

IN THEIR LATEST REPORT, "Climate Change 2014: Mitigation of Climate Change", expert members of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change confirm that "global emissions of greenhouse gases have risen to unprecedented levels despite a growing number of policies to reduce climate change". They also highlight, however, "that it would still be possible, using a wide array of technological measures and changes in behaviour, to limit the increase in global mean temperature to two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels [if] major institutional and technological change" was to take place. This report complements the one issued a few weeks before, "Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability", which concluded that global warming would likely have "severe and pervasive impacts that may be surprising or irreversible." These effects would play out on all continents and in various areas such as agriculture, health, land and oceanic ecosystems, water and livelihoods.

IT IS IN THIS CONTEXT that the Bank operates: first, by increasingly mainstreaming climate resilience into its projects and programs, and, second, by mobilizing additional climate finance for Africa. The recent creation of the Africa Climate Change Fund is a concrete response to the continent's needs. The fund will mobilize more resources to finance climate-resilient and low carbon development. The challenge posed by climate change is clearly one of the major threats to Africa's development in the 21st century; the Bank is committed to addressing it actively in the course of fulfilling its mandate in support of African countries.

Alex Rugamba

*Director of the Energy, Environment
and Climate Change Department (ONEC)*



A new fund for the fight against climate change in Africa

In April, the Board of Directors of the African Development Bank (AfDB) approved the creation of the Africa Climate Change Fund (ACCF). Created with an initial contribution of € 4,725,000 from Germany, this trust fund is designed to support African countries in their transition to climate resilient and low carbon development. The aim is to convert the ACCF to a multi-donor fund as soon as possible to further mobilize climate financing for the continent.

Green growth at the heart of a regional forum in DRC

From March 31 to April 3, the AfDB participated in discussions in Kinshasa on the opportunities generated by green growth and the progress made to date in Africa. The main purpose of the meeting was to gather representatives from the Bank, African governments, development agencies, civil society and academic institutions to share knowledge, experiences and strategies around green growth in Africa.

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Cape Verde: A country strategy paper in favor of greener and more inclusive growth

On 23 April, the Board of Directors of the AfDB approved the new Country Strategy Paper for Cape Verde for 2014-2018. The strategy aims to support the government's efforts to move towards more inclusive growth and sustainable development. It emphasizes the importance of developing and diversifying infrastructure in maritime transport and renewable energy, in particular. The paper also stresses the importance of strengthening economic governance in the public and private sectors.

AfDB supports sustainable and inclusive growth in Botswana

At a consultation meeting in late March, government officials from Botswana and AfDB representatives discussed support that the Bank could provide over the next five years for strong, shared and sustainable growth in Botswana. The results of the consultation will be consolidated into the new 2014-2018 country strategy paper to be submitted for approval to the Bank's Board of Directors in June.

New AfDB-CIF annual report: One-third of African countries have undertaken climate change initiatives

In the 2013 annual report on its collaboration with the Climate Investment Funds (CIF) (see [Our publications](#)), the AfDB said that, through its support and that of CIF, 16 of 54 African countries have developed investment plans that allow them to benefit from CIF funding. These countries are now working to prepare their projects, some of which have already been approved by the AfDB Board with an investment budget of US\$ 1.1 billion from the Bank and US\$ 0.5 billion from CIF.



New developments for the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA)

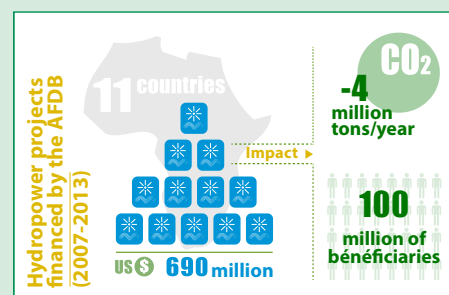
The newly created [African Renewable Energy Fund \(AREF\)](#), closed on March 12 with a capital commitment of US\$ 100 million, including commitments from the AfDB and SEFA of US\$ 25 million each, and US\$ 4.5 million mobilized by the Global Environment Fund. AREF resources will be managed by Berkeley Energy to finance small- and medium-sized independent companies producing renewable energy.

SEFA and its partners are also co-organizing a [business plan competition](#) during the Africa Forum for Clean Energy Financing. The contest is designed to identify and assist clean energy project developers and serve as an intermediary between them and donors.

Kenya: Record-breaking private funding for the Lake Turkana wind farm

The AfDB has brought together many partners around the wind farm project on Lake Turkana in Kenya. This project – considered the largest of its kind in Africa – was granted a € 623 million loan, the largest private investment made since the country's independence. The project will singlehandedly produce 20% of Kenya's current energy capacity and thus help generate prospects for national development.

By the numbers



Our publications



[The joint AfDB-USAID Power Africa Newsletter](#)



[AfDB CIF Annual Report 2013: Financing Change; The AfDB and CIF for a climate-smart Africa](#)



[Information brief of the African Water Facility. "Addressing the climate challenge: rational, approach and actions"](#)



[African Development Bank Group's Integrated Safeguards System; Policy Statement and Operational Safeguards](#)

Zambia: A multi-donor loan for the Itzhi Tezhi hydroelectric plant

The AfDB and three other donors have signed a US\$ 142 million loan agreement for the proposed Itzhi Tezhi hydroelectric project. This project, planned since the 1970s, will on the one hand improve the quality and reliability of electricity supply by injecting 120 MW into the national grid, and on the other, create 460 jobs directly.

World Water Day 2014: Spotlight on the water and energy nexus

The AfDB works hard to promote and highlight Africa's enormous hydropower potential because only 8% of this potential is actually used. "Since 2007, the AfDB has financed a total of 12 hydropower projects across 11 African countries. These projects will ensure the power supply of some 100 million people on the continent and reduce CO₂ emissions by more than 4 million metric tons each year," said Alex Rugamba, Director of the AfDB's Energy, Environment and Climate Change Department. These projects include Bujagali in Uganda, the Regional Rusumo Falls project and the Inga hydropower plant in the DRC.

For its part, the African Water Facility (AWF), a multilateral fund managed by the AfDB, supports the optimization of energy production, especially via multi-purpose dam projects that allow for the reuse of water. Examples include the Songwe river basin project (Malawi and Tanzania), the Baro-Akobo-Sobar development program in the Nile Basin, and the operations optimization study of the Akosombo and Kpong dams in Ghana.

Progress in SE4ALL deployment in the ECOWAS region

A pilot action plan of the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) Initiative was presented at a launch workshop in March in Abidjan. The action plan had been developed by experts from SE4ALL's Africa platform, which is hosted by the AfDB. The 15 ECOWAS member countries have all voluntarily joined the initiative. With the support of the AfDB and platform partners, these countries will prepare their own national action plans on energy efficiency and renewable energy after the pilot.



African Water Facility: Meaningful water management that improves the resilience of communities

The Iullemeden and Taoudeni/Tanezrouft aquifer systems:

In 2010, the AWF granted € 1.2 million to the Sahara and Sahel Observatory to conduct an inventory of water resources of the Iullemeden and Taoudeni/Tanezrouft aquifer systems. This led to the creation of a consultative mechanism for the integrated management of these resources; and a Memorandum of Understanding and a road map, which were both signed in late March in Abuja, Nigeria for the implementation of the consultation mechanism.

Volta Basin Authority: During an official ceremony in February in Ouagadougou, the AfDB office in Burkina Faso submitted hydrometric measurement equipment to the Volta Basin Authority to improve the management of transboundary water resources and the development of the basin. The gift was made on behalf of the AWF and was made possible by a € 1.2 million AWF grant

External publications



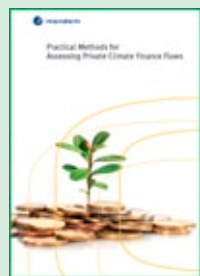
IPCC Report 2014: Climate Change 2014: Mitigation of Climate Change



Mapping of Green Finance
International Development Finance Club



A guidebook to the Green Economy
Division for Sustainable Development, UNDESA



Practical Methods for Assessing Private Climate Finance Flows
Nordic Cooperation

Our Projects in the Media



Interview with Eddy Njoroge, AREF Investment Committee member (CCTV)

to improve the authority's understanding of the effects of climate change on water resources and help them to consider appropriate actions.

Djibouti: A project involving the construction of infrastructure to improve water access in Saday was officially launched on January 29, thanks to the technical and financial support AWF has brought to the project since 2008. Access to water will help ensure water and food security, as well as economic opportunity for approximately 100,000 people facing extreme arid conditions aggravated by climatic hazards.

To learn more about AWF, visit the new www.africanwaterfacility.org.

AfDB and CIF support private investment for climate resilience

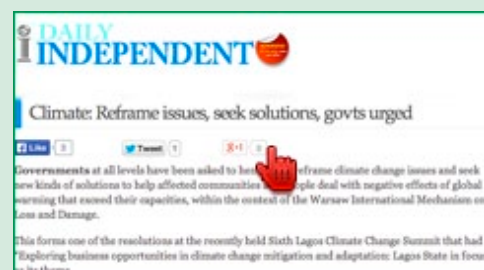
More than US\$ 30 million in concessional loans are available to finance innovative private investment projects in Mozambique, Niger and Zambia. These projects will contribute to improving adaptation to climate change in the three countries. The funding is part of the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience, one of the windows of CIF funding. The deadline for funding requests is April 30, 2014.

Sixth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility: A record total

On April 17, 30 donor countries pledged to contribute a total of US\$ 4.43 billion to the replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF). These funds will enable African countries to face environmental challenges with support from the AfDB, which has been a GEF implementing agency since 2007. In April 2014, GEF resources managed by the Bank reached US\$ 187 million. These funds are being used to finance projects partially devoted to climate change adaptation.



[AfDB plans to develop infrastructure and energy in Burundi \(Arib News, in french\)](#)



[Climate: Reframe issues, seek solutions, govts urged \(Daily Independent\)](#)

Calendar of Events

May 19-23, Kigali, Rwanda:

[The 2014 Annual Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the AfDB Group](#)

May 26-31, Dakar, Senegal:

[Africa Water Week](#)

June 4-6, New York, USA:

[First Sustainable Energy for All Forum \(SE4ALL\)](#)

June 21-30, Montego Bay, Jamaica:

[Climate Investment Funds \(CIF\) 2014 Partnership Forum](#)

July 2-4, Luanda, Angola:

[Africa Carbon Forum](#)

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