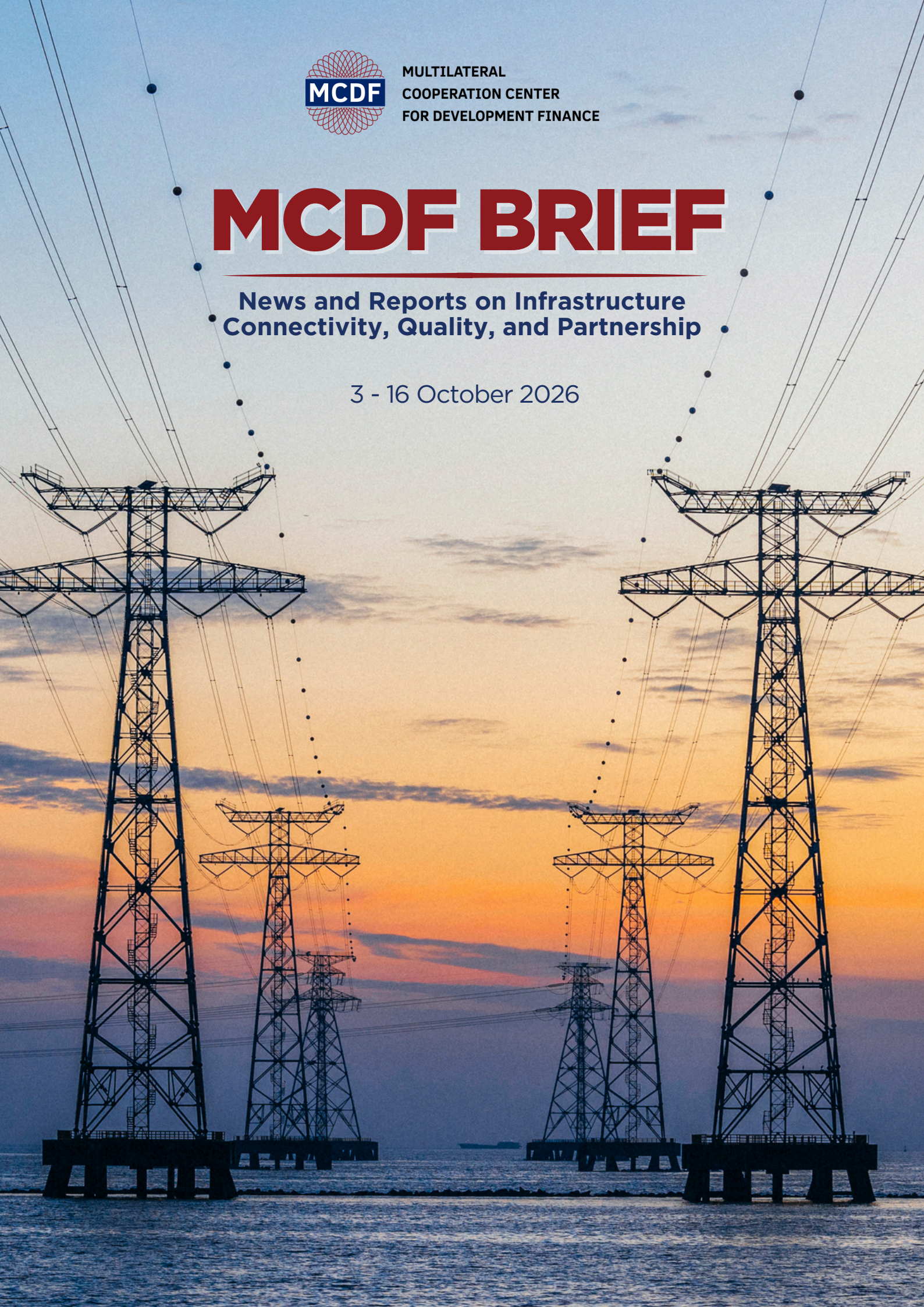
MULTILATERAL
COOPERATION CENTER
FOR DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

MCDF BRIEF

News and Reports on Infrastructure Connectivity, Quality, and Partnership

3 - 16 October 2026



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CONNECTIVITY[1]

TRANSPORT

Airport: Adani Airports to rebuild Mumbai Terminal 1 in India

Adani Airport Holdings will begin phased redevelopment of Mumbai International Airport's Terminal 1 in January 2027 to address safety concerns and raise annual capacity by 33 percent, from 15 million to 20 million passengers. The first phase will temporarily remove 5 million passenger slots, with airlines able to shift services to Navi Mumbai International Airport; 91 percent of current traffic will continue during construction. Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL) has not disclosed a project-specific cost or dedicated financing allocation. The works form part of its wider modernization program, supported by a USD1 billion project-finance framework secured in 2025, primarily for refinancing and broader capital expenditure rather than specifically earmarked for Terminal 1. Source: Adani

Airport: JICA signs USD1 billion loan for Chinggis Khaan airport expansion in Mongolia

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a JPY158.3 billion (USD1 billion) Japanese official development assistance (ODA) loan with Mongolia to expand Chinggis Khaan International Airport and strengthen Ulaanbaatar's international connectivity. The project will build a passenger terminal, taxiways, aprons, parking and access roads and upgrade utilities. The main loan carries a 1.1 percent interest rate, 40-year maturity and 10-year grace period under Japan's Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP)[2] framework. Procurement of the principal construction package is expected in March 2028, with completion targeted for December 2033. Source: JICA

Port: Peru's private investment agency promotes USD844 million Corío Port Project to transform southern Peru into a logistics hub

Peru, through its Private Investment Promotion Agency (ProInversión), is promoting the USD845 million Corío Port Terminal in three stages, including USD651.98 million for Phase 1, USD109.25 million for Phase 2 and USD83.25 million for Phase 3. The project includes a

[1] 'Connectivity' infrastructure for MCDF refers to the linkage of communities, economies and nations through transport, communications, energy and water networks across countries.

[2] STEP refers to special assistance terms for promoting the visibility of Japanese aid through a transfer of outstanding Japanese technology and expertise to developing nations. The main contract is Japan tied and subcontracting is general untied.

logistics city of 34,000 hectares and aims to establish southern Peru as a logistics, industrial and commercial hub linked with Bolivia, Brazil and Asia-Pacific markets. The amounts are estimated investment requirements, not secured financing; the official sources do not identify a concessionaire or committed financing package. Source: ProInversion, Agencia Andina and ProInversión

Road: ADB approves USD306 million financing to upgrade strategic highways, strengthen wildlife conservation in Nepal

Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved USD305.75 million for Nepal's South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) Highway Improvement and Ecosystem Restoration Project: a USD285 million loan, USD20 million Asian Development Fund (ADF) grant and USD750,000 technical assistance. The project will widen 70km of the East–West Highway and 8.7km of the Prithvi Highway, add bridges and an elevated section through the Barandabhar wildlife corridor, and strengthen road safety, climate resilience, biodiversity protection and regional trade. Source: ADB and ADB project document

Road: IsDB and Cameroon sign EUR212 million financing agreement for major road rehabilitation project to connect with port of Douala

Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and Cameroon signed EUR212.35 million in financing to rehabilitate the Douala–Bafoussam corridor, including 218km of national roads and 108km of feeder roads. The project will improve links between the Littoral and West regions, lower transport costs, facilitate goods movement through the Port of Douala and upgrade community infrastructure. Source: IsDB

Road: IsDB and Benin sign EUR307 million in financing for the Godomey–Ouidah–Hillacondji road project cofinanced by BOAD and AfDB

Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and Benin signed EUR326 million in financing agreements, including EUR306.89 million for the EUR576.06 million Godomey–Ouidah–Hillacondji road project. The road is co-financed by IsDB, the West African Development Bank (BOAD), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the Government of Benin. Official BOAD documents confirm BOAD financing and a national-budget contribution, while AfDB is financing the Ouidah–Hillacondji/Comè–Grand-Popo component. The investment will improve road safety and efficiency, reduce travel times and transport costs, and strengthen trade and connectivity along the Abidjan–Lagos corridor. Source: IsDB; BOAD procurement notice; BOAD project financing document; and AfDB

Railway: Jordanian-UAE USD2.5 billion rail project breaks ground

Jordan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) broke ground on the USD2.5 billion, 403km Aqaba–Al-Shidiyeh–Maan freight railway, a joint UAE–Jordanian investment being developed by the Jordan–UAE Railway Company. The line will connect Aqaba with mining and production sites and the Maan Logistics Zone, carry 16 million tons of phosphate and potash annually, and reduce mineral-transport costs by USD40 million a year. Construction includes 55 bridges and six tunnels and is expected to create 5,000 jobs. An April 2026 agreement described an earlier 360km, USD2.3 billion configuration; the USD2.5 billion figure relates to the expanded 403km project announced at groundbreaking. Source: Etihad Rail, Petra News and Etihad Rail

Railway: Brazil launches private-sector framework to reactivate 10,000km of idle railway

Brazil's Ministry of Transport presented a public-call model, validated by the Federal Court of Accounts, to return 10,000km of idle, deactivated or relinquished railway to productive use through private-sector participation. The initial portfolio includes seven shortline sections with potential for freight, passenger or tourism services, alongside auctions for logistics terminals. The initiative is a framework for testing market interest and structuring individual projects, not a single awarded concession; official sources do not disclose an aggregate investment value or financing package. Source: Brazil Ministry of Transport

Railway: Dakar regional express train reaches international airport

Senegal opened the 19km second phase of the Dakar Regional Express Train, completing the 55km corridor to Blaise Diagne International Airport and cutting the end-to-end journey to under 50 minutes. Phase 2 cost West African CFA franc (CFA)300 billion (USD502 million), added seven bi-mode trains and increased service frequency, strengthening gateway connectivity ahead of the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games. Source: IRJ

ENERGY

Africa50 and Indian power company NTPC partner to develop African power projects and cross-border electricity trade

Africa50, the specialist investor in African infrastructure, and NTPC Limited, India's largest power utility agreed to identify and develop commercially viable power-generation projects and cross-border electricity trade across Africa. Africa50 will originate, structure and de-risk investments through its government relationships and project pipeline, while NTPC will

provide engineering, feasibility, construction-management and operating expertise to strengthen regional power systems and mobilize investment. Source: Africa50

Power Pool: Joint statement of The Forty-Fourth ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) energy ministers advanced the ASEAN Power Grid, including implementation of the enhanced regional Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and legal and regulatory guidance for submarine power cables. The meeting held on 7 October 2026 in Manila, The Philippines, also delivered regional initiatives on energy outlooks, carbon capture, storage integration, energy-management certification and cross-border renewable-energy certificates, linking energy security, investment and transition priorities. Source: ASEAN and ASEAN statement

Power Pool: AfDB supports strengthening of power system planning in East Africa

The African Development Bank (AfDB), Eastern Africa Power Pool (EAPP) and the African Union Development Agency–New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD) are updating the Regional Power System Master Plan (RPSMP) with Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA) support. Representatives of 16 utilities reviewed demand forecasts, generation and transmission data, identified gaps and strengthened forecasting capacity following a two-day workshop on the EAPP RPSMP, held in Kigali, Rwanda, from 29 to 30 September 2026. The plan will guide interconnection investment and cross-border electricity trade, supporting Mission 300 and more reliable regional power systems. Source: AfDB

Solar+storage: Spanish Grenergy secures USD460 million Chile solar and storage financing

Grenergy, a Spanish multinational clean energy company, secured USD457 million in non-recourse senior financing, including USD26 million in credit facilities, for 446MW of solar capacity and 1.8GWh of battery storage in Chile. BNP Paribas acted as lead arranger and underwriter, with BBVA, J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, MUFG Bank, Santander and The Bank of Nova Scotia participating. The package finances the 242MW/1.48GWh Algarrobal project, backed by a 12-year hybrid power purchase agreement beginning 1 January 2028, and the operational 204MW/289MWh Palmas portfolio. It also refinances 14 of the 21 Palmas projects, whose original financing totaled USD85 million. Source: Grenergy

Hydropower: Bhutan power company and Indian Adani Power partner on 770MW Bhutan project

Bhutan's state-owned Druk Green Power Corporation (DGPC) and Adani Power signed a shareholders' agreement to develop the 770MW Chamkharchhu-I peaking run-of-river hydropower project in Zhemgang District in Bhutan. The project will be implemented under a build-own-operate-transfer model through a 51:49 equity partnership, with DGPC holding the majority stake, and a 30-year concession from commercial operation. Construction is expected to begin in the first half of 2027, with commissioning targeted within six years of groundbreaking. The project forms part of the partners' broader 5,000MW hydropower-development framework and is intended to meet Bhutan's winter demand while enabling summer power exports to India. Source: DGPC, Adani and Adani

GOWA-IRENA report: *The Emerging Role of Offshore Wind for Energy Security in Small Island Developing States*

This joint report produced by the Global Offshore Wind Alliance and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) examines how offshore wind and other ocean technologies can help to overcome the structural challenges faced by Small Island Developing States (SIDS) face in their energy transitions. The report finds that offshore wind and other ocean-energy technologies could reduce fuel-import exposure, generation costs and land constraints in SIDS while strengthening energy and water security. Deployment will require affordable finance, enabling infrastructure, regional coordination and international partnerships to de-risk investment and build capacity. Source: IRENA and GOWA-IRENA report

ACE report: *The 9th ASEAN Energy Outlook*

The ASEAN Member States (AMS), through the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE), present the 9th ASEAN Energy Outlook (AEO9). It supports the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 and the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2026-2030.

The 9th ASEAN Energy Outlook models regional pathways to 2060 and identifies deeper integration as central to energy security. Under the coordinated-transition scenario, ASEAN Power Grid interconnection capacity rises 20-fold, electricity exchanges increase 12-fold and 15 cross-border lines are added. Renewables reach 64 percent of generation capacity by 2060, while annual investment averages USD405 billion. The pathway also sharply reduces oil imports and emissions but requires faster efficiency, electrification, grid, storage and institutional reforms. Source: ACE and ACE report

IRENA report: *World Energy Transitions Outlook 2026: The 1.5°C Pathway*

The International Renewable Energy Agency's (IRENA) revised 1.5°C Scenario, set out in the 2026 edition of the World Energy Transition Outlook report, positions electrification, energy efficiency, grids, storage and flexibility as the key drivers of a successful global transition, enabled by renewable energy, clean hydrogen and sustainable biomass.

IRENA's 2026 outlook finds that implementation of the 1.5°C pathway requires coordinated scaling of renewables, electrification, efficiency, grids, storage and flexibility. The report finds that this progress remains too slow and uneven. The central challenge is increasingly one of accelerating implementation: scaling renewable energy, electrification, energy efficiency, grids, storage and flexibility together, while maintaining energy security, affordability and public acceptance.

According to the report, renewable capacity would rise from 5.2TW to 38.2TW by 2050, while electricity exceeds 50 percent of final energy use. Required investment and expenditure averages USD10.3 trillion annually during 2026–2050; equitable access, skills and integrated national and regional planning are essential. Source: IRENA and IRENA report

DIGITAL

AI: AfDB and UNDP advance AI 10 Billion Initiative to turn Africa's AI potential into productivity

African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are advancing the AI 10 Billion Initiative to mobilize USD1 billion annually over a decade for energy, data, skills and investable AI projects. The AI 10 Billion Initiative is a co-designed partnership between AfDB, UNDP, and private sector partners. The initiative could support 25 million jobs by 2035; AfDB estimates inclusive AI adoption could add up to USD1 trillion to Africa's GDP. Country work will diagnose productivity opportunities, prepare projects and convene investors. AfDB and UNDP will begin with 5 countries, extending to 20 by the end of 2027, and invite governments, development finance institutions, private investors and philanthropies to join the initiative. Source: AfDB

Broadband and Mobile: IDB Invest and IDB Lab join forces with One Communications to expand connectivity in Guyana in first Caribbean Telecommunications Project

The private sector arm of the Inter-American Development Bank, IDB Invest will provide up to USD40 million to One Communications, a subsidiary of US-based ATN International—

USD30 million in senior debt and a USD10 million revolving facility—to expand fibre-to-the-home coverage to 80 percent of premises and upgrade Guyana's mobile network to 4.5G/5G. IDB Lab, the innovation and venture arm of the Inter-American Development Bank, will support Mobile Money Guyana to expand digital financial services, targeting 30,000 new users in underserved regions. Source: IDB Invest

ADB-GSMA Intelligence report: *Closing the Mobile Connectivity Gap in Developing Asia and The Pacific*

Asian Development Bank (ADB) estimates that achieving universal mobile coverage in developing Asia and the Pacific by 2030 requires USD316 billion, including USD184 billion in additional spending. Despite 98 percent 4G coverage, 1.2 billion people remain offline, highlighting barriers beyond network availability. Addressing device affordability, digital literacy, and gender and rural disparities could help unlock an estimated USD230 billion economic uplift, while supporting education, poverty reduction and lower emissions. The report highlights three policy priorities:

- Improve device affordability: so more people can access mobile internet.
- Strengthen digital literacy: to turn network coverage into actual use.
- Target rural and gender gaps: addressing both underserved areas and barriers to adoption. Source: ADB.

Microsoft report: *Global AI Diffusion Q2 2026 - Trends and Insights*

Microsoft's *Global AI Diffusion Report, Q2 2026* estimates that 18.8 percent of the world's working-age population used generative AI in June 2026. Adoption reached 28.8 percent in the Global North, compared with 16.2 percent in the Global South, reflecting a widening divide. The United Arab Emirates and Singapore led adoption at 73.3 percent and 64.3 percent, respectively. Microsoft highlights the potential of open-weight models to lower access costs and support local-language applications in developing economies, while noting persistent infrastructure, connectivity and skills barriers. Source: Microsoft, Microsoft report interactive summary and Microsoft report

TRADE AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION

PIDA launches mid-term review of Africa's priority infrastructure program

The Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) launched a mid-term review of its Priority Action Plan 2 (PAP 2), covering 69 regional transport, energy, transboundary-water and ICT projects valued at USD160.7 billion. The review will assess implementation delays, prioritize projects by readiness and regional value, identify preparation and financing

gaps, and examine packaging and blended-finance options. It will also map partner support and strengthen evidence for engagement with financiers and the private sector. Source: AU

QUALITY

MCDF NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

Building capacity for E&S standards in connectivity infrastructure

Supported by a USD829,500 MCDF Finance Facility grant and implemented by the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), the Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing: Environment and Social Safeguards project promotes the application of environmental and social (E&S) standards and good practices by developing countries and developing country financiers (New Partners) through Community of Practice knowledge-sharing seminars, an E&S e-learning platform, and technical assistance for the preparation of infrastructure projects with high E&S standards. Source: MCDF

CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

New regional cooperation launched to accelerate energy transition in Latin America and the Caribbean

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) launched the Partnership for Accelerating Renewables in Latin America and the Caribbean (PARLAC) to translate national and cross-border transition plans into investable programs through policy support, investment facilitation and knowledge sharing. Estimated needs include USD3.5 billion annually in Central America through 2050, USD500 billion annually in South America, and USD9 billion for 4GW of additional Caribbean capacity. Source: IRENA

AIIB invests up to USD100 million in TPG Rise Climate Global South Initiative Fund to boost climate investment in emerging markets

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) committed USD50 million to the TPG Rise Climate Global South Initiative Fund, plus up to USD50 million in co-investments, to mobilize private capital for climate projects across Asia, the Middle East and Africa. TPG is a leading global alternative asset management firm founded in San Francisco in 1992.

In partnership with ALTÉRRA, one of the largest climate investment platforms in the world, the Global South Initiative is a parallel vehicle to TPG Rise Climate II fund. It is designed to attract long-term private capital for high-impact climate opportunities in emerging and developing economies.

The TPG Rise Climate Global South Initiative Fund targets investments in sectors including energy transition, green mobility, sustainable fuels, sustainable materials and products, carbon solutions, and climate adaptation and resilience. The fund targets energy transition, green mobility, sustainable fuels and materials, carbon solutions, adaptation and resilience, supporting AIIB's goal for 50 percent of annual financing to be private-sector-oriented by 2030. Source: AIIB

GCF regional dialogue in Georgia advances climate finance across Eastern Europe and Central Asia

The Green Climate Fund (GCF)'s regional dialogue convened 150 officials and partners from Eastern Europe and Central Asia between 6–8 October 2026 to strengthen country-led climate investment and regional cooperation. GCF and Kazakhstan signed support for a country platform aligning national priorities, investment planning and partner resources. Participants addressed project development, safeguards, accreditation and readiness, while discussions focused on bankable pipelines for water security, floods, drought, forest fires and early-warning systems. Source: GCF

ACE report: *Innovative Business Models for Deploying Industrial-Scale CCU/S Projects across the ASEAN Region*

This ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) report proposes a three-layer framework for commercially viable industrial-scale carbon capture, utilization and storage: core business models, commercial and delivery structures, and foundational enablers. Eight priorities include national strategies, complete legal and cross-border frameworks, carbon pricing and incentives, open storage data, public engagement, a regional investment roadmap and phased development from anchor projects to networks. Source: ACE and ACE report

ECONOMIC RECOVERY

World Bank regional economic updates - October 2026

The World Bank' most recent regional update reports feature the following main messages by region:

- Africa: *Building AI-Readiness*: Sub-Saharan African growth is projected to rise from 4.1 percent in 2025 to 4.3 percent in 2026, supported by trade and external demand, but constrained by debt service, limited fiscal space and high energy and transport costs. AI could raise productivity and improve public services, provided countries strengthen connectivity, skills, digital infrastructure and public-sector adoption. Source: World Bank and WB report

- East Asia and Pacific: *Riding the AI Wave:* East Asia and Pacific growth is projected at 4.5 percent in 2026, with higher forecasts for Viet Nam, Malaysia and Thailand but weaker Pacific growth. AI-related manufacturing supports exports, yet adoption remains uneven. The World Bank prioritizes energy and digital infrastructure, finance, skills, locally adapted tools, enabling regulation and government use of AI; only 13 percent of regional jobs currently benefit from complex AI augmentation. Source: World Bank, WB and WB report
- Europe and Central Asia: *Making AI Work: Jobs, Firms, and Productivity:* Europe and Central Asia faces slower growth through 2026 and an uneven recovery to 2028. About one in five workers holds an AI-exposed job, but fewer than one in ten firms uses AI. Priorities are affordable computing, skills, data readiness and practical adoption rather than costly national frontier models; insufficient adoption is the main medium-term risk. Source: World Bank and WB report
- Latin America and the Caribbean: *Harnessing the AI Transition*: Latin America and the Caribbean is projected to grow 2.2 percent in 2026 amid persistent inflation, limited fiscal space, high borrowing costs, informality and climate risks. The report favors low-cost, locally targeted small AI over frontier models, supported by stronger data systems, government demand, business extension services and workforce reskilling to broaden productivity gains. Source: World Bank and WB report
- Middle East, North Africa, Afghanistan and Pakistan: *From Divide to Opportunity: AI, Jobs, and Growth*: Conflict and disruption to key trade routes remain the main macroeconomic risks for the Middle East, North Africa, Afghanistan and Pakistan, raising energy costs, delaying investment and worsening fiscal and humanitarian pressures. Longer-term AI gains depend on addressing gaps in localization, usage, skills, physical infrastructure and private-sector dynamism, with scope for regional cooperation led by more advanced economies. Source: World Bank
- South Asia: *Adopting AI for Growth*: South Asia remains the fastest-growing emerging-market region but is exposed to high energy-import costs, El Niño and financial volatility. AI adoption is accelerating from a low base and could support job creation and market access. Priorities include workforce skills, reliable infrastructure, an enabling business environment, support for small firms, local innovation and clear risk-based regulation. World Bank and WB report

DEBT SUSTAINABILITY

Borrowers' Platform enters new phase with first Governing Council Meeting in Bangkok

The Borrowers' Platform, a country-led initiative with UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) serving as secretariat, held its first Governing Council meeting in Bangkok on 12 October, beginning its first annual operational cycle. With 31 developing-country members, it supports

debt-management capacity, peer learning, technical assistance, access to data and stronger borrower representation in international financing discussions. The communiqué cites UNCTAD's 2025 finding that 46 countries, home to 3.4 billion people, spend more on interest than on health or education, highlighting pressures on fiscal space for development investment. The platform complements existing debt mechanisms and is not a forum for collective debt restructuring or bargaining. Source: UNCTAD and Governing Council communiqué.

New emerging market risk database publications strengthen the evidence for investing in emerging markets

The Global Emerging Markets Risk Database (GEMs) Consortium, co-chaired by the European Investment Bank (EIB) and International Finance Corporation (IFC), released three publications strengthening evidence-based credit-risk assessment and private-capital mobilization in emerging markets and developing economies.

The three new GEMs publications are:

- *Default and Recovery Statistics: Private Lending 1994–2025*
- *Default and Recovery Statistics: Public Lending 1994–2025*
- *Default and Recovery Statistics: Sovereign and Sovereign-Guaranteed Lending 1984–2025*

Key findings: Default rates measure average annual defaults; recovery rates measure amounts recovered after default.

- Private lending: 10,409 counterparties in 159 countries; EUR437.5 billion in signed financing and over 60,000 annual observations during 1994–2025. Average annual defaults were 3.29%; recoveries averaged 69.8% across 1,659 defaulted contracts. Financial institutions had the lowest defaults; recoveries remained resilient across regions and income groups. Source: Private lending summary
- Public lending: 1,222 entities in 152 countries; EUR132.7 billion in signed financing and over 12,000 annual observations during 1994–2025. Average annual defaults were 1.92%; recoveries averaged 80.4% across 224 defaulted contracts, reaching a regional high of 90.4% in Latin America and the Caribbean. Source: Public lending summary
- Sovereign and sovereign-guaranteed lending: 169 countries and EUR1.7 trillion in signed financing during 1984–2025. Average annual defaults were 0.79%; recoveries averaged 95.0% across 55 default events, with over 90% of events recording 90–100% recovery. Source: Sovereign lending summary

Statistics by region: Average annual default rates and average recovery rates in private, public and sovereign lending, respectively.

- East Asia and Pacific: Defaults of 3.64%, 2.99% and 0.51%; recoveries of 69.9%, 66.7% and 96.5%.
- Europe and Central Asia: Comparatively low defaults of 2.74%, 1.00% and 0.33%; recoveries of 69.6%, 86.6% and 92.3%.
- Latin America and the Caribbean: Defaults of 2.56%, 1.31% and 0.84%; recoveries of 68.9%, 90.4% and 98.2%. The region had the lowest private defaults and highest public and sovereign recoveries.
- Middle East, North Africa, Afghanistan and Pakistan: Defaults of 3.22%, 1.50% and 1.16%; recoveries of 74.8%, 90.0% and 91.6%, with private and public recoveries among the highest regionally.
- South Asia: Private defaults averaged 2.78%, with 69.1% recovery. No public or sovereign defaults were recorded (public default rate: 0%); recovery statistics for these portfolios were unavailable because qualifying defaults were insufficient.
- Sub-Saharan Africa: Defaults of 5.49%, 3.47% and 1.13%; recoveries of 72.0%, 78.3% and 95.0%. Despite the highest private and public defaults, recoveries remained high. Source: GEMs

PROCUREMENT, ANTI-CORRUPTION, TRANSPARENCY AND DISCLOSURE

Embedding Blue Dot Network quality criteria in infrastructure procurement

The international certification framework for quality infrastructure projects, Blue Dot Network (BDN) issued draft guidance translating quality-infrastructure principles—including resilience, transparency, sustainability and lifecycle value—into procurement frameworks, tender requirements and contracts. BDN and FIDIC, the International Federation of Consulting Engineers, signed a Letter of Intent to deepen cooperation on infrastructure certification and procurement. Source: BDN

Asia Dialogue advances green public procurement for industrial decarbonization

More than 65 participants from six Asian countries examined how mandatory requirements, e-procurement, ecolabels, environmental product declarations and carbon-footprint data can embed low-carbon criteria in public construction. Indonesia announced it would join the Industrial Deep Decarbonisation Initiative, while United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and Indonesia's procurement agency agreed to support implementation for materials including cement, steel and concrete. Source: UNIDO

Putting quality first: FIDIC champions Qualifications-Based Selection at LAC Transport Forum

The International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC) and Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) promoted Qualifications-Based Selection for engineering consultants, emphasizing competence, experience and capability over lowest price. A new Spanish-language guidance note gives Latin American and Caribbean procuring authorities a practical framework for transparent, quality-led selection and stronger lifecycle infrastructure outcomes. Source: FIDIC

PARTNERSHIP

MCDF NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

MCDF holds replenishment meetings and adopts 2027-2031 strategy

The Multilateral Cooperation Center for Development Finance (MCDF) held its third Finance Facility replenishment meeting in Doha on 27 September, following meetings in Beijing in March and Shanghai in June. Its 2027-2031 strategy was adopted on 22 September, and its revised Operations Manual was approved by the Governing Committee on 27 September, preparing MCDF's second operational phase supporting high-quality connectivity infrastructure in developing countries.

The replenishment exercise brought together 34 countries and 10 international financial institutions. Participants and members of MCDF's governing bodies, including its Coordination Committee, supported the strategy and operational reforms to improve effectiveness and efficiency.

MCDF has provided USD89.7 million in grants for preparation and capacity building for 67 connectivity projects across Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean, expected to mobilize USD15 billion in investment. By July 2026, its information-sharing events had welcomed over 9,000 participants from 125 beneficiary countries and 125 developing-country financiers.

CEO Zhongjing Wang emphasized stronger partnerships and reforms responding to beneficiary-country needs. Fourteen countries indicated their intention to finance the 2027-2031 strategy—double the current number of donor countries—supporting project preparation, capacity building and information sharing aligned with international financial institution standards. Source: MCDF

Central Asia Fund, under umbrella of MCDF Finance Facility, officially launched

Officials from China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) President Jiayi Zou and Multilateral Cooperation Center for Development Finance (MCDF) CEO Zhongjing Wang launched the Central Asia Fund in Doha on 29 September, following the 2026 AIIB Annual Meeting, to support high-quality connectivity infrastructure.

Covering Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and China, the fund was established as a dedicated window under the MCDF Finance Facility, administered by AIIB. China has made a commitment to the fund.

Additional grants will support project preparation, capacity building and information sharing for transport corridors, energy systems and transboundary water management, strengthening trade and green, resilient development. The fund addresses challenges including landlocked geography, climate vulnerability, debt management and rising connectivity demand.

Accredited MCDF Implementing Partners operating in Central Asia can access grants for project preparation and country capacity building, subject to Governing Committee approval. The MCDF Collaboration Platform can also use resources to disseminate international financial institution standards and good practices for quality connectivity investment. Source: MCDF

INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES, FUNDS AND INITIATIVES

World Bank and Japan advance partnership on energy resilience in Asia

The World Bank and Japan launched the first investment under Dynamic Response for Invigorating Value Chains and Energy Security (DRIVE) framework, complementing Japan's USD10 billion Partnership on Wide Energy and Resources Resilience (POWERR) Asia partnership. International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private sector arm of the World Bank, will invest up to USD50 million alongside Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in the privately managed Emerging Asia Infrastructure Credit Fund, which targets USD750 million for cleaner energy, energy efficiency and industrial transformation across Southeast and South Asia. Source: World Bank

GIF report: *GIF Annual Highlights Report 2026*

The Global Infrastructure Facility approved USD13.83 million for 22 new activities in 23 countries in FY2026. Its project-preparation support contributed to 11 commercial closes, seven financial closes and USD1.6 billion in private capital mobilized, bringing cumulative mobilization since inception to USD12.7 billion and illustrating how early preparation can build investment-ready infrastructure pipelines. Source: GIF and GIF report

IFIS TOGETHER

AIIB and World Bank expand cooperation on sustainable infrastructure and development

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and the World Bank signed an updated Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) expanding operational cooperation in water, digital development, private-capital mobilization and policy-based financing. The agreement broadens collaboration beyond project co-financing toward upstream policy support and additional financing for greener, more resilient and better-connected infrastructure. AIIB reports that it is currently the World Bank's largest co-financier. Source: AIIB

IsDB and EBRD deepen cooperation on co-financing and private-sector development

Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) agreed to develop a more structured partnership and joint pipeline across energy, water, transport, digital infrastructure and critical minerals in Central Asia, Türkiye, Africa and Iraq. Potential instruments include guarantees, local-currency finance, Sukuk, domestic capital markets and risk-sharing. The discussions established policy direction but no new framework or financing envelope. Source: IsDB

Readout of the Eighth MDBs & Credit Rating Agencies Roundtable

Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and credit-rating agencies reviewed implementation of G20 capital-adequacy reforms and the treatment of callable and contingent capital, preferred-creditor status and other MDB risk mitigants. Most recommendations are now reflected in MDB practices. The dialogue may affect ratings and lending headroom, including through MDB responses to Fitch's proposed methodology and Moody's 2026 criteria. Source: AIIB

MDB Heads Group Joint Statement by MDB Heads: *Advancing Joint Action amid Global Uncertainty*

Multilateral Development Bank (MDB) heads adopted an updated system-wide methodology and reference guide for private-capital mobilization, with reporting from 2027, and advanced a proposed joint MDB Debt Fund for diversified MDB-originated assets. They also launched a critical-minerals collaboration framework covering enabling infrastructure, regional value chains, project preparation and financing. Capital-adequacy reforms and financial innovations since 2023 have generated USD792 billion in additional MDB lending capacity for

the next decade. Source: Joint statement pdf, AIIB, IDB, IsDB, AfDB, NDB, ADB, EBRD, CEB, EIB

OTHER NEWS AND ANALYSES ON PARTNER IFIS

World Bank–IMF Annual Meetings highlight private investment, jobs and persistent financing constraints

The World Bank–International Monetary Fund (IMF) Annual Meetings, held in Bangkok on 12–18 October 2026, focused on economic resilience, debt pressures, job creation and private investment amid geopolitical and trade uncertainty. The IMF projected global growth of 3.1 percent in 2026 and 3.4 percent in 2027, while warning that energy disruptions, fiscal vulnerabilities and uneven gains from artificial intelligence (AI) could widen development gaps. Source: IMF World Economic Outlook.

The World Bank emphasized combining public finance, private capital, philanthropy and technology to support jobs. Its meeting highlights featured USD112 billion in private capital mobilized and USD25 billion in guarantees issued in fiscal year 2026; these are annual results, not new financing pledged at the meetings. Discussions also promoted affordable, locally adapted AI, supported by digital infrastructure and skills, and a new strategy to improve small businesses' access to finance and markets. Source: World Bank meeting highlights and World Bank financing results.

Nevertheless, financing gains remain uneven: World Bank private capital mobilization in low-income countries was maintained at USD3 billion despite strong overall growth. Reuters' closing assessment highlighted unresolved debt-service pressures and concerns about the adequacy of support for developing countries. The International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) Chair's statement similarly warned that low-income countries and fragile states risk falling further behind. The discussions highlighted opportunities for infrastructure investment and partnerships, alongside continuing challenges of affordability, implementation and access to finance. Source: World Bank financing results, Reuters closing assessment and IMFC Chair's statement.

World Bank launches philanthropy hub to unlock capital, knowledge and networks for development

The World Bank launched a Philanthropy Hub as a single entry point to align philanthropic grants, investment capital, expertise and networks with scalable development programs. Initial partnerships with Asian Venture Philanthropy Network (AVPN) and Temasek Trust will support initiatives including Mission 300, Health Works, AgriConnect and Water Forward

programs, combining technical assistance, knowledge partnerships and innovative finance. Source: World Bank

Global Risk and Finance Forum (GRaFF) report: *Multilateral Development Banks Comparison Report 2026*

The 2026 Multilateral Development Banks' (MDB) Comparison Report benchmarks capital, liquidity, risk and ratings across 15 Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), supporting G20 work on balance-sheet efficiency and transparency. MDBs held USD1.5 trillion in development assets against USD163 billion in paid-in capital—more than USD9 per USD1 contributed. Most had non-performing loans below 2 percent, while liquidity covered short- to medium-term debt 2.6 times; Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank also signed a USD3 billion exposure exchange. Source: ADB, ADB, GRaFF Report 2026

CGD note: *More Critical Than Ever: Strengthening Growth and Resilience through the Multilateral Development Banks*

A Center for Global Development (CGD) note calls for faster use of multilateral development bank (MDB) lending headroom, country-led investment programs, stronger project pipelines, multi-country sector platforms, closer cooperation with national development banks and scaled private-capital mobilization. MDB commitments grew only 1 percent annually in real terms since 2000, while bilateral Official Development Assistance (ODA) fell 23 percent in 2025, increasing pressure for MDB-led infrastructure, climate and resilience finance. Source: CGD and CGD note

PRIVATE CAPITAL MOBILIZATION

AfDB partners with ODI Global to advance access to affordable finance across Africa

The African Development Bank (AfDB) and Overseas Development Institute Global (ODI Global) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to develop practical reforms and instruments addressing Africa's cost of capital and estimated USD400 billion annual financing gap. Work will cover blended and concessional finance, guarantees, insurance, portfolio risk transfers, capital adequacy and balance-sheet optimization, informing African Development Fund (ADF) replenishments and implementation of the New African Financial Architecture for Development (NAFAD). Source: AfDB

CGD paper: *Does Market Impact Matter for MDB and DFI Private Investment Decisions?*

A Center for Global Development (CGD) study of 17 multilateral development banks (MDBs) and development finance institutions (DFIs) finds inconsistent measurement and limited disclosure of market-level impact. In the reviewed data, 61 percent of private finance mobilization was in high-income countries; mobilization rose 31 percent in middle-income countries but fell 36 percent in low-income countries. The paper proposes stronger scoring, targets, incentives and public reporting. Source: CGD and CGD paper

UPCOMING EVENTS

Auctions to Reduce Costs and Scale Up Renewable Energy in East Asia and Pacific - Communities of Practice Webinar

Time: 27 October 2026 03:00 AM - 04:30 AM ET, 03:00 PM - 04:30 PM UTC+8 (TBC)
Place: Virtual
Organizer: World Bank

Objective: Join the East Asia and Pacific Energy Community of Practice to explore how renewable energy policy design is shaping the pace and scale of the energy transition across the region — and what it will take to move from megawatt-scale markets to gigawatt-scale deployment.

Come learn why auction mechanisms and well-designed policy instruments are emerging as critical enablers for scaling up renewables, reducing costs, and attracting private investment in countries at varying stages of their energy transition.

Hear from IRENA experts on how to design an effective renewable auctions, and directly from practitioners in China and the Philippines about their experience designing and implementing renewable energy auctions and policies, the progress they have made, and the challenges they continue to face on the ground.

Participants will leave with a clearer understanding of the policy options available, what works well and does not work to design renewable energy auctions, and the lessons that can be applied across the East Asia and Pacific region.

Target participants: Open to all.
Registration: A formal invitation with the Zoom link and full agenda will follow.
Source: World Bank

Infrastructure Finance Forum: *Asia 2026: Financing Asia's Future, Today*

Time: 10 – 11 November 2026
Place: Singapore
Organizer: Green Street Infrastructure

Objective: Following the successful launch of Infrastructure Finance Forum (IFF) Asia 2025, the event returns to Singapore with IFF Asia 2026, firmly establishing the forum as a key

platform for infrastructure deal-making across the Asia-Pacific region. It will focus on addressing the infrastructure financing gap in high-growth markets across Asia, showcasing lucrative projects and fostering collaboration among investors, developers, and financiers alike.

As infrastructure becomes an increasingly attractive asset class for investors globally, Asia is uniquely positioned with an array of high growth markets producing an infrastructure financing gap that needs to be filled.

Designed by investors, for investors. An event driven and designed by the most active and influential investors, developers and financiers in the region, the forum will showcase the most lucrative infrastructure projects and opportunities shaping the market – and the people who will make them happen.

Target participants: Open to all.
Registration: Here
Source: GSI

Africa PPP Infrastructure Finance, Investment & Partnerships Summit (Africa PPP) 2026: *Building Africa's Prosperity: Transformative Infrastructure, Investment and Partnerships to Accelerate Economic Development*

Time: 11 – 13 November 2026
Place: Nairobi, Kenya
Organizer: Kenya, AMETrade

Objective: The 16th Africa PPP Infrastructure Finance, Investment & Partnerships Summit will take place in Nairobi on 11–13 November 2026, focusing on how Africa can convert infrastructure ambitions into bankable projects, investable pipelines and practical public-private delivery partnerships. The event comes as Kenya's PPP Directorate reports 51 PPP projects, including 10 under implementation and 41 at different stages of preparation, and as the country advances a National Infrastructure Fund to mobilize private and institutional capital while reducing reliance on public debt.

At continental level, the summit responds to a shift from capital scarcity toward more effective capital deployment. Africa Finance Corporation's 2026 infrastructure report notes that non-bank domestic capital pools exceed USD 2 trillion and pension and insurance assets exceed USD 1 trillion, underscoring the need for stronger project preparation, risk-sharing tools and integrated infrastructure systems linking energy, transport, industry and digital networks. Against this backdrop, Africa PPP 2026 will convene governments, PPP units,

infrastructure agencies, MDBs, DFIs, institutional investors, commercial lenders, developers and advisers to move projects from concept through preparation, procurement, financial close and implementation.

Sessions will examine infrastructure as a driver of regional integration, industrialization and productive growth, including how national development plans can become credible PPP pipelines, how domestic savings can be channeled into infrastructure, and how MDBs, DFIs and regional development banks can help de-risk projects and mobilize private capital. Kenya will provide a practical host-country context as an East African logistics, financial, digital and industrial hub linked to regional priorities including corridors, power transmission, affordable housing, water, special economic zones and EAC and AfCFTA trade flows.

The programme will cover roads, rail and border infrastructure for intra-African trade; bankable energy, transmission and regional power trade; water, health, housing and waste PPPs; ports, maritime logistics and aviation; and infrastructure for agriculture, agro-industrialization and food security. A full-day pre-conference masterclass on 11 November, *From Vision to Investment*, will provide practical guidance on project preparation, pipeline development, procurement strategy, investor due diligence, contract structuring and implementation. Curated meetings, project discussions, networking sessions and technical and investment visits will support focused engagement among project owners, capital providers, advisers and delivery partners.

Target participants: Open to all.
Registration: Here
Source: 16th edition of Africa PPP

Finance in Common Summit 2027: *Delivering Sustainable Growth for a More Resilient Future*

Time: 31 March – 2 April 2027
Place: Bangkok, Thailand
Organizer: FICS and ADB

Objective: The sixth edition of the Finance in Common Summit (FiCS) will be held at the United Nations Convention Center in Bangkok, Thailand from 31 March to 2 April 2027.
It will bring together more than 500 public development banks and their stakeholders.
The summit will be co-hosted by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) with support from Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and other regional and global partners. Its theme is *Delivering Sustainable Growth for a More Resilient Future*.

Finance in Common is the global forum for all public development banks, publicly mandated institutions that finance long-term economic and social priorities. The 2027 meeting follows gatherings in Paris in 2020, Rome in 2021, Abidjan in 2022, Cartagena in 2023, and Cape Town in 2025. More than 2,000 participants are expected, including public development bank executives, senior government officials, regulators, business leaders, institutional investors, civil society representatives, researchers, and international organizations. The program will include plenary discussions, working sessions, investment pitches, and meetings between financial institutions and prospective partners.

The Bangkok gathering aims to be a Summit of Delivery, connecting public and private financiers with investment opportunities across Asia and the Pacific. The summit will strengthen the role of public development banks as a system, advancing collective action and expanding financing for nature positive investments, building resilience to a changing climate, and clean energy.

The summit will also advance key issues addressed during ADB's 2026 chairship of the Heads of Multilateral Development Banks and the 2026 Annual Meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group. Priorities include mobilizing more private capital, sharing and co-financing projects with other investors, reducing duplication among institutions, and keeping long-term investment moving during economic crises.

Target participants: Open to all.
Registration: Here
Source: FICS Summit 2027

World Bank Group Land Conference 2027

Time: 17 – 21 May 2027
Place: Washington DC, USA and streamlined
Organizer: World Bank

Objective: The World Bank Group Land Conference has catalyzed the global land community for over 20 years. The Land Conference is the premier global forum for the land sector, bringing together participants from governments, development partners, civil society, academia, and the private sector to showcase policy-relevant research, discuss technical issues and sector good practice, and inform our dialogue. The Land Conference also aims to encourage cross-sectoral knowledge exchange and has incubated numerous investments, initiatives, and research projects led by diverse stakeholders, including the Voluntary Guidelines, the Land Governance Assessment Framework, and the Stand for Her Land Campaign. The theme for the 2027 Land Conference will be *Land Markets for Jobs and Growth*. Stay tuned for updates on registration and the call for proposals, expected in October 2026.

Target participants: Open to all.
Registration: No need for the streamlining.
Source: World Bank

MCDF Brief

The bi-weekly Brief is a collection of news, research, analysis, and case studies/best practices, featuring “connectivity”, “quality” and “partnership” to facilitate information and knowledge sharing among MCDF partners and potential partners. Topics cover but are not limited to: transport; communications; water; climate and energy; digitalization; debt sustainability; biodiversity; procurement; environmental, social, and governance (ESG) including anti-corruption safeguards; and transparency and information disclosure.

About MCDF

The Multilateral Cooperation Center for Development Finance (MCDF) is an independent multilateral initiative to foster high-quality infrastructure and connectivity investments that adhere to the Accredited International Financial Institutions (IFIs) Standards.

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