



Issue No. 35 – January-February 2016

The African Development Bank (AfDB) has been accredited by the Executive Board of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) as an implementing agency and intermediary of the Fund. This paves way for additional climate finance to be channeled to African countries through the Bank. Climate adaptation and mitigation projects are equally eligible for much needed international funding—a position which was strongly championed by African negotiators at the December climate negotiations in Paris.

This accreditation is a step in the right direction in mobilizing new and additional climate finance necessary for developing countries to meet their Paris Agreement commitments, but GCF funding alone will not be enough to achieve sustainable and climate resilient growth on the continent.

Our task is therefore tri-fold. In order to prepare member countries for funding eligibility, we must continue to scale-up climate finance readiness through available avenues such as the Bank's African Climate Change Fund (ACCF). Develop and finance new bankable and robust projects that will deliver maximum co-benefits, specifically those in the adaptation sector where the needs are greatest. And lastly, in order to reach the global climate goal, climate finance mobilization will still be required from other global funds such as the Global Environment Facility and the Climate Investments Funds, as well as from the private sector and domestic sources.

Above all, increasing the number of adaptation and mitigation projects is fully aligned with the Bank's Ten Year Strategy and its priority focus areas, including the New Deal on Energy for Africa — which advocates for a transformative approach to attain universal access to energy in Africa by 2025.

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TOWARDS GREENER GROWTH IN AFRICA

AfDB, multilateral implementing entity and intermediary of the Green Climate Fund

AfDB received Green Climate Fund (GCF) accreditation by the GCF Board of Directors on March 9th. African countries will be able to access this additional climate finance, mobilized by the Bank, to finance adaptation and mitigation projects. GCF investment priorities, centered around the protection, recovery and sustainable management of resources, respond to many essential needs of African countries that are especially vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

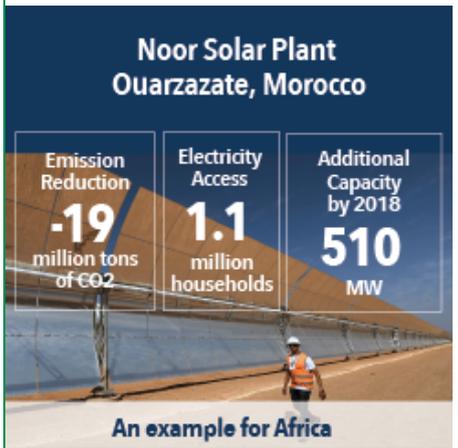
Five voluntary principles for mainstreaming climate action within financial institution operations

The AfDB has agreed with 25 other public and private financial institutions in developed and developing countries, to respect five voluntary principles to integrate climate action in its investment and advisory services, namely by: committing to climate strategies; managing risks associated with climate change; promoting climate smart objectives; improving climate performance; and being transparent and communicating about its climate-related actions.

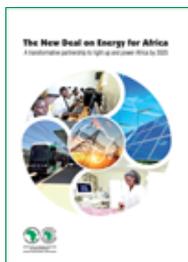
A new guide for assessing environmental and social impacts of projects in AfDB member countries

Anxious to provide the best technical advice to its regional member countries to strengthen their sustainable development capacity, the AfDB has developed new guidelines for the evaluation of environmental and social impacts of the projects and programs it finances on the continent. This new policy document, available in three editions (See *Internal Publications*),

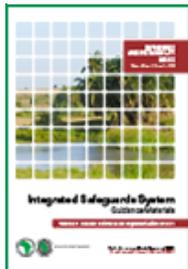
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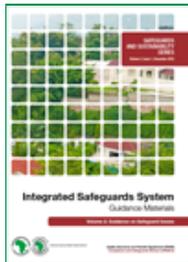
INTERNAL PUBLICATIONS



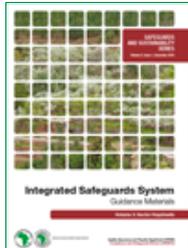
New Deal on Energy for Africa: A transformative partnership to light up and power Africa by 2025



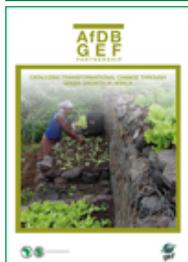
**Integrated Safeguards System - Guidance Materials
Vol. 1: General Guidance on Implementation of OS 1**



**Integrated Safeguards System - Guidance Materials
Vol. 2: Guidance on Safeguard Issues**



**Integrated Safeguards System - Guidance Materials
Vol. 3: Sector Keysheets**



AfDB GEF Partnership: Catalyzing transformational change through green growth in Africa

Green Growth Mozambique: Policy

represents the third pillar of the Integrated Safeguard System adopted by the Bank to meet new environmental and social development challenges.



FOCUS ON RENEWABLE ENERGY

Transformative Partnership on Energy launched at Davos

The AfDB presented the New Deal on Energy for Africa at the World Economic Forum in Davos (See brochure in *Internal Publications*). Before an audience of politicians, business leaders and bilateral and multilateral agency representatives, the AfDB president emphasized the need to join efforts to make this transformative energy partnership in Africa a reality and to "give public-private partnerships the opportunity to provide innovative financing to the African energy sector." "Approximately 645 million people [in Africa] have no access to electricity [...] With electricity, you can develop industries and create SMEs as well as employment", said President Adesina during a live debate on the American news channel, CNBC (See the section *In the media*).

SEFA progress

In late 2015, the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA) awarded a US\$ 840,000 grant to Rwanda to promote green mini-grid networks and pave the way for private investment in the sub-sector. The project will provide electricity to 145,000 rural households and increase the rate of out of network access from its current 5% to 22% by 2018.

Meanwhile, on December 21, a company based in Cape Verde received a US\$ 930,000 grant from SEFA to develop the world's first wave-driven desalination system. The system will have a capacity of 4,000 m³/day of water and will eliminate 5,400 metric tons of CO₂ per year.

Noor-Ouarzazate concentrated solar energy complex, a beautiful example of New Deal on Energy for Africa at work

The Noor-Ouarzazate complex (NOORo), the largest concentrated solar power complex in the world, is one of the most innovative Bank operations both in terms of technology used as well as in the way it was financed. The first phase of the complex was officially opened in February by His Majesty the King of Morocco. It illustrates the determination of a country to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels and use renewable energy, and demonstrates to the world and the continent in particular, how to develop greener and inclusive economies through renewable energy. Click here for the press kit and here to view a video about NOORo.

AfDB reaffirms its support for the Grand Inga hydroelectric project

During a meeting with a delegation from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the AfDB President reiterated the Bank's commitment to continue to support the realization of the Grand Inga hydroelectric project which is expected to launch its first phase in 2016. Since it was commissioned by NEPAD in 2004, the Bank has supported the DRC in realizing this project for the continent. The AfDB has mobilized various financing and provided institutional support for the establishment of the bodies that will be in charge of its management.

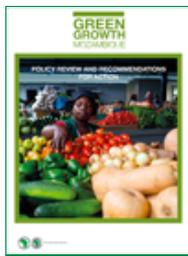
AfDB approves regional Ruzizi III hydropower plant project

The Bank approved a budget of US\$ 138 million in loans and grants to finance the regional Ruzizi III hydropower plant project in December 2015. The plant, the first regional power project in East Africa based on a public-private partnership, will increase access to energy in the region by 300% and help the three concerned countries (DRC, Rwanda and Burundi) meet their growing energy needs.

Progress of "Sustainable Energy for All" initiative in Africa

The third annual workshop for the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) initiative in Africa, held February 9-11 in Abidjan by the AfDB-hosted African Hub, was an opportunity to assess progress on: sustainable energy in Africa; resource mobilization to support the implementation of SE4All Action Agendas and Investment Prospectuses; and coordination of energy initiatives. Check out the new SE4All Africa Hub website here.

On the sidelines of the workshop, the AfDB, the International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy (ENERGIA) and the ECOWAS Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency organized a meeting under the theme of "gender, energy and clean cooking".



Review and Recommendations for Action

IN THE MEDIA



IN THE AfDB BLOGS



Why the AfDB supports the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience by Gareth Phillips

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

22 April 2016, United Nations Headquarters, New York, USA:
Paris Agreement Signature Ceremony

23-27 May 2016, Lusaka, Zambia:
AfDB Group Annual Meetings

6-9 June 2016, Washington DC, USA:
50th Meeting of the GEF Council

Through the New Deal on Energy for Africa, the Bank will support women's access to clean cooking by making financing facilities available.



RESILIENCE AND DEVELOPMENT

AfDB supports population mobility and resilience in Mali

The Bank has allocated CFA 60 billion to Mali in the form of loans and grants to promote the opening up of the country and facilitate the transport of goods and people by linking Bamako to the port of San Pedro (Côte d'Ivoire). This project, the largest ever undertaken in Mali, will have an inclusive and social component captured by the diversity of planned activities, among which include electrification, clean drinking water, rural road development and rehabilitation of local infrastructure.

AfDB supports reform of water sector in Sudan's West Kordofan state

The AfDB announced a grant of US\$ 22 million to Sudan to finance a water sector reform project and development of institutional capacities. The project will enhance the quality of life of local communities and their resilience to climate hazards in the state of West Kordofan where several communities have no access to drinking water and sanitation.

African Water Facility supports implementation of dam in Swaziland to mitigate effects of climate change

The African Water Facility (AWF) is co-financing water feasibility studies and the design of a multi-purpose dam that will supply water to the Mbabane-Manzini urban corridor, which will produce hydropower and provide water for irrigation. These studies amounting to a total cost of EUR 2.8 million are funded by the AWF, with co-financing from the AfDB-managed Middle Income Country Technical Assistance Fund and the Climate Resilience Infrastructure Development Facility, DfID's new program for water infrastructure in southern Africa.



SYNERGIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

Africa Hydromet Program

Representatives from the AfDB-housed ClimDev Africa Special Fund and the World Bank discussed the operationalization and financing of the Africa Hydromet Program during a meeting held at the Bank headquarters from January 19-20. The program launched in June 2015 by the AfDB, the World Bank and the World Meteorological Organization, aims to improve national hydrometeorological systems, modernize the regional centers and facilitate the sharing of knowledge in Sub-Saharan Africa.

AfDB joins Inclusive Green Growth Partnership

The Bank announced on December 17, 2015, that it had joined the Inclusive Green Growth Partnership launched at COP21. This new initiative offers the opportunity for AfDB to take better advantage of international expertise to identify opportunities and investments in favor of fair growth models that generate employment in its regional member countries. The Global Green Growth Institute, multilateral development banks and UN agencies are collaborating on this new partnership.

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