

Research and development

The key to innovation



5 projects
financed

in the last two years

EUR 650 000
invested

since 2016

**A social
cohesion index**

built to inform policy making
in South Africa

Research is a fundamental first step toward designing successful development projects, as it gives important insights into the political, socio-economic and environmental context in which projects will be implemented. Research helps fine-tune development projects to the realities on the ground, as well as ensure that resources are used effectively to achieve maximum impact.

All of AFD's activities are grounded in sound research, allowing the organization to gain the knowledge necessary to develop, design and enhance its products, services and processes – to become innovative – in the ever evolving development landscape. In Southern Africa, AFD has partnered with centers of study and research, universities and institutes of higher learning, and innovation centers to work collaboratively on ground-breaking research projects.

#WorldInCommon

Our action in Southern Africa

1 SPATIAL TRANSFORMATION IN JOHANNESBURG

AFD, the City of Johannesburg and the University of the Witwatersrand produced a compendium of nine reports aimed at providing operational support to, and empirical evidence for, the City of Johannesburg's Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) programme. The reports cover a range of topics, from an international comparison of TOD Corridors, to an in-depth study of the regulatory,

institutional and incentive environments in the TOD, and the response from the private sector. The reports make a number of recommendations that can be used by the City of Johannesburg to fine tune its interventions and plans to focus in on specific community needs, whilst continuing on its path to regenerate and reinvigorate the City.

2 CONCEPTUALIZING AND ANALYZING SOCIAL COHESION IN SOUTH AFRICA

AFD, the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR) and the University of Cape Town's Poverty and Inequality Initiative (UCT PII) have worked together on a research project unpacking the link between social cohesion and inequalities and their implications for policies, as well as construct and measure social cohesion indicators.

Two research papers and six working papers were published as a result of the first step of this innovative collaboration.

Broadly, the research found that high levels of inequality and the perception that inequality has not improved since the end of Apartheid are the key impediments to social cohesion. It also found that in order to build a cohesive society in South Africa, it is necessary to prioritize a defined and monitored agreement to overcome poverty, inequality and social exclusion, and that this must give voice and agency to marginalized individuals and communities.

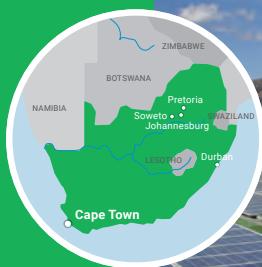
3 INCREASING CAPE TOWN'S RESILIENCE TO THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

AFD, in partnership with the Swiss Cooperation Agency and the European Union, has launched CiCliA, a regional support program for local authorities to address cities' vulnerability to climate change. In South Africa, AFD is financing two studies in partnership with the city of Cape Town, as well as French and South African experts, to map the city's vulnerabilities

to and impacts of climate change. These studies will enable the Municipality of Cape Town to identify actions both in terms of urban planning and in the choice of alternative and effective energy solutions to be implemented. In addition, they will help strengthen the city's resilience to the impacts of climate change.

SOUTH AFRICA

ANALYSE AND ESTIMATE THE POTENTIAL OF SOUTH AFRICA'S TRANSITION TO A GREEN ECONOMY



Within the context of South Africa's transition to a "green" economy, AFD has supported two studies aimed at better understanding the finance landscape for actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and the opportunities to unlock "green" jobs.

BACKGROUND

As the impacts of climate change appear more pressing and damaging, the urgency for countries to transition to climate-compatible development pathways is growing. South Africa is one of the most carbon-intensive countries in the world and is at the same time vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Large investments are required for the country to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change, including a substantial contribution from the private sector. It is also important for the country to unlock "green" jobs that demonstrate the potential of the transition to a green economy to create inclusive development.

Tracking both public and private climate finance, as well as estimating the mobilisation effect of climate-related public interventions on private investment, is essential to evaluate progress and inform effective public action. In addition, a better understanding of how a transition to a green economy can create employment opportunities is key to unlock the potential of green jobs, which can contribute to reducing poverty and inequalities in South Africa.

DESCRIPTION

In order to better understand the public and private climate finance environment and the potential for 'green' jobs in South Africa, AFD has supported the Trade and Industrial Policies Strategies (TIPS), in collaboration with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the National Business Initiative (NBI) to develop two studies:

1. Unlocking Green Jobs in South Africa: A Catalytic Intervention;
2. Estimating Publicly-Mobilised Private Finance for Climate Action.

IMPACTS

Estimating Publicly-Mobilised Private Finance for Climate Action (complete)

The research project found that domestic and public actors already mobilise large volumes of private finance by providing support through targeted policies, and to a lesser extent by committing project-level co-finance. It also found that capacity building activities, most of which are provided by international public actors, were able to mobilise additional private finance over time. However, further methodological work is required to quantify the mobilisation effect of such interventions as well as of public policies.

Estimating Publicly-Mobilised Private Finance for Climate Action (study to be completed in late 2018)

Global trends suggest that economies are transitioning to systems that take into account environmental and social requirements. Given South Africa's developmental needs, in particular job creation and poverty and inequality reduction, there is an opportunity in considering and supporting a "green" transition.

Large numbers of jobs can be created by greening the economy and that many existing jobs should be transformed toward more sustainable development practices.

SOUTH AFRICA

Country



01/12/2017

Project start date

31/12/2019

Project end date

2 years

Duration of funding



Energy, Sustainable consumption and generation

Sectors



South Africa

Location



EUR 53 400

Financing amount

ONGOING

Status

Sustainability Institute

Partners

The study aims at identifying and understanding the obstacles inhibiting efforts to create demand for green jobs, and attempting to unblock these through advocacy, social dialogue and partnerships.

Three case studies have been identified: agricultural development and bioprospecting; wood pelleting and water stewardship.

SOUTH AFRICA

CONCEPTUALIZING AND ANALYZING INEQUALITY AND SOCIAL COHESION IN SOUTH AFRICA



A collaborative research project aimed at unpacking the link between social cohesion and inequalities and their implications for policies, as well as construct and measure social cohesion indicators.

BACKGROUND

Twenty four years on since independence and the end of Apartheid, South Africans still live apart – geographically and socially. Inequality continues to provoke tension, and economic growth has not brought with it greater equality and cohesion.

To date, we do not yet have a clearly defined concept and definition of social cohesion. Without definition and measurement, we cannot conclusively determine if social cohesion has improved. Without this information, it would be difficult to formulate policies that can improve social cohesion and effectively achieve inclusive development in South Africa.

DESCRIPTION

AFD, the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR) and the University of Cape Town's Poverty and Inequality Initiative (UCT PII) have worked collaboratively on a research project addressing social cohesion and inclusive development in South Africa. More specifically, the research aims to:

- Formulate a relevant approach for social cohesion in the case of South Africa;
- Construct and measure social cohesion indicators;
- Conduct an in-depth analysis of ethnic and racial inequalities in South Africa;
- Shed light on the linkages between social cohesion and inequalities and their implications for policies.

IMPACTS

As part of this project, two policy briefs and six working papers were produced. Broadly, the research found that:

- Social cohesion hinges on overcoming prevailing prejudices, interracial mistrust, and negative attitudes towards integration;
- High levels of inequality and the perception that inequality has not improved in the post-apartheid period are the key impediments to social cohesion in South Africa;

In addition, there are two minimum requirements for building a cohesive society in South Africa:

- Prioritize a defined and monitored agreement to overcome poverty, inequality and social exclusion; and
- Do it in a way that actively and legitimately ensures voice and agency for marginalised individuals and communities.

These bold policies to address socio-economic challenges must include behaviour and practices in everyday life that demonstrate evidence of a society that is actually committed to overcoming remaining prejudices, interracial mistrust, and negative attitudes.

SOUTH AFRICA

Country



15/08/2016

Project start date

31/12/2017

Project end date

16 MONTHS

Duration of funding



Reduce Inequalities

Sectors



SOUTH AFRICA

Location



EUR 220 000

Financing amount

COMPLETED

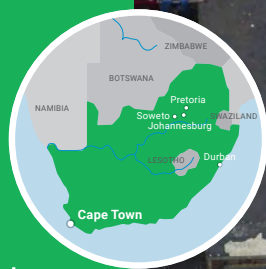
Status

**University of Cape Town (UCT)
Institute for Justice and
Reconciliation(IJR)**

Partners

SOUTH AFRICA

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOCIO-SPATIAL INTEGRATION IN CAPE TOWN



AFD supported the University of Cape Town to conduct a study to better understand the realities of socio-spatial integration in the city of Cape Town.

BACKGROUND

Cape Town, South Africa's second largest city is characterised by inefficient social and spatial fragmentation inherited from Apartheid. This is reinforced by low density urban sprawl and highly unequal land distribution patterns.

In its 2012 Spatial Development Framework, the City of Cape Town vowed to create an "inclusive, integrated and vibrant" city through densification and the provision of quality public transport. In line with these objectives, the City of Cape Town has identified two Integration Zones: 1) the Metro-South East Corridor Integration Zone (MSEIZ) and; the 2) Voortrekker Road Corridor Integration Zone (VRCIZ) as critical tools for the realisation of a more inclusive and integrated city.

DESCRIPTION

AFD has supported the University of Cape Town's African Centre for Cities (ACC) to produce a study that would help gain better understanding of socio-spatial integration in Cape Town.

The study focused on the VRCIZ, a 19 km corridor connecting Cape town CBD to Belville. It specifically focused on the Western Area of the corridor (including Maitland, Kensington and Faccerton) and its potential to bring about socio-spatial transformation.

The study consisted of in-depth interviews with residents living in informal settlements, backyards, formal rental housing, other role-players like developers and city

officials, as well as commuters who travel into and through the VRCIZ.

IMPACTS

The study's main findings were:

- ▶ General lack of understanding amongst respondents about what densification entails, as well as a resistance to the idea of densification when this was explained;
- ▶ Rental accommodation is prominent. Further infrastructure and transport investment will see an increase in residential property prices. This calls for careful consideration of the affordability levels of any future public housing provided to prevent possible displacement of poorer households from the three areas;
- ▶ Safety remains a significant issue;
- ▶ There is a need for better communication and "public participation protocols" in order to strengthen the voice of affected communities and ensure that they have a say in development processes which directly impact their lives;
- ▶ There is a need for housing affordability and the release and development of state-owned land in light of rising property prices.



SOUTH AFRICA

Country

07/06/2016

Project start date

31/12/2017

Project end date



18 months

Duration of funding

Sustainable cities

Sectors



Cape Town, SOUTH AFRICA

Location



EUR 31 875

Financing amount

COMPLETED

Status

African Center for Cities

Partners

AFD is an inclusive public financial institution and the main actor in France's development policy. It makes commitments to projects that genuinely improve the everyday lives of people, in developing and emerging countries and in the French overseas territories.

AFD works in many sectors – energy, health, biodiversity, water, digital technologies, training – and supports the transition to a safer, more equitable and more sustainable world: a world in common. Its action is fully in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Through its network of 85 agencies, AFD operates in 109 countries and is currently supporting over 3,500 development projects. In 2017, it earmarked EUR 10.4bn to finance these projects.

**AGENCE FRANÇAISE
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT**

**FRENCH DEVELOPMENT
AGENCY**

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