

# WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO END POVERTY ON A LIVABLE PLANET?

IDA Works for  
Western and  
Central Africa



**IDA**

International Development  
Association  
WORLD BANK GROUP



## WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO END POVERTY ON A LIVABLE PLANET?

# CONTEXT

With a young, dynamic population and abundant natural resources, the region has tremendous promise. IDA works with Western and Central African countries to provide financing and spur innovation needed at scale to promote a resilient recovery and realize their potential.

In Western and Central Africa:

- 1/4 of the world's poor
- 70% live in fragile and conflict-affected settings
- 20 out of 22 countries are eligible for IDA support

Creating a **world free of poverty on a livable planet** will depend on progress made in Western and Central Africa.



*From climate shocks to political instability and growing debt, Africa faces enormous challenges – but also has tremendous potential. As the largest source of concessional finance for the world's poorest countries, IDA puts people first and is playing a critical role in unlocking human capital while scaling up interventions to transform Africa.*

**Ousmane DIAGANA,**  
Regional Vice President for Western and Central Africa

## KEY NUMBERS

**IDA19 stepped up financing with the highest IDA commitments in history at \$75 billion, of which \$23.2 billion of financing (or 31% of IDA19) was allocated to countries in the region.**

IDA contributed to scale up results:

- Safety nets for more than **50 million** people, catalyzing investments in social registries and digital delivery systems.
- An additional **1.8 million** girls enrolled in secondary education since 2019.
- Covid-19 vaccination for **131 million** people with IDA support.
- More than doubling of people with broadband access since 2017.
- A near tripling in access to electricity since 2000.
- Emergency food assistance for **3.4 million** people and **11.1 million** farmers provided with agricultural support.



# IDA WORKS FOR ...



PEOPLE

## IDA WORKS FOR **PEOPLE** in **Western and Central Africa**



**Empowering women:** Over 100,000 girls and adolescents received scholarships, 3,500 safe spaces for over 100,000 vulnerable and out-of-school girls were created, and 100,000 women were trained through the **Sahel Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend (SWEDD)**.



**Better learning:** More than 2 million students improved learning outcomes through the **Ghana Accountability for Learning Outcomes Project (GALOP)**.



**Improved skills:** The **Africa Centers of Excellence Project** has provided 12,000 internships and enrolled 52,000 students - 35 percent of them women - in Western and Central Africa.



**Girls' education:** In Nigeria, 1.8 million additional girls enrolled in secondary education since 2019 and 1.2 million girls were able to access and complete secondary school education through the **Adolescent Girls Initiative for Learning and Empowerment (AGILE)**.

# IDA WORKS FOR ...



**PROSPERITY**

## IDA WORKS FOR **PROSPERITY** in **Western and Central Africa**



**Affordable housing:** The \$155 million **West African Economic and Monetary Union Affordable Housing Finance Project** has enabled 12,000 persons to become homeowners.



**Financial inclusion:** In Burkina Faso, the **Financial Inclusion Support Project (FISP)** enabled 3,000 borrowers, a third of whom were women, to access \$48.5 million in credit.



**Better data:** The **Harmonizing and Improving Statistics in West and Central Africa Project** supports regional institutions on data production, access, and use, and modernization of statistical systems.



**Jobs and inclusion:** Over 150,000 people – 87 percent of them women – have improved their living conditions through the **Cabo Verde Social Inclusion Project**.

# IDA WORKS FOR ...



## THE PLANET

### IDA WORKS FOR **THE PLANET**

in **Western and Central Africa**



**Value chains:** In Cote d'Ivoire, the **Cashew Value Chain Development Project** increased volume of domestically processed cashew nuts from 44,600 tons in 2018 to 230,000 tons. MIGA's € 95 million Trade Finance Guarantee supported imports to develop key sectors to enhance food security.



**Land restoration:** **Nigeria Agro-Climatic Resilience in Semi-Arid Landscapes** reached almost 100,000 beneficiaries with improved ecosystem services, access to water, and better managed land.



**Climate resilience:** The **West African Coastal Areas Resilience Project (WACA)** is strengthening the resilience of coastal communities in Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Mauritania, Sao Tome and Principe, and Senegal. Through better managed coastal erosion over 27,000 households are now less exposed to erosion and flooding, and 27,000 hectares of natural habitat restored in the coastal zones.



**Food systems resilience:** Through the **West Africa Food System Resilience Program**, over 1.3 million farmers in Burkina Faso, Mali, Sierra Leone and Togo have received agricultural goods and services, and more than 2,800 metric tons of fertilizers have been distributed.

# IDA WORKS FOR ...



## IDA WORKS FOR **INFRASTRUCTURE** in **Western and Central Africa**



**Energy access:** In Cameroon, the **Nachtigal Hydropower Project** seeks to decarbonize the country's energy mix by displacing thermal power generation with clean hydropower – increasing by 30 percent the country's installed energy capacity. The project is mobilizing \$1 billion in private capital by leveraging IDA, equity participation from IFC, and a MIGA guarantee.



**Regional energy trade:** The **West Africa Power Pool Program** has supported the construction of the Ghana-Burkina Faso Interconnector. The program will also connect all 14 mainland countries in Western Africa by 2024, contributing to the African Single Electricity Market.



**Regional Connectivity:** The **Lome-Ouagadougou-Naimey Economic Corridor Project** is improving regional connectivity and developing social and economic infrastructure, expanding trade, and reducing transport delays for imported and exported goods in the area.



**Transport:** In Senegal, the capital city of Dakar is introducing a new fully electric bus rapid transit (BRT) line. Over its lifetime, the **Dakar Bus Rapid Transit Pilot Project** will reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by an estimated 1.2 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.

# IDA WORKS FOR ...



**DIGITAL**

## IDA WORKS FOR **DIGITAL** in **Western and Central Africa**



**Increased broadband:** The **Digital Economy for Africa (DE4A) initiative** helped increase access to broadband internet in Africa from 26 percent in 2019 to 36 percent in 2022. In Guinea Bissau, access to internet services increased 16 fold and access to fixed and cellular telephone services increased 1.5 fold. In addition, the cost of communication services decreased by 96 percent, and the retail price of internet services reduced by 98 percent.



**Digital infrastructure:** The **West Africa Regional Communications Infrastructure Program (WARCIP)** helped to increase the geographical reach of broadband networks and reduce the costs of communications services in Mauritania. The deployment of approximately 1,700 kilometers of fiber optic cable enabled the country to establish the necessary backbone for quality mobile Internet services.





# WESTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA