AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP
GROUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

AFRICA CLIMATE CHANGE FUND

AFRICA NDC HUB



PROJECT SUMMARY

Development of Long-Term Low Carbon and Climate-Resilient Development Strategies (LTS) for Botswana, Gabon, Lesotho and Liberia

Botswana | Gabon | Lesotho | Liberia

1 Background

Funded by the Africa Climate Change Fund (ACCF) (US$500,000) and managed by the African Development Bank (AfDB), this project helped Botswana, Lesotho, Liberia and Gabon overcome data and capacity constraints in moving from Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) implementation to long-term climate strategies. It delivered Long-Term Visions (LTVs), a roadmap for net-zero, climate-resilient development by 2050, aligning climate action with national priorities and investment.

MAIN GOAL

Enhance the capacities of the target countries to formulate and implement comprehensive Low Emission Development Strategies (LTS), unlocking international climate finance and securing low-carbon growth trajectories by 2050.

2 Key Objectives — by country

Botswana	Gabon	Lesotho	Liberia
Renewable energy, efficient transport, climate-smart agriculture.	Energy decarbonisation, methane reduction, sustainable forestry, green transport.	Renewable expansion, catchment management, climate-smart agriculture.	75% renewable grid, electric vehicles (EVs), -10% deforestation, carbon market policy.

3 Main Activities

Sectoral data collection and mapping
Climate vulnerability and emission-sector gaps mapped across all four countries.

Stakeholder consultations
National workshops and bilateral meetings to ensure multisectoral ownership of each LTV.

Technical modeling
Low-carbon development scenarios built using methodologies such as Continuous Change Detection and Classification (CCDC).

LTS roadmap development
Long-term strategy documents tailored to each country's national context.

Capacity building
19 institutions trained across six themes, from vision development to climate finance.

4 Key Achievements

4/4	19	73	36
Long-Term Visions approved & government-adopted	Institutions with strengthened LTS capacity	Climate LTS experts trained (41% women)	National Focal Climate Change Champions engaged

Policy alignment — Long-Term Visions connect the Paris Agreement to national strategy

Botswana	Vision 2036 · NDCs · National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Framework · Integrated Resource Plan (30% renewables by 2030) · National Development Plan 12 (NDP12) · Sustainable Financing Strategy 2023–2030.
Gabon	NDCs (−50% by 2025 vs 2005) · NAP · Plan Climate · Strategic Plan for Emerging Gabon (PSGE)/Vision 2025 · Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) · Gabon Infini debt-for-nature swap.
Lesotho	NDCs (−35% by 2030) · NAP · Technology Needs Assessment · National Climate Change Policy 2017–2027 · Local Climate Adaptive Living (LoCAL) mechanism · National Environmental Policy.
Liberia	2nd National Communication · NDC 3.0 (−64% by 2030) · NAP 2020–2030 · Rising Vision 2030 · National Energy Policy.

Also achieved

Stronger Land Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry (LULUCF) data and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) estimates were achieved, 19 institutions and their LTS experts are now equipped to lead independently, and high-level political support secured strong national ownership of the validation process.

5 Good Practices

1. **Inclusive stakeholder engagement** — Local communities and women's groups integrated directly into decision-making; strong partnerships cultivated with private sector and governmental data providers.
2. **Capacity building & training** — Structured on-site and online sessions equipped local experts, over 41% of them women, to anchor long-term planning nationally.
3. **Strategic alignment** — Long-Term Low-Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDS) aligned with existing NDCs, NAPs and national development plans.
4. **National Focal Champions** — Champions (30% women) linking the project team and governments to ensure accurate data and ownership.
5. **Regional collaboration** — Knowledge sharing and best-practice exchange encouraged among participating countries through workshops.

6 Sustainability Mechanisms

Technical

Evidence-based, participatory approach anchored in national ministries.

Financial

National plans aligned with the Paris Agreement, unlocking climate finance.

Institutional

Steering Committees and strengthened LTS experts embed strategy into policy.

Ownership & Sustainability

Country-driven strategies embedded directly into national planning, not standalone documents.

Environmental & Social

Country-driven pathways empower women and youth in the transition to green jobs.

7 Lessons Learnt

1. **National ownership and leadership** — Strong political commitment is fundamental to ensuring long-term visions are translated into actionable national policies rather than remaining standalone documents.

2. **Capacity strengthening** — Empowering stakeholders and institutions to lead climate visioning was key to producing comprehensive LTS frameworks; continuous training remains necessary for long-term sustainability.

3. **Inter-ministerial coordination** — Stronger, formalized communication channels are needed between finance and environment ministries to keep climate planning and budgeting aligned.

4. **Strategic alignment** — Integrating climate goals with existing national plans (e.g., Liberia's Rising Vision 2030, Botswana's Vision 2036) is critical so the LTV informs broad policy and resource mobilization.

5. **Changing political contexts** — The political landscape in each country significantly influences LTV/LTS momentum; flexible implementation and strong national ownership help stabilize climate governance through transitions.

6. **Data availability gaps** — Heavy reliance on fragmented, outdated data required prolonged verification and validation, underscoring the need for reliable baseline data in future programming.

7. **Gender parity** — Enhancing future programming requires institutionalizing gender diversity in expert selection and offering hybrid learning platforms to ensure equitable access.

WAY FORWARD

Governments and partners now need to move from vision to implementation, scaling up ambition and investment to secure a low-carbon, climate-resilient future for Africa.

8 Beneficiaries

Direct

Ministries of Environment/Climate Change, national planners, technical working groups, local consultants, parastatals, academia, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), private entities and civil society across the four countries.

Indirect

Vulnerable communities, private sector stakeholders and the general population, benefiting from stronger resilience planning and clearer regulatory frameworks.

Share of female LTS experts trained, by country



Except in Botswana, structural barriers created gender imbalances in LTS expert training, a gap future programming should address through institutionalized diversity targets.

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CONTACT DETAILS

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