



European Union

European Union - Nigeria

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION
PROGRAMMES COMPENDIUM



Nigeria operations (10th & 11th EDF)

ECOWAS operations (10th & 11th EDF)

Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP)

EU Emergency Trust Fund for the Sahel and Lake Chad Basin (EUTF)

Thematic Programme on Human Rights and Democracy (HR&D)

Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)

Neighbourhood, Development And International Cooperation Instrument

(NDCI) / Global Europe Instrument

Abuja, January 2024

Introduction

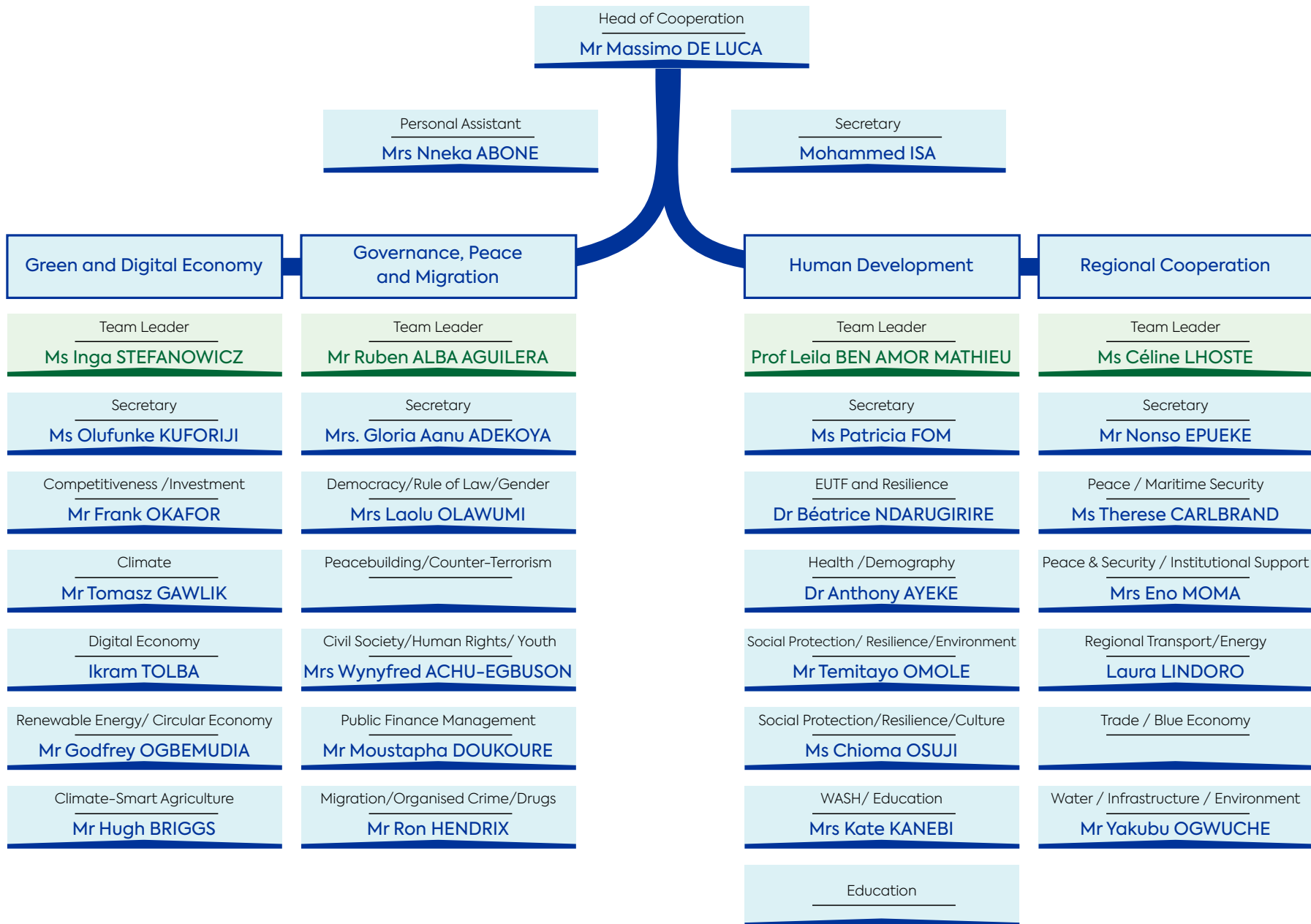
This compendium of European Union (EU)-funded development cooperation activities in Nigeria and with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) provides an in-depth overview of the EU's multifaceted efforts to drive socio-economic development across Nigeria and the broader West African region. Rooted in the principles of the Global Gateway initiative, these programmes reflect the EU's unwavering commitment to building sustainable partnerships and fostering resilient systems. Investments span critical sectors, including the green and digital economy, governance, migration, peace, human rights, human development, infrastructure, and climate resilience.

By showcasing ongoing national and regional projects, this compendium underscores the robust and enduring cooperation between the European Union and Nigeria. It highlights how this partnership is designed to address shared priorities of prosperity, peace, and people-centred development. Together, the EU and Nigeria exemplify the transformative power of collaboration in tackling global challenges, creating opportunities, and building a more connected, sustainable, and inclusive future under the Global Gateway framework.

For more information or specific inquiries, please contact the EU Delegation.

Massimo De Luca
Head of Cooperation
Abuja, January 2025





Finance, Contracts & Audit Section



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Acronyms

ACDC	Africa Centre for Disease Control
ACJA/ACJ	Administration of Criminal Justice Act/Laws
ACJMC	Administration of Criminal Justice Monitoring Committee
ACAs	Anti-Corruption Agencies
AECID	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
AEDIB	African-European Digital Innovation Bridge
AFIF	African Investment Facility
BMZ	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
CCC	Climate Change Coalition
CF	Cooperation Facility
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CRAP	Climate Resilience Action Plan
CRGs	Community-based Resilience Groups
CRNP	Cross River National Park
CSA	Climate Smart Agriculture
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
DAI	Development Alternatives Inc.
DFA	Development Finance Assessment

Acronyms

DIHs	Digital Innovation Hubs
DIME	Development Impact Evaluation
ECEREE	ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
ECOQMARK	ECOWAS Certification Mark
ECOQUIB	ECOWAS Quality and Industry Database
ECOSHAM	ECOWAS Harmonisation of Standards
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
ECREEE	ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
EDF	European Development Fund
EDFI	European Development Finance Institutions
EU	European Union
EUD	European Union Delegation
EUTF	EU Emergency Trust Fund
FBS	Farmer Business School
FMoH	Federal Ministry of Health
GAP	Good Agricultural Practices
GCM	Global Compact for Migration
GHG	Greenhouse Gas

Acronyms

GIABA	Inter-Governmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
HR	Human Resources
IcSP	EU Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IDPWD	International Day of People with Disability.
IEC	Information, Education, and Communication
IITA	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
INEC	Independent National Electoral Commission
INFF	Integrated National Financial Framework
INFS	Integrated National Financing Strategy
ISOs	Innovation Support Organisations
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
JSRT	Justice Sector Reform Teams
LCCAPs	Local Climate Change Action Plans
LGAs	Local Government Areas
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

Acronyms

MoH	Ministry of Health
MTEF	Medium-Term Expenditure Framework
MTRS	Medium-Term Revenue Strategy
NACTAL	Network of Civil Society Organisations against Child Trafficking, Abuse and Labour
NAPTIP	National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons
NCRI	National Cereal Research Institution
NESP	Nigerian Energy Support Programme
PIND	Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta
SAOs	State Authorising Officers
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

A white outline map of Nigeria is centered on a dark blue background. The map shows the country's irregular borders, including the Gulf of Guinea to the south and the Atlantic Ocean to the west.

Nigeria Programmes

OPERATIONS 1

Green & Digital Economy





The Green and Digital Economy priority in Nigeria aims to achieve low-carbon, resource-efficient, and climate-resilient development, fostering job creation, especially for young people, and improving conditions for economic growth. This includes the development of the digital economy. European Union (EU) support in this area will have several positive impacts, including climate change mitigation, reduced health issues due to pollution, improved food security, job creation, poverty reduction, and stability.

EU support for this priority will be implemented through the Team Europe Initiative, leveraging the resources of the EU, its Member States, and relevant European financial institutions. It will focus on diversifying the Nigerian economy by increasing access to renewable energy for productive purposes and boosting the agricultural sector, while incorporating circular and digital economy principles. Geolocation will be used to ensure focused and high-impact interventions.

Key elements of this priority include:

- **Transforming Nigerian agriculture:** Shifting from subsistence farming to climate-smart, nature-positive, income-generating activities at the heart of sustainable food systems. This involves improving knowledge, skills, and techniques, fostering biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management, and enhancing access to finance, agribusiness development, energy, and markets.

- **Sustainable energy:** Addressing Nigeria's electrification target, which has stagnated at around 55%, with a goal of reaching 90% of the population by 2030. This will involve promoting renewable energy sources, upgrading the grid, and addressing regulatory and financial barriers. Energy efficiency and circular economy practices will also be promoted.
- **Digital solutions and innovation:** Utilising advanced ICT solutions in agriculture and energy sectors, with a focus on creating jobs for the country's youth. Renewable energy sources like solar photovoltaic will be emphasised due to their job creation potential. Support will extend to addressing youth unemployment and fostering the innovation ecosystem, particularly in the digital economy.

The EU's investment and support in these areas aim to contribute to Nigeria's sustainable development, economic growth, and the well-being of its citizens, with a particular focus on youth empowerment and environmental sustainability.

EU's objectives in the priority area

Low-carbon development

Youth employment

Economic growth and diversification

Reduced pollution

Food security

Poverty reduction

Integrated Approach to Climate Change in Rice Production Systems in Nigeria (GIAE NG-InACC): Enhancing Climate Resilience and Agricultural Innovation

Overview

The Integrated Approach to Climate Change in Rice Production Systems in Nigeria (GIAE NG-InACC) was designed to address the dual challenges of climate change resilience and food security in Nigeria's rice production systems. Implemented by GIZ, the programme focused on fostering collaboration between small-scale rice producers and agro-pastoralists, promoting climate-smart agricultural practices, and introducing innovative solutions to address resource management and conflict resolution challenges in selected rural areas of Nasarawa and Benue states.

Total budget

€5.15 million

(EU contribution: €4.15 million; Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany contribution: €1 million)

Geographical region

Nasarawa and Benue States

Implementation period

2021–2025

Implementing agency

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

Key activities

Conducting applied participatory climate-smart agricultural research to identify and address research gaps.

Promoting agricultural innovations for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Providing training on climate-smart practices for public and private service providers and farmers through a train-the-trainer approach.

Supporting Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) in identifying business models and diversification opportunities.

Developing an integrated land resource management approach to promote cooperation between farmers and agro-pastoralists.

Implementing conflict resolution strategies to address disputes over land and resources.

Results



Institutional collaboration:

- Four collaboration agreements were established with academic institutions, including Nasarawa State University, Keffi; College of Agricultural Science and Technology, Lafia; Joseph Sarwan Tarkaa University, Makurdi; and Akperan Orshi Polytechnic, Yandev.
- An additional agreement was signed with the National Cereal Research Institution (NCRI).



Capacity building:

- 104 extension agents were retrained on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) standards.
- 16 livestock extension agents were trained on Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAHP).
- 20 extension agents were trained in Farmer Business School (FBS).
- Extension agents supported 10,800 rice farmers and 750 agro-pastoralists.

Results (contd.)

**Agroforestry and tree planting:**

- Farmers (35% women) adopted agroforestry and silvo-pastoral approaches.
- 100,000 trees were planted for commercial purposes.

**Research and conflict resolution:**

- Grants were awarded to the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) for sustainable agriculture research.
- Grants were awarded to Neem Foundation for facilitating conflict resolution between farmers and agro-pastoralists.

**Fertiliser and feed management:**

- 139 extension agents were trained in organic manure composting using rice and livestock by-products.
- Additional training was provided in livestock feed processing.

**Monitoring and assessment:**

- A midline study was conducted in September 2023 to assess project indicators.
- A rice crop productivity study was completed in intervention areas.

**Climate-smart practices:**

TFWA delivered measurable results across its areas of intervention:

- Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)
- Rice Agroforestry System (RAS)
- Contract Farming Tool
- Cooperative Business School

**Livestock innovations:**

- Innovations introduced: silage production, hay production, hydroponic fodder production, and silvo-pasture systems.
- Livestock feed processing techniques using rice by-products were developed.

**Training and awareness:**

- 50 public and private service providers, including extension agents and mediators (35% women, 35% youth), were trained in climate-smart agricultural practices.
- 20,000 small-scale rice farmers and 1,000 agro-pastoralists (35% women, 35% youth) participated in capacity-building measures.
- 50 MSME representatives were trained in value-added product opportunities.

**Resource management agreements:**

- Two agreements on integrated land resource management were established, strengthening trade relations and cooperation.





04

collaboration agreements
were established with academic
institutions



35%

women adopted
agroforestry



50

**public and private service
providers** trained in climate-
smart agricultural practices



104

extension agents
retrained in GAP
and SRP standards



10,000

trees planted for
commercial purposes



50

MSME representatives trained
in value-added product
opportunities



10,800

rice farmers supported by
extension agents



139

extension agents
trained in organic
manure composting



750

agro pastoralists
supported by
extension agents



16

livestock agents
trained in GAHP



20,000

small-scale rice farmers
trained in capacity building
measures



20

extension agents
trained on FBS



Digital Transformation Centre: Improving the Digital Innovation Ecosystem in Nigeria (DTC Nigeria)

Total budget

€13.6 million
(€9.5 million from the EU, €4.1 million from BMZ)

Geographical region

36 states and the Federal
Capital Territory (FCT)

Implementation period

2022–2025

Implementing agency

Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

Overview

The Digital Transformation Centre (DTC) is designed to enhance Nigeria's digital innovation ecosystem by leveraging European expertise and fostering collaboration across sectors. The programme aligns with the European Union's (EU) 2030 Digital Compass and is part of the EU Action Document on Supporting Innovation and Jobs for Youth in Nigeria (INN-JOBS).

Co-financed by the EU and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and implemented by GIZ, DTC Nigeria contributes to building an enabling environment for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), innovation hubs, and digital skills development.

The programme focuses on fostering innovation, developing robust policy frameworks, building capacity for digital skills, and supporting MSMEs in their digital transformation journey.

What is the European Union's (EU) 2030 Digital Compass?

The EU's 2030 Digital Compass is a strategic plan aiming to achieve four key goals: digitally skilled citizens, secure digital infrastructure, digital transformation of businesses, and digitalised public services. It focuses on enhancing Europe's technological sovereignty and resilience. The initiative emphasises inclusivity, sustainability, and global partnerships.



Key activities

1. Policy framework and ecosystem participation:

- Build institutional capacity for evidence-based digital policymaking.
- Develop tools for data collection and analysis to guide digital policy decisions.
- Support the creation of participatory frameworks for state-level policy execution.
- Facilitate dialogue between national and international stakeholders in the digital ecosystem.

3. MSME and start-up support:

- Develop structured support programmes for MSMEs to adopt digital tools and services.
- Create strategic partnerships between research institutions, start-ups, and SMEs for innovative solutions.
- Launch a 'go.digital' voucher scheme to subsidise digital transformation services for MSMEs.

What is 'go.digital' voucher scheme?

The "go.digital" voucher scheme is a government initiative, often seen in EU countries, that provides financial support to Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) for digital transformation. It helps cover costs for adopting digital tools, cybersecurity, or improving online presence. The aim is to boost digital competitiveness and innovation.

- Conduct awareness campaigns to highlight the value of digital transformation

2. Innovation hub development:

- Establish and support Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs) under the African-European Digital Innovation Bridge (AEDIB) NET framework.
- Strengthen Innovation Support Organisations (ISOs) to provide quality services to MSMEs and start-ups.
- Develop an audit and certification system for standardised innovation support services.
- Foster knowledge exchange between Nigerian and European DIHs.

4. Digital skills and literacy development:

- Standardise digital and entrepreneurial training through a national qualification framework.
- Promote women's digital and entrepreneurial skills through tailored programmes, mentorship, and coaching networks.
- Organise media campaigns to encourage women's participation in digital entrepreneurship.
- Establish platforms to aggregate information on training, services, and mentorship opportunities for women.

Results

Policy framework and ecosystem participation:

- Drafted a participatory policy framework for the Nigeria Startup Act.
- Upgraded the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) rule making portal to improve public participation in policy evaluation.
- Conducted training for 56 NITDA staff and 223 data protection personnel on digital transformation.
- Facilitated policy dialogues and NITDA's participation in key e-commerce summits.
- Conducted stakeholder awareness sessions and capacity-building needs analyses in Abuja, Lagos, and Kano on digital transformation.

Innovation hub development:

- Completed an international tender for three new DIHs.
- Trained 37 organisations, including 14 hubs, on hub design and business models.
- Supported five DIHs in incubation.
- Conducted needs assessments for 5 DIHs (green economy, digital trade, manufacturing).
- Provided subsidies to the Innovation Support Network (ISN) to strengthen its operations.
- Developed a Digital Transformation Blueprint for MSMEs.

56 NITDA staff trained	37 organisations trained on business models	05 DIHs' needs assessments conducted
223 data protection personnel trained	14 data protection personnel trained on business models	

Results (contd.)

MSME and start-up support:

- Trained 50 start-ups in pitch development.
- Selected 22 digital solutions for acceleration through the 'Techmybiz' initiative.

What is the 'Techmybiz' initiative about?

The 'Techmybiz' initiative is part of the European Union's development cooperation programmes, focusing on accelerating early-stage digital solutions. It has selected 22 existing digital solutions for further development through acceleration. Participants have also engaged in innovation tours to enhance their growth and impact.

- Developed 5 digital solutions addressing logistics challenges for MSMEs.
- Supported 4 new digital solutions in incubation at NitHub, University of Lagos.
- Enabled 10 innovators to participate in the African Union Innovation Fellowship tour.
- Prepared grant proposals for International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and NitHub to develop and scale Agri-Tech solutions.



22
digital solutions
selected for
acceleration



04
digital solutions
supported in
incubation at NitHub

Digital skills and literacy development:

- Delivered digital skills training to 6,000 women and youth.
- Conducted workshops on female entrepreneurship in digital transformation.
- Advanced benchmarking of digital literacy skills for public servants.
- Organised a survey on mentorship approaches for women.



6,000
women and youth
trained on digital
skills



05
digital solutions
developed for addressing
logistics challenges



10
innovators
participated in African
Union Innovation
Fellowship tour



Promoting Digital Skills for Women, Hard-to-Reach Youth, and Persons with Disabilities

Total budget
€750,000
(EU contribution: €675,000)

Geographical region
Borno and Yobe States

Implementation period
2023 – 2026

Implementing agency
Stichting ZOA

Overview

The Promoting Digital Skills for Women, Hard-to-Reach Youth, and Persons with Disabilities project aims to narrow the digital gender gap and create an inclusive digital transformation environment in Borno and Yobe States. Implemented by Stichting ZOA, the project focuses on empowering women, youth, and persons with disabilities (PWDs) in 30 communities across the two states by enhancing their digital literacy, improving access to technology, and fostering collaboration among civil society organisations (CSOs) to drive sustainable digital development.

 **30**
communities
empowered across
2 states



Key activities

1. CSO empowerment and connectivity:

- Strengthening digital skills and capacity among CSOs to effectively disseminate digital knowledge.
- Supporting 39 CSOs in enhancing their digital transformation capabilities.
- Facilitating the Training of Trainers (ToT) programme to enable CSOs to extend community-wide digital skills training.

2. Digital transformation hubs:

- Establishing and operationalising digital transformation hubs in target communities.
- Equipping hubs with necessary digital hardware and software to ensure effective training and access.
- Delivering structured digital skills training led by ToT-certified CSO

3. Enhanced digital access and skills:

- Broadening digital skills training access for women, youth, and PWDs.
- Conducting awareness campaigns to promote hub services and encourage participation.
- Delivering training sessions focusing on digital security, green jobs, and digital marketing.

4. Community and stakeholder engagement:

- Organising stakeholder consultations to align digital transformation goals with community needs.
- Engaging private sector and government partners to support the sustainability of digital initiatives.
- Delivering capacity-building workshops for local stakeholders on key digital transformation themes.

Results



Strengthened CSO capacity:

- Enhanced digital literacy among CSOs, enabling them to deliver effective training to target groups.
- Established digital hubs that serve as local centres for digital skills acquisition and knowledge sharing.



Improved digital access:

- Increased access to digital tools and training services for women, youth, and PWDs.
- Delivered targeted training sessions through trained CSO representatives.



Awareness and advocacy:

- Conducted community-wide awareness campaigns on the importance of digital skills.
- Fostered stakeholder collaboration to address challenges and advocate for digital inclusion policies.

39

CSOs supported

Improved Sub-National Response to Climate Change in Northeast Nigeria

Total budget

€474,022.64

Geographical region

Borno State

Implementation period

2022–2025

Implementing agency

International Centre for Energy, Environment and Development Foundation (ICEED)

Overview

The Improved Sub-National Response to Climate Change in Northeast Nigeria project aims to enhance community-level resilience to climate change through policy development, capacity building, and stakeholder engagement in Borno state. The project focuses on equipping state authorities, non-state actors, and local communities with the tools and frameworks needed to mitigate and adapt to climate-related challenges effectively.



Key activities

1. Policy research:

The project is conducting research on national and sub-national responses to climate change to identify gaps and opportunities.

3. Climate Resilience Action Plan:

The Borno State Climate Resilience Action Plan (CRAP) is being drafted, validated, and presented to state authorities.

5. Advocacy strategy:

An advocacy strategy is being developed and implemented by the CCC to promote CRAP adoption and implementation.

7. Community-based Resilience Groups:

Community-based Resilience Groups (CRGs) are being formed and trained to implement Climate-smart Agriculture CSA tools and contribute to conflict mitigation.

2. Stakeholder workshops:

Multi-stakeholder workshops are being organised to inform and validate policy recommendations and action plans.

4. Coalition formation:

The Borno State Climate Change Coalition (CCC) is being established, comprising government actors, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), development partners, academia, and media.

6. CSA toolbox development:

A CSA toolbox is being created and deployed to guide sustainable agricultural practices at the community level.

Results

- The Borno State CRAP is being developed and adopted by the state government.
- The Borno State CCC is being established, comprising key stakeholders from government, CSOs, private sector, academia, and media.
- A CSA Toolbox is being developed and adopted to guide sustainable agricultural practices.
- CRGs are being formed and capacitated to implement the CSA toolbox and support conflict management initiatives.

Status

- An inception workshop was held on 9 May 2023, convened by the Borno State Ministry of Environment, with support from the programme.
- The first meeting of the Borno State CCC took place on 15 June 2023, with participation from government, private sector, CSOs, development actors, academia, and media.
- The Ministry of Environment is leading the coalition, with ongoing technical support from the programme.

Empowering Civil Society Organisations and Vulnerable Groups in Adamawa State to Plan for, Manage, and Respond to the Impacts of Climate Change

Overview

The Empowering Civil Society Organisations and Vulnerable Groups in Adamawa State to Plan for, Manage, and Respond to the Impacts of Climate Change project aims to enhance adaptive capacity among youth, women, and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) through gender-transformative climate change adaptation strategies. The initiative focuses on knowledge dissemination, inclusive governance, and community-based resilience-building measures to address climate risks and vulnerabilities by 2025.

Total budget

€499,980.00

Geographical region

Adamawa State

Implementation period

2022–2025

Implementing agency

Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)

Key activities

- Participatory planning workshop:**
 Conducting inclusive workshops with 69 participants (38 men, 31 women) to align project goals with community priorities, integrating perspectives from UN agencies, government ministries, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), and local authorities.
- Climate impact analysis:**
 Performing localised assessments to identify gaps in understanding the causes and effects of climate change while highlighting the need for adaptive approaches and improved resource management.
- Capacity building for change agents:**
 Training 150 individuals (87 women, 63 men) as climate resilience change agents, equipping them with skills to facilitate local climate planning and awareness initiatives.
- Youth and women platforms:**
 Establishing platforms for youth and women to engage in multi-stakeholder dialogues on resilience and climate change while linking participants with technical partners and authorities.
- CSO training:**
 Conducting training for 50 CSO members in gender-integrated climate adaptation planning, capacity assessment, and project development skills.
- Synergy between government levels:**
 Harmonising adaptation strategies across local and federal governance through structured meetings and community platforms involving ministries and CSOs.
- Early warning systems:**
 Upgrading national and state facilities to improve flood and drought preparedness with enhanced equipment such as atmospheric sensors and monitoring tools.
- Water storage infrastructure:**
 Constructing six sand water-storage dams to support small-scale irrigation, while utilising seasonal water flow for groundwater storage.
- Sustainable agricultural practices:**
 Supporting the adoption of climate-resilient agricultural practices at community levels to enhance productivity and sustainability.



Results



Improved knowledge dissemination platforms on climate change predictions and adaptation strategies for youth, women, and CSOs.



Established local platforms for women and youth to participate in multi-stakeholder climate dialogues.



Enhanced CSO capacity for climate resilience planning and advocacy at both state and federal levels.



Tested and implemented early warning systems to strengthen climate resilience mechanisms.



Developed Local Climate Change Action Plans (LCCAPs) to guide community-level adaptation initiatives.



Introduced infrastructure support, including sand water-storage dams, to enhance climate-smart irrigation practices.



Promoted sustainable agricultural practices to increase livelihood resilience.

Status

○ An inception workshop was successfully held on 22 June 2023 in Yola, Adamawa state.

○ Stakeholder engagements and capacity-building activities are ongoing to meet the programme's objectives.

EU Support to Nigeria Jubilee Fellowship Programme (EU-NJFP)



Total budget

€44 million

Geographical region

36 states and the Federal Capital Territory

Implementation period

36 months

Implementing agency

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Overview

The EU Support to Nigeria Jubilee Fellowship Programme (EU-NJFP) aims to address Nigeria's rising youth unemployment and underemployment by developing, testing, and deploying a scalable model. The programme annually places 20,000 fellows in private and public organisations to enhance employability and equip institutions to cultivate young Nigerian talent.



20,000

fellows deployed annually

Key activities	Results
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and maintain a roster of pre-selected fresh graduates for the programme. 	<p>Placement success: 3,180 fellows (1,635 male, 1,545 female) were matched with 830 host organisations across Nigeria's six geopolitical zones, ensuring an 85% alignment with employer requirements.</p> <p>830 host organisations across Nigeria</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map and match graduates to the talent needs of private and public sector organisations. 	<p>3,180 fellows deployed in host organisations</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate tailored onboarding and induction processes. 	<p>Host organisation engagement: 830 private sector entities across 36 states participated in the programme, representing over 30 economic sectors, and forming the foundation of the experiential learning model.</p> <p>30 economic sectors represented</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a twelve-month placement in host organisations. 	<p>36 states covered</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operate a six-month alumni talent hub, providing career and entrepreneurial support through training and mentorship. 	<p>Financial impact: N2,155,929,598 in stipends were disbursed directly to fellows, serving as both financial relief and a mechanism for social protection and empowerment.</p> <p>₦2.15 billion disbursed to fellows</p>

Reducing Digital Gender Gaps in Niger Delta

Total budget
€744,000

Geographical region
West Nigeria

Implementation period
2023 – 2025

Implementing agency
Niger-Delta Stakeholder Initiative for Community Development and Engagement (NDSICDE)

Overview

The project aims to bridge the digital gender gap in employment and business outcomes in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria. The initiative seeks to enhance the employability of women by increasing their access to in-demand digital skills and fostering greater engagement between Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), the private sector, and government stakeholders. This will contribute to reducing gender disparities in the region's digital economy.

Key activities

Gender analysis and digital sector study:

Conduct a detailed gender analysis to identify digital gender gaps in Rivers, Bayelsa, Delta, and Akwa Ibom states, informing the development of targeted interventions.

Digital skills training and business support:

Train 1,000 women, particularly from vulnerable groups, in digital skills to enhance their employability.

Provide employment and business extension services to help these women connect with potential employers and increase their workforce participation.

Support 500 women-led Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) in adopting digital tools to scale their businesses, improve marketing, and streamline financial management.

Financial impact:

Strengthen the capacity of 15 CSOs to design and deliver gender-focused digital training programmes. Facilitate strategic engagements with key stakeholders, including government agencies, policymakers, and private tech companies, to drive policies that reduce the digital gender gap.

Results

○ Completed a research study on digital gender disparities and delivered digital skills training to 438 beneficiaries, with 15 CSOs engaged in advocacy and policy development.

○ 15% of trainees (48 out of 317) reported a 35.8% increase in monthly income due to newly acquired digital skills. Additionally, 14% (44 out of 317) secured employment, and 7% (21 out of 317) were invited for job interviews.

○ 52% (63 out of 121) of women entrepreneurs utilised digital skills to enhance their businesses' visibility, brand, and financial management.

438
beneficiaries
of digital training

15
CSOs engaged in advocacy / policy development

35.8%
monthly income increase reported by 48 trainees

44
trainees secured employment

55%
women entrepreneurs enhanced their businesses using digital skills

Africa-EU Space Partnership Programme (Africa SPP)

Overview

The Africa-EU Space Partnership Programme (Africa SPP) is a strategic initiative aimed at fostering sustainable development, driving a green transition, and accelerating digitalisation in Africa through strengthened cooperation between Europe and Africa in the space sector. Complemented by the national programme Support to Climate-Smart Agriculture for Development (Agri-CADE) in Nigeria, the initiative leverages space-based technologies to address pressing developmental challenges.

The programme focuses on three key objectives: Advancing Africa's institutional and innovation frameworks for space cooperation with a gender-sensitive approach to outreach; building capacity to deliver space-based services and data for early warning systems related to hazardous weather and climate events; and reinforcing the private sector ecosystem and industrial collaboration within Africa's space economy.

Total budget

€2.7 million

Geographical region

TBD

Implementation period

2025 - 2029

Implementing agency

National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA)

Key activities

Capacity building for the African Union Commission (AUC) and African Space Agency (AfSA):

- Strengthen institutional and operational capacities of the African Union Commission (AUC) to establish and operationalise the African Space Agency (AfSA).
- Enhance gender-sensitive outreach on the benefits of space technologies, such as satellite navigation and earth observation.

Development of space-based services and early warning systems:

- Build capacities to produce and deliver space-based applications, data, and services for early warning systems addressing hazardous weather and climate events.

Strengthening Africa-EU private sector cooperation in the space economy:

- Facilitate industrial collaboration and strengthen private sector engagement in Africa's space economy through capacity-building initiatives and joint EU-Africa business support schemes.
- Promote women's empowerment and gender-sensitive approaches within the space industry.

Support to Agri-CADE in Nigeria:

- Enhance the capacity of farmers and agribusinesses through innovative farming techniques utilising satellite-based technologies.
- Facilitate the integration of Earth Observation (EO) data to improve agricultural productivity and climate resilience.

- Build institutional capacity at the National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA) to support the agricultural sector.

Expert training and capacity development workshops:

- Provide advanced training in Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), Internet of Things (IoT), and big data analytics for Nigerian stakeholders.
- Equip training facilities at NASRDA with necessary hardware and tools for effective capacity development.

Key activities (cont'd.)

Innovative farming practices:

- Introduce climate-smart agricultural practices using AI, IoT sensor data, and satellite imagery, focusing on crops like sorghum and maize at smallholder farming levels.
- Establish showcase farms across Nigeria's seven agro-ecological zones, equipped with tools developed through training workshops.

Regional conference on AI-driven agro-climatic resilience and sustainability:

- Organise a West African regional conference in collaboration with NASRDA, European Commission-European External Action Service (EC-EEAS), and the European Space Agency (ESA) to share knowledge and innovations in AI, remote sensing, and emerging technologies.
- Bring together experts, policymakers, researchers, and industry leaders to foster collaboration and innovation.

Data integration and monitoring:

- Strengthen the Data for Solutions to Internal Displacement (DSID) taskforce to integrate displacement data into national and regional policies.
- Collaborate with NASRDA and other agencies to develop robust data systems supporting spatial planning and decision-making.

Expected results



Increased capacities for AfSA:

The African Union Commission's (AUC) ability to establish and operationalise AfSA is enhanced.



Enhanced Africa-Europe New Space industrial partnership:

Collaboration and innovation between Africa and Europe in the space sector are strengthened.



Improved gender-sensitive outreach on space benefits:

Outreach on space benefits, including satellite navigation and earth observation, is enhanced with a gender-sensitive focus.



Strengthened private sector capacity in the space economy:

Private sector skills and capacity for effective participation in the space economy are bolstered, with a focus on gender inclusivity.



Operational European Union-African Union (EU-AU) joint space business support schemes:

EU-AU joint space business support schemes are established and operational, empowering women in the space sector.

Agriculture Value Chain Facility (EU-VACE) NG

Total budget

€16.7 million

(European Commission contribution: €12.7 million; BMZ contribution: €4 million)

Geographical region

Plateau, Oyo, Benue, Nasarawa, Kaduna, Kano, Ondo, and Cross River States

Implementation period

2024 - 2028

Implementing agency

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

Overview

The Agriculture Value Chain Facility (EU-VACE) NG is a comprehensive initiative designed to support the development of climate-smart agriculture, aquaculture, and the sustainable transformation of agricultural Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (Agri-SMEs) within selected value chains in Nigeria. The project focuses on creating decent job opportunities for young people while addressing the root causes of irregular migration. It seeks to empower stakeholders, including smallholder farmers, Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs), women, and youth, to fully engage in the transformation, modernisation, and digitalisation of the agricultural sector.

Key activities

Develop joint strategies with private sector actors, such as processors, traders, cooperatives, and associations, to integrate SMEs into agricultural value chains.

Organise training sessions and enhance the capacity of partner training institutions.

Develop and implement technical packages to improve and expand production volumes in selected value chains, tailored to business modalities (e.g., for tubers like potato and sweet potato, horticulture, high-margin agricultural products, seeds).

Provide technical support to private sector partners during the implementation phase.

Monitor progress at the beneficiary level and assess the impact on food security at both micro and macro levels.

Analyse investment opportunities in existing and new value chains to identify growth potential and collaboration opportunities for promoting sustainability and climate resilience (e.g., resilient seeds, sweet potato).

Support identified partners with business and investment plans, including capacity building, document preparation, and investment readiness support.

Facilitate matchmaking between innovative financiers, financial institutions, and identified partners in newly supported value chains.

Provide organisational, technical, and financial support to promote the selected new value chains.

Establish contacts with key stakeholders in the targeted value chains to foster collaboration.

Conduct analyses to identify weaknesses and development potential within the selected value chains.

Support the establishment and operation of multi-stakeholder platforms by providing content, organisational guidance, and capacity development.

Assist in strategy development for the expansion and scaling of value chains.

Promote innovative and inclusive business ideas along the value chains.

Support selected events within the value chains to encourage participation and awareness.

Key activities (Cont'd.)

Facilitate training on VALUE LINKS or similar methodologies to strengthen value chain management.

Identify climate-smart concepts to promote sustainable agriculture and investments.

Support the development of climate-smart strategies for various agricultural value chains and agro-ecological zones in Nigeria.

Conduct or support feasibility studies for sustainable and climate-smart food supply systems.

Organise and support public-private dialogue events focusing on climate-smart concepts in selected value chains.

Establish and organise high-level public-private sector platforms to promote collaboration.

Identify and promote local disaster risk reduction strategies for adoption by local entities.

Expected results



Emergence of sustainable and inclusive agri-businesses:

New sustainable and inclusive agri-businesses are developed, and existing ones are expanded along the supported value chains.



Enhanced coordination in agricultural value chains:

Coordination and collaboration within agricultural value chains are strengthened, emphasising inclusive business approaches to promote stakeholder engagement.



Development of sustainable and inclusive investment opportunities:

Sustainable and inclusive investment opportunities are created and supported during implementation, offering potential for employment growth, business expansion, and adaptation to climate change.



Promotion of climate-smart and sustainable agricultural measures:

Climate-smart agricultural practices and sustainable measures are advanced, reducing climate change vulnerabilities, enhancing food security, and fostering socially responsible investments.



Eurocham Nigeria Institutional Development Support

Total budget

€300,000

Geographical region

36 states and the Federal
Capital Territory

Implementation period

2024 - 2027

Implementing agency

Eurocham Nigeria

Overview

The Eurocham Nigeria Institutional Development Support aims to strengthen the capacity of Eurocham to effectively fulfil its mandate and expand its membership base in Nigeria. By reinforcing Eurocham's role in advocacy and policy dialogue, the initiative seeks to create a conducive business environment through strategic engagement with local governments, policymakers, and stakeholders. The project will also foster trade and investment opportunities, benefitting both European and Nigerian economies, while aligning with the overall objective of reinforcing the EU's role as Nigeria's strategic partner.

The support emphasises advocacy and policy dialogue in areas of mutual interest, such as trade, investment, and the green and digital economy, alongside other key engagement areas, including jobs and growth, climate, gender, and youth-focused initiatives.

Key activities

Membership drive:

Eurocham will implement targeted campaigns and initiatives to attract new members. This includes hosting outreach events, developing marketing strategies, and designing membership benefits packages to increase its membership base and strengthen its representation of European businesses in Nigeria.

Member support services:

The chamber will enhance its portfolio of services to members, including business advisory, networking opportunities, market intelligence, and access to resources that support business growth and sustainability.

Communication and visibility:

Eurocham will improve its communication strategies by enhancing its social media presence, publishing newsletters, and engaging in public relations activities to raise awareness of its initiatives and benefits to members.

Partnerships with trade and investment promotion agencies:

Eurocham will build partnerships with trade and investment promotion agencies to foster collaboration and maximise synergies. Key activities include stakeholder mapping and engagement, joint campaigns, business matchmaking events, and market intelligence sharing. Advocacy for policy reforms and the development of investment promotion materials will also be prioritised.

Advocacy and thematic working groups:

Eurocham will enhance its sectoral and thematic advocacy by leveraging the expertise and resources of its diverse membership. Through established advocacy committees, Eurocham will actively participate in policymaking processes and influence reforms that promote a conducive business climate.

Networking and collaboration:

Eurocham will create expanded opportunities for networking among European businesses in Nigeria. This will include fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing with bilateral chambers supported by EU member states to complement their efforts.

Expected results



Enhanced membership base:

Eurocham will significantly increase its membership by attracting a diverse range of European businesses operating in Nigeria, strengthening its representation and influence.



Improved advocacy capacity:

Three fully functional advocacy committees (economic policy and trade, human resources, and corporate social responsibility) will be established and capacitated, enabling Eurocham to effectively influence policy reforms and promote a favourable business environment.



Strengthened partnerships:

Strategic collaborations with trade and investment promotion agencies will result in enhanced synergy, joint campaigns, and effective market intelligence sharing, fostering trade and investment opportunities.



Increased communication and visibility:

Enhanced communication strategies will increase Eurocham's visibility and strengthen its reputation, ensuring wider recognition among stakeholders and potential members.



Improved networking opportunities:

Members will have greater opportunities to network and collaborate, facilitating knowledge sharing, best practices, and partnerships that drive business growth.



Greater influence in policymaking:

With an expanded membership and strengthened advocacy capacity, Eurocham will have a more prominent role in influencing policy decisions that promote the interests of European businesses in Nigeria.



Economic growth and trade facilitation:

By advocating for a more conducive business environment and fostering collaboration with stakeholders, Eurocham will contribute to strengthened economic ties and trade relations between the EU and Nigeria.

Management of the EU-Nigeria Agribusiness Platform

Overview

The EU-Nigeria Agribusiness Platform aims to build and grow interactions, networking, collaboration and trade between EU and Nigeria agribusinesses, organisations, and governments in an effective, efficient, and inclusive way. The platform was developed in collaboration with the Nigeria public and private sector stakeholders to foster collaboration, drive sustainable growth, and promote digital inclusion. It is designed to serve as a source of market intelligence to aid planning, policymaking, and interventions in the agribusiness sector.

Total budget

€150,000

Geographical region

36 states and the Federal Capital Territory

Implementation period

2025 - 2027

Implementing agency

Agribusiness Register Limited (ABR)

Key activities

User acquisition campaigns:

Designing and implementing campaigns to attract and engage users effectively.

Partnership outreach:

Establishing and enhancing collaborations with key public and private organisations to extend the platform's reach and effectiveness.

User training materials:

Developing comprehensive guides to help users navigate and utilise the platform efficiently.

Content management:

Creating and curating high-quality, relevant content tailored to the needs of the target audience.

Interactive feature development:

Implementing engaging tools to improve user experience and foster active participation.



Key activities (Cont'd.)

Data analysis:

Conducting detailed studies of user behaviour and preferences to inform platform enhancements and strategic decisions.

Matchmaking tool integration:

Developing tools to facilitate meaningful connections and collaborations between users.

Revenue generation strategies:

Identifying and executing sustainable funding models to ensure the platform's financial viability and growth.

Expected results



Enhanced access to information:

Improved knowledge and resources for Nigerian farmers and agribusinesses, fostering sectoral growth.



Increased trade and investment:

Strengthened trade relationships and foreign direct investment through platform activities.



Strengthened EU-Nigeria collaboration:

Deeper cooperation to advance agricultural development.



Engaged online community:

A vibrant digital space for knowledge exchange, networking, and collaboration within the agribusiness value chain.



Sustainable operations:

A diversified funding model, private sector partnerships, and regular financial monitoring ensure long-term platform sustainability.

Empowering Civil Society Organisations and Vulnerable Groups in Adamawa State to Plan for, Manage and Respond to the Impacts of Climate Change

Overview

The Empowering Civil Society Organisations and Vulnerable Groups in Adamawa state to Plan for, Manage, and Respond to the Impacts of Climate Change project aims to enhance the adaptive capacity of youth, women, and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in Adamawa state through gender-transformative climate adaptation strategies. It seeks to bridge gaps in knowledge, policy engagement, and resilience-building, enabling communities to manage climate impacts effectively. The initiative focuses on developing evidence-based, gender-responsive climate targets, prioritising youth and women-led solutions. It strengthens CSOs' capacity to engage with government agencies, fostering inclusive policy dialogue and implementation of climate strategies. Additionally, the project facilitates community-based adaptation planning and implements robust resilience-building measures, emphasising the critical role of CSOs and local actors in creating sustainable, impactful solutions.

Total budget
€499,980

Geographical region
Adamawa State

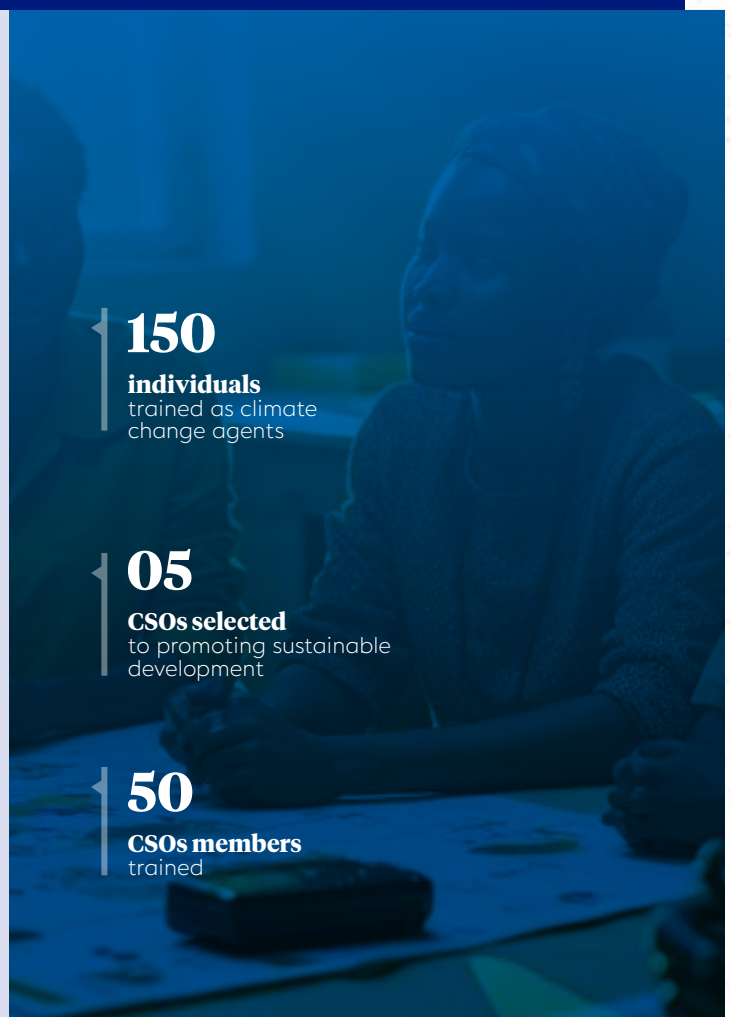
Implementation period
2022 - 2025

Implementing agency
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)

Key activities

Capacity building for CSOs and change agents:

- Identify and train 150 individuals, including extension officers, women, and youth, as climate resilience change agents.
- Provide technical and financial support for awareness-raising activities led by women and youth change agents.
- Select five CSOs committed to promoting accountability, inclusiveness, environmental stewardship, and sustainable development.
- Develop capacity-building plans and gender-integrated guidelines for systematic training on climate change at the sub-national level.
- Train 50 members of selected CSOs on gender-integrated climate change adaptation planning, capacity assessment, and project development skills.



150
individuals
trained as climate change agents

05
CSOs selected
to promoting sustainable development

50
CSOs members
trained

Key activities (Cont'd.)

Community-based adaptation and resilience building:

- Facilitate the development of local platforms for women and youth to engage in multi-stakeholder dialogues on resilience and climate change.
- Link local platforms with sub-national and federal platforms to ensure cohesive engagement.
- Conduct a facilitated Local Climate Change Adaptation Plan (LCCAP) process to develop LCCAPs for each project locality, ensuring synergy with state-level plans.
- Support forested areas to combat land degradation and environmental harm.
- Establish six sand water-storage dams to support small-scale irrigation, groundwater storage, and sustainable water exploitation.

Integrated climate solutions:

- Design multi-disciplinary concepts for addressing climate shocks, leveraging CSOs and local stakeholders.
- Support community structures in developing Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Disaster Response (DR) plans.
- Upgrade state and national early warning systems for floods and drought, ensuring efficiency across diverse livelihoods.
- Introduce and promote sustainable agricultural practices at the community level.

Alignment with ongoing efforts:

- Complement existing Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) initiatives in Adamawa state to maximise impact.
- Ensure synergy between sub-national and federal climate adaptation strategies.
- Organise workshops on lessons learnt to refine approaches and share experiences across stakeholders.

Expected results



Enhanced knowledge and awareness:

Youth, women, CSOs, and stakeholders will gain access to climate change knowledge, predictive data, and platforms for awareness and dialogue, fostering evidence-based adaptation strategies.



Strengthened institutional capacity:

Institutions and CSOs will be equipped for effective climate adaptation planning, with improved collaboration at sub-national and federal levels to drive sustainability and resilience.



Increased community resilience:

Communities will develop Local Climate Change Action Plans (LCCAPs), adopt early warning systems, and implement climate adaptation measures, including diversified livelihoods and infrastructure support.



OPERATIONS 2

Governance, Peace & Migration





A well-functioning system of governance and security is crucial for the stability of Nigeria, as well as its democratic and economic development, while also ensuring the inclusion of youth, women, and people with disabilities. Progress in this area is of interest to the EU in terms of regional stability, economic growth, trade opportunities, migration dynamics, and the protection of human rights. The EU's partnership with Nigeria will build upon past achievements and experiences, while remaining adaptable to changing circumstances, particularly in light of lessons learnt during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The primary objective of EU support in this priority area is to enhance democracy, participatory governance, accountability, human security, and the respect for human rights and International Humanitarian Law (IHL). It also aims to ensure the sustainable and mutually beneficial management of migration, including cooperation on return, readmission, and sustainable reintegration. Youth empowerment and their active participation in decision-making processes at all levels will be integrated into all supported actions, including the establishment of a Youth Sounding Board in Nigeria.

Key elements of this priority include:

Gender: Gender equality will be a significant focus of the partnership, addressing the various issues and challenges faced by women and girls.

Team Europe Initiative: The EU's support in this area will encompass a Team Europe Initiative, harnessing the resources of the EU, its Member States, and relevant European financial institutions to bolster peace in Nigeria. This initiative will be implemented at both the federal and state levels, particularly in regions with high levels of violence (North East, North West, Middle Belt, and Niger Delta/Gulf of Guinea).

Maritime security: Nigeria's role as a major hub and

entry point for European trade to the region is substantial. However, maritime insecurity, including pirate attacks and other maritime crimes, poses a severe threat. The EU aims to address the root causes of piracy on land, including environmental degradation and pollution in the Niger Delta, while also engaging with Nigerian maritime authorities to address the issue at sea.

Regional activities: The EU's support will be complemented by regional actions, especially in the field of migration, with initiatives focused on the Western Atlantic and Central Mediterranean migration routes.

Addressing peace and security challenges will attract more investments, unlock Nigeria's development potential in various sectors (agriculture, trade, digital services, etc.), support human development, reduce humanitarian needs, and contribute to the sustainable management of migration.

EU's objectives in the priority area:

Enhance democracy

Promote participatory governance

Ensure accountability

Enhance human security

Respect human rights and international humanitarian law (IHL)

Sustainable and mutual management of migration

Youth empowerment and participation

EU-Support to Democratic Governance in Nigeria, Phase II

Overview

The European Union-Support to Democratic Governance in Nigeria (EU-SDGN) programme aims to foster a functioning pluralistic, inclusive, participatory, and representative democracy in Nigeria. The programme focuses on improving the quality of electoral administration, strengthening capacities for legislative and judicial reform in line with democratic principles, and enhancing pluralism, internal democracy, and equality of opportunity within political parties. It also empowers the media, including new media, to promote fair and ethical electoral coverage while combating hate speech and disinformation. Additionally, the programme seeks to increase the participation of women, youth, and marginalised groups in the political process and supports Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in advocating for greater transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement in governance.

Total budget

€39 million

Implementation period

2022 - 2027

Geographical region

36 states and the Federal Capital Territory

Implementing agencies

DAI, Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, Yiaga Africa, Centre for Media and Society, International Press Centre, ElectHER, TAF Africa, Nigerian Women Trust Fund, Kukah Centre, Justice, Development and Peace Makers Centre, Corporate Accountability and Public Participation Africa, SOS Children's Villages, and Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre

Key activities

Supporting key Nigerian institutions, such as the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), the legislature, political parties, CSOs, and the media, in their democratic functions.

Reviewing Nigeria's constitution and electoral framework to improve governance.

Reforming and restructuring INEC to ensure a more effective electoral management body.

Formulating and implementing INEC's Strategic Plan of Action and 2023 Election Project Plan.

Supporting the implementation of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to improve transparency.

Assisting the National Peace Committee (NPC) in promoting peaceful elections and facilitating political dialogue.

Supporting key legislative committees to strengthen democratic processes.

Promoting women's political participation through capacity-building and engagement latforms.

Supporting the National Institute of Policy and Strategic Studies' (NIPSS), political parties leadership, and Policy Development Centre to strengthen the leadership and organisational capacities of political parties.



Results



Contributed to INEC's post-election reviews and post-election engagement, ensuring continuous improvement of electoral processes.



Provided the first-ever mapping and needs assessment for People with Disabilities (PWDs) in the electoral process in 2022.



Led initiatives on women's political participation, including advocating for affirmative action in electoral reforms, and providing platforms for women's political engagement.



Supported legislative advocacy and technical assistance towards electoral reform and the creation of a new legal framework for elections.



Contributed to the work of the NPC, which promotes peaceful elections through dialogue among key stakeholders.



Delivered a suite of election technology tools to INEC, including the Collation and Returning Officers Management System (CROMS), Election Results Management System (ERMS), Media Monitoring and Analysis Tool, Political Parties Financial Reporting and Auditing System (PFRAS), and the INEC Security Alert and Notification System (INEC SANS).



Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Programme (RoLAC), Phase II

Total budget

€30 million

Geographical region

Adamawa, Lagos, Edo, Anambra, Plateau, Abia, Kano, and the Federal Capital Territory

Implementation period

2022 - 2027

Implementing agency

International IDEA

Overview

The Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Programme (RoLAC) is designed to support Nigeria in consolidating the rule of law and advancing anti-corruption reforms. Implemented by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), the programme addresses critical aspects of the Nigerian justice system, focusing on improving judicial performance, access to justice for vulnerable groups, and enhancing transparency within anti-corruption systems.

Key activities

Supporting the Federal Ministry of Justice in developing and disseminating its Strategic Plan for 2022–2026.

Assisting in the identification and prioritisation of interventions based on the ministry's strategic plan, with a focus on actions that align with the programme's objectives.

Working in consultation with the Federal and State Justice Reform Committees (FJSRCC, JSRT) and the Anti-Corruption Justice Monitoring Committee (ACJMC) to implement provisions from key legislation, such as the Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA) and the National Court Systems Act (NCSA).

Identifying gaps in legislation and supporting the drafting of updated laws and regulations to strengthen the justice system and anti-corruption frameworks.

Partnering with CSOs to organise public enlightenment campaigns on laws related to corruption, money laundering, terrorism financing, and economic crimes.

Collaborating with agencies like the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), the Violence Against Persons Prohibition (VAPP) Committees, and the Child Rights Implementation Committees to support the implementation of relevant provisions in national and state laws.

Conducting research studies on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) to identify trends, new forms, and prevalence, and supporting advocacy efforts to address these issues.

Supporting legal and policy measures against corruption, and improving law enforcement and asset management for effective recovery by Anti-Corruption Agencies (ACAs) and Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs).

In consultation with FJSRCC, JRSTs, ACJMC, the MoJ and the Judiciary at federal and state levels, support the development of practice directions, manual case management, protocols, courtbench books to rationalise judicial procedures, and ensure timely exchange and systemised process of case transmission.

Results



The Federal Ministry of Justice (FMoJ) was technically supported to develop its 4-year strategic plan for administering Nigeria's justice sector. The programme advised on measures to strengthen the service charter of the Ministry. These included criminal justice reform, the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and expanding access to justice for women and victims of sexual and gender-based violence amongst others.



Technical and logistical support was provided to states to develop and adopt a State Model Correctional Services Law in line with the constitutional amendment that decentralised the establishment and management of correctional services to both the states and the federal government.



Technical and administrative support provided to eight existing justice response and referral coordination committees for the development or review of their respective mandates and annual workplans. This helped in refocusing them more specifically around the strategic objectives they were established to deliver and provided the opportunity to identify their capacity gaps. The support also enabled them to embark on impactful small to medium scale advocacy, monitoring and oversight actions.



European Union (EU) Support to the Integrated National Financial Framework (INFF), Phase II

Overview

The European Union (EU) Support to the Integrated National Financial Framework (INFF) is a strategic initiative aimed at financing sustainable development in Nigeria. It builds on the progress of the first phase by integrating Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into national planning and improving the financial landscape. The programme focuses on completing the INFF, implementing policy recommendations, facilitating revenue generation and financing flows, and enhancing the capacity of women-led and youth-led businesses to access investment opportunities. Through these efforts, the INFF Phase II aims to enable effective financing strategies for achieving Nigeria's sustainable development priorities.

Total budget

€2.2 million

Geographical region

Federal, with specific activities in several states, such as Lagos, Edo, Anambra, Kwara, Kano, and Gombe

Implementation period

2022 - 2026

Implementing agency

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Key activities

Drafting and publication of the Integrated National Financing Strategy (INFS), Medium-Term Revenue Strategy (MTRS), Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), and governance and coordination frameworks. These frameworks are aimed at improving financial management and sustainable investment at the state and federal level to fast-track economic development.

Reviewing the existing framework for fiscal transactions between the federal and state governments.

Designing a fiscal federalism framework that ensures fair resource allocation and provides states with the autonomy to generate their own revenue.

Supporting tax administration digitalisation efforts across several states. The programme also strengthened the capacity of Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS), Ondo Inland Revenue Service (IRS), and Kaduna Inland Revenue Service (IRS) in addressing gender impact on taxation, with all three implementing the Gender Seal for public institutions, supported by the UNDP Tax for SDGs programme.

Facilitating state-level consultations on the Development Finance Assessment (DFA) in Lagos, Edo, Anambra, Kwara, Kano, and Gombe, followed by nationwide dialogues to disseminate the findings.

Expanding investment opportunities and generating market intelligence for impact investments, particularly targeting women and youth-led businesses, with a focus on small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

Organising a national investment summit and supporting four state-level investment forums to attract impact investments.

Results



Completion of the Integrated National Financial Framework (INFF), including the development of key financial strategies and frameworks for all stakeholders.



Assessment and review of fiscal federalism, ensuring a more effective and fair distribution of resources between the federal and state governments.



Drafting of the sub-national DFA, providing insights into development finance at the sub-national level.



Implementation of selected policy recommendations, including strengthening the policy, legal, and regulatory framework to support sustainable development.



Strengthened access to investment opportunities for women-led and youth-led businesses.



Successful organisation of federal and state-level impact investment summits, fostering greater investments in sustainable development projects.

- The project supported Katsina state to structure a Green Economic Zone (GEZ), towards the state's investment road show in 2022.
- Supported Ondo state to organise its Develop Ondo 2.0 Investment Summit and Diaspora Investment Summit which showcased Ondo state's investment potentials, resulting in commitments to investments worth over \$2 billion and the creation of 70,000 new jobs.
- Supported Abia state to organise the Ease of Doing Business stakeholder roundtable (with government executive, SMEs, legislature, civil society, media, religious & community leaders, traders) to address bottlenecks hindering private sector participation in the state.
- Supported Gombe state to organise an investor roundtable which brought together key stakeholders, fostering meaningful dialogue and collaboration to amplify investments.

EU Support for the Disengagement, Review, Reintegration, and Reconciliation of Persons Formerly Associated with Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) - SD3R Project

Overview

The EU Support for the Disengagement, Review, Reintegration, and Reconciliation of Persons Formerly Associated with Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) - SD3R project aims to contribute to the community-driven reintegration and reconciliation of former armed non-state combatants and Boko Haram associates (including children) in Northeast Nigeria, particularly in Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa states. The project supports Nigeria's efforts to promote peace, security, and stability in the country and the wider Lake Chad Basin region. The focus is on sensitising communities, reducing stigmatisation, and providing gender-responsive, sustainable alternatives to violence for those disengaging from armed groups.

Total budget

€19.1 million

Geographical region

Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa States

Implementation period

2024–2027

Implementing agencies

International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Key activities

Raising global awareness: Enhanced global understanding of the issue of child recruitment and exploitation by terrorist groups.

Building professional capacity: Delivered training to professionals in strategies and measures to prevent and respond to child recruitment and exploitation.

Review of legal and policy frameworks: Supported the review of legal frameworks in Indonesia, Iraq, and Nigeria to prevent and respond to child recruitment and exploitation.

Strengthening community resistance: Worked to increase the capacity of children and their communities to resist recruitment and to facilitate the reintegration of children into society.



Results

1. Federal:



Conducted three family reunification visits to OPSC with 181 NOK (family members), including 35 community leaders of batch 6 clients from BAY states.

2. In Borno state:



Distributed business start-up kits to 247 community youths in Bama under the 2:1 support to Borno state empowerment initiative and humanitarian support to Borno Transit Centres – water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), shelter, medical assistance, improvement of vocational training area, and donation of training materials.

3. In Adamawa state:



Engaged ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs), civil society organisations (CSOs), and community stakeholders in community preparation for the reintegration of batch 6 OPSC clients, including 72 community members receiving business start-up kits.

4. In Yobe state:



Conducted town hall meetings, healing and social cohesion activities, and distributed 65 business start-up kits to community members in preparation for OPSC batch 6 clients reintegration.

5. Child release:



Receiving children and women exited from armed groups and those released from military custody.

6. Interim care:



Providing interim care services in transit centres –E.g.: literacy and numeracy, skills training, recreation, family tracing and reunification, gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response, and psychosocial support.

7. Reintegration:



Providing social and economic reintegration support (enrolled in school, skills training, livelihoods).

8. Transitional justice for children:



Scaling up transitional justice and reconciliation activities.

A Community-centred Approach to Transforming Criminality and Violence in the Niger Delta

Total budget

€6.5 million

Geographical region

Bayelsa, Delta and Rivers States

Implementation period

2023 – 2025

Implementing agencies

Search for Common Ground (SFCG), Academic Associates Peace Works (AAPW), Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND), and Stakeholder Democracy Network (SDN)

Overview

A Community-centred Approach to Transforming Criminality and Violence in the Niger Delta project seeks to promote inclusive community security approaches to address the systemic drivers of violence and criminality in Bayelsa, Delta, and Rivers states. The initiative focuses on understanding the factors driving oil bunkering, violent crime, and conflict in the region, and offers an integrated, community-centred approach. The project aims to build vertical and social cohesion and transform institutional behaviours, favouring inclusion, accountability, and conflict sensitivity.

Key activities

1. Conflict analysis:

Regular, gender-sensitive, participatory analyses of both offline and online conflict dynamics to understand emerging issues.

4. Private sector engagement:

Private sector engagement: Capacity-building for private companies on accountable community engagement and conflict-sensitive business practices.

2. Community dialogues:

Intra-communal dialogues, along with environmental livelihood initiatives, to build economic opportunities and intergenerational trust.

5. Reconciliation and peace initiatives:

Organising inter-communal reconciliation dialogues, joint peace initiatives, and media programmes to amplify project findings and approaches.

3. Strengthening early warning systems:

Building local capacities for early warning/early response networks to enhance community resilience.

6. Policy reform dialogues:

High-level dialogues between government and community actors to drive inter-institutional coordination and support policy reforms.

Results

The project has made significant progress, including;

1. Project launch:



The consortium successfully held state-level project launches in Bayelsa, Rivers, and Delta states in February 2024, with an official national launch scheduled for Abuja at the end of the same month.

2. Capacity building:



Local actors, including youth and community leaders, received increased support and training on addressing conflict dynamics and fostering collaboration.

3. Strengthened collaboration:



Youth and adult leaders worked more closely together to identify and address the underlying drivers of violence and criminality in their communities.

4. Increased media presence:



Media outreach campaigns successfully raised awareness of the project's work and promoted peacebuilding methods.



Project successfully launched at the national and states level in Bayelsa, Rivers, and Delta (150 participants per launch and launch made by governments leaders).



A week in-depth onboarding training for new staff.



Remobilisation and establishment of community-level peace architectures successfully completed, and CPAs established in Bayelsa state and activities currently ongoing across the region.



Advocacy engagement to multi-level stakeholders at community, state, and national level still ongoing.



Internal security assessment across the 3 states carried out by SFCC.

Results (contd.)



Baseline validation and dissemination of findings across the region and national.



Completion of media and information needs assessment.



Multimedia peace campaign planning ongoing.



Common Ground Journalism training for 33 media actors.



One out of four quarterly meetings for the CGJF, held.



Inaugurated the DMEL technical working group.



65 CPA inaugurated and 63 CPA meetings facilitated in Bayelsa, Delta, and Rivers states.



33 LPA inaugurated and 30 LPA meetings facilitated in Bayelsa, Delta, and Rivers states.



3 SPA inaugurated in Bayelsa, Delta, and Rivers states.



Inaugurated the EWER technical working group.



Support to Migration Governance in Nigeria (Component 1 and 2)

Overview

Support to Migration Governance in Nigeria aims to strengthen Nigeria's migration governance framework at federal, state, and local levels. Building on the achievements of previous initiatives (2009–2022), including the European Union (EU) and International Organization for Migration (IOM) Joint Initiative for Migrants' Protection and Reintegration in Nigeria, this programme seeks to advance key interventions. These include updating and implementing migration policies, such as the National Migration Policy (NMP) and the Nigeria Border Management Strategy (NBMS), revising legislation like the Immigration Act, and improving migration coordination efforts. The programme also focuses on advancing migration data management, enhancing regular migration pathways, fostering diaspora engagement for development, and providing assistance to returnees and stranded migrants while addressing Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) and Smuggling of Migrants (SoM).

Total budget

€20 million

Geographical region

36 states and the Federal Capital Territory

Implementation period

2024 – 2029

Implementing agency

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Key activities

1. Strengthening migration governance policies and frameworks:

Nigeria's review of the National Migration Policy (NMP) aligns with the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) and other international frameworks, prioritising updated policies and capacity-building for effective implementation.

Provide technical assistance to revise and disseminate migration policies and frameworks, including the NMP action plan.

Facilitate consultations, partnerships, and coordination mechanisms like the National Migration Dialogue (NMD) and GCM review meetings.

Organise capacity-building sessions for federal stakeholders on updated frameworks.

2. Enhancing migration governance coordination:

The National Commission for Refugees, Migrants, and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI) will lead efforts to align national frameworks with global and regional priorities while improving migration policy implementation.

Conduct capacity needs assessments of NCFRMI and relevant agencies.

Facilitate zonal and state-level coordination to ensure inclusivity and harmonisation.

Support key migration governance structures, including technical working groups and inter-ministerial committees.

Key activities (contd.)

3. Improving migration data management:

Reliable migration data is essential for informed decision-making. This programme will enhance data systems and align them with regional standards.

Strengthen coordination mechanisms for managing migration data, including operationalising the National Migration Management Database (NMMD).

Conduct migrant presence surveys to gather data on migrant demographics, skills, and conditions.

Partner with academic institutions to promote migration research and integrate migration studies into university curricula.

4. Strengthening border governance:

To address challenges like irregular migration and smuggling, the programme will review and update the NBMS while improving border management practices.

Update the NBMS and develop a costed action plan.

Enhance migration data management capacities using the Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS).

Train border officials in document examination and community engagement practices.

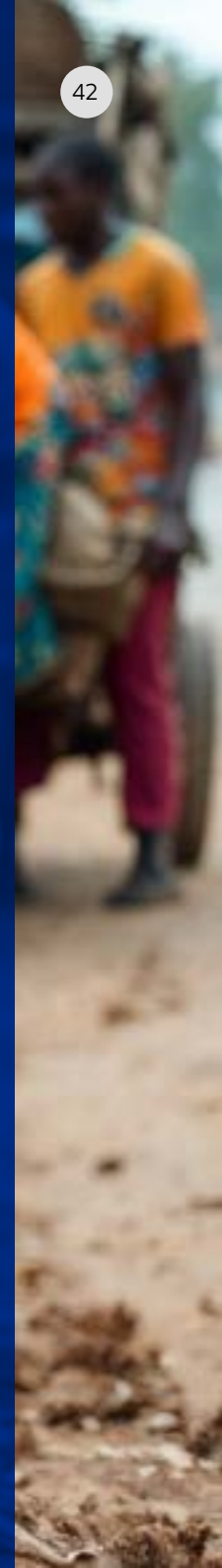
5. Reinforcing labour migration policies:

Comprehensive labour migration policies will promote safe, orderly, and regular migration pathways, and address factors driving emigration.

Develop bilateral labour agreements and promote international conventions protecting migrant workers.

Pilot projects on skills mobility, family reunification, and climate-adaptive migration pathways.

Strengthen Migrant Resource Centres (MRCs) to deliver training and facilitate job placements.



Key activities (contd.)

6. Mobilising the Nigerian diaspora:

The Nigerians in Diaspora Commission (NiDCOM) will be supported to expand diaspora engagement initiatives, promoting investments, and skills transfer for national development.

Build NiDCOM's capacity to coordinate diaspora programmes and maintain a national diaspora database.

Pilot diaspora-led projects focused on knowledge transfer and skills exchange in key development sectors.

7. Supporting return, readmission, and reintegration:

Sustainable reintegration of returnees will be achieved through tailored economic, social, and psychosocial support.

Train stakeholders on return and reintegration procedures, with a focus on vulnerable groups.

Provide post-arrival assistance and rehabilitation and reintegration services to returnees, including access to healthcare, vocational training, and legal aid.

Develop community-based income-generating initiatives and awareness campaigns, and facilitate media training to promote ethical migration reporting.

8. Building community and stakeholder capacities:

State and non-state actors will be empowered to support reintegration efforts effectively.

Operationalise the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) to ensure harmonised support for vulnerable migrants.

Train stakeholders on case management and migrant-centred approaches.

Results



Nigeria's capacity to implement evidence-based migration governance policies is strengthened at all levels.



Policies and frameworks are reinforced and operationalised to address evolving migration dynamics effectively.



Migration governance coordination structures guiding policy implementation and fostering partnerships are enhanced.



Stakeholder capacity for managing migration data is significantly improved.



Border governance capabilities are enhanced, ensuring secure and efficient migration management.



Labour migration policies are implemented effectively, safeguarding migrant workers' rights.



Diaspora engagement initiatives are expanded to mobilise contributions for national development.



Stakeholder capacity for managing return and readmission procedures is strengthened.



Sustainable reintegration support enhances the resilience of returnees and their communities.



Returnees gain improved access to post-arrival assistance and reintegration support.



Community and stakeholder capacities to support reintegration are strengthened, with an emphasis on inclusivity.

Support to Migration Governance in Nigeria (Component 3)

Total budget
€8 million

Geographical region
36 states and the Federal Capital Territory

Implementation period
2024 – 2029

Implementing agencies
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration, and Public Policies (Fundación Internacional y para Iberoamérica de Administración y Políticas Públicas – FIIAPP)

Key activities

Overview

The Support to Migration Governance in Nigeria programme seeks to strengthen Nigeria's efforts in enhancing its migration governance framework. Through expanded interventions, the programme improves migration management, supports the economic, social, and psychosocial reintegration of returning migrants, and addresses significant challenges such as Trafficking in Persons (TiP) and the smuggling of migrants (SoM). By promoting informed migration decisions among migrants and communities and enhancing the country's capacity to prevent trafficking, protect vulnerable individuals, and prosecute offenders, the programme builds upon existing structures to establish a more effective and sustainable migration governance system in Nigeria, with the focus on the five Ps (policy, prevention, protection, prosecution, and partnership) of the fight against TiP/SoM.

1. Policy: Policy coordination and facilitation

Support the coordination and facilitation of policy-level meetings, state task force meetings, technical working groups, and the annual stakeholders forum as outlined in the National Action Plan (NAP) on Human Trafficking (2022–2026).

Assist in the development and validation of the National Action Plan on Human Trafficking (2027–2031) to ensure continuity and strategic progress.

2. Prevention: Data collection and analysis, and capacity building and sensitisation

Support national agencies in enhancing the collection, analysis, and reporting of data on TiP and SoM, enabling evidence-based decision-making.

Facilitate capacity-building initiatives and conduct TiP and SoM sensitisation campaigns in Nigeria and neighbouring countries of origin, transit, and destination, in collaboration with the Network Against Child Trafficking, Abuse and Labour (NACTAL) and the West Africa Coalition Against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants (WACTIPSOM).

3. Protection: Implementation of national referral mechanism, and support to State Task forces and shelters

Promote the implementation of the guidelines on the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) for the protection and assistance of trafficked persons in Nigeria.

Support the work of State Task Forces and shelters for victims of trafficking.

Key activities (contd.)

4. Prosecution: Development of guidelines, standard operating procedures (SOPs), and support for investigations

Organise training sessions for criminal justice authorities, government institutions, and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) on the identification, investigation, prosecution, and adjudication of TiP and SoM cases, as well as victim protection and assistance, using a victim-centred approach.

Support the development and dissemination of guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to aid in the identification, referral, prosecution, and adjudication of TiP and SoM cases.

Provide support for investigations into TiP and SoM, including financial investigations and cyber investigative skills, to enhance the effectiveness of law enforcement efforts.

5. Partnership: Strengthening coordination at state and community levels

Organise coordination meetings among state task force members, the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), and other national partners to improve efforts to counter TiP and SoM at state and community levels.

Support informal networking, and harmonise and coordinate with development partners on TiP/SoM.



Results

1. Policy: Implementation of national policies and frameworks



Effective execution of national policies and frameworks addressing TiP and SoM, reinforcing Nigeria's overall governance and response mechanisms in these sectors.

2. Prevention: Enhanced data management and knowledge on TiP and SoM



Strengthened capacities of national institutions to prevent TiP and SoM through improved data management systems and the generation of actionable insights on trends and patterns for informed decision-making and strategic interventions.

3. Protection: Strengthened protection for victims and smuggled migrants



Enhanced capacity of national authorities to protect victims of trafficking and smuggled migrants by enforcing victim-centred management mechanisms. This includes targeted efforts to prevent and combat TiP and SoM, particularly in high-risk and border areas.

4. Prosecution: Improved law enforcement and justice sector capabilities



Increased capacity of law enforcement agencies, criminal justice authorities, and other governmental institutions to investigate, prosecute, and adjudicate TiP and SoM cases. These measures will adhere to a victim-centred, human-rights-based, and gender-sensitive approach, ensuring fairness and justice.

5. Partnership: Strengthened national and cross-border cooperation



Improved coordination within national systems and enhanced regional and international cooperation mechanisms. This includes better information exchange and partnerships to enable efficient identification, investigation, and prosecution of TiP and SoM cases, following a human-rights-based and gender-sensitive approach.

Enhancing Digital Rights in Nigeria (E-Rights)

Overview

The Enhancing Digital Rights in Nigeria (E-Rights) project supports the European Union (EU) action plan on human rights and democracy (2020–2024) and Nigeria's human rights and democracy strategy (2021). It seeks to strengthen digital rights by addressing challenges posed by new technologies while promoting human rights, democracy, and the rule of law. The initiative aims to empower stakeholders, including activists, authorities, youth, and women, to safeguard digital rights and protect human rights defenders.

The overarching goal is to promote and protect human rights, fundamental freedoms, democracy, and the rule of law in Nigeria. Specifically, it aims to enhance digital rights in Nigeria to provide better protection for human rights defenders and the broader population.

Total budget

€749,943.30

Geographical region

Lagos, Imo, Kano, and the Federal Capital Territory

Implementation period

2023 - 2025

Implementing agencies

Avocats Sans Frontières France, Spaces for Change, and Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD)

Key activities

1. Capacity building for activists:

Develop the "closing civic spaces" digital platform for activists to report violations and foster trust, accountability, and transparency.

Conduct face-to-face and online training for activists on digital rights, protection mechanisms, and online security tools.

Provide Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) for continuous, self-paced learning.

2. Capacity building for legal professionals:

Train lawyers and judges on international legislation and EU standards related to digital rights and online spaces.

Provide legal assistance to victims of digital rights violations or threats.

3. Strengthening collaboration:

Create a situation room for engagement between authorities, experts, and digital activists to coordinate efforts and strengthen digital rights.

4. Policy and advocacy initiatives:

Establish and train an expert group to draft a digital reform policy guide aligned with international standards and EU norms.

Organise technical working meetings to refine the policy guide.

Conduct advocacy at national and international levels, including at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), to strengthen Nigeria's digital rights legislation.

Facilitate national-level advocacy meetings and a conference on digital rights.

Engage in legislative advocacy to align national laws with international digital rights frameworks.

5. Awareness raising:

Implement awareness campaigns to educate the public on digital rights, with a focus on diverse groups, including youth and women.



Engaged 3,451 stakeholders in its first year through its multiple interventions across Abuja, Imo, Lagos, and Kano states.



Engaged in advocacy with key stakeholders and government regulatory authorities such as National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA), the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), and Nigeria Data Protection Commission (NDPC) throughout year one, to influence policy making relating to digital rights in Nigeria.



Held seven training sessions, reaching 159 beneficiaries.



Supported 55 activists to develop digital resilience through digital security training in Kano and Lagos states, building their capacity on protection mechanisms, online security tools, and digital rights.



Provided technical and specialised training to 73 members of the Judiciary and lawyers from Abuja, Kano, Imo, and Lagos states on international standards and European norms on digital rights.



Established a multi-stakeholder expert group comprising of academics, Nigerian authorities, civil society, journalists, tech companies and associations, and lawyers.



Sensitised 3,166 young persons on their digital rights.



Disseminated 1,200 educational resources on online safety and online Gender-Based Violence (GBV).



3,451

stakeholders

engaged in its first year through its multiple interventions



159

beneficiaries

in seven training sessions



55

activists

supported to develop digital resilience



73

members

of the judiciary and legal professionals received technical and specialised training



3,166

young persons

were sensitised on their digital rights



1,200

educational resources

on online safety and online GBV were disseminated

CSO Strengthening Bridge Project

Total budget

€3.9 million

Geographical region

Federal level

Implementation period

2025 - 2028

Implementing agency

International IDEA

Overview

To enhance the credibility and role of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in Nigeria by promoting and strengthening multi-stakeholder collaboration, structures and mechanisms that foster regulatory reforms and compliance among civil society actors in Nigeria. Its implementation is expected to result in functioning and effective coordination mechanisms that encourage and maintain an enabling environment for CSO operations that are in place at national and sub-national levels; improved capacities amongst CSOs to understand and comply with extant regulatory requirements and apply self-regulatory principles and practices; and improved regulatory frameworks and practices affecting the formation and operations of CSOs at national and sub-national levels.

Key activities

Provision of technical and financial support to strengthen the governance/operational capacity of civil society coordinating platforms.

Provision of technical and financial support to CSO coordinating platforms to strengthen the adoption and implementation of self-regulation modalities and practices by CSOs.

Capacity strengthening of CSOs to improve and sustain compliance with extant regulations.

Provision of technical and financial support to consolidate engagement for regulatory reforms at federal level.

Support to CSOs to consolidate and replicate regulatory reforms to achieve harmonisation of registration and regulatory procedures at sub-national level.

Results



Strengthened governance/operational capacity of civil society coordinating platforms.



Improved adoption and implementation of self-regulation modalities and practices by CSOs.



Improved CSO capacity to comply with extant regulations.



Consolidated engagements for regulatory reforms at federal level.



Replication of federal regulatory reforms at state level to achieve harmonisation of registration and regulatory procedures.

Strengthening a Community of Practice to Improve CSO Regulatory Environment in Nigeria

Total budget

€750,000

Geographical region

Ebonyi, Anambra, Cross River, Ogun, Oyo, Osun, Akwa Ibom, and the Federal Capital Territory

Implementation period

2023 - 2026

Implementing agency

Global Rights Advocates for Sustainable Justice

Key activities

Strengthening a community of practice on civic space strengthening at the subnational level.

Regulatory compliance capacity building.

Legislative ally building.

Develop a state ranking dashboard with indicators using predetermined criteria to monitor each state's reactivity and responsiveness to improving the civil society regulatory environment across the 36 states and the FCT.

Responding to national interventions that have a direct impact on subnational CSOs' regulatory environment.

Bi-annual subnational CSOs conference on the regulatory environment that will bring together critical stakeholders including regulators, lawmakers, CSOs and the donor community to generate shared understanding and collective perspectives on appropriate instruments of regulation and effective processes to regulate CSOs operation at the subnational level.



Overview

The Strengthening a Community of Practice to Improve CSO Regulatory Environment in Nigeria project aims to build platforms for structured multi-stakeholder engagements for improved and effective civil society regulatory environment in seven (7) states in Nigeria plus the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). The project is designed to promote platforms, approaches and systems for an improved civil society regulatory environment in Nigeria.

Through the project, a network of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) would be built and supported to advocate for the harmonisation of the cumbersome registration procedures and processes, especially at the subnational levels where even more tedious hurdles exist. Also, CSOs would be supported to propagate a clearer understanding of the threats to the civic space including their non-compliance to statutory requirements, and how new laws, in particular, the amended Companies and Allied Matters Act (CAMA) impedes their existence.



7 active subnational community of practice on civic space strengthening set up in the 7 project states of Oyo, Ogun, Ebonyi, Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Osun, and Anambra with an average membership of 50 CSOs in each state.



4 capacity building trainings conducted for CSOs in 4 states.



Effective CSOs allyships with the legislature and policymakers in 7 states.



Effective utilisation of a Joint Learning Platform for CSO coordination in 7 states.



320 CSOs in 7 states receive training on regulatory compliance framework to improve their operations.



98 CSOs in 4 states have been trained on CSOs regulatory compliance.

7

active subnational

community of practice on civic space strengthening set up in the 7 project states

50

CSOs per state

form seven active subnational communities of practice on civic space strengthening

4

capacity-building

trainings held for CSOs across 4 states

320

CSOs

across 7 states trained on regulatory compliance to enhance operations

98

CSOs

in 4 states trained on regulatory compliance

Strengthening Child Care and Protection Systems in Nigeria

Total budget

€867,825

Geographical region

Edo, Borno, and Plateau States

Implementation period

2025 - 2028

Implementing agencies

SOS Children's Villages Nigeria (SOS CVN), Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC), and Jireh Doo Foundation (JDF)

Overview

The Strengthening Child Care and Protection Systems in Nigeria project aims to address the right of the child by supporting institutions, religious leaders, faith-based organisations, and communities in challenging age-old traditions and social norms that infringe upon children's rights, while also advocating for the passage and implementation of the Child Rights Act (CRA).

The initiative seeks to contribute to a functional childcare and protection system that ensures quality care and social welfare services for vulnerable children.

Key activities

1. Enhancing state structures and community safety nets:

Addressing harmful traditions such as child marriage, child slavery, and all forms of abuse and exploitation, including child labour and trafficking, through a rights-based approach.

2. Improving child protection systems:

Strengthening child protection and Ombudsperson systems at the state and national levels to safeguard children's rights.

3. Providing psychosocial support (PSS):

Offering PSS to care professionals, caregivers, and children to improve their well-being and resilience.

4. Creating child-friendly learning environments:

Establishing safe spaces for learning and growth to ensure children's development in a secure environment.

5. Building capacity:

Training caregivers, childcare professionals, government officials, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and teachers in areas such as alternative care, safeguarding, child rights, and mental health and PSS.

6. Developing and implementing alternative care guidelines:

Advocating for the adoption and implementation of quality alternative care guidelines and strategies to improve child protection systems.

7. Advocacy for the CRA:

Promoting the passage and effective implementation of the CRA at sub-national levels to enhance legal frameworks for child protection.

8. Engaging communities:

Equipping community leaders, religious leaders, and key stakeholders to address traditions and social norms that infringe on children's rights and fostering community-based child protection mechanisms.

9. Increasing media awareness:

Training media outlets to create public awareness about child rights, abuse prevention, and alternative care systems.

10. Promoting coordination and collaboration:

Establishing frameworks to align with other development initiatives, such as the European Union Support to Democratic Governance in Nigeria (EU-SDGN) and Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption (RoLAC II) programmes, to avoid duplication and enhance impact.

Results

1. Enhanced advocacy for the CRA:



Improved implementation and review of the CRA at national and state levels in Edo, Plateau, and Borno.

2. Established alternative care guidelines:



Development and dissemination of alternative care guidelines at state and national levels to promote quality care for vulnerable children.

3. Increased capacity of stakeholders:



Improved capacity of government ministries, CSOs, childcare professionals, and community leaders to implement child protection systems effectively.

4. Stronger community protection mechanisms:



Formation and reinforcement of community child protection committees (CCPCs), with linkages to state-level child protection networks.

5. Empowered caregivers:



Establishment of Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) to economically empower caregivers, reducing dependency on harmful practices like child marriage and labour.

6. Access to PSS:



Vulnerable children, caregivers, and community members receive PSS services, including teacher training in psychological first aid.

7. Child-friendly learning environments:



Schools adopt child protection committees and ensure a safe learning environment.

8. Media-led awareness:



Journalists and community stakeholders gain the tools to advocate for child rights and promote alternative care systems.

9. Empowered youth and children:



Formation of youth councils linked to state parliaments, fostering child participation in decision-making and advocacy.

Results

10. Improved care for vulnerable children:



National and state-level forums for care leavers to advocate for better policies and practices in alternative care systems.

11. Collaboration with stakeholders:



Effective collaboration with government ministries, CSOs, and community leaders to promote peaceful, child-friendly environments.

12. Implementation of child protection frameworks:



Childcare professionals and caregivers implement alternative care guidelines and provide quality care to vulnerable children.



INCLUDE NAIJA - Inclusive Democracy and Empowerment Network for Active Youth in Nigeria

Overview

The INCLUDE NAIJA – Inclusive Democracy and Empowerment Network for Active Youth in Nigeria project aims to promote the fundamental human rights of Nigerian youth and enhance their active participation in democratic and national development processes. Aligned with the core objectives of the thematic programme supporting Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in Nigeria, the project focuses on fostering youth inclusion within democratic systems, advancing human rights, and strengthening democracy. By addressing the challenges of youth exclusion from governance and national development, the project seeks to establish mechanisms that protect and empower young people's rights. This initiative is particularly timely in light of Nigeria's shrinking civic space, creating opportunities for youth engagement and ensuring their voices contribute meaningfully to the country's democratic processes.

Total budget

€500,000

Geographical region

Borno, Delta, Edo, Cross River, Akwa Ibom, and Rivers States

Implementation period

2025 - 2028

Implementing agencies

Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, We The People, and Social Action

Key activities

1. Capacity building workshops on policy advocacy, human rights, and democratic engagement:

Conduct training sessions for youth organisations, tertiary students, young community activists, women's groups, and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) to enhance their knowledge and skills for engaging in political processes and advocating for constitutionally guaranteed rights and accountability from public offices.

2. Awareness campaigns:

Carry out civic education and awareness campaigns in universities and communities to educate youth on their rights, democratic responsibilities, and the importance of active participation in governance.

3. Mentorship programmes:

Establish mentorship programmes for young women in student union leadership or those aspiring to leadership roles within their institutions, fostering gender equality and leadership development.



Key activities (contd.)

4. Participatory monitoring forums:

Organise annual two-day participatory monitoring forums at the community level, engaging youth, policymakers, security agencies, and local government authorities to discuss policy changes and improve governance.

5. Advocacy visits and legislative policy dialogues:

Facilitate advocacy visits and dialogues between youth representatives, policymakers, and legislators to promote inclusive policies and ensure youth voices are represented in decision-making processes.

6. Establish and support Civil Rights Councils (CRCs):

Create and strengthen CRCs to provide platforms for youth to monitor and address human rights issues within their communities.

7. State-to-state training programmes:

Implement training programmes across states to build the capacity of youth leaders to demand accountability, advocate for human rights, and hold law enforcement agencies accountable for respecting the rule of law and improving service delivery.

8. Community-police forums:

Facilitate structured forums to foster open dialogue between police officers and community members, promoting mutual trust, respect, and understanding.

9. Digital engagement platforms and mobile applications:

Develop and deploy digital platforms and mobile applications to enable youth to track, report, and engage in human rights monitoring, amplifying their impact and participation in governance.

Results

1. Enhanced capacity of youth organisations for policy advocacy and democratic engagement:



Youth organisations from grassroots to local district levels are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and tools to engage effectively in policy advocacy and democratic processes, fostering human rights and inclusive development.

2. Improved relationships between youth groups and government officials:



Youth organisations from grassroots to local district levels are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and tools to engage effectively in policy advocacy and democratic processes, fostering human rights and inclusive development.

3. Empowered youth to hold state law enforcement agencies accountable:



Youth in focal states are better equipped to demand accountability from law enforcement agencies, ensuring the promotion of human rights, adherence to the rule of law, and improved public service delivery.

Faith for Peace: Empowering Local Actors to Promote Peacebuilding, Human Rights, Democracy, and Religious Tolerance in Nigeria

Total budget

€750,000

Geographical region

Northcentral (Nasarawa State) and Northeast (Gombe State)

Implementation period

2023 - 2025

Implementing agencies

Evangelisches Werk für Diakonie und Entwicklung e.V., Brot für die Welt (BfdW); Tarayyar Ekklisiyar Kristi a Nigeria (TEKAN); and Centre for Community Actions for Peace and Development (CCAPAD)

Key activities

1. Community engagement and mobilisation:

Conduct 60 community entry meetings to mobilise 30 Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) and religious groups, ensuring their active participation and ownership.

Organise 60 consultative meetings with 1,200 traditional leaders and 1,200 religious leaders to influence their communities towards religious tolerance and human rights protection.

2. Stakeholder consultations and advocacy:

Hold 10 consultative meetings with 690 officials from government agencies, ministries, security outfits, and CBOs to establish safe spaces for dialogue on human rights and Freedom of Religion or Belief (FORB).

Conduct 16 advocacy meetings and technical sessions with 50 state legislators and 120 LGA councillors to support legislative action promoting religious tolerance and human rights.

Facilitate 6 advocacy meetings with 50 wives of state legislators to position them as champions of religious tolerance and human rights.

60
community
entry meetings conducted to mobilise 30 CBOs

1,200
traditional
and 1,200 religious leaders to promote religious tolerance and human rights protection.

16
advocacy
meetings and technical sessions conducted

Overview

Faith for Peace: Empowering Local Actors to Promote Peacebuilding, Human Rights, Democracy, and Religious Tolerance in Nigeria is an innovative initiative aimed at deepening democratic governance, protecting human rights, and fostering religious tolerance, conflict resolution, and socio-economic development in Nigeria. This programme seeks to empower key local stakeholders—including community-based groups, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), religious leaders, Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs), and government institutions—to serve as agents of meaningful and sustainable change, with a strong emphasis on the inclusion of women and youth.

3. Capacity building and technical support:

Provide 40 capacity-building sessions (e.g., advisory, mentoring, and training workshops) and financial support to strengthen networking among 30 CBOs, CSOs, and FBOs.

Deliver 28 training workshops for 50 duty bearers at state and LGA levels on FORB, gender inclusion, human rights, good governance, and advocacy.

Organise 24 multi-stakeholder workshops for 420 actors to develop early warning mechanisms, mediation skills, and interreligious engagement strategies.

4. Policy development and advocacy:

Produce 2 policy briefs for state legislators to influence legislative agendas on religious tolerance and human rights.

Hold 20 strategic meetings with 400 representatives from CSOs, government bodies, media outlets, and FBOs to develop mechanisms for human rights protection, including FORB.

5. Peacebuilding and deradicalisation:

Establish 12 community-based peace teams, consisting of 180 peace champions trained in conflict resolution and early warning systems.

Conduct 36 workshops on deradicalisation for 3,600 community stakeholders, including traditional and religious leaders and security actors.

6. Awareness and media engagement:

Host 12 town-hall meetings to increase awareness about radicalism, human rights protection, and FORB for 1,200 community members.

Conduct 4 media training sessions for staff from 10 selected outlets on conflict-sensitive reporting and human rights.

7. Livelihoods and psychosocial support:

Build resilience and improve livelihoods for vulnerable or prosecuted women and youth through conflict-sensitive socio-economic initiatives.

40
capacity-building
sessions for 30 CBOs.

28
workshops
for 50 duty bearers on FORB & inclusion

420
actors
engaged in peacebuilding workshops

2
policy briefs
for state legislators

400
stakeholders
participated in 20 meetings to develop human rights protection mechanisms, including FORB

12
peace teams
established with 180 trained peace champions.

3,600
stakeholders
participated in 36 deradicalisation workshops

12
town halls
reached 1,200 community members on radicalism, human rights, and FORB

40
media professionals
trained on conflict-sensitive reporting and human rights

Results



54 meetings held with over 30 community-based groups and faith-based organisations to secure support and commitment of local leaders and groups for the Faith for Peace project in Nasarawa and Gombe states.



Twelve community-based peace teams established in Karu, Keffi, Lafia, Kwami, Billiri, and Deba LGAs.



Seven meetings held with 345 government officials on creating safe spaces and protecting human rights.



Two training workshops held for 25 representatives of the Nigeria Police Force, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, vigilante groups and district heads on FORB, gender mainstreaming, and human rights.



Twenty-four consultative meetings with 408 traditional rulers and religious leaders on religious tolerance and human rights protection.



Psychosocial support provided to 135 survivors of human rights abuses.



Six advocacy meetings held with 60 state legislators and local government council members to discuss the Almajiri system and the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act 2020.



Forty-five participants benefitted from four financial literacy workshops in Nasarawa state.



Three capacity building sessions on enhancing organisational capacities for grassroots peacebuilding and human rights activities provided to 30 representatives from community-based groups, CBOs and CSOs.

Results (contd.)



54
meetings

held with 30+ stakeholders to secure support for the Faith for Peace project



345
government officials

participated in 7 meetings on safe spaces and human rights



408
traditional and religious leaders

participated in 24 consultative meetings on religious tolerance and human rights



60
state legislators and council members

participated in 6 advocacy meetings on the Almajiri system and VAPP Act



30
representatives

participated in 3 capacity building sessions on peacebuilding and human rights.



25
security personnel

and district heads participated in 2 training workshops on FORB, gender mainstreaming, and human rights



135
survivors

of human rights abuses received psychosocial support



Act Naija!– Civil Society Initiative to Strengthen Social Protection in Nigeria

Overview

The Act Naija! project seeks to improve collaboration between Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and the government to strengthen the design, implementation, and accountability of inclusive social protection policies. Through multi-stakeholder engagement, the project addresses systemic inequalities that disproportionately affect vulnerable populations, including women, youth, and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), while promoting equitable social protection systems.

Total budget

€1 million

Geographical region

Enugu, Borno, Delta, Kogi, Ondo, Ekiti, Osun, and the Federal Capital Territory

Implementation period

2025 - 2028

Implementing agencies

Evangelisches Werk für Diakonie und Entwicklung e.V., Brot für die Welt, The Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEJ), and New Initiative for Social Development (NISD)

Key activities

- 1. Baseline and endline monitoring studies:**

Conduct studies to evaluate the effectiveness and impact of social protection policies and programmes at the national level and in selected states.
- 2. National dialogue on social protection:**

Facilitate a national dialogue involving government institutions, CSOs, and other stakeholders to review policies, share challenges, and propose recommendations based on the baseline study findings.
- 3. Information, education, and communication (IEC) materials development:**

Develop and distribute Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials to raise public awareness about social protection policies and their benefits.
- 4. Community outreach sessions:**

Conduct 63 outreach sessions to inform community members about the social register and social safety net programmes, enhancing their access and participation.

- 5. Advocacy through short film series:**

Produce a short-film series to highlight key issues in social protection delivery and foster public engagement and advocacy.
- 6. Grievance redress mechanism analysis:**

Collaborate with the National Cash Transfer Office (NCTO) to track and analyse grievance redress mechanism data, identifying challenges, and proposing actionable improvements.
- 7. State-level dialogues on social protection:**

Organise seven state-level dialogues to evaluate social protection interventions and foster collaboration among stakeholders.
- 8. Advocacy strategy and tools development:**

Develop an advocacy strategy and tools to CSOs in advocating for inclusive and equitable social protection policies at national and sub-national levels.

Results

1. Increased public awareness and engagement:



Enhanced collaboration between CSOs, the private sector, and government, fostering greater public understanding and participation in social protection policies and programmes.

2. Improved monitoring and accountability:



Strengthened capacities of local organisations and communities to monitor and ensure the effective delivery of social protection programmes, creating a more accountable and responsive system.

3. Enhanced advocacy and mobilisation:



Improved coordination and advocacy efforts among CSOs, government, and legislative bodies to develop inclusive and responsive social protection policies and frameworks.

4. Capacity building for effective management:



Strengthened organisational capacities of local staff and key stakeholders, enabling participatory project management that incorporates gender equity, cross-cultural dialogue, and the empowerment of marginalised groups.



Disability Rights Advocacy Project for Inclusive Development (D-RAPID)

Total budget

€870,000

Geographical region

Benue and Delta States

Implementation period

2025 - 2028

Implementing agencies

Christoffel-Blindenmission Christian Blind Mission (CBM), Nigerian Women Trust Fund (NWTf), and TAF Africa

Overview

The Disability Rights Advocacy Project for Inclusive Development (D-RAPID) focuses on supporting Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs), and the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD) to enhance access to and enforcement of the rights of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs). This is achieved through the implementation of the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act 2018 in Nigeria.

The project seeks to address capacity gaps within the NCPWD, CSOs, Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) and FBOs to improve their ability to advocate for and adopt disability-inclusive laws. It also fosters the economic empowerment of PWDs through technology and entrepreneurial skills development.

Key activities

Improved rights of PWDs through implementation of the Disability Act

1. Baseline study:

Assess the status of the Act's implementation and related policies at national and state levels (Benue and Delta).

Identify OPDs, stakeholders, and resources for targeted interventions.

2. Capacity development for NCPWD:

Train 60 staff on the 2024 accessibility standard and universal design.

Develop a roadmap for dissemination and conduct infrastructure compliance audits.

3. Training for national National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and Human Rights Defenders (HRDs):

Build understanding of the act, United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), and strategies for rights advocacy.

60

staff trained

on the 2024 accessibility standard and universal design

4. Biannual stakeholder review meetings:

Evaluate implementation progress, identify challenges, and refine strategies.

5. Capacity building for CSOs, OPDs, and National Assembly Committees:

Equip participants with advocacy tools to promote disability rights.

6. Commemoration of International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPWD):

Host a national summit to review progress and strengthen partnerships.

7. Support for disability registration:

Assist the NCPWD in registering 3,000 PWDs in Benue and Delta, including issuing identity cards.

3,000

PWDs

registered in Benue and Delta

Adaptation and domestication of Disability Law in Benue and Delta States

1. Quarterly stakeholder engagements:

Address policy gaps and ensure disability inclusion in state frameworks.

2. Development of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials:

Create accessible materials (braille, large print, flyers, etc.) for awareness campaigns.

3. Simplified and translated versions of the Act:

Distribute 4,000 copies in plain English and three local languages.

4. Awareness campaigns:

Conduct roadshows, town hall meetings, and media initiatives to promote inclusion.

5. Capacity building for OPDs:

Train OPDs to advocate effectively and participate in policy-making.

6. Policy dialogue and public hearings:

Support the adoption and domestication of the Disability Bill at the state level.

7. Advocacy with State Assemblies:

Orient State Assembly Committees on the Act and link it to the UNCRPD and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

8. Media advocacy and training:

Train 80 media professionals on inclusive reporting to amplify awareness.

9. Town hall meetings:

Mobilise communities to engage with the NCPWD portal and disability rights advocacy.

Enhanced livelihood opportunities for PWDs

1. Economic empowerment mapping:

Identify PWDs and available empowerment opportunities.

2. Skills training and mentorship:

Enrol 108 persons in entrepreneurial and technological skills programmes.

3. Provision of assistive devices:

Distribute mobility aids (wheelchairs, tricycles, crutches, etc.) to 100 beneficiaries.

4. Entrepreneurial and technological training:

Provide tailored training to address specific needs in local contexts.

5. Start-up support:

Offer start-up kits and mentoring to 54 beneficiaries for self-reliance.

6. Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs):

Establish and train 36 VSLAs to promote financial literacy and community cohesion.

108

persons enrolled

in entrepreneurial and technological skills programmes

100

beneficiaries

received mobility aids

54

beneficiaries

received start-up kits and mentoring for self-reliance

36

VSLAs

established and trained to promote financial literacy

Results

1. Improved rights and advocacy for PWDs:



Enhanced protection and enforcement of rights through the Disability Act.

2. Empowered PWDs and OPDs:



Strengthened capacity to demand rights and advocate for disability inclusion.

3. Enhanced institutional capacity of the NCPWD:



Improved ability of the NCPWD to implement and enforce the Act.

4. Facilitated domestication of the Disability Act:



State-level adoption and implementation in Benue and Delta states.

5. Improved livelihoods for PWDs:



Increased access to economic opportunities through training and empowerment initiatives.

OPERATIONS 3

Human Development





Human development and poverty reduction are critical for Nigeria amid rapid population growth and increasing extreme poverty. Maximising the demographic dividend requires prioritising investment in education, particularly for girls and youth, to ensure healthier, better-educated generations capable of driving economic growth. The integrated approach focuses on access to basic services, livelihoods, and institutional capacity building at state and federal levels. Coordination mechanisms between ministries and sectors aim to address rapid population growth, with a focus on women and youth. Additionally, efforts include improving social protection data governance, linking health insurance with social protection, and aligning interventions with SDGs and regional strategies for health and education.

EU's objectives in the priority area:

Strengthening coordination mechanisms and complementarities between different ministries and sectors to address rapid population growth, particularly among women and youth.

Improving social protection data governance and coordination to enhance the management of social protection frameworks and link them to health and education information systems.

Working in one state from each of the three zones (northwest, north-central, and northeast) to strengthen human capital and resilience,

using the state social registry as an identifier of poverty and vulnerability.

Prioritising girls' education and reintegrating as many children as possible into schools, with a focus on implementing the Accelerated Basic Education Curriculum. Building on achievements in health insurance to link it with social protection, family planning, and reproductive health, especially for vulnerable individuals in the informal sector.

Ensuring coordination with humanitarian interventions in social protection, education during emergencies, and health at both project design and implementation phases.

EU's objectives in the priority area:

Human development priority

Strengthen social links

Inclusive poverty reduction

Invest in education

Improve data governance

Collaborate for human capital

Prioritise girls' education

Invest in health systems

Education and Youth Empowerment in Northwestern Nigeria

Total budget
€40 million

Geographical region
Jigawa, Kano, and Sokoto States

Implementation period
2023 – 2027

Implementing agencies
United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Development Impact Evaluation Department (DIME), and Plan Ireland Charitable Assistance & EPRD

Overview

The Education and Youth Empowerment in Northwestern Nigeria project aims to address the educational and socio-economic needs of the most marginalised populations, particularly women and girls in Jigawa, Kano, and Sokoto states.

This initiative seeks to empower disadvantaged communities by providing access to quality learning and skills development opportunities, with a particular focus on girls.

The project supports the broader goal of improving inclusive education systems in the region.



Key activities

○ **Development of education management systems:**

Reinforce and develop the National Education Management Information System (NEMIS) and State Education Management Information Systems (SEMIS) to ensure data reliability and evidence-based decision-making. EMIS for the Federal Ministry of Education and SEMIS for the 3 participating states – Jigawa, Kano, and Sokoto.

○ **Community mobilisation:**

Engage communities to increase demand for quality and inclusive education, focusing on addressing the barriers to education for vulnerable groups.

○ **School governance:**

Strengthen community engagement in school governance to foster a sense of ownership and improve the accountability of local education systems.

○ **Vocational and non-formal education:**

Provide formal and non-formal education opportunities, alongside skills acquisition and training tailored to local employment demands, including in-country livelihood opportunities for youth.

○ **Support for accelerated education programmes:**

Assist in the consolidation and finalisation of national guidelines and support the scale-up of the Accelerated Basic Education Programme (ABEP), with links to formal schools and technical vocational training pathways.

○ **Conditional incentives:**

Offer conditional cash transfers, vouchers, or non-monetary incentives (such as certifications or professional associations) to encourage youth currently engaged in employment to return to education or training.

○ **Safe spaces for girls:**

Establish Girls' Clubs that provide a safe environment for developing critical social life skills and preparing for adulthood.

○ **Promotion of behavioural change:**

Partner with community institutions to challenge harmful social norms, promote schooling, and empower girls through awareness campaigns.

Results



Partnership agreements:

A Contribution Agreement with UNICEF was signed on August 31, 2023, marking the formal start of the project.



Administrative agreements:

An Administration Agreement was signed with the Development Impact Evaluation Department (DIME) of the World Bank to ensure robust monitoring and evaluation.



Call for proposal evaluation:

The evaluation of applications for the Restricted Call for Proposal has been completed, and Plan Charitable Assistance has been recommended as an Implementing Partner.

Education Youth Empowerment in Nigeria (2nd Phase): Expand, Integrate, Innovate and Strengthen Systems (EISS) to Build Teachers' Capacity and Resilience

Overview

The Education and Youth Empowerment in Nigeria (2nd Phase) project aims to improve Nigeria's education system by strengthening the capacity and resilience of teachers.

The project focuses on addressing teacher shortages, enhancing teacher education, and improving the teacher-student interaction to create a more inclusive and effective education environment.

The initiative is aligned with national policies to promote quality education, particularly for the most underserved populations.

Total budget

€5.4 million

Geographical region

Adamawa, Bayelsa, Enugu, Katsina, Nasarawa, and Oyo States

Implementation period

2023 – 2027

Implementing agency

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Key activities

Policy revision:

Support the revision of teacher education policies, including career progression pathways, and ensure implementation at both national and state levels.

Teacher recruitment and deployment:

Assist the government in creating transparent teacher recruitment and deployment strategies, ensuring teachers are deployed to areas where they are most needed.

Capacity building:

Provide training for teachers and education leaders in areas such as peace education, global citizenship, socio-emotional support, and digital literacy.

Collaborative learning:

Establish teacher learning teams within school clusters to foster a collaborative teaching environment.

Support for youth education:

Provide vocational training, career development opportunities, and skills acquisition tailored to the needs of the local workforce.



Expected results



Improved teacher education policies:

Key policy revisions have been initiated to enhance the teaching profession in Nigeria – both at the federal and implementing states level.



Increased teacher capacity:

Teachers trained and equipped with the skills necessary for effective teaching in modern classrooms.



Stronger community collaboration:

Youth and adult leaders working more closely together to address local education challenges and improve the teacher-student relationship.



Expanded media presence:

Raised awareness about the importance of quality education through targeted media outreach.



Strengthening Civil Society to Enhance Education for All in Northern Nigeria

Total budget
€749,999.94

Geographical region
Adamawa and Sokoto States

Implementation period
2023 - 2025

Implementing agency
Plan Ireland Charitable Assistance

Overview

The Strengthening Civil Society to Enhance Education for All in Northern Nigeria project aims to enhance the role of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in education policy dialogue and implementation in Sokoto and Adamawa states.

The initiative focuses on strengthening the capacity of CSOs and youth to engage with stakeholders on gender-responsive, inclusive education planning.

The project contributes to the broader goal of enabling state systems to deliver quality education, with a particular emphasis on the needs of girls and marginalised communities.



Key activities

The project incorporates a comprehensive range of activities aimed at building capacity and fostering advocacy for education reforms:

- **Baseline capacity assessment:**
Conduct an assessment to measure the current capacity of CSOs and youth platforms for engaging in education development and policy dialogue.
- **Training of Trainers (ToT):**
Develop and deliver ToT programmes focused on Tsangaya reformation, advocacy, community engagement, and gender-responsive education planning.
- **Mentorship support:**
Provide mentorship visits to CSOs to reinforce ToT training and enhance the practical application of skills.
- **Media and outreach:**
Conduct weekly media appearances and radio broadcasts to raise awareness about Tsangaya reformation and the importance of gender-responsive education planning.
- **Youth-led webinars:**
Facilitate monthly youth-led webinars addressing issues related to the future of work, education, and Tsangaya reform.
- **Capacity building for CSOs:**
Offer training on education sector planning, budget literacy, and advocacy techniques to enhance CSOs' ability to engage in policy debates and influence decision-making.
- **Mapping of grassroots organisations:**
Identify and map youth-led, women's rights, and disability groups at the community level to strengthen engagement in education policy.
- **Strategic policy engagement:**
Organise advocacy and public hearings with key stakeholders, including government officials, teacher unions, and school-based management committees, to promote gender-responsive and inclusive education policies.
- **Research:**
Conduct research on gaps in Tsangaya education systems and the integration of gender-responsive education planning.
- **Policy dialogue:**
Host state-level policy dialogues on Tsangaya reformation and gender-responsive education, involving government and non-government stakeholders.

Results

The project has made significant progress in its first year of implementation:

- **Increased engagement:** CSOs and youth in Adamawa and Sokoto have increased their involvement in education policy discussions, particularly regarding Tsangaya reformation and inclusive education. 244 members (108 female and 136 male) of 30 participating CSOs have demonstrated improved advocacy and influencing skills to dialogue with government actors regarding Tsangaya reformation.
- **Training and capacity building:** Key stakeholders, including CSOs, youth leaders, and community organisers, have enhanced their capacity to influence education planning and engage with policymakers. 123 individuals trained – 108 CSO members and 15 youth.
- **Media impact:** Increased visibility and awareness of the importance of gender-responsive education through media campaigns. 17 awareness campaigns were held during the reporting period, surpassing the overall target of 16.
- **Youth and community participation:** Active participation of youth and community groups in education-focused dialogues and activities.



244
CSO members
improved advocacy



123
trained
in policymaking



17
awareness
campaigns held



**Youth and
community
participation**

Integration of Digital Skills Education and Drug Abuse Prevention into Nigeria Secondary Education Curriculum - “Skool n Skill 4 Naija”

Total budget
€505,400

Geographical region
Osun, Ondo, Anambra, Enugu, Bauchi, Taraba, Plateau, Benue, Kano, Zamfara, Delta, and Edo States

Implementation period
2023 – 2025

Implementing agency
Associazione Culturale Cooperazione Internazionale Sud Sud

Overview

The “Skool n Skill 4 Naija” project integrates digital skills education and drug abuse prevention into the Nigerian secondary school curriculum.

This initiative seeks to empower students across 12 states by enhancing their skills while addressing the challenges posed by substance abuse.

The project, implemented by Associazione Culturale Cooperazione Internazionale Sud Sud, aims to equip students with the necessary tools for both personal development and community well-being.



Key activities

Rapid assessment response study:

A study was conducted across 12 Nigerian secondary schools to assess substance abuse and skilling needs exacerbated by COVID-19.

Pilot group selection:

Schools were selected for the pilot phase of the "Skool n Skill 4 Naija" programme.

Training of trainers:

Trainers were selected and trained on integrating digital skills education and drug abuse prevention into the secondary school curriculum.

Workshops and policy dialogues:

Focus group discussions, workshops, and policy dialogues were held to shape curriculum development and build stakeholder consensus.

Creation of didactical tools:

Didactical tools for drug prevention were created and tested in collaboration with the technical unit composed of teachers and social workers.

Youth digital labs and advocacy:

Youth-led advocacy meetings and virtual capacity-building sessions were organised to exchange best practices and advocate for policy integration.

Simulation and role play:

Students participated in simulations, including mock federal parliament sessions, to discuss drug policies and contribute to decision-making processes.

Sub-granting schemes:

Sub-grants were provided to youth clubs and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for the creation of digital skills and drug abuse prevention initiatives in schools.

Results



Curriculum development:

Significant strides have been made towards integrating digital skills education and drug abuse prevention into the curriculum across 12 states.



Stakeholder engagement:

Key stakeholders, including teachers, students, and community leaders, have been actively engaged in shaping the curriculum and creating awareness.



Increased capacity:

Teachers and community leaders received training in digital literacy and drug abuse prevention, improving their capacity to engage students on these critical issues.



Youth leadership:

Youth clubs and societies have been actively involved in the programme, leading initiatives, and promoting digital skills and drug abuse prevention within their schools.

Support to Development Partners' Groups and National Team Europe Initiatives (TEIs)

Overview

The project aims to enhance the coordination and management of various development partners' groups, including those focused on social protection, the Northwest Likeminded Ambassadors Group, the power sector, and Team Europe Initiative (TEIs) groups.

This initiative is designed to ensure the effective achievement of the groups' objectives through streamlined cooperation and efficient management.

Total budget

€791,380

Geographical region

36 states and the Federal Capital Territory

Implementation period

2023 – 2025

Implementing agency

International Consulting Expertise (ICE)



Key activities

Reviewing existing development blueprints and frameworks to identify areas for improvement within each group.

Strengthening initiatives focused on social investment, social protection, and poverty reduction at both the national and state levels.

Organising and facilitating workshops, meetings, and consultations for various development partners' groups.

Conducting research and surveys to support ongoing activities and provide evidence-based insights for strategic decisions.

Monitoring and evaluating ongoing projects and programmes to ensure alignment with development objectives.

Supporting the review and strengthening of government initiatives related to peacebuilding, social cohesion, and key sectors like power.

Mapping and documenting EU projects within the groups to ensure visibility and track progress.

Promoting EU visibility through strategic advocacy and communication efforts aimed at ensuring the sustainability of development initiatives.

Results



The project facilitated the establishment of effective work plans for the various development partners' groups.



Increased coordination and collaboration among the partners, enhancing their ability to address sectoral challenges.



A stronger EU presence and influence in key sectors through strategic support and visibility efforts.



Improved integration of EU projects into national development frameworks, with increased stakeholder engagement.

Achievements



Supported the Federal Ministry of Agriculture in developing the Twinning Fiche proposal, which aimed at increasing food security and agriculture productivity using climate-smart technologies and localised irrigation mechanisms in Nigeria.



Provided secretariat support for the Agriculture Donor Working Group (ADWC) from February.



Lead in preparing analysis report during meeting with the Department of Innovation and Digital of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security.



Supported in the development of draft capacity-building plan and meeting coordination during the capacity-building workshop on cooperative management.



Strengthening Access to Reproductive and Adolescent Health (SARAH) in Nigeria

Overview

The Strengthening Access to Reproductive and Adolescent Health (SARAH) programme aims to significantly improve access to reproductive health services, with a special focus on adolescents in Nigeria.

By enhancing policy implementation, service utilisation, and data management, the programme seeks to contribute to the demographic dividend and foster prosperous societies. The initiative will engage health authorities, ministries, health workers, women, girls, and families to ensure sustainable improvements in reproductive health services across Nigeria.

Total budget

€40 million
(EU contribution)

Geographical region

Adamawa, Kwara, and Sokoto States

Implementation period

2024 - 2028

Implementing agencies

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Key activities

Capacity-building for beneficiaries:

Supporting the strengthening of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) policies and information systems, while providing targeted support to adapt and revise SRHR texts and procedures. Collaboration with zonal training institutes will help strengthen the provision of SRHR training.

Integrated SRHR services delivery:

Helping decision-makers enhance their knowledge of integrated SRHR management, communication techniques, and strategies for effective service delivery.

Networking and collaboration:

Organising zonal seminars for experience-sharing and networking among SRHR stakeholders while collaborating with the Federal Ministry of Health and other ministries to integrate the programme's themes into broader national interventions.

Strengthening connections:

Fostering collaboration with other local and international projects, creating synergies to enhance service delivery.

Training and knowledge enhancement:

Strengthening family planning services, commodity security, and governance while supporting managers responsible for SRHR service facilitation to improve their skills.



Expected results



Strengthened SRHR policies and practices in the targeted regions, aligned with international best practices.



Increased collaboration among stakeholders, leading to stronger connections between communities, health facilities, and authorities, improving access to SRHR services.



Improved service delivery through enhanced training, knowledge sharing, and empowered local health workers and administrators.



Optimised synergies between different projects, which will expand the impact of SRHR services.



EU Support for the Lake Chad Basin – Cross-Border Resilience Programme (RESILAC2)

Total budget

€32 million
(€8 million from AFD)

Geographical region

Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad, and Republic of the Niger

Implementation period

2023 - 2028

Implementing agency

Agence Française de Développement (AFD)

Overview

The Lake Chad Basin region has faced complex challenges arising from conflict, environmental degradation, and displacement. The European Union (EU) Support for the Cross-Border Resilience Programme (RESILAC2) aims to address these challenges by strengthening the resilience of affected communities.

The programme focuses on human capital development, economic recovery, and natural resource management, with a special emphasis on social inclusion and cross-border cooperation. The initiative engages local authorities, Community-Based Organisations (CBOs), and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) across the Lake Chad Basin, including Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad, and Niger.

Key activities

Basic services improvement:

Providing access to clean water, sanitation, healthcare, and education, particularly for women, youth, and vulnerable populations.

Capacity-building:

Strengthening the capacities of local authorities, CBOs, and CSOs through targeted training and the creation of tools to manage social cohesion and natural resources effectively.

Economic revitalisation:

Supporting small businesses, cooperatives, and value chains linked to cross-border markets to stimulate local economies.

Psychosocial support:

Providing psychological support to vulnerable individuals, including training for community-based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) workers.

Cross-border trade:

Facilitating cooperation between countries to improve trade links, enhance market access, and support regional economic integration.

Agricultural development:

Promoting climate-smart farming techniques, revitalising livestock production, and supporting the diversification of livelihoods to improve food security and economic stability service facilitation to improve their skills.

Expected results

Improved access to basic services:

Communities gained better access to healthcare, education, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services, and other basic services essential for sustainable development.

Strengthened governance:

Local authorities had improved capacity to manage resources, resolve conflicts, and foster social cohesion.

Economic recovery:

Livelihoods were stabilised through access to small businesses, vocational training, and improved market opportunities.

Improved cross-border cooperation:

Enhanced collaboration between neighbouring countries fostered regional stability and promoted economic development.

Increased social inclusion:

Vulnerable groups, including women, youth, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), refugees, and host communities, have better access to entrepreneurial opportunities and actively participated in the green and circular economy.

EU Support for Internally Displaced Persons in Yobe, Adamawa, and Kano States, Nigeria (SIDPIN)

Total budget

€11 million

Geographical region

Adamawa, Yobe, and Kano States

Implementation period

2025 - 2029

Implementing agencies

International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), and United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)

Overview

The EU Support for Internally Displaced Persons in Yobe, Adamawa, and Kano states, Nigeria (SIDPIN) project is a comprehensive initiative designed to provide durable solutions for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) through the promotion of sustainable local integration in urban and urbanising areas.

By employing a multi-scale, integrated, and area-based territorial approach, the project targets displaced communities in Adamawa, Yobe, and Kano states.

A strong emphasis is placed on addressing the unique needs of women and children, recognising their vulnerabilities, and prioritising their inclusion in sustainable development frameworks.

With the specific objective of delivering durable solutions for forcibly displaced populations, particularly women and children, the project aligns its efforts with states that have established policy frameworks supporting integration and resilience.

Additionally, it aims to foster conditions that ensure sustainability, replication, and scalability, thereby strengthening the long-term impact of its interventions.



Key activities

1. Strengthening state government capacity:

- Hire three senior National Technical Advisors (NTAs) (one per state) to train government officials on sustainable urban planning, management, and development practices.
- Deliver on-the-job training and workshops for state government staff to develop mechanisms addressing urban integration and durable solutions.
- Create and deploy tools like the City Resilience Action Planning (CityRAP) tool and stabilised soil block (SSB) housing solutions to state and Local Government Areas (LGAs).

4. Strengthening protection mechanisms:

- Establish community-based protection mechanisms to identify, prevent, and address protection risks.
- Rehabilitate community infrastructure, such as cultural centres and sports halls, to promote peacebuilding and reconciliation.
- Enhance local referral systems for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), targeting vulnerable populations.

2. Strengthening local government area capacities:

- Establish Local Development Platforms (LDPs) in Malkohi (Adamawa state) and Damaturu (Yobe state) or reinforce existing structures.
- Include host and displaced community representatives in LDPs, ensuring 50% women's participation and safe spaces for women's input.
- Develop Local Action Plans (LAPs), prioritising land management, housing, basic services, livelihoods, and conflict mediation.
- Provide tailored training using tools like city resilience action planning and Community-Based Planning (CBP).

5. Spatial Development Strategies (SDS) and Strategic Spatial Action Plan (SSAP):

- Conduct spatial analysis in Kano, Yobe, and Adamawa states to plan durable solutions and investments.
 - Develop SDS for Kano and Yobe states and an SSAP for Adamawa state using participatory processes.
- Strengthen data management through the Data for Solutions to Internal Displacement (DSID) taskforce and integrate displacement statistics into national systems.

3. Capacity building for protection:

- Conduct training for government actors, including state assemblies, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), and other partners on human rights and protection.
- Establish systems for assessing and reporting human rights violations and equip local authorities with necessary information technology tools.
- Organise participatory workshops led by internally displaced persons to provide insights for state and LGA-level contingency planning.

6. Urban and local action plans:

- Prepare urban plans for Malkohi (Adamawa state) and Damaturu (Yobe state) based on LAP priorities.
- Address land management, housing, and social services to integrate displaced populations into urban planning.

7. Developing Local Economic Development (LED) strategies:

- Conduct socio-economic profiling, asset assessments, and labour market analyses to develop sustainable LED strategies.
- Develop tailored business plans and feasibility studies to promote livelihood initiatives.

8. Business skills development:

- Provide seed funding, capital investments, and cash-for-work interventions to support community associations and small businesses.
- Implement the International Organization for Migration's (IOM) Enterprise Development Fund (EDF) to support Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) with grants and technical assistance.
- Establish vocational training programmes to support skill acquisition and economic recovery.

10. Low-cost housing solutions:

- Promote sustainable housing solutions using Stabilised Soil Blocks (SSB) and support shelter repairs, prioritising vulnerable groups.
- Provide training and equipment to scale up SSB production and integrate housing into urban planning policies.

9. Agricultural support and climate-smart practices:

- Distribute improved seeds and kits and train farmers on Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) and Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs).
- Promote agroforestry, drip irrigation, and drought-tolerant crops to enhance resilience and food security.
- Establish livestock ranches to improve productivity, reduce farmer-herder conflicts, and support local economies.

11. Improving basic and social services:

- Implement Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) interventions based on LAP priorities.
- Refurbish education and health facilities and develop community management mechanisms for sustainability.
- Address broader social service needs, including justice, documentation, and vocational training facilities.



Expected results



Improved living conditions of displaced populations and host communities in Adamawa, Yobe, and Kano states through a sustainable local urban integration approach that is replicable and scalable.



Increased access to basic services for forcibly displaced populations and host communities, with a specific focus on women and children, improving their quality of life and access to essential facilities.



Enhanced employment opportunities for forcibly displaced populations and host communities, prioritising women's economic empowerment and livelihood restoration to promote self-reliance.



Successful local integration of forcibly displaced populations, particularly women and children, into their host communities, fostering social cohesion and long-term resilience.



3

Senior National

Technical Advisors (NTAs)
hired (one per state)



50%

Women's participation

in Local Development
Platforms (LDPs)



The EU Support for Conservation, Pastoralism and Integrated Management of Gashaka Gumti - Tchabal Mbabo (SCOPIIM)

Total budget

€1.5 million

Geographical region

Taraba and Adamawa States, Nigeria
Tchabal Mbabo, Cameroon

Implementation period

2024 - 2027

Implementing agency

Africa Nature Investors
Foundation (ANI)

Overview

The EU Support for Conservation, Pastoralism and Integrated Management of Gashaka Gumti - Tchabal Mbabo (SCOPIIM) project advances biodiversity conservation while fostering sustainable development in Sub-Saharan Africa. Focused on Gashaka Gumti National Park, it aims to mitigate biodiversity loss and enhance livelihoods, prioritising women, youth, and vulnerable populations.

The project strengthens conservation and the sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services at the landscape level, benefiting both nature and communities. At the regional level, it promotes cross-border governance of the trans-frontier Gashaka Gumti and Tchabal Mbabo landscape.

SCOPIIM addresses critical challenges such as habitat degradation and resource scarcity through capacity building, inclusive governance, and community participation, creating a model for sustainable coexistence between people and nature.

Key activities

1. Ranger protection and law enforcement:

- Increase ranger patrol frequency to address illegal logging, poaching, cattle grazing, and artisanal mining.
- Enhance patrol capacity through logistics support, ranger salaries, allowances, and rations.
- Procure four-wheel drive (4WD) vehicles and maintain helicopter operations for patrols.
- Establish a ranger accommodation block and provide equipment for 120 rangers.
- Conduct annual ranger refresher training and establish an in-house training team.

2. Biodiversity research:

- Establish a research station in the park with facilities for researchers and rangers.
- Conduct baseline mapping of large mammals and cattle encroachment using drones or fixed-wing aircraft.
- Deploy and analyse data from 100 new camera traps.
- Develop partnerships with Nigerian, Cameroonian, and international research institutions for biodiversity studies and publications.



Key activities (contd.)

3. Policy development:

- Redraft the National Parks Bill to address gaps and align with conservation priorities, national security, and sustainable financing mechanisms.
- Produce policy dialogue papers on key issues like climate change, forest conservation, and transhumance.

4. Conflict resolution and land use planning:

- Recruit community liaison officers and pastoralist representatives to mediate conflicts.
- Facilitate participatory land use mapping to identify grazing and farming zones.
- Develop and register maps and byelaws with local authorities.

5. Sustainable agriculture and pastoralism:

- Constitute and register ranch associations in designated ranch areas.
- Develop rangeland grazing management plans for key locations around the park.
- Provide veterinary support and promote sustainable grazing practices to reduce pressure on park resources.

6. Sustainable agriculture (activities funded by another donor):

- Establish at least 10 farming associations in villages around the park.
- Distribute seeds of climate-appropriate, high-yield crop varieties (e.g., soya, groundnut).
- Train farmers in climate resilience techniques such as agroforestry and green mulching.
- Establish tree nurseries to sell seedlings at subsidised prices to farmers.

7. Women's financial empowerment and sustainable energy solutions:

- Mentor existing savings and loan groups in 30 communities and provide access to digital banking.
- Distribute 12,000 fuel-efficient stoves to reduce firewood demand and indoor pollution.
- Support at least 10 savings and loan groups to transition into cooperatives for processing agricultural products like rice, groundnuts, shea butter, and dawa dawa, while providing value chain support and market connections.



Distributed
12,000
fuel-efficient stoves
to reduce firewood demand



Expected results

Enhanced capacity for inclusive conservation management:



Conservation management in the Gashaka Gumti-Tchabal Mbabo Key Landscape for Conservation and Development (KLCD) will be strengthened, ensuring inclusive planning, implementation, and monitoring processes that engage all stakeholders, particularly local communities, women, and youth.

Increased access to sustainable green economy opportunities:



Community members across the Gashaka Gumti-Tchabal Mbabo KLCD, with an emphasis on vulnerable groups, will gain enhanced access to sustainable green economy livelihood opportunities, fostering economic growth while preserving natural resources.

Improved land-use governance and natural resource management:



Local and regional actors will demonstrate improved capacity for sustainable land-use governance and natural resource management in the Gashaka Gumti-Tchabal Mbabo KLCD, promoting equitable access and long-term ecosystem health.

Strengthened transfrontier conservation management:



Capacities for conservation management will be reinforced across the transfrontier Gashaka Gumti and Tchabal Mbabo landscape, enabling collaborative governance, coordinated actions, and harmonised conservation efforts between neighbouring regions.



EU Support for the Protection of Forests and Biodiversity in Cross River State (PROFAB)

Total budget

€3.5 million

Geographical region

Cross River State

Implementation period

2024-2027

Implementing agency

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)

Overview

The EU Support for the Protection of Forests and Biodiversity in Cross River State (PROFAB) aims to conserve the state's rainforests, which are critical for biodiversity preservation and climate change mitigation. These forests provide vital habitats for endangered species like Cross River gorillas, Nigeria-Cameroon chimpanzees, and forest elephants, while serving as key carbon sinks.

The initiative seeks to enhance forest protection, safeguarding biodiversity and ecosystem services such as carbon storage. It also promotes sustainable livelihoods for forest-fringe communities through sustainable agriculture, deforestation-free cocoa, agroforestry, and microenterprise development. Additionally, PROFAB strengthens community-based land-use governance and natural resource management around Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary and the Mbe Mountains, fostering sustainable stewardship of these landscapes.



Key activities

1. Strengthen ranger patrols:

- Provide patrol allowances and field equipment.
- Conduct ranger training programmes.
- Develop essential infrastructure, including boundary demarcation.
- Develop site-specific management plans.
- Implement monitoring and law enforcement tools such as Simple, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Time-bound (SMART) and Integrated Management Effectiveness Tool (IMET).
- Establish active deforestation monitoring systems.
- Support the prosecution of offenders.

2. Develop social safeguards and grievance mechanisms:

- Create and implement grievance redress mechanisms at each project site.
- Promote social safeguards for community engagement and conflict resolution.

3. Support World Heritage Site creation:

- Provide technical and administrative support for World Heritage Site designation processes.

4. Promote conservation education and awareness:

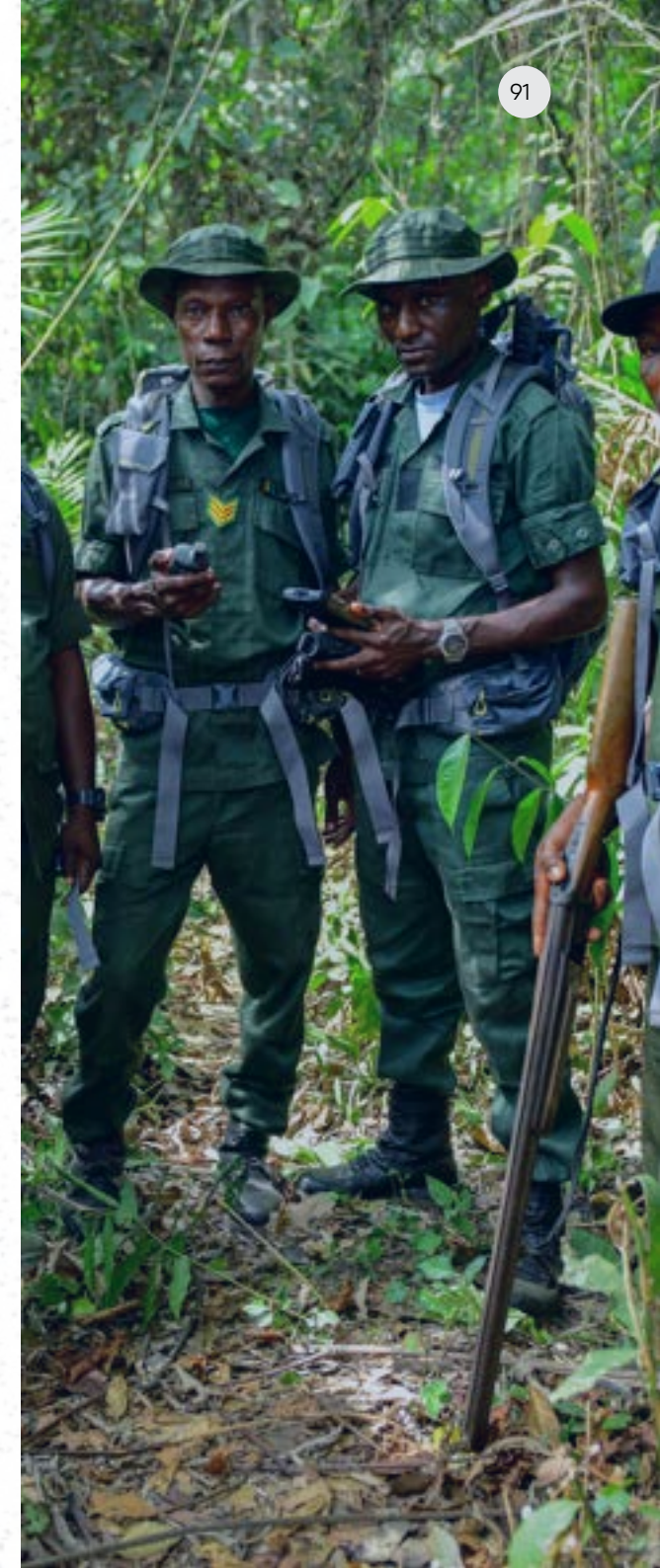
- Conduct conservation education and awareness-raising campaigns.
- Develop and broadcast a radio drama entertainment/education programme.
- Host annual stakeholder workshops to share experiences and lessons learnt.

5. Establish a deforestation-free cocoa landscape:

- Support farmers in adopting climate-smart cocoa agroforestry practices.
- Ensure compliance with European Union Deforestation Regulation for cocoa production and trade.
- Support the establishment of conservation-focused licensed cocoa buying associations.

6. Empower women and youth:

- Develop sustainable bush mango and small-scale enterprises for women and women-led cooperatives.
- Facilitate microenterprise development with a focus on women and youth.



Key activities (contd.)

7. Support water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH):

- Rehabilitate existing boreholes to provide access to clean water.

8. Enhance research and data collection:

- Support local universities and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) to conduct research and data collection to inform conservation efforts.

9. Strengthen community-based conservation:

- Reinforce community-based conservation in the Mbe Mountains.
- Replicate community-based conservation models for Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary.

10. Support local community-based organisations (CBOs):

- Strengthen forest management committees to combat illegal logging.

11. Promote watershed and habitat restoration:

- Facilitate community watershed planning.
- Undertake tree planting initiatives to restore damaged watersheds.

12. Mitigate human-wildlife conflict:

- Pilot measures to reduce human-wildlife conflicts, including human-elephant conflict.

13. Support nature-based tourism:

- Develop nature-based tourism plans and infrastructure.
- Facilitate training programmes for local tour guides.

14. Facilitate knowledge exchange and capacity building:

- Organise exchange visits and study tours for stakeholders to learn and replicate best practices.



Expected results

Strengthened monitoring and law enforcement:



Conservation management in the Gashaka Gumti-Tchabal Mbabo Key Landscape for Conservation and Development (KLCD) will be strengthened, ensuring inclusive planning, implementation, and monitoring processes that engage all stakeholders, particularly local communities, women, and youth.

Support for World Heritage Site designation:



Efforts will be directed towards creating a World Heritage Site in the landscape, recognising its global significance and ensuring the long-term protection of its ecological and cultural value.

Increased community engagement for conservation:



Community awareness and participation in sustainable conservation will rise through the introduction of an innovative radio drama entertainment-education programme. This initiative will deliver key conservation messages creatively, fostering behavioural change and community commitment to protecting natural resources.

Improved communication and stakeholder collaboration:



Project stakeholders will benefit from improved communication and information exchange, enabling better coordination, transparency, and collective action to achieve conservation goals.

Strengthened conservation education:



Conservation education will be bolstered by training facilitators, supporting school conservation clubs, and conducting community town hall meetings. These activities aim to build a foundation of conservation knowledge and stewardship among both youth and adults.

Improved sustainable livelihoods through deforestation-free cocoa:



Community livelihoods will improve through support for deforestation-free cocoa production. This will include strengthening traceability systems, facilitating market access, and promoting research and innovation to ensure sustainable and profitable practices.

Enhanced social safeguards and grievance redress mechanisms:



Social safeguards will be promoted through grievance redress mechanisms at each project site and social safeguards training. These efforts will address community concerns effectively, fostering trust and reducing conflicts.

Gender and social inclusion through microenterprise development:



Microenterprise development initiatives will enhance gender and social inclusion by empowering women and youth. Activities will include the sustainable harvesting of non-timber forest products and support for women-led cooperative groups, fostering economic independence and community resilience.

Expected results (contd.)



Improved access to clean water:

Access to safe, clean water will be improved for communities near CRNP, Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary, and the Mbe Mountains through targeted interventions that address critical needs for sustainable community development.



Strengthened community-based conservation:

Community-based conservation in the Mbe Mountains will be reinforced, with successful models replicated in Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary. Efforts will focus on enhancing habitat connectivity and protecting vital watersheds to ensure long-term ecosystem resilience.



Strengthened forest management committees:

Forest management committees will be empowered to address illegal logging, with support from community-based organisations. These efforts will ensure community ownership and active participation in resource protection.



Enhanced nature-based tourism:

Nature-based tourism in the Mbe Mountains will be revitalised through a tourism plan, training of tour guides, and improvement of tourist infrastructure. This initiative will create economic opportunities while fostering environmental stewardship.



Development of community watershed plans:

Community watershed plans will be developed to safeguard local water supplies. These plans will include tree planting schemes, stream restoration, and rehabilitation of degraded habitats to ensure sustainable water management and ecosystem health.



Pilot measures to mitigate human-elephant conflict:

Pilot measures will be tested to reduce human-elephant conflict near Cross River National Park. These approaches aim to foster coexistence while protecting both human livelihoods and elephant habitats.



Innovative Regional System for Fruit Fly Control in West Africa

Overview

The Innovative Regional System for Fruit Fly Control in West Africa aims to mitigate the devastating impact of fruit fly infestations on horticulture across ECOWAS countries. This action builds on the Regional Plan for Control of Fruit Flies (PLMF) initiated in 2014.

Targeting 15 countries, it focuses on preventive measures, surveillance, and eco-friendly control techniques to enhance food security and economic resilience.

The action supports research, monitoring systems, and capacity-building while promoting sustainable alternatives to chemical pesticides.

By strengthening regional coordination and engaging multiple stakeholders, it fosters effective, environmentally sound pest management solutions to secure livelihoods and export competitiveness in West Africa.

Total budget

€11,435,000
(EU contribution: €7,500,000;
AFD contribution: €3,935,000)

Geographical region

West African countries under ECOWAS, including: Initial 11 countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, and Togo

Additional focus on Cape Verde, Liberia, Republic of the Niger, and Sierra Leone for extended implementation

Implementation period

2020 - 2026

Implementing agency

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

Key activities

1. Strengthening regional and national research systems:

Enhance the regional reference laboratory (CNS-FL) in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso, to serve as a regional centre of excellence.

Support research protocols for environmentally friendly pest control techniques such as brewery waste, native parasitoids, and natural pesticides.

Disseminate research findings through technical fact sheets, producer guides, and scientific publications.

2. Capacity building for national laboratories:

Provide material and operational support to laboratories, focusing on countries not previously supported by the PMLF (Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Niger, and Sierra Leone).

Train laboratory staff in taxonomy, good laboratory practices, standardisation, and quality assurance.



Key activities

3. Producer training and demonstrations:

- Provide material and operational support to laboratories, focusing on countries not previously supported by the PLMF (Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Niger, and Sierra Leone).
- Train laboratory staff in taxonomy, good laboratory practices, standardisation, and quality assurance.

4. Operationalisation of a surveillance and alert system:

- Establish and maintain a multi-stakeholder, regionally coordinated surveillance system.
- Ensure efficient data collection, analysis, and targeted alerts to producers for pest control actions.

5. Structuring the mango sector:

- Facilitate partnerships between producers, exporters, and input suppliers to ensure sustainable pest control practices.
- Develop funding mechanisms to support ongoing pest surveillance and management.

6. Support for public and private sector collaboration:

- Strengthen coordination between public authorities and private sector actors (e.g., exporters, processors, and surveillance equipment providers).
- Promote knowledge sharing and technical assistance to improve compliance with SPS standards.

7. Empowering producers and cooperatives:

- Focus on youth and women in mango-producing cooperatives to improve their capacity for pest management and market access.
- Strengthen producer organisations to contribute over 80% of mango exports and local market supplies.

8. Disseminating research and innovation:

- Encourage the adoption of sustainable pest control techniques by making research findings accessible to producers and other stakeholders.
- Publish research results in peer-reviewed journals and regional platforms.



Expected results

Enhanced regional and national research and coordination systems:



Research and phytosanitary control systems are strengthened and aligned, ensuring the development and dissemination of effective, environmentally sustainable pest control techniques to producers.

Adoption of sustainable pest control practices:



Producers adopt prevention and control practices based on research findings, reducing reliance on chemical pesticides, and minimising environmental impact.

Reduction in losses caused by pest infestations:



Losses in fruit and vegetable production due to fruit flies and other phytophagous insects are reduced, improving yields and securing the livelihoods of producers.

Structured mango sector at national and regional levels:



The mango sector is better organised, with strengthened interactions between public and private actors, ensuring sustainable financing for pest surveillance and control systems.

Operational surveillance and alert systems:



A multi-stakeholder, regionally coordinated surveillance and alert system is established, enabling timely and targeted responses to pest outbreaks.

Capacity building for laboratories and stakeholders:



National laboratories and research institutions are equipped and trained to deliver high-quality support to producers. Producers, particularly women and youth, are empowered with the knowledge and skills to implement sustainable pest control techniques.



Supporting Sustainable Social Protection System in Nigeria

Overview

The Strengthening Social Protection Systems in Nigeria project seeks to improve access to social protection for more people in Nigeria.

By 2026, it aims to establish a shock-responsive system at both federal and state levels by enhancing policy frameworks and integrating a sustainable financial mechanism into national budgets.

The initiative prioritises developing inclusive and equitable policies that address the needs of vulnerable populations.

It also emphasises embedding social protection financing into planning processes to ensure long-term resilience and adaptability to challenges. Ultimately, the project envisions a robust, responsive, and sustainable social protection system that supports national development and improves the well-being of those most in need.

Total budget

€13 million

Geographical region

Abia, Benue, Oyo, Sokoto, and the Federal Capital Territory

Implementation period

2024 - 2027

Implementing agencies

United Nation Children's Fund (UNICEF) and International Labour Organization (ILO)

Key activities

Strengthened and functional National Social Register (NSR)

Comprehensive review of the existing NSR:

Conduct a detailed assessment of the NSR's coverage, accuracy, and efficiency to identify areas for improvement.

Update and standardise data collection tools:

Develop and pilot tools such as questionnaires and data entry forms to collect socio-economic data, expanding the NSR to include multi-dimensional poverty indicators.

Expand targeted geographical coverage:

Identify and include underrepresented regions and states (e.g., Abia, Benue, Sokoto, and Oyo) in the NSR.

Link NSR to the civil registry:

Support the collection of data from existing and new households, linking them to the National Identification Number (NIN) for seamless integration.

Interoperability with existing databases:

Collaborate with agencies to integrate civil and national identification registries into the NSR while ensuring data privacy and security.

Regular data validation exercises:

Conduct scheduled validations involving community members and local leaders to maintain data accuracy.

Community sensitisation and feedback mechanism:

Implement awareness campaigns, workshops, and feedback systems to engage communities and build trust in the NSR process.



Key activities (contd.)

Conduct a capacity needs assessment:

Evaluate staff and policymakers' skills at national and state levels to identify training needs.

Develop customised training programmes:

Design and deliver training on social protection policies, data management, and implementation strategies.

Organise TRANSFORM training programmes: Host interactive workshops featuring experts to share best practices and case studies in social protection.

Foster knowledge exchange and learning platforms:

Establish platforms such as workshops, summits, and webinars to share best practices among states and Local Government Areas (LGAs).

Organise annual study tours:

Facilitate study tours to countries with robust social registry systems for knowledge exchange and capacity building.

Establish a resource centre:

Create a hub for research, tools, and literature to support continuous learning on social protection.

Strengthen existing community networks:

Set up information desks and train staff to disseminate NSR-related information and address inquiries.

Develop integrated communication guidelines:

Create unified communication standards for institutions such as the National Social Safety Nets Coordinating Office (NASSCO), Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF), National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA), and National Cash Transfer Office (NCTO).

Conduct social protection sector review:

Assess the effectiveness of Nigeria's social protection systems in meeting current and future needs.

Support state-level policy development:

Offer technical assistance for the formulation of inclusive and equitable social protection policies and legislative frameworks.

Advocacy campaigns for social protection bills:

Collaborate with stakeholders to promote the drafting and passage of social protection bills in national and state assemblies.

Organise stakeholders' forums:

Hold forums in Abuja and Abia, Benue, Sokoto, and Oyo states to discuss and refine the first draft of the social protection bill.

Institutionalise social protection statistics:

Establish a monitoring and reporting dashboard for tracking social protection programmes.

Support actuarial studies:

Conduct studies and provide training for the National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA) and State Health Insurance Schemes.

Establish parliamentary forums: Set up forums at national and state levels for lawmakers to advocate and make informed decisions on social protection issues.



**NSR linked
with NIN integration**
with other national databases

Expected results



Strengthened and functional NSR:

The NSR is expanded and enhanced to integrate a greater number of poor and vulnerable individuals, ensuring inclusive coverage.



Improved capacity of staff and policymakers:

Policymakers and staff at both national and state levels demonstrate improved knowledge and skills in social protection systems and strategies, enabling more effective implementation and decision-making.



Strengthened social protection policy and legal framework:

National and state social protection policies and legal frameworks are reinforced with the development of a comprehensive social protection policy and bill. This legislation aims to secure the rights to social protection, and is submitted for consideration by the national and state assemblies.

OPERATIONS 4

Regional Cooperations





Waterways Investment for the Development of the Environment of Lagos State “Omi Eko” Project – West Africa, Nigeria

Overview

The Waterways Investment for the Development of the Environment of Lagos State, later renamed “Omi Eko” Project, aims to foster greener, more inclusive, and resilient urbanisation in Lagos. It contributes to climate-resilient, low-carbon development by ensuring convenient, equitable access to public transport, aligning with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11: Sustainable cities and communities. Additionally, the project supports smart, sustainable, and inclusive growth by increasing passenger volumes on public transportation systems, in line with SDG 9: Industry, innovation, and infrastructure.

The specific goal is to enhance urban mobility in Lagos by developing sustainable, mass public Inland Waterway Transport (IWT). This involves reducing local pollution, cutting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, ensuring energy efficiency, and improving access to transport for all, regardless of gender or socio-economic challenges. The initiative further prioritises economic efficiency by enhancing the reliability, safety, and cost-effectiveness of urban transport systems.

Total budget

€411.1 million

Geographical region

36 states and the Federal Capital Territory

Implementation period

2024 - 2030

Implementing agencies

Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and Lagos State Waterways Authority (LASWA)

Key activities

Component 1: Construction of IWT corridors and facilities

○ Development of ferry routes:

Establish 15 ferry routes, including 10 trunk services and 5 feeder routes, with 140 kilometres of dredged and marked waterways.

○ Development of infrastructure:

Construct 25 ferry terminals and jetties, with 12 equipped for power generation and charging, 2 with light maintenance facilities, and most featuring intermodal connectivity.

○ Engineering, procurement, and construction supervision (EPCS):

Recruit consultants to update and manage the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), and Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) while assisting the Lagos State Waterways Authority (LASWA) with RAP implementation.

Component 2: Establishment of sustainable IWT operations

○ Electric vessels and Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS):

Procure 78 electric-powered vessels and implement ITS for fare collection, passenger information, and vessel control through a public-private partnership (PPP).

○ Capacity building for Lagos State Waterways Authority (LASWA):

Strengthen LASWA's capacity through training, recruitment, and a sustainable business model with minimal operating subsidies.

○ Project management and operations design (PMOD):

Recruit consultants to fine-tune operational designs, support LASWA in procurement, and implement the Vessel Industry Transition Programme (VITP).

Expected results

1. Increased urban transport access:



An additional 100,000 daily users will adopt IWT services. Terminals and vessels will be universally accessible, with at least 80% of surveyed commuters expressing satisfaction with the service.

2. Reduced pollution and GHG emissions:



Deployment of electric-powered vessels, powered partly by solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), will reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 54,000 tonnes annually, supporting SDG 13: Climate action.

3. Energy efficiency:



The project will minimise fossil fuel usage by employing electric vessels, solar PV panels, and CNG generators, ensuring sustainable energy use.

4. Improved transport efficiency:



Vessels will reduce passenger travel time by an average of three hours per day, with reliable services and fares 20% lower than road-based alternatives.

5. Enhanced waterway safety:



Dredging, marking, and ITS systems will reduce accidents and enhance safety, even in adverse weather conditions.

6. Strengthened policy and regulation:



Implementation of a new licensing framework and exclusive use of smart payment cards will modernise and streamline commuter experiences.

7. Employment creation:



Thousands of direct and indirect jobs will be created, benefiting vessel operations, terminal maintenance, and local economic hubs.

8. Developed infrastructure:



The project will deliver 15 IWT routes with climate-resilient facilities, ensuring long-term sustainability.

9. Financial leverage and economic growth:



The EU grant will multiply investment by 4.91 through co-financing with the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and the European Investment Bank (EIB), with a broader multiplier effect of 6.73 to enhance economic opportunities.

10. Strengthened institutional capacity:



LASWA will be equipped to manage operations sustainably, supported by comprehensive capacity building and gender-inclusive policies.

Regional Clean Cooking Action in West Africa (ReCCAWA)

Total budget

€15.5 million

Geographical region

West Africa

Implementation period

2025 - 2029

Implementing agencies

Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken (Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional Para El Desarrollo (AECID)

Overview

The Regional Clean Cooking Initiative in West Africa (ReCCAWA) project aims to expand access to affordable, reliable, clean, and sustainable energy services for clean cooking across the region. By addressing essential energy access gaps, the project contributes to environmental sustainability, improved public health, and socio-economic development. The project aligns with the region's commitment to sustainable energy development and global targets under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). Through its integrated approach, ReCCAWA addresses energy poverty, promotes clean technology adoption, and mitigates the environmental impacts of traditional cooking methods.

Key activities

- Stocktake of clean cooking policies and regulations in West Africa (phase I):**
 - Conduct a stocktaking exercise to review existing clean cooking policies, initiatives, and programmes in West African countries.
 - Identify gaps in current policies to inform the formulation of a regional clean cooking roadmap.
 - Build on the ReCCAWA scoping study to identify dimensions for measuring impact in the enabling environment.
- Drafting, validation, and adoption of a regional clean cooking roadmap:**
 - Consult stakeholders, including the private sector, financial institutions, and academic/research entities.
 - Prepare a regional clean cooking roadmap covering governance, standards, incentives, and sustainability mechanisms.
 - Validate the roadmap through the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) regional policy adoption procedures.
 - Operationalise a regional governance scheme to monitor milestones and strengthen ownership of clean cooking policies.
- Development and adoption of regional clean cooking standards and labels:**
 - Prepare guidelines for regional clean cooking standards and labels, applicable to all cooking solutions, including electric cooking.
 - Validate these guidelines through the ECOWAS Standards and Harmonisation Mechanism (ECOSHAM).

Key activities (contd.)

4. Support regional testing centres:

Assess the capacity and needs of regional testing centres in Ghana, Nigeria, and Senegal.

Upgrade testing centres by procuring equipment, developing/improving operating procedures, and providing training, manuals, and reference materials.

Align activities with regional quality guidelines and national standards.

5. Knowledge dissemination and stakeholder engagement:

Develop and maintain an online repository to disseminate data, lessons learnt, best practices, and studies related to clean cooking.

Organise technical events (online and offline) to share knowledge, updates, and progress with stakeholders.

Address ad-hoc requests from ECOWAS member states for support related to clean cooking policy processes.

Collaborate with the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) and the ECOWAS Commission to enhance regional information sharing.

6. Develop market transformation strategy, conduct market assessments and specialised studies:

Engage with governments of selected West African countries to implement the market transformation approach.

Conduct clean cooking market readiness assessments and specialised studies to inform policy and strategic decisions.

Structure baseline knowledge of market sub-segments and identify investment opportunities.

7. Develop or update national clean cooking policy and action plans:

Draft or update clean cooking policies and action plans in selected countries in collaboration with ministries, private sector, and stakeholders.

Integrate clean cooking objectives into other national plans to ensure cohesive planning.

Propose and formalise national multi-stakeholder taskforces to govern and monitor clean cooking initiatives.

Develop mobilisation strategies for financial resources and monitoring indicators.

Key activities (contd.)

8. Facilitate implementation of action plans:

Draft implementation strategies supported by investment plans tailored to national needs.

Promote investment plans for funding and operationalise multi-stakeholder taskforces upon government request.

9. Facilitate adoption of national standards and labelling:

Establish or revise national clean cooking standards and labels aligned with regional guidelines.

Collaborate with businesses, universities, and national standards agencies to ensure enforcement and implementation.

Leverage existing experiences from countries with established clean cooking standards.

10. Establish or support national testing centres:

Assess the need for national clean cooking testing centres in selected countries.

Support the establishment or upgrading of testing centres with equipment, manuals, and training.

Ensure complementarity between national and regional testing centres for optimal operation.

11. Support entrepreneurship in the clean cooking supply chain:

Provide coaching, mentoring, and training to representatives of selected clean cooking Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in West Africa, with priority to enterprises active in selected countries.

Train new trainers to scale up Business Development Support (BDS) for the clean cooking sector.

Mobilise eligible enterprises involved in various segments of the clean cooking supply chain (e.g., importation, production, distribution) through events, referrals, and outreach activities.

12. Strengthen capacity of impact investors to review and approve loans to clean cooking SMEs:

Establish grant agreements with crowdfunding platforms and impact investors to cover costs associated with processing clean cooking SME loan transactions.

Build a pipeline of viable clean cooking SME investment opportunities in the region, with a focus on selected countries, through referrals from programmes such as Global Energy Transformation (GET.invest), Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund (AECF), and others.

Support the development of loan applications to secure financing for clean cooking SMEs.

Key activities (contd.)

13. Enhance capacity in local financial institutions on clean cooking SME business cases:

Provide technical expertise to local financial institutions in selected countries to help them understand the risks and opportunities associated with clean cooking SME investments.

Expand the investment portfolio of local financial institutions to include clean cooking SMEs.

Support local financial institutions with the knowledge and skills needed to review and process SME loan applications.

14. Facilitate access to carbon finance:

Engage a specialist partner organisation to develop a West African carbon finance aggregator platform for clean cooking SMEs.

Assist SMEs in accessing carbon credit revenues generated from clean cooking solutions.

Ensure adherence to "responsible carbon finance" principles and explore models to channel benefits directly to SMEs or customers.

15. Engage in behavioural change methodologies:

Implement behavioural change approaches to increase consumer demand for clean cooking solutions.

Focus on targeted interventions that drive awareness and adoption of clean cooking technologies within selected communities.

16. Provide consumer incentives – Demand-Side Subsidies (DSS):

Develop and implement a pilot DSS scheme in selected countries.

Establish a grant agreement with a fund manager or governmental entity to ensure efficient distribution of subsidies.

Promote the DSS model for further large-scale implementation by other financiers, including the World Bank and government entities.

Partner with a fund manager (e.g., a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) or government-related agency) to distribute (e-)vouchers or provide purchasing power to specific target customer groups.

Conduct independent verification of sales and appropriate use of DSS proceeds.

Create awareness about the DSS availability and the benefits of clean cooking products for targeted customer groups.

Define guidelines for replication of the DSS scheme.

Expected results

1. Adoption of a regional clean cooking roadmap:



A strategic West African regional clean cooking roadmap will be adopted, providing comprehensive guidance to advance the sector's development.

2. Establishment of regional guidelines for standards and labels:



Regional guidelines for clean cooking standards and labels will be established, with strengthened national testing centres in Ghana, Nigeria, and Senegal serving as regional hubs.

3. Development and implementation of national clean cooking plans:



Selected countries will develop or update practical national clean cooking plans, initiating their implementation to drive sustainable progress in the sector.

4. Development of national standards and labels:



National standards and labels for clean cooking solutions will be created or revised in selected countries, ensuring application and improved performance through supported testing centres.

5. Regional knowledge sharing and gender-disaggregated data:



Insights into clean cooking initiatives, policies, and gender-disaggregated data will be pooled and disseminated, enabling replication of best practices and attracting additional funding.

6. Professionalisation of SMEs:



A larger number of professionalised SMEs will deliver clean cooking solutions across the West African region, with a particular focus on selected countries.

7. Improved capacity of financial institutions:



Crowdfunding platforms, impact investors, and local banks will develop the capability to evaluate and approve loan applications from clean cooking SMEs, strengthening financial support for the sector.

8. Facilitation of carbon finance access:



Clean cooking SMEs in selected countries will gain access to carbon finance through the establishment of an aggregator, supporting sustainable market growth.

9. Increased consumer adoption through behavioural change approaches:



Behavioural change interventions will effectively mobilise additional consumers in targeted communities, leading to increased adoption of clean cooking solutions.

10. Implementation of innovative demand-side subsidies:



DSS will be operational in selected countries, improving the affordability and accessibility of clean cooking solutions for targeted consumers.

Support to West Africa Integrated Maritime Security (SWAIMS)

Overview

The Support to West Africa Integrated Maritime Security (SWAIMS) project is focused on enhancing maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea by supporting the ECOWAS Integrated Maritime Strategy. This strategy combines legal, technical, and operational activities to strengthen regional maritime governance, improve coordination among coastal states, and address maritime crimes such as piracy, illegal fishing, and trafficking.

Total budget

€28 million
(EU contribution)

Geographical region

Gulf of Guinea

Implementation period

2019–2025

Implementing agencies

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)/Project Management Unit (DAI Global Austria), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Groupe Intergouvernemental d'Action contre le Blanchiment d'Argent en Afrique de l'Ouest (GIABA) (Senegal), European Union (EU) Member States (MS) Agency Camoes (Abuja), Regional Maritime University (RMU) (Ghana), and Académie Régionale des Sciences et Techniques de la Mer d'Abidjan (ARSTM) (Côte d'Ivoire)

Key activities

1. Governance strengthening:

Conduct consultation visits to Maritime Coordination Centres (MCCs) and Maritime Operations Centres (MOCs) to assess and improve governance and operational frameworks.

2. Legal frameworks:

Develop and disseminate memoranda of agreements (MOAs) for the prosecution of maritime crimes, with support from UNODC.

3. Capacity building:

Deliver training for maritime security professionals at the Institut de Sécurité Maritime Interrégional (ISMI) in Abidjan and Regional Maritime University (RMU) in Accra, enhancing operational readiness.

4. Operational equipment:

Supply 24 Rigid Hull Inflatable Boats (RHIBs) and forensic equipment to ECOWAS coastal states, with subsequent training and maintenance.

5. Private sector and civil society engagement:

Organise seminars, webinars, and consultations to promote collaboration between public security services, private sector stakeholders, and civil society in maritime security efforts.

6. Online platforms:

Establish digital platforms to enhance communication with maritime stakeholders, including the publication of maritime security bulletins and engagement with stakeholders through social media and dedicated websites.

Results

1. Strengthened governance:



Maritime governance structures at regional, zonal, and national levels have been significantly enhanced through consultations, assessments, and the provision of technical equipment.

2. Legal frameworks:



The project has facilitated the adoption of new legislation governing maritime crime and supported inter-regional cooperation on the prosecution of such crimes.

3. Capacity building:



364 maritime security professionals have received training in key areas of maritime safety, enhancing the region's capacity to address maritime threats.

4. Operational support:



24 RHIBs have been delivered to ECOWAS coastal states, enhancing their ability to respond to maritime security threats. Additionally, communication, office, and power generation equipment have been supplied to maritime institutions.

5. Increased coordination:



The project has improved coordination among ECOWAS member states through the regular publication of maritime security alerts and the establishment of collaborative operational frameworks.



364
maritime security
professionals trained



24
RHIBs
delivered to ECOWAS coastal states



Contribution to the African Investment Facility in Support of Regional Economic Integration in West Africa – AFIF1 (blending operations in the region), Phase 1

Total budget

€100 million

Geographical region

West Africa

Implementation period

2016 - 2026

Implementing agency

African Development Bank (AfDB)

Overview

The Contribution to the African Investment Facility in Support of Regional Economic Integration in West Africa – AFIF1 programme focuses on fostering poverty reduction and promoting sustainable, inclusive economic development through regional economic integration in West Africa. The main objective is to improve regional infrastructure, specifically in the energy and transport sectors, to enhance connectivity, support trade, and strengthen regional integration.

Key activities

Providing blending funding to West African countries for regional transport and energy projects aimed at improving economic integration.

Supporting transnational projects with a focus on regional interconnection, such as road construction, energy transmission, and infrastructure for cross-border trade.

Ensuring the preparation of a pipeline of sustainable infrastructure projects that meet the regional priorities of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union (AU).

Collaborating with the African Development Bank (AfDB) to ensure the efficient allocation of funds to critical infrastructure projects in the region.

Results



All five blending operations are successfully being implemented, focusing on transport and energy infrastructure projects in key West African countries.



These projects are designed to improve regional connectivity, ease transport logistics, and enhance energy access across the region.



Key infrastructure projects are being funded, such as the Aménagement Routiers et Facilitation du Transport (Bamako/Zantiebougou/Boundiali/San Pedro), Construction du Pont de Rosso, and the Réhabilitation de la Route Lomé-Cotonou, with notable progress.

Contribution to the Africa Investment Facility in Support of Regional Economic Integration in West Africa – AFIF2 (Blending Operations in the Region), Phase 2

Total budget

€229.3 million

Geographical region

West Africa

Implementation period

2016 - 2026

Implementing agencies

Agence Française de Développement (AFD), African Development Bank (AfDB), and KfW Development Bank

Overview

The Contribution to the Africa Investment Facility in Support of Regional Economic Integration in West Africa (AFIF2) aims to advance poverty reduction and sustainable economic development through regional integration and infrastructure development. The programme focuses on enhancing economic infrastructure, particularly in the transport and energy sectors, to promote trade, improve interconnectivity, and support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By financing key projects, AFIF2 contributes to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, thus supporting climate change mitigation in West Africa.

Key activities

Transport sector:

- Development of key transport corridors, including road rehabilitation and the improvement of regional ports.
- Strengthening regional management capabilities for transport projects and improving project preparation.
- Development and implementation of policies to improve the sustainability of transport infrastructure, such as axle load control and road maintenance systems.
- Improving the resilience of transport infrastructure to extreme weather and climate changes.

Energy sector:

- Expansion of renewable energy capacity in the region, including solar and wind energy projects.
- Development of energy efficiency standards and promoting energy efficiency investments.
- Interconnection of national grids to create a functioning regional electricity market.
- Enhancing access to energy for both businesses and the public, addressing disparities across the region.



Results

1. Transport sector:



Improved interconnectivity of the existing transport infrastructure, reducing travel times and costs on major regional corridors.

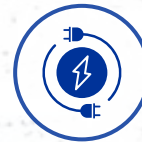


Increased regional integration through better management of cross-border transport projects.



Increased regional capacity for preparing and implementing transport projects, resulting in more bankable projects.

2. Energy sector:



Increased energy access for businesses and individuals across West Africa, with a particular focus on renewable energy.



A significant increase in renewable energy's share in the regional energy mix, supporting the goals of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU).



A fully operational regional electricity market that supports sustainable energy distribution across the region.



Contribution to the Africa Investment Facility in Support of Regional Economic Integration in West Africa - AFIF3 (Blending Operations in the Region), Phase 3

Overview

The Contribution to the Africa Investment Facility in Support of Regional Economic Integration in West Africa (AFIF3) programme aims to contribute to poverty reduction and sustainable economic development across West Africa. The focus is on improving regional infrastructure, particularly in transport and energy, to support economic integration, reduce barriers to development, and enhance citizens' quality of life.

Total budget

€13.7 million

Geographical region

West Africa

Implementation period

Ending 13/12/2029

Implementing agencies

African Development Bank (AfDB) and French Development Agency (AFD)

Key activities

1. Transport sector:

Upgrade and expand the regional transport network, focusing on corridors that promote cross-border movement.

Harmonise transport policies and implement measures, such as axle load control, to protect infrastructure.

Improve the management of transport systems, enhancing resilience against climate change and extreme weather events.

2. Energy sector:

Support the integration of renewable energy into national grids, increasing the share of renewable energy in the regional energy mix.

Introduce energy efficiency standards to encourage investment in energy-saving technologies.

Develop and implement policies to reduce energy disparities across the region, improving access to sustainable energy services.



Results

1. Transport sector:



Improved interconnectivity of transport systems, leading to shorter journey times and reduced costs on major corridors.



Strengthened regional management of transport infrastructure, ensuring sustainability and increased efficiency.



Increased regional capacity for preparing and implementing transport projects, resulting in more bankable projects.

2. Energy sector:



Expanded access to sustainable energy services for both the public and private sectors.



Significant progress towards achieving regional renewable energy and energy efficiency targets.



Development of a fully operational regional electricity market, contributing to greater energy security and regional economic integration.





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