Half of Africa’s nations on board as CIF pilots

With new endorsements by the CIF during 2015, AfDB’s portfolio of support to African nations climbed to engage half of Africa’s 54 countries, with some countries signing up to run pilots under more than one CIF program. The portfolio now consists of 39 pilot programs in 27 African nations.

What does this expansion signify?

It means that Africa is looking into its future and recognizing that it has a key role to play in shaping the global response to sustainable development. Today, while the continent contributes less than 3.8% to the world’s greenhouse emissions, it suffers disproportionately from negative impacts of climate change. Africa must be supported to adapt to climate change, and the African Development Bank is deeply committed to ensuring that African countries have all it takes to address climate change. It also means that the CIF is working effectively, that countries are seeing bankable investment pipelines, successful disbursements and effective policy interventions—and more countries want to join in.

Under the FIP, Congo Republic, Ivory Coast, and Mozambique were selected to join Burkina Faso, DRC and Ghana as AfDB FIP pilot countries. Mozambique already has an active pilot program under PPCR and is looking toward building synergies across multiple sectors (see pages 10–11). These six countries are endowed with a multitude of forest types and ecosystems and present a range of sectoral solutions, including emissions reduction, co-benefits for forest dependent communities, institutional capacity and preparedness for implementation, private sector engagement and participation, and support for REDD+.

At the end of 2014, AfDB began support to an additional 9 countries to raise their renewable energy profiles through SREP, taking the SREP Africa portfolio from five to 14 countries. In 2015, work began in earnest to advance those countries’ readiness to prepare policy-driven IPs. By end 2015, Uganda and Rwanda have had their IPs endorsed, and scoping missions are underway in several more. Challenges, including country capacity and ways to optimize MDB collaboration in-country, are being addressed.

Under PPCR, Ethiopia, Gambia, Madagascar, Malawi, Rwanda and Uganda were selected to join Mozambique, Niger and Zambia as PPCR countries in the AfDB CIF portfolio. Five of these are also CIF renewable energy pilots and can expand the landscape of their climate-smart development work by building climate resilience. For The Gambia, this will be the first CIF-based Investment Plan (IP). The new countries are now working to define their national Strategic Programs for Climate Resilience (SPCRs), the national PPCR investment plans which are the foundational backbone of the PPCR.

FIP offers start-up support to five additional forest nations

In May 2015, FIP approved start-up support to Cameroon, Rwanda, Tunisia, Uganda, and Zambia to help them develop investment plans; the countries will then seek funding from other bilateral and multilateral sources to implement the plans.