

Trade and Development Fund Fact Sheet

Established in 1985, the Trade and Development Bank Group (TDB Group) is an African regional multilateral development bank group of specialised entities, which work together with the mandate to finance and foster trade, regional economic integration, and sustainable development in Africa. TDB Group counts several subsidiaries and strategic business units, including Trade and Development Banking, the Trade and Development Fund (TDF), TDB Asset Management (TAM), TDB Trade Asset Management Company (TAMCO) – formerly ESATAL, TDB Captive Insurance Company (TCI), and TDB Academy.

The Trade and Development Fund is TDB Group's concessional window, working with development partners through tailored concessional finance, programme support, de-risking instruments and technical assistance to close financing and capacity gaps, unlocking high-impact interventions.

TDF works across the sovereign, financial intermediary, sub-sovereign and private-sector landscape to support high-impact initiatives across its Member States. Its interventions include project advisory and preparation, capacity-building and catalytic funding – helping reduce barriers to investment and strengthen project bankability.

Our Approach

TDF deploys concessional and catalytic finance through strategic partnerships to unlock sustainable investment and measurable development impact. Its approach is guided by three strategic priorities:

Agile solutions – delivering tailored financing, technical assistance and programme support in key thematic areas.

Sovereign debt resilience – helping Member States build resilience and reduce debt vulnerability through concessional support.

Development outcome – embedding robust impact measurement to ensure interventions deliver measurable and lasting outcomes.

Our Instruments

TDF deploys a range of financial instruments through blended finance approaches to mobilise additional capital and unlock investments that may otherwise be constrained by risk, affordability or market barriers. These include:

- Concessional debt
- Grants
- Guarantees
- Technical Assistance



TDF Trade and Development Fund
TDB GROUP

Priority Thematic Areas

- Distributed energy access
- Regional trade
- Water security and resilience
- Resilient health systems and social infrastructure
- Food systems

Cross-Cutting Themes



Women and Youth



Livelihoods



Fragile and Conflict-Affected Communities



Climate and Biodiversity

Flagship Programmes

TDF translates its strategic priorities into action through flagship programmes developed and delivered with international development partners.

EASETRADE



Expands access to trade finance for African MSMEs through digitally enabled lending and business capacity development, with a particular focus on youth- and women-led businesses.

ASCENT-REAF

Expands access to distributed renewable energy and clean cooking solutions across participating Member States through results-based financing.

ASCENT-Sudan

Supports the restoration and expansion of clean electricity and digital connectivity in underserved communities in Sudan through results-based financing.



TDF's Programme Reach

Through its reach across more than 15 Member States, TDF connects targeted solutions with local needs.

Impact to Date

With a portfolio of over US\$100 million in just two years, TDF is translating catalytic finance into measurable development impact across its Member States.



US\$1.4 million
disbursed to Faulu
for financing



US\$464,559
technical assistance to
ecosystems in Kenya



463,105
people with access to
clean cooking



30,000
households with access
to off-grid electricity



1,357
small business owners
trained



US\$4.8 million
horticulture lending
facility to Faulu



115
SMEs provided with
clean energy



718,544
tCO₂e emissions
avoided

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TDB Group has principal offices in Mauritius and Burundi, an operations hub in Kenya, and regional offices in Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, and DR Congo.

INTEGRATING & ADVANCING THE REGION
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