



# AFRICA'S CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN (2022-2032)



## THEMATIC AREA: Transforming mobility and transport



### Context

Transport systems in Africa are exposed to extreme climatic events and weather conditions, such as flooding (surface, fluvial and coastal), tropical cyclones, and high temperatures. The impacts of flooding on infrastructure can prove catastrophic for food security, communication, and the economy of affected regions. Simultaneously, transport systems can compound climate impacts, contributing to heat stress and air pollution. Increasing urbanization, motorization, and poor transport and urban planning exacerbates climate vulnerability and reduces the ability of cities to adapt.

For example, in many African countries, the majority of poor urban residents commute by foot and are forced to walk through corridors of land unsuitable



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for development, such as swamps, floodplains, and hillsides, thereby increasing their exposure to extreme weather. Furthermore, trade is crucial to food security, and transport infrastructure is the conveyance mechanism for trade. Food security in many African countries is exacerbated by a lack of resilient transport infrastructure. As critical trade routes face significant risk to disruption by climate impacts it is expected that food insecurity will worsen.



## Priority action areas

- **Build climate-aware transport planning capacity** to better shape resilient mobility systems and infrastructure.
- **Change the project financing and evaluation requirements** for development banks to prioritise resilience, modal split, access equity, and emission mitigation, alongside travel time savings.
- **Support the adaptation of road standards and transport planning guidelines** to include resilient designs, as well as prioritise the needs of the most popular and lowest carbon transport modes – walking and cycling.



## Regional policy frameworks

The Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) is an African Union Commission initiative carried out in partnership with the African Union Development Agency - New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD), the African Development Bank and other partners, which aims to accelerate infrastructure development across the continent. PIDA's main purpose is to strengthen the consensus and ownership of large cross-border infrastructure projects that integrate energy, transportation, and water development on a continental scale.

In January 2012, the African Union adopted a decision to establish the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). There is potential for the AfCFTA to enable Africa's response to climate change through targeted trade-related measures such as improved transport networks.