



RÉPUBLIQUE
FRANÇAISE

*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*



Eastern Africa

10 FLAGSHIP PROJECTS IN THE ENERGY SECTOR

AFD GROUP ACTIVITIES IN EASTERN AFRICA

A committed partner in Eastern Africa for nearly 40 years, AFD Group supports countries across the region in developing sustainable energy systems. Over the past two decades, AFD Group has invested more than €2.5 billion in energy projects across seven countries. Its core mission is clear: to ensure universal access to clean, reliable and resilient energy.

In a region where one in two people still lacks access to electricity, and where clean cooking solutions remain a major challenge for health, gender equality and climate, the AFD Group combines large-scale infrastructure investments with policy dialogue and technical assistance to accelerate a just energy transition.



+3 million
people gained access to electricity since 2021



200 MC
per year for access to energy



+1 GW of renewable
energy developed or rehabilitated since 2010



OUR FOUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1 Expanding access to electricity and clean cooking for all

Today, AFD Group is one of the leading players in the energy sector in Eastern Africa. It works alongside key partners including the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the European Investment Bank, KfW and the European Union to expand power grids, connect off-grid communities and promote modern, clean cooking solutions.

2 Promoting energy efficiency and demand management

The AFD Group promotes energy efficiency across all sectors (power generation and distribution, industry, transport and households) helping to save billions of kWh. Through the Energy Efficiency in Buildings Programme (PEEB), it supports over €400 million in infrastructure investments, particularly in education, healthcare and industry.

3 Developing low-carbon energy and strengthening grids

Climate change is one of the greatest threats to our planet. In response, the AFD Group focuses on scaling up low-carbon technologies and reinforcing energy networks. It supports the construction and rehabilitation of hydropower, geothermal, wind and solar plants, alongside the modernization of national grid control centers and the development of regional interconnections.

4 Supporting transition policies and sector stakeholders

The AFD Group supports both public and private stakeholders through energy planning assistance, regulatory framework development, capacity building and innovation support. It also ensures that this energy transition contributes to economic development by strengthening local value chains and industrial policies, helping create sustainable jobs and building more resilient energy systems that generate real value for local economies.

AFD GROUP DELIVERING ON FRANCE'S COMMITMENTS

As part of **Mission 300**, an initiative led by the World Bank and the African Development Bank to connect 300 million people to electricity in Sub-Saharan Africa by 2030, AFD Group is implementing France's **€1 billion** contribution.

Beyond access to electricity, this programme fosters economic growth by supporting productive activities, business development and job creation. The Group works closely with local ecosystems, financial systems and value chains to ensure long-term impact.

On **clean cooking**, the AFD Group is delivering France's commitment to invest **€100 million** by 2030 to support a fair and inclusive transition toward universal access to clean and efficient cooking solutions. According to the International Energy Agency, more than 900 million people still rely on wood, charcoal and other biomass fuels. These practices contribute to climate change, deforestation and gender inequalities, disproportionately affecting women and children through exposure to harmful smoke.



Modernising and Ethiopia's power grid for a low-carbon future

Ethiopia is undertaking an ambitious transformation of its electricity sector to improve service quality, strengthen system resilience and accelerate renewable energy integration. The RISED project (Renewable, Integrated, Sustainable Energy & Digitalisation) supports this effort by modernising and digitising the national grid operated by Ethiopian Electric Power (EEP).

The programme combines infrastructure upgrades - substation rehabilitation and automation, emergency systems, transformer repair facilities - with digital and cybersecurity improvements, including the completion of the national dispatch centre, the creation of a cybersecurity hub and the deployment of 1,590 km of fibre optics.

It also supports energy transition efforts through the rehabilitation of the Ashegoda wind farm and strengthens skills development with the completion of EEP's training centre.



Key figure

4,000,000 people with improved electricity access; +1,000 jobs created



French expertise

GE France, RTE International



Location

Ethiopia



© Seven Communications



© Seven Communications

A national electrification programme in Rwanda

In Rwanda, the national energy access programme supports the government's goal of universal electricity access. It focuses on expanding and strengthening the grid, particularly in the Western and Northern regions, connecting households and businesses.

Implemented in partnership with the World Bank, the programme will connect around 230,000 households and thousands of commercial users, contributing to social inclusion, local development and reduced regional inequalities.



Key figure
+1,000,000 people
with electricity access



French expertise
Cegelec



Location
Rwanda



© Kibuka Mukisa Oscar

Shinyanga solar power plant: a major solar project for Tanzania

In Tanzania, the Shinyanga project represents a step change in the scale of renewable energy development. Located in the north of the country, this photovoltaic power plant is being deployed in two phases: a first tranche of 50 MWp, recently commissioned, and a second of 100 MWp currently being contracted. Once complete, with 150 MWp installed, it will be among the largest solar plants in Africa. The project will provide renewable, low-carbon and competitive electricity to more than 500,000 Tanzanians, while strengthening the country's security of supply. Strategically located within the grid, the plant will also help stabilise power supply across northern Tanzania and, in time, feed into a regional interconnected network.



Key figure

+500,000 Tanzanians set to benefit from the plant's electricity output



French expertise

Artelia, Sagemcom



Location

Tanzania



© TanESCO, Tanzanie.

Green mini-grids (GMG): powering remote communities in Kenya

In Kenya, the Green Mini-Grid (GMG) programme delivers reliable, renewable electricity to off-grid communities. Supported by FCDO and later the European Union, it enables private-sector deployment of mini-grids across several counties.

The programme has already installed dozens of mini-grids, providing green electricity to over 100,000 people, with more than 20,000 new connections and 2 MW installed capacity. It also avoids around 10,000 tonnes of CO₂ annually.



Key figure
+100,000 people with electricity access



French expertise
Innovation Énergie Développement(IED)



Location
Kenya



© Transileu

Rural electrification: connecting communities and driving development

The "Rural Grid Extension and Reinforcement project" is designed to fundamentally transform energy access in the most remote areas, through developing and reinforcing electricity networks. The project includes the deployment of more than 2,800 km of power lines and the installation of hundreds of pieces of equipment, enabling around 70,000 households to be connected. At the same time, more than 16,000 businesses (markets, shops, workshops, mills, dairies) and public institutions (health centres, schools) will gain access to reliable electricity, spurring local growth and economic development.

The project also integrates solutions to simplify user connections and provides support to local stakeholders for sustainable network management. By making energy accessible and permanent, it tangibly improves living conditions, stimulates the local economy and reduces inequality between rural and urban areas.



Key figure
+200,000 people with electricity access



French expertise
Veritas



Location
Uganda



© Kibuka Mukisa Oscar

Reducing energy costs and improving efficiency in Djibouti's public buildings

In Djibouti, where electricity is expensive and largely imported, energy efficiency is a strategic lever for change. The Public Building Energy Efficiency Programme (PEEB) targets the renovation of around ten representative public buildings (ministries, a hospital, schools and a mosque) to achieve lasting reductions in energy consumption. Roof insulation, solar photovoltaic panels and high-performance equipment will generate savings of up to 53% in electricity use, equivalent to nearly 4,000 MWh per year. The project will also help avoid 24 tonnes of CO₂ annually and lay the foundations for a local energy performance sector. A revolving fund will allow the savings generated to be reinvested in rolling out the approach to other public buildings, making energy efficiency central to "Djibouti's Vision 2035 strategy".



Key figure
53% electricity savings achieved



French expertise
Ginger Sofreco



Location
Djibouti



© Yonas Tadesse

Building Kenya's National Grid Control Centre

In Kenya, where more than 80% of electricity already comes from renewable sources, managing the national grid has become a strategic priority. To support growing demand and secure the integration of renewables, the RETNET project is undertaking a comprehensive modernisation of the national transmission system.

of supervising the grid in real time, and the commissioning of a strategic substation at Makindu, between Mombasa and Nairobi. These new infrastructures will enable better anticipation of electricity flows, reduce losses and ensure a more stable power supply. By strengthening the backbone of the electricity system, the project benefits more than one million people and supports Kenya's ongoing energy transition.

This includes the creation of a national control centre capable



Key figure
1 000 000 de personnes bénéficiant d'une meilleure qualité de service électrique



French expertise
GE France



Location
Kenya

© Nyakabi Gitahi

Expanding electricity access in Burundi

Burundi still faces limited electricity coverage, particularly in rural areas. To address this, AFD is supporting the ASCENT project (2022–2026), implemented with the World Bank and national utility REGIDESO.

The project aims to expand access, improve service quality and support sustainable job creation. Upgrading the distribution network will increase supply while strengthening system stability, ultimately improving living conditions and supporting socio-economic development.



Key figure
+200,000 people with electricity access



French expertise
EDF



Location
Burundi



© Kibutika Mukisa Oscar

Strengthening the clean cooking sector in Tanzania and Uganda

In Uganda and Tanzania, the vast majority of households still depend on biomass fuels, primarily charcoal and firewood for cooking. This dependence drives indoor air pollution, affecting women and children most acutely, accelerates deforestation and leaves households exposed to volatile fuel costs and supply shortages. Moving households towards modern cooking solutions is therefore both an environmental and a socio-

economic priority. Funded by AFD, Biomasse Energie Afrique is a Technical Assistance programme supporting businesses, public institutions, donors and investors active in the clean cooking sector, currently operating in Tanzania and Uganda. The programme provides tailored support to selected local companies to help them strengthen their business models, scale up their operations and access finance.



© Didier Gentilhomme



Key figure
8 companies supported over 18 months to sustainably build the clean cooking market



French expertise
Hystra



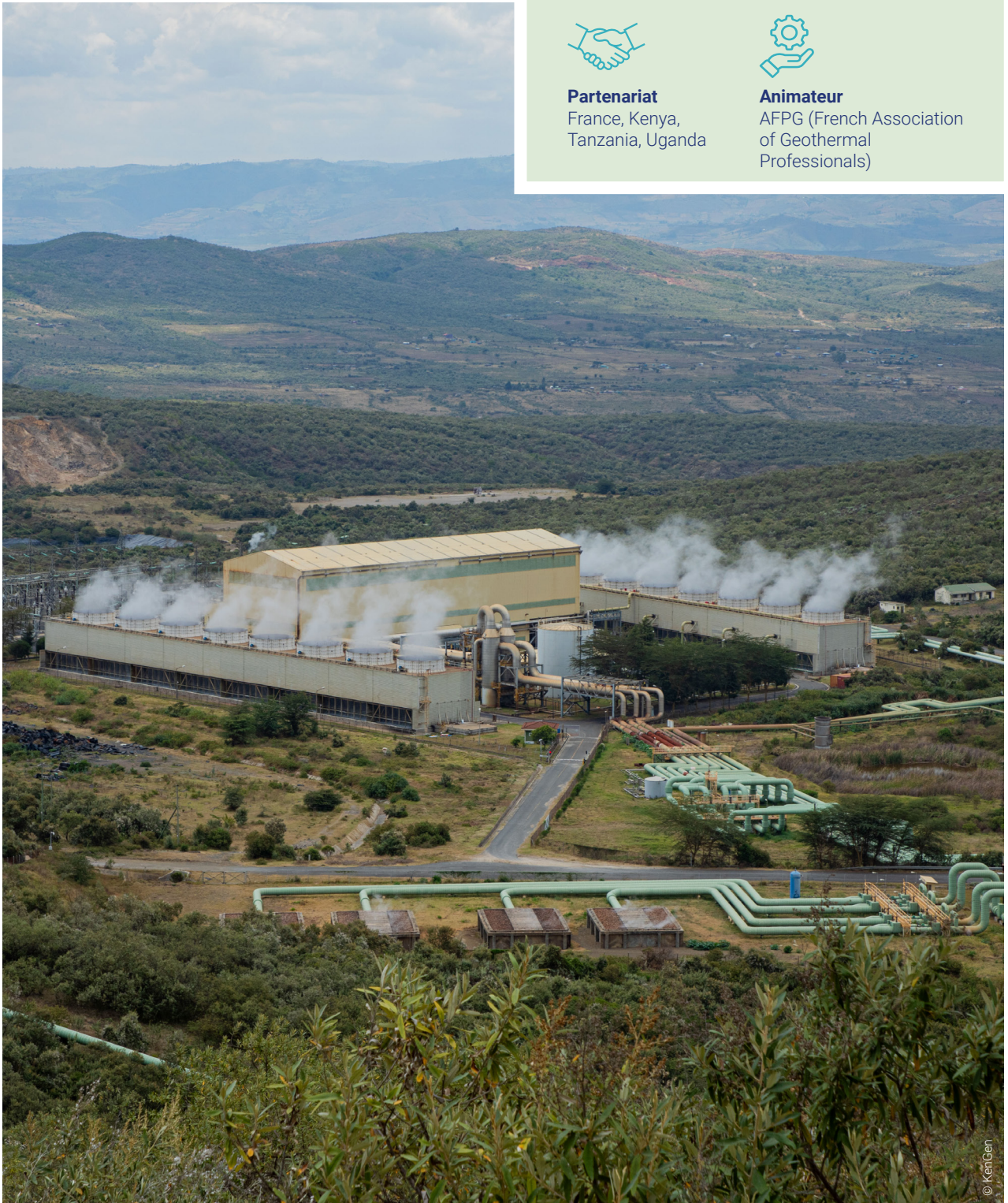
Location
Tanzania, Uganda

Accelerating geothermal energy development in East Africa

East Africa holds major geothermal potential, capable of delivering stable, competitive, low-carbon electricity as well as readily accessible heat. To unlock this strategic resource, France, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda have entered into a dedicated regional cooperation to develop the sector.

Coordinated by the French Association of Geothermal Professionals (AFPG), this partnership draws on Kenya's

position as Africa's leading geothermal producer and on French expertise in engineering and the direct use of geothermal heat. The initiative aims to unlock the vast geothermal potential of Tanzania and Uganda, while fostering synergies between East African and French ecosystems. Through the exchange of best practices, technical workshops and the development of shared roadmaps, it is building climate resilience and driving green growth.



Partenariat
France, Kenya,
Tanzania, Uganda



Animateur
AFPG (French Association
of Geothermal
Professionals)

For a world in common

AFD Group finances and drives the transition to a fairer, safer and more resilient world, working with its partners to support communities all over the world. Drawing on the complementary strengths of its entities – Agence Française de Développement for public financing, Proparco for responsible private investment, and Expertise France for technical expertise – the Group is ideally positioned to meet all sustainable development challenges.

Working in over 160 countries, including France's Overseas Territories and Departments, the Group adapts its operations to the realities on the ground, actively supporting local initiatives. With over 4,000 projects, whose objectives are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), AFD Group works on behalf of the French people, together with all stakeholders committed to economic development and the preservation of common goods: climate, biodiversity, peace, gender equality and global health. Working by your side, toward a world in common.



AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT IN EASTERN AFRICA

Eastern Africa Regional Office
Eastern Africa Regional Directorate
Nairobi, Kenya.

Third Floor, The Cube - Riverside Drive | 45955 - 00100

Tel : +254 722 207 727

<https://www.afd.fr/en/east-africa-regional-office>



AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT
IN EAST AFRICA

 Agence Française de Développement in
Eastern Africa

HEAD OFFICE
5, rue Roland Barthes - 75012 Paris - France
Tel : +33 1 53 44 31 31

 afd.fr