

AFR100 PULSE

HARNESSING AFRICA'S FLR SPIRIT

PUBLIC INVESTMENTS FROM
THE NATIONAL BUDGETS
AND AFR100 IMPLEMENTATION

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We support the



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I. INTRODUCTION

AFR100 implementation requires various sources of investments in order to fulfill countries' commitment to the AFR100 initiative. In particular, public investments from national country budgets are very much needed to show governments' engagement to the AFR100 initiative. In order to encourage public sector investments in FLR projects from the national budgets, AFR100 Focal Points, the AFR100 Secretariat, technical and financial partners of the AFR100 initiative need to communicate regularly with policy makers and present the results of the restoration activities that are carried out in their respective countries. That would sensitize the governments and will enable them increase their financial support to the AFR100 initiative. Since the launch of the AFR100 initiative in December 2015, African governments have made very good effort to support FLR activities in their countries through the leaderships of the Ministries of Environment, the Ministries of Agriculture and the Ministries of Finance and Budget, among others.

Support from national budgets to the AFR100 initiative could be of various forms including the salaries of staff working in FLR projects funded by governments ; the production of seedlings for planting in degraded forests and lands ; financial support to institutions in charge of deforestation and land degradation in the countries ; support to FLR projects carried out at local and national level etc...In Rwanda, during the period 2018–2021, a total amount of 904.8 million USD has been invested on 71 FLR projects and programmes. Public investments represented 161.3 million USD (17.83 %) ; total private sector investments represented 8.072 million USD (0.89%). International donor support represented 734,674,450 USD (81.19%)ⁱ.

African countries, members of the AFR100 initiative have ratified the Paris agreement on climate which oblige them to update their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) every 5 years. As a result, governments allocate an important percentage of their national budgets to NDC activities related to climate change mitigation and adaptation (<https://unfccc.int/NDCREG>)ⁱⁱ. For example for climate change mitigation as part of the NDC, the government of Benin needs to mobilize 8.557 billion USD of which 5.069 billion USD will be the contribution from the government budget and the national private sector ; 3.488 billion USD will be mobilized from the international community. For adaptation activities, the government of Benin needs to mobilize 1.796 billion USD of which 0.578 billion USD will come from the national budget and the national private sector and 1.218 billion USD will be mobilized from the international community (<https://unfccc.int/NDCREG>). For Kenya, the total cost of implementing the current NDC activities on adaptation and mitigation is estimated at 62 billion USD of which 13 percent (8 billion USD) will be funded through government budget (<https://unfccc.int/NDCREG>).

The general objective of this information note is to show governments' investments in FLR activities from their national budgets. The goal is not to compare government investments with those made by the private sector and financial institutions but to show the magnitude of governments' investments in FLR from the national budgets. This is an important information to evaluate better the financial investments in FLR by governments from the national budgets and to encourage them to find ways of increasing their FLR investments from the national budgets in order to accelerate AFR100 implementation.

II. METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

A first survey questionnaire was elaborated in June 2022 to ask the AFR100 Focal Points to respond to whether their governments support restoration activities from their national budgets (yes/no question) and to provide the estimate in USD of the amount of government investments in FLR from the 2022 national budgets (second question). The first survey had a low response in providing an estimate of governments' investments in FLR from the national budgets, which made us realize that time was needed in order to get this information. In fact, the AFR100 Focal Points did not necessarily have the information on top of their heads and therefore they needed to interact with other divisions in the Ministries of Environment and other sectoral Ministries, especially the Ministries of Finance and budget in order to collect all relevant information on government investments in FLR from the national budgets. That is why a second survey was made by contacting the AFR100 Focal Points who could not provide an estimate of their countries' contribution during the first survey.

Twenty out of the 34 actual countries members of the AFR100 initiative (58.8%) responded to the two surveys. These countries are : **Benin, Burundi, Chad, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, and Togo** (see table 1).



III. GOVERNMENT INVESTMENTS IN FLR FROM THE NATIONAL BUDGETS

Table 1. 2022 Government investments in FLR from the national budgets

COUNTRIES	REGIONS	2022 Investments in FLR from the national budgets (USD)
Benin	West Africa	8,333,000
Burundi	East Africa	733,443
Chad	Central Africa	506,870*
Cameroon	Central Africa	909,000
Côte d'Ivoire	West Africa	7,909,809
Eswatini	Southern Africa	312,500
Ethiopia	East Africa	141,767
Ghana	West Africa	More than 15,000,000
Kenya	East Africa	607,638,078****
Madagascar	Southern Africa	316,000
Malawi	East Africa	11,381,146
Namibia	Southern Africa	11,580
Niger	West Africa	3,030,300
Nigeria	West Africa	More than 11,400,336**
Rwanda	East Africa	5,688, 310
Senegal	West Africa	37,225,400*****
South Africa	Southern Africa	80,076,775***
Sudan	Northern Africa	3,010,350
Tanzania	East Africa	13,115,000
Togo	West Africa	2,567,887

Source : Survey questionnaires of AFR100 Focal Points

NOTES

*This amount does not include the budget allocated to the national agency of the Great Green Wall in Chad.

**The total amount is just for the Federal Ministry of Environment and it does not include personnel cost. The breakdown as follows :

- a) Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (FRIN) : Nairas 2,639,681,335
 - b) National Agency for the Great Green Wall (NAGGW) : Nairas 2,070,979,602
 - c) Federal Department of Forestry (FDF) : Nairas 352,875,157
 - d) Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought Management (DLD&DM) : Nairas 207,295,632
- Total : Nairas 5,270,831,726 ; Exchange rate : One USD=462.34 Nairas ;**

***South Africa : The total government investment from the national budget is as follows in 2022 :

Working for Land (Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment):- R100 million- USD 5,790,154 ; Working for water and wetlands (Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment): -R1.2 billion- USD 69,481,848 ; LandCare Programme (Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development): R 83 million- USD 4,804,773.

**** **Thank you to Rose Akombo** (Kenya Forest Service, Regional Forest Conservation (Western), Former AFR100 Focal Point of Kenya) for providing this valuable information broken down as follows :

- a) Ministry of Environment of Kenya expenditures (from national budget) on Forest and Landscape Restoration activities, including salaries of public staff involved in these activities=41,411 million **Kshs**;
- b) Ministry of Agriculture of Kenya investments on restoration of lands to increase soil fertility, allocation in agroforestry, including the salaries of public staff involved in these activities=41,200 million **Kshs**;
- c) Expenditures by the government of Kenya on mangrove restoration= 500 million **Kshs**;
- d) Government expenditures to support the Forest and Landscape Restoration Monitoring activities=500 million **Kshs**; **1 USD=137.6 kshs**;

*******Thank you to Delphin Leon Diatta, Deputy Director of DPVE/MEDDTE of Senegal** for providing this valuable information during the round table discussion organized on May 31 in Dakar, Senegal. This allocation was included in his presentation entitled "Défis et écarts financiers à combler pour atteindre les engagements du gouvernement: Eléments de stratégie de mobilisation des investissements dans la RPF au Sénégal". In 2020, the government of Senegal allocated 14.6 million USD in FLR activities. In 2021, it allocated 18.049 million in FLR activities.

IV. DISCUSSION OF GOVERNMENT INVESTMENTS FROM THE NATIONAL BUDGETS FOR AFR100 IMPLEMENTATION

- Table 1 shows 2022 government investments in FLR from the national budgets for twenty AFR100 countries. In terms of geographical representation, among the countries that responded to the surveys, 7 are from West Africa, 2 from Central Africa, 6 from East Africa, 1 from Northern Africa and 4 from Southern Africa.
- In 2022, the governments of 20 AFR100 countries have allocated 809.2 million USD in forest landscape restoration activities using their national budgets. This shows that AFR100 countries are committed to using part of their national budgets for FLR activities. Seven governments in West Africa have invested 74,368,010 USD ; Governments in Central Africa (Cameroon and Chad) have invested 1,415,870 USD ; Six governments in East Africa have invested 638,697,744 USD ; Four governments in Southern Africa region have invested 80,716,855 USD. Northern Africa (Sudan) has invested 3,010,350 USD.
- In West Africa, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo spent each more than 2 million USD in FLR activities from national budgets. Senegal alone had allocated 37.2 million USD, Ghana had allocated more than 15 million USD in FLR activities. The countries in West Africa account for 13.95 percent of the total area pledged by the 34 countries, members of the AFR100 initiative.
- In East Africa, Malawi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania spent each more than 5 million USD in FLR activities from national budgets. Kenya alone had allocated more than 607 million USD in FLR activities, Malawi had allocated more than 11 million USD and Tanzania more than 13 million USD. The countries in East Africa (including Burundi and Ethiopia) account for 26 percent of the total area pledged by the 34 countries, members of the AFR100 initiative.
- In Southern Africa region, South Africa invested more than 80 million USD in FLR activities from the national budget. This country (and Eswatini, Madagascar and Namibia)^{ix} account for 6.3 percent of the total area pledged by the 34 countries, members of the AFR100 initiative.
- In Central Africa, Cameroon and Chad invested each more than 500 000 USD in FLR activities. These countries account for 10.3 percent of the total area pledged by the 34 countries, members of the AFR100 initiative.
- In Northern Africa, Sudan invested more than 3 million USD in FLR activities. This country alone accounts for 11.2 percent of the total area pledged by the 34 countries, members of the AFR100 initiative.
- In 2022, Kenya ranked first in terms of government allocation in FLR activities from the national budget, followed by South Africa, Senegal, Ghana, Tanzania, Nigeria and Malawi.
- The position of Kenya as the lead AFR100 country in terms of government investments in FLR (607.6 million USD) is not surprising because the government of Kenya through the Kenya Landscape Restoration Monitoring Technical Group has produced and published in October 2022 the Kenya Forest and Landscape Restoration Monitoring Frameworkⁱⁱⁱ. Furthermore, in 2022, the government of Kenya has allocated 3,633,720 USD in monitoring AFR100 implementation in the country.
- The 20 AFR100 countries that provided government investments in FLR activities from the national budgets account for 72.8 percent of the total area pledged under the AFR100 initiative.

- Eastern Africa is the region where government investments in FLR from the national budgets is the highest, followed by Southern Africa, West Africa, Northern Africa and Central Africa respectively.
- It is important to note that the public investments from the national budgets reported in table 1 above should be considered as an underestimated amount in the sense that many AFR100 countries did not include in their estimates the investments in FLR from the national budgets made through the Ministry of Agriculture (agroforestry, soil fertility enhancement, integration of agriculture and livestock, etc...) and other sectoral ministries.



V. CONCLUSIONS

- African governments, members of the AFR100 initiative are making good effort in using national budgets to support FLR activities in their countries.
- This effort needs to be increased during the second phase of the AFR100 initiative, november 2022–november 2026 by engaging a policy dialogue with governments and to communicate the results of FLR implementation.
- With the availability of the AFR100 monitoring platform with its three pillars, environment, socio-economic and governance, an increased effort needs to be made in monitoring AFR100 implementation at the national level to stimulate governments to allocate more investments in FLR from their national budgets. Indeed there is an interdependence between monitoring and finance. In fact, successful monitoring of AFR100 implementation enables to get more financial resources which will lead to more monitoring of FLR activities and reporting to governments and AFR100 technical and financial partners. Since the launch of the AFR100 in 2015, several member countries that have joined the initiative earlier are eager to know the percentage of the amount pledged that **has been restored** so far in their countries^{iv}



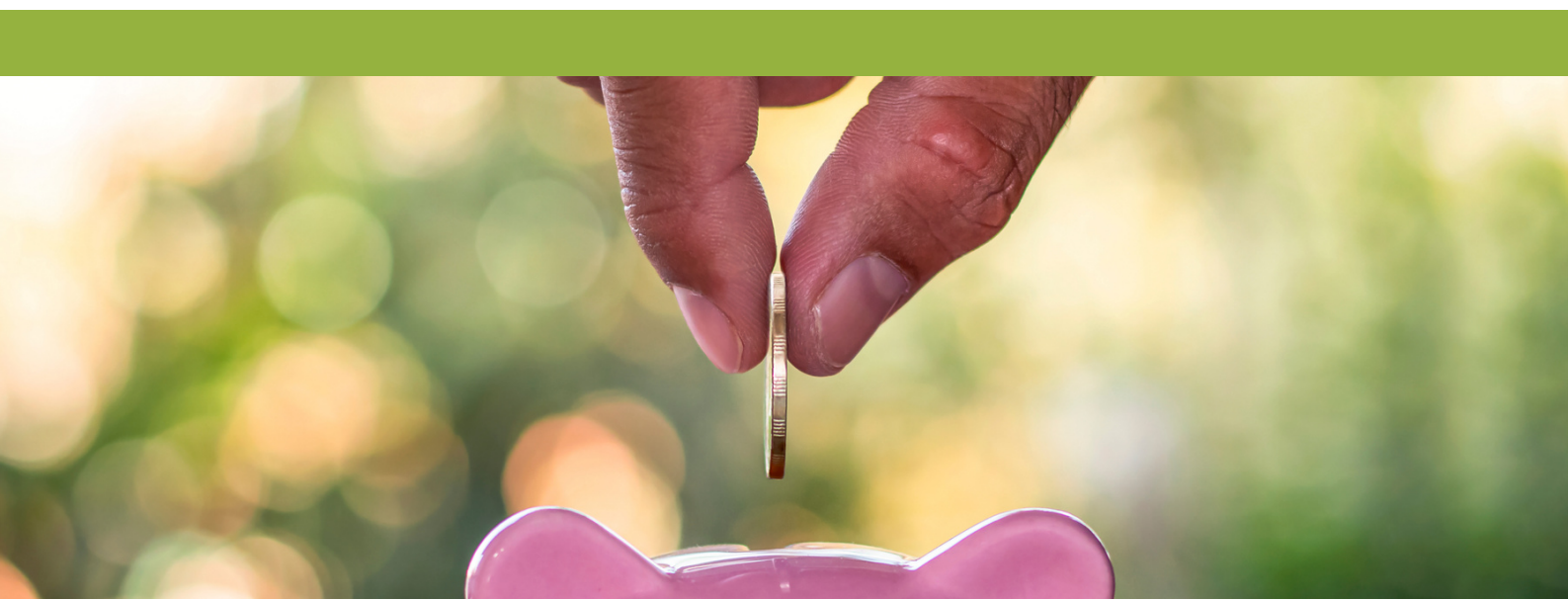
VI. RECOMMENDATIONS AND LIMITATIONS

VI.A. RECOMMENDATIONS

- The governments of AFR100 countries should be sensitized regularly on the need to increase their national budget support for AFR100 implementation at the national level by showing them the results of AFR100 implementation in the respective countries.
- The AFR100 initiative should encourage member countries to explore the international carbon markets because the AFR100 activities they carry out allow them to reduce carbon emissions which could enable them mobilize more investments for FLR implementation at national level. For example, under REDD+, Gabon is allowed to sell carbon credits worth 90 million tons, which could generate 2.25 billion USD if each ton of carbon is sold at 25 USD^v. In January 2023, Ghana received 4,862,280 USD from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Carbon Fund for emission reductions of 972456 tons^{vi}. African countries are discussing the possibility of creating a regional carbon market in order to join their effort aimed at getting higher carbon prices. Currently, the price of one ton of carbon is 100 USD in Europe and 10 USD in Africa^{vii}.

VI.B. LIMITATIONS

- It would be important in future studies to assess simultaneously the amount of public funding from the national budget allocated to FLR activities, the exact amount received from governments and the amount effectively spent on FLR activities. Unfortunately, this study could not capture all this information, which is one major limitation.



END NOTES

[i] Adrie Mukashema draft consultancy report (2023). "Successful forest landscape cases from selected AFR100 countries : Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda."

[ii] <https://unfccc.int/NDCREG>

[iii] Kenya Forest and Landscape Restoration Monitoring Framework. A framework on forests and landscape restoration, October 2022 ;

<https://apps.worldagroforestry.org/downloads/Publications/PDFS/2022039.pdf>.

[iv] An attempt has been made based on AFR100 Focal Points' own assessment. See information note August 2022 entitled "Monitoring AFR100 implementation : An Assessment by AFR100 Focal Points.

[v] <https://www-forbes-com.cdn.ampproject.org/c/s/www.forbes.com/sites/kensilverstein/2022/07/24/if-gabons-largest-ever-carbon-credit-sale-works-it-will-be-world-changing/amp/>.

[vi] <https://www.fao.org/national-forest-monitoring/news/detail/en/c/1619172/>

[vii] Kwame Ababio, head of Climate Change and Environment Unit (CC&E U), Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Division (CC&ESD), AUDA-NEPAD. Personal communication on June 12, 2023.

