



WRI IN AFRICA

Context

WRI is committed to deepening its current engagement working at the intersection of development and environment in Africa. WRI is already translating deep analytical capacity, strong partnerships with African research organizations and NGOs, and sustained engagement in many African countries into impact on the ground. Major convenings in 2015—the negotiation of new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Financing for Development conference, and international climate negotiations in Paris—present opportunities for more resilient and sustainable development pathways in Africa. Against this backdrop, WRI is well positioned to achieve impact at scale by consolidating existing work and strengthening its presence on the ground.

There are three compelling reasons to strengthen WRI's presence in Africa in view of its organizational mandate and strategic priorities. First, the issues that WRI works on are acutely relevant in this geography and there is increasing demand for the contributions WRI can offer. Second, Africa is a hub of innovation on key sustainable development challenges and WRI has much to offer and to learn from innovations to address climate, energy, water, food, urbanization and forest challenges. Third, significant opportunities for more ambitious engagement in Africa will emerge as the series of international events and commitments in 2015 reshape the landscape for climate action and development cooperation for the coming years.

Current programs

At present, WRI is working across most of its Programs and Centers to implement projects in more than 20 countries across the continent, focused mainly in East Africa and the Congo Basin. WRI's work centers on:

- poverty reduction, with a focus on food security, fair benefit-sharing of revenues from extractive industries, strengthening land and natural resource property rights, and community-based natural resource management;
- governance, with a focus on participation, representation, rule of law, and access to information in natural resource management and related environmental matters; and
- environmental management, with a focus on forest landscape restoration, re-greening agricultural landscapes, and improved land use management to boost both food security and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

WRI's flagship global mapping tools include most countries in Africa for which data is available. WRI has generated visualizations of water scarcity through its [Aqueduct](#) water risk mapping tool, and for forest cover through its [Global Forest Watch](#) tool. It has also produced the first [Environmental Democracy Index](#) that includes a number of African countries.

WRI is also a leading voice in global programs that can support African-led initiatives. For example, the New Climate Economy initiative anchored at WRI is providing key inputs to the 2015 Africa Progress Report (APR).

Led by Kofi Annan and the Africa Progress Panel, the APR will show how Africa can turn climate challenges into opportunities by transforming its energy, urban, agriculture, and finance sectors.

WRI has an on-the-ground presence housed in 5 offices of the International Union for Conservation International (IUCN)¹; a Senior Fellow in its Forests Program, based in Nairobi with the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF); a presence in Liberia through the Society for the Conservation of Nature; and another in Gabon through Muyissi Environnement. A Senior Regional Expert is currently seconded from WRI to the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Uganda and leads on climate mainstreaming.

WRI partners extensively with governments, research organizations, and NGOs and is a co-organizer of the [Landscapes for People, Food, and Nature Initiative \(LFPN\)](#). WRI also participates in the [Evergreen Agriculture Partnership](#). Private sector partnerships are a key component of WRI's collaboration with LFPN, including through its Business Working Group.

WRI is also engaged in institutional strengthening and has worked closely with many of Africa's leading policy research and public interest environmental law organizations, such as Advocates Coalition for Environment and Development (ACODE) and Greenwatch in Uganda, and the Institute for Law and Environmental Governance (ILEG) in Kenya. WRI partners closely with many governments in Africa and holds MOUs with the Ministries of Forestry in six countries across the Congo Basin and in Liberia to support improved land-use planning, forest monitoring, and transparency in forest management.

Future priorities

All WRI Programs and Centers have plans to expand their work and engagement in Africa. In the coming years this work will focus more sharply on the natural resources and ecosystems that are critical to rural populations (water, agro-ecosystems, land, forests) and that drive national economies (agricultural commodities, extractive resources). Priorities for climate include strengthening capacity for tracking and monitoring national climate commitments and developing global tools, indicators, systems, and guidance to assist national governments in assessing, tracking, implementing and enhancing national climate actions. Mainstreaming the effects of climate change, especially on the most vulnerable populations, into all programmatic activities will also be a priority.

WRI will also focus on scaling up best practices in land and water management to drive improved land use planning and productivity, monitoring of forest resources, access to information on natural resources and rights to their extraction, and capacity of local actors to translate forest information into positive change on the ground. These efforts link closely to WRI's work on securing a sustainable food future, which has addressed such topics as [reducing food loss and waste](#) and [achieving replacement level fertility](#). There are plans to expand WRI's cities work in Africa beginning with road safety in Accra, Ghana and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. WRI will also expand its efforts to strengthen institutions and establish governance systems that are responsive to citizen needs and protect land rights and environmental resources. Addressing gender as a key cross-cutting element of all these issues will remain a priority.

¹ Through IUCN, WRI has an on-the-ground presence in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, and Central African Republic. This arrangement reflects the longstanding partnership between WRI and IUCN, anchored in close alignment of organizational agendas on sustainable forest management and livelihoods development.

PROJECTS

Global Restoration Initiative

Active engagement in: Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Niger, and Malawi

Project description: WRI's Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) team helps in-country partners regain ecological integrity and enhance human well-being in deforested or damaged landscapes. Combining existing principles and techniques of development, conservation, and natural resource management, FLR integrates site-specific forest restoration activities with desired sustainable land management practices and other landscape-level objectives.

WRI and IUCN developed a Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM) to help stakeholders assess forest landscape restoration opportunities at the national or sub-national level; determine what restoration activities are the most ecologically, socially and economically beneficial in a particular landscape; to understand the social, legal and institutional context that will create enabling conditions for land users to invest in restoration; and to formulate strategies for moving forward with prioritization and implementation of restoration interventions.

In Malawi, WRI is working with The World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF) to map and assess the extent of adoption of farmer managed natural regeneration at scale across agricultural landscapes. The study will also examine the major benefits and factors driving the increase in density of trees on farms.

Partners: National governments in Kenya, Rwanda and Ethiopia, Clinton Climate Initiative, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Green Belt Movement, SOS Sahel Ethiopia, EverGreen Agriculture Partnership, Landscapes for People Food and Nature initiative, Global Partnership for Forest Landscape Restoration, SahelEco, IED-Afrique

Recent funders: The Federal Environment Ministry of Germany (BMUB), U.K. Department for International Development (DFID), Global Environment Facility, UNEP, World Bank Programme on Forests (PROFOR), and Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)

Reports and guidelines: [Forest Landscape Restoration: Building on successes with greening in the West African Sahel](#); [Scaling up Re-Greening: Six Steps to Success](#) (will launch in April 2015); [Improving Land and Water Management](#)

Tools: [Forest Landscape Opportunities Interactive Map](#); [Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology](#); [A guide to the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology \(ROAM\)](#)

Media: A video on [Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration: Success Stories from Burkina Faso](#)

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Global Forest Watch

Active engagement in: Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, and Liberia

Project description: [Global Forest Watch's \(GFW\)](#) Africa Forests Initiative (AFI) aims to maintain or restore the functional integrity of the major blocks of forest ecosystem in Central and West Africa, for the benefit of people and wildlife, through improved natural resource management and monitoring. AFI's strategy focuses on improving forest governance by developing high quality information tools and analyses and by building forest stakeholder capacities to develop, implement, and monitor more effective natural resource policy.

GFW's focus in Africa is on two main areas of intervention across the Central and West Africa: (1) Improving land and resource use and allocation through a transparent, comprehensive, participatory approach; and (2) Monitoring natural resource use to ensure respect of legal obligations, as well as associated social and environmental best practices (with a particular focus on timber, mining, and oil palm). These two focal areas will be supported by three, interlinked and cross-cutting groups of activities:

1. Building tools and applications to ensure access to high-quality information in user-friendly and decision-relevant formats,
2. Monitoring and analysis to determine natural resource policy effectiveness, and
3. Capacity building, analysis and outreach to ensure ability of local decision-makers and stakeholders to apply forest and natural resource information to action.

The primary stakeholders targeted through GFW in Africa include government land-use ministries, forest sector CSOs, and companies (exporters/importers of timber, minerals, and oil palm). Secondary audiences include national research institutions, forest stakeholder communities, local/international media, donor agencies and parliamentarians.

Partners: National governments in the Congo Basin and Liberia (notably ministries of forests and other land-use ministries via MOUs), forest sector civil society organizations

Recent funders: UNEP through the Global Environment Facility (GEF) program, World Bank, USAID-Central Africa Region Program for the Environment (CARPE), EU-FAO-FLEGT program, the government of Norway, U.K. Department for International Development (DFID), and USAID (via WRI's global GFW work)

Reports and guidelines: [Congo Basin Forest Atlases](#), [Forest Transparency Initiative](#)

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Forest Legality

Active engagement in: Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana

Project description: WRI's Forest Legality team seeks to reduce global trade in illegally sourced wood products by leveraging the U.S. Lacey Act and emerging similar legislation in other importing countries and regions. WRI's forest legality work includes the USAID-funded Forest Legality Alliance, a public-private partnership that serves as a forum for multi-stakeholder action to promote trade in legally-source forest products.

The Alliance pursues a series of activities including education and capacity building among forest product supply chains on emerging demand-side forest legality policies and new tools for increasing transparency and legality. The Alliance collaborated with the Center for International Development and Training (CIDT) to develop and provide a training course in Ghana on implementing timber legality assurance systems. In the next year, the Alliance plans to partner with the Association Technique Internationale des Bois Tropicaux (ATIBT), an international organization with member states, NGOs, and timber industry groups in Central and West Africa, to support the growing legal forest products market in the region.

Part of the forest legality team's work is also to catalyze the development and uptake of emerging technologies for timber tracking and supply chain transparency. Partnering with the World Wildlife Fund-Germany, WRI is supporting an International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) project to develop and implement species identification and timber tracking systems in Africa with DNA fingerprinting and stable isotopes.

The forest legality work also aims to equip forest product supply chain participants with practical, interactive, and freely accessible tools for exercising due care and keeping illegally harvested forest products out of the market. In the coming year, the FLA will support the continued development of the Forest Transparency Initiative, a dynamic online database for site and company level information on the commercial forest sector in Central Africa, currently led by WRI's Africa Forests Initiative.

Partners: Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA), WWF-Germany, Association Technique Internationale des Bois Tropicaux (ATIBT)

Recent funders: US Agency for International Development (USAID), Tilia Fund

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Governance of Forests Initiative

Active engagement in: Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, and Malawi

Project description: The Governance of Forests Initiative (GFI) promotes inclusive, transparent, and responsive management of forest lands and resources in order to support sustainable forest management and improve local livelihoods. GFI has worked with civil society partners in Cameroon since 2010 to strengthen transparency and participation in local decisions over resource use; build capacity of actors to monitor governance challenges in Cameroon's forest sector; and promote good governance in Cameroon's REDD+ process.

GFI also collaborates with the Africa Forests Initiative through the Strengthening Central Africa Environmental Management and Policy Support (SCAEMPS) project. This work aims to strengthen natural resource management and REDD+ policy design, implementation and monitoring in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Republic of Congo (ROC). The project brings together WRI's technical expertise in forest monitoring and mapping with its work on improving forest governance to increase access to high quality information and enhance national capacity to develop policies that protect forests, biodiversity, and livelihoods in DRC and ROC.

GFI and partners are also working on the USAID-funded Protecting Ecosystems and Restoring Forests in Malawi (PERFORM) project to carry out governance assessments of the state of participatory forest management in Malawi.

Partners: Bioresources Development and Conservation Programme-Cameroon (BDCPC); Cameroon Ecology

Recent funders: Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), International Climate and Forest Initiative, United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Tools: [Governance of Forests Initiative Indicator Framework](#)

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Land and Resource Rights Initiative

Active engagement in: Tanzania, Mozambique, and continent-wide initiatives

Project description: Indigenous peoples and local communities around the world are losing their land or losing access to critical natural resources, threatening livelihoods and triggering resource-related conflicts. WRI's Land and Resource Rights (LRR) Initiative aims to strengthen and secure land and resource rights for rural communities, indigenous peoples, and poor urban populations. LRR works with governments, civil society organizations, development agencies, private enterprises and other actors to strengthen property rights as a path to poverty reduction, sustainable development, and environmental management.

LRR's approach to strengthening rights and securing tenure includes:

- **Policy Research.** LRR conducts cutting-edge research on critical land rights issues to generate new information and change the discourse on securing community land rights. For example, LRR is currently conducting research on the relationship between community land rights and forest cover change, with a focus on the implications for mitigating climate change.
- **Legal Reviews.** LRR reviews national laws as well as company policies to contribute to reforms. For example, LRR is currently reviewing the compulsory land acquisition laws in African countries against 39 indicators that measure the strength and security of land rights. LRR is also reviewing companies' policies to assess their compliance with international land rights standards.
- **Tool Development.** LRR develops tools for governments, companies and civil society to strengthen community land rights. For example, LRR is working with 10 other land rights organizations around the world to develop a *Global Platform on Indigenous and Community Lands*. The online platform will provide maps and other information on communal lands and is targeted for use by government and company officials.
- **Technical Assistance.** LRR provides tailored technical assistance and other support to governments and companies. For example, LRR recently worked with one of the world's leading food and beverage companies to develop its land policy, and LRR is supporting their efforts to ensure effective implementation in their supply chain.
- **Capacity Building.** LRR mentors young scholars and advocates in land and resource rights, supporting their research and communications. LRR also has a long history helping to establish and strengthen independent policy research and environmental law organizations. For example, LRR is currently supporting efforts by civil society organizations in Tanzania and Mozambique to promote gender equitable community decisions regarding land.

Partners: Tanzania Women Lawyers' Association and Lawyers' Environmental Action Team (Tanzania); Centro Terra Viva (Mozambique); and Liz Alden Wily, independent land tenure specialist (Kenya)

Recent funders: Climate and Land Use Alliance, USAID through the Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, and an anonymous donor

Reports and guidelines: [Overlapping Land and Natural Resource Property Rights: A Comparative Analysis from Africa, Securing Rights, Combating Climate Change: How Strengthening Community Forest Rights Mitigates Climate Change](#)

Tools: [Rights to Resources interactive map](#)

Media: [4 Property and Land Rights Issues, Explained through Videos](#)

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The Access Initiative

Active engagement in: Benin, Cameroon, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo*², Ethiopia*, Gabon, Ghana*, Kenya, Madagascar, Namibia*, Nigeria*, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zimbabwe

Project description: The Access Initiative (TAI) is the largest network in the world dedicated to ensuring that citizens have the right and ability to influence decisions about the natural resources that sustain their communities. Access to information, access to public participation, and access to justice are practical means of ensuring that decisions by governments consider sustainable development concerns and the interests of the poor. Since TAI's inception in 2000, more than 100 civil society organizations around the world have become TAI partners and completed national level assessments of government policies and practices in more than 50 countries.

TAI is active in 15 countries in Africa, mainly through the [Environmental Democracy Index \(EDI\)](#). Poised for a May 2015 launch, EDI is an interactive platform that allows users to track their countries' progress in protecting the public's rights in environmental decision-making. TAI worked with two lawyers in each of these 15 countries to conduct research to build the EDI, and subsequently to review it. Moving forward, TAI chapters in these same countries will use the EDI to create advocacy campaigns and engage with the relevant government ministries to lead legal reforms.

Partners: TAI chapters in Africa are led by the following CSOs: Eco Ecolo (Benin); Bioresources Development and Conservation Programme Cameroon (BDCPC) (Cameroon); Council for the Defense of the Environment through Legality and Traceability (CODELT) (Democratic Republic of Congo); Croissance Saine Environment Council of Administration (Gabon); Institute for Law and Environmental Governance (ILEG) (Kenya); Development and Environmental Law Center (DELIC) (Madagascar); Centre for Environmental Policy and Advocacy (CEPA) (Malawi); Open Democracy Advice Centre (ODAC) (South Africa); Lawyers' Environmental Action Team (LEAT) (Tanzania); Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE) (Uganda); Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (ZELA) (Zimbabwe)

Recent funders: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland, the Libra Foundation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, United Nations Institute for Training and Research, United Nations Environment Program, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, International Development Cooperation

² Asterisks indicate countries with lighter-touch engagement, i.e. where there is no TAI coalition but where lawyers engaged to generate content for the EDI.

Agency of Sweden, Institute of International Education, DOEN Foundation, Open Society Foundation (South Africa), and the World Bank

Reports and guidelines: [A Seat at the Table: Including the Poor in Decisions for Development and Environment](#); [Voice and Choice: Opening the Door To EDI](#); [Assessing Access to Information, Participation, and Justice for the Environment: A Guide](#); [Closing the Gap: Information, participation, and justice in decision-making for the environment](#)

Tools: [Rapid Institutional Analysis for Adaptation \(ARIA\)](#); [Advocacy Tool Kit](#); TAI Legal Index Assessment

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The Electricity Governance Initiative

Active engagement in: South Africa, Tanzania

Project description: The Electricity Governance Initiative (EGI) is a unique network of civil society organizations dedicated to promoting transparent, inclusive and accountable decision-making in the electricity sector. EGI facilitates collaboration of civil society, policymakers, regulators, and other electricity sector actors using a common framework to define “good governance.” Since 2005, EGI has worked with civil society organizations around the world to complete assessments of electricity governance in their respective countries, and to advocate for improvements in governance. More than 30 organizations around the world are now partners in the Initiative. The World Resources Institute serves as the global secretariat for EGI, with the Prayas Energy Group (India) serving as special knowledge partner.

EGI has begun to engage with civil society partners in Tanzania to build capacity to engage in energy sector processes, particularly Sustainable Energy for All. This work is closely aligned with WRI’s Charge Initiative: Reducing Energy Poverty through Affordable Clean Energy Services.

Partners: Project 90x2030, Green Connections, Sustainable Energy Africa, WWF-SA, University of Cape Town, World Wide Fund for Nature-Tanzania, University of Dar Es-Salaam

Recent funders: Open Society Foundations, German Ministry of the Environment (BMU); Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, SIDA, Shakti Foundation, Aspen Foundation

Reports and guidelines: [Shining a Light on Electricity Governance](#), [Grounding Green Power: Bottom-up Perspectives on Smart Renewable Energy Policies in Developing Countries](#), [Meeting Renewable Energy Targets: Global Lessons from the Road to Implementation](#); [The Role of Civil Society in Energy Standards and Labelling](#)

Tools: [The Electricity Governance Indicator Toolkit](#); [10 Questions to Ask Series \(10Qs\)](#); [Low-Carbon Policy Tracking Framework and Policy Implementation Framework](#); [Electricity Distribution Interface Toolkit](#)

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Charge: Reducing Energy Poverty through Affordable Clean Energy Services

Active engagement in: Tanzania

Project description: WRI's Charge Initiative responds to the energy access challenge through a strategy that goes beyond expanding grid connections in a physical sense and offers a holistic approach which is inclusive in its planning, sustainable over the long term, and ensures that the energy poor have access to clean, affordable and reliable electricity for household uses, productive uses, and community services.

Charge couples innovative finance approaches for energy service providers with techniques to foster transparent and inclusive enabling environments. Charge seeks to establish a clear role for micro and mini-grids and “pay-as-you-go” models in target countries' national energy systems. Charge creates effective enabling conditions for clean energy entrepreneurs to scale-up supply and promote customer access to distributed clean energy services.

The project team works closely with multiple stakeholders including civil society groups, utilities, regulators, policy makers, and financial institutions.

Partners: East and South Africa Program Offices of the World Wide Fund for Nature

Recent funders: DOEN Foundation, C.S Mott Foundation

Reports and guidelines: Ten Questions to Ask about Distributed Generation (forthcoming in 2015)

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Governance for Financial Flows in Africa

Active engagement in: Kenya

Project description: Sustainable development requires channeling finance to enhance the wellbeing of present and future generations. Finance is flowing into Africa from both the private and public sectors at increasing rates for climate and development-related objectives. WRI believes that the citizens of African countries, and the governments they create, will ultimately be best placed to ensure that this finance is used to sustainably meet the needs of the poor. Currently, however, many governments in the region are unable to ensure that investments are used to protect vulnerable people and ecosystems, and civil society is still struggling to ensure such action.

The Governance for Financial Flows in Africa project seeks to strengthen and provide tools to governmental and non-governmental institutions to help them equitably and sustainably govern financial flows to high-risk projects. Currently, this work focuses on the emerging oil and gas sector in East Africa.

Partners: Kituo cha Sheria, ILEG, Friends of Lake Turkana, OCRA, Oxfam

Recent funders: C.S. Mott Foundation; John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Reports and guidelines: [Striking the Balance: Ownership and Accountability in Social and Environmental Safeguards](#); [Environmental and Social Policies in Overseas Investments: Progress and Challenges in China](#)

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Adaptation Finance Accountability Initiative

Active engagement in: Uganda and Zambia

Project description: The Adaptation Finance Accountability Initiative (AFAI) pilots new innovative tracking and monitoring tools to improve the transparency and accountability of adaptation finance delivered to the local level, so that it meets the needs of the world's most vulnerable communities. Working with local civil society groups, AFAI tracks adaptation finance in Uganda and Zambia (and outside of Africa in Nepal and the Philippines) shares lessons through alliances across Africa and Asia. AFAI builds on participating institutions' ongoing work on climate change resilience and finance.

AFAI also makes the case for greater transparency and accountability at global institutions like the Green Climate Fund (GCF), as well as other international funding bodies and with national governments. The initiative is a cooperation between Oxfam US, Overseas Development Institute (ODI), WRI, and NGO networks in the four partner countries.

Partners in Africa: Climate Action Network Uganda, Zambian Climate Change Network

Recent funders: Rockefeller Foundation, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland

Reports and guidelines: [Where Is Climate Adaptation Funding Going? A New Project Aims to Find Out; The Plumbing of Adaptation Finance; Going in the Right Direction?](#)

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Climate Finance Readiness

Active engagement in: Kenya (with light touch engagement in approximately 9 other countries)

Project description: WRI is working with a number of partners to offer needs-oriented support to countries for accessing and effectively deploying climate finance from the Green Climate Fund (GCF). WRI is partnering with UNDP and UNEP to support capacity building initiatives in 9 countries around the world, of which Kenya is a country of particular focus for WRI, and which also includes Ghana and Benin. In addition, WRI is supporting the Green Climate Fund's readiness program through engagement with a number of African countries. WRI is also working with GIZ and the GCF Secretariat to develop a set of tools that will help countries understand how to directly access funding from the GCF. These will be piloted in two countries in Africa.

Partners in Africa: Government of Kenya (National Treasury and the National Environmental Management Authority)

Recent funders: German Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Green Climate Fund (GCF) Secretariat

Reports and guidelines: [Within Reach: Strengthening Country Ownership and Accountability in Climate Finance](#); [Monitoring Climate Finance in Developing Countries: Challenges and Next Steps](#); [Mobilizing Climate Investment: The Role of International Climate Finance in Creating Readiness for Scaled-Up, Low-Carbon Energy](#); Lessons on Direct Access to International Climate Finance (forthcoming)

Tools: Framework for Climate Finance Readiness (forthcoming)

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Measurement and Performance Tracking (MAPT) project

Active engagement in: Ethiopia and South Africa

Project description: WRI is working through the [Measurement and Performance Tracking \(MAPT\)](#) project to help enhance national capacities in 5 developing countries (Ethiopia, South Africa, Colombia, India, and Thailand) to measure GHG emissions and track performance toward low-carbon development goals. Components of the MAPT project include: measuring the GHG impacts of policies and goals; corporate GHG accounting and reporting; national GHG inventories; institutional arrangements for MRV; forest carbon measurement and management; and engaging civil society to hold governments accountable for implementing climate policies. Lessons learned are also being shared with international audiences in order to replicate successes and inform the design of relevant rules within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

In Ethiopia, MAPT is partnering with the Ministry of Environment and Forests, City of Addis Ababa, and local organizations to enhance capacity to monitor and track mitigation activities under the Climate-Resilient Green Economy (CGRE) strategy.

In South Africa, MAPT is partnering with the Department of Environmental Affairs, Energy Research Centre at the University of Cape Town, National Business Initiative, and other local organizations to undertake research on institutional arrangements for MRV, build capacity of businesses to measure and report GHG emissions, track implementation of low-carbon policy, and inform the measurement of the GHG effects of key policies.

Partners: Ethiopia: Ministry of Environment and Forests, City of Addis Ababa, and Technoserve. South Africa: Department of Environmental Affairs, Energy Research Centre (ERC) at the University of Cape Town, National Business Initiative (NBI), Project 90x2030.

Recent funders: German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (BMUB)

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Support for Development of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)

Active engagement: Uganda, Ethiopia, and continent-wide initiatives

Project description: WRI uses tools, analysis, and services to target key countries to develop robust nationally determined contributions, as well as informing a global framework for ensuring ambitious, transparent, effective and equitable intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs).

WRI and UNDP partnered to develop INDC Technical Guidance for countries to design and prepare their INDCs on mitigation, adaptation, equity, and communication components. Based on WRI's GHG Protocol Policy and Action Standard and GHG Protocol Mitigation Goal Standard, the guide helps countries select mitigation design options with considerations for maximizing ambition, transparency, and practicality. The guide assists countries in incorporating adaptation components in their INDCs by focusing on how countries can structure adaptation contributions around national strategy and planning processes.

To help countries address 'fairness and ambition' of their INDCs, WRI developed a framework for the description of equitability and ambition, as well as tools such as the CAIT Equity Explorer to examine varying dimensions of these issues. WRI also developed an "Open Book" template that countries can use to put forward their INDCs in an open and transparent fashion.

WRI leverages these methodological frameworks and tools to provide technical assistance and training to governments in Ethiopia and Uganda on various aspects of their INDCs design and preparation. WRI also convenes a group of countries using the "Open Book" template, including Comoros and South Africa, for to facilitate shared learning.

Partners: Ethiopia Ministry of Environment and Forests, Uganda Ministry of Water and Environment, Ricardo-AEA, UNDP, Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN), Baastel;

Recent funders: Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany (BMZ), UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (UK-FCO)

Reports: Guide for Designing and Preparing Intended Nationally Determined Contributions; CAIT Equity Explorer; CAIT Paris Contributions Map.

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The New Climate Economy

Active engagement in: Ethiopia and South Africa

Project description: The Global Commission on the Economy and Climate and its flagship project The New Climate Economy (NCE) help governments, businesses, and society make better-informed decisions to achieve economic prosperity while combatting climate change. WRI serves as the managing partner for this project. Phase I of NCE focused on shifting the international discourse on climate action from a focus on the costs of action to one focused on the multiple benefits of action to support the broader economic and social objectives of decision makers. Now in Phase II, NCE is moving from identifying "what" is needed to deliver growth and climate action to an enhanced focus on "how" this can be catalyzed and implemented in key countries, including the world's poorest countries.

Climate change confronts developing global regions including Sub-Saharan Africa with an unprecedented challenge, but also presents them with an important opportunity to tap into the potential for a low carbon transition to act as a catalyst for inclusive growth, poverty reduction, and expanded economic opportunity. Proposed NCE activities in Africa include the development and launch of papers on energy, cities, land-use and fossil fuel subsidies as background to the Africa Progress Report, demonstrating how the key findings of the overarching NCE report are relevant to Africa. These will be followed up with close national engagement and touchpoints with key decision-makers.

Partners: Ethiopian Development Research Institute, Africa Progress Panel, African Centre for Cities, Overseas Development Institute, Stockholm Environment Institute, Climate Policy Initiative

Recent Funders: Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), UK Department of Energy & Climate Change, Swedish International Development Cooperation

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Aqueduct Water Risk Mapping and Information Platform

Active engagement in: Information for the African continent; in-depth map for Orange-Senqu River Basin in South Africa, Lesotho, Botswana, and Namibia

Project description: WRI is working through the [Aqueduct](#) global water risk mapping project to provide the best publicly available global information on 12 key indicators of water quantity, water quality and regulatory and governance “risk.” The information is provided through interactive online maps that allow users to layer and compare various indicators, such as competition for surface water and groundwater, for 15,000 catchments worldwide. Aqueduct’s sub-basin level of detail allows for comparability and consistency of information across sub-basins, across and within countries. The tool and underlying data are completely open access and available to all users.

Aqueduct also provides projections of future water stress based on the latest International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) assessment data, allowing users to consider various scenarios of future demand and changes to supply. In 2014, Aqueduct will also provide maps of projected exposure to flood risks.

In addition to the global maps, WRI developed an in-depth analysis of the Orange-Senqu River Basin in Southern Africa, working in close collaboration with the Orange-Senqu River Commission (ORASECOM), using Aqueduct’s water risk framework of indicators. These in-depth basis maps (in shapefile and PDF format) can be [downloaded](#), and [metadata information](#) behind them can be obtained from the [Aqueduct](#) website.

Partners: ISciences

Recent funders: Skoll Global Threats Fund, the Governments of the Netherlands and Sweden, and multiple international companies (see Aqueduct website for a full list of [funding partners](#))

Reports and guidelines: Aqueduct Water Risk Framework; Metadata: Aqueduct Global Maps 2.0; Freshwater Sustainability Analysis (Projected Change); Metadata: Orange-Senqu River Basin Study.

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WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities

Active engagement in: Ethiopia and Ghana

Project description: The WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities works to make urban sustainability a reality. Based on longstanding global and local experience in urban planning and mobility, WRI Sustainable Cities uses proven solutions and action-oriented tools to increase building and energy efficiency, manage water risk, encourage effective governance and make the fast-growing urban environment more resilient to new challenges. WRI Sustainable Cities aims to influence 200 cities with unique research and tools, focus a deep cross-sector approach in 4 megacities on 2 continents, and provide targeted assistance to 30 more urban areas, bringing economic, environmental and social benefits to people in cities around the globe. In concert with these aims, WRI Sustainable Cities and EMBARQ, the WRI signature initiative for sustainable transport and urban development, has developed the EMBARQ Light strategy, which is enabling the scale-up of EMBARQ's work into new geographies, including Africa, through light touch and partnership based engagements.

EMBARQ is currently engaging with 2 cities in Africa and actively pursuing more transport focused opportunities. Through a partnership with the C40 network, EMBARQ is developing a work plan in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to support the development of a BRT system through citizen engagement, capacity building, and provision of technical expertise. As a core partner of the Bloomberg Initiative for Global Road Safety, EMBARQ will be delivering technical expertise from the various international offices and on the ground, further cultivating the relationship with Addis Ababa and developing a relationship with Accra, Ghana, in addition to 8 global cities in other geographies. WRI Sustainable Cities has also worked to build capacity around utilization of the Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories (GPC) in Addis Ababa.

Partners: C40, World Bank, NACTO, and local partners

Recent Funders: Bloomberg Philanthropies, Stephen M. Ross, Shell Foundation

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