reduce inequality in the workplace.”⁷¹⁶

On 17 January 2020, the DFID announced GBP320 million over the next five years to support 3.9 million small businesses across 45 countries in Africa to the UK Financial Sector Deepening (FSD) Platform.⁷¹⁷ This Platform will also strengthen financial links across African countries, to support female entrepreneurs’ access to financing.⁷¹⁸

On 20 January 2020, International Development Minister Alok Sharma spoke at the closing of the UK-Africa Investment Summit.⁷¹⁹ He reiterated the UK’s focus on supporting women and girls in Africa through “training, boosting skills, and more job opportunities.”⁷²⁰

On 20 January 2020, the DFID committed GBP17.4 million of the GBP320 million for the FSD Programmes to FSD Kenya,⁷²¹ FSD Zambia will receive GBP21.95 million of the fund and funding will also be directed to Ethiopia, Ghana, and Sierra Leone.⁷²² Chair of the FSD Network Council and CEO of FSD Zambia Betty Wilkinson stated “we will use these resources responsibly to deepen

⁷¹³ United Kingdom announces additional £3.5m support to ITC’s SheTrades Commonwealth project, International Trade Centre (London) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <http://www.intracen.org/United-Kingdom-announces-additional-35m-support-to-ITCs-SheTrades-Commonwealth-project/>.

⁷¹⁴ UK aid boosts support for African women entrepreneurs to expand businesses into global markets, Department for International Development (London) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>.

⁷¹⁵ United Kingdom announces additional £3.5m support to ITC’s SheTrades Commonwealth project, International Trade Centre (London) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <http://www.intracen.org/United-Kingdom-announces-additional-35m-support-to-ITCs-SheTrades-Commonwealth-project/>.

⁷¹⁶ UK aid boosts support for African women entrepreneurs to expand businesses into global markets, Department for International Development (London) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>.

⁷¹⁷ UK Government supporting City of London to mobilise billions of pounds of investment to transform Africa, Department for International Development (London) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-supporting-city-of-london-to-mobilise-billions-of-pounds-of-investment-to-transform-africa>.

⁷¹⁸ UK Government supporting City of London to mobilise billions of pounds of investment to transform Africa, Department for International Development (London) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-supporting-city-of-london-to-mobilise-billions-of-pounds-of-investment-to-transform-africa>.

⁷¹⁹ Alok Sharma’s closing speech at UK-Africa Investment Summit, Government of the UK (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/alok-sharmas-closing-speech-at-uk-africa-investment-summit>.

⁷²⁰ Alok Sharma’s closing speech at UK-Africa Investment Summit, Government of the UK (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/alok-sharmas-closing-speech-at-uk-africa-investment-summit>.

⁷²¹ FSD Kenya welcomes £17.14m commitment from UK Aid to initiate new phase of financial sector development, fsd Kenya (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://fsdkenya.org/news/fsd-kenya-welcomes-17-14m-commitment-from-uk-aid-to-initiate-new-phase-of-financial-sector-development/>.

⁷²² FSD Zambia welcomes £21.95m 5-year commitment from UK Aid to initiate new phase of financial sector development, fsd Zambia (Lusaka) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.fsdzambia.org/news-item/fsd-zambia-welcomes-21-95m-5-year-commitment-from-uk-aid-to-initiate-new-phase-of-financial-sector-development/>.

financial inclusion, make money work to increase incomes and reduce poverty, and enable sustainable futures for the women, men, and children of our country.”⁷²³

On 21 January 2020, DFID committed GBP15 million of the GBP320 million for FSD Programmes to FSD Uganda to increase access to financial services and support technical assistance and capacity building by working with development agencies, key stakeholders, and improving the financial sector.⁷²⁴

On 17 February 2020, We-Fi published their annual report. The report stated that as of 31 December 2019, the UK had contributed GBP4.79 million to the initiative with a pledge to contribute a further GBP4.89 million.⁷²⁵ We-Fi contributes 45 per cent of their funding to Africa through AFAWA to improve women SMEs access to funding, contribute technical assistance to financial institutions, and better the policy and enabling environment for women.⁷²⁶

On 3 April 2020, AfDB announced the approval of a new Gender Equality Trust Fund (GETF) to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment across the continent.⁷²⁷ Anchor investors in the GETF include the Government of the United Kingdom and together they have invested up to USD2 billion in credit as well as another USD5 billion for women-led SMEs in Africa.⁷²⁸

The United Kingdom partially complied with its commitment to AFAWA by supporting the finance and technical pillars through investing in programs to support women entrepreneurs in Africa, and the enabling pillar through partnerships with African governments and other stakeholders. Furthermore, the United Kingdom has contributed to We-Fi.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sebastian Vecerina

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

During the week of 29 August 2019, the United States Embassy in Pretoria launched the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs (AWE) in South Africa.⁷²⁹ This program will support women

⁷²³ FSD Zambia welcomes £21.95m 5-year commitment from UK Aid to initiate new phase of financial sector development, Lusaka Times (Lusaka) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.lusakatimes.com/2020/01/21/fsd-zambia-welcomes-21-95-m-5-year-commitment-from-uk-aid-to-initiate-new-phase-of-financial-sector-development/#>.

⁷²⁴ Financial Sector Deepening Uganda (FSDU) welcomes £15m commitment from UK aid to initiate new phase of financial sector development, FSD Uganda (London) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://fsduganda.or.ug/fsd-uganda-welcomes-15m-commitment-from-uk-aid/>.

⁷²⁵ 2019 Annual Report, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington, D.C.) 17 February 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://we-fi.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/We-Fi-Annua-Report-2019.pdf>.

⁷²⁶ 2019 Annual Report, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington, D.C.) 17 February 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://we-fi.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/We-Fi-Annua-Report-2019.pdf>.

⁷²⁷ AfDB approves a trust fund to improve women’s economic empowerment in Africa, Ventures (Africa) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <http://venturesafrica.com/afdb-approves-a-trust-fund-to-improve-womens-economic-empowerment-in-africa/>.

⁷²⁸ AfDB to mobilise \$7bn for women-focused businesses through GETF, Vanguard (Lagos) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/04/afdb-to-mobilise-7bn-for-women-focused-businesses-through-getf/>.

⁷²⁹ U.S. Empowering South Africa’s Businesswomen, U.S. Embassy & Consulates in South Africa (Pretoria) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://za.usembassy.gov/empowering-south-africas-businesswomen/>.

entrepreneurs in “fulfilling their economic potential” by providing them with online education in business and finance, networking opportunities, and access to mentorship.⁷³⁰ This initiative was developed to support the White House’s Women’s Global Development and Prosperity Initiative, which aims to promote an “enabling environment that reduces barriers and facilitates women’s participation in the economy.”⁷³¹ Nine other African countries are participating in the inaugural AWE cohort: Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.⁷³²

On 6 September 2019, the United States Embassy launched the AWE in Zimbabwe, which will be implemented through the development organization Act in Africa.⁷³³ This initiative will provide 100 participants between the ages of 18 and 35 with personalized business mentorship, professional knowledge, and tools and networks to build successful businesses over 6 months.⁷³⁴

On 16 September 2019, the United States Consulate General launched the AWE in Nigeria.⁷³⁵ This initiative will provide 100 participants, chosen from more than 6000 applications, with business management lessons, networking opportunities and practical skills during a weeklong workshop facilitated by leading local business leaders.⁷³⁶

On 23 September 2019, the United States Embassy in Kigali launched the AWE in Rwanda by putting out a call for applications to the program.⁷³⁷ The US Embassy is leading the program, in partnership with Igire Rwanda Organization and Noble Women, to teach women how to develop a business plan, raise capital and network.⁷³⁸

As of 27 September 2019, the United States African Development Foundation (USADF) and the Government of Niger State announced a USD10 million co-funding agreement.⁷³⁹ This is a five-year

⁷³⁰ U.S. Partnership With the African Union, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-partnership-with-the-african-union/>.

⁷³¹ AWE Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://eca.state.gov/awe>.

⁷³² U.S. Consulate Launches Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S. Embassy & Consulate in Nigeria (Lagos) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://ng.usembassy.gov/u-s-consulate-launches-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷³³ U.S. Embassy Launches Academy of Women Entrepreneurs Program in Zimbabwe, U.S Embassy in Zimbabwe (Harare) 6 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://zw.usembassy.gov/u-s-embassy-launches-academy-of-women-entrepreneurs-program-in-zimbabwe/>.

⁷³⁴ U.S. Embassy Launches Academy of Women Entrepreneurs Program in Zimbabwe, U.S Embassy in Zimbabwe (Harare) 6 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://zw.usembassy.gov/u-s-embassy-launches-academy-of-women-entrepreneurs-program-in-zimbabwe/>.

⁷³⁵ U.S Consulate Launches Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S. Embassy & Consulate in Nigeria (Lagos) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://ng.usembassy.gov/u-s-consulate-launches-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷³⁶ U.S Consulate Launches Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S. Embassy & Consulate in Nigeria (Lagos) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://ng.usembassy.gov/u-s-consulate-launches-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷³⁷ U.S. Embassy Launches Application for Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S. Embassy in Rwanda (Kigali) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://rw.usembassy.gov/u-s-embassy-launches-application-for-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷³⁸ U.S. Embassy Launches Application for Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S. Embassy in Rwanda (Kigali) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://rw.usembassy.gov/u-s-embassy-launches-application-for-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷³⁹ USADF and the Government of Niger State (Nigeria) Announce \$10 Million Co-Funding Agreement During UNGA, United States African Development Foundation (Washington D.C.) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/2019/9/27/usadf-and-government-of-niger-state-nigeria-announce-co-funding-agreement>.

commitment, with each side contributing USD1 million annually, and will provide technical assistance to support farmer cooperatives, producer associations, and small and medium-sized enterprises.⁷⁴⁰ There will be an emphasis placed on youth and women.⁷⁴¹

On 3 October 2019, the United States' Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) contributed USD200 million to the Union Bank of Nigeria to support women-driven businesses in the country.⁷⁴² This contribution is part of OPIC's 2X Women's initiative which plans to mobilize USD1 billion for women-driven businesses.⁷⁴³

On 22 October 2019, the United Nations General Assembly held the 18th meeting of its 74th session to discuss the New Partnership for Africa's Development, as well as international support for the continent.⁷⁴⁴ Courtney Nemroff, the representative for the United States, emphasized that the United States is focused on providing technical assistance and investing directly in women-owned businesses in Africa.⁷⁴⁵

On 12 November 2019, the United States International Development Finance Corporation and the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) signed a memorandum of understanding strengthening their collaboration to support development in Africa.⁷⁴⁶ They aim to invest a total of USD2 billion and mobilize an additional USD3 billion from the private sector, while prioritizing investments that empower women in Africa.⁷⁴⁷

On 14 December 2019, the USADF and the Government of Senegal announced a USD20 million partnership.⁷⁴⁸ This will be a five-year commitment, with each party contributing up to USD2 million

⁷⁴⁰ USADF and the Government of Niger State (Nigeria) Announce \$10 Million Co-Funding Agreement During UNGA, United States African Development Foundation (Washington D.C.) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/2019/9/27/usadf-and-government-of-niger-state-nigeria-announce-co-funding-agreement>.

⁷⁴¹ USADF and the Government of Niger State (Nigeria) Announce \$10 Million Co-Funding Agreement During UNGA, United States African Development Foundation (Washington D.C.) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/2019/9/27/usadf-and-government-of-niger-state-nigeria-announce-co-funding-agreement>.

⁷⁴² Union Bank of Nigeria gets \$200 mn to fund SMEs, entrepreneurs, International Finance (London) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. <https://internationalfinance.com/union-bank-nigeria-gets-200-mn-fund-smes-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷⁴³ Union Bank of Nigeria gets \$200 mn to fund SMEs, entrepreneurs, International Finance (London) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. <https://internationalfinance.com/union-bank-nigeria-gets-200-mn-fund-smes-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷⁴⁴ Despite Gains in Reducing Poverty, Fuelling Growth, Africa Still Needs International Funding, Training to Overcome Development Challenges, Speakers Tell General Assembly, United Nations (New York City) 22 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/ga12205.doc.htm>.

⁷⁴⁵ Despite Gains in Reducing Poverty, Fuelling Growth, Africa Still Needs International Funding, Training to Overcome Development Challenges, Speakers Tell General Assembly, United Nations (New York City) 22 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/ga12205.doc.htm>.

⁷⁴⁶ DFC and African Development Bank Partner to Support Development in Africa, U.S. Embassy in Senegal (Dakar) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://sn.usembassy.gov/dfc-and-african-development-bank-partner-to-support-development-in-africa/>.

⁷⁴⁷ DFC and African Development Bank Partner to Support Development in Africa, U.S. Embassy in Senegal (Dakar) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://sn.usembassy.gov/dfc-and-african-development-bank-partner-to-support-development-in-africa/>.

⁷⁴⁸ USADF and The Government of Senegal Announce \$20 Million Co-Funding Blended Finance Partnership, United States African Development Foundation (Washington D.C.) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases>.

annually.⁷⁴⁹ It will provide technical assistance to youth and women entrepreneurs in Senegal, as well as SMEs, by providing low interest loans through banks and microfinance institutions.⁷⁵⁰

On 20 February 2020, Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump announced a partnership between the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and the USADF, which aims to support the Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative (W-GDP) through funding the AWE.⁷⁵¹ The USADF will provide up to USD10 million in grants to African AWE graduates over the next five years.⁷⁵²

On 12 March 2020, the US International Development Finance Corporation approved USD881 million in funding for global development projects, including those which are "owned by, led by, or empower women across the developing world."⁷⁵³

The United States partially complied with its commitment to AFAWA including through We-Fi. The United States has demonstrated its efforts in supporting the AFAWA initiative through various forms of investment and funding, as well as through implementing programs supporting women entrepreneurs in Africa such as the AWE. It has thus supported all three AFAWA pillars: finance, technical assistance, and enabling environment. However, the United States has not made sufficient efforts to support AFAWA through We-Fi.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Rose Zhang

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

On 12 November 2019, the European Investment Bank (EIB) announced a EUR1 billion lending program called SheInvest to help women entrepreneurs on the continent.⁷⁵⁴ The program, which aims to support women in Africa in gaining access to finance, will be informed by the criteria set in

⁷⁴⁹ USADF and The Government of Senegal Announce \$20 Million Co-Funding Blended Finance Partnership, United States African Development Foundation (Washington D.C.) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases>.

⁷⁵⁰ USADF and The Government of Senegal Announce \$20 Million Co-Funding Blended Finance Partnership, United States African Development Foundation (Washington D.C.) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases>.

⁷⁵¹ White House, State Department, and U.S. African Development Foundation Announce Funding for the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S Department of State (Washington D.C.) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/white-house-state-department-and-u-s-african-development-foundation-announce-funding-for-the-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷⁵² White House, State Department, and U.S. African Development Foundation Announce Funding for the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S Department of State (Washington D.C.) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/white-house-state-department-and-u-s-african-development-foundation-announce-funding-for-the-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷⁵³ DFC Approves Nearly \$900 Million for Global Development Projects, U.S International Development Finance Corporation (Washington D.C.) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.dfc.gov/media/press-releases/dfc-approves-nearly-900-million-global-development-projects>.

⁷⁵⁴ SheInvest-new initiative to mobilise EUR1 billion for women across Africa, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-306-sheinvest-new-initiative-to-mobilise-eur-1-billion-for-women-across-africa>.

the 2X Challenge, an EIB-endorsed initiative promoting gender equality in the financial sector.^{755,756} Investment mobilized through the SheInvest program will be allocated toward sustainable infrastructure and climate financing, with a specific focus on how these factors affect women.⁷⁵⁷ SheInvest will target gender responsive projects in recognition of women's role in combating climate change and the ways in which women are disproportionately impacted by the climate emergency.⁷⁵⁸

On 29 November 2019, the European Union and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) announced the signing of a EUR8.8 million Contribution Agreement, which strives to increase private sector participation in sustainable regional and global value chains through improved investment and business climate for the COMESA region.⁷⁵⁹ The funds will be used to implement the Regional Enterprise Competitiveness and Access to Markets Program, focusing on agro-processing, horticulture, and leather products.⁷⁶⁰

On 5 December 2019, the EIB proposed its participation in the Alitheia Women Fund for Africa by financing approximately USD20 million to the closed-end private equity fund.⁷⁶¹ The Fund has a target size of USD75 million and invests in women-owned or -led small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Sub-Saharan Africa as well as businesses that provide goods and services to women in Africa.⁷⁶²

On 27 February 2020, the European Commission and the African Union Commission met for the 10th Commission to Commission meeting to discuss future cooperation in many areas, including training and development for women.⁷⁶³ The proposals discussed stemmed from commitments made at the 5th African Union-European Union Summit in Abidjan. Progress was acknowledged on commitments made on sustainable investment and job creation.⁷⁶⁴

⁷⁵⁵ SheInvest programme to support women's economic empowerment, Government Europa via Pan European Networks Ltd. (Congleton) 13 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.governmenteuropa.eu/sheinvest-programme-to-support-women/95424/>.

⁷⁵⁶ Africa Investment Forum 2019: Billion dollar boost for African female entrepreneurs, African Development Bank (Tunis) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/africa-investment-forum-2019-billion-dollar-boost-african-female-entrepreneurs-32626>.

⁷⁵⁷ Africa Investment Forum 2019: Billion dollar boost for African female entrepreneurs, Ecofin Agency (Geneva) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.ecofinagency.com/public-management/1211-40655-africa-investment-forum-2019-billion-dollar-boost-for-african-female-entrepreneurs>.

⁷⁵⁸ EIB to raise €1bn to invest in digital solutions, financial products for girls, women, VentureBurn (Cape Town) 14 November 2019. Access Date: 10 November 2019. <https://ventureburn.com/2019/11/eib-sheinvest-initiative-women/>.

⁷⁵⁹ COMESA-EU Sign €8.8M to Support Private Sector Competitiveness, COMESA (Lusaka) 29 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.comesa.int/comesa-eu-sign-e8-8m-to-support-private-sector-competitiveness/>.

⁷⁶⁰ EU and COMESA Sign 8.8M Euros Deal to Support Private Sector, East African Business Week (Kampala) 4 December 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.busiweek.com/eu-and-comesa-sign-8-8m-euros-deal-to-support-private-sector/>.

⁷⁶¹ Alitheia IDF Women Fund for Africa, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/pipelines/all/20180684>.

⁷⁶² Alitheia IDF Women Fund for Africa, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/pipelines/all/20180684>.

⁷⁶³ EU paves the way for a stronger, more ambitious partnership with Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 18 March 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_373.

⁷⁶⁴ EU paves the way for a stronger, more ambitious partnership with Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 18 March 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_373.

On 29 February 2020, the European Union announced EUR100 million to support Sudan's democratic transition.⁷⁶⁵ This will be partially achieved through the EU's assistance to Sudanese authorities and partners to improve education, training and women's economic empowerment.⁷⁶⁶

On 9 March 2020, the European Commission and the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy announced the EU's new strategy with Africa, discussed at the 27 February 10th Commission to Commission meeting.⁷⁶⁷ The proposals include improving "learning, knowledge and skills, research and innovation capacities, particularly for women."⁷⁶⁸

On 10 April 2020, the European Union and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development announced a EUR1 billion solidarity package to support women-owned SMEs in Morocco who are existing clients due to COVID-19.⁷⁶⁹ Assistance is in the form of "among other measures, short-term capital, refinancing, trade finance and restructuring support."⁷⁷⁰

The European Union partially complied with its commitment to AFAWA by fulfilling the technical and finance pillars through empowering women in the African economy directly through launching financial initiatives such as SheInvest and indirectly, through COMESA, by implementing the RECOMP program or providing financial support amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. The European Union has fulfilled the enabling pillar by working with the African Union and Sudan to empower women. However, the European Union has not taken any actions to specifically support We-Fi.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Cecilia Pang

⁷⁶⁵ European Union announces EUR100 million to support the democratic transition in Sudan, European Commission (Brussels) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 18 March 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_352.

⁷⁶⁶ European Union announces EUR100 million to support the democratic transition in Sudan, European Commission (Brussels) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 18 March 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_352.

⁷⁶⁷ EU paves the way for a stronger, more ambitious partnership with Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 18 March 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_373.

⁷⁶⁸ EU paves the way for a stronger, more ambitious partnership with Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 18 March 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_373.

⁷⁶⁹ Coronavirus: Moroccan Women-Led SMEs Get EBRD-EU Support, The North Africa Post (Morocco), 10 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <http://northafricapost.com/39892-coronavirus-moroccan-women-led-smes-get-ebrd-eu-support.html>.

⁷⁷⁰ Coronavirus: Moroccan Women-Led SMEs Get EBRD-EU Support, The North Africa Post (Morocco), 10 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <http://northafricapost.com/39892-coronavirus-moroccan-women-led-smes-get-ebrd-eu-support.html>.