



State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO  
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

## Multilateral Organisations

# African Development Bank Group



### Africa's leading development finance institution

The African Development Bank Group (AfDB) is the leading multilateral development finance institution focused on Africa and an important partner for Switzerland to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The AfDB is majority-owned by African countries. It aims at promoting sustainable economic growth and reducing poverty. The AfDB mobilises and allocates resources for development projects in African member countries and provides policy advice and technical assistance. Thanks to its AAA credit rating, the Bank is able to borrow at attractive interest rates on global capital markets and can lend to its borrowers at favourable conditions.

The AfDB Group includes the following two main entities:

- **AfDB** (founded in 1964) provides advice and long-term financing to eligible middle-income countries and to the private sector in the form of loans, lines of credit, equity investments and guarantees.
- **African Development Fund** (founded in 1972) provides advice and long-term financing to 38 low-income countries in the form of concessional loans, grants and technical assistance. Special support is provided to fragile and conflict affected states and to boost private sector development.

Regional development focus  
Africa

Headquarter  
Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Established in  
1964

Member countries  
81, organised into 20 voting groups

Borrowing countries  
54

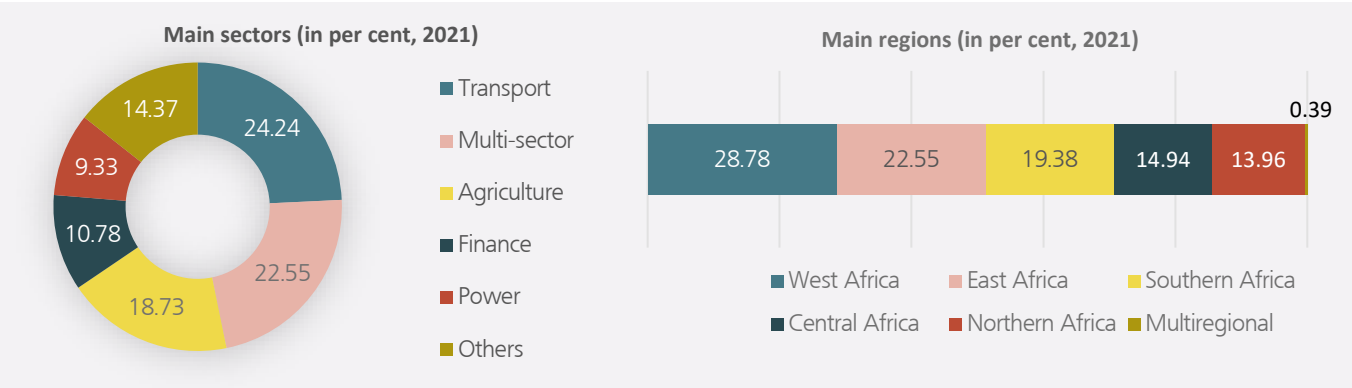
Lending volume in 2022 (USD)  
8,3 billion

Total portfolio in 2022 (USD)  
80,4 billion

### Five strategic priorities for Africa's transformation



### AfDB portfolio: Support for key sectors across the continent



## AfDB: a priority partner for Switzerland

The AfDB is a priority multilateral institution for Switzerland's international cooperation and a key partner under Switzerland's International Cooperation Strategy 2021-2024 to reduce poverty and promote sustainable development in Africa. As a member of a voting group Switzerland actively participates in the discussions and decisions of the governing bodies of the AfDB to fulfil its supervisory role as a shareholder. Switzerland is committed to:

- supporting the AfDB's institutional reforms towards a sharpened strategic focus and strengthened operational capacity through policy dialogue with management and shareholders;
- promoting the Bank's results-orientation, effectiveness, efficiency and targeted financing of development projects according to the AfDB's core expertise and strategic priorities;
- supporting AfDB's commitment to develop, improve and comply with international environmental, social and governance standards;
- ensuring an adequate capitalisation and safeguarding the AfDB's AAA credit rating.

The State Secretariat for Economic Affairs and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation jointly determine the positions Switzerland adopts at the AfDB. Switzerland's interests are represented by a Governor appointed by the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research and an Alternate-Governor appointed by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

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Swiss accession  
1972 (AfDF), 1982  
(AfDB)

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Swiss voting group  
Switzerland, Germany,  
Luxembourg, Portugal

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Swiss voting share AfDB  
1.44 per cent

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Swiss paid-in capital AfDB up to  
2022 (USD)  
222 million

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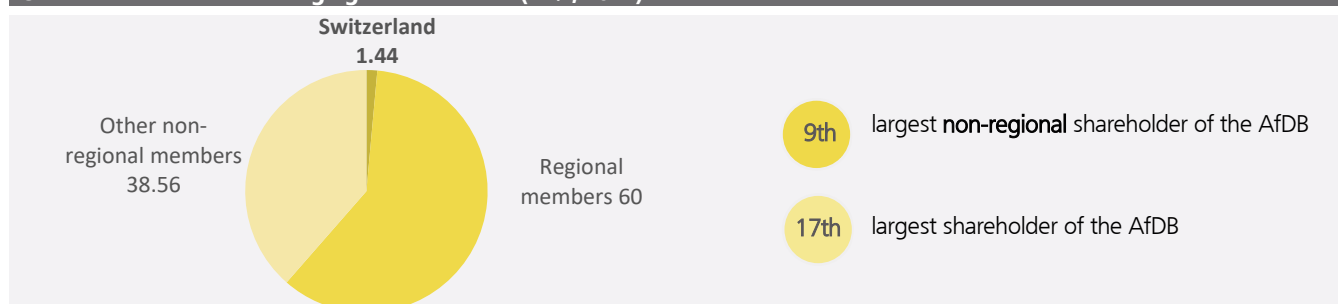
Swiss voting share AfDF  
1.96 per cent

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Swiss contribution to AfDF 2020-  
2022 (USD)  
192 million

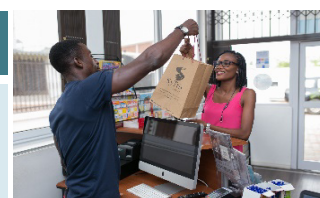
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### Switzerland's share of voting rights in the AfDB (in %, 2022)



### Example of AfDB- Swiss cooperation: AfDB and Switzerland working together for quality jobs in Africa

Switzerland and the AfDB are working together to create quality jobs and enhance innovation on the African continent by supporting start-ups. Switzerland supports the Innovation & Entrepreneurship Lab of the AfDB's Boost Africa initiative with a contribution of CHF 3 million for a period of four years. The Lab strengthens the ecosystem that start-ups need to grow and become successful. The Lab improves the capacities of support organisations, such as incubators and accelerators, strengthens the collaboration of regional and local networks and facilitates links between various actors to foster innovation and investment opportunities.



### Spotlight: The AfDB's catalysing role in climate finance in Africa

Africa is disproportionately affected by the adverse impact of climate change. While climate change poses significant risks to Africa's development and economic growth, it also gives impetus to a transition to a greener and more climate-resilient development. Under its Climate Change Action Plan, the AfDB has committed to allocate 40 per cent of its financing to climate finance annually and to provide USD 25 billion as climate finance by 2025. In 2021, the Bank allocated 41 per cent to climate finance. The Bank plays an important role in supporting Africa's energy transition. In 2021, out of 880 MW of new power capacity installed, 560 MW was renewable. 1,306,000 people were connected to new grid connections and 1,066,000 tons of carbon dioxide emissions were reduced.



#### Further information:

[www.seco-cooperation.admin.ch](http://www.seco-cooperation.admin.ch)    [www.eda.admin.ch/deza](http://www.eda.admin.ch/deza)    [www.afdb.org/](http://www.afdb.org/)

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