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DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT INTO ICT FOR EDUCATION

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INVESTMENT APPROACHES IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION (AfDB)



OUTLINE



- OVERVIEW
 - Who we are
 - What we do
 - Why we do what we do
 - How we do what we do

The African Development Bank Group

Comprises

The African Development Bank

The African Development Fund

The Nigeria Trust Fund



Who we are:

The African Development Bank Group promotes sustainable economic development and social progress in its 53 Regional Member Countries (RMCs)

The Bank Group achieves this objective by (i) mobilizing and allocating Resources for investment in RMCs; and (ii) providing policy advice and technical Assistance to support development efforts



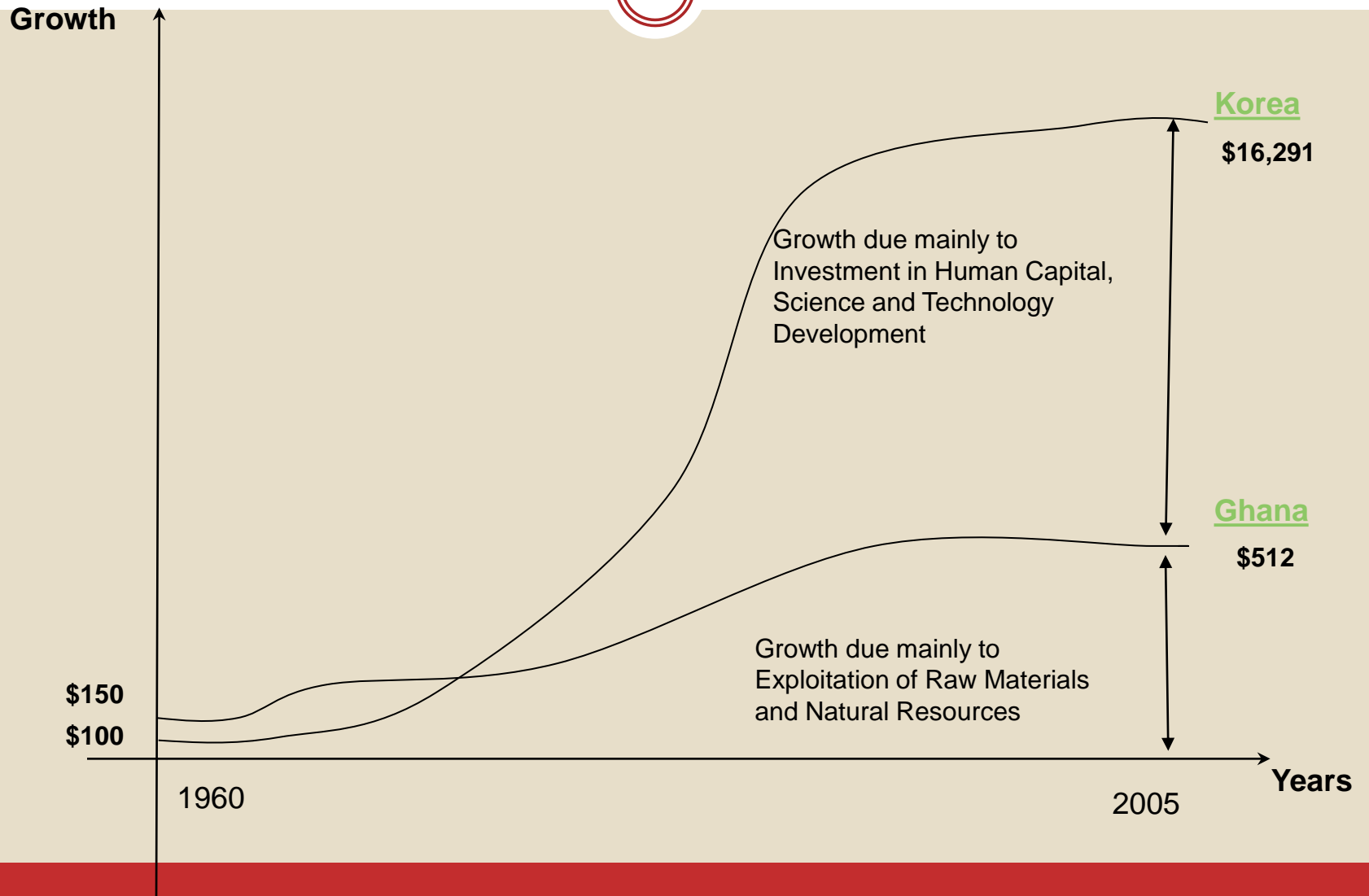
What we do (Education)



To assist member countries develop the skills in science and technology essential for building quality human capital to foster economic growth through:

- **Support to Networks of Excellence**
- **Building higher education, science, innovation infrastructure and upgrading equipment**
- **Linking higher education & training to industry**

Why we do what we do



Africa's metamorphosis...



- Demographic explosion
- Rapid economic growth
- Technological revolution
- Political transformation
- Environmental challenges
- Aid landscape

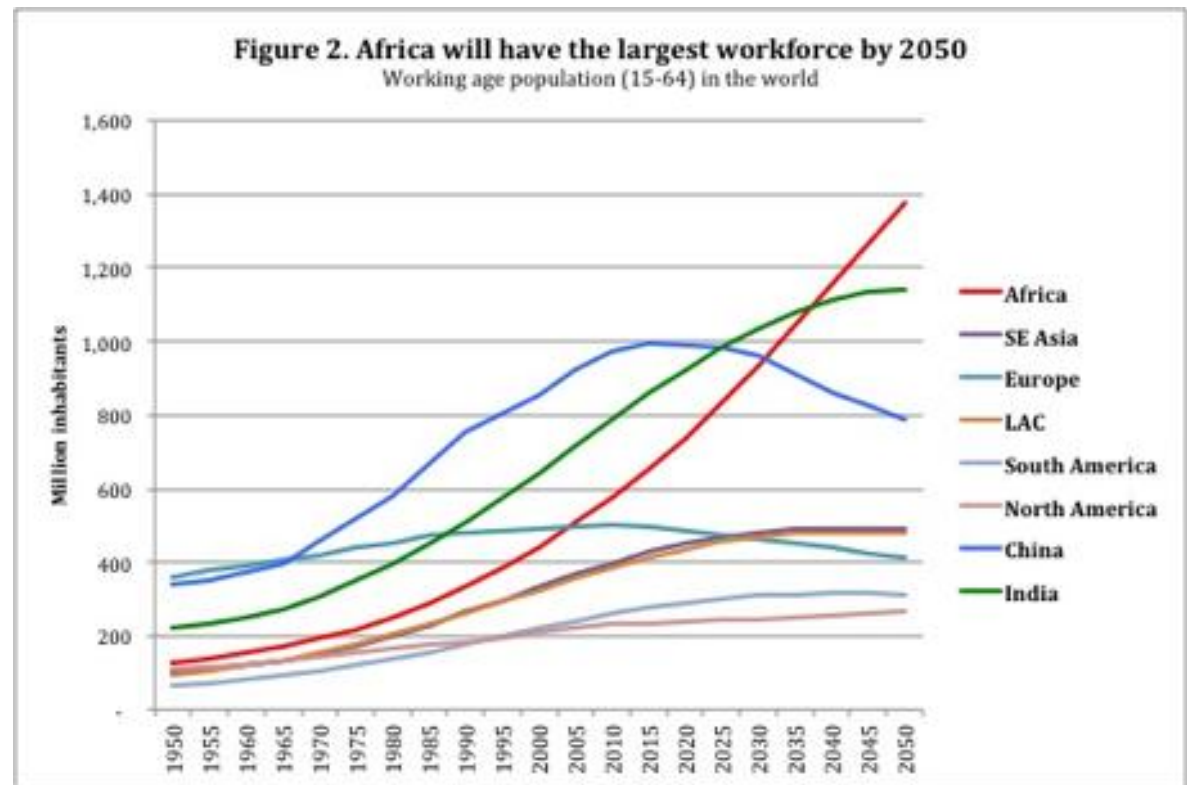
youth bulge.. the continent's greatest asset, or potential risk ?



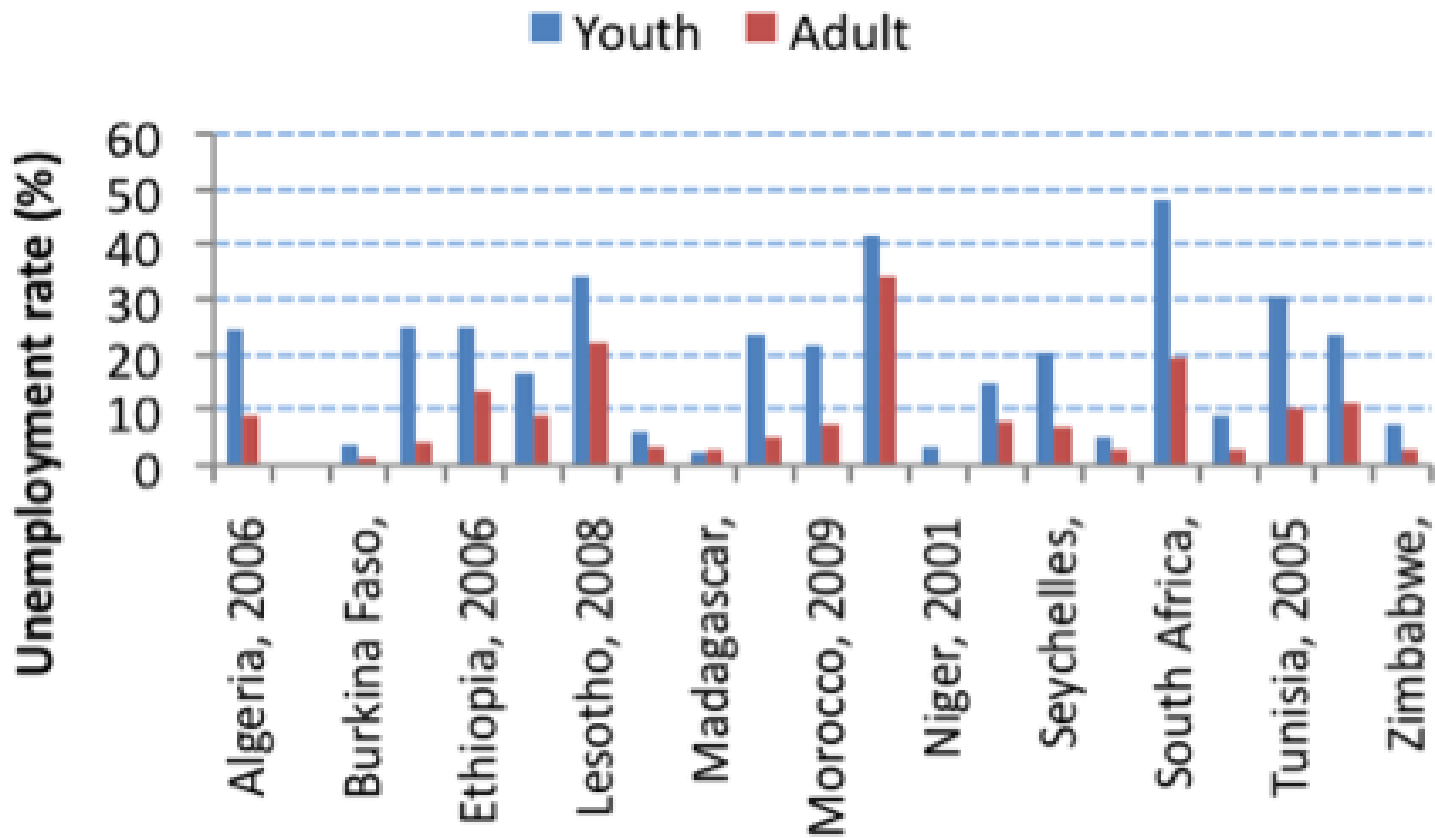
**1 billion people,
2.3 billion by 2050**

Africa is..

- Most populous continent after Asia
- Youngest region in the world
- Will have the largest workforce by 2040 surpassing China and India



Double Trouble: 60% youth unemployment in Africa and many underemployed...



Source: ILO, Key Indicators of the Labor Market, Seventh edition (forthcoming)

Technology wave



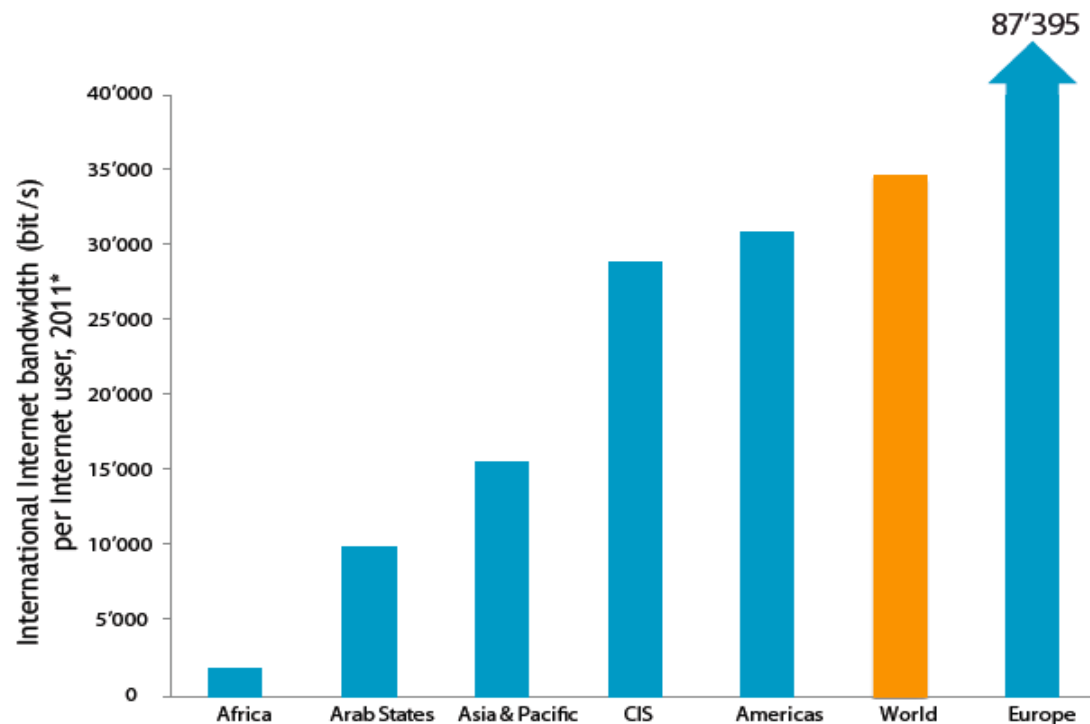
- The total African mobile subscriber base is roughly 281 million and expected to reach 561 million in 2012



- Yet Africa lags behind in connectivity and internet access ...only 3 out of 1000 are internet users in Sierra Leone..1 out of 1000 has a computer in Niger..

Africa lagging behind in the broadband race

- Disparities between regions in terms of available Internet bandwidth per Internet user remain, with on average almost 90'000 bit/s of bandwidth per user in Europe, compared with 2'000 bit/s per user in Africa.



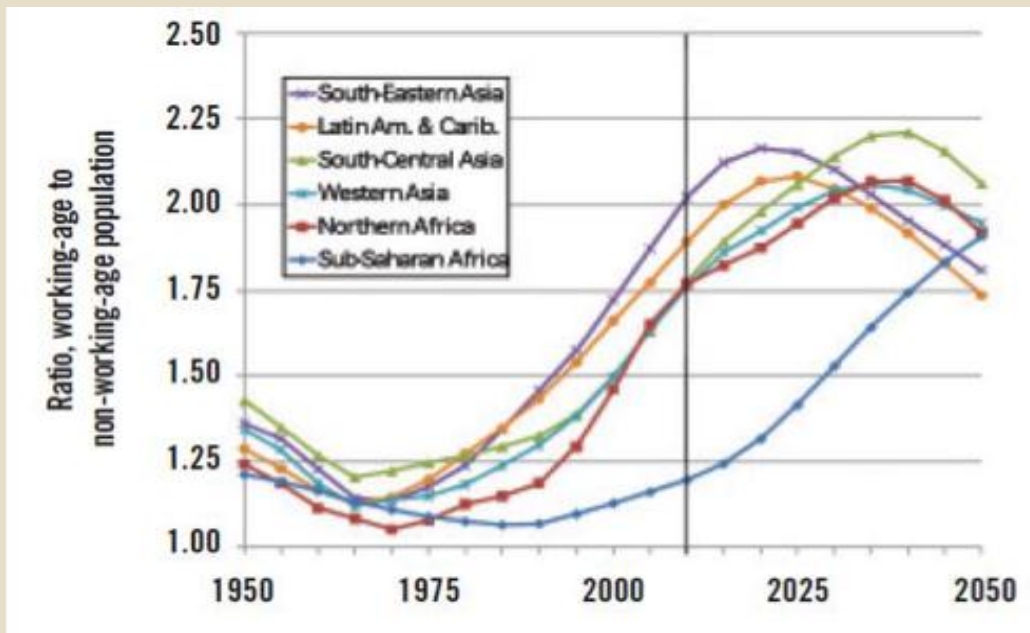
Note: * Estimate

Source: ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators database

How we do it: Growth ..and jobs...

- Cashing in on the demographic dividend

F Regions on the Demographic Upswing

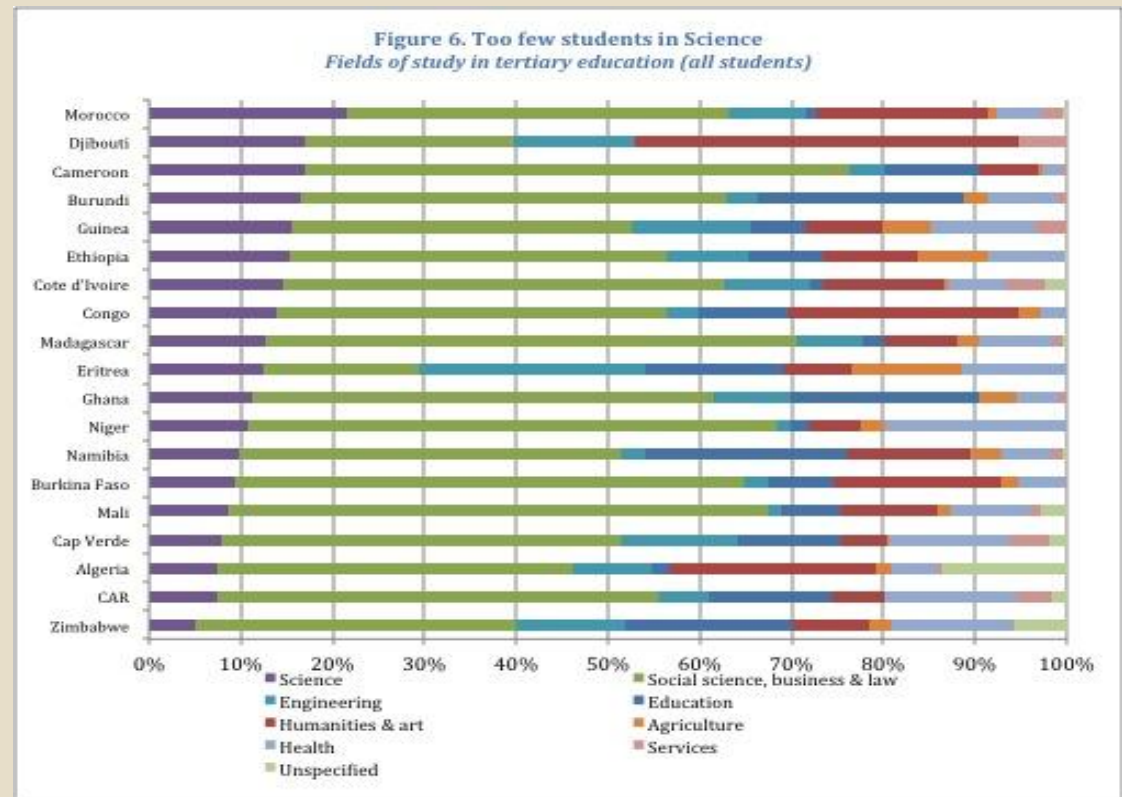


- Skills development to support investments in infrastructure and other economic sectors
- Strengthen science and technology – African network of excellence
- Regional integration

Source: D Bloom and D Canning, "Demographics and Development Policy", Development Outreach, April 2011

Moving Africa from Knowledge consumers to Knowledge Producers...

- Large numbers of youth are being pushed through the education system, but quality of education remains low—especially in math and science
- Number of students in higher education in Africa has tripled in the last 10 years)
-yet the best university in Africa ranks 324th globally



How do we do it... Through New Model for Higher Education in Africa

- ICT-based
- Linkages with the labor market
- PPPs
- Develop critical thinking
- Participatory
- Evidence-based

Why invest in human capital?



- Education, health (especially in new technologies) and social protection are essential building blocks for economic and social development and poverty reduction
- Investments in health and nutrition lead to gains in productivity, increased growth and prosperity
- Investment in education and training improves workforce skills and productivity

How is the Bank investing in STI?



- ❖ Through upgrades and rehabilitation of existing or new education infrastructure including new technologies to provide quality training to improve the conditions for scientific and technological innovations.
- ❖ Through partnerships with the private sector to design and implement projects to sustain economic and social growth
- ❖ Through support to education institutions to build skills to address unemployment especially amongst youth
- ❖ Through studies and analytical works to inform policy and investments



Financing mechanisms



- **The Bank finances higher education, science, technology, tech/voc training through:**
 - Regional Public Good window
 - Loans and Grants (ADF/ADB/MIC)
 - Trust Funds

Conclusion

- A strategy to help Africa leapfrog its socio-economic development
- High return if timely investments is made on
 - Using new technologies to build a knowledge economy
 - Mechanisms for value for money and accountability
 - Inclusion
- Need to integrate private spending in policymaking
- Importance for external aid to be catalytic: need to focus on results and efficiency gains



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Thank you / Merci

