

AFRICAN DIASPORA SME INVESTMENT INITIATIVE

ADSII Policy Framework

A Controlled, Performance-Based Pathway for Diaspora SME Investment and Residency

ADSII is a program of CRDEA — the Coalition for the Repatriation of Descendants of Enslaved Africans. It proposes a limited, fully governed residency pilot that lets African governments test whether modest diaspora SME investment delivers measurable national benefit, without committing to permanent policy change.

1. Purpose

This framework sets out a structural gap in the immigration and investment policies of many African states: thresholds and categories calibrated for large-scale, multinational capital inadvertently exclude a distinct and growing category of African-descended diaspora investors — particularly those investing incrementally in agriculture, agro-processing, and rural value chains. ADSII proposes a deliberately modest, tightly governed pilot to close that gap.

2. The Policy Gap

Across multiple jurisdictions, current investor-residency thresholds and capital definitions tend to exclude:

- SME-scale agricultural and agro-processing investors, whose capital is deployed incrementally rather than as a single large upfront transfer.
- Diaspora entrepreneurs structuring through joint ventures with local citizens or citizen-owned entities.
- Investors whose capital is held in productive assets — land leases, livestock, equipment — rather than liquid bank deposits.

These investors are not seeking access to public services or social benefits. They seek regulatory stability and residency certainty sufficient to support long-term investment, local partnership, and reinvestment of profits in-country.

3. Proposed Pilot Framework

3.1 Pilot Scope

- Duration: 12–18 months.
- Cap: 30–100 qualifying investors, depending on the host state's preferred scale.
- Geographic focus: designated agricultural or rural development zones, as determined by government.

3.2 Investment Thresholds

- Qualifying investment range: USD 30,000–50,000 (or local-currency equivalent).
- Calibrated to SME-scale realities rather than large-capital investor categories.

3.3 Asset-Based Recognition

Subject to independent verification, qualifying assets may include:

- Agricultural land leases, where permitted under local law.
- Livestock holdings, poultry, or agro-processing units.
- Agricultural equipment and operational infrastructure.

3.4 Mandatory Local Partnership

- Applicants must partner with local citizens or citizen-owned entities.
- Joint-venture arrangements must be documented and transparent.
- Priority consideration for partnerships with women-led enterprises.

3.5 Performance Metrics

Residency status is conditional on measurable indicators, reviewed quarterly, including:

- Full-time-equivalent employment created.
- Share of profit reinvested locally.
- Tax compliance.
- Environmental and land-use compliance.

4. Governance, Oversight & Safeguards

Due Diligence

- Full KYC (know-your-customer) and AML (anti-money-laundering) screening.
- Independent valuation of all declared assets — no self-reported valuations accepted.
- Verification of land tenure and sector-specific regulatory compliance.

Oversight Structure

A joint technical committee — typically comprising the relevant trade, investment, and home-affairs ministries, the national investment-promotion agency, and an independent auditor — reviews applications and monitors ongoing compliance.

Revocation Authority

- Residency status remains fully revocable for non-performance, non-compliance, or legal breach.
- Clear, predefined exit mechanisms protect the host state's national interest at every stage.

Data Protection

All applicant information is handled in accordance with the host state's data-protection and privacy frameworks, and is used solely for program administration.

5. Why a Pilot, Not a Mandate

ADSII does not request preferential treatment, statutory exemption, or permanent policy change. It asks only for a measured, evidence-based pilot — one that allows a host government to generate its own data on how diaspora SME investors actually perform before any lasting commitment is considered. The pilot is capped, time-limited, and revocable at every stage, placing full control with the host state throughout.

6. About CRDEA & ADSII

CRDEA — the Coalition for the Repatriation of Descendants of Enslaved Africans — advocates for the legal, economic, and cultural recognition of the African diaspora's right to return, invest, and build on the continent. ADSII is CRDEA's flagship policy program translating that advocacy into a concrete, governable framework that individual African states can adapt to their own priorities and capacity.

Request a Country-Specific Briefing

CRDEA welcomes the opportunity to present a tailored implementation brief to any interested government, regional body, or institutional partner.

Email: repatriation@crdea.com **Web:** crdea.com/for-governments

This document presents a general policy framework for discussion purposes. Specific thresholds, caps, and timelines are illustrative defaults and are negotiable with each host government to reflect local law, capacity, and priorities. This is not legal advice and does not constitute an offer, solicitation, or guarantee of residency, investment return, or government approval in any jurisdiction.