



Kenya-South Sudan Link road upgrading

The Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) is working with the African Development Bank (AfDB), under the African Adaptation Acceleration Program (AAAP), and with Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA) to mainstream climate adaptation and resilience into a US\$ 223 million investment to upgrade critical sections of the Kenya to South-Sudan road corridor. The investment project is focused on the Lesseru-Kitale (55km) and Morpus-Lokichar (138km) sections of this corridor. Through greater connectivity, the project aims to promote uninterrupted trade and communication between Kenya and South Sudan, boost export-oriented agricultural development, and contribute to the economic and social empowerment of the local population.

Adaptation Need

The corridor is increasingly vulnerable to climate hazards such as extreme heat, flooding (both pluvial and fluvial), and landslides, which threaten its long-term functionality. Without adaptation, the road network is projected to suffer annual losses of up to \$71.5 million by 2050 under a high-emissions scenario (RCP8.5), a 340% increase from current estimates. These costs reflect both direct damages to road assets and indirect economic costs caused by traffic disruptions and downtime of the assets (trade, including food trade interruptions and potential losses of trade products). Segment-specific assessments show that risks are highest in the Morpus-Lokichar stretch, which is particularly exposed to heat and flood events, while landslides are most prominent between Morpus and Marich due to steep topography.

GCA's Added Value

GCA delivered a detailed prioritization of green and grey adaptation options with a focus on operations and maintenance interventions. GCA highlighted a set of prioritized solutions with potential value addition ranging from USD 1.3 to USD 8.7 for every dollar invested. These adaptation solutions includes design options to increase assets and operations resilience to climate hazards, as the analysis quantified assets' vulnerability without adaptation options ranging up to USD 72 million/year in damages in 2050 under the high-emissions global warming scenario (RCP 8.5).

Total Investment Value Influenced

\$222.68M

Beneficiaries

500

IFI Implementation period

2024 - 2027

Program

Infrastructure and NbS

Partners

African Development Bank

Status

Completed

Countries



SDG contribution



PROJECT GOALS

Mainstreaming Adaptation and Resilience

GCA technical analysis on the project was delivered in August 2023. GCA is now following up with KenHA to support the integration of selected adaptation and resilience technical options for the assets' design and maintenance. KenHA is at the forefront of developing its adaptation and resilience strategy and using the results, in line with KenHA strategy on climate adaptation, within their technical standards for design and assets management guidelines at the national scale.

KenHA has also taken the lead on cross-sectorial coordination, developing collaboration with Kenya Forest Service (KFS) to strengthen forestry initiatives in relation to the road network resilience (mitigating soil erosion, risks of floodings, and landslides). GCA analysis on the road corridor provided quantitative financial analysis supporting this transversal collaboration, with maximal adaptation and resilience benefits for road network and livelihoods.

Expected Outcomes

GCA's support for the AfDB and KenHA will reinforce the project's outcomes:

- 193 km of resilient, refurbished road
- 500 additional traders (60% women) utilizing improved market facilities
- 7,200 direct jobs created (30% women)

TIMELINE

GCA Support Status

Technical Assistance Preparation

GCA Support Implementation

December, 2022

GCA Support Completion

Monitoring

Project Investment Value

Total Investment Value
\$222.68M

IFI INVESTMENT VALUE

\$189.44M

OTHER INVESTMENT
VALUE

\$33.24M

IFI partners



African
Development Bank

CONTACTS

GENERAL MEDIA INQUIRIES

info@gca.org

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

infrastructure@gca.org

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