Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

FACTSHEET

African Development Bank

Africa’s Leading Development Finance Institution

The African Development Bank (AfDB) is the leading multilateral development finance institution focused on Africa. The AfDB is majority-owned by African countries. It aims to promote sustainable economic growth and reduce poverty. The AfDB mobilises and allocates resources for development projects and provides policy advice and technical assistance. Thanks to its AAA credit rating, the Bank can borrow at attractive interest rates and lend on favourable conditions. The AfDB has the following two main entities:

- the AfDB provides support to eligible middle-income countries and the private sector in the form of loans, equity investments, guarantees and technical assistance
- the African Development Fund (AfDF) provides support to 37 low-income countries through concessional loans, grants and technical assistance. Special emphasis is placed on supporting fragile and conflict-affected states to boost private sector development and address climate change

Focus
Africa

Headquarters
Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Established in
1964 (AfDB), 1972 (AfDF)

Member countries
AfDB: 81, in 20 voting groups
AfDF: 31 donor countries

Borrowing countries
AfDB: 54; AfDF: 37

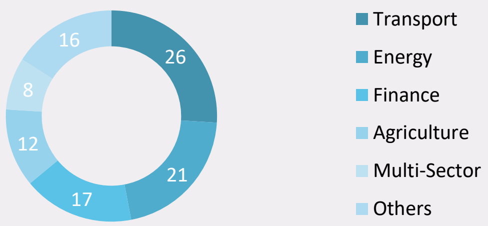
Lending volume in 2025 (USD)
11.1 billion

Total active portfolio 2025 (USD)
72.3 billion

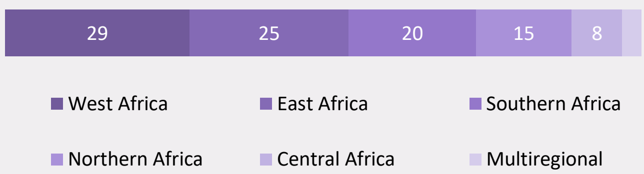
Strategic Priorities	Cross-Cutting Themes
Improve quality of life for people in Africa	Economic governance
Feed Africa	Climate change
Light up and power Africa	Gender
Industrialise Africa	Youth
Integrate Africa	Fragility and resilience

Portfolio

Sectors 2025 (per cent)



Regions 2025 (per cent)



AfDB: A Priority Partner for Switzerland

The AfDB is a priority partner under Switzerland's International Cooperation Strategy for reducing poverty and promoting sustainable development in Africa. As a member of a voting group, Switzerland actively participates in the discussions and decisions of the AfDB's governing bodies to fulfil its supervisory role as a shareholder. The State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) jointly determine the positions Switzerland adopts at the AfDB. Switzerland's strategic priorities include:

- Results-orientation, effectiveness, and targeted financing of development projects according to the Bank's core expertise and strategic priorities
- Adequate capitalisation and safeguarding the AAA-rating
- Compliance with international environmental, social and governance standards
- promoting the private sector and mobilising private capital, including in least developed and fragile countries
- Focus on renewable energy projects to support the energy transition
- Systemic coordination and collaboration with development partners

Swiss accession
1973 (AfDF), 1982 (AfDB)

Swiss voting group
Germany, Luxembourg, Portugal, Switzerland

Swiss voting share AfDB
1.47 %

Swiss paid in capital AfDB (USD)
165 million

Swiss voting share AfDF
1.94 %

Swiss contribution to AfDF 2026-28 (CHF)
167 million

The AfDB's Catalysing Role in Climate Finance in Africa

While many African countries are highly vulnerable to the impact of climate change, there is also great potential for a greener and more climate-resilient development. The AfDB is committed to allocating 40 percent of its funding to climate finance annually. In 2025, the Bank even allocated 54 per cent of its funding to climate finance. During the last replenishment of the African Development Fund, the Bank also established a separate Climate Action Window to scale up and accelerate climate action. Switzerland was among the first donors to join the initiative, with a contribution of CHF 15 million. Between 2016 and 2023, the AfDB financed 2.6 GW of renewable energy capacity and raised its contribution to the reduction of CO_2 emissions from 340 thousand tons in 2015 to 24.4 million tons in 2019.

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African Development Bank (AfDB)

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WEMF 2026