



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



THEMATIC AREA: Resilient urban centres



Context

It is anticipated that more than a quarter of the world's fastest growing cities are in Africa and that by 2050, its urban population will have tripled. This exponential growth, coupled with weak governance structures, limited infrastructure and resources, high levels of poverty, a growing demand for resources, lack of reliable data and limited service delivery, puts immense pressure on local and regional governance, ecosystems and infrastructure, and increases the vulnerability of urban populations to climate change and other impacts. Inadequate city planning, inefficient land use, and poor regulatory systems have created an unsustainable model of urban growth that has resulted in unmanaged, fragmented and hyper-informal cities and all forms of pollution.

Moreover, the potential consequences of climate change such as the rise in sea levels and increased frequency of extreme weather events are expected



INTRA-ACP GCCA+ PROGRAMME An initiative of the ACP Group of States funded by the European Union's European Development Fund



to increasingly strain the capacities of Africa's urban systems and heighten their vulnerability. African cities, and current and future urban transitions, can contribute significantly to the continent's climate mitigation and adaptation targets, as well as Sustainable Development Goal, biodiversity, poverty, resource sustainability and inequality targets.



Priority action areas

- **Promote resilient, nature-based solutions and urban green infrastructure.**
- **Invest in the circular economy, smart mobility, decarbonization and net zero carbon buildings.**
- **Build technical capacity** in African cities to adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- **Prioritise risk reduction and building adaptive capacity** of residents living in informal, or peri urban settlements.



Regional policy frameworks

The proposed Africa Urban Resilience Programme has been technically validated by the Member States. The programme has been designed to align with and complement existing initiatives such as the Green Recovery Action Plan (GRAP), the Africa Union Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan (2022-2032), and the COVID-19 Recovery Framework for Africa. The Programme for Infrastructural Development in Africa (PIDA) provides a common framework for African stakeholders to build the infrastructure necessary for more integrated transport, energy, information and communications technology, and transboundary water networks to boost trade, spark growth and create jobs.



Regional flagship initiatives

The GRAP aims to strengthen collaboration on shared priorities in support of the African Union's objectives for the continent's sustainable and green recovery from COVID-19 by focusing on critical areas of joint priority, one of which is resilient cities.