



South Sudan Youth Enterprise Development and Capacity Building (YEDCB) Project

The Youth Enterprise Development and Capacity Building (YEDCB) project aims to improve employability and job creation for young women and men aged 18-35 in South Sudan by strengthening the private sector, building entrepreneurship and technical skills, and enhancing the overall enabling environment for youth-led enterprise development. The project will support young people to actively participate in South Sudan's economic recovery while integrating climate resilience as a core component of enterprise sustainability

Adaptation Need

South Sudan faces compounding development challenges marked by extreme poverty, unemployment, and climate vulnerability. The poverty rate increased from 66% in 2015 to 82% in 2021, affecting over 7 million people. Climate shocks, including record flooding in 2021, are becoming more frequent and threaten livelihoods, particularly in agriculture and informal sectors. Combined with the impacts of COVID-19, insecurity, and ongoing economic instability, the country also faces high unemployment and underemployment, estimated at over 18.8% in 2020. These challenges underscore the urgent need to build climate-resilient livelihood opportunities, particularly for youth, who represent a large portion of the population.

GCA’s Added Value

GCA, in partnership with PricewaterhouseCoopers, conducted a labor market assessment to identify entrepreneurship and job opportunities in climate adaptation and resilience across priority sectors in South Sudan, including agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, manufacturing, and waste management. The study highlights specific adaptation-driven value chains and emerging markets where youth-led enterprises can thrive and contribute to both economic recovery and climate resilience.

Total Investment Value Influenced

\$9.09M

Beneficiaries

3,036

IFI Implementation period

2021 - 2025

Program

Youth Jobs and Entrepreneurship

Partners

African Development Bank

Status

Completed

Countries





PROJECT GOALS

Mainstreaming Adaptation and Resilience

GCA's intervention has mainstreamed adaptation and resilience by identifying nine key sectors for climate action: agriculture, livestock and fisheries, disaster risk reduction, energy, human settlements, industry, infrastructure and transport, tourism and recreation, health, and water resources. The study produced a comprehensive adaptation jobs taxonomy, mapped sector-specific opportunities, and identified critical skill sets required to support employment and enterprise development in climate-sensitive sectors. These insights will inform inclusive skills training, entrepreneurship support, and private sector engagement, ensuring young people are equipped to drive climate adaptation solutions and build resilient livelihoods in South Sudan.

Expected Outcomes

GCA's support for the African Development Bank will reinforce the project's outcomes:

- 5,573 jobs created.
- 30% adaptation jobs created (1671)
- 3,510 Newly established youth led MSEs.

TIMELINE

GCA Support Status

Technical Assistance Preparation

March, 2022

GCA Support Implementation

November, 2021

GCA Support Completion

Monitoring

FINANCE

Project Investment Value

Total Investment Value
\$9.09M

IFI INVESTMENT VALUE

N/A

OTHER INVESTMENT
VALUE

\$9.09M

IFI partners



African
Development Bank

GENERAL MEDIA INQUIRIES

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REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

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