

# AFD and Southern Africa

A partnership  
for inclusive development



**134 projects**  
financed  
in 14 years

**EUR 3,6 billion**  
of commitments  
since 2003

**600 000 ton**  
CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per year  
avoided in South Africa

The Johannesburg-based regional office for Southern Africa covers AFD's activities in Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

AFD's partners in Southern Africa include local and national governments, financial institutions, banks, state-owned enterprises, universities and research institutions. Around half of AFD's projects are co-financed with partners, which is essential to implement its mandate to achieve sustainable delivery of public services, preserve and manage natural resources, promote the transition to low-carbon economies, foster social inclusion.

#WorldInCommon



# Our action in Southern Africa

## 1 INFRASTRUCTURE LOANS TO BOOST ECONOMIC GROWTH AND EQUAL ACCESS TO SERVICES

AFD finances infrastructure projects aimed at boosting economic development and access to basic services, promoting the energy transition, and building cities that are sustainable and resilient to the effects of climate change.

Some of the projects financed by AFD include the improvement of the Great East Road connecting central Zambia to its eastern province, as well as a regional transport corridor linking Malawi and Zambia to the deep water port of Nacala in Mozambique; the expansion, rehabilitation and improvement of the water distribution network in Luanda, Angola and; public infrastructure financing or development policy loans to municipalities in South Africa.

professional training and support for young people in Maputo, Beira and Sofala provinces to enter the job market. It also helps small-scale farmers living in and around Maputo to develop sustainable urban agriculture projects.

Mozambique is also home to the Agha Khan Academy, where AFD has financed the extension of their premises, contributing to the Academy's positive and supportive teaching and learning environment.

## 2 FACILITATING THE TRANSITION TO LOW-CARBON ECONOMIES AND CLIMATE-RESILIENT CITIES

South Africa's largest cities have been tapping into AFD's expertise in their effort to promote more carbon-efficient urban development and greater resilience to climate change. In Cape Town, AFD has funded a study on risks assessment and adaptation solutions through the Cities and Climate Change in Africa (CICLIA) programme. The solutions include: sustainable urban planning, improving transportation and reducing pollution, increasing availability and accessibility of green spaces.

Through its green finance label SUNREF, AFD has helped small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Namibia and South Africa access finance through major banks to kick-start or scale up their efficiency and renewable energy projects.

## 4 PRESERVING SOUTHERN AFRICA'S RICH BIODIVERSITY

AFD works with countries' national and local authorities to fund innovative approaches to preserving and restoring ecosystems, sustainably managing forests, combating desertification, halting and reversing the process of land degradation and ending the loss of biodiversity.

In Mozambique, AFD supported the Limpopo National Park Development Plan with a grant aimed to restore and preserve the park's biodiversity, improve the livelihoods of people living in the park and build the park's administrative capacities.

To ensure the sustainable management of natural resources by rural producers, at the same time as improve their livelihoods, AFD supported PhytoTrade, an association working to develop a commercially viable and sustainable natural products industry in nine countries in Southern Africa.

## 3 REDUCING POVERTY AND INEQUALITY: THE SOCIAL SECTOR

AFD's support to improve social inclusion and reduce inequalities is grounded in its mission to improve access to basic social services and economic opportunities.

In South Africa, AFD has been working to expand access to decent and affordable housing for previously disadvantaged populations. AFD has developed key partnerships with private developers such as the Affordable Housing Company (AFHCO) and public financing institutions such as the National Housing Finance Corporation (NHFC) and the Gauteng Partnership Fund (GPF).

ESSOR, one of AFD's grant recipients in Mozambique, runs

## 5 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT: THE KEY TO INNOVATION

AFD has embarked on several collaborative projects with world-class research centres based in Southern Africa. Research is at the heart of AFD's work, as it contributes to developing context-appropriate projects and programmes. For instance, a collaborative research project with the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR) and the University of Cape Town (UCT) has helped develop a consensus-based definition of social cohesion and a set of indicators to measure it.

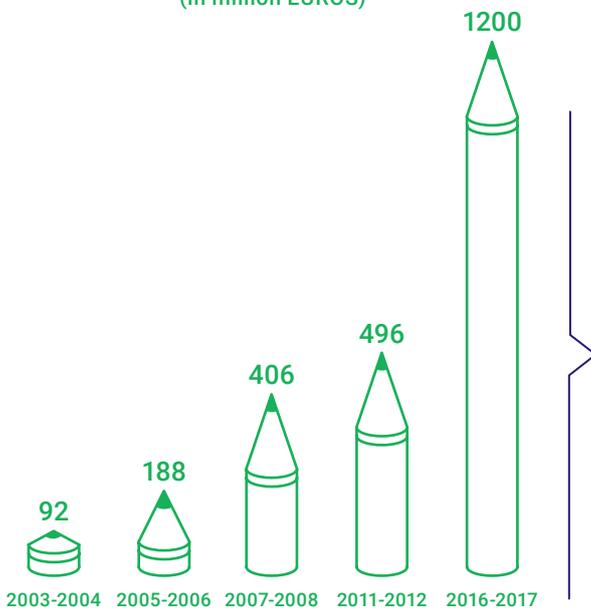
Other research collaborations include: studies that provide a better understanding and measurement of climate finance to identify areas of potential growth for green jobs in South Africa, with economics think tank Trade & Industrial Policy Strategies (TIPS), and a series of reports on spatial transformation through transit-oriented development in Johannesburg, with the City of Johannesburg and the University of the Witwatersrand.

# Our key figures in Southern Africa

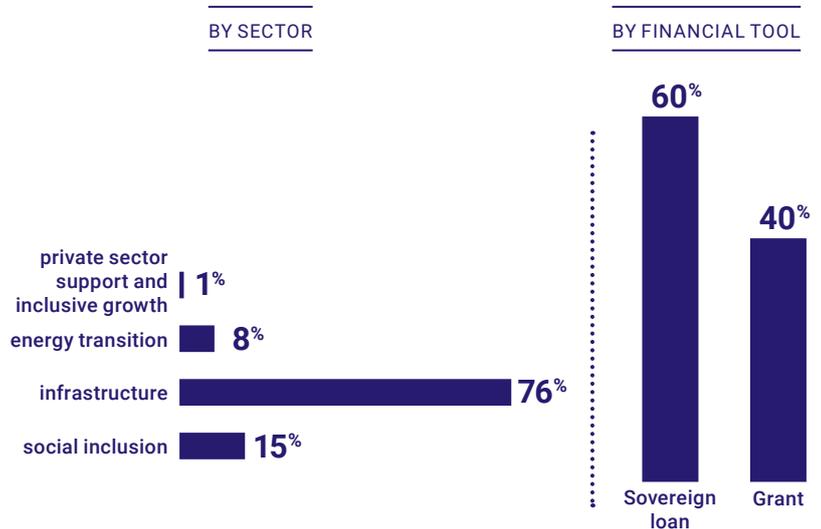


**134** Projects  
financed  
in 15 years

## Evolution of commitments since 2003 (in million EUROS)



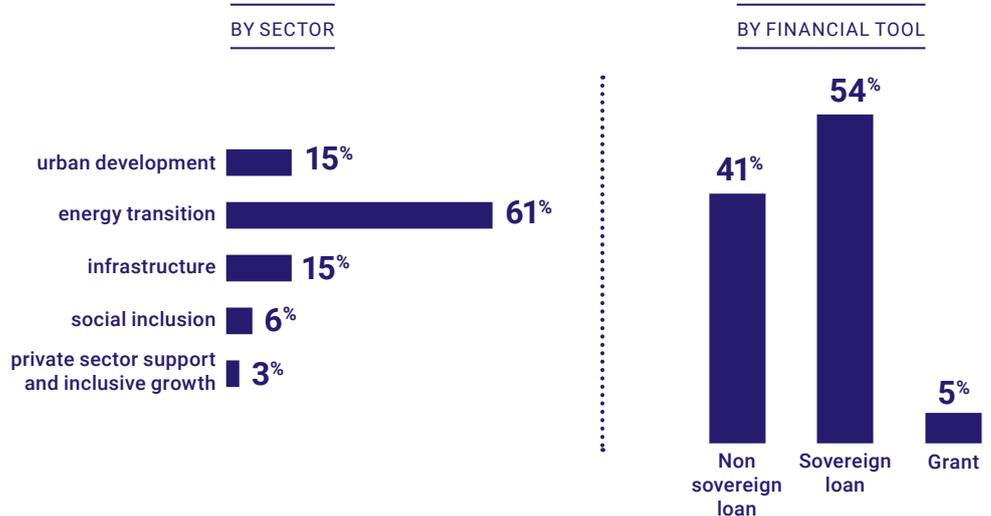
## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMITMENTS IN 2017



## Portfolio amount



## PORTFOLIO DISTRIBUTION



AFD is an inclusive public financial institution and the main actor in France's development policy. It makes commitments to projects that genuinely improve the everyday lives of people, in developing and emerging countries and in the French overseas territories.

AFD works in many sectors – energy, health, biodiversity, water, digital technologies, training – and supports the transition to a safer, more equitable and more sustainable world: a world in common. Its action is fully in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Through its network of 85 agencies, AFD operates in 109 countries and is currently supporting over 3,500 development projects. In 2017, it earmarked EUR 10.4bn to finance these projects.

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**AGENCE FRANÇAISE  
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT**

**FRENCH DEVELOPMENT  
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