

# AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC TRUST FUND (ACP TRUST FUND)

## ABOUT THE TRUST FUND

The African, Caribbean and Pacific Trust Fund (ACP Trust Fund) was created in 2023, building on decades of European Investment Bank (EIB) financing experience in the three regions. The ACP Trust Fund relies on two pillars of support, from the European Commission and from the EU Member States. It fosters sustainable economic, social and environmental development of African, Caribbean and Pacific countries, with the primary aim of promoting growth and prosperity.

The ACP Trust Fund's **EU compartment** has been operational since 2023. It focuses on boosting economic growth, including in the least developed and most fragile countries, by investing in high-impact projects for the private sector. It offers financial instruments such as equity, quasi-equity, debt, risk-sharing and local currency lending as well as technical assistance targeting private sector projects.

The trust fund's **Member States compartment** is complementary to the European Commission-financed compartment and provides the following types of support in the public and private sectors:

- **Technical assistance** to help raise standards and ensure that environmental and social requirements are met during a project's preparation and implementation phases. It includes pre-feasibility and feasibility studies, design and tender documents, environmental and social impact assessments, and skills development at the institutional level.
- **Investment grants** to help lower the beneficiary's total financing needs. The grants can also add specific social or economic value to projects.
- **Interest rate subsidies** are expected to reduce the cost of borrowing, particularly when project promoters face debt sustainability constraints.

## Strategic priorities

The overarching goals of the ACP Trust Fund are in line with the European Union's strategic orientations:

- [Green Deal](#)
- [Global Gateway](#)
- [Jobs and inclusive growth](#)



## BOOSTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE ACP REGIONS

EU compartment: **€500 MILLION**,  
with the aim of triggering €2.5 billion to €3.5 billion in investments

Member States compartment: **€31 MILLION** in donor funds contributed in 2024

The geographic coverage of the ACP Trust Fund is very broad, but the beneficiary countries face similar challenges. The trust fund promotes inclusive and sustainable private sector-driven economic growth and development, especially in least developed countries and fragile states, most of which are located within its geographical scope. It aims to have an impact on environmental sustainability, climate action, gender equality, social inclusion, economic resilience, and peacebuilding.

At the end of 2023, two of the four operations supported were sector- and country-focused (agriculture in Madagascar and digital connectivity in Uganda) and two were regional and covered more sectors, including high-growth small and medium-sized businesses and digitalisation. Almost half of the ACP Trust Fund operations supported West Africa (see page ACP 4), with the remainder split between East and Central Africa, Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean.

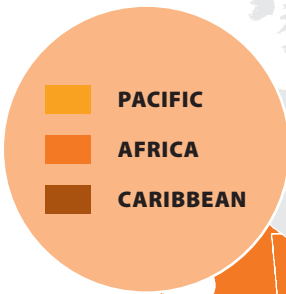
## EXPECTED IMPACT

Projects supported by the EU compartment by the end of 2023 are expected to sustain around **12 000 jobs**, build more than **500 new mobile sites** to provide telecom services in rural areas, and introduce or improve the **sustainable management of 6 125 hectares of land**.

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS SUPPORTED



## ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES



**Africa:** Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Republic of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe. **Caribbean:** Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago. **Pacific:** Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

**Note:** The European Investment Bank does not endorse, accept or judge the legal status of any territory, boundaries, colours, denominations or information depicted on this map.

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- In recent years, a combination of drought and livestock diseases, the severe impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the rippling effects of Russia's war in Ukraine have led to famine, which affected hundreds of thousands of people in **Madagascar** in 2021-2022. A €20 million **ACP Trust Fund loan to Sahanalala**, a local social enterprise, will reduce reliance on imports for food and **boost nature-friendly food production for the domestic market** and for export.
- **Innovative businesses and startups across Africa** will benefit from better access to risk capital thanks to a **\$30 million equity investment in the Seedstars Africa Ventures I** venture capital fund by EIB Global, the Bank's development arm (including \$20 million through the ACP Trust Fund). Increased access to capital will allow companies to grow and will create skilled jobs and better products and services for businesses and consumers. The fund will invest in companies developing and implementing digital technologies, in particular for education, healthcare and utilities, and in businesses that improve services and efficiency.
- In **Uganda**, a **\$40 million ACP Trust Fund loan** is helping to **tackle the digital divide** by supporting better access to telecom services. The ACP Trust Fund is backing an EIB Global investment in TowerCo of Africa, which will install more than 500 new telecom towers in rural areas to provide internet data services, mobile money solutions and better financial inclusion. The new towers will bring network coverage up to 95% of the country from 65%. A significant portion of the new towers will be powered by solar energy, reducing the risk of fuel and generator theft, and contributing to the climate transition.

## AREAS OF ACTION

Climate  
Financial inclusion  
Economic resilience  
Digitalisation  
Energy

## ACP TRUST FUND AT A GLANCE

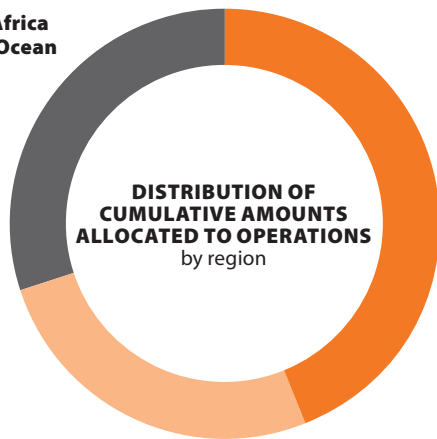
**€500 MILLION** contributed by the European Commission

**€81 MILLION** allocated to operations

**€241 MILLION** of expected total investment supported in relation to donor-supported projects

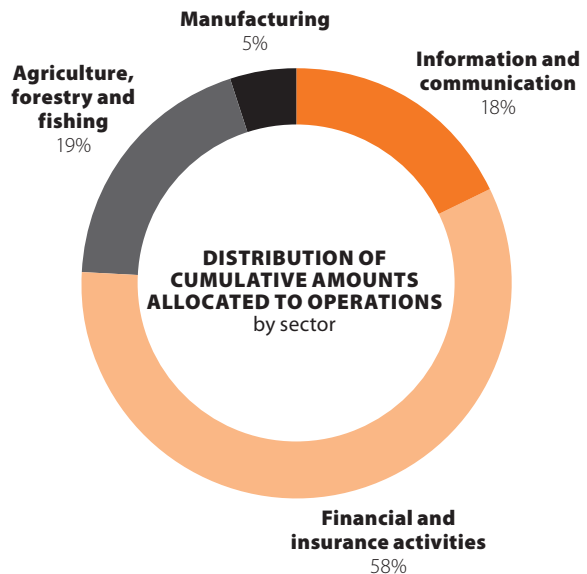
**4**  
operations

**Southern Africa and Indian Ocean**  
30%



**West Africa**  
44%

**East and Central Africa**  
26%



### OUR DONORS

This trust fund is multi-donor. The fund's EU compartment was launched in 2023 thanks to a contribution from the **European Commission**. The trust fund's Member State compartment opened for contributions from **EU members** in 2024. By the end of August 2024, it had already received contributions from the following donors, and more are expected to join:

<b>DENMARK</b>	<b>LUXEMBOURG</b>	<b>SPAIN</b>
<b>FINLAND</b>	<b>PORTUGAL</b>	

### MEMBER STATES COMPARTMENT

The ACP Trust Fund Member States compartment became operational in June 2024 and donors are still joining at time of publication. The latest information is [available on our website](#).