



of the Federal Republic of Germany

Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation

Addressing Climate Change in South Africa

Supporting the development and implementation of South Africa's climate policy and strengthening South Africa's role in the international climate negotiations

The challenge

South Africa is a country particularly vulnerable to climate change: Extreme weather events, such as the severe drought that hit the Cape Town region from 2016 to 2018, are already occurring more frequently, and the average temperature is expected to rise particularly sharply in the future. Climate change impacts are already directly and indirectly felt across all sectors and throughout society, threatening socio-economic development in South Africa.

Simultaneously, the country's power and industrial sector heavily rely on coal, resulting in a yearly per capita emission rate of approximately 10 tons of carbon dioxide. This is 43 % above the global average, making South Africa one of the 20 largest emitters of greenhouse gases worldwide.

As a signatory to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the country is committed to combating climate change and has recently set a new ambitious 2030 target range. However, domestic policies and their successful implementation will need an additional boost to meet it.

Our approach

GIZ implements the Climate Support Programme (CSP) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV), as part of the International Climate Initiative (IKI). The programme supports its main partner, the South African Department of Forests, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) in mainstreaming and implementing its climate change policies.











Project name	Climate Support Programme South Africa – Phase III (CSP3)
Commisioned by	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV)
Project region	South Africa
Lead executing agency	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)
Duration	01.04.2017 – 31.03.2022

CSP3 has the following focal areas:

- Governance The improvement of the institutional and legal foundation of the South African climate policy is supported by CSP.
- Mitigation The set up of South Africa's mitigation system, an organised structure that consists of different elements that are critical for the country's emission reduction ambitions, is supported. In addition, the capacity at sub-national level on climate change mitigation and adaptation is strengthened.
- Adaptation CSP assists with the enhancement of the country's resilience in light of climate change, e.g., through the support of the finalisation of the National Adaptation Strategy as well as local and provincial strategies.
 - Flagship Support Programme The programme supports the identification of and planning for implementation of South Africa's Near-Term Priority Climate Change Flagship





L. to r.: Solar Tracker at CSIR, Material Recovery Facility





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programmes, covering different sectors such as energy, transport, waste and agriculture.

Monitoring, Reporting, Verification (MRV) & Transparency -CSP programme supports the improvement of South Africa's inventory in terms of completeness and accuracy. It further supports DFFE in measuring the impact of adaptation and mitigation policies and measures, measures to achieve sustainable development, as well as financial needs and investments in South Africa.

The target group of the CSP is particularly DFFE, with outreach to other national government departments in different sectors as well as other spheres of government (local and provincial) and the broader public through consultation processes.

BMUV International Climate Initiative (IKI):

The project is part of BMUV's International Climate Initiative (IKI). The initiative places clear emphasis on climate change mitigation, adaptation to the impacts of climate change and the protection of biological diversity. These efforts provide various co-benefits, particularly the improvement of living conditions in partner countries.

Since its establishment in 2008, the IKI has launched more than 750 climate and biodiversity projects in more than 60 countries. The resources for international climate and biodiversity activities carried out by GIZ and other implementing organisations such as KfW Development Bank, multilateral organisations like UN organisations, NGOs, research institutes, foundations and private companies have grown steadily since the programme was launched. Whereas some €170 million was available for on-going projects in 2008, by 2020 the figure had risen to €601 million.

Results in figures...

The Climate Support Programme has in its third phase provided assistance in developing South Africa's

- Low-Emission Development Strategy 2050 (SA LEDS)
- Climate Change Bill
- third and fourth Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC
- National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (NCCAS) and the associated communication strategy.

Since the start of the third phase of the programme, a total of 65 municipalities from 17 districts were trained in mitigation, adaptation and climate finance as part of the Local Government Climate Change Support Programme (LGSP), and four IKI networking workshops were conducted, promoting knowledge sharing and cooperation among IKI projects in South Africa. In addition, several baseline documents have been established, supporting the development of effective climate policies and actions based on scientific analysis.

...and in stories

CSP assisted DFFE in designing nationally appropriate climate protection measures, emission avoidance strategies, a national strategy for climate change adaptation, and the implementation of a web-based IT monitoring system for climate information. The Climate Support Programme also provided support for South Africa's Just Transition process. In this way, the project contributed to South Africa's ability to meet its mitigation and adaptation goals (including the Nationally Determined Contribution under the UNFCCC, the Climate Change Bill and the National Adaptation Strategy), as well as its national and international reporting obligations, and to accelerate the desired transformation to a lower carbon economy and climate resilient society.

Published by Deutsche Gesellschaft für

Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

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www.giz.de/en/worldwide/312.html

March 2022 As at Printed by GIZ Pretoria GIZ Pretoria Design

Photo credits List of photographers in alphabetical order

Carolin Weinkopf: page 2 left Claus Nakata: page 2 right

CSP: page 1

GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication.

On behalf of Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conserva-

tion, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV)

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