



Gambia Transport and Energy Reinforcement

The Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) is partnering with the World Bank through the Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program (AAP) on a \$52.6 million investment to enhance climate resilience in The Gambia's transport and energy infrastructure. The project focuses on improving last-mile connectivity by expanding low-voltage electricity access in 225 rural communities, strengthening urban energy grid redundancy, and upgrading 150 kilometers of seasonal roads to ensure reliable year-round access. Additionally, the project focuses on strengthening The Gambia's transport and energy sectors through policy reforms, institutional capacity building, and improved planning for sustainability, resilience, and universal access. It includes support for road sector management, climate-resilient design standards, and enabling frameworks for renewable energy investment, energy efficiency, and private sector participation.

Adaptation Need

The Gambia is already experiencing severe climate impacts, including heavy rainfall and flooding that affect rural communities. GCA's analysis shows a warming trend, declining water resources, and rising flood risks, with projected annual road infrastructure losses of up to 5% by 2050. Inland areas may face over 168 days per year above 40°C, along with increased drought and wildfire risks. These changes threaten connectivity, energy transmission, and essential services, with ripple effects on water and food systems and disproportionately affect remote rural communities.

GCA's Added Value

GCA's support involves prioritizing infrastructure investments under the adaptation angle, to support enhanced connectivity, the identification and appraisal of targeted adaptation solutions, and developing implementation guidelines to enhance current design standards. Additionally, GCA is supporting the World Bank Group and its partner, the African Development Bank Group, in advancing a climate-resilient National Transport Masterplan by identifying climate hazards and vulnerabilities at the national level. This effort aims to reaffirm sectoral ambitions that integrate climate change considerations and development priorities, with a focus on embedding long-term strategies for decarbonization and climate resilience.

Total Investment Value Influenced

\$52.60M

Beneficiaries

140,000

IFI Implementation period

2024 - 2031

Program

Infrastructure and NbS

Partners

World Bank

Status

In progress

Countries



PROJECT GOALS

Mainstreaming Adaptation and Resilience

To address escalating climate risks in The Gambia, GCA identified and prioritized technically feasible and economically viable adaptation measures across transport and energy infrastructure. For roads, targeted interventions include using polymer-modified asphalt binders, elevating roads with drainage and culverts, and redesigning bridges based on future hydrological conditions—together reducing direct flood-related damages by up to 100% and indirect impacts by over 40%. In the energy sector, adaptation options such as upgrading transformer cooling systems and insulation materials, as well as installing interphase spacers on distribution lines, are expected to reduce indirect outage risks by up to 40%. Cost-benefit analyses confirmed strong economic justification for select measures, particularly rural road and bridge upgrades, and urban energy adaptations, with benefit-cost ratios as high as 7.2. These measures aim to embed climate resilience in infrastructure design and operations, ensuring long-term service continuity and protecting vulnerable communities across The Gambia.

Expected Outcomes

Outcomes of GCA's support include:

- 100km of climate-resilient rural roads
- 50km of climate-resilient urban roads

TIMELINE

GCA Support Status

Technical Assistance Preparation

GCA Support Implementation

May, 2025

GCA Support Completion

Monitoring

Project Investment Value

Total Investment Value
\$52.60M

IFI INVESTMENT VALUE

\$52.60M

OTHER INVESTMENT
VALUE

N/A

IFI partners



THE WORLD BANK

World Bank

CONTACTS

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REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

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