



FACTSHEET

NATURE, PEOPLE & CLIMATE PARTNER COUNTRIES PROGRAM OVERVIEWS

The Climate Investment Funds (CIF), one of the world's largest multilateral funds for climate action in developing countries, announced at COP27 the first set of countries and regions to benefit from CIF's Nature, People, and Climate (CIF NPC) investment platform, launched in June 2022. The investment program will finance nature-based solutions to the climate crisis in Africa's Zambezi River Basin Region (Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, and Tanzania), the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Fiji, and Kenya.

CIF NPC promotes and protects natural environments known to be integral in addressing climate change by investing in sustainable agriculture and food supply, healthy forests, and resilient coastal systems. The program also empowers Indigenous peoples and local communities to lead climate action.

CIF's governing board chose the countries and region following a comprehensive selection process, informed by independent expert assessments on

candidates' potential for transformational change, private sector mobilization, and other metrics. Selected countries will begin preparing investment plans against available funding, with implementation expected to begin in 2023.



AFRICA'S ZAMBEZI RIVER BASIN REGION

(ZAMBIA, MALAWI,
MOZAMBIQUE, NAMIBIA,
AND TANZANIA)

Context: 47 million people live within the Zambezi watercourse, almost all dependent on rain-fed agriculture. This region represents one of the largest freshwater catchments not only in Africa, but the entire world. It is extremely threatened by climate change with emerging risks of drought, reduced surface water availability, decreased rainfed crop yields, flood risk, and decreased hydropower generation.

Objective(s): Preserve the environmental integrity of the larger Zambezi basin; maintain valuable ecosystem services that support regional food security and drive economic development; and build local communities' resilience to climate change.

Key Targets:

- Create 25,000 hectares of community irrigation schemes
- Support and train 20,000 farmers in conservation agriculture
- Halt the degradation of 30,000 hectares of wetland

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Context: As a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), the Dominican Republic is part of a Caribbean region that could see an average cost of \$22 billion annually by 2050 from the effects of climate change – roughly 10% of the region's entire economy. The Dominican Republic is vulnerable to the effects of extreme weather events and even more vulnerable to the long-term impact of climate change. According to the World Bank, there is an almost 50% chance the country will be impacted by an extreme storm each year. Rainfall patterns have shifted, increasing both the number of dry days and flooding. Freshwater resources are expected to decrease 25% by 2050. The country has an urgent need to build resilience and invest in adaptation and mitigation efforts.

Objectives: Support a "ridge to reef" vision to promote economic growth and resilience in communities from the mountain to the coast, and foster inclusive and gender-equitable development. Focus on watersheds, reduction of methane emissions from rice production, and coastal ecosystems restoration and protection, including the mouth of the Yuna River, the largest single mangrove stand in the Antilles region.

Key Targets:

- Contribute to country's stated ambition of a 27% reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- Protect the largest single mangrove stand in the country and Antilles region at the mouth of the Yuna River
- Through the REDD+ program, the country estimates at least 50,000 ha of forests conserved within protected areas; 7,000 h with agrosilvopasture; 3,750 ha of cocoa under shade; 3,000 ha of coffee under shade
- It is estimated that the REDD+ program will reduce 7.04 Gg CO₂ eq/year by the end of 2025, with restoration, conservation, silvopasture and agroforestry systems.

EGYPT

Context: Due to its location and naturally arid environment, Egypt is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate impacts according to the IPCC. Egypt's Nile region, which accounts for 50% of economic activity, is one of the world's 'extreme' vulnerable hotspots and is particularly vulnerable to sea level rise. Over 80% of the population in Egypt's 14 major cities are exposed to at least one major climate risk. If trends continue, the Nile Delta will lose a minimum of 30% of its food production by 2030 – and Egypt as a whole will reach the extreme water scarcity threshold by 2033. Climate impact also jeopardizes hard-won development gains, especially for women and children.

Objective(s): Enhance agricultural production for adaptation to climate change in the Valley and Nile Delta region through: sustainable farming practices, water efficient and heat resistant crops, policy reforms for land use management, and rainwater harvesting and storage infrastructure. Increase resilience of vulnerable areas through water harvesting, combatting desertification and rehabilitating degraded pastures.

Key Targets:

- Contribute to rehabilitation of 20,000km of irrigation canals for agricultural climate resilience
- Desalinize 4 million m3 of seawater daily using renewable energy
- Cover 17% of the national marine and wildlife areas with protectorates

FIJI

Context: As a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), Fiji is highly vulnerable to climate change – particularly sea level rise, tropical cyclones and floods and cyclones. Tropical cyclones are estimated to cost Fiji around 5% of GDP each year, with a 65% probability that Fiji will experience a storm each year. Flooding alone causes significant economic loss, and the Government of Fiji estimates that a 1-in-100 year river flood would push 12.5% of the country's population into poverty. There is an urgent need to build healthy ecosystems and integrate climate-resilient development to reduce and manage the growing impacts of climate change.

Objective(s): Work to protect communities against climate effects using nature-based solutions on the coast (e.g., mangroves, seagrass meadows, riparian buffers) and in agricultural areas (e.g., agroforestry to reduce erosion, the increase of soil fertility).

Key Targets:

- Help Fiji achieve its 30% commitment to establish a network of marine-protected areas within Fiji's in-shore, archipelagic and offshore waters, protecting marine biodiversity and support communities and livelihoods.

KENYA

Context: Due to degraded landscapes and its natural climate, Kenya is especially vulnerable to climate effects. Climate-related disasters are estimated to drive an economic loss of 2-3% of the country's total GDP. Agriculture is core to Kenya's economy, contributing one-third of GDP and two-thirds of exports as well as employing 80% of the population – yet climate change effects are already being felt, with more variable precipitation causing more droughts and floods, more runoff, more soil erosion, more novel infestation, and more crop losses from changing migration. The country urgently needs a low-carbon, sustainable development pathway that will drive inclusive growth and protect the livelihoods that depend on its agriculture-based economy.

Objective(s): Protect and restore degraded landscapes like forests, farmlands, and water towards, particularly in the Mt. Elgon and Cherangany areas. Build climate resilience in local communities – notably the Rendile, Turkana, Samburu, and Borana peoples – by driving adoption of climate-smart agriculture techniques and technologies; strengthen governance, institutional capacity, and financial sustainability.

Key Targets:

- Restore degraded landscape to contribute to national objective of attaining 10% forest cover
- Restore and protect 72,872 hectares of the Mt. Elgon water towers
- Restore and protect 120,841 hectares of the Cherangany catchment area



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