AfCEN
Africa Climate and Energy Nexus

Stocktake of Progress since the Nairobi Declaration 2023

Africa Climate and Energy Nexus (AfCEN)

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Contents

Acronyms

AAAP	Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program
ABAS	Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS
ACES	Africa Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Cooling and Cold-Chains
ACMI	Africa Carbon Markets Initiative
ACRIFA	Africa Climate Risk Insurance Facility for Adaptation
ACS	Africa Climate Summit
AF	Adaptation Fund
AFR100	African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative
AGII	Africa Green Industrialisation Initiative
AGMS	African Green Minerals Strategy
AIP	Africa Water Investment Programme
AMHEWAS	Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action System
APRA	Accelerated Partnership for Renewables in Africa
ARIPO	African Regional Intellectual Property Organization
AU	African Union
AUBSAP	African Union Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
BBNJ	Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction Treaty
BEPS	Base Erosion and Profit Shifting
BMWK	German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action
CA	Corresponding Adjustments
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CAGR	Compound Annual Growth Rate
CAPP	Central African Power Pool
CBAM	Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism
CCA	Clean Cooking Alliance
CFA	Communauté Financière d'Afrique
CIF	Climate Investment Funds
CMP	Continental Master Plan
COMELEC	Comité Maghrébin de l'Electricité (COMELEC), or Maghreb Electricity Committee and North African Power Pool
EAC	East African Community
EAPP	East African Power Pool
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EDGE	Excellence in Design for Greater Efficiencies (Green building certification)
ENSURE	Sustainable Regional Agricultural Extension
EPR	Extended Producer Responsibility
EV	Electric Vehicle
FOLAREP	Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan
GCA	Global Center on Adaptation

GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GGA	Global Goal on Adaptation
GGGI	Global Green Growth Institute
GIS	Geographic Information System
GW	Gigawatt
HCY	Hard currency
IDA	International Development Association
IEA	International Energy Agency
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IIF	Institute of International Finance
IISD	International Institute for Sustainable Development
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IPOS	International Platform for Ocean Sustainability
JET	Just Energy Transition
KMGBF	Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund
LEED	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
LINKS	Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems
LMEWM	Last Mile Early Warning Messages
MDB	Multilateral Development Bank
MENA	Middle East and Africa
MHEWS	Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems
MVI	Multidimensional Vulnerability Index
MW	Megawatt
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NBSAP	National Biodiversity and Action Plan
NCA	National Natural Capital Accounting
NCCAP	National Climate Change Action Plan
NCQG	New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NDP	National Development Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PLWD	Persons Living With Disabilities
PRGT	Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust
REC	Regional economic community
REIPPPP	Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme
ROAR	Roots of African Resilience
RSF	Resilience and Sustainability Facility (IMF)
RST	Resilience and Sustainability Trust
SADC	Southern African Development Community

SAF	Sustainable aviation fuel
SAPP	Southern African Power Pool
SDR	Special Drawing Rights (IMF)
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SLB	Sustainability-Linked Bond
TCX	The Currency Exchange Fund
TRIPS	Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USD	US Dollars
WAPP	West African Power Pool
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organisation
WRI	World Resources Institute
WTO	World Trade Organisation

Overview

The first Africa Climate Summit (ACS) was held in September 2023 and resulted in the Nairobi Declaration, a set of commitments from African leaders towards climate action on the continent. Ahead of the next ACS, to be hosted by Ethiopia in September 2025, the CEO of the inaugural ACS, Joseph Nganga, has led a stocktake exercise to outline the progress made since 2023 and the priorities that could be considered going forwards as part of a handover process.

This exercise reviewed the Nairobi Declaration and the progress made and priorities going forwards against the ~50 clauses in the Declaration. It did not review the progress against the USD 26 billion of financial commitments made at ACS in 2023, which was out of scope.

The non-state actors were engaged across seven thematic working groups, reignited from the structure set up in preparation for ACS in 2023. The groups contained a total of ~400 participants and were actors from across the continent from development agencies, non-profits, private sector, trade associations, civil society, indigenous groups, women and youth groups, and more. The seven groups included:

1. Climate finance
2. Adaptation
3. Nature
4. Energy
5. Green minerals and manufacturing
6. Sustainable agriculture, land use, water, and oceans
7. Sustainable infrastructure and urbanisation

The stocktake exercise reviewed the ~50 clauses in the Nairobi Declaration, mapped to the seven themes above, and assessed four areas:

(i) What is the status today on the continent, and what progress has been made since 2023?

(ii) What are the ongoing challenges?

(iii) What are the priorities to consider going forwards?

(iv) Which metrics should be used to measure progress?

The document is structured as follows:

- **Executive summary** – a high-level summary of the progress made since 2023 ((i) above) and the priorities identified for this year ((iii) above) for each of the seven thematic groups

- **Summary by theme** – detailed summary for each of the seven thematic groups on (i) status today and progress made since 2023, (ii) ongoing challenges, and (iii) priorities to consider going forwards
- **Appendix 1** – summary of metrics that could be tracked to measure progress for each of the Nairobi Declaration clauses ((iv) above)
- **Appendix 2** – mapping of ~50 Nairobi Declaration clauses to the seven thematic groups

Africa Climate and Energy Nexus (AfCEN)

AfCEN exists to unlock climate-positive growth for Africa and the world through radical collaboration. By forging partnerships across government, private sector, and civil society, we accelerate access to clean energy, mobilize climate finance, and drive systemic change toward a just and sustainable future. Our work is grounded in equity, innovation, and bold action to power the next generation of climate solutions. It is founded and led by Joseph Nganga, CEO of the inaugural Africa Climate Summit, former Special Envoy for Mission 300, and former Vice President for Africa for the Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet.

Disclaimer

This exercise was designed to be a starting point to understand progress made across the continent, with as many stakeholders participating as possible over a 6-week period, and is not claiming to be a comprehensive stocktake of progress which may require more formal structures and a more extensive period of time. Despite efforts to reach out to invite additional diverse stakeholders to participate from across the continent, it is positioned as a preliminary set of ideas to be refined further with greater participation from state and non-state actors from across the continent. Should this exercise be carried forwards, the goal should be to continue to invite further actors, regions, and types of institutions to participate and be represented going forwards. The views represented in the document are not necessarily the views of AfCEN, but rather the synthesis of views from the participants in the thematic groups who contributed to this exercise.

Acknowledgments

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African Center for Cities

African Wildlife Foundation
Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)
Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA)
Ambition Loop
Arup East Africa Limited
Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA)
Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF)
CLASP
Clean Cooking Alliance
Clean Technology Hub
Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network Global (CSAYN)
CNETZERO DRC
Conservation International
Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)
CORDIO East Africa
ECAS Institute
EcoRestore Africa
EED Advisory Ltd
Enabel
Food and Land Use Coalition (FOLU)
FSD Africa
Germinate International Consulting
Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)
Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP)
Green Earth Group
Horn of Africa Gateway Development Monitoring and Evaluation
ICLEI
Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
International Energy Agency (IEA)
International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
Keishan Kenya
Kenya Green Building Society
Kenya Platform for Climate Governance (KPCG)
NatureFinance

Publish What You Pay (PWYP)
Solidaridad East & Central Africa
Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)
Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL)
Th Currency Exchange Fund (TCX)
Tony Blair Institute (TBI)
UN Habitat
UN High-Level Climate Champions Team
Voluntary Carbon Markets Integrity Initiative (VCMI)
West Africa Blue
Wildlife Research and Training Institute
Wildlife Works Carbon Ltd
World Bank
World Green Building Council (Africa Regional Network)
World Resources Institute (WRI) Africa
Yna Kenya

ACS23

AFRICA CLIMATE SUMMIT

Executive summary

Significant progress has been made addressing climate and energy priorities in Africa since the inaugural Africa Climate Summit in 2023. This section summarises highlights of progress made, and priorities to consider going forwards. These were shared by the thematic working groups and should be considered a starting point for discussions going forwards to be built upon, rather than a comprehensive view.

The section is organised by theme including climate finance; adaptation; nature; energy; green minerals and manufacturing; sustainable agriculture, land use, water, and oceans; and, sustainable infrastructure and urbanisation. Some topics may appear in more than one theme.

Status today in Africa and progress made since 2023

Selected highlights (not exhaustive)

Climate finance

- **Africa saw a 48% increase in climate finance flows from USD 29.5 billion to USD 43.7 billion between 2019/20 to 2021/22**. However, Africa's climate finance flows must at least quadruple annually until 2030 to meet the investment needs for implementing its countries' current NDCs[1]
- **There has been an increase in private climate finance in Africa from USD 4 billion to 8 billion between 2019/20 and 2021/22, however it still remains at ~25% of the total annual climate finance on the continent[2].**
    - Several initiatives have been launched since 2023 to scale up de-risking of private capital, such as CIF's USD 1 billion Industry Decarbonisation investment programme launched in 2025 where Egypt, Namibia, and South Africa have been selected among 7 countries globally to access concessional finance[3], and the Africa Climate Risk Insurance Facility for Adaptation (ACRIFA), launched in 2023, is a pioneering African Development Bank (AfDB) initiative aimed at scaling up climate-resilient insurance and crowding in private-sector capital across the continent
    - However, insufficient numbers of projects are reaching bankability, and many countries in Africa have low fiscal space reducing the potential for governments to

[1] CPI. 2024. Landscape of Climate Finance in Africa 2024. https://www.climatepolicyinitiative.org/publication/landscape-of-climate-finance-in-africa-2024/. Data for 2023 and 2024 not yet available
[2] CPI. 2024. Landscape of Climate Finance in Africa 2024. https://www.climatepolicyinitiative.org/publication/landscape-of-climate-finance-in-africa-2024/. Data for 2023 and 2024 not yet available
[3] https://cif.org/news/IndustryCountries

provide sovereign guarantees or incentives into green growth, and lower sovereign credit ratings and higher borrowing costs reduce attractiveness for investors.

- **12-14 African countries have developed or are developing carbon markets frameworks**, **and to date there are fourteen signed bilateral agreements to trade Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs) under Article 6** between African countries including Ghana, Malawi, Senegal, among others, and Switzerland, Singapore, Norway, Sweden, and Kuwait[4]
- **Since 2023, several innovative climate finance instruments have been launched across Africa**. The Development Bank of Rwanda issued East Africa's first Sustainability-Linked Bond (SLB) in 2023, raising USD 24.8 million[5]. The AfDB followed with a €500 million green bond in 2024, under its new Sustainable Bond Framework[6]
- **Africa continues to face very high levels of external debt at 24.5% of GDP on average[7], and high debt servicing costs, limiting the availability of finance to invest in climate and energy projects, or respond to climate disasters**. In addition, more than 80% of Africa's sovereign debt today is in hard currency (HCY) rather than local currency[8], which can increase the debt burden and impact credit ratings should the local currency depreciate
- **However, there has been progress in supporting debt relief through scaling up climate resilient debt clauses** (CRDCs), **developing mechanisms to extend debt tenors and institute grace periods, and shifting towards increasing sovereign debt issuance in local currency:**
    - AfDB announced in December 2023 its adoption of CRDCs[9], a contractual provision in a sovereign debt agreement that allows a borrower to pause debt repayments temporarily following a major climate-related disaster
    - Since 2023 Ethiopia, Gabon, Zambia, Ghana, Chad, and Somalia have undertaken debt restructuring
    - In March 2025, Côte d'Ivoire successfully raised the first-ever CFA franc-denominated bond issue on the international market, an unprecedented initiative[10]

[4] https://unepccc.org/article-6-pipeline/
[5] https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2023/09/29/rwanda-afe-development-bank-launches-first-sustainability-linked-bond-to-promote-inclusive-sustainable-development
[6] https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/african-development-bank-launches-inaugural-eur-500-million-2875-short-4-year-green-benchmark-due-march-2028-70807
[7] https://data.one.org/analysis/african-debt
[8] https://mo.ibrahim.foundation/news/2023/public-debt-africa-structure-primary-issue-not-volume
[9] https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/speeches/remarks-dr-akinwumi-adesina-president-african-development-bank-group-session-climate-resilient-debt-clauses-call-action-cop-28-uae-4-december-2023-66616
[10] https://www.ecofinagency.com/finance/2703-46553-cote-d-ivoire-secures-better-cfa-bond-rates-abroad-than-in-waemu

- **Efforts have progressed in tailoring credit ratings to the continent's unique contexts,** e.g., in 2023, the African Union endorsed the creation of the Africa Credit Rating Agency, a private-sector-driven entity aimed at providing more nuanced and regionally informed credit assessments
- **Discussions at COP29 emphasized the reallocation of at least USD 100 billion in Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) to Africa**, through the IMF and with discussions of channelling through AfDB (via a framework approved by the IMF in 2024, which is not yet operationalised)

Adaptation

- **The Loss and Damage Fund was fully operationalized at COP29 with USD 768 million pledged as of April 2025**, falling significantly short of the estimated USD 400 billion needed globally annually by 2030, and no African projects have yet been approved[11]
- **On the Global Goal on Adaptation, at COP28, Parties established the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience** with 11 targets for tracking progress in GGA, marking an important milestone in the operationalization of GGA
- **There has been continued implementation of the African Union Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan**, supported by initiatives like the Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program (AAAP), which has mobilised USD 15 billion, and strengthened resilience for 60 million people to date[12]
- **Integration of adaptation into national development planning has gained some traction**, **however it remains insufficiently mainstreamed into national development frameworks and there is limited allocation of public funding towards adaptation in national budgets.** Examples of progress include Somalia's new National Climate Change Policy which embeds adaptation across national development priorities, Egypt's Climate Change Strategy 2050 which explicitly aligns adaptation with economic growth, and Djibouti who is advancing its National Adaptation Plan formulation. However, since 2023 fewer than half of African Union member states have submitted or updated their National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) to the UNFCCC
- **Africa has made important progress in expanding Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS), where the reach and quality doubled between 2015 and 2022 from 9 to 20 countries, however 55% of African countries still are not covered by effective early warning systems[13].** In 2023, the WMO's Early Warnings for All initiative was launched with

[11] https://unfccc.int/topics/climate-finance/funds-entities-bodies/fund-for-responding-to-loss-and-damage/pledges-to-the-fund-for-responding-to-loss-and-damage
[12] https://gca.org/programs/aaap/
[13] UNDRR, Global Status of Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems 2023, https://www.undrr.org/reports/global-status-MHEWS-2023

the goal of ensuring universal protection from climate-related disasters through life-saving early warning systems by the end of 2027, and the Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action System (AMHEWAS) was launched

- **On drought resilience, less than 20% of arable land in some countries is estimated to be covered by drought resilient practices, and 70% of arable land in Africa is estimated to be affected by drought[14].** The number of farmers using drought resilient practices is increasing, with adoption rates estimated between 10-25% in selected African countries[15]. Several initiatives to scale drought resilience are making progress, for example the Great Green Wall initiative has reached 30% of its 2030 target of rehabilitating 100 million hectares of degraded land, however it has been flagged that it may not achieve its full target on time[16]
- **Inclusion of indigenous peoples, women, youth, children, persons living with disabilities, and communities in climate change and adaptation is increasing, albeit with still significant opportunity to grow.** For example, UNESCO's Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems (LINKS) programme focuses on integrating indigenous and local knowledge into climate adaptation launched a 2024 report on Climate change and Indigenous Peoples' knowledge in the Sahel[17], and Kenya's National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) 2023–2027 included ten indigenous women with disabilities in the formulation of the plan[18]

Nature

- **The AU launched its Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan** (AUBSAP, 2023–2030), **calling for urgent action to reverse biodiversity loss and mainstream ecosystem-based approaches into development planning**, and selected African regions have aligned their regional strategies with the AUBSAP since 2023, including SADC. However, challenges in implementing the AUBSAP include limited domestic financing and limited monitoring and biodiversity indicators
- **A growing share of African national development plans and visions now explicitly reference nature and biodiversity**, e.g., Uganda's National Biodiversity and Action Plan

[14] https://www.willagri.com/2024/10/29/adoption-of-drought-tolerant-crops-in-east-africa
[15] https://www.aatf-africa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Muinga-et-al.-2019_DroughtTEGO-Adoption-Kenya-1.pdf
[16] https://www.reuters.com/business/environment/africas-great-green-wall-miss-2030-goal-says-un-desertification-president-2024-06-12/
[17] https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000389568
[18] https://www.cemiride.org/indigenous-peoples-women-with-disabilities-participate-in-the-national-climate-change-action-plan-for-the-first-time/

(NBSAP) III (2025–2030) is an integral part of its National Development Plan IV and Vision 2040, explicitly linking biodiversity conservation to socio-economic development[19]

- **However, only 8 African countries have drafted or submitted updated NBSAPs** which were due by October 2024 under the UN's Global Biodiversity Framework (incl. Burkina Faso, Burundi, Libya, Mauritania, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda), and across the continent they show mixed performance with gaps in having clear action plans in place and conducting implementation[20]
- **Africa is making measurable progress on halting biodiversity loss and restoring degraded land through the global 30x30 and continental AFR100 initiatives**. **As of 2024, ~19% of African landscapes and 17% of seascapes are protected[21], and 34 countries have committed to restoring nearly 130 million hectares under AFR100[22]**. However, progress is curtailed by lack of land management plans, lack of data for monitoring and reporting, and limited integration of gender-responsive approaches
- **Around 12–14 African countries are developing or have implemented carbon market regulations**, with Ghana leading through advanced Article 6 structures and bilateral deals. **While no African country has a national biodiversity credit market yet, about 30 early-stage biodiversity credit projects are underway** across the continent[23]. The key will be to ensure carbon market regulations have safeguards for nature and biodiversity, and to scale up comprehensive policy and regulation for biodiversity credits
- **Ocean and regenerative blue economy priorities are increasing.** Since the 2020 launch of the AU Blue Economy Strategy, countries such as South Africa and Mozambique have integrated ocean priorities into national plans. The BBNJ treaty[24], which aims to protect and sustainably manage biodiversity in the high seas has been ratified by 8 African countries since 2023 (incl. Seychelles, Maldives, Mauritius, Malawi, Mauritania, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia)[25], and Kenya, Ghana, Namibia, and Seychelles have committed to the 100% Alliance to sustainably manage all national waters by 2030[26]
- **On the call for the revaluation of the GDP of Africa through the proper valuation of Africa's abundant natural capital and ecosystem services**, 17 African countries are

[19] https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/uga231171.pdf
[20] https://wwf.panda.org/act/nbsap_tracker_check_your_countrys_nature_progress/
[21] https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/10.1098/rstb.2023.0443
[22] https://www.globallandscapesforum.org/publication/afr100-programme-funding/
[23] https://www.naturefinance.net/resources-tools/investing-in-africa-investing-in-nature-2/
[24] Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction
[25] http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XXI-10&chapter=21&clang=_en
[26] https://oceanpanel.org/members/

developing national accounting strategies, for example Ghana's National Plan for Natural Capital Accounting was launched in early April 2025[27]

- **Debt-for-nature and sustainability-linked debt agreements are growing in Africa**, with Gabon completing a sovereign debt-for-nature swap in August 2023, and as of September 2024 at least five African countries have been planning the world's first joint "debt-for-nature" swap aiming to secure at least USD 2 billion for protecting the marine environment in the Indian Ocean[28]

Energy

- **Progress has been made on focusing economic development plans on just energy transitions and renewable energy generation for industrial activity, for example Mission 300 was launched in January 2025** as a USD 50 billion initiative led by the World Bank and AfDB to enable access to renewable energy for 300 million people across the continent by 2030, of the total 600 million who lack access to electricity today
- **The Continental Master Plan (CMP) is Africa's strategic blueprint for interconnecting its five regional power pools and supporting the African Single Electricity Market (AfSEM). By the end of 2023, the first draft of the CMP was completed, and its implementation was launched in January 2025** at the Africa Energy Summit[29]. Grid interconnectivity has been elevated as a priority under South Africa's 2025 G20 Presidency
- **As of 2025, Africa's renewable energy capacity reached ~62 GW—an increase of 6 GW since 2022—progressing toward the 300 GW target by 2030[30]**. Several large-scale projects are underway with nearly 2 GW of utility-scale solar commissioned in 2024 across Egypt, South Africa, and Algeria[31]
- **In 2023, renewable energy investment in Africa reached USD 36.6 billion, a 12% rise from the previous year**[32]. Major initiatives were launched, including the Accelerated

[27] https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/208acc0da8426db139f54893110e5382-0320072023/original/Background-Paper-NCA-to-Inform-Climate-Biodiversity-and-Development-Policies-in-Africa.pdf

[28] https://www.reuters.com/business/environment/african-countries-eye-worlds-first-joint-debt-for-nature-swap-2024-09-26/

[29] https://www.nepad.org/publication/african-continental-power-systems-masterplan-cmp-phase-iii and https://www.afdb.org/sites/default/files/documents/projects-and-operations/multinational_-_continental_power_system_masterplan_project_-_technical_assistance_program_-_p-z1-f00-124_-_ipr_december_2024.pdf

[30] https://www.irena.org//media/Files/IRENA/Agency/Publication/2025/Mar/IRENA_DAT_RE_Capacity_Statistics_2025.pdf

[31] https://www.frontierafricareports.com/article/african-utilityscale-solar-rebounds-strongly-much

[32] Temidayo Alex-Oke, Olusola Bamisile, Dongsheng Cai, Humphrey Adun, Chiagoziem Chima Ukwuoma, Samaila Ado Tenebe, Qi Huang, Renewable energy market in Africa: Opportunities, progress, challenges, and future

Partnership for Renewables in Africa (APRA), which secured USD 2.6 billion in project commitments[33], and the Scaling Up Renewables in Africa campaign led by the EU and South Africa

- **Green industrialisation is accelerating in Africa, driven by initiatives such as the Africa Green Industrialisation Initiative (AGII)** launched in 2023 and endorsed by the AfCFTA in early 2025. This shift is critical as Africa's demand for power is projected to surge over the coming decades, more than 2x by 2030 and 8x by 2050, driven primarily by growth in industry, particularly in sectors like fertilizers, cement, and clean tech manufacturing[34]
- **Over 80% of Africa's exports remain raw materials with minimal local value addition[35], and the continent contributes just 2% to global manufacturing[36]. While local refining is emerging in several countries including Zambia (copper) and Zimbabwe (lithium), progress is early-stage**. Many industrial zones still face unreliable grids and limited renewable energy, hindering green industrial growth
- **Access to clean cooking in Sub-Saharan Africa remains a major challenge, with 20 million more people lacking access each year, but significant progress has been made since 2023**. The 2024 Summit on Clean Cooking in Africa mobilized USD 2.2 billion in pledges, and clean cooking gained visibility on the G7, G20, and COP agendas. Investment has grown—reaching USD 218 million in 2024—and initiatives like Mission 300 are integrating clean cooking into energy plans. The Women in Clean Cooking Mentorship Program has supported over 150 women, helping to build leadership in the sector[37]

Green minerals and manufacturing

- **Africa holds 30–40% of the world's minerals essential for the green energy transition[38], and the African Green Minerals Strategy (AGMS) launched in 2024 aims to promote local value addition, regional industrialization, and climate resilience**. Countries like Nigeria and Uganda have introduced stronger benefit-sharing rules, while infrastructure

prospects, May 2025, Energy Strategy Reviews: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2211467X2500063X

[33] https://furtherafrica.com/2024/11/21/apra-investment-forum-unlocks-us2-6b-for-africas-renewable-energy/

[34] https://www.seforall.org/system/files/2023-01/%5BFINAL%5D%2020220115_ZOD_SEForAll_AfricanManufacturingReport.pdf

[35] https://unctad.org/publication/state-commodity-dependence-2021; https://www.voronoiapp.com/trade/-Raw-Materials-and-Commodities-Dominate-Africas-Exports-3621

[36] https://www.fiw.ac.at/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/65_FIW_PB-EU-Africa_2025-01-08_final.pdf

[37] Clean Cooking Alliance

[38] https://www.uneca.org/stories/africa%E2%80%99s-critical-mineral-resources,-a-boon-for-intra-african-trade-and-regional-integration and https://mo.ibrahim.foundation/sites/default/files/2022-11/minerals-resource-governance.pdf

investments such as the Lobito Corridor are advancing to boost mineral trade and processing

- **Green industrialisation is accelerating in Africa, driven by initiatives such as the Africa Green Industrialisation Initiative (AGII)** launched in 2023 and endorsed by the AfCFTA in early 2025. This shift is critical as Africa's demand for power is projected to surge over the coming decades, more than 2x by 2030 and 8x by 2050, driven primarily by growth in industry, particularly in sectors like fertilizers, cement, and clean tech manufacturing[39]
- **Access to reliable renewable baseload power is vital for scaling green industry, yet Africa's stable renewable supply remains limited**. While 25% of electricity generation comes from renewables (vs. 39% globally)[40], baseload capacity is limited
- **Africa has experienced a wave of green hydrogen project announcements since 2023, with 34 projects planned across seven countries by 2030,** especially in Mauritania, Egypt, Morocco, Namibia, and Algeria**. However, 89% remain at concept or feasibility stage**[41]
- **Reskilling and green jobs are critical enablers of the green transition, and with over 60% of Africa's population under 25, green sectors offer major potential to address youth unemployment.** In 2023, Africa had 324,000 renewable energy jobs[42], and projections estimate up to 3.3 million green jobs by 2030 with 70% in renewable energy[43]. Key initiatives like Jacob's Ladder Africa's greenLabs, the Green Careers Caravan, and South Africa's JET Skills Program are scaling up reskilling
- **Africa faces significant barriers to accessing advanced green technologies critical for the green transition,** largely due to intellectual property restrictions, with the continent contributing less than 1% of global clean energy patent filings[44]. Initiatives such as WIPO GREEN, the EU's Global Gateway, and the Africa-Europe Innovation Partnership are working to improve technology transfer and collaboration
- **Updates to industrial policy have been advancing green industrialisation, including updates to procurement acts, and scaling up green industrial zones**. South Africa's 2024 Public Procurement Act supports sustainable purchasing[45], while countries like Ethiopia, Zambia, DRC, Togo, and Gabon have launched eco-industrial zones focused on textiles, EV

[39] https://www.seforall.org/system/files/2023-01/%5BFINAL%5D%2020220115_ZOD_SEForAll_AfricanManufacturingReport.pdf
[40] https://ember-energy.org/countries-and-regions/africa
[41] https://www.nature.com/articles/s41560-025-01768-y
[42] https://www.irena.org/News/pressreleases/2024/Oct/Highest-Annual-Growth-of-Renewables-Jobs-in-2023-Reaching-16-point-2-Million#:~:text=Abu%20Dhabi%2C%20United%20Arab%20Emirates,Energy%20Agency%20(IRENA)%20and%20the
[43] FSD Africa and Shortlist, Forecasting Green Jobs in Africa, July 2024: http://fundforyouthemployment.nl/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Forecasting-Green-Jobs-in-Africa-2024.pdf
[44] https://capacity4dev.europa.eu/library/patents-and-clean-energy-technologies-africa_en
[45] https://www.greenpolicyplatform.org/research/advancing-green-public-procurement-south-africa-challenges-opportunities-and-strategic

battery production, agro-processing, and timber, with Gabon hosting Africa's first carbon-neutral industrial hub

Sustainable agriculture, land use, water, oceans

- **Many African national development plans reference climate-smart or sustainable agriculture,** such as Tanzania's Vision 2050 and South Africa's NDP 2030. **However, few countries meet the CAADP/Malabo Declaration[46] target of allocating 10% of public budgets to agriculture**—only Rwanda is on track overall, and just four countries (Burundi, DRC, Ethiopia, Mali) met the spending goal[47]
- **Agricultural yields remain low in Africa, where crop yield per hectare for cereals is 1.7 tonnes, less than half the global average**[48]. This varies between countries, for example for maize Algeria, Egypt, and South Africa produce higher yields of between 6-8 tonnes per hectare, while Chad, Angola, Namibia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau produce between 1-2 tonnes per hectare[49]
- **The ratio of extension workers to farmers to support agricultural productivity is far below the recommended levels on average across the continent,** where the current average ratio across the continent is 1 extension worker per 1,000 farmers[50], and the recommended levels are approximately 1:400-500[51]. **However, several initiatives are boosting extension service coverage and thereby the inclusion of smallholder farmers and local communities in Africa's green transition**. In 2025, the EAC launched the USD 12.5 million ENSURE Project to strengthen extension services, Uganda hosted its first National Agricultural Extension Week, and Malawi introduced Ulangizi, an AI chatbot for farmers
- **Across Africa, 30-50% of food is estimated to be lost or wasted along the supply chain[52], however there has been an increase in initiatives and investments aimed at enhancing post-harvest handling, storage, and value chains to improve food safety and reduce food losses**. For example, Lagos State is constructing Africa's largest food logistics centre in

[46] The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) is the African Union's policy framework for agricultural transformation, food security, and nutrition, while the Malabo Declaration (adopted in 2014) reinforces CAADP by committing AU member states to specific targets—including allocating 10% of public expenditure to agriculture and doubling productivity—by 2025

[47] https://farmingfirst.org/2024/06/meeting-the-malabo-target-how-much-do-african-states-spend-on-agriculture/

[48] https://ourworldindata.org/data-insights/cereal-yields-have-increased-in-all-regions-but-africa-lags-behind

[49] https://ourworldindata.org/crop-yields

[50] https://www.canr.msu.edu/csus/uploads/1.%20Strengthening%20Agricultural%20Extension%20Services%20Overall%20Report.pdf

[51] https://www.dalrrd.gov.za/images/Branches/FoodSecurityAgrReform/education_training/extention-and-advisory-services/framework_recovery-plan_web3.pdf

[52] https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/re-gain-scaling-solutions-food-loss-africa-0

Ketu-Ereyun to address the significant post-harvest losses estimated at 40% daily[53], and Rwanda, the UK, and UNEP have launched the Africa Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Cooling and Cold-Chains (ACES)

- **Africa is making measurable progress on halting biodiversity loss and restoring degraded land through the global 30x30 and continental AFR100 initiatives**. **As of 2024, ~19% of African landscapes and 17% of seascapes are protected[54], and 34 countries have committed to restoring nearly 130 million hectares under AFR100[55]**. However, progress is curtailed by lack of land management plans, lack of data for monitoring and reporting, and limited integration of gender-responsive approaches
- **The Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP) is a continent-wide initiative launched by the African Union in 2021 to address Africa's significant water investment gap**. **So far, USD 7.5 billion has been raised towards the target[56]** of mobilising at least USD 30 billion annually by 2030 to support water security and sustainable sanitation
- **Ocean and regenerative blue economy priorities are increasing.** Since the 2020 launch of the AU Blue Economy Strategy, countries such as South Africa and Mozambique have integrated ocean priorities into national plans. The BBNJ treaty[57], which aims to protect and sustainably manage biodiversity in the high seas has been ratified by 8 African countries since 2023 (incl. Seychelles, Maldives, Mauritius, Malawi, Mauritania, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia)[58], and Kenya, Ghana, Namibia, and Seychelles have committed to the 100% Alliance to sustainably manage all national waters by 2030[59]
- **Significant progress has been made in advancing the regenerative blue economy through initiatives such as the Great Blue Wall,** scaling up regenerative seascapes, and launching debt-for-nature swaps for ocean protection

Sustainable infrastructure and urbanisation

- **More cities are embedding climate action plans into their governance structures**, with Nairobi, Lagos, Kigali, and Accra emerging as regional leaders in climate-smart urbanisation.

[53] https://www.thecable.ng/expert-nigeria-records-n3-5trn-post-harvest-losses-annually-reliable-cold-chain-system-needed/
[54] https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/10.1098/rstb.2023.0443
[55] https://www.globallandscapesforum.org/publication/afr100-programme-funding/
[56] https://aipwater.org/
[57] Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction
[58] http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XXI-10&chapter=21&clang=_en
[59] https://oceanpanel.org/members/

- **Various funds with a focus on scaling up urban climate resilience have been growing. For example, the Urban Resilience Fund, a €500 million blended finance fund, supports cities in developing resilient infrastructure**, and in 2024, the IFC invested USD 20 million in the Africa50 Infrastructure Acceleration Fund targeting sustainable projects in digital infrastructure, renewable energy, and transportation across Africa, where the fund has achieved USD 222.5 million in commitments out of a target of USD 500 million[60]
- **Several initiatives have been launched in scaling up climate resilient housing in informal settlements,** for example Easy Housing Uganda has constructed prefabricated homes using sustainably sourced timber with the aim of decarbonising the construction industry, and in Mozambique the Participatory Slum Upgrade Project was launched in 2008 by UN Habitat and the EU
- **Awareness and access to green building materials are increasing across Africa, with countries advancing green building regulations, certifications, and financing**. Notable milestones include Egypt's Grand Egyptian Museum becoming the first African museum to earn EDGE Advanced certification, Nairobi hosting Africa's first IFC EDGE-certified government office, and Mombasa County leading in sub-national green public buildings
- **Water infrastructure projects are expanding across Africa to address growing water scarcity.** In Morocco, Agadir opened a wind- and solar-powered desalination plant in 2022 producing 275,000 m^3/day for drinking and agriculture[61]. In 2024, South Africa secured up to USD 1 billion from the New Development Bank to improve water and sanitation services in underserved communities[62]
- **Africa's electric vehicle (EV) market is expanding rapidly, expected to grow from USD 17 billion in 2025 to USD 28.3 billion by 2030[63].** EV sales more than doubled in 2024 to nearly 11,000 units, driven by policy support and rising demand[64]. South Africa leads in EV infrastructure and assembly, while East African firms like Ampersand are scaling electric motorcycle production through partnerships
- **Only about 4% of Africa's municipal solid waste is recycled, despite 70–80% being potentially recyclable[65]. The AU's Agenda 2063 set a 2023 target for cities to recycle at least 50% of waste, and 50 African countries now have some form of waste policy.** Countries including South Africa and Tunisia have adopted Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) laws, with Kenya, Ghana, and Rwanda developing theirs. Key

[60] https://www.ifc.org/en/pressroom/2024/ifc-invests-in-africa50-fund-to-support-sustainable-infrastructure-development-in-africa
[61] https://smartwatermagazine.com/news/smart-water-magazine/desalination-morocco-meeting-water-demands-a-water-scarce-region
[62] https://www.ndb.int/news/ndb-board-of-directors-held-44th-meeting-in-cape-town-approved-loans-for-the-water-sector-in-south-africa-and-lng-transportation-project-in-china
[63] https://www.mordorintelligence.com/industry-reports/africa-electric-vehicle-market
[64] https://www.iea.org/reports/global-ev-outlook-2025/trends-in-electric-car-markets-2
[65] https://www.nepad.org/blog/what-waste-innovations-africas-waste-material-management

initiatives include Ethiopia's Reppie waste-to-energy plant, Ghana's SWITCH Africa Green participation, and UN-Habitat's Waste Wise Cities Project across 400+ cities

Priorities to consider this year

Selected highlights (not exhaustive)

Climate finance

- **Scale up de-risking of private capital** for example by urging MDBs and development finance institutions (DFIs) to scale up partial credit guarantees for green projects to reduce borrowing costs, scaling up political risk insurance
- **Support countries to develop or refine integrated carbon market policy and regulatory frameworks** that are high quality and align with NDCs and national climate and development strategies, including guidance on benefit sharing and safeguards, and building technical capacity
- **Advocate for MDBs to consider systemically offering client countries the choice between borrowing in a foreign currency or reducing currency risk** by indexing debt repayments to the local exchange rate
- **Scale up adoption of debt pause clauses** by strengthening technical capacity
- **Advocate for a reformulation of SDR allocation quotas** via amendment of the IMF's Articles of Agreement, including that future SDR allocations are based on need
- **Continue to advocate for concessional finance to reach at least USD 500 billion** annually, as part of the overall NCQG goal of reaching USD 1.3tn of total annual climate finance

Adaptation

- **Emphasise the need for substantial financial commitments to the Loss and Damage Fund**, aiming for contributions that reflect the scale of climate-induced losses on the continent
- **Scale up mainstreaming of adaptation into national development policy-making** and accelerate the implementation of the African Union Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan. In addition, scale up access to multilateral climate finance and institutionalise adaptation in public budgeting
- **Call for increasing the proportion of Africa's population covered by Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS)**, especially in LDCs, fragile and conflict-affected states, and remote areas

- **Call for a shift from reactive drought responses to proactive resilience and adaptation strategies**, including increasing financial commitments toward long-term drought preparedness such as drought resilient agriculture and infrastructure
- **Continue prioritising building inclusive adaptation partnerships including women, youth, children, indigenous people, persons living with disabilities, and communities** that strengthen Africa's leadership in climate resilience

Nature

- **Endorse the G20 bioeconomy agenda** which encapsulates the sustainable use of renewable biological resources with tech to drive green growth and green jobs, and supports the overall framework of the AUBSAP
- **Focus on increasing the number of national and regional developments plans** that reference nature and biodiversity
- **Call for scaling up support for halting and reversing biodiversity loss, deforestation, and desertification**, committing to urgently scale up 30x30 and AFR100 goals
- **Scale up comprehensive and harmonised biodiversity data collection** across the continent
- **Support countries to integrate oceans into national and subnational policies as well as call for further countries to ratify the BBNJ Treaty**, commit to the 100% Alliance, and support the International Platform for Ocean Sustainability (IPOS)
- **Scale up natural capital valuation assessments as well as natural capital accounting strategies**, and call for GDP to be rebased on natural capital valuation

Energy

- **Ensure ACS priorities align with G20 priorities** which include energy security, energy transitions, and regional connectedness
- **Place energy transition at the core of economic strategies**, and continue to develop national energy compacts under Mission 300 ensuring clear implementation plans
- **Reduce investment risk in renewable energy generation by opening up the market,** allowing for peer-to-peer trading, and providing reliable price signals
- **Scale up regional interconnectivity harmonising pricing methodologies** (e.g., implement regional transmission pricing methodologies), harmonising other legal and regulatory frameworks, setting up a clearing house, and increasing ability to enforce regional rules

- **Scale up green industrialisation and primary processing** by expanding energy storage and grid infrastructure, expanding investment into manufacturing equipment for renewable energy supply chains
- **Catalyse scaled, coordinated investment in clean cooking transitions** using innovative financing tools such as results-based financing and carbon finance, and calling for African countries to integrate clean cooking into their NDCs, climate policies and strategies

Green minerals and manufacturing

- **Advance renewable energy access and stable baseload** by increasing investment in renewable energy, expanding energy storage and grid infrastructure, and scaling up offtake for electricity
- **Scale up technology transfer by considering advocating for updates to WTO rules on technology access and transfer** in free trade agreements under TRIPS+, and considering setting up regional IP clearinghouses under the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) to negotiate collective licenses on behalf of multiple African states
- **Increase green hydrogen production and offtake** via integrating hydrogen into national energy plans and green industrial policies, considering financial and regulatory incentives to increase the adoption of green hydrogen, identifying and investing in hydrogen export corridors
- **Promote investments in reskilling** to unlock the human capital that will power Africa's inclusive green transition
- **Increase trade of green goods via continuing to support the implementation of AfCFTA,** and considering negotiating preferential trade rules for green exports
- **Scale up industrial policy incentivising green industry,** including green fiscal incentives, and a green investment taxonomy

Sustainable agriculture, land use, water, oceans

- **Scale up approaches for providing long-term finance to smallholder farmers** (e.g., long-term patient capital, loans from banks)
- **Boost agricultural yields through investing in extension services**, sustainable irrigation, and sustainable mechanisation
- **Call for scaling up support for halting and reversing biodiversity loss, deforestation, and desertification**, committing to urgently scale up 30x30 and AFR100 goals
- **Increase investment in post-harvest handling, storage, and value chains to improve food safety and reduce food losses,** including setting up cold chain storage hubs, scaling grain

storage hubs, promoting sustainable packaging to reduce food loss and waste, and continuing to convert waste to wealth e.g., biochar and biogas production

- **Accelerate implementation of the Africa Water Investment Programme** through mapping climate-related water risks, and creating a continent-wide water database
- **Support countries to integrate oceans into national and subnational policies as well as call for further countries to ratify the BBNJ Treaty**, commit to the 100% Alliance, and support the International Platform for Ocean Sustainability (IPOS)
- **Continue to promote the regenerative blue economy** and implement the Moroni Declaration

Sustainable infrastructure and urbanisation

- **Enhance policy and governance for sustainable urbanization by advocating for urban, economic, and climate policies to be integrated** at the national and sub-national levels
- **Scale up local government action plans addressing informal settlements and climate infrastructure** by supporting cities with actionable implementation by targeting technical assistance, co-development of indicators with communities, and integrating informal settlement upgrading into monitoring and evaluation
- **Scale up investment into climate resilient urban infrastructure** through strengthening project preparation facilities tailored to informality, intermediary financing models that can de-risk capital, supporting the development of urban infrastructure portfolios that are aligned with NDCs and SDGs, and develop a sub-national green bond template
- **Scale up green buildings** by strengthening policies for green building codes, sustainable mobility, and climate adaptive urbanization
- **Scale up sustainable water infrastructure in cities**, including develop targeted WASH adaptation plans which are fully budgeted, gender-responsive, and have measurable targets
- **Scale up waste management** through the implementation of EPR regulations across the continent, increased investment into waste management facilities, and scaling demand for recycled products

Summary by theme

This section outlines the specific Nairobi Declaration clauses that map to each theme, the status in Africa today and progress made since 2023, the ongoing challenges, and potential priorities to consider going forwards, by theme.

Climate finance

Clauses from the Nairobi Declaration relating to climate finance

Investment and trade

23 **Develop and implement policies, regulations and incentives aimed at attracting local, regional and global investment in green growth**, inclusive of green and circular economies;

49v We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: v) **Request that trade-related environmental tariffs and non-tariff barriers must be subject to multilateral discussions and agreements and not be unilateral**, arbitrary or discriminatory measures

Carbon markets and carbon tax

49viii We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: viii) **Implement a mix of measures that elevate Africa's share of carbon markets**

57 **Urge world leaders to consider the proposal for a global carbon taxation regime** including a carbon tax on fossil fuel trade, maritime transport and aviation, that may also be augmented by a **global financial transaction tax (FTT)** to provide dedicated, affordable, and accessible finance for climate-positive investments at scale, and establish a balanced, fair and representative global governance structure for its management, with an assessment of the financial implications on socioeconomic impacts on Africa.

Debt

52v Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: v. **Improve debt management, including:**

a. the inclusion of 'debt pause clauses', and b. the **proposed expert review of the Common Framework and the Debt Sustainability Analysis**

52vi Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: vi. **Provide interventions and instruments for new debt relief to pre-empt debt default to: a. extend sovereign debt tenor, and b. include a 10-year grace period.**

56 We call for **adoption of principles of responsible sovereign lending and accountability** encompassing credit rating, risk analysis and debt sustainability assessment frameworks and urge the financial markets to commit to eliminate this disparity by 2025

58 Propose to **establish a new financing architecture** that is responsive to Africa's needs including debt restructuring and relief, and the development of a new Global Climate Finance Charter through UNGA and COP processes by 2025

MDB reform

52i Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to **build resilience to climate shocks, including better deployment of the Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) liquidity mechanism** and **disaster suspension clauses**.

52ii Call to… **re-channel at least USD 100 billion of SDRs to Africa,** including through institutions such as the African Development Bank which will be able to leverage the SDRs by three to four times. We also call for the formation of a group of SDR donors to expedite this rechanneling ahead of COP28

52iii Call to… **propose for consideration a new SDR issue for climate crisis response of at least the same magnitude as the Covid19 issue** (USD 650 billion).

52iv Call to … **better leverage of the balance sheets of MDBs to scale up concessional finance to at least USD 500b per year**

52vii Call to … **decisively act on the promotion of inclusive and effective international tax cooperation at the United Nations** with the **aim to reduce Africa's loss of US$ 27 billion annual corporate tax revenue through profit shifting**, by at least 50% by 2030 and 75% by 2050.

52viii Call to… **put additional measures to crowd in and de-risk private capital**, such as blended finance instruments, purchase commitments, partial foreign exchange (FX) guarantee and industrial policy collaboration, which should be informed by the risks that drive lack of private capital deployment at scale

52ix Call to… **redesign MDB governance, to ensure a "fit for purpose" system** with appropriate representation, voice, and agency of all countries

Status today in Africa and progress made since 2023

Investment and trade

- **COP29 announced a USD 300 billion commitment annually by 2035 for developing countries for climate action, with the Baku to Belém Roadmap aiming to mobilise USD 1.3 trillion annually by 2035** from public, private, and alternative sources. In Africa, in 2023 climate tech startups on the continent raised USD 1.04 billion, a 9% increase from the previous year and triple what they raised in 2019[66]
- **Several countries have passed new climate change strategies or acts since 2023 that support greater investment into climate and energy projects** (e.g., Rwanda, South Africa, Zambia), several countries that have designed green fiscal incentives policies or frameworks (e.g., Ghana, Morocco), and the Pan-African Parliament adopted the Model Law on Climate Change in 2024, serving as comprehensive legislative framework designed to guide AU countries in developing and harmonising their national climate change laws
- **On engagement of Africa in international trade**, **there have been calls for more formal participation in such areas as the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism**, however so far no formal engagement has taken place between the AfCFTA Council of Ministers and EU on this subject

Carbon markets and carbon tax

- **Article 6 of the Paris Agreement was operationalised at COP29, and African countries are increasingly submitting projects for consideration under these mechanisms**. There are 14 signed bilateral agreements under Article 6 between African countries and other countries, 9 MoUs, and 4 other official statements of intention to collaborate. For instance, Ghana has signed bilateral agreements with Switzerland, Singapore, and Sweden to facilitate the transfer of Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs)[67]
- **12-14 African countries have developed or are developing carbon markets frameworks**. Africa's carbon markets issued approximately 50 MtCO2e of credits and retired an estimated 25 MtCO2e between 2022-2023, far below the markets' technical potential and stated ambitions where the total technical potential for voluntary carbon markets is estimated to be 2,400 MtCO2e by 2030, and the Africa Carbon Markets Initiative's

[66] https://apnews.com/article/africa-climate-tech-startup-funding-462006ed8e3e28fe4eb9221dde174a11
[67] https://unepccc.org/article-6-pipeline/

(ACMI's) ambition is for 300 MtCO2e of African credits to be retired annually by 2030[68]. Between 2016 and 2021 ~11% of global carbon credits were issued from projects in African countries

- **Globally there are 78 carbon pricing and taxation mechanisms in place covering close to 25% of global emissions** (up from 5% in 2010)[69]. **In Africa, South Africa is the only country that has implemented an economy-wide carbon tax regime**, which was introduced in 2019 as a preliminary transitional period until end of 2025, and the proposals for the next phase starting in 2026 were circulated in December 2024

Debt

- **Africa continues to face very high levels of external debt at 24.5% of GDP on average[70],** and high debt servicing costs, limiting the availability of finance to invest in climate and energy projects, or respond to climate disasters
- **More than 80% of Africa's sovereign debt today is in hard currency (HCY) rather than local currency[71], which can increase the debt burden and impact credit ratings should the local currency depreciate**. An IMF survey published in August 2024 found that many Debt Management Offices in emerging markets and developing economies lack robust strategies to manage sovereign debt foreign currency risk effectively. There are shifts towards increasing sovereign debt issuance in local currency, or converting debt to local currency. For example, in March 2025, Côte d'Ivoire successfully raised the first-ever CFA franc-denominated bond issue on the international market, an unprecedented initiative[72]
- **Globally, there are efforts to increase the adoption of climate resilient debt clauses (CRDCs), and there are examples in Africa, however adoption remains low**. AfDB announced its adoption of CRDCs in December 2023[73], the World Bank expanded CRDCs in late 2023, and an international technical working group on CRDCs comprised of representatives from G7 Treasuries, MDBs, borrower DMOs, and technical experts was launched in March 2024. Senegal introduced climate resilient debt clauses (CRDCs) in 2023, becoming the first African country to do so, in partnership with UK Export Finance[74].

[68] https://africacarbonmarkets.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/ACMI_Status-and-Outlook-Report-2024.pdf
[69] https://www.ft.com/content/0a4ac951-5b95-4527-82fc-0ec587483ac5 and https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/sustainable-finance-reporting/what-new-taxes-could-help-raise-money-fight-climate-change-2024-11-19/
[70] https://data.one.org/analysis/african-debt
[71] https://mo.ibrahim.foundation/news/2023/public-debt-africa-structure-primary-issue-not-volume
[72] https://www.ecofinagency.com/finance/2703-46553-cote-d-ivoire-secures-better-cfa-bond-rates-abroad-than-in-waemu
[73] https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/speeches/remarks-dr-akinwumi-adesina-president-african-development-bank-group-session-climate-resilient-debt-clauses-call-action-cop-28-uae-4-december-2023-66616
[74] https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-generates-billions-in-climate-finance-and-first-crdc-in-africa

However, many African countries lack the technical expertise to negotiate debt pause clauses effectively, resulting in limited adoption

- **Several initiatives are aiming to provide debt relief in Africa through mechanisms such as extending debt tenors and grace periods**.
    - **At the multilateral level**, the IMF introduced in 2023 the three-pillar approach to addressing global debt vulnerabilities, consisting of strengthening the global debt architecture, enhancing debt sustainability through sound policies, and expanding access to liquidity and concessional financing. The **Sustainable Debt Coalition**, endorsed by African Finance Ministers in March 2023, has made strides including advocating for climate contingency clauses in debt instruments, and launching a task-force on Sustainability-Linked Sovereign Financing. The **AfDB's hybrid capital bond** issuance in January 2024 of USD 750 million, was noteworthy for its perpetual maturity. The **SIDS4 Conference** in May 2024 resulted in the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS), including advocating for enhanced access to concessional financing, debt relief mechanisms, and the implementation of the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) to better reflect the unique challenges faced by SIDS
    - **At the national level**, countries including Ethiopia, Gabon, Zambia, Ghana, Chad, and Somalia have undertaken debt restructuring since 2023, securing maturity extensions and cash flow relief—though grace periods remain short, with Zambia, for example, receiving a three-year deferral. However, the fragmented creditor landscape and a lack of a global legal mechanism for pre-emptive debt relief makes debt restructuring challenging
- **Sovereign lending principles are in place to increase debt sustainability, transparency, and accountability in sovereign debt transactions** (e.g., IIF and UNCTAD have principles)**, however they are not systematically used by creditors**
- **Efforts have progressed in tailoring credit ratings to the continent's unique contexts,** such as via the MoU signed by the African Peer Review Mechanism and CareEdge Ratings in 2024 with the goal of working together to enhance credit rating frameworks tailored specifically for African economies. In 2023, the African Union endorsed the creation of the Africa Credit Rating Agency, a private-sector-driven entity aimed at providing more nuanced and regionally informed credit assessments
- **Since 2023, several innovative climate finance instruments have been launched across Africa.** The Development Bank of Rwanda issued East Africa's first Sustainability-Linked Bond (SLB) in 2023, raising USD 24.8 million[75]. The AfDB followed with a €500 million

[75] https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2023/09/29/rwanda-afe-development-bank-launches-first-sustainability-linked-bond-to-promote-inclusive-sustainable-development

green bond in 2024, under its new Sustainable Bond Framework[76]. Côte d'Ivoire collaborated with the World Bank in 2024 to replace €400 million in expensive debt with more concessional loans[77]. Additionally, at least five African nations are planning the world's first joint "debt-for-nature" swap, aiming to mobilize USD 2 billion to protect the Indian Ocean's marine ecosystems[78]

MDB reform

- **Discussions at COP29 emphasized the reallocation of at least USD 100 billion in Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) to Africa**, through the IMF and with discussions of channelling through AfDB (via a framework approved by the IMF in 2024, which is not yet operationalised). Africa received USD 33 billion of SDR allocations from the IMF in 2021, ~5% of the historic total USD 650 billion allocation that year[79]. African countries have demonstrated the highest uptake rate of SDRs globally, with nearly 90% of the allocated SDRs being utilized, whereas regions with higher allocations used significantly lower shares - e.g., Europe used ~20%, North America ~3%, Asia Pacific ~40%[80]
- **African nations, in collaboration with international organizations, have undertaken several initiatives to combat profit shifting to address the loss of USD 27 billion annually of corporate tax revenues**, incl. many African countries joining the OECD's Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) from 2019 onwards, committing to implement measures that ensure profits are taxed where economic activities occur
- **There has been an increase in private climate finance in Africa from USD 4 to 8 billion between 2019/2020 and 2021/2022[81], however it still remains at ~25% of the total annual climate finance on the continent. Several initiatives have been launched since 2023 to scale up de-risking of private capital**, such as CIF's USD 1 billion Industry Decarbonisation investment programme launched in 2025 where Egypt, Namibia, and South Africa have been selected among 7 countries globally to access concessional finance[82], the World Bank's guarantee platform launched in 2024 aiming to provide USD 20 billion annually in guarantees by 2030, and the Africa Climate Risk Insurance Facility for Adaptation (ACRIFA), launched in 2023, is a pioneering AfDB initiative aimed at scaling up climate-resilient insurance and crowding in private-sector capital across the continent.

[76] https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/african-development-bank-launches-inaugural-eur-500-million-2875-short-4-year-green-benchmark-due-march-2028-70807
[77] https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2024/12/05/c-te-d-ivoire-s-debt-for-development-swap-enabled-by-the-world-bank-group-will-free-up-funds-for-education
[78] https://www.reuters.com/business/environment/african-countries-eye-worlds-first-joint-debt-for-nature-swap-2024-09-26/
[79] https://data.one.org/analysis/sdr
[80] https://developmentreimagined.com/african-sdrs-how-they-are-used-distributed-and-what-needs-to-change/
[81] CPI. 2024. Landscape of Climate Finance in Africa 2024. https://www.climatepolicyinitiative.org/publication/landscape-of-climate-finance-in-africa-2024/. Data for 2023 and 2024 not yet available
[82] https://cif.org/news/IndustryCountries

These build upon previous initiatives launched to scale up de-risking of private capital, such as the Africa Guarantee Fund launched in 2011, the blended local currency finance program for energy in Africa launched in 2017 between The Currency Exchange Fund (TCX) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) as part of the World Bank's IDA Private Sector Window, and the launch of Facility for Energy Inclusion by the AfDB launched in 2016, aiming to accelerate private investments in Africa's renewable energy projects

- **There were discussions at COP29 to increase Africa's representation in MDB Governance**. Today Africa has ~6.5% of total voting power at IMF, but accounts for ~18% of the global population[83]

Ongoing challenges

Investment and trade

- **Many countries in Africa have low fiscal space reducing the potential for governments to provide sovereign guarantees or incentives into green growth**, and lower sovereign credit ratings and higher borrowing costs reduce attractiveness for investors
- **Few projects reach bankability,** primarily due to limited access to project preparation and early-stage support, small ticket sizes of the projects, and perceived currency and revenue risk
- **De-risking for new climate projects can be diluted without strict ring-fencing in place** which can mean in some cases concessional layers (e.g., partial guarantees, concessional debt) can be repurposed to cover commercial losses on unrelated portfolio assets
- **Intellectual property frameworks** restrict access to technology transfer

Carbon markets and carbon tax

- **There are several ongoing challenges in scaling up carbon markets and increasing confidence in them**. For example, several countries still face challenges in developing context-specific carbon market policy frameworks that align with their climate and development plans. Many countries lack the institutional arrangements and interministerial collaboration needed to effectively operationalise carbon markets. There is continued international perception that African credits are lower quality, less permanent, and more exposed to risk of human exploitation. There is a shortage of local project developers and seed funding to support the rollout of high-integrity carbon projects. There is a lack of foundational and technical knowledge on carbon markets

[83] https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/africa-leaders-see-extra-imf-seat-starting-block-bigger-voice-2024-10-31/

across government, private sector, and local communities, with a particular shortage of skilled professionals, such as verification auditors, carbon pricing legal experts, needed to support effective participation in carbon markets

- **Carbon tax creates political sensitivity due to increasing cost of living and fears of impacting economic competitiveness**. Additionally, there are concerns of fairness in applying global carbon tax between developed and developing nations

Debt

- **African countries continue to face higher borrowing costs** due to perceived higher risk, which may be influenced by non-transparent credit rating methodologies
- **Scaling up the use of local currency for sovereign debt is limited** by perceived higher currency risks such as higher interest rates or currency depreciation
- **Not all African countries have access to advanced debt sustainability analysis tools** or the capacity to use them effectively
- **Debt pause clauses have had limited adoption driven by limited technical expertise to negotiate these clauses effectively, and complexity of the Common Framework for Debt Treatments,** launched by G20 and the Paris Club in 2020, which is designed to coordinate debt restructuring in low-income countries, but does not yet include debt pause clauses
- **Few pre-emptive debt restructuring efforts have been completed and there has been little progress on securing 10-year grace periods**. This is driven by Africa's fragmented creditor landscape including multilateral institutions, bilateral, and commercial bondholders, where different creditors have different incentives, legal frameworks, and restructuring norms. Additionally, there is no global legal mechanism to obligate creditors to coordinate pre-default restructuring. Finally, there are few widely adopted instruments that embed long grace periods or automatic tenor extensions (e.g. state-contingent debt or hurricane clauses)
- **There has been inconsistent adoption of responsible lending principles across African countries** due to varying legal and regulatory frameworks

MDB reform

- **Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) remain unequally distributed, with 60% allocated to developed economies**, and current rechannelling mechanisms—especially via IMF trusts like the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT) and Resilience and Sustainability Trust (RST)— may restrict eligibility of many climate-vulnerable nations. For example, RST loans come with IMF policy conditions which have the potential to impede access to the rechannelled SDRs by low-and middle-income countries in Africa

- **On scaling up concessional finance from MDBs**, limited capital adequacy rules restrict how MDBs can leverage their balance sheets, however balance sheet optimisation can result in the reduction of new commitments from shareholders
- **Several challenges hinder the effective reduction of corporate tax losses** including many African tax administrations facing constraints in resources and expertise to effectively analyse and act upon complex tax avoidance schemes, existing tax treaties not adequately addressing modern profit shifting strategies in some cases, necessitating renegotiations or the development of new agreements, and the lack of comprehensive corporate filing requirements and public access to financial information in some African countries hampering efforts to detect and prevent profit shifting
- **Crowding in and de-risking private capital is hampered** by limited access to a concessional layer of funding to de-risk private investment, the complexity of structuring blended finance transactions and complex purchase commitment structures for green technologies, complex and unpredictable regulatory environments and fragmented industrial policies, an underestimation in some cases of the true cost of providing concessional capital resulting in failure to account for the risk-adjusted cost of funds leading to inefficient allocation, and high foreign exchange risk deterring investors despite partial foreign exchange guarantees

Priorities to consider for this year

Investment and trade

- Scale up capacity building of African policymakers and institutions on green fiscal policy tools and trade-off analysis (between investing upfront in the green transition versus paying for the impacts of climate change)
- Advocate for Africa's formal engagement in CBAM implementation discussions
- Advocate for changes to intellectual property rights rules with regards to climate and biodiversity to support green investment and innovation in Africa

Carbon markets and carbon tax

- Support countries to develop or refine integrated carbon market policy and regulatory frameworks that are high quality and align with NDCs and national climate and development strategies, including guidance on benefit sharing and safeguards
- Build technical capacity within national institutions to establish and manage carbon market implementation processes, and transparent asset registry infrastructure, including institutional capacity required to report NDCs and Article 6 activities

- Expand access to early-stage finance and technical assistance facilities tailored to local developers in priority sectors (e.g. clean cooking, agriculture etc)
- Call for governments around the world to develop policies and regulation to incentivise demand for high-integrity carbon credits
- Advocate for equitable design principles in any potential global carbon tax regime (e.g., differentiated responsibilities between developed and developing nations, equity in allocation of revenues)

Debt

- Encourage multilateral development banks to **allow countries choose between borrowing in foreign currency or linking repayments to their local currency** to reduce exchange rate risk
- **Scale up adoption of CRDCs and debt pause clauses** by strengthening technical capacity, e.g., via developing a regional facility to provide African countries with technical support for negotiating and incorporating debt pause clauses in debt agreements. Advocate for simpler procedures for debt sustainability analysis reviews under the Common Framework
- **Consider establishing a dedicated technical assistance facility to support countries in designing and negotiating debt restructuring agreements**, and enhancing regional coordination through the AU and AfDB to improve collective bargaining power. Advocate for countries to proactively pursue pre-emptive restructuring to avoid defaults and secure better terms
- **Advocate for the more universal adoption of existing principles for responsible sovereign lending,** and **enhance transparency in credit ratings**, e.g., by advocating for global credit rating agencies to disclose the 'qualitative' aspects of their rating methodologies, including specific criteria used for African sovereigns

MDB reform

- **Advocate for a reformulation of SDR allocation quotas via amending the IMF's Articles of Agreement**, with the goal of enabling future SDR allocations to be based on need. Advocate for reform of the RSF at the IMF. Call for RST eligibility criteria to be broadened to cover all climate vulnerable nations, regardless of income level, as well as those that do not already participate in an IMF programme[84]

[84] https://sustainablefinancelab.nl/wp-content/uploads/sites/334/2023/12/An-African-Perspective-on-IMF-Special-Drawing-Rights-Rechanneling-Proposals-Opportunities-and-Challenges.pdf

- **Continue to advocate for concessional finance to reach at least USD 500 billion annually**, as part of the overall NCQG goal of reaching USD 1.3tn of total annual climate finance (concessional and non-concessional)
- **Renegotiate and reform tax treaties with the goal of reducing the loss of corporate tax revenues**, including conducting tax treaty audits to estimate revenue impacts, pushing for source-based taxing rights in treaties, and strengthening domestic tax authority capacity incl. investing in training for BEPS risk assessment, and expanding use of country-by-country reporting tools
- **Scale up de-risking of private capital** for example by urging MDBs and development finance institutions (DFIs) to scale up partial credit guarantees for green projects to reduce borrowing costs, scaling up political risk insurance, ensuring private sector are involved in the design of GCF and GEF-funded projects, and creating a Regional Blended Finance Training Academy to equip African policymakers with the skills needed to design, negotiate, and implement blended finance transactions
- **Use COP30 and G20 as an opportunity** to leverage South-South engagement on multilateral financial reform

Adaptation

Clauses from the Nairobi Declaration relating to adaptation

22 We call for the **operationalization of the Loss & Damage fund** as agreed at COP27 and **resolve for a measurable Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA)** with indicators and targets to enable assessment of progress against negative impacts of climate change

46 **Accelerate implementation of the African Union Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan** (2022-2032)

39 **Identify, prioritize, and mainstream adaptation into development policy-making** and planning, including in the context of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

40 **Build effective partnerships between Africa and other regions,** to meet the needs for financial, technical and technological support, and knowledge sharing for climate change adaptation

42 **Strengthen early warning systems and climate information services**, as well as taking early action to protect lives, livelihoods and assets and inform long-term decision-making related to climate change risks. We emphasise the importance of embracing indigenous knowledge and citizen science in both adaptation strategies and early warning systems

44 **Enhance drought resilience systems to shift from crisis management to proactive drought preparedness and adaptation**, to significantly reduce drought vulnerability of people, economic activities, and ecosystems

45 **Further enhance our inclusive approach including through engagement and coordination** with the children, youth, women, persons living with disabilities, indigenous people, and communities in climate vulnerable situations

Status today in Africa and progress made since 2023

- **The Loss and Damage Fund was fully operationalized at COP29, with USD 768 million pledged so far** by 27 contributors[85]. Zero projects have been officially approved so far in Africa; the fund is expected to begin financing projects in 2025
- **An important milestone was marked on the Global Goal on Adaptation, with the establishment of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience at COP28** with 11 targets for tracking progress in GGA. COP 28 also launched a 2-year UAE-Belem work programme dedicated to developing indicators
- **Implementation of the AU Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan, adopted in 2022, has progressed** with several AU member states aligning their national implementation frameworks to this strategy and increasing funding being put towards adaptation on the continent, however many AU member states still lack national implementation frameworks
    - Continental initiatives complement and support the implementation, such as the Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program (AAAP), launched in 2021 and co-designed by the AfDB and the Global Center on Adaptation (GCA), which has so far mobilised USD 15 billion, strengthening resilience for 60 million people in more than 40 countries[86]. Continental initiatives such as the Africa Urban Resilience Programme, and Roots of African Resilience (ROAR) are supporting countries in scaling up adaptation and resilience programming

[85] https://unfccc.int/topics/climate-finance/funds-entities-bodies/fund-for-responding-to-loss-and-damage/pledges-to-the-fund-for-responding-to-loss-and-damage
[86] https://gca.org/programs/aaap/

- Regional strategies, such as ECOWAS' 2024–2050 Regional Resilience Strategy, provide a coordinated approach for the region to addressing climate vulnerabilities

- **Integration of adaptation into national development planning has gained traction**, **showing signs of mainstreaming beyond environment ministries, and several AU Member States have taken formal steps on their National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) steps since 2023, reflecting increased planning alignment with the UNFCCC**. For instance, Somalia's new National Climate Change Policy embeds adaptation across national development priorities[87], and Egypt's Climate Change Strategy 2050 explicitly aligns adaptation with economic growth[88]. Tunisia and Morocco are also aligning sectoral adaptation measures—such as in water and agriculture—with broader development goals, and Djibouti is also advancing its NAP

- **Several partnerships between Africa and other regions have scaled up with the goal of meeting the needs of climate change adaptation in Africa,** including the AAAP (mentioned above), and other partnerships such as the SIDS4 Conference in May 2024 which resulted in the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS), outlining actions to achieve resilient prosperity for SIDS by 2034, focusing on building resilient economies, fostering safe and prosperous societies, ensuring a secure future, and environmental protection

- **Africa has made important progress in expanding Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS), where the reach and quality doubled between 2015 and 2022 from 9 to 20 countries, however 55% of African countries still are not covered by effective early warning systems[89]**

  - At the multilateral level, the WMO's Early Warnings for All initiative was launched in 2023 with the goal of ensuring universal protection from climate-related disasters through life-saving early warning systems by the end of 2027, and the Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action System (AMHEWAS) was launched

  - At the national level, notable implementation is underway in Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Somalia, South Sudan, and Uganda. These countries, among others, are improving their ability to forecast and communicate climate risks like floods and droughts. For example, Ethiopia introduced a 2023-2027 national roadmap aimed at transforming fragmented and crisis-focused early warning systems into an integrated, proactive system that covers hazard monitoring, forecasting, risk assessment, communication, and preparedness across federal to community levels

[87] https://moecc.gov.so/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Somalia-National-Climate-Change-Policy-EN.pdf
[88] https://climate-laws.org/documents/egypt-national-climate-change-strategy-nccs-2050_8bfc
[89] UNDRR, Global Status of Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems 2023, https://www.undrr.org/reports/global-status-MHEWS-2023

- **On drought resilience systems, less than 20% of arable land in some countries is estimated to be covered by drought resilient practices, and 70% of arable land in Africa is estimated to be affected by drought[90].** Annual economic loss from drought as a share of GDP remains a pressing concern, estimated to be 1-2% of GDP annually in Africa, e.g., Malawi loses 1% of its GDP annually due to drought[91]. The number of farmers using drought resilient practices is increasing, with adoption rates estimated between 10-25% in some African countries including Tanzania, Angola, Ethiopia, Malawi, and Mozambique[92], and overall climate-smart agriculture adoption rates varying between 39% to 57% across different regions of the continent[93]. Several initiatives have been launched to scale drought resilience which include:
    - The **Great Green Wall**, launched by the AU in 2007, is a Pan-African initiative spanning the Sahel aimed at restoring degraded land, tackling desertification, and improving rural resilience. So far, it has rehabilitated around **30 million hectares** (about 30% of its 100 million ha target by 2030), sequestered carbon, and created approximately 3 million jobs through ecosystem restoration, agroforestry, and sustainable land management across more than 20 countries. However, it has been flagged that its 2030 targets may not be achieved[94]
    - The **World Food Programme's (WFP) Anticipatory Action programme** (launched originally in 2015) activated plans in 2023 ahead of the predicted 2023/2024 El Niño-induced drought in Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Lesotho, and Madagascar. WFP supported cash-based transfers, distribution of drought-tolerant seeds, and the dissemination of Last Mile Early Warning Messages (LMEWM), which involves the timely dissemination of weather alerts to communities, particularly in vulnerable areas, to enable them to act ahead of a predicated hazard. Ahead of the predicted impacts of the El Niño event, LMEWM reached over 1.2 million at-risk individuals allowing them to make risk-informed decisions and to protect their lives and livelihoods
    - **Kenya's Dryland Climate Action for Community Drought Resilience**, launched in 2023 with €18 million in EU funding, support the dissemination of drought-resilient crop varieties, particularly in arid and semi-arid areas. They are vital

[90] https://www.willagri.com/2024/10/29/adoption-of-drought-tolerant-crops-in-east-africa
[91] https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/640011479881661626/pdf/110423-WP-PDNAMalawispreadsFINAL-PUBLIC.pdf
[92] https://www.aatf-africa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Muinga-et-al.-2019_DroughtTEGO-Adoption-Kenya-1.pdf
[93] https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/sustainable-food-systems/articles/10.3389/fsufs.2025.1543805/full
[94] https://www.reuters.com/business/environment/africas-great-green-wall-miss-2030-goal-says-un-desertification-president-2024-06-12/

for sustaining yields during prolonged dry periods and for enhancing food and income security

- Financial innovations like the **AfDB's Africa Climate Risk Insurance Facility for Adaptation (ACRIFA)**, launched at ACS in 2023, aims to reduce the vulnerability of farmers by enabling them to access insurance products tailored to drought-related losses
- Regional cooperation is growing under the **International Drought Resilience Alliance**, launched in 2022

- **Progress has been made on increasing inclusivity of engagement and coordination with women, youth, children, persons living with disabilities, and communities on climate adaptation policymaking and project design, however limited progress has been made on increasing the share of climate finance allocated** to programmes targeting these groups. Examples of inclusion include:
  - **UNESCO's Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems (LINKS) programme** which focuses on integrating indigenous and local knowledge into climate adaptation, biodiversity management, and disaster risk reduction, has launched several initiatives in Africa, including the 2024 report on Climate change and Indigenous Peoples' knowledge in the Sahel[95]
  - **Kenya's National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) 2023–2027** included ten indigenous women with disabilities in the formulation of the plan, supported by AfDB's African Climate Change Fund[96]
  - A **regional training in Burundi** in 2024 focused on climate change and land governance, and was led by the Regional Platform on Indigenous Peoples and the National Land Coalition of Burundi, bringing together 42 indigenous youth and women from six African countries[97]

Ongoing challenges

- **Current Loss and Damage Fund pledges fall significantly short of the estimated USD 400 billion needed annually by 2030** to address loss and damage in developing countries, including those in Africa. Additionally, the access procedures are complex, there are concerns about the speed and efficiency of fund disbursement, with some

[95] https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000389568
[96] https://www.cemiride.org/indigenous-peoples-women-with-disabilities-participate-in-the-national-climate-change-action-plan-for-the-first-time/
[97] https://ogiekpeoples.org/redefining-the-place-of-indigenous-peopleswomen-and-youth-in-the-climate-change-and-land-governance-space-in-africa/

vulnerable nations fearing prolonged delays in receiving aid, and there is a lack of clear definition of what is considered Loss and Damage resulting in slow project approval

- **Since 2023, fewer than half of AU member states have submitted or updated their National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)** to the UNFCCC, with many NAPs remain in draft form, lacking final government approval or clear financing strategies. One of the major obstacles is the **limited technical capacity within governments** to complete these plans, alongside **limited coordination between ministries** responsible for climate, finance, and development, and sectors most vulnerable to climate impacts
- **Although progress has been made, adaptation remains insufficiently mainstreamed into national development frameworks or aligned with the AU Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan**. A significant number of African countries have yet to incorporate climate resilience into sectoral strategies and investment planning. Adaptation references in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are often general, without measurable targets or implementation pathways. National policies are not always aligned with the AU Strategy's core priorities, and the proportion of national budgets allocated to environmental and adaptation sectors remaining underfunded. Insufficient technical capacity within national institutions further complicates the situation, resulting in fragmented implementation and slow progress toward fully localized climate strategies. Many Member States operate without shared indicators, standardized reporting tools, or robust data systems
- **There is limited allocation of public funding toward adaptation in national budgets**. While some countries have taken initial steps, most African governments do not yet have dedicated budget lines or climate budget tagging mechanisms to track and scale adaptation investments. Budget planning does not always treat adaptation as a domestic development priority. Finance ministries typically lack the tools and capacity to assess adaptation costs or integrate them into fiscal policy. This limits the continent's ability to finance long-term resilience building and increases vulnerability to climate shocks
- **Although Africa receives 15-20% of global adaptation finance, it falls short of the estimated annual need of USD 50-70 billion annually**. Moreover, this funding is even less accessible in fragile states like South Sudan and Somalia. Challenges in accessing global climate finance mechanisms such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Adaptation Fund (AF), or Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), include limited support provided by these mechanisms to enable access to the funds, limited institutional capacity to prepare bankable proposals, challenges navigating complex application processes, and the absence of clear regional strategies to pool adaptation investment. Private sector engagement remains low, as adaptation is not perceived as commercially viable, and inclusive, locally driven approaches especially those involving women and youth are still underdeveloped in project design and

implementation. Language barriers especially for Francophone, Lusophone, and Arabic-speaking nations further limit access to support

- **Most technology transfers remain limited to small-scale pilots with minimal scalability or localization, and African institutions frequently play secondary roles in joint research initiatives**. Addressing these gaps requires fostering African-led research and innovation ecosystems, expanding South–South cooperation, and developing regional platforms for data sharing
- **On early warning systems, despite progress, only 40% of Africa's population is currently covered by effective early warning systems**. Many countries face challenges such as limited infrastructure, outdated forecasting tools, and underfunded meteorological services. Furthermore, the integration of indigenous knowledge and citizen science remains minimal. Strengthening these areas will be vital to ensuring accessible, inclusive, and responsive climate services continent-wide. In addition, early warning systems often are not tailored towards conflict-affected, fragile countries - there is a need to have conflict indicators and datasets shared with climate monitoring systems
- **On drought resilience, many African countries still face significant challenges due to outdated weather forecasting systems and inadequate early warning coverage**. Additionally, the majority of drought funding goes towards post-drought relief and reconstruction with only 5% globally going towards disaster preparation, emphasizing a need for increased investment in proactive measures[98]. Furthermore, the underutilization of indigenous knowledge systems in drought planning represents a missed opportunity to enhance local adaptation
- **Scaling agricultural resilience is a challenge, with less than 20% of arable land in some regions under drought-resilient practices, and only a small proportion of farmers using drought-tolerant seed varieties.** Barriers include high input costs, lack of extension services, and limited awareness of climate-smart agriculture. This has left large areas of agricultural land highly exposed to drought shocks, contributing to recurring food insecurity. Targeted investment to scale adoption through subsidies, research support, and market linkages is required
- **African nations have made some progress in recognizing the need for inclusive climate governance, however participation of women, youth, indigenous peoples, and persons living with disabilities (PLWD) remains low**. Limited capacity-building efforts and a lack of inclusive financing exacerbate these gaps. Existing programmes are often short-lived, underfunded, and inaccessible to those in remote areas. Without deliberate action to make financing more equitable and accessible, efforts to mainstream inclusion will fall short of their potential impact

[98] https://www.unccd.int/sites/default/files/2023-08/Policy%20Brief_Drought%20Finance_August%202023.pdf

Priorities to consider for this year

- **Emphasize the need for substantial financial commitments to the Loss and Damage Fund**, aiming for contributions that reflect the scale of climate-induced losses on the continent. Call for streamlined and transparent mechanisms that allow African countries, especially the most vulnerable communities, to access funds swiftly and efficiently, and advocate for a clearer definition of loss and damage
- **Scale up mainstreaming of adaptation into development policy-making and accelerate the implementation of the AU Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan,** by encouraging all AU member states to submit or update their NAPs, including aligning national plans with regional economic community (REC) strategies, and the AU Climate Strategy and Action Plan to ensure coherence in adaptation priorities. Call for prioritising the integration of adaptation across key sectors such as agriculture, health, water, infrastructure, and urban development, and encourage countries to update their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
- **Scale up access to multilateral climate finance and institutionalise adaptation in public budgeting.** Call for strengthening of the enabling environment for accessing multilateral climate funds, including building proposal development capacity, improving coordination among stakeholders, considering an AU-wide support facility, and ensuring conflict-affected countries have means of accessing the funds. Call for widespread adoption of tools in public budgeting such as Climate Budget Tagging to systematically track and prioritize adaptation financing, and for Ministries of Finance to be supported in embedding climate-proofing in public investment management systems and infrastructure programs
- **Continue prioritising building inclusive adaptation partnerships including women, youth, children, indigenous people, persons living with disabilities, and communities** that strengthen Africa's leadership in climate resilience. Institute reliable metrics on the percentage of these groups in climate governance structures to increase accountability, and institutionalise multi-stakeholder platforms, embedding inclusion in governance frameworks
- **Call for increasing the proportion of Africa's population covered by Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS), especially in LDCs, fragile states, and remote areas**. Tailor early warning systems to conflict-affected states by integrating conflict datasets with climate monitoring systems, as well as integrating indigenous knowledge and community leadership into planning processes. Promote the modernization of national meteorological and hydrological services (NMHSs) through sustainable financing and policy support, investments in training, digital tools, and localized forecast production including local languages and visualisation. Encourage

more countries to integrate climate risk into national planning systems, including developing Early Action Protocols (EAPs) with pre-defined triggers and funding pathways, and embedding early warning in social protection schemes

- **Call for a shift from reactive drought responses to proactive resilience and adaptation strategies**, including drought resilient agriculture and infrastructure. Push for increased adoption of drought-tolerant crop varieties, water harvesting systems, and solar-powered irrigation, especially among smallholder farmers, who are most vulnerable to climate shocks. Call for harmonisation of drought monitoring and early warning efforts at the regional level, especially across shared ecosystems like the Sahel and the Horn of Africa

Nature

Clauses from the Nairobi Declaration relating to nature

33 **Finalise and implement the African Union Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan**, with the view to realizing the 2050 vision of living in harmony with nature

25 **Focus our economic development plans on** climate-positive growth, including … **essential protection and enhancement of nature and biodiversity**

27 **Strengthen actions to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, deforestation, and desertification**, as well as restore degraded lands to achieve land degradation neutrality; and implement the Abidjan declaration on achieving gender equality for successful land restoration

32 **Contribute to the development of global standards, metrics, and market mechanisms to accurately value and compensate for the protection of nature, biodiversity**, socio-economic co-benefits, and the provision of climate services

36 **Integrate climate, biodiversity and ocean agendas into national development plans** and processes to increase resilience of local communities and national economies

59 **We call for revaluation of the Gross Domestic Product of Africa through the proper valuation of its abundant natural capital and ecosystem services** including but not limited to its vast forests that sequester carbon to unlock new sources of wealth for Africa. This will entail the use of natural resource accounting and development of national accounting standards

Status today in Africa and progress made since 2023

- **The AU launched its Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan** (ABSAP, 2023–2030) which is directly aligned with Agenda 2063 and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), calling for urgent action to reverse biodiversity loss and mainstream ecosystem-based approaches into development planning. The AU Commission has initiated the development of annexes focusing on resource mobilization and implementation strategies
- **A growing share of African national development plans and visions now explicitly reference nature and biodiversity**, e.g., Uganda's National Biodiversity and Action Plan (NBSAP) III (2025–2030) is an integral part of its National Development Plan IV and Vision 2040, explicitly linking biodiversity conservation to socio-economic development[99]
- **However, only 8 African countries have drafted or submitted updated NBSAPs** (e.g., Burkina Faso, Burundi, Libya, Mauritania, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda), and across the continent they show mixed performance with gaps in having clear action plans in place and conducting implementation[100]
- **Progress has been made on scaling actions to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, deforestation, and desertification, as well as restore degraded lands to achieve land degradation neutrality, particularly through the 30x30 initiative** (a global commitment launched in 2022 aiming to protect and effectively manage at least 30% of Earth's land and ocean areas by 2030)**, and the AFR100 initiative** (the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative, launched in 2015 and seeking to restore 100 million hectares of degraded and deforested land in Africa by 2030):
    - **Under 30x30, Africa currently protects ~19% of landscapes, and 17% of seascapes[101].** For example, Kenya launched the 15 billion tree initiative, with

[99] https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/uga231171.pdf
[100] https://wwf.panda.org/act/nbsap_tracker_check_your_countrys_nature_progress/
[101] https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/10.1098/rstb.2023.0443

over 600 million trees planted by now and forest cover which has increased to 8.83% out of the 10% target by 2030. South Africa has surpassed the halfway mark toward its 30x30 target, where, as of mid-2024, 16.75% of its land and marine areas are under protection

- **AFR100 has had 34 African countries join, collectively committing to restore approximately 129.5 million hectares of degraded land[102].** Kenya is actively engaged in AFR100, and has doubled its original commitment of restoring 5.1 million ha to 10.6 million ha, alongside its national Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan 2023-2027 (FOLAREP). Very few restoration programmes have been intentionally designed with gender-responsive frameworks

- **On the development of global standards, metrics, and market mechanisms to accurately value and compensate for the protection of nature and biodiversity, there has been growth in carbon markets across the continent, nascent approaches to biodiversity credit markets, and frameworks implemented for ecosystem services.**
  - On carbon markets, ~12-14 African countries have regulations in place or are in the process of developing them, where Ghana stands out with an advanced carbon market architecture including Letters of Authorization (LoA), Corresponding Adjustments (CA), and bilateral agreements under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement (e.g., with Switzerland, Sweden, and Singapore)
  - There are currently no biodiversity credit markets at the national level in Africa, however there are 30 biodiversity credit projects mapped across Africa in early stages of development[103]
  - On ecosystem services, there are 20 African countries with operational frameworks that integrate climate services into national planning and decision-making

- **Since the launch of the AU Blue Economy Strategy in 2020**, **several countries have incorporated ocean and blue economy priorities into their national development plans,** such as South Africa's Operation Phakisa and Mozambique's marine-focused tourism strategy. Progress includes the ratification of the **Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Treaty** by 8 African countries since 2023 (incl. Seychelles, Maldives, Mauritius, Malawi, Mauritania, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia)[104], where the treaty aims to protect and sustainably manage biodiversity in the high seas, which lie outside national exclusive economic zones (EEZs) and make up nearly two-thirds of the ocean. Additionally, the **100% Alliance for Sustainable Ocean**

[102] https://www.globallandscapesforum.org/publication/afr100-programme-funding/
[103] https://www.naturefinance.net/resources-tools/investing-in-africa-investing-in-nature-2/
[104] http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XXI-10&chapter=21&clang=_en

Management launched in 2024, has had commitments from Kenya, Seychelles, Ghana, and Namibia, and advocates for all coastal and ocean states to sustainably manage 100% of their national waters by 2030[105]

- **On the call for the revaluation of the GDP of Africa through the proper valuation of Africa's abundant natural capital and ecosystem services**, 17 African countries are developing national accounting strategies[106]. Examples include South Africa which released its first 10-year National Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) Strategy in June 2021, aiming to integrate NCA into national planning and decision-making processes, Kenya has launched the implementation of the UN framework for ecosystem accounting, and Ghana has developed a National Plan for Natural Capital Accounting[107]. Additionally, the African Leadership University has been leading some biodiversity assessments (e.g., in Zimbabwe via African Wildlife Foundation)
- **There has been an increase in the number of debt agreements based on nature and sustainability, including Gabon, Cape Verde, and Seychelles**. For example, Gabon completed a sovereign debt-for-nature swap in August 2023, executing a USD 500 million "blue bond" transaction, refinancing USD 436 million of its international bonds, and expecting to generate approximately USD 163 million for marine conservation over a 15-year period, marking the first such transaction in Africa. Cape Verde entered into a debt-for-climate agreement with Portugal in January 2023. Under this arrangement, €12 million of debt repayments scheduled until 2025 will be redirected into an environmental and climate fund established by Cape Verde. Seychelles completed a debt swap in 2015 followed by a blue bond in 2018. Furthermore, as of September 2024 at least five African countries have been planning the world's first joint "debt-for-nature" swap, which aims to secure at least USD 2 billion for protecting the marine environment in the Indian Ocean, aligning with the Great Blue Wall plan[108]

Ongoing challenges

- **Challenges in finalising and implementing the AUBSAP include limited domestic financing for implementation, limited monitoring and biodiversity indicators**, limited

[105] https://oceanpanel.org/members/
[106] https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/208acc0da8426db139f54893110e5382-0320072023/original/Background-Paper-NCA-to-Inform-Climate-Biodiversity-and-Development-Policies-in-Africa.pdf
[107] https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/208acc0da8426db139f54893110e5382-0320072023/original/Background-Paper-NCA-to-Inform-Climate-Biodiversity-and-Development-Policies-in-Africa.pdf
[108] https://www.reuters.com/business/environment/african-countries-eye-worlds-first-joint-debt-for-nature-swap-2024-09-26/

mainstreaming of biodiversity policies across other sectors, and limited natural capital accounting and ecosystem services valuation

- **There are still challenges in integrating nature and biodiversity into national development plans, and finalising NBSAPs.** This can be driven by siloed policymaking in some cases, where economic ministries operate separately from environmental ones. Countries have not been able to submit updated NBSAPs due to lack of finance for biodiversity and conservation, and limited data infrastructure (an estimated ~70% of African countries lack ability to collect biodiversity data)[109]. Additionally, trade agreements under AfCFTA and RECs do not always include clauses on nature and biodiversity
- **On strengthening action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, deforestation, and desertification there are still challenges to address to be able to meet the targets of initiatives such as 30x30 and AFR100**. To meet the 30x30 goal, Africa would need to designate an additional 2.6 million square kms —roughly the size of the Democratic Republic of the Congo—as protected areas[110]. Implementation is curtailed by lack of land management plans, or where plans exist they are not always followed (in some cases due to land tenure insecurity in restoration areas). There is slow progress on AFR100, partly driven by capacity challenges including technological monitoring and reporting, mapping areas that have potential for restoration, and insecurity in regions such as the Sahel that impedes progress. While the Abidjan Declaration emphasizes gender equality in land restoration, many countries have yet to fully integrate gender-responsive approaches
- **Overall lack of comprehensive and harmonised biodiversity data** across Africa hinders effective policymaking and monitoring
- **Scaling up standards, metrics, and market mechanisms to accurately value and compensate for the protection of nature and biodiversity requires addressing challenges in developing carbon markets and biodiversity credit markets.** For carbon markets, these include in particular ensuring carbon market regulations have safeguards for nature and biodiversity. For biodiversity credit markets, there is an absence of comprehensive policy, legislation, and regulation specific to biodiversity credits and low demand for these credits
- **On integrating ocean agendas into national development plans there is currently limited ocean literacy, resulting in limited public funding, limited policy coherence** and consistency at national or regional levels, and limited pan-African dialogue platforms to elevate the ocean agenda and unlock necessary partnerships

[109] Estimate shared by Nature thematic working group

[110] https://news.mongabay.com/podcast/as-africa-eyes-protected-areas-expansion-of-1-million-square-miles-concerns-over-brutal-enforcement-persist

- **On GDP revaluation the practice of natural capital accounting is widely practiced and standardised but it is not translating into widespread financial transactions based on nature stocks and flows**. It is not fully institutionalised in Treasury and economic planning, and there are technical and capacity gaps remaining

Priorities to consider for this year

- **Endorse the G20 bioeconomy agenda** which encapsulates the sustainable use of renewable biological resources with tech to drive green growth and green jobs, and supports the overall framework of the AUBSAP
- **Focus on increasing the number of national and regional developments plans that reference nature and biodiversity**, and include measures of finance flowing to nature or ecosystem projects, call for greater analysis of trade-offs in investing in nature-based solutions or ecosystem projects upfront rather than outcomes of nature-based disasters, increase references to addressing human-wildlife conflict to avert further habitat loss, and ensure trade agreements include criteria and incentives for nature positive commodities and services
- **Support countries to continue to develop NBSAPs,** including clear, timebound, and measurable action plans, and call for allowing adequate funds for implementation of action plans, including developing benefit-sharing frameworks with communities
- **Call for scaling up support for halting and reversing biodiversity loss, deforestation, and desertification, committing to urgently scale up 30x30 and AFR100 goals** through supporting the development and implementation of land management plans, integrating indigenous and local knowledge into conservation strategies, mainstreaming gender into land restoration funding and training, and committing to scaling up capacity building with a main focus on technological monitoring and reporting
- **Scale up comprehensive and harmonised biodiversity data collection** across the continent
- **Scale up market mechanisms for accurately valuing and compensating for the protection of nature and biodiversity,** including supporting the development of carbon market regulations that include the development of ecosystem restoration projects, safeguards for nature and biodiversity, and clear community benefit sharing. Scale up the development of biodiversity credit markets including improved governance and land use planning based on ecosystem mapping, and call for the scale up of biodiversity credits in debt-for-nature swaps and sustainability-linked debt arrangements. Embed ecosystem services value into decision-making and ensure valuation process includes community participation

- **Support countries to integrate oceans into national and subnational policies as well as call for further countries to ratify the BBNJ Treaty, commit to the 100% Alliance, and support the International Platform for Ocean Sustainability** (IPOS). Establish fiscal and economic policies and incentives to unlock private sector investment into the regenerative blue economy, develop national and regional blue carbon policies adopting a similar model than the renewable energy sector, and strengthen cross-regional partnerships on oceans, as well as interministerial coordination frameworks
- **Scale up natural capital valuation assessments as well as natural capital accounting strategies, and call for GDP to be rebased on natural capital valuation**. Integrate NCA into national treasury and budgeting tools, and expand NCA training and data infrastructure across the continent

Energy

Clauses from the Nairobi Declaration relating to energy

25 **Focus our economic development plans on climate-positive growth, including expansion of just energy transitions and renewable energy generation for industrial activity...**

26 **Promote clean cooking technologies and initiatives** as a just energy transition and gender equality for African rural women, youth, and children

28 **Strengthen continental collaboration, which is essential to enabling and advancing green growth, including but not limited to regional and continental grid interconnectivity**, and further accelerating the operationalization of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement

29 **Advance green industrialization across the continent by prioritizing energy-intense industries to trigger a virtuous cycle of renewable energy deployment and economic activity**, with a special emphasis on adding value to Africa's natural endowments

34 Provide all the necessary reforms and support required to **raise the share of renewable energy financing to at least 20 percent by 2030**

49i We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: i) **Increase Africa's renewable generation capacity from 56 Giga Watts (GW) in 2022 to at least 300 GW by 2030**, both to address energy poverty and to bolster the global supply of cost-effective clean energy for industry

49ii We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: ii) **Shift exports of energy intensive primary processing of Africa's raw material back to the continent**, to serve as an anchor demand for our renewable energy and a means of rapidly reducing global emissions

49vi We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: vi) **Accelerate efforts to decarbonize the transport, industrial and electricity sectors** through the use of smart, digital and highly efficient technologies such as green hydrogen, synthetic fuels and battery storage.

Status today in Africa and progress made since 2023

- **Progress has been made on focusing economic development plans on just energy transitions and renewable energy generation for industrial activity, for example Mission 300 was launched in January 2025** as a USD 50 billion initiative led by the World Bank and AfDB to enable access to renewable energy for 300 million people across the continent by 2030, of the total 600 million who lack access to electricity today. So far 12 countries have developed national energy compacts to lay out commitments towards Mission 300, and the Dar es Salaam Declaration was adopted at the AU
- **For clean cooking, the number of people without access in Sub-Saharan Africa is growing at a rate of nearly 20 million people per year, where gains have not kept up with the region's population growth. However, significant strides have been made since 2023** – these include:
    - **The clean cooking sector in Africa has reached heightened global attention**. At the inaugural Summit on Clean Cooking in Africa in 2024—co-chaired by Tanzania, Norway, the AfDB, and the International Energy Agency (IEA)—governments and private sector actors pledged an unprecedented USD 2.2

billion to accelerate access to clean cooking across the continent. For the first time, clean cooking was included on the G7 agenda and recognized as a priority in the G20 Energy Transition Agenda. Clean cooking was also featured in high-level events at COP28 and COP29, calling for prioritized investments in clean cooking infrastructure and supportive policies that enable access to affordable and sustainable cooking solutions for all

- **Investment in clean cooking has seen steady growth since 2023, especially due to carbon finance**. The Clean Cooking Alliance's (CCA) Industry Snapshot tracked an increase in annual investment among CCA-supported companies from approximately USD 200 million in 2023 to USD 218 million in 2024
- **African governments have increasingly prioritized clean cooking in energy planning**. A key milestone was the launch of Mission 300, which integrates clean cooking as a vital component of its broader energy access strategy. The first set of national Mission 300 Energy Compacts all include explicit clean cooking goals. Another major government initiative has been CCA's Delivery Units Network, a platform designed to provide tailored support to national governments seeking to achieve ambitious clean cooking transitions. In 2024, Kenya and Sierra Leone launched their Delivery Units with aims to establish at least 10 Delivery Units across Africa in the coming years
- **Since 2023, the Women in Clean Cooking Mentorship Program has supported over 153 young women across Africa and Southeast Asia,** providing mentorship and professional development for women in early and mid-management positions, entrepreneurs, and others working in the clean cooking ecosystem

- **On regional and continental grid interconnectivity, the first draft of Africa's Continental Master Plan (CMP) for regional electricity interconnectivity was completed by the end of 2023[111], and the implementation (Phase III) was launched in January 2025 at the Africa Energy Summit[112].** CMP provides a strategic masterplan for interconnecting Africa's five regional power pools (CAPP, COMELEC, EAPP, SAPP, WAPP). It guides continent-wide planning for generation and transmission infrastructure to support the African Single Electricity Market (AfSEM), inaugurated in 2021 and aiming to integrate electricity markets across all 55 AU countries. African

[111] https://www.nepad.org/publication/african-continental-power-systems-masterplan-cmp-phase-iii and https://www.afdb.org/sites/default/files/documents/projects-and-operations/multinational_-_continental_power_system_masterplan_project_-_technical_assistance_program_-_p-z1-f00-124_-_ipr_december_2024.pdf

[112] https://www.nepad.org/news/launch-of-phase-3-of-continental-power-systems-masterplan-why-should-it-matter

grid interconnectivity has been made a priority of the South African Presidency of the G20 in 2025

- **The Africa Green Industrialisation Initiative (AGII) was launched in December 2023 at COP29 and aims to accelerate green industrial development across Africa, with 9+ African countries committing to participate**. This shift is critical as Africa's demand for power is projected to surge over the coming decades, more than 2x by 2030 and 8x by 2050, driven primarily by growth in industry, particularly in sectors like fertilizers, cement, and clean tech manufacturing[113]. For example, Egypt has significantly increased the production and export of energy-intensive commodities like cement, fertilizers, and chemicals, doubling exports from 2022 to 2024 and increasing them by 350% since 2019
- **Africa has increased its renewable energy generation capacity with ~62 GW installed by 2025, showing an increase of 6 GW since 2022 and a path towards the 300 GW target by 2030 as set out in the Nairobi Declaration[114]**. Several large-scale projects have commenced since 2023, with nearly 2 GW of utility-scale solar commissioned in Africa in 2024[115], including Egypt's Benban Solar Park (1.6 GW), South Africa's Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP), and Algeria's Tafouk Mega Solar Project. However, the current average share of renewable energy in the generation mix in Africa is 25% which is lower than the global share at 39%[116]
- **On scaling up energy intensive primary processing, currently over 80% of Africa's exports are raw materials and commodities with minimal value addition locally**[117], and the continent accounts for 2% of global manufacturing[118]. There is emerging local refining in Zambia (copper), Zimbabwe (lithium), among other countries, but it is still at an early stage. Industrial zones often lack sufficient renewable energy supply or reliable grids to anchor green industrial growth
- **The value of renewable energy investment in Africa in 2023 was USD 36.6 billion, marking a 12% increase since the previous year**[119]**, although this still only makes up**

[113] https://www.seforall.org/system/files/2023-01/%5BFINAL%5D%2020220115_ZOD_SEForAll_AfricanManufacturingReport.pdf

[114] https://www.irena.org//media/Files/IRENA/Agency/Publication/2025/Mar/IRENA_DAT_RE_Capacity_Statistics_2025.pdf

[115] https://www.frontierafricareports.com/article/african-utilityscale-solar-rebounds-strongly-much

[116] https://ember-energy.org/countries-and-regions/africa

[117] https://unctad.org/publication/state-commodity-dependence-2021; https://www.voronoiapp.com/trade/-Raw-Materials-and-Commodities-Dominate-Africas-Exports-3621

[118] https://www.fiw.ac.at/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/65_FIW_PB-EU-Africa_2025-01-08_final.pdf

[119] Temidayo Alex-Oke, Olusola Bamisile, Dongsheng Cai, Humphrey Adun, Chiagoziem Chima Ukwuoma, Samaila Ado Tenebe, Qi Huang, Renewable energy market in Africa: Opportunities, progress, challenges, and future

less than one quarter of total energy investment in Africa with the remainder being focused on fossil fuel supply or power, and grids, storage or end use[120]. Several initiatives were launched including the Accelerated Partnership for Renewables in Africa (APRA) which was launched at the inaugural ACS and hosted the first investment forum in 2024 resulting in projects worth USD 2.6 billion[121], and the Scaling Up Renewables in Africa campaign, launched in November 2024 by European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa

- **There has been mixed progress on scaling up green hydrogen, synthetic fuels and battery storage**:
    - **For green hydrogen, since 2023, Africa has seen a surge in green hydrogen project announcements**, particularly in Egypt, Morocco, Mauritania, Algeria, and Namibia[122]. By 2030, 34 green hydrogen projects are planned across seven African countries, with project sizes ranging from 3.5 MW to 6.9 GW. Mauritania stands out with three giga-scale projects totalling 7 GW, including the Nour and Aman projects—two of the world's largest planned green hydrogen export projects[123]. **However, 89% of these African projects are still at the concept or feasibility stage[124]**, and only two have reached a final investment decision and are under construction. Only one small-scale project (3.5 MW in South Africa) is currently operational
    - **For synthetic fuels there are no dedicated large-scale sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) refineries currently, but it widely considered that South Africa has potential**[125]. Other African countries, such as Kenya and Nigeria, are initiating SAF projects and collaborations, but these are in early development and not yet at the stage of operating dedicated SAF refineries[126]. **Biofuels are being produced in some countries such as Nigeria** (e.g., Mocoh Sustainable Energy Trading)
    - **Africa's battery energy storage market is experiencing rapid growth**, with the Middle East and Africa market valued at USD 16.35 billion in 2024 and projected to reach USD 56.83 billion by 2032, growing at a CAGR of nearly 17%, **however Africa's share of global battery storage capacity is less than 1%**[127]. Mini-grids are

prospects, May 2025, Energy Strategy Reviews: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2211467X2500063X

[120] IEA, World Energy Investment 2024 – Africa https://www.iea.org/reports/world-energy-investment-2024/africa

[121] https://furtherafrica.com/2024/11/21/apra-investment-forum-unlocks-us2-6b-for-africas-renewable-energy/

[122] https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2025/03/27/3050357/28124/en/Middle-East-and-Africa-Hydrogen-Market-Report-2025-Hydrogen-Boom-in-MEA-23-5-mtpa-Pipeline-Signals-Export-Ambitions.html

[123] https://www.nature.com/articles/s41560-025-01768-y

[124] https://www.nature.com/articles/s41560-025-01768-y

[125] https://www.iata.org/en/pressroom/2024-releases/2024-07-03-01/

[126] https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/aviation-partners-africa-weekly-blog-wk12-2025-4p5sc/

[127] IEA Africa Energy Outlook 2022: https://www.iea.org/reports/africa-energy-outlook-2022

the largest consumers of battery storage, making up 40% of the market, but uptake is expanding to larger buildings, industrial facilities, and residential users seeking backup power during grid outages[128]

Ongoing challenges

- **Several gaps and challenges remain in scaling up clean cooking**. While investment in clean cooking companies has grown to more than USD 200 million a year, it remains far short of the USD 10 billion needed globally every year to achieve universal access. Many African countries still lack comprehensive policies and regulations to integrate clean cooking solutions into national energy strategies or NDCs. Inadequate supply chains and market access for clean cooking solutions remain significant barriers, particularly in rural areas where demand is high, but distribution networks are limited. Insufficient data on clean cooking usage, impacts, and progress limit the ability to track progress effectively
- **Scaling up regional grid interconnectivity is slowed due to different pricing methodology differences, regulatory fragmentation, technical mismatches, and low payment capacity of utilities.** Pricing methodologies may vary between countries within the same power pool resulting in inefficient pricing, and often there is a lack of ability for private institutions to pay directly for imported electricity. There are sometimes technical mismatches between high-capacity interconnectors and receiving countries' internal transmission networks (e.g., Burkina Faso-Ghana interconnector has a higher capacity than what Burkina Faso's transmission system can receive)[129]
- **Advancing green industrialisation faces challenges including accessing reliable base load electricity and energy infrastructure**, **high cost of new technologies and lack of affordable financing options**, and inadequate sequencing between energy generation and offtake projects
- **Lack of credit worthiness and bankability of utilities, as well as in some cases non-transparent procurement processes,** limits investment into renewable energy generation

Priorities to consider for this year

- **Ensure ACS priorities align with G20 priorities** which include energy security, energy transitions, and regional connectedness

[128] https://www.inonafrica.com/2025/03/18/africas-growing-energy-storage-capacity-is-key-to-energy-self-sufficiency/

[129] https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099458412022434923/pdf/SECBOS1a6a653d09d1b6cf1b545d1777b15.pdf

- **Place energy transition at the core of economic strategies**, and continue to develop national energy compacts under Mission 300 ensuring clear implementation plans
- **Reduce investment risk in renewable energy generation by opening up the market, allowing for peer-to-peer trading, and providing reliable price signals.** This may include introducing regulation, allowing IPPs to trade, and third-party access to the grid. Additionally, advocate for increased transparency and competitiveness in procurement processes, and sequence renewable energy investment with offtake projects
- **Scale up regional interconnectivity by harmonising pricing methodologies** (e.g., implement regional transmission pricing methodologies), **harmonising other legal and regulatory frameworks, setting up a clearing house, and increasing ability to enforce regional rules**. The AfCFTA can support harmonisation of technical standards, regulatory frameworks across member states, and promote power-sharing agreements. Support implementation of the CMP and AfSEM, by prioritising strategic interconnectors, and supporting modernisation of national grids and transmission lines
- **Scale up green industrialisation and primary processing by expanding energy storage and grid infrastructure, expanding investment into manufacturing equipment for renewable energy supply chains** (e.g., transformers, cables, pylons, etc.), aggregating demand for energy and green industry at a national and multinational scale, implementing targeted fiscal incentives, and promoting technology transfer
- **Advocate for a step-by-step approach to scaling local production** starting with upstream production steps (e.g., cathodes and anodes for battery production, establishing a lithium supply chain), with a longer-term vision of producing increasingly more downstream production
- **Catalyse scaled, coordinated investment in clean cooking transitions** using innovative financing tools such as results-based financing and carbon finance, and calling for African countries to integrate clean cooking into their NDCs, climate policies and strategies, and gender equality agendas, as doing so can accelerate progress across multiple Sustainable Development Goals

Green minerals and manufacturing

Clauses from the Nairobi Declaration relating to green minerals and manufacturing

24 Propel Africa's economic growth and job creation in a manner that reflects our commitments to the Paris Agreement and also aids global decarbonization efforts, by **leapfrogging the traditional progression of industrial development and fostering green production and supply chains on a global scale**

29 **Advance green industrialization across the continent** by prioritizing energy-intense industries to trigger a virtuous cycle of renewable energy deployment and economic activity, with a special emphasis on adding value to Africa's natural endowments

30 **Promote investments in reskilling** to unlock the human capital that will power for Africa's inclusive green transition

35 **Promote the production of green hydrogen and hydrogen derivatives** such as green fertilizer and synthetic fuels

49iii We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: iii) **Access to, and transfer of environmentally sound technologies**, including technologies to support Africa's green industrialisation and transition.

49iv We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: iv) **Design global and regional trade mechanisms** in a manner that enables products from Africa to compete on fair and equitable terms.

49vii We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: vii) **Design industry policies that incentivize global investment to locations that offer the most and substantial climate benefits**, while ensuring benefits for local communities.

Status today in Africa and progress made since 2023

- **Investment flows for green industrialisation have been increasing, however remain significantly short of requirements.** Climate finance overall in Africa surged in 2022 after stagnating in 2020 and 2021 amid the economic fallout of the COVID-19 crisis. Africa has seen a 48% increase in climate finance flows from USD 29.5 billion in 2019/20 to USD 43.7 billion in 2021/22, and private sector finance almost doubled between 2019/20 and 2021/22. However, Africa's climate finance flows must at least quadruple annually until 2030 to meet the investment needs for implementing its countries' current NDCs[130]
- **Africa is home to 30-40% of the world's minerals, including critical minerals for the green energy transition such as cobalt, manganese, lithium, and platinum[131]. The African Green Minerals Strategy (AGMS) was launched in 2024**, **several countries are starting to develop stronger local benefit sharing agreements, and investment is flowing into export logistics**.
    - The AGMS provides a roadmap for harnessing Africa's mineral wealth to drive value addition at source, regional industrialization, and climate resilience.
    - Some countries have started to create stronger benefit sharing and domestic value retention strategies and agreements for the extraction of critical

[130] CPI. 2024. Landscape of Climate Finance in Africa 2024. https://www.climatepolicyinitiative.org/publication/landscape-of-climate-finance-in-africa-2024/

[131] https://www.uneca.org/stories/africa%E2%80%99s-critical-mineral-resources,-a-boon-for-intra-african-trade-and-regional-integration and https://mo.ibrahim.foundation/sites/default/files/2022-11/minerals-resource-governance.pdf

minerals, for example Nigeria since 2024 issues new mining licenses only to companies that process minerals locally[132], and Uganda created a state-owned miner to hold 15% government equity stake in all mining projects since its 2022 Mining Law[133]

- Investments have been made to improve infrastructure to enable the trade and processing of green minerals, such as the Lobito Corridor which connects the coast of Angola to Zambia, and may be extended into Tanzania, to improve minerals exports across Southern Africa. Construction is ongoing and the initial phase is expected to be completed in 2029

- **Green industrialisation has been growing across the continent, and major initiatives have been introduced since 2023 to scale green production and supply chains, such as the Africa Green Industrialisation Initiative (AGII),** which was launched in 2023 and at the African Heads of and Government Summit on Climate Change at the AU in February 2025, the AfCFTA agreed to support the implementation of AGII. This shift is critical as Africa's demand for power is projected to surge over the coming decades, more than 2x by 2030 and 8x by 2050, driven primarily by growth in industry, particularly in sectors like fertilizers, cement, and clean tech manufacturing[134]. For example, Egypt has significantly increased the production and export of energy-intensive, and greenhouse-gas intensive commodities like cement, fertilizers, and chemicals, doubling exports from 2022 to 2024 and increasing them by 350% since 2019[135]

- **Countries with higher levels of green industrialisation include Tanzania, Morocco, Tunisia, South Africa, and Cabo Verde, while countries with lower levels include Niger, Nigeria, Algeria, Zimbabwe, and Burundi**. This is based on the Global Green Growth Institute's (GGGI) Green Growth Index, where Africa's scores range from 24 to 56 out of 100, compared to the Americas whose scores range from 30 to 62, Asia's from 26 to 62, and Europe's from 32 to 79[136]

- **Access to reliable renewable baseload electricity – power sources capable of continuous, uninterrupted operation - is critical to scaling green industry. Currently, 25% of Africa's electricity generation comes from renewable sources (lower than the**

[132] https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/nigeria-grant-mining-licences-only-companies-that-process-locally-2024-03-28/
[133] https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/uganda-sets-up-state-owned-firm-take-stakes-mining-operations-2024-10-02/
[134] https://www.seforall.org/system/files/2023-01/%5BFINAL%5D%2020220115_ZOD_SEForAll_AfricanManufacturingReport.pdf
[135] https://www.reuters.com/markets/commodities/beware-egypts-smokestack-onshoring-cement-exports-surge-maguire-2025-01-17/
[136] https://greengrowthindex.gggi.org/

global 39%)[137], however the renewable share of stable baseload electricity remains limited

- **Africa has seen a surge in green hydrogen project announcements since 2023**, **however the majority are only at the concept or feasibility stage**. Projects have been announced particularly in Egypt, Morocco, Mauritania, Algeria, and Namibia[138]. By 2030, 34 green hydrogen projects are planned across seven African countries, with project sizes ranging from 3.5 MW to 6.9 GW. Mauritania stands out with three giga-scale projects totalling 7 GW, including the Nour and Aman projects—two of the world's largest planned green hydrogen export projects[139]. However, 89% of these 34 projects are still at the concept or feasibility stage, only two have reached a final investment decision and are under construction, and only one small-scale project (3.5 MW in South Africa) is currently operational[140]
- **Key enablers of scaling up green minerals and manufacturing include reskilling for the green transition, technology transfer, supportive trade mechanisms, and robust and supportive industry policies**
    - On **reskilling and green jobs**, with over 60% of Africa's population under 25, green sectors present a vital opportunity to address youth unemployment, especially in areas like e-mobility, sustainable agriculture, and green construction. In 2023, there were 324,000 renewables jobs in Africa, roughly 2% of the total renewable energy jobs globally that year[141]. It is estimated that Africa's green economy could generate up to 3.3 million direct jobs by 2030, with ~70% of these roles expected to be in the renewable energy sector, particularly solar power[142]. Several major initiatives have been launched to scale up reskilling for the green transition, including Jacob's Ladder Africa's Green Labs Incubation Programme, the Green Careers Caravan, and the Alliance for Greening Skills and Opportunities Kenya. TerraFund allocated USD 17.8 million for AFR100 to local restoration groups, facilitating the restoration of 47,000 hectares of land and the creation of 52,000 jobs. South Africa launched in 2024 the National Business Initiative, a JET Skills for Employment

[137] https://ember-energy.org/countries-and-regions/africa
[138] https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2025/03/27/3050357/28124/en/Middle-East-and-Africa-Hydrogen-Market-Report-2025-Hydrogen-Boom-in-MEA-23-5-mtpa-Pipeline-Signals-Export-Ambitions.html
[139] https://www.nature.com/articles/s41560-025-01768-y
[140] https://www.nature.com/articles/s41560-025-01768-y
[141] https://www.irena.org/News/pressreleases/2024/Oct/Highest-Annual-Growth-of-Renewables-Jobs-in-2023-Reaching-16-point-2-Million#:~:text=Abu%20Dhabi%2C%20United%20Arab%20Emirates,Energy%20Agency%20(IRENA)%20and%20the
[142] FSD Africa and Shortlist, Forecasting Green Jobs in Africa, July 2024: http://fundforyouthemployment.nl/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Forecasting-Green-Jobs-in-Africa-2024.pdf

Program aims to assess skill demands across various value chains critical for the just energy transition

- On **technology transfer**, most advanced green technologies are developed in high-income countries, and African countries face barriers to accessing them, primarily driven by intellectual property rules, which slows down the green transition. Africa accounts for less than 1% of global clean energy technology patent filings currently[143], where South Africa, Morocco, Egypt, and Algeria contribute larger shares compared to other countries. Initiatives are ongoing to improve technology transfer, such as the World Intellectual Property Organization's (WIPO) GREEN platform that aims to connect technology providers with seekers, the EU's Global Gateway that promotes green technology deployment, and the Africa-Europe Innovation Partnership that matches African and European tech innovators
- On **trade,** the AfCFTA has been instrumental in advancing trade reforms that align with Africa's climate and energy goals. As of April 2024, the AfCFTA entered its operational phase, with key features including aiming for 90% tariff liberalisation, reduction of non-tariff barriers, facilitation of cross-border payments, and incentives to scale production and processing locally
- On **industrial policy** there have been several initiatives to incentivise green industrialisation focused on green fiscal incentives, public procurement, and a rise in green industrial or special economic zones. For example, South Africa's Public Procurement Act (2024) enables procurers to implement measures that promote sustainable development, Ethiopia opened Hawassa Industrial Park, Africa's first eco-industrial park specialising in textiles and garments and powered by hydropower, Zambia and the DRC have partnered to establish Special Economic Zones (SEZs) dedicated to the production of EV batteries and related components, Togo opened the Adétikopé Industrial Platform, a 400-hectare industrial zone near Lomé, developed by Arise LLP, and Gabon developed the Gabon Special Economic Zone, Africa's first carbon-neutral industrial hub, focusing on timber processing and agro-industries

Ongoing challenges

- **Scaling up sustainable exploitation and processing of green minerals is constrained** by costly transportation and logistics, limited access to affordable and reliable electricity (meaning many mines rely on diesel generators), high water demands for

[143] https://capacity4dev.europa.eu/library/patents-and-clean-energy-technologies-africa_en

processing minerals, limited frameworks for domestic value retention, and limited local refining capacity

- **Access to reliable baseload renewable electricity remains a challenge,** without which green industrialisation will not be able to scale up, and electricity generation must be sequenced with offtake
- **Green hydrogen faces challenges in ensuring the unit cost is competitive with other global production, and there is limited demand for green hydrogen offtake in Africa currently**. Limited regulatory frameworks deter long-term investments, for example few countries have clear green hydrogen strategies or cross-border trade systems. The amount of water used for green fertilizer many increase water stress
- **Transfer of green technologies remains a challenge, particularly driven by intellectual property rights regimes** which can limit access to essential green technologies, especially for emerging economies. In renewable energy, patents for green technology, such as high-efficiency solar panels and electrolysers, are dominated by firms from Europe, Japan, and China. African firms face challenges accessing these without high licensing costs or restrictive usage rights. There is limited structured support to assist African countries in identifying, acquiring, or adapting green technologies suited to the local context. Additionally, significant digital infrastructure deficits remain, including limited internet access, high connectivity costs, and unreliable broadband networks, which constrain technology adoption and transfer
- **Access to green skills is limited due to underfunded reskilling programmes, skills mismatch between supply and demand**, lack of data for evidence-based decision-making, low awareness of the opportunities from working in green industry, particularly in rural areas and marginalised communities where people may have limited access to training centres or digital platforms. Husk Power had challenges sourcing the right skills for renewable energy projects in Nigeria, but has now started a training programme[144]
- **Trade of green goods is still limited by the partial implementation of AfCFTA**, where ongoing challenges include infrastructure deficits, complex and fragmented standards and certification procedures

[144] https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/climate-energy/how-bridging-skills-gap-can-boost-africas-green-energy-transition-2024-11-19/

Priorities to consider for this year

- **Advance renewable energy access and stable baseload** by increasing investment in renewable energy, expanding energy storage and grid infrastructure, and scaling up offtake for electricity
- **Scale up technology transfer by considering advocating for updates to WTO rules on technology access and transfer** in free trade agreements under TRIPS+ (e.g., support compulsory licensing or voluntary patent pools, consider a similar approach to the COVID-19 IP Waiver precedent), and considering setting up regional IP clearinghouses under the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) to negotiate collective licenses on behalf of multiple African states
- **Increase green hydrogen production and offtake** via integrating hydrogen into national energy plans, green industrial policies, and public procurement frameworks; considering financial and regulatory incentives to increase the adoption of green hydrogen (e.g., blending mandates for aviation fuel, mandates for zero-emission vehicles); identifying and investing in hydrogen export corridors (e.g., Namibia–Europe, Egypt–MENA, Morocco–EU) through special economic zones, pipeline infrastructure, and port upgrades; and, negotiating long-term offtake agreements with international buyers to improve investor confidence
- **Promote investments in reskilling to unlock the human capital that will power Africa's inclusive green transition** via scaling up training programmes and partnerships including grassroots approaches that incorporate community training and NGO-led programmes, scaling up industry-academic partnerships and knowledge transfer, aligning training program with the market demand, considering establishing a Pan-African Green Reskilling Fund, and increasing evidence-based reporting and decision-making
- **Increase trade of green goods via continuing to support the implementation of AfCFTA,** and considering negotiating preferential trade rules for green imports and exports (e.g., reducing tariffs on green technologies)
- **Scale up industrial policy incentivising green industry,** including green fiscal incentives, and a green investment taxonomy that outlines what is meant by green or sustainable investments in Africa

Sustainable agriculture, land use, water and oceans

Clauses from the Nairobi Declaration relating to sustainable agriculture, land use, water, and oceans

25 **Focus our economic development plans on** climate-positive growth, including… **climate smart and restorative agricultural practices**…

27 **Strengthen actions to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, deforestation, and desertification, as well as restore degraded lands to achieve land degradation neutrality**; and implement the Abidjan declaration on achieving gender equality for successful land restoration

31 **Redouble our efforts to boost agricultural yields through sustainable agricultural practices**, to enhance food security while minimizing negative environmental impacts

36 **Integrate climate, biodiversity and ocean agendas into national development plans and processes** to increase resilience of local communities and national economies

37 **Promote regenerative blue economy** and support implementation of the Moroni Declaration for Ocean and Climate Action in Africa, and the Great Blue Wall Initiative, whilst recognising the circumstances of Africa's Island States

38 **Support smallholder farmers, indigenous peoples, and local communities in the green economic transition**, given their key role in ecosystems stewardship

43 **Support implementation of the Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP),** which aims to close the Africa water investment gap by mobilising USD 30 billion by 2030

Status today in Africa and progress made since 2023

- **Several national development plans include specific reference to climate-smart or restorative agricultural practices; however few countries are achieving their commitments on public spend on agriculture**. Tanzania's Development Vision 2050 includes reference to embracing climate-smart practices, and South Africa's National Development Plan 2030 includes focus on research and development for the agricultural sector including the use of technology and ecological approaches to sustainable agriculture. The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) encourages countries to allocate 10% of their budgets to agriculture and rural development (under the Malabo Declaration), with a focus on sustainability and productivity. Currently only Rwanda is on track to achieve Malabo

commitments, and only 4 countries achieved the target spend (Burundi, DRC, Ethiopia, Mali)[145]

- **Progress has been made on scaling actions to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, deforestation, and desertification, as well as restore degraded lands to achieve land degradation neutrality, particularly through the 30x30 initiative** (a global commitment launched in 2022 aiming to protect and effectively manage at least 30% of Earth's land and ocean areas by 2030)**, and the AFR100 initiative** (the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative, launched in 2015 and seeking to restore 100 million hectares of degraded and deforested land in Africa by 2030):
    - **Under 30x30, Africa currently protects ~19% of landscapes, and 17% of seascapes[146].** For example, Kenya launched the 15 billion tree initiative, with over 600 million trees planted by now and forest cover which has increased to 8.83% (targeting 10% by 2030). South Africa has surpassed the halfway mark toward its 30x30 target, where, as of mid-2024, 16.75% of its land and marine areas are under protection, totalling 20.4 million hectares
    - **AFR100 has had 34 African countries join, collectively committing to restore approximately 129.5 million hectares of degraded land.** Kenya is actively engaged in AFR100, and has doubled its original commitment of restoring 5.1 million ha to 10.6 million ha, alongside its national Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan 2023-2027 (FOLAREP). Very few restoration programmes have been intentionally designed with gender-responsive frameworks
- **Agricultural yields remain low in Africa, where crop yield per hectare for cereals is 1.7 tonnes, less than half the global average** of 4.2 tonnes per hectare[147]. This varies between countries, for example for maize Algeria, Egypt, and South Africa produce higher yields of between 6-8 tonnes per hectare, while Chad, Angola, Namibia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau produce between 1-2 tonnes per hectare[148]. There is a food and agricultural commodities trade deficit of USD ~20 billion, where Africa imports USD ~80 billion of food and agricultural products, and exports USD ~61 billion annually[149]
- **Since the launch of the AU Blue Economy Strategy in 2020**, **several countries have incorporated ocean and blue economy priorities into their national development plans,** such as South Africa's Operation Phakisa and Mozambique's marine-focused

[145] https://farmingfirst.org/2024/06/meeting-the-malabo-target-how-much-do-african-states-spend-on-agriculture/
[146] https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/10.1098/rstb.2023.0443
[147] https://ourworldindata.org/data-insights/cereal-yields-have-increased-in-all-regions-but-africa-lags-behind
[148] https://ourworldindata.org/crop-yields
[149] https://www.thedtic.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Intra-Africa-Trade-poverty-reduction.pdf

tourism strategy. Progress also includes the ratification of the **Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Treaty** by 8 African countries since 2023 (incl. Seychelles, Maldives, Mauritius, Malawi, Mauritania, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia)[150], where the treaty aims to protect and sustainably manage biodiversity in the high seas, which lie outside national exclusive economic zones (EEZs) and make up nearly two-thirds of the ocean. Additionally, the **100% Alliance for Sustainable Ocean Management** launched in 2024, has had commitments from Kenya, Seychelles, Ghana, and Namibia, and advocates for all coastal and ocean states to sustainably manage 100% of their national waters by 2030[151]

- **Significant progress has been made in advancing the regenerative blue economy through initiatives such as the Great Blue Wall, scaling up regenerative seascapes, and launching debt-for-nature swaps for ocean protection**. Several countries have joined the Great Blue Wall initiative including Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Comoros, Madagascar, Seychelles, Mauritius, Somalia, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Cabo Verde. Numerous regenerative seascapes are being established to enhance marine protection and climate resilience in Mozambique, Comoros, Seychelles, Mauritius, Kenya, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Madagascar, and Angola. And there has been a USD 2 billion debt-for-nature swap to protect a coral-rich swathe of Indian Ocean
- **Several initiatives have been launched to increase the participation of smallholder farmers, indigenous peoples and local communities in the green economic transition including scaling extension services, and digital and financial inclusion.**
    - On extension services, in 2025 the EAC launched the USD 12.5 million Sustainable Regional Agricultural Extension (ENSURE) Project to enhance agricultural productivity and sustainability across East Africa by strengthening extension services, and Uganda hosted its first National Agricultural Extension Week in 2023, focusing on innovative pluralistic approaches to enhance food security and commercialized agriculture, and in Malawi the nonprofit Opportunity International introduced Ulangizi, a generative AI chatbot providing agricultural advice in Chichewa to reduce reliance on extension workers
    - On scaling up solutions for smallholder farmers, the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) and CGIAR signed a Memorandum of Understanding in 2025 to co-develop and scale science-based solutions for smallholder farmers

[150] http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XXI-10&chapter=21&clang=_en
[151] https://oceanpanel.org/members/

  - On digital and financial inclusion, Tech Herfrica, established in 2023 focuses on digital and financial inclusion for women in rural Africa

- **The Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP) is a continent-wide initiative launched by the African Union in 2021 to address Africa's significant water investment gap**. **So far, USD 7.5 billion has been raised towards the target**[152] of mobilising at least USD 30 billion annually by 2030 to support water security and sustainable sanitation
- **Across Africa, 30-50% of food is estimated to be lost or wasted along the supply chain**[153]**, however there has been an increase in initiatives and investments aimed at enhancing post-harvest handling, storage, and value chains to improve food safety and reduce food losses**. For example, Lagos State is constructing Africa's largest food logistics centre in Ketu-Ereyun to address the significant post-harvest losses estimated at 40% daily[154], and Rwanda, the UK, and UNEP launched the Africa Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Cooling and Cold-Chains (ACES) in 2020 focused on scaling up sustainable cooling technologies to improve cold chain logistics.

Ongoing challenges

- **Climate-smart and restorative agricultural practices are not always integrated into national level economic development plans,** partly due to limited interministerial discussion
- **Land degradation continues to grow** due to overgrazing, monocropping, deforestation, artisanal mining, in some cases insufficient land management and waste management policies, and increasingly fragmented land ownership partly driven by population pressure which can result in more intense land use (i.e., limited fallow periods) leading to nutrient depletion and soil erosion
- **Agricultural yields remain low** partly driven by limited extension service systems compared to other regions, limited mechanisation, lower application of fertiliser compared to other regions, lower access to drought-resistant high yielding seed varieties, insufficient credit access for smallholder farmers, variable rainfall, and trade and logistics barriers for transporting agricultural commodities and food across borders
- **On integrating ocean agendas into national development plans there is currently limited ocean literacy, resulting in limited public funding, limited policy coherence**

[152] https://aipwater.org/
[153] https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/re-gain-scaling-solutions-food-loss-africa-0
[154] https://www.thecable.ng/expert-nigeria-records-n3-5trn-post-harvest-losses-annually-reliable-cold-chain-system-needed/

and consistency at national or regional levels, and limited pan-African dialogue platforms to elevate the ocean agenda and unlock necessary partnerships.

- **Scaling up the regenerative blue economy and implementing the Moroni Declaration faces challenges such as limited supportive economic and fiscal policies and mechanisms**, limited ambitious commitments at scale of private sector stakeholders, limited consolidation and collaboration among sub-national governments
- **The ratio of extension workers to farmers to support agricultural productivity is far below the recommended levels on average across the continent**, where the current average ratio across the continent is 1 extension worker per 1,000 farmers[155], and the recommended levels are approximately 1:400-500 (recommendations vary according to the nature of the farming operation)[156]. This varies between countries, for example Nigeria has the lowest ratio of agricultural extension workers to farmers in Africa at 1:7,500[157], whereas Zimbabwe has some of the highest rates of extension workers on the continent at roughly 1:150-200[158], even higher than the recommended guidelines
- **Implementing the Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP) faces challenges such as an absence of climate risk mapping related to water and common database on water for Africa**. The Global Goal on Adaptation does not fully include indicators that are comprehensively relevant for Africa under the AIP, and there is limited tracking of community-level grassroots initiatives
- **Across Africa, 30-50% of food is estimated to be lost or wasted along the supply chain[159]. Scaling up post-harvest handling, storage, and improved food safety is limited by small dispersed production** making aggregation and consistent supply challenging, limited access to affordable storage and distribution (including cold chain), and there is a lack of enforcement of food safety standards in some cases

155 https://www.canr.msu.edu/csus/uploads/1.%20Strengthening%20Agricultural%20Extension%20Services%20Overall%20Report.pdf

156 https://www.dalrrd.gov.za/images/Branches/FoodSecurityAgrReform/education_training/extention-and-advisory-services/framework_recovery-plan_web3.pdf

157 : Ifeanyi-obi, C.C. Corbon, B.L. (2023). Utilization of digital tools in extension service delivery amongst extension agents in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. Journal of Agricultural Extension 27 (4) 67-76 https://dx.doi.org/10.4314/jae.v27i4.7

158 https://www.scielo.org.za/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S0301-603X2019000200007

159 https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/re-gain-scaling-solutions-food-loss-africa-0

Priorities to consider for this year

- **Advocate for increased interministerial engagement on national economic policymaking** to include sectoral plans and increased integration of climate-smart and restorative agricultural practices
- **Scale up approaches for providing long-term finance to smallholder farmers** (e.g., long-term patient capital, loans from banks)
- **Strengthen actions to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, deforestation, desertification, and land degradation** through strengthening policy frameworks on land management, land use practices, and resource extraction, supporting new technologies for restoration and agroecological practices, support community-based land management practices, enhancing regional cooperation for large-scale initiatives like the Great Green Wall, and scale up waste management to reduce soil contamination and emitting greenhouse gases
- **Boost agricultural yields through investing in extension services, sustainable irrigation, and sustainable mechanisation**, as well as advancing AfCFTA implementation with improved storage, distribution, and local processing of agricultural products
- **Support countries to integrate oceans into national and subnational policies as well as call for further countries to ratify the BBNJ Treaty, commit to the 100% Alliance, and support the International Platform for Ocean Sustainability** (IPOS). Establish fiscal and economic policies and incentives to unlock private sector investment into the regenerative blue economy, develop national and regional blue carbon policies adopting a similar model than the renewable energy sector, and strengthen cross-regional partnerships on oceans, as well as interministerial coordination frameworks
- **Continue to promote the regenerative blue economy and implement the Moroni Declaration,** through championing the creation of a "One Ocean Partnership" to accelerate the implementation of the Great Blue Wall initiative, including by strengthening South-South cooperation within Africa and other Global South countries, establishing an ocean coalition of subnational governments, pioneer the creation of special regenerative blue economic zones, accelerate regenerative blue entrepreneurship, support the creation of seascape investment funds and a regenerative seascapes financing facility
- **Accelerate implementation of the Africa Water Investment Programme** through mapping climate-related water risks, creating a continent-wide water database with GIS, advocating for Africa-specific indicators in the GGA, and tracking grassroots initiatives to monitor progress

- **Increase investment in post-harvest handling, storage, and value chains to improve food safety and reduce food losses,** including setting up cold chain storage hubs, scaling grain storage hubs, promoting sustainable packaging to reduce food loss and waste, and continuing to convert waste to wealth e.g., biochar and biogas production.

Sustainable infrastructure and urbanisation

Clauses from the Nairobi Declaration relating to sustainable infrastructure and urbanisation

23 Develop and implement policies, regulations and incentives aimed at **attracting local, regional and global investment in green growth**, inclusive of green and circular economies

41 **Promote investments in urban infrastructure** including through upgrading informal settlements and slum areas to build climate resilient cities and urban centres

49vi We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: vi) **Accelerate efforts to decarbonize the transport, industrial and electricity sectors** through the use of smart, digital and highly efficient technologies such as green hydrogen, synthetic fuels and battery storage

Status today in Africa and progress made since 2023

- **Scaling up impact and investment in urban climate resilience requires close integration of urban, economic, and climate policies at the national and sub-national levels. Thus far, these have not always been closely linked, however there are examples of countries starting to do this**
    - At the national level, Botswana, through the Gaborone Declaration for Sustainability in Africa, has committed to integrating the value of natural capital into national policies promoting sustainable urban development, such as its National Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan. In Gabon, the Strategic Plan to 2025 focuses on diversifying the economy, reducing poverty, and promoting sustainable urban development. South Africa has developed urban climate investment strategies, with significant initiatives in Johannesburg and Durban. Momentum is being built, for example through the AU Urban Forum Declaration in 2024
    - At the sub-national level, some countries are implementing climate change acts, such as Lagos in Nigeria which has developed a climate action plan aligned with national priorities, and in South Africa provinces and municipalities are mandated to develop climate change response implementation plans covering all priority sectors. In Ethiopia, regional states are involved in implementing aspects of the national climate resilience strategy, with some developing localized plans. In Morocco, regional authorities have been involved in climate initiatives, particularly in areas vulnerable to climate impacts
- **More cities are embedding climate action plans into their governance structures, with Nairobi, Lagos, Kigali, and Accra emerging as regional leaders in climate-smart urbanisation**. For example, at the inaugural ACS, President Ruto launched the Programme in Building Climate Resilience with the Urban Poor which aims at building resilience and enhancing adaptive capacity of the urban poor against adverse climate change effects and disasters. The programme is projected to be piloted in 20 African countries and a regional readiness project by GCF is under development
- **Various funds with a focus on scaling up urban climate resilience have been growing. For example, the Urban Resilience Fund, a €500 million blended finance fund, supports cities in developing resilient infrastructure** and is backed by entities like the Rockefeller Foundation and the European Investment Bank**.** Additionally, in 2024, the IFC invested

USD 20 million in the Africa50 Infrastructure Acceleration Fund targeting sustainable projects in digital infrastructure, renewable energy, and transportation across Africa, where the fund has achieved USD 222.5 million in commitments out of a target of USD 500 million[160]. In 2024, approximately USD 20 million was unlocked to scale up the adoption of nature-based solutions in 3 African cities from the Government of Canada, under the Scaling Urban Nature Based Solutions in Sub-Saharan Africa (SUNCASA) project implemented by WRI and IISD[161]

- **Several initiatives have been launched in scaling up climate resilient housing in informal settlements,** for example Easy Housing Uganda has constructed prefabricated homes using sustainably sourced timber with the aim of decarbonising the construction industry, and in Mozambique the Participatory Slum Upgrade Project was launched in 2008 by UN Habitat and the EU
- **Awareness and access to green building materials is growing on the continent, with several African nations having begun to develop green building regulations, green building certifications, and financing mechanisms for low-carbon construction materials**. For example, in Egypt the Grand Egyptian Museum has been awarded the EDGE Advanced Green Building Certification, making it Africa's first museum to achieve this recognition, setting a precedent for green public buildings across the continent, and Nairobi became home to Africa's first IFC EDGE-certified Government Office, and Mombasa County is Africa's first sub-national government with a portfolio of green public buildings, reinforcing how counties can drive climate action at the local level. And, Kenya was appointed Vice Chair of the Intergovernmental Council on Buildings and Climate, alongside Brazil and France
- **Additionally, there are increasing water infrastructure projects aiming to address increasing water scarcity**. For example, in Morocco, Agadir has implemented a desalination plant powered by wind and solar energy producing 275,000 cubic meters of water daily, serving both drinking water needs and agriculture[162]. In South Africa, in 2024, the New Development Bank approved a loan of up to USD 1 billion to finance water and sanitation projects to enhance basic services in underprivileged communities[163]
- **Africa's electric vehicle (EV) market is expanding rapidly, with the market expected to reach USD 17 billion in 2025** and projected to grow at a CAGR of 10.2% to USD 28.3 billion by 2030[164]. Electric car sales in Africa more than doubled in 2024, reaching nearly

[160] https://www.ifc.org/en/pressroom/2024/ifc-invests-in-africa50-fund-to-support-sustainable-infrastructure-development-in-africa
[161] https://www.iisd.org/publications/brief/suncasa-resilient-cities-natural-solutions
[162] https://smartwatermagazine.com/news/smart-water-magazine/desalination-morocco-meeting-water-demands-a-water-scarce-region
[163] https://www.ndb.int/news/ndb-board-of-directors-held-44th-meeting-in-cape-town-approved-loans-for-the-water-sector-in-south-africa-and-lng-transportation-project-in-china
[164] https://www.mordorintelligence.com/industry-reports/africa-electric-vehicle-market

11,000 units, driven by policy incentives and growing consumer interest[165]. South Africa is the hub for local assembly, with plans to produce its first domestically manufactured EV in 2026. In East Africa, companies like Ampersand (Rwanda) have partnered with BYD to scale up electric motorcycle assembly, targeting 40,000 units by 2026[166]

- **On circular economy, only about 4% of Africa's municipal solid waste is recycled, despite estimates that 70–80% of this waste is recyclable[167]**. The African Union's Agenda 2063 set a goal for African cities to recycle at least 50% of the waste they produce by 2023[168]. Most countries have policies in place, for example 50 out of 54 African countries have some form of waste management policy in place[169], and several African countries are developing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regulations, which put the onus on producers of waste to fund waste management. These countries include South Africa and Tunisia with EPR regulations in place, while Kenya, Ghana, and Rwanda are developing them. Notable waste management initiatives include Ethiopia's Reppie waste-to-energy facility in Addis Ababa processing 1,400 tonnes of waste daily, Ghana's participation in the SWITCH Africa Green programme focusing on integrated waste management and circular economy practices, UN-Habitat's Waste Wise Cities (WaCT) Project assisting over 400 cities, including Bukavu in the DRC and Dakar in Senegal, to collect data on waste management practices and develop strategies to enhance waste recovery and recycling rates, and the Green Africa Youth Organization operating in Ghana and Uganda and implementing the Zero Waste Model, focusing on community engagement, job creation, and infrastructure development to support circular waste management

Ongoing challenges

- **National economic and industrial policymaking, urban policy, and climate policies are often not linked** resulting in missed opportunities for green industrialisation and reactive urban planning
- **Very few sub-national authorities have developed infrastructure investment plans** aligned with NDC or SDGs
- **Government climate action plans may not always sufficiently prioritise access to WASH**, which in both an urban and a rural context is a key pillar for adaptive capacity with significant impact on health, livelihoods and economic opportunities

[165] https://www.iea.org/reports/global-ev-outlook-2025/trends-in-electric-car-markets-2
[166] https://www.mordorintelligence.com/industry-reports/africa-electric-vehicle-market
[167] https://www.nepad.org/blog/what-waste-innovations-africas-waste-material-management
[168] https://www.nepad.org/blog/what-waste-innovations-africas-waste-material-management
[169] https://allianceforscience.org/blog/2023/06/world-environment-day-countries-in-sub-saharan-african-need-to-work-toward-a-circular-economy-to-reduce-plastic-waste/

- **Limited waste management is driven by various factors** including unfavourable unit economics for waste management facilities due to high cost of land in urban areas, low local demand for processed products due to low quality of recycled waste, and challenges in aggregating operations due to the sector being fragmented and dominated by informal sector operations
- **Scaling up climate resilient housing and informal settlements is limited** by financial constraints, lack of standardised data collection methods and reporting frameworks, slow policy implementation, lack of coordination between local authorities and stakeholders, limited implementation plans and governance frameworks.

Priorities to consider for this year

- **Enhance policy and governance for sustainable urbanization by advocating for urban, economic, and climate policies to be integrated** at the national and sub-national levels. Call for the integration of advanced decarbonisation technologies to form part of local planning, and enable cities to access finance and partnerships for emerging clean tech adoption
- **Establish a pan-African network of sustainable cities, where urban centres share best practices and solutions**, accelerating LEED Cities, a certification programme that helps cities and communities measure and improve their sustainability performance, and IFC's Apex Cities, which supports secondary and emerging cities in developing countries in creating bankable urban infrastructure projects
- **Augment local government action plans addressing informal settlements and climate infrastructure** by supporting cities to access technical assistance, co-develop indicators with communities, and integrate informal settlement upgrading into monitoring and evaluation
- **Increase investment into climate resilient urban infrastructure** through strengthening project preparation facilities tailored to informality, intermediary financing models that can de-risk capital, supporting the development of urban infrastructure portfolios that are aligned with NDCs and SDGs, and developing a sub-national green bond template
- **Scale up green buildings** by strengthening policies for green building codes, sustainable mobility, and climate adaptive urbanization
- **Scale up sustainable water infrastructure in cities**, including develop targeted WASH adaptation plans which are fully budgeted, gender-responsive, and have measurable targets.

- **Increase waste management** through the implementation of EPR regulations across the continent, increased investment into waste management facilities, and scaling demand for recycled products.

Appendix 1 – Metrics to track progress against the Nairobi Declaration

This section outlines potential metrics that could be used to track progress against each clause in the Nairobi Declaration. It is organised by theme.

Climate finance

Investment and trade

#	Nairobi Declaration Outcome	Metrics to track
23	**Develop and implement policies, regulations and incentives aimed at attracting local, regional and global investment in green growth**, inclusive of green and circular economies;	• Total funding pledged to the Loss and Damage Fund globally • Number of Loss and Damage projects approved in Africa • Representation of African states in the Loss and Damage Fund (i.e., number of African countries on the board) • Number of times Africa's governments have spoken about/advocated for Loss and Damage fund • Extent to which the Loss and Damage Fund's targets and indicators capture Africa's priorities • Progress in defining a framework with targets and indicators for tracking progress in the Global Goal on Adaptation
49v	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: v) **Request that trade-related environmental tariffs and non-tariff barriers must be subject to multilateral discussions and agreements and not be unilateral**, arbitrary or discriminatory measures	• Number of formal engagements held between the EU and African countries on the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) • Proxy for technology transfer to Africa - e.g., Share of clean energy technology patents that are filed in Africa

Carbon markets and carbon tax

#	Nairobi Declaration Outcome	Metrics to track
49viii	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: viii) **Implement a mix of measures that elevate Africa's share of carbon markets**	• Implementation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, incl. number of Article 6-labelled credits, number of countries that have issued Letters of Authorisation (LoA's) for VCM projects in their countries, and number of countries that have published eligibility lists for projects requesting LoA's so these projects can participate in Article 6.2 or CORSIA • Number of carbon market policy and regulatory frameworks developed in Africa • Number of carbon markets registered in Africa • Number of high integrity carbon market projects that have reached issuance stage in Africa (by country, sector, type, incl. permanence statistics) • Volume and share of carbon credits issued from projects developed and registered in Africa (Article 6 and VCM) • Number of African NDCs integrating carbon markets • Number of policies in non-African countries promoting the purchase and retirement of high-quality international emissions reductions and removals credits • Number of local carbon credit registries/trading platforms • Number of local accountants and lawyers qualified for carbon credit MRV • Number of countries that have established or have access to carbon registry infrastructure for tracking credits and facilitating carbon transactions • Average number of days (or months) for approval/ authorization of carbon projects (by country)

		• Number of local Validation and Verification Bodies (VVBs) operating from Africa region for 3rd party carbon project validation and verification services
57	**Urge world leaders to consider the proposal for a global carbon taxation regime** including a carbon tax on fossil fuel trade, maritime transport and aviation, that may also be augmented by a **global financial transaction tax (FTT)** to provide dedicated, affordable, and accessible finance for climate-positive investments at scale, and establish a balanced, fair and representative global governance structure for its management, with an assessment of the financial implications on socioeconomic impacts on Africa.	• Number of carbon pricing initiatives globally • Number of African countries considering a carbon tax • Progress on taxing fossil fuels globally • Value of fossil fuel subsidies globally

Debt

#	Nairobi Declaration Outcome	Metrics to track
52v	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: v. **Improve debt management, including: a. the inclusion of 'debt pause clauses',** and b. the **proposed expert review of the Common Framework**	**Local currency** • Share of sovereign debt that is in local currency (LCY) (indexed) • Reforms made to IMF LIC-DSF (Low-Income Country Debt Sustainability Framework) to more accurately reflect the cost/risk of LCY (indexed) sovereign debt • Number of MDBs with DFIs with articulated LCY lending targets relative to African climate/SDG finance • Number of MDBs that offer LCY conversion

	and the Debt Sustainability Analysis	**Debt pause clauses and DSA** • Number of African countries that have incorporated debt pause clauses in new debt agreements • Number of countries requesting or undergoing an expert review of their Debt Sustainability Analysis (DSA) under the Common Framework • Average time taken for the completion of expert reviews of DSA under the Common Framework • Number of instruments from MDBs that offer these pause clauses
52vi	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: vi. **Provide interventions and instruments for new debt relief to pre-empt debt default to: a. extend sovereign debt tenor, and b. include a 10-year grace period.**	• Adoption of policy or legal instruments enabling debt relief • Number of countries that have successfully restructured sovereign debt agreements to extend tenor or include a grace period. • Average extension in tenor (years) achieved for restructured debt agreements. • Number of countries receiving technical assistance to design and negotiate debt relief options. • Amount of debt restructured with a 10-year grace period (in USD)
56	We call for **adoption of principles of responsible sovereign lending and accountability** encompassing credit rating, risk analysis and debt sustainability assessment frameworks and urge the financial markets to commit to eliminate this disparity by 2025	• Number of countries that have formally adopted principles of responsible sovereign lending and accountability in their national frameworks. • Number of international financial institutions (IFIs) and credit rating agencies that have publicly committed to enhancing transparency and fairness in sovereign credit rating and risk analysis. • Proportion of African countries with access to DSA tools aligned with international best practices. • Number of African countries benefiting from capacity-building programs on responsible lending and debt management. • Share of DSA that reflect the full scope of currency risk, actively differentiating between LCY denominated external debt and HCY denominated external debt

		• Updates to Credit Rating Agency Methodology to better reflect African market conditions

MDB reform

#	Nairobi Declaration Outcome	Metrics to track
52i	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: i. **Build resilience to climate shocks, including better deployment of the Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) liquidity mechanism** and **disaster suspension clauses**.	**SDRs** • Number of African countries using SDRs during climate or economic shocks • Share of African countries that have SDR deployment strategies for resilience • Volume of SDRs in Africa deployed to climate-aligned programmes *Disaster suspension clauses - key points covered above under debt pause clauses*
52ii	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: ii. **Re-channeling of at least USD 100billion of SDRs to Africa,** including through institutions such as the African Development Bank which will be able to leverage the SDRs by three to four times. We also call for the formation of a group of SDR donors to expedite this rechanneling ahead of COP28	• Value of SDRs rechannelled to Africa (USD) • Share of SDRs that go to Africa
52iii	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: iii. **Propose for consideration a new SDR issue for climate crisis response of at least the same magnitude as the Covid19 issue** (USD 650 billion).	• Issuance of a new SDR allocation for climate crisis response (Yes/No), and value
52iv	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: iv. **Better leverage of the balance sheets of MDBs**	• Value of annual concessional climate finance (USD)

	to scale up concessional finance to at least USD 500b per year	
52vii	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: vii **Decisively act on the promotion of inclusive and effective international tax cooperation at the United Nations** with the **aim to reduce Africa's loss of USD 27 billion annual corporate tax revenue through profit shifting**, by at least 50% by 2030 and 75% by 2050.	• Share of Africa's lost annual tax revenue recovered through profit shifting (%)
52viii	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: viii. **Put additional measures to crowd in and de-risk private capital**, such as blended finance instruments, purchase commitments, partial foreign exchange (FX) guarantee and industrial policy collaboration, which should be informed by the risks that drive lack of private capital deployment at scale	• Amount of private capital mobilized through blended finance instruments (USD) • Average leverage ratio of public funds to private capital in African blended finance projects • Number of African blended finance projects utilizing risk-sharing mechanisms, such as partial guarantees, first-loss tranches, or political risk insurance • Average time to close African blended finance deals • Number of private investors (institutional, impact, and commercial) participating in African blended finance transactions • Number of African countries implementing partial FX guarantee schemes to support private investment. • Volume of purchase commitments made for green technologies and sustainable products (USD) • Number of industrial policy collaboration initiatives aimed at de-risking green investments

		• Number of capacity-building programs for African countries on designing and implementing blended finance strategies • Currency risk mitigation on climate finance flows • Off-shore local currency (indexed) sovereign bond issuance
52ix	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: ix. **Redesign MDB governance, to ensure a "fit for purpose" system** with appropriate representation, voice, and agency of all countries	• Voting share of African countries at WB and IMF • Number of African nationals in senior leadership roles at WB and IMF • Share of MDB financing going towards Africa

Adaptation

#	Nairobi Declaration Outcome	Metrics to track
22	We call for the **operationalization of the Loss & Damage fund** as agreed at COP27 and resolve for a measurable Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) with indicators and targets to enable assessment of progress against negative impacts of climate change	• Total funding pledged to the Loss and Damage Fund globally • Number of projects approved in Africa • Representation of African states in the Loss and Damage Fund (i.e., number of African countries on the board) • Number of times Africa's governments have spoken about/advocated for Loss and Damage fund • Progress in defining a framework with targets and indicators for tracking progress in the GGA • Extent to which targets and indicators capture Africa's priorities
39	**Identify, prioritize, and mainstream adaptation into development policy-**	• Percentage of African Union member states that have submitted or updated their NAPs to the UNFCCC since 2023

	making and planning, including in the context of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)	• Percentage of African Countries with Adaptation Integrated into National Development Plans or Strategies • Number of Countries with Budgetary Allocation for Adaptation in National Budgets • Percentage of Adaptation Projects in Africa Supported by Climate Finance Mechanisms (e.g., GCF, AF, LDCF)
40	**Build effective partnerships between Africa and other regions**, to meet the needs for financial, technical and technological support, and knowledge sharing for climate change adaptation	• Number of regional or international partnerships focused on adaptation (incl. level of inclusivity of local actors such as communities, civil society, youth, women) • Total adaptation finance mobilized through partnerships and the number of African countries receiving technical or technological support • Number of operationalized adaptation technology projects/platforms and joint research or innovation initiatives, such as early warning systems, climate-smart tools, and knowledge-sharing programs
42	**Strengthen early warning systems and climate information services**, as well as taking early action to protect lives, livelihoods and assets and inform long-term decision-making related to climate change risks. We emphasise the importance of embracing indigenous knowledge and citizen science in both adaptation strategies and early warning systems	• Proportion of the population covered by Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS) • Number of African countries with fully operational Climate Information Services (CIS) • Number of countries with climate risk-informed national planning systems

44	**Enhance drought resilience systems to shift from crisis management to proactive drought preparedness and adaptation**, to significantly reduce drought vulnerability of people, economic activities, and ecosystems	• Proportion of arable land under drought-resilient practices, such as climate-smart agriculture, conservation tillage, agroforestry, and soil moisture retention • Proportion of farmers using drought-tolerant crop varieties, e.g., drought-resistant maize, millet, sorghum, and cassava, which are crucial for maintaining yields during dry period • Annual economic loss from drought as a share of GDP • Share of drought funding that is allocated to preparedness and early warning systems • Share of agriculture that is rain-fed • Share of households with diversified livelihoods (e.g., non-farm income sources) • Number of wells and boreholes that have been dug
45	Further enhance our **inclusive approach including through engagement and coordination with the children, youth, women,** persons living with disabilities, indigenous people, and communities in climate vulnerable situations	• Percentage of women, youth, indigenous people, and Persons Living with Disabilities in climate governance structures • Percentage of climate adaptation or mitigation projects with inclusive design features • Percentage of climate financing allocated to programmes targeting vulnerable groups
46	Accelerate **implementation of the African Union Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan** (2022-2032)	• Number of AU Member States with national implementation frameworks aligned to the AU strategy • Proportion of budget allocated by AU member states to climate-resilient development • Volume of climate finance mobilised through AU-led or coordinated mechanisms

Nature

#	Nairobi Declaration Outcome	Metrics to track
25	**Focus our economic development plans on climate-positive growth**, including ... essential protection and enhancement of nature and biodiversity	• Share of national development plans including nature and biodiversity (%) • Extent to which National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) include a clear action plan (%) • Number of green jobs created or livelihoods uplifted through green growth
27	**Strengthen actions to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, deforestation, and desertification,** as well as restore degraded lands to achieve land degradation neutrality; and implement the Abidjan declaration on achieving gender equality for successful land restoration	• Extent to which commitments to 30X30 are met at country level, incl. % of land conserved and maintained for biodiversity, % of freshwater and marine ecosystems protected, no. of OECMs created • Progress towards African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100) goal to restore 100mHA of degraded land by 2030, incl.: no. of countries committed to AFR100, Area of land restored under FLR programmes, Rate of forest cover change • No. of gender-responsive restoration programs • Establishment/Reinforcement of Waste management policies, systems and technologies
32	**Contribute to the development of global standards, metrics, and market mechanisms to accurately value and compensate for the protection of nature, biodiversity**, socio-economic co-benefits, and the provision of climate services	• No. of countries with carbon regulations which facilitate community-based development of ecosystem restoration projects • No. of countries with carbon regulations in place - with benefit sharing mechanisms outlined and references to safeguarding nature and biodiversity in carbon projects • Number of carbon credit projects registered in the field of nature/biodiversity/ecosystem services • No. of biodiversity credit markets (local level) and no. of financial transactions resulting from biodiversity credit markets (e.g., African Parks sale of VNUs in Majete National Park Malawi)

		• Number of ecosystem service valuation studies and revenue from ecosystem services • Number of countries with National Frameworks for Climate Services (NFCS)
33	**Finalise and implement the African Union Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan**, with the view to realizing the 2050 vision of living in harmony with nature.	• Number of countries with NBSAPs that refer to the Africa Biodiversity Strategy • Budget allocation to biodiversity across the continent
36	**Integrate climate, biodiversity and ocean agendas** into national development plans and processes to increase resilience of local communities and national economies	• Number of national or subnational development plans, strategies, policies or visions that include focus on sustainable oceans and blue economy (incl. NDCs, NAPs, NBSAPs), in the context of the AU Blue Economy Strategy • Ratification of the BBNJ Treaty • Countries having committed to the 100% Alliance • Level of integration across climate, biodiversity, and ocean agendas - incl. policy coherence index - share of national policies with integrated objectives across climate, biodiversity, and ocean agendas, number of integrated financing mechanisms addressing all three areas, number of countries adopting multisectoral approaches for integrating all three agendas
59	We call for **revaluation of the Gross Domestic Product of Africa through the proper valuation of its abundant natural capital and ecosystem services** including but not limited to its vast forests that sequester carbon to unlock new sources of wealth for Africa. This will entail the use of natural resource accounting and	• No. of countries conducting natural capital valuation assessments, or coordinated mechanisms for natural resource accounting • No. of countries with a natural accounting strategy (e.g., South Africa 2021) • No. of sovereign debt agreements based on nature or sustainability • No. of innovative financial mechanisms being developed for nature to contribute to Africa's GDP • No. of countries with CRDCs

	development of national accounting standards	

Energy

#	Nairobi Declaration Outcome	Metrics to track
28	**Strengthen continental collaboration**, which is essential to enabling and advancing green growth, including but not limited to **regional and continental grid interconnectivity**, and **further accelerating the operationalization of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement**	• Inclusion of this commitment in the G20 Ministerial Outcome document • Share of electricity consumed that is traded across borders in Africa (i.e., Total electricity traded across borders in Africa / total consumption)
34	Provide all the necessary reforms and support required to **raise the share of renewable energy financing [of total investment in Africa across all sectors] to at least 20 percent** by 2030	• Share of total investment in Africa that goes towards renewables • Absolute value of investment in renewables in Africa annually
26	**Promote clean cooking technologies and initiatives** as a just energy transition and gender equality for African rural women, youth, and children	• Population with access to clean cooking (% of total and rural/urban split, and women/youth split where possible) • Volume of Investment in Clean Cooking: Tracking the total amount of public and private sector investment in Africa for clean cooking solutions and financing for clean cooking companies • Number of policies/regulations supporting clean cooking • Number of clean cooking manufacturers in Africa
29	**Advance green industrialization across the continent by prioritizing energy-intense industries** to trigger a **virtuous cycle of renewable energy deployment and economic activity**, with a special emphasis on adding value to Africa's natural endowments	• Investment into renewable energy supply chains (e.g., solar panels, battery production) • GDP growth in sustainable energy-intensive sectors - e.g., green

		building materials, electric vehicles, sustainable chemicals • Share of renewable energy in generation mix
49i	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: i) **Increase Africa's renewable generation capacity from 56 Giga Watts (GW) in 2022 to at least 300 GW by 2030**, both to address energy poverty and to bolster the global supply of cost-effective clean energy for industry	• Installed renewable energy capacity (GW) annually • Investment volume in renewable energy projects (USD billion/year) • Number of new utility-scale renewable energy projects commissioned
49ii	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: ii) **Shift exports of energy intensive primary processing of Africa's raw material back to the continent**, to serve as an anchor demand for our renewable energy and a means of rapidly reducing global emissions	• Share of exports that are primary raw materials
49vi	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: vi) **Accelerate efforts to decarbonize the transport, industrial and electricity sectors** through the use of **smart, digital and highly efficient technologies** such as **green hydrogen, synthetic fuels and battery storage**.	• MW of electrolyser capacity installed for green hydrogen in Africa • Value of synthetic fuels demanded in Africa • EV share of fleet (two-, three-, and four-wheelers) • Volume of global battery storage capacity installed in Africa
25	Focus our **economic development plans on climate-positive growth, including expansion of just energy transitions and renewable energy generation** for industrial activity...	• Number of national level strategies or policies that have explicit focus on renewable energy generation and transition

Green minerals and manufacturing

#	Nairobi Declaration Outcome	Metrics to track

24	Propel Africa's economic growth and job creation in a manner that reflects our commitments to the Paris Agreement and also aids global decarbonization efforts, by leapfrogging the traditional progression of industrial development and **fostering green production and supply chains on a global scale**	• Access to reliable electricity • Share of energy production that is stable baseload • Share of investment flows for green growth • Green growth index (GGGI) • Carbon intensity of growth (i.e., carbon emissions per unit of GDP) • Renewable energy share in total energy consumption • Uptake of green loans for renewable energy
29	Advance green industrialization across the continent by **prioritizing energy-intense industries** to trigger a virtuous cycle of renewable energy deployment and economic activity, **with a special emphasis on adding value to Africa's natural endowments**	• GDP growth in sustainable energy-intensive sectors - e.g., green building materials, electric vehicles, sustainable chemicals • Share of renewable energy in generation mix • Share of natural resources processed locally • Renewable energy capacity installed and the annual amount generated particularly in industrialisation use • Green industrialisation Progress Index
30	**Promote investments in reskilling** to unlock the human capital that will power Africa's inclusive green transition	• Number of green jobs created • Size of investments in reskilling programmes for the green transition • Number of annual green reskilling programs and number of individuals trained/certified per program (incl. breakdown by gender), and percentage of individuals employed post certification within 6 months/year • Inclusion of concrete green skilling targets in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and other national climate commitments • Relevant national policies developed and level of implementation
35	**Promote the production of green hydrogen and hydrogen**	• Installed electrolyser capacity for green hydrogen • Volume produced per annum

	derivatives such as green fertilizer and synthetic fuels	• Number of green hydrogen projects initiated • Energy mix that is used for the production of green fertilizer
49iii	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: iii) **Access to, and transfer of environmentally sound technologies, including technologies to support Africa's green industrialisation and transition**.	• Number of patents for green technology filed or licensed to African entities • Number of formal technology transfer agreements • Number of FDI deals that explicitly reference technology transfer
49iv	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: **iv) Design global and regional trade mechanisms** in a manner that enables products from Africa to compete on fair and equitable terms.	• Multilateral trade reform - incl.: Operationalization of Special and Differential Treatment (SDT) in African trade; Embedding of Common But Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR) in climate-related trade measures • Implementation of AfCFTA - e.g., overall reduction in tariffs under AfCFTA, share of intra-African trade, total export value • Integration of climate and sustainability in African trade - Number of trade agreements including sustainability clauses
49vii	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: **vii) Design industry policies that incentivize global investment to locations that offer the most and substantial climate benefits**, while ensuring benefits for local communities.	• Number of industry policies enacted with explicit climate-targeting criteria (i.e., policies that link tax incentives, subsidies, or permits to emissions reduction or energy/resource efficiency thresholds, e.g., mandatory green procurement standards, green industrial zones and clusters, climate-linked investment incentives) • Number of green industrial zones across the continent • Share of green industrial investments directed to least emitting or most climate-vulnerable countries

		• % of industrial investment projects with formal community engagement or benefit-sharing mechanisms

Sustainable agriculture, land use, water, and oceans

#	Nairobi Declaration Outcome	Metrics to track
25	**Focus our economic development plans on climate-positive growth**, including ...climate smart and restorative agricultural practices	• Number of national-level economic policies that include reference to climate-smart agriculture and resource-based management • Share of national budget allocated to climate smart agriculture and restorative agricultural practices
27	Strengthen actions to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, deforestation, and desertification, as well as **restore degraded lands to achieve land degradation neutrality**; and implement the **Abidjan declaration on achieving gender equality for successful land restoration**	• Share of land in Africa that is degraded • Share of farmland degraded • Investment in land restoration • Vegetation cover • Soil fertility (level of soil organic matter) or soil erosion rates
31	Redouble our efforts to **boost agricultural yields through sustainable agricultural practices**, to **enhance food security** while minimizing negative environmental impacts	• Crop yield per hectare per year • Trade balance on food and agricultural commodities • Rate of pesticide use • Fertiliser use per hectare • Rates of food loss and waste • Number of food insecure households • Area of agricultural land under irrigation
36	**Integrate climate, biodiversity and ocean**	• Number of national and sub-national development plans, strategies, policies or visions that include

	agendas into national development plans and processes to increase resilience of local communities and national economies	focus on sustainable oceans and blue economy (incl. NDCs, NAPs, NBSAPs) • Ratification of the BBNJ Treaty • Countries having committed to the 100% Alliance
37	**Promote regenerative blue economy** and support implementation of the Moroni Declaration for Ocean and Climate Action in Africa, and the Great Blue Wall Initiative, whilst recognising the circumstances of Africa's Island States	• Number of countries having joined the Great Blue Wall initiative • Number of Regenerative Seascapes committed and being established • Prospective Seascapes (under evaluation or currently actively seeking support to unlock implementation)
38	**Support smallholder farmers**, indigenous peoples, and local communities **in the green economic transition**, given their key role in ecosystems stewardship	• Number of extension workers per 1000 farmers • Amount of funding that goes towards rainfed agriculture • Presence of public institutions dedicated to indigenous affairs[170] • Reference to indigenous people in NDCs (e.g., references relate to the participation of indigenous peoples in consultation processes, as well as to the adoption of affirmative actions or the recognition of the particular vulnerabilities they face and attention to their special needs)
43	**Support implementation of the Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP),** which aims to close the Africa water investment	• Amount of investment raised towards the USD 30 billion target

170 https://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_emp/@emp_ent/documents/publication/wcms_860607.pdf

	gap by mobilising USD 30 billion by 2030	
New suggestion	Increase investment in post-harvest handling, storage, and value chains to improve food safety and reduce food losses.	• Amount of investment in food systems infrastructure (e.g., warehouses, cold chain, abattoirs • Share of food loss and waste by product type • Incidences of aflatoxins being found

Sustainable infrastructure and urbanisation

#	Nairobi Declaration Outcome	**Metrics to track**
41	Promote investments in urban infrastructure including through upgrading informal settlements and slum areas to build climate resilient cities and urban centres	• No. of local government climate action plans that address informal settlement & climate infrastructure • Volume of investment mobilised or committed to climate resilient urban infrastructure • Number of climate resilient housing units that are constructed in informal settlements • Scaling up of green building commitments, e.g., number of green building certifications • Investments into sustainable water infrastructure in cities, incl. investment into climate-resilient WASH infrastructure, share of people or percentage of population benefitting from improved climate-resilient WASH infrastructure etc. • Number of sub-national entities that have infrastructure investment portfolios that are aligned with NDCs / reference sustainability • Number of trained professionals in climate resilient infrastructure design and climate resilient urban informal settlements
49vi	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the	• No. of local government climate or energy action plans that include decarbonisation of transport, industry &/or electricity sector(s)

	following: vi) Accelerate efforts to decarbonize the transport, industrial and electricity sectors through the use of smart, digital and highly efficient technologies such as green hydrogen, synthetic fuels and battery storage.	• Electrolyser capacity installed for green hydrogen in Africa (MW) • Value of synthetic fuels demanded in Africa • EV share of fleet (two-, three-, and four-wheelers) • Share of global battery storage capacity installed in Africa (6) Value of investment mobilised or committed to pilot smart or efficient low-carbon technologies
23	Develop and implement policies, regulations and incentives aimed at attracting local, regional and global investment in green growth, inclusive of green and circular economies *(in the context of sustainable infrastructure and urbanisation)*	• Number of policies that enable urban climate change investment Number of countries with subnational climate change acts in place (as a mandate to source for green projects)
New suggestion	Advocate for the integration of national economic and industrial policymaking, urban policy, and climate policies	• Existence of inter-ministerial coordination bodies on climate-economy-urban planning • Existence of cross-references among economic, urban, and climate policies
New suggestion	Emphasise the need to dramatically scale up waste management and circular economy efforts across the continent	• Share of solid waste recycled across Africa • Number of African countries that have national waste management policies • Number of African countries with Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regulations in place

Appendix 2 – Mapping of Nairobi Declaration clauses to themes

This section maps each of the clauses in the Nairobi Declaration to the seven themes used throughout this report, including climate finance; adaptation; nature; energy; green minerals and manufacturing; sustainable agriculture, land use, water, and oceans; and, sustainable infrastructure and urbanisation.

Only clauses that specified a commitment by the leaders of African nations were included, and some clauses may have been mapped to more than one thematic group. They are noted down in number order.

Clause number	Clause	Theme
22	We call for the operationalization of the Loss & Damage fund as agreed at COP27 and resolve for a measurable Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) with indicators and targets to enable assessment of progress against negative impacts of climate change	Nature
23	Develop and implement policies, regulations and incentives aimed at attracting local, regional and global investment in green growth, inclusive of green and circular economies;	Climate finance, Sustainable infrastructure and urbanisation
24	Propel Africa's economic growth and job creation in a manner that reflects our commitments to the Paris Agreement and also aids global decarbonization efforts, by leapfrogging the traditional progression of industrial development and fostering green production and supply chains on a global scale	Green minerals and manufacturing
25	Focus our economic development plans on climate-positive growth, including expansion of just energy transitions and renewable energy generation for industrial activity, climate smart and restorative agricultural practices, and essential protection and enhancement of nature and biodiversity	Sustainable agriculture, land, water and oceans, and Nature

26	Promote clean cooking technologies and initiatives as a just energy transition and gender equality for African rural women, youth, and children	Energy
27	Strengthen actions to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, deforestation, and desertification, as well as restore degraded lands to achieve land degradation neutrality; and implement the Abidjan declaration on achieving gender equality for successful land restoration	Sustainable agriculture, land, water and oceans, and Nature
28	Strengthen continental collaboration, which is essential to enabling and advancing green growth, including but not limited to regional and continental grid interconnectivity, and further accelerating the operationalization of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement	Energy
29	Advance green industrialization across the continent by prioritizing energy-intense industries to trigger a virtuous cycle of renewable energy deployment and economic activity, with a special emphasis on adding value to Africa's natural endowments	Energy, and Green minerals and manufacturing
30	Promote investments in reskilling to unlock the human capital that will power for Africa's inclusive green transition	Green minerals and manufacturing
31	Redouble our efforts to boost agricultural yields through sustainable agricultural practices, to enhance food security while minimizing negative environmental impacts	Sustainable agriculture, land, water and oceans
32	Contribute to the development of global standards, metrics, and market mechanisms to accurately value and compensate for the protection of nature, biodiversity, socio-economic co-benefits, and the provision of climate services	Nature
33	Finalise and implement the African Union Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, with the view to realizing the 2050 vision of living in harmony with nature	Nature
34	Provide all the necessary reforms and support required to raise the share of renewable energy financing to at least 20 percent by 2030	Energy

35	Promote the production of green hydrogen and hydrogen derivatives such as green fertilizer and synthetic fuels	Green minerals and manufacturing
36	Integrate climate, biodiversity and ocean agendas into national development plans and processes to increase resilience of local communities and national economies	Sustainable agriculture, land, water and oceans, and Nature
37	Promote regenerative blue economy and support implementation of the Moroni Declaration for Ocean and Climate Action in Africa, and the Great Blue Wall Initiative, whilst recognising the circumstances of Africa's Island States	Sustainable agriculture, land, water and oceans
38	Support smallholder farmers, indigenous peoples, and local communities in the green economic transition, given their key role in ecosystems stewardship	Sustainable agriculture, land, water and oceans
39	Identify, prioritize, and mainstream adaptation into development policy-making and planning, including in the context of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)	Adaptation
40	Build effective partnerships between Africa and other regions, to meet the needs for financial, technical and technological support, and knowledge sharing for climate change adaptation	Adaptation
41	Promote investments in urban infrastructure including through upgrading informal settlements and slum areas to build climate resilient cities and urban centres	Sustainable infrastructure and urbanisation
42	Strengthen early warning systems and climate information services, as well as taking early action to protect lives, livelihoods and assets and inform long-term decision-making related to climate change risks. We emphasise the importance of embracing indigenous knowledge and citizen science in both adaptation strategies and early warning systems	Adaptation
43	Support implementation of the Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP), which aims to close the Africa water investment gap by mobilising USD 30 billion by 2030	Sustainable agriculture, land, water and oceans

44	Enhance drought resilience systems to shift from crisis management to proactive drought preparedness and adaptation, to significantly reduce drought vulnerability of people, economic activities, and ecosystems	Adaptation
45	Further enhance our inclusive approach including through engagement and coordination with the children, youth, women, persons living with disabilities, indigenous people, and communities in climate vulnerable situations	Adaptation
46	Accelerate implementation of the African Union Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan (2022-2032)	Adaptation
47	We call upon world leaders to recognise that decarbonizing the global economy is an opportunity to contribute to equality and shared prosperity.	n/a
48	We invite Development Partners from the global north and south to align technical and financial support to Africa for sustainable utilization of Africa's natural assets for low carbon development that contributes to global decarbonization	n/a
49i	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: i) Increase Africa's renewable generation capacity from 56 Giga Watts (GW) in 2022 to at least 300 GW by 2030, both to address energy poverty and to bolster the global supply of cost-effective clean energy for industry	Energy
49ii	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: ii) Shift exports of energy intensive primary processing of Africa's raw material back to the continent, to serve as an anchor demand for our renewable energy and a means of rapidly reducing global emissions	Energy
49iii	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: iii) Access to, and transfer of environmentally sound technologies, including technologies to support Africa's green industrialisation and transition.	Green minerals and manufacturing

49iv	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: iv) Design global and regional trade mechanisms in a manner that enables products from Africa to compete on fair and equitable terms.	Green minerals and manufacturing
49v	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: v) Request that trade-related environmental tariffs and non-tariff barriers must be subject to multilateral discussions and agreements and not be unilateral, arbitrary or discriminatory measures	Climate finance
49vi	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: vi) Accelerate efforts to decarbonize the transport, industrial and electricity sectors through the use of smart, digital and highly efficient technologies such as green hydrogen, synthetic fuels and battery storage.	Energy
49vi	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: vi) Accelerate efforts to decarbonize the transport, industrial and electricity sectors through the use of smart, digital and highly efficient technologies such as green hydrogen, synthetic fuels and battery storage.	Sustainable infrastructure and urbanisation
49vii	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: vii) Design industry policies that incentivize global investment to locations that offer the most and substantial climate benefits, while ensuring benefits for local communities.	Green minerals and manufacturing
49viii	We further call upon the international community to contribute to the following: viii) Implement a mix of measures that elevate Africa's share of carbon markets	Climate finance
52i	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: i. Build resilience to climate shocks, including better deployment of the Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) liquidity mechanism and disaster suspension clauses.	Climate finance

52ii	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: ii. Re-channelling of at least USD 100 billion of SDRs to Africa, including through institutions such as the African Development Bank which will be able to leverage the SDRs by three to four times. We also call for the formation of a group of SDR donors to expedite this rechannelling ahead of COP28	Climate finance
52iii	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: iii. Propose for consideration a new SDR issue for climate crisis response of at least the same magnitude as the Covid19 issue (USD 650 billion).	Climate finance
52iv	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: iv. Better leverage of the balance sheets of MDBs to scale up concessional finance to at least USD 500b per year	Climate finance
52ix	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: ix. Redesign MDB governance, to ensure a “fit for purpose” system with appropriate representation, voice, and agency of all countries	Climate finance
52v	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: v. Improve debt management, including: a. the inclusion of ‘debt pause clauses’, and b. the proposed expert review of the Common Framework and the Debt Sustainability Analysis	Climate finance
52vi	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: vi. Provide interventions and instruments for new debt relief to pre-empt debt default to: a. extend sovereign debt tenor, and b. include a 10-year grace period.	Climate finance

52vii	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: vii Decisively act on the promotion of inclusive and effective international tax cooperation at the United Nations with the aim to reduce Africa's loss of USD 27 billion annual corporate tax revenue through profit shifting, by at least 50% by 2030 and 75% by 2050.	Climate finance
52viii	Call for concrete, time-bound action on the proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to: viii. Put additional measures to crowd in and de-risk private capital, such as blended finance instruments, purchase commitments, partial foreign exchange (FX) guarantee and industrial policy collaboration, which should be informed by the risks that drive lack of private capital deployment at scale	Climate finance
56	We call for adoption of principles of responsible sovereign lending and accountability encompassing credit rating, risk analysis and debt sustainability assessment frameworks and urge the financial markets to commit to eliminate this disparity by 2025	Climate finance
57	Urge world leaders to consider the proposal for a global carbon taxation regime including a carbon tax on fossil fuel trade, maritime transport and aviation, that may also be augmented by a global financial transaction tax (FTT) to provide dedicated, affordable, and accessible finance for climate-positive investments at scale, and establish a balanced, fair and representative global governance structure for its management, with an assessment of the financial implications on socioeconomic impacts on Africa.	Climate finance
58	Propose to establish a new financing architecture that is responsive to Africa's needs including debt restructuring and relief, and the development of a new Global Climate Finance Charter through UNGA and COP processes by 2025	Climate finance

59	We call for revaluation of the Gross Domestic Product of Africa through the proper valuation of its abundant natural capital and ecosystem services including but not limited to its vast forests that sequester carbon to unlock new sources of wealth for Africa. This will entail the use of natural resource accounting and development of national accounting standards	Nature