



CAR Inclusive and Resilient Cities Project

The Global Center on Adaptation (GCA), in partnership with the World Bank, is supporting the CAR Urban Resilience and Inclusive Cities Project. The project aims to improve access to climate resilient infrastructure, basic services, and socioeconomic opportunities in select cities. It supports investments in infrastructure to reduce the risks related to floods and erosion and to improve inclusive service delivery in target cities.

Adaptation Need

The Central African Republic (CAR), which is classified as a conflict-affected fragile state, suffers from persistent armed civil conflict, low government effectiveness and high social vulnerability: CAR ranks 191 out of 193 countries in the Human Capital Index, with national poverty rates above 70 percent. Limited institutional oversight and capacity hinder CAR's capacity to respond to growing climate risk. Altering rainfall patterns, including both increased incidence of drought and intense flooding are likely, according to future climate projections. In August 2021 in Bangui, 4,120 people were affected by torrential rain, including 2,307 children, 48 pregnant women, 172 nursing mothers, and 23 elderly people. A business-as-usual scenario predicts GDP losses of up to 7.8 percent by 2050 due to climate change. Existing infrastructure is not sufficiently resilient to climate change and has been further weakened by successive conflicts that have led to its destruction. Nature-based solutions are employed informally and at small scale, but not adequate to the growing need for flooding and erosion mitigation in large urban areas of Bangui, Berberati and Birao.

GCA's Added Value

GCA's is promoting nature-based soil and water management (NBSWM) investments that will reduce climate risks in target cities in CAR. Ongoing GCA support identifies home-grown NBSWM practices that are already in use in CAR, evaluates their ability to address key climate risks, and suggests how these can be adapted and replicated at a larger scale to address twin challenges of flooding and erosion. Appropriate solutions will be compiled into an Inventory of NBSWM practices, which informs future investments by the World Bank and national government. By building on existing local practices, the Inventory emphasizes context-specific measures with multiple co-benefits, such as income generation and food production, supporting scaling and sustainability in fragile settings with limited institutional capacity, and are therefore more likely to be sustained over time.

Total Investment Value Influenced

\$70.00M

Beneficiaries

1.60M

IFI Implementation period

2024 - 2029

Program

Water and Urban

Partners

World Bank

Status

In progress

Countries



SDG contribution



PROJECT GOALS

Mainstreaming Adaptation and Resilience

The Inventory will outline relevant NBSWM practices that could be scaled up under World Bank investments, while also serving as practical guidance for future flood and erosion reduction efforts. To support long-term uptake, GCA is strengthening awareness and understanding among government and communities on the role and applications of nature-based solutions. As part of this effort, GCA will develop a training manual for communities on NbS for soil, water, and land management. The manual is designed as a practical tool for government officials and NGOs to use in training and supporting community-level implementation.

Expected Outcomes

People, assets, and infrastructure are protected from gully erosion and flood damage: By identifying and designing priority NbS investments, GCA will contribute to mitigating the risks of erosion and flooding in target cities,

enhancing urban resilience.

Enhanced knowledge and awareness among government and local organizations of how Nature-based Solutions can help address key climate risks—such as floods, gully erosion, and landslides—in urban areas, supported by the development of the NbS Inventory.

TIMELINE

GCA Support Status

Technical Assistance Preparation

GCA Support Implementation

September, 2024

GCA Support Completion

Monitoring

Project Investment Value

Total Investment Value
\$70.00M

IFI INVESTMENT VALUE

\$70.00M

OTHER INVESTMENT
VALUE

N/A

IFI partners



THE WORLD BANK

World Bank

CONTACTS

GENERAL MEDIA INQUIRIES

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REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

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