

# 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 is able to 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 aiding 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

81, in 20 voting groups  
AfDF-Donors: 31

### Borrowing countries

AfDB: 54; AfDF: 37

### Lending volume in 2023 (USD)

10.6 billion

### Total active portfolio 2023 (USD)

59.2 billion

## Strategic Priorities

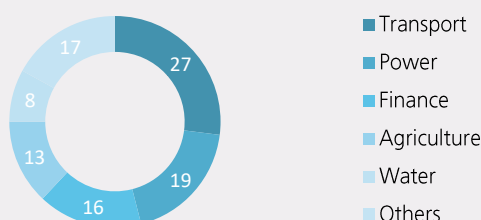
1 PEOPLE	Improve the quality of life for the people in Africa
2 FOOD	Feed Africa
7 ENERGY	Light up and power Africa
9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	Industrialise Africa
17 PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GLOBE	Integrate Africa

## Cross-Cutting Themes

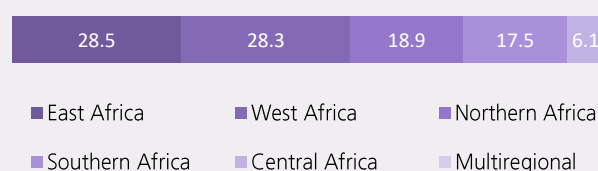
8 ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE	Economic governance
13 CLIMATE ACTION	Climate change
5 GENDER EQUALITY	Gender
4 QUALITY EDUCATION	Youth
16 PEACE AND JUSTICE	Fragility and resilience

## Portfolio

### Sectors 2023 (per cent)



### Regions 2023 (per cent)



## AfDB: A Priority Partner for Switzerland

The AfDB is a priority multilateral institution for Switzerland's international cooperation and a key 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 is committed to:

- supporting the AfDB's institutional reforms, which aim to achieve a sharpened strategic focus and strengthened delivery capacity;
- promoting the Bank's results-orientation, effectiveness and targeted financing of development projects according to the AfDB's core expertise and strategic priorities;
- supporting the AfDB's commitment to implementing and complying with international environmental, social and governance standards;
- encouraging the Bank to focus on renewable energy projects and to support countries in transitioning away from fossil fuels;
- encouraging the AfDB to systematically coordinate and collaborate with other development partners, including other multilateral development banks, UN agencies, civil society organisations, and the private sector;
- ensuring an adequate capitalisation and maintaining the AfDB's AAA credit rating.

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### Swiss accession

1972 (AfDF), 1982 (AfDB)

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### Swiss voting group

Germany, Luxembourg, Portugal, Switzerland

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### Swiss voting share AfDB

1.45 %

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### Swiss paid in capital AfDB up to 2023 (USD)

222 million

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### Swiss voting share AfDF

1.92 %

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### Swiss contribution to AfDF 2023-2025 (CHF)

212 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 2023, the Bank even allocated 55 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<sub>2</sub> emissions from 340 thousand tons in 2015 to 24.4 million tons in 2019.

